



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Six, Term Three, 2017
22 August, 2017



Share the Spirit....

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,



What a wonderful theme for Book Week – reading does allow us to escape to places and often away from places! Reading is something that is very important to us all here at St Greg's. Students are now reading at least 20 minutes every day and we are seeing fantastic progress in achievement of students. Once our students have discovered the joy of escaping into a book there is no holding them back.

I am sure I have mentioned James Nottingham in the past. I am very much enjoying reading his books. James believes, as do I, that the point of education is to help show children how to learn. When I was at school the emphasis was on learning facts – I can still recite the rivers along the coast of NSW - not that I have had to use this information – but now we are helping students to know how they can find out the information they need.

Of course there are other goals for education – for students to become numerate, literate, thoughtful and kind and of course in our Catholic School setting to learn about God and how we should live our lives modelled on Jesus.

The model that we are adopting to assist us in ensuring that we are on track is A.S.K. This stands for attitudes, skills and knowledge which include the following key ingredients.

ATTITUDES – positive attitudes towards learning. Curiosity, desire to succeed, engagement, open-mindedness, resilience, self-regulation.

SKILLS – abilities to carry out those actions necessary for gaining understanding and achieving excellent performance in any given context. Intellectual, social, communicative, physical.

KNOWLEDGE – familiarity with information, concepts, theories and practices in a given field. Facts, figures, concepts, ideas.

It was wonderful to see the students of Lowe Street this morning embracing the excitement of Book Week – well done to the creative parents and grandparents! I look forward to sharing the same excitement with our MacQuoid Street students on Thursday.

Yours sincerely

Claire

**Claire Frazer
Principal**

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Wednesday 23 August

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Thursday 24 August

Seasons Spring Session 5

MacQuoid Street Book Week Parade
and Library Monitor Play - 9:30am

Friday 25 August

Whole School Assembly (Year 5 Wakakirri)
12:30pm St Gregory's Hall

Monday 28 August - Friday 1 September
Sabbath Week

Tuesday 29 August

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Canberra/Goulburn Athletics - AIS

Wednesday 30 August

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Friday 1 September

Walkathon Day

Archdiocesan Public Speaking Competition

Fathers' Day Breakfast

7:30am to 8:30am MacQuoid Street

St Gregory's Feast Day Mass

9:30am - St Raphael's Church

Tuesday 5 September

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

NSW CPS Netball carnival - Penrith

Wednesday 6 September

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Maths Olympiad

Wakakirri Awards Night

7:15pm Canberra Theatre

Thursday 7 September

Year 4 Camp

Choir Eisteddfod
Goulburn

Year 2 Excursion

AIS and Belconnen Fresh Food Markets

Friday 8 September

Year 4 Camp

1 White and Year 6 to attend parish Mass
12pm St Raphael's Church



Focus Value for August - 'Be Persistent'

From the Principal.....

• ~ •
*O Lord, awaken the
consciousness of all peoples
and their leaders; raise up
men and women full of love
and generosity who can
speak and act for peace, and
show us new ways in which
hatred can be left behind,
wounds can be healed, and
unity can be restored. Amen.*

• ~ •
Henri J.M. Nouwen
A Cry for Mercy

PRAYER: With the recent event in Barcelona it is timely to remember to pray daily for peace in our world.

COMMUNICATION POLICY: St Gregory's has a Communication Policy. The full document is available on request. I would like to draw to your attention the following points from the policy.

- Appropriate, constructive and timely feedback is valued and encouraged
- Parents and guardians should allow between 1-2 school days for a reply during staff working hours (8am – 5pm) to any communication. Parents/guardians should appreciate sometimes a delay in reply may be experienced due to staff absence or illness. Communication over weekend and stand-down times is not to be expected.
- In the event of urgent matters parents/guardians should contact office staff who will ensure that the appropriate staff members are informed.
- It is acknowledged that staff have time constraints during the school day and that issues or concerns are best dealt with when uninterrupted time and attention can be given to them.
- Issues or concerns should not be discussed in front of students or other families.
- No parent/guardian should approach the children of other families or their parents with a school related issue or non-school related issue on the school grounds.
- All communication is open and respectful.
- Issues of concern are best shared when they first arise.
- Sensitive matters will not be dealt with via email.

SURVEYS: My School Surveys have been emailed today. I encourage parents to take some time to complete the survey. The feedback provides information for our strategic planning. The results of the survey are also forwarded to the Catholic Education Office so that the feedback can be used for Archdiocesan wide planning. If you were not emailed a survey please contact Jane King.

INVITATION: As you may know Ryan Matchett and Laura Ferguson (past teacher of St Greg's) are soon to be married. Ryan and Laura invite students and families to attend the Nuptial Mass to be held at St Raphael's Church on Saturday 9th September at 2pm.

STEM SHOWCASE: Earlier this year, St Gregory's established a STEM group to extend the Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics skills of our Year 5 and 6 students. There is extensive evidence to suggest that STEM develops critical and logical thinking, in some cases, it plants the seed for students to pursue a career within one of these fields. Today students from the STEM group had the opportunity to showcase the 3D objects they designed and printed. Although small, a great deal of time and problem-solving was invested in these small objects and so we congratulate these students for their perseverance and dedication.

STUDENTS LEAVING: At this time of the year Catholic Education start planning for staffing allocations for the following year. I am required to keep the office updated about changes in enrolment. Please complete the slip in this newsletter if your child is not returning to St Greg's in 2018. (excluding current Year 6 students)

BRUMBIES CLINICS: The students from Years 2 – 6 will participate in Brumbies Rugby Union Clinics every Monday beginning next week till the end of the term. It is always positive for students to have opportunities to learn the skills associated with a variety of sports.

THE BLOODY LONG WALK: This very long walk is being held in Canberra on Sunday 15th October. This is an annual event to raise awareness and funds for Mitochondrial Disease. Some teachers have joined TEAM LOLA as a way of supporting their colleague and friend Kristi whose daughter Lola has Mitochondrial disease.

LITERACY: Today and yesterday our consultant from Catholic Education has been working with staff around literacy skills particularly writing. At today's staff meeting teachers will be analysing student writing examples. As well as identifying growth for individual students the teachers will be identifying areas for further development.



LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Teacher....

Each week we will answer your questions or address concerns you may have to assist with home learning. If you would like to submit a question, please email:

- Literacy to kelly.delaney@cg.catholic.edu.au and
 - Numeracy to kristy.poole@cg.catholic.edu.au
- Please include the year group/s of the students so we can answer the question to the appropriate level.



NUMERACY

Dear Teacher,

My 10 year old struggles to tell the time using a watch. How can I help him, I thought he should know this by now?

Hello,

Analog time can be difficult for children to master. If we continually use time in front of children, they see it as a practical skill that they need daily. Children tend to come to school already knowing o'clock and half past (thank you Play School), but they then have a disconnect between knowing how to read a clock and actually using time. Look at the working clocks in your house and tell the time together to begin with, ensuring you count in 5s so they understand where the minutes come from. Also, talking about daily routines in terms of what time they occur, or saying things like "we need to leave in 10 minutes, what time will it be" and "dinner will be on the table in half an hour, what time will it be" may help.

Looking at a clock as a two edged numberline is also an interesting idea for a 10 year old to learn. If $4=20$, what does 7 equal? They find this idea fun to explore too (it even helps with 24 hour time!).

Regards,
Dear Teacher.

LITERACY

Dear Teacher,

My kids love it when I read to them. How important is it to read aloud to our children?

Hello,

Reading to your child is such a wonderful experience. The list of advantages is endless but here's just a few: to reassure, to entertain, to bond; to inform or explain, to arouse curiosity, to inspire. When we read out loud to our kids we also send a powerful message to the brain that reading equals pleasure. It also builds your child's vocabulary and models to them the flow of the English language.

Regards,
Dear Teacher.
Great question!

MACQUOID ST BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

BOOK WEEK PARADE AND LIBRARY MONITOR PLAY: 9:30am on Thursday 24th August. Students are encouraged to try and bring in a matching book with them to be discussed in class. The Library Monitors will also be presenting a play based on 'Alice in Wonderland'.

MACQUOID ST BOOK WEEK COMPETITIONS

CLASS DOOR POSTER: Some classes will be creating a door poster to celebrate Book Week's theme 'Escape to Everywhere'. The class judged as the most creative poster will be able to pick a movie from the Library's collection to watch in class with popcorn provided.

To be displayed this week and judged on Friday.

ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE 5 DAY TRIVIA: Each day this week, 4 trivia questions will be added to the double library doors. Students must answer all questions correctly to be in the running for a prize. Students may pick up entry forms from the Library and **submit their completed 20 question entry to Mrs Greentree by Friday morning.**

Please contact Melissa Greentree (Teacher/Librarian - MacQuoid St) for further information - melissa.greentree@cg.catholic.edu.au

LOWE ST BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

Students are also invited to write and illustrate a book with the title 'ESCAPE'. This book could be a non-fiction book, a picture book or a chapter book. These books will then be displayed and shared in the library and classrooms. This is a challenge and no prizes will be awarded. There will, however, be a certificate of appreciation given to each student. Books need to be at school by the end of Week 9.

Please contact Helen Carroll, Lowe Street teacher/librarian via email (helen.carroll@cg.catholic.edu.au) for more information.

Premier's Reading Challenge



NSW Premier's
Reading Challenge

URGENT - 5 days left to update records!

Online recording closes on 25th August at 11:59 pm. There are students out there who need to record online NOW if they wish to complete the Challenge and receive a certificate in Term 4. We currently have 187 students enrolled and 117 students have finished. Congratulations to the following students **Emily Langeveld KBlue, Mia Smith KBlue, Alani Willis 1Gold, Dylan Sandner 3Red and Angelina Brown 6Blue** who completed their Challenge this week. Our class prize of a pizza lunch is wide open with KBlue now leading with 9 students finished, followed closely by 1Gold and 2Blue with 8 students completed. We are able to print off a Library Loans history for students to help fill out their record. Email me if you would like a copy. Any questions can be directed to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au



SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Summary of discussions from the last School Council meeting held on Tuesday, 15 August 2017.

Qkr! for Payments



St Gregory's School has Qkr!

Parents can pay school fees, pay for items purchased from clothing pool and order lunches from either school canteens using their mobile phone. Download Qkr! from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN



Woolworths Earn & Learn program is back for 2017. It's simple to participate. From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September 2017, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There'll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards).

Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at school or at your local Woolworths.

CANTEEN

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 24 August
Friday 25 August

Antonia Harajli
Bethany Butterfield

Volunteers always welcome at MacQuoid. If you are available please phone Rosemarie 6297 2221.

Trivia Night

A committee is being sought to help coordinate the trivia night. The parent representatives for your children's classes will soon be in contact to elicit help. Alternatively, if you are interested in helping out, you could email stgregorys.schoolcouncil@cg.catholic.edu.au to express your interest. Thank you, Michael Bower, for coordinating the effort to date.

Father's Day Breakfast

Members of the SCC will make themselves available (if they are able) at this year's Father's Day breakfast. This will be an opportunity to meet and chat to members about anything on your mind.

KidsMatter, SRC and Student Action Teams

Mr Ben Mockler shared a report with SCC regarding our student's efforts as leaders of our school. It was heart-warming to hear about student projects involving anti-bullying, war on waste, curriculum teams and the work of the Student Representative Council. Thank you for the work you are doing with the students, Mr Mockler. We will endeavour to support you all where possible.

Carols By Candlelight

SCC are planning to hold a 'Carols By Candlelight' event for our community at the end of the year. Details will be shared as they are finalised.

If you would like to contact the School Council for matters pertaining to fundraising or to volunteer your time for any of the above events, please email: stgregorys.schoolcouncil@cg.catholic.edu.au

Have a wonderful week!

Laura Austin
Secretary
St Gregory's School Community Council



2018 ENROLMENTS

Please complete and return this note to the office if your child/ren (except Year 6 students) will not be returning to St Gregory's School in 2018. Thank you.

My child/ren.....

in class/es.....will not be returning to St Gregory's School in 2018.

He/She/They will be attending

(please insert name of school)

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



Only 10 days to go!

Friday, 1st September

**Students have received their sponsorship cards
and are encouraged to collect donations with
parent/carer supervision.**

We are looking forward to a fun day!



NOTICEBOARD

Healthy Lifestyle Program for Children 7-13 years who are above a healthy weight

ENROL NOW for a **FREE** Term 4 2017 program at:
The Q-One Indoor Sports Centre
Thursdays 4pm-6pm



At **Go4Fun**, kids and parents go on a supermarket tour to learn about new foods and read food labels. We even show you how to set rewards when your child tries something new.

For more information:

Call 1800 780 900 or SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back

Register at www.go4fun.com.au

Or visit the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/go4funprogram/



Health
Southern
Local Hea



GALA DINNER

LIVING THE GOSPEL TODAY -
NEXT STEPS TO RE-IMAGINING OUR
PARISH COMMUNITIES

EARLY BIRD PRICE - \$60

Qbn Roos Club | Tuesday 28 Nov | 7:00 for 7:30pm

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER - RENOWNED
JOURNALIST, RADIO/TV HOST
GERALDINE DOOGUE AO.**

CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR TABLE OF TEN

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