



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Nine, Term Three, 2016
13 September, 2016



Share the Spirit....

Dear Parents and Carers,



I had the great privilege of attending three beautiful Confirmation Ceremonies over the weekend. We were blessed to have Fr Tony Percy – Vicar General of the Archdiocese – celebrate this special sacrament in our parish. Fr Tony was once based at St Gregory's and expressed delight at being back in the parish.

The second reading at the Confirmation Ceremonies was from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy. As you may know prior to his conversion Paul persecuted the followers of Jesus including murdering some of the early Christians. The following extract from his letter to Timothy explains the boundless love of God.

'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the worst of those sinners. But I was given mercy. I was given mercy so that in me Christ Jesus could show that he has patience without limit. And he showed his patience with me, the worst of all sinners.'

I can often lose patience with my own sinfulness and what appears to be the inability to change things that keep me from being close to God. We all need reminding that Jesus never loses his patience with us. He is constantly calling us back to be with him – regardless of our sinfulness.

During the Confirmation Masses Fr. Tony was asking the children to name the seven sacraments. As a way of encouraging responses Fr. Tony would have a few words as clues, for example the Sacrament of Stuff Ups! The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful sacrament that helps us to repair our relationship with God.

Fr. Tony also spoke of our newest Saint – Teresa of Calcutta. He was explaining that despite her great works and amazing faith she had times of great darkness when she felt that God was absent from her life. Even the greatest can doubt the love and presence of God – she did not stop praying or doing God's will.



May you always be aware of the great Mercy of God,

Claire

Claire Frazer
Principal



IMPORTANT EVENTS

Monday 12 - Friday 23 September
Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons
Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre

Wednesday 14 September
Year 6 Mass - 12:30pm St Gregory's Church

Thursday 15 September
Choir Eisteffod - Goulburn Workers Club

Friday 16 September
Whole School Assembly (K Red/K White)
12:30pm St Gregory's Hall

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am & 2:30pm to 3:30pm Lowe St

Monday 19 - Friday 23 September
Year 6 Camp - Narrabeen
Depart Queanbeyan Railway Station 6:55am

Monday 19 September
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am & 2:30pm to 3:30pm Lowe St

Tuesday 20 September
School Council Meeting - 6pm Lowe St

Wednesday 21 September
Year 5 Mass - 12:30pm St Gregory's Church

Thursday 22 September
Wakakirri Finals - 7:15pm Canberra Theatre

Friday 23 September
Year 6 back from Camp - Arrive at
Queanbeyan Railway Station 11am

END OF TERM 3

Monday 10 October
PUPIL FREE DAY - Staff return for Term 4

Tuesday 11 October
STUDENTS RETURN FOR TERM 4

Monday 17 October
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe St MPR

Kinder 2017 parent Information Evening
7pm to 8:30pm St Gregory's Hall

Thursday 20 October
Mission Mass

Friday 21 October
Boorowa Touch and Netball Carnival

Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 October
CPS Basketball Championships



Focus Value for September - *'Share God's Mercy by Looking on the Bright Side'*

From the Principal.....

PRAYERS: We hold in our thoughts and prayers those we know and love who are ill and undergoing treatment. We also remember those who work to support and care for those who are sick.

CONGRATULATIONS: To the students of Year 6 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last weekend. It is my prayer that you will always be mindful of the gifts of the Spirit and find strength and comfort especially in times of trial. My thanks to Lauren Macdonald (REC) and the Year 6 teachers who were present at all three Masses. My thanks to other staff who were also present over the weekend – special mention to the Little Sparks teachers. It was a very special time in the life of the parish. Whilst the Vicar General – Fr. Tony was very generous in suggesting that the teachers all deserved a holiday yesterday I am delighted that they all turned up!

Congratulations to Eden D'Souza (5 White) who won the Archdiocesan Public Speaking Competition yesterday at Moruya. Well done!

YEAR 4 CAMP: Congratulations to the students of Year 4 who experienced camp last Thursday and Friday. The teachers who accompanied the students – Ben Mockler, Christine Washington, Matthew Maloney and Erin Taylor – all reported that the behaviour was exemplary. I have heard stories of the students helping each other to complete activities, being cooperative and displaying excellent manners. For some students it was their first night away from home – well done to you all. My thanks to the 4 teachers who gave so generously of their time in order for the students to have such a great experience. It is wonderful when I thank them to hear in response – it was a pleasure – and believing them. That's not to say that they enjoyed the comforts of home on Friday night.

SURVEY RESULTS: My thanks to the 152 parents who were able to complete the Survey My School survey in August. Overwhelmingly the results were very positive. Communication was rated as an area in which we could improve. We do have a number of avenues for communication. The weekly newsletter is prepared every Tuesday. All notes are available to parents electronically. The google calendar is updated regularly. We have the website, Twitter, Skoolbag and now our Face Book page. All staff have email addresses that can be found on the website. There is still the telephone and calling in to visit. It is not always possible for staff to meet with parents without notice but we are all willing to make ourselves available for planned meetings. I encourage teachers to contact parents when there are issues or concerns and I encourage parents to do the same. If at any time you are not satisfied with communication with the school, please let me know so that we can continue to improve in this area.

PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: On Sunday afternoon I travelled to Galong to participate with about 30 other principals from our Archdiocese in a professional development opportunity based on our role as leaders of Literacy. The program was from Sunday afternoon 5pm until 3pm today (Tuesday).

THURSDAY: On Thursday I will be at Primary School in Gundagai to assist in a community consultation process for the Principal who is in his first year of appointment. I am involved in this process as I am the peer principal and will be working with a representative from Catholic Education.

CHOIR: The choir are travelling to Goulburn on Thursday to compete in the Goulburn Eisteffod. They have been practising extremely hard and I wish them success. Thank you to our Choir Director, Mrs Dee McFaul and our volunteer accompanist Mr Jim Bowring for working so hard to provide another wonderful opportunity for our students. Unfortunately as I will be in Gundagai I am unable to attend, but Mrs Erin Taylor will be supporting the students.

YEAR 6 CAMP: There is great excitement in Year 6 as they prepare for their week long camp experience in Sydney. They will board the train first thing on Monday morning returning on Friday morning. As you would appreciate this is a huge commitment for our teachers and their families. Fr. Troy will again, as is his usual routine, travel to Sydney with the students only to return by train the same day. My thanks to the teachers accompanying our Year 6 students – Marian Wells, Kate McManus-Green, Garreth Wigg, Françoise Hewson and Matthew Maloney. I am looking forward to joining them for Monday and Tuesday.



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



On the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd October, 2016 St Gregory's School will be organising and hosting the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Basketball Challenge.

St Gregory's has been involved in this competition for many years but this is the first time since 2004 that we have been given the opportunity to host this event.

Over 900 children and their families from over 30 schools throughout NSW will descend on Queanbeyan/Canberra to participate. Teams will be travelling from areas such as; Albury, Wagga, Western NSW, Wollongong, South Coast and Sydney.

This competition will take place at St Gregory's Queanbeyan, Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium Karabar, St Edmund's College Griffith and the AIS Belconnen.

A successful Basketball Challenge has the potential to raise significant funds for our school. These funds will be spent on resources and facilities for our students who will benefit for many years to come. For this carnival to be a success, St Gregory's will need as much assistance as possible from every family at the School.

A dedicated group of teachers have been planning the logistics of the event since last year but there is still much to do.

Volunteers are the most important part of a successful carnival. There is no particular expertise required and you don't have to be a basketball fan.

Volunteers are required on Thursday 20th and/or Friday 21st October to lend a hand to help with setting up venues, delivering items, sorting merchandise orders and preparation.

On the Saturday 22nd and/or Sunday 23rd more volunteers are need to cook at the BBQ's.

If you are available, even for a short amount of time, please contact Ryan Matchett on 62972221 or ryan.matchett@cg.catholic.edu.au

Some great merchandise is for sale promoting this event. Check out our range of hoodies and t-shirts. Merchandise order forms are available from the school offices or website (<http://stgregsps.nsw.edu.au/notes/>) and Skoolbag.

To keep up to date with information regarding the tournament please like the challenge Facebook page: 2016 CPS Basketball Challenge.

Save the Date:

Thursday 13th October

Staff vs Students Basketball Match

MacQuoid Street Hall to celebrate hosting the
2016 CPS Basketball Challenge.

More details to come!

Building Blocks to NUMERACY SUCCESS

SOME MORE NUMBER FUN AT HOME

K-Year 2 MEASURING THINGS:

- Use a wall measuring chart to measure the height of people in your family.
- Cut a piece of string for your child, any length will do. Use the string to measure the objects in your house to find out what is longer or shorter than your 'string measuring tape'. Ask your child to identify anything that is the same length.
- Explore other ways of measuring using a cup, jug, teaspoon, icy pole sticks, foot prints or hand lengths.
- Build a tower of blocks that is taller than a favourite toy. Ask your child to count the total blocks to measure the height of the tower. GO on a number hunt
- With your child find numbers around you, for example house numbers, calendars.
- Look at and say the numbers on car number plates, signs, calendars, newspapers, shopping catalogues, speed signs, house numbers.
- Use different numbers as the starting point for practising counting, for example start counting from 6 or 10. Ask your child to count forwards and backwards. Ask what number comes before or what number comes after.
- Identify the numbers on a calculator. Use an online talking calculator <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/calculator/calculator.swf>

Year 3-6 CATALOGUES:

- How would you spend \$40 from a catalogue? How many products can you buy for \$40?
- Select five products from the catalogue then calculate what the cost be if there was a 50% sale. Does it make a difference if you add up the items, and then deduct 50%, or if each item is reduced by 50% then totaled?
- What is the best value sale item in the catalogue? Can you explain your reasoning?
- What are the cheapest and most expensive items in your catalogue?
- Compare the cost of a product across different stores using different catalogues. What did you find?

If you have a question or topic that you would like addressed about Mathematics, please email me:

kate.mcmanusgreen@cg.catholic.edu.au

YRS 3 & 4 LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM

Please note slight change to times as times published in last week's newsletter were amended:

9:30am – 10:00am	4 Gold
10:00am – 10:30am	3 Red
11:00am – 11:30am	3 Blue
12:00pm – 12:30pm	4 White
12:30pm – 1:00pm	4 Red
1:00pm – 1:30pm	3 Gold
1:30pm – 2:00pm	3 White

All students will walk to and from the pool leaving school approx. 30 minutes before their scheduled lesson time.

CANTEEN NEWS

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 15 September Erika O'Brien
Friday 16 September Maureen Ward

Volunteers are always welcome at MacQuoid Street, even if just for an hour or more. Please contact Rosemarie on 6297 2221. Thank you.



NOTICEBOARD



**Vikings
Water Polo**

Tuggeranong Vikings Water Polo Club
Invites Children 12 year and Under
To come and try Flippa Ball!

- * Modified Water Polo program
- * Emphasis on fun
- * Introduces ball skills
- * Improves swimming & water survival skills

Lakeside Leisure Centre Tuggeranong
School Term - Sundays 9.30 - 10.30am
School Holiday Program 27th - 30th Sept

More information found at:
www.vikingswaterpolo.com

REGISTER FOR TERM 4 NOW!



**COME JOIN US AT OUR HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT DAY
10:30AM TILL 4:00PM SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER,
AT THE RHEINBERGER CENTRE, YARRALUMLA**

*"If only we could have two lives: the first one in which to make our mistakes...
And the second one in which to profit from those mistakes"*
D H LAWRENCE

There are no dress rehearsals to life so come and join us for a day
to find out who the Holy Spirit is and how he works in our lives so
we can make the most of our lives.

It will be a 4 DVD presentation, each lasting about
twenty five minutes with Spirit filled lively group
discussions and some time for personal reflection.

Bring your own lunch. Morning tea will be supplied.
RSVP by Tuesday 4th October to the parish office
6299 4611 or email to queanbeyan@cg.org.au

School's Out Holiday Care Queanbeyan
for September/October holidays! Book now.
Monday 26 September - Friday 7 October

Schools Out Queanbeyan service. 8:00am-6:00pm.
Daily sports coaching and excursion activities!
Excursions include Power Kart Racing/Jungle Golf,
Movies, Lets Play Indoor play centre, I play arcade and
dodgem cars, Ten Pin Bowling and more! Register now!
Daily sports coaching sessions: Hip hop dance sessions,
Soccer and Cricket.

CCB/Rebate available. Phone: 0414607396
Check www.schoolsoutcare.com.au to download an
enrolment form or email: schoolsout@netspeed.com.au

**Queanbeyan & Districts Junior
Cricket Club**



Registrations can be done online through the
My Cricket website <http://mycricket.cricket.com.au/>

Mick Hunter
Secretary QDJCC
0405 080 623 (mick)

NORTHERN MISSION

St Gregory's Parish



Queanbeyan
Michelago
Bungendore
Braidwood

PARISH OFFICE DETAILS:

Open: 9am -3:30pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
(Closed for lunch 1-1:30pm and all day Monday & Wednesdays)
Address: 47 Lowe St, Queanbeyan
Postal: PO Box 175 Queanbeyan 2620
Phone: 6299 4611
Email: queanbeyan@cg.org.au
Web: www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com

Weekday & Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:30pm St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
Sunday 9:00am & 5:30pm St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
Sunday 8:30am St Bede's, Braidwood
1st Sundays 11am Ss Peter & Paul, Hoskinstown
3rd Sundays 9am St Joseph's, Gundaroo
5th Sundays 12noon St Brigid's, Krawarree
Saturday 5:30pm St Mary's, Bungendore
2nd Saturday 5pm St Patrick's, Michelago
Monday NO MASS
Tuesday 5:30pm St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
Wednesday 7:00am St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
Wednesday 9:00am St Mary's, Bungendore
Thursday 7:00am St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
Friday 12noon St Raphael's, Queanbeyan
1st Wednesdays 10:00am George Forbes House
2nd Wednesdays 11:00am Warrigal (Kawaree)
4th Wednesdays 11:00am Queanbeyan Nursing Home
There will not be morning prayer on Saturday mornings
Fridays 11:00am-11:55am Exposition & Adoration St Raphael's, Qbn
Fri 11:30am-11:50am, Sat 4:30-5pm Reconciliation St Raphael's, Qbn
Sundays during 9am mass Children's Liturgy (ages 3-9yrs)
1st, 3rd & 4th Sun 10:30am Baptisms St Raphael's Church, Qbn
2nd & 4th weekends (Sat) 5:30pm/(Sun) 9am Baptism Presentations
Marriages By Appointment
Mondays 10:00am-12noon Craft Group, Parish Meeting Room
1st Wednesdays 12:30pm Cancer Support Group Ph: 6297 1912
Wednesdays 1:30pm-3pm Prayer Group, Parish Meeting Room