Dear Parents and Carers,

On Sunday 17th July, 15 members of the Catholic Education community of the Archdiocese began their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Poland. Ryan Matchett (teacher of 3 Gold) is one of the very lucky delegates selected to attend. We have been receiving regular updates from Ryan and he is certainly having an experience that I am sure will be life changing for him.

As part of the pilgrimage the delegates have visited the Warsaw Ghetto, the Franciscan Priory founded by St Maximillian Kolbe who was canonised a saint in 1982 and spent time walking the grounds of Auschwitz.

Last weekend the group journeyed to the Pope's hometown of Wadowice and visited the Museum of Pope John Paul II. In Krakow they visited the world famous shrine of Divine Mercy.

Today, Tuesday 26th July, the World Youth Day celebrations begin with the Opening Mass which will be celebrated by the local Bishop. During the following three days the more than 2 million young pilgrims from around the world will take part in morning Catechesis. Catechesis is preached in different languages by Bishops from around the world who will teach and reflect with pilgrims on the beatitude; “Blessed are the merciful; or they shall receive mercy.” (Mt 5:7), the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the XXXI World Youth Day in Krakow.

On Thursday, the pilgrims will have their first encounter with the Holy Father – Pope Francis during the Papal Welcome. On Friday the pilgrims will engage in the final catechesis session with the international Bishops. In the afternoon and evening, pilgrims gather for the Way of the Cross - which invites pilgrims into the penitential character of WYD.

On Saturday, the pilgrims will take part in the pilgrimage walk to the site of the vigil and final mass. Sunday 31st July will mark the conclusion of the WYD pilgrimage and the celebration of the Final Mass of the XXXI World Youth Day; celebrated by the Holy Father. During this Eucharist celebration, the Pope challenges and sends the young people out to the whole world to be witnesses in their own homes. At the very end, after the Angelus, the Holy Father traditionally announces the location of the next World Youth Day.

On Monday 1st August the Canberra Goulburn Pilgrims will make their way to Vienna where they will participate in a three-day retreat before returning home to Australia.

Ryan assures me that the St Gregory’s School Community are always in his thoughts and prayers.

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

Claire Frazer
Principal
Focus Value for July - ‘Show God’s Mercy by Being Tolerant of Others’

From the Principal…….

PRAYERS: Archbishop Christopher Prowse, who is currently on the WYD Pilgrimage has asked us to pray for and with the pilgrims – Jesus, I know that you are the Son of God who has given your life for me. I want to follow you faithfully and to be led by your word. I place my trust in you and I put my life into your hands. I want you to be the power that strengthens me and the joy that never leaves me. Amen

We also hold in our thoughts and prayers the members of our community who are grieving the loss of a loved one. May they know the comfort of Christ's love.

CONGRATULATIONS: We were delighted to hear the news that on the way to joining their fellow pilgrims in Poland – Ryan Matchett and Laura Ferguson (a former teacher of St Gregory's) announced their engagement in Venice! They are very happy and are pleased to have met at St Gregory's!

Congratulations to Jayden Colbran in KW who had a baby sister – Olivia Page – born on the 19th July.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS: Will be taking place this week at various times according to the online bookings. In looking at the booking data for each class I note there appears to be relatively few parents who have taken up this opportunity to meet with teachers. I do hope this is because there has already been communication between parents/carers and teachers about any issues or concerns.

GRANDFRIENDS DAY: This is one of my favourite days of the year. The students delight so much in showing their school to their special visitors. The wonderful thing about St Gregory’s is that some of our grandparents are themselves ex-students which again highlights the long and proud history of Catholic education in Queanbeyan. My thanks to those families from Kindergarten and Year 3 who assisted by catering for our special friends.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: You can follow the progress of the World Youth Day pilgrims via the following link - http://cgcatholic.org.au/youth-and-young-adults/blog/world-youth-day/ There will also be a live stream of the international events during WYD week (26th - 31st July) at http://www.xt3.com/live/.

STAFF ILLNESS: Like many in our community a number of our staff have been afflicted by illness during the winter season. Schools are terrific places for sharing illness and Catholic Education does provide flu vaccinations to our staff. Every attempt is made to secure the services of relief teachers but unfortunately this is not always possible (especially when the relief teachers call in sick) and classes need to be split.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY: This Friday, 1 Blue and 1 White will host our assembly. They will be leading us in prayer and reflection about how we show God’s mercy when we are tolerant of others. Visitors to the assembly are reminded to enter the hall by the back door leaving the side and front doors for the students to move into the hall.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP: There are 2 afternoon pick up points at MacQuoid Street – TOP GATE at the back of the oval and BOTTOM GATE near the pedestrian crossing. These are the only 2 places where teachers are rostered for supervision. At about 3:20pm children still to be collected are escorted to the area near the amphitheatre where they are supervised. At Lowe Street there is one pick up area – on the asphalt, unless a funeral means that pick up is transferred to the grass side. Please do not instruct your children to wait in other areas. If you are held up they can become distressed and may be in an area without supervision.

MORNING SUPERVISION: Begins at 8:30am. Students arriving before this time need to sit in class lines. If your work commitments require your child to be at school earlier than 8:30am you may need to consider before school care options. I am surprised to see some of our students on site well before 8am.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE: Lauren Macdonald is on LSL this week moving into a new home. Françoise Hewson will be the acting Religious Education Coordinator. I will be on LSL for the following two weeks – Weeks 3 and 4. During my leave Erin Taylor will be the acting Principal, Lauren Macdonald will be the acting Assistant Principal and Françoise Hewson will the acting Religious Education Coordinator.
Library News

Premiers Reading Challenge 2016

24 days to go!!

Welcome back to the final term for PRC. The last day for recording is Friday 19th August at 11:59 pm. 51 students haven’t begun recording yet – so please start now. Please note, it can become more difficult to logon to the PRC site the closer we get to Friday, 19th August. Currently 284 students are enrolled with 108 students finished and another 125 completing online records. Congratulations to the following students who completed their challenge over the holidays: Elijah Brown KBlue, Victoria Macdonald KRred, Savannah Manikis KWhite, Mackenzie Rootsey KRred, Millicent Hindmarsh KGold, Caitlyn Sibraa KBlue, Alani Willis KWhite, Josephine Hill 1Gold, Jessie Willis 1Gold, Hamish Reid 1Red, Madalyn Johnson 2White, Isaac Kirkpatrick 2Blue, Charlotte Quinn 3Gold, Ava Langeveld 3Gold, Joshua Kirkpatrick 4Red, Angelina Brown 5Blue, Erin Burstow 5Red, Cohen Goodchild 1Red and Charlotte Green 6White. I am able to email loan histories for students to help you complete on line reading records. I am still adding books to students in K-2 classes whenever they have had books read to them in class or library lessons. Any queries can be directed to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au

Our School Rules

Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.


2017 Enrolments

Please complete and return this note to the office if your child (except Year 6 students) is not returning to St Gregory’s School in 2017. Thank you.

My child/ren….........................................................................................................................will not be returning to St Gregory’s School in 2017.
He/She/They will be attending ...........................................................................................................

(please insert name of school)

Signed:........................................................................Parent/Guardian       Date:...........................................

Prayer Sessions

St Gregory’s School would like to offer the opportunity for our parents, carers and friends to pray as a community through two prayer sessions. These sessions will be modern and interactive. Everyone is welcome.

Week 1 - ‘Be Helpful’
Tuesday 2/8 - Lowe St Parish Room 8:30-8:50am
Friday 5/8 - St Gregory’s Church 8:30-8:50am

Week 2 - ‘Be Just’
Tuesday 9/8 - Lowe St Parish Room 8:30-8:50am
Friday 12/8 - St Gregory’s Church 8:30-8:50am

- Françoise Hewson (Acting Religious Coordinator)

Lost and Found

Luke Dance (3 Gold) has lost a Size 8 Sports Jacket. Can you please check names on uniforms bought home and return to school if incorrect. Thank you.

Canteen News

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:
Thursday 28 July: Denise Oldfield
Friday 29 July: Bethany Butterfield

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

Scholastic Book Club

We have a parent volunteer Melinda McIntyre and we will have Book Club for the Lowe St Campus only for the rest of this year. Thank you Melinda for volunteering. Please note orders close on Friday, 29th August 2016. Orders maybe be done online or sent into school.

2017 Enrolments
Marymead’s Kids And Youth Are Kool post Separation (KAYAKS)

Marymead’s KAYAKS program aims to support children and young people from 4 to 18 years of age, within the context of their family, to manage and enhance their relationships during and after family separation. KAYAKS offers 6-8 counselling sessions and helps children and young people manage feelings, emotions and deal with any other issues arising from parental relationship breakdown and the circumstances in which they find themselves. This is done primarily through age appropriate individual counselling with children and young people. Parents are asked to attend an initial interview with the counsellor and are provided with feedback at the end of the intervention.

Locations: KAYAKS is located at Marymead’s Narrabundah (ACT), Goulburn, Cooma and Moruya sites. Clients living in surrounding areas are also able to access this service, including the Queanbeyan district.

Eligibility: children aged 4-18 whose parents/carers are separated and in conflict.

Referrals and enquiries: 6162 5800 and request Stephanie Stephens, Unit Manager Counselling and Education, or email: stephanie.stephens@marymead.org.au

Fees: $20 per session.

Marymead’s New Horizons

Marymead’s New Horizons provides services for families with children and young people (CYP) 0-18, showing early signs of, or are at risk of developing mental health issues. New Horizons is accessible to CYP and their families within the ACT and Queanbeyan areas, and additionally offers targeted support to humanitarian entrants within the ACT. This service is provided through intensive, long-term, early intervention outreach support for CYP and their families, short-term immediate assistance for families and other community development initiatives to ensure better access to relevant information and services for those at risk and the broader community. New Horizons operates according to the following principles: early intervention, child and young person-centred, family focused, flexible, accessible and responsive.

Locations: home visiting and outreach support in the ACT and Queanbeyan areas

Eligibility: 0-18 year olds showing early signs of, or are at risk of developing mental health issues, and their families

Referral and enquiries: 6162 5800 and request Stephanie Stephens, Unit Manager Counselling and Education, or email: stephanie.stephens@marymead.org.au

Fees: New Horizons is a free service.

Rollerskating is great fun, it promotes fitness and strengthens gross motor, so come and give it a try!

When: Wednesdays 5:15pm-6:30pm
Saturdays 10.00am-11.15am
During school terms
Where: Queanbeyan High School Gym
Surveyor St, Queanbeyan
Cost: $150 first child and $120 for a sibling plus $5 skate hire if required
Contact: skateprogramsACT@gmail.com

Zambrero Queanbeyan would like to offer students of St Gregory’s School a 10% off VIP Card. Please visit our store and ask our friendly staff about collecting your VIP Card.