Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Last week I mentioned briefly Mindset and how we can have a growth mindset or a fixed mindset. I am sure if I was to canvas parents about their skills in regards to Mathematics I would get a fairly sizeable percentage that would respond – I can't do Maths! This demonstrates a fixed mindset in relation to Maths. What saddens me is that many of our students have fixed mindsets about particular areas of their learning. This year we are focusing very much in helping students to have growth mindsets.

The following is an excerpt from The Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers Inc. position paper about promoting positive attitudes towards mathematics.

Mathematics has had a significant influence in the development of the modern world. For thousands of years mathematics has been at the heart of discoveries from early counting systems to the greatest scientific and medical discoveries of our time. While almost everyone in society appreciates the value of mathematics in our everyday life, the majority of people admit to feelings of anxiety and inadequacy when faced with mathematics.

For the most part, society’s misconception is that a person is either born with mathematical ability or they are not. This misconception has created a culture where it is socially acceptable for someone to openly proclaim that they are ‘no good’ at mathematics and where a weakness in mathematics is worn as a badge of honour. Unfortunately, these self—proclamations contribute to the development of a mindset that becomes fixed and often unwavering. A fixed mindset is one significant impediment to learning as it affects the ability of the learner to 'believe' that they can achieve at a higher level.

Parents can contribute to their children’s positive attitude by:
• Using mathematics with them while shopping (money) or cooking (measuring);
• Playing games that use cards and dice (probability);
• Make patterns (pre—algebra);
• Using counting games (number); skip counting (multiplication/algebra);
• Saying rhymes that use counting (sequencing);
• Finding shapes in the real world (geometry);
• Avoiding negative talk about mathematics regardless of what you believe about your own mathematical abilities.

www.aamt.edu.au

The winner’s edge is not in a gifted birth, a high IQ, or in talent. The winner’s edge is all in attitude not aptitude. Attitude is the criterion for success.


We continue to focus on the theme of Being Welcoming. I am blessed to feel welcomed every morning by my colleagues, the students and the parents of this community.

Yours sincerely

Claire Frazer
Principal

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Wednesday 15 February
Kaye Lowe reading and writing workshop for Parents/Carers - 9:30am to 11am Lowe St
Kinder rest day - no school for Kinder students
Parra, W’gong & Canb/Goulb AFL Trials

Friday 17 February
Northern Region Swimming Carnival - Yass
Reconciliation Teachers Retreat Day
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR

Monday 20 February
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10:30am Lowe St MPR

Tuesday 21 February
Reconciliation Parent Info Night
7pm - St Gregory’s Hall

Friday 24 February
Whole School Assembly (Year 4)
12:30pm St Gregory’s Hall
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR
Bookings System Opens for Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews and closes Friday 3 March

Saturday 25 February
Reconciliation Commitment Mass
5:30pm St Raphael’s Church

Sunday 26 February
Reconciliation Commitment Mass
9am St Raphael’s Church
Reconciliation Commitment Mass
5:30pm St Raphael’s Church

Monday 27 February
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10:30am Lowe St MPR

Tuesday 28 February
Archdiocesan Swimming Carnival
Boorowa
The Magic Words incursion - St Gregory’s Hall
10am - Years 2, 3 and 4
12pm - Kinder and Year 1
2pm - Years 5 and 6
W
ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN
NEWSLETTER

Focus Value for February - ‘Be Welcoming’

From the Principal…….

PRAYERS: We continue to hold in our thoughts and prayers members of our community who are very ill with a number battling cancer. Please keep in your prayers Jody Mudge and Lola Lloyd. Please also keep in mind the children of Year 3 who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

CONGRATULATIONS: To all who participated in the Annual Swimming Carnival last Friday. Despite the extreme weather conditions, it was a highly successful day. I thank Matthew Maloney for the preparations that ensured that the carnival ran smoothly. My thanks to the teachers for their positive good humour on a hot day. The carnival would not have been as successful without the support of our amazing parent community. Well done to all! We will not mention, very often, that the Senior Girls’ Relay Team managed to beat, very convincingly, the teachers’ team.

Congratulations also to Giselle Arona, Talia Da Silva, Sienna Harajli, Alyssa Harajli, Laura Sierant and Emmett Smith who were selected in the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese Girls and Boys basketball teams. The trials were held last week in Young in what I understand were very hot conditions. They will compete at the Mackillop trials in Wollongong in early March.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS: Many parents attended the information sessions held last week – Monday (Lowe) and Tuesday (Mac). The parents I spoke to reported that it was a very valuable opportunity to hear about class routines and goals. If you could not come along, please do not hesitate to contact teachers. Optional Parent/Teacher interviews will be held from 6 to 9 March.

PARENT CONTACTS: Many thanks to those parents who have volunteered (many of you again) to be the classroom contact person. This is an evolving role and can provide a vital avenue of communication between school and families and from families to families. If you would like further information before committing please do not hesitate to contact Kate McManus-Green or myself for details.

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS: We celebrated our beginning of the year Mass last Tuesday. I know that the students are being respectful and reverent when I have the opportunity to prayerfully participate in the Mass rather than acting as a vigilant supervisor. The attitude, behaviour and prayerful participation of the students was nothing short of amazing. The choir led by Dee McFaul and Des Gomez ensured that we could sing and praise God.

KAYE LOWE WORKSHOP: A reminder that Adjunct Professor Kaye Lowe will facilitate a parent workshop tomorrow morning from 9:30am at Lowe Street. Child care is available. Kaye's workshops are engaging and offer very practical advice on how parents can support their reading development. I highly recommend this workshop and Kaye’s website https://www.read4success.com.au/

YEAR 3 TEACHERS RETREAT DAY: It is the practice at St Gregory’s that the teachers who have the responsibility of helping parents and the parish to prepare for the reception of the sacraments spend a retreat day with Fr. Troy. This allows the teachers to explore their own understanding of the sacrament, to further their knowledge around the theology and to plan for parent meetings. These retreat days are a vital element in our vocation of assisting students and their families in their journey of faith. The Year 3 teachers will not be at school this Friday, relief teachers have been engaged.

ROYAL COMMISSION: There have been heartbreaking details about the Catholic Church’s past response to childhood sexual abuse by priests, members of religious orders and lay people. I offer my support to those who are affected by abuse directly or indirectly. I also pray for the priests who have been faithful servants to the church and feel tarnished by the crimes of others.

WHOOPING COUGH: A student at the school has been diagnosed with whooping cough.

GOFUNDME: As many of you know one of our dads is very ill. Friends of the family have launched a gofundmepage in order to support the family. I know the family would be most appreciative of any support. https://www.gofundme.com/372pj54


**LIBRARY NEWS**

Welcome to St Gregory’s Libraries in 2017. There is plenty to be excited about with inquiry learning, research skills and literature promotion at the two campus Libraries, as well as many fun events and activities. Accelerated Reader will be continuing in Years 4 to 6 with many opportunities for students to not only aim to reach their individualised reading targets but be rewarded for their efforts. The millionaires club will be starting again as well as pizza lunches on offer to the classes that are first to reach their reading targets each term. There will be a Book Fair planned in term 2 at Lowe St and Term 4 at MacQuoid St as well as the well anticipated annual Book Week in Term 3. The Premier’s Reading Club will also begin in March, however students are encouraged to read now as everything from 1st September 2016 will count towards their Challenge. We suggest downloading the printable reading log from the NSW PRC website which can later be entered online by parents or students in March. A direct link to the reading log -


**Lowe Street Library Lessons** -

KBlue, KGold, KRed and KWhite are on Monday. 1Blue, 1Gold and 1Red are also on Monday. 1White are rostered on Tuesday.

**MacQuoid Street Library Lessons** -

2Blue, 2Gold, 2Red and 2White are on Monday. 3Blue, 3Gold, 3Red and 3White are on Tuesday. 4Blue, 4Red and 4White are on Friday. 5Blue, 5Gold and 5Red are on Thursday. 6Blue, 6Gold and 6White are on Wednesday.

**Borrowing** -

Students will be able to borrow 1 book (Kindergarten) and up to 3 books (Year 1 to Year 6) to take home on their rostered day (as above). Students in junior classes (K to Year 2) are not permitted to borrow without a Library bag. Whilst it is not compulsory for Year 3 to Year 6, we strongly encourage students to continue using a bag when borrowing. It is extremely important for students to care for the books and by regularly using a bag they will not only protect the books but remember where they are located. Students may bring in any bag that will be durable and not break. Examples include a school Library bag, swimming drawstring bag, pillowcase, fabric shopping bag, handcrafted library bag, etc. Please assist students in becoming responsible by placing reminders to pack their Library bag the night before their allocated day. Students may also borrow at MacQuoid St Library at break time from Mrs Greentree or a Library Monitor. This is a great opportunity for any student in Year 2 that forgets to bring their bag to their allocated lesson.

**Book Club** -

Book Club brochures have been distributed to MacQuoid Street students. (Lowe St students will receive brochures later this term). Orders close tomorrow, 15th February. No late orders will be accepted. Thank you.

– Mel Greentree, Helen Carroll and Ros Wythes.

**CLOTHING POOL**

Clothing Pool is NOW open on **Mondays** 9am - 10:30am and **Fridays** from 2pm - 3:30pm. Alterations to uniforms are available from Betty in the clothing pool for $5 an item. School hats are available from the offices for $15.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to MORRISON House for winning the 2017 St Greg’s Swimming Carnival.

The final scores were:  
Morrison - 375  
Brennan - 205  
O’Rourke - 195  
Byrne - 140

Days like Friday could not occur without the support from our parents and carers. Once again a huge thank you from all of the staff and students.

The Northern Region Carnival is on this coming Friday (17 Feb) in Yass. A bus has been chartered for the event, at a cost of $10 per person, for those who wish to travel to Yass with their friends. Notes for those students representing St Greg’s at the carnival have been sent home.

**LOST** - Finn Beasley (5 Blue) lost his Garmin fitness tracker (white band) at the swimming carnival on Friday. Can you please check it wasn’t taken home by mistake in someone else’s bag? Thank you.

- Matthew Maloney, PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator.

**FAMILY PORTRAIT FUNDRAISER**

St Gregory’s School will be hosting an advancedlife Studios Family Portrait Fundraising Day in March.

- **Date:** Sunday, 26 March 2017  
- **From:** 9:00 am  
- **Price:** $20 donated to our school*  
- **Where:** MacQuoid Street Campus

For your $20 you receive a choice of a 10x13” family portrait, a bonus key ring with family photo plus the chance to win $1,500. 100% of money raised from the day goes directly to the school.

Additional photos will be taken and available for purchase, at no obligation. These additional photos include: portraits, gift cards and calendar - featuring your family portrait and other photos taken on the day.

To secure your booking please click here:  

Any questions? Please phone 1300 653 883.

**WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE**

James and Andrew Mackenzie have also signed up with Peter for the Leukaemia Foundation World’s Greatest Shave. The ‘GREAT SHAVE’ will take place at the 9am morning assembly at MacQuoid St Friday, 17th March.

Sponsor the boys by clicking on the following links or you can send your donations to school. Thank you.


**CANTEEN NEWS**

Volunteers at Lowe Street Canteen this week are:  
Thursday 16 February - Lyn Smyth  
Friday 17 February - Help Needed Please
NOTICEBOARD

Free ENGLISH Classes
Queanbeyan Presbyterian Church Hall
Cnr Morisset and Lowe Streets
(opposite Queanbeyan Park)
Wednesdays 10am - 12pm
All Welcome!
Morning Tea provided
Contact Peter Gobbo
6292 6772 or 0423 548 821
For enquiry & enrolment please contact LCF Fun Languages
www.lcfclubs.com.au
Sarah Mak 0431 252 768
Email sarah.mak@lcfclubs.com.au

Italian for Students at St Greg's
Term One 2017
(Lowe St & MacQuoid St students)
Date: 9th February – 6th April;
Thursdays
Time: 3.20 – 4.30 p.m.
Venue: St. Gregory's Parish
Cost: $158 per student (9 lessons)
NOTE: The LCF Italian Teacher will accompany your child at Lowe St Campus to St. Gregory's Parish from 3pm.
Please prepare some snacks for them.
For enquiry & enrolment please contact LCF Fun Languages
www.lcfclubs.com.au
Sarah Mak 0431 252 768
Email sarah.mak@lcfclubs.com.au

Queanbeyan Kangaroo Minor Rugby League
Want to play Rugby League, why not join the Junior Roos?
Our Club has spots available for boys and girls in all age groups starting from u6s up to u16s.
There is also a Joey's skills development program for 4–5yrs.
If you are interested please contact Tracy via email on roossecretary@hotmail.com or Ph: 0433 300 259

2017 SEASON
SUNRISE PLAYER REGISTRATIONS
Sunrise player registrations are now open. We are looking for players, coaches, umpires and volunteers. Anyone can join our fun and friendly club!
Netsetgo Skills 5 - 7 years
Junior Teams 8 – 12 years
Junior Teams 12 years
Cadets 13 – 17 years
Seniors 17+
All players 5-10 years receive an awesome Netball NSW Participant pack.

Costs: Netsetgo $95 Juniors $130 Seniors $170
To register visit http://sunrise.nsw.netball.com.au/
or email SunriseSecretary@Outlook.com
https://www.facebook.com/SunriseNetball/
http://Netsetgo.asn.au/

Want to play Rugby League, why not join the Junior Roos?
Our Club has spots available for boys and girls in all age groups starting from u6s up to u16s.
There is also a Joey's skills development program for 4–5yrs.
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