



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Five, Term One, 2017
28 February, 2017



Share the Spirit....

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Tomorrow we celebrate Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent. Lent is a time where we are encouraged to reconcile with our God. There has been much said in recent times about the suffering caused to many at the hands of those connected to the Church. This can mean that we become disengaged and opposed to any interaction with the church. There is no doubt that many have been damaged and there is no excuse for the atrocities that occurred. We can only hope and pray that with the spot light that has illuminated the poor response of church officials in the past that it can never happen again.

Lent is a time of reflection and reconciliation which is why this time of the year is selected for our students of Year 3 to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. There's nothing particularly tricky about prayer. It's simply turning in to God's presence – and God is always present. Not simply alongside me, but within me at the deepest part of who I am.

I never have to get God's attention. I have God's attention. Always. Everywhere. I never have to make an appointment with God. When I call God it is direct. To draw near to God, I don't have to travel anywhere.

I don't have to figure out the right words to get started. God is already speaking to me. All I have to do is create the space for God to be heard. That space can be in a church, walking, driving, sitting in the backyard, your bedroom.

The students will have the sign of the cross with ashes on their foreheads tomorrow. Although the early Church used ashes as part of its ritual for public penance, it wasn't until the Synod of Benevento in 1091 that the reception of the ashes in Lent was extended to all. So the students will be part of a tradition that began a long, long time ago.

The cross of ashes is a sign that we know that we need to repent (acknowledge our failings) and to be humble (know that we need God). It is about knowing our need for renewal and the strengthening of our relationship with God.



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Yours sincerely

Claire

Claire Frazer
Principal

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Wednesday 1 March

Booking System Open for Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

Ash Wednesday

Kinder - Year 2 Ash Wednesday Liturgy
9:30am St Raphael's Church

Year 3 - Year 6 Ash Wednesday Mass
12:30pm St Raphael's Church

Laure Daley/Mal Meninga Shield
Phillip District Oval

Thursday 2 March

Booking System Open for Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

Friday 3 March

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR

Booking System CLOSES at 6pm for
Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

Saturday 4 March

Reconciliation Commitment Mass
5:30pm St Raphael's Church

Sunday 5 March

Reconciliation Commitment Mass
9am St Raphael's Church

Reconciliation Commitment Mass
5:30pm St Raphael's Church

Monday 6 March - Thursday 9 March
Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

Monday 6 March

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR

Friday 10 March

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR

St Greg's Cross Country (Years 3 to 6)
12pm to 2:45pm Wright Park

Monday 13 March - Friday 17 March
SABBATH WEEK

Monday 13 March

Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
2pm to 3:30pm Lowe St MPR

Tuesday 14 March

Student Representative Council Excursion
Parliament House - 10am to 1pm



Focus Value for February - 'Be Welcoming'

From the Principal.....

PRAYERS: Please remember in your prayers the young members of our parish who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. We hold up to our God those in our community who are sick and in pain.

CONGRATULATIONS: Baby Alice Gibson arrived into a family of much love, very fittingly on Valentine's Day. We offer our congratulations to Emma and Ryan on the birth of their gorgeous baby girl and to Hugh, Tom and Georgia on the arrival of their baby sister.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY: The Year 4 students certainly demonstrated what it means to BE WELCOMING at their assembly last Friday. Having the Kindergarten classes enter their very first assembly through a guard of honour formed by Year 4 with the rest of the school singing a welcome was very moving. It was a very powerful way of showing them that they now belong to our community. My thanks and congratulations to the Year 4 students and their wonderful teachers – Chris Washington, James Prpic, Valerie Sheahan and Ben Mockler. The behaviour of our Kindergarten students needs a special mention – they were extraordinary in the way they sat and listened and participated! Great work all round!

THIS WEEK: I will be at Bowral from Tuesday afternoon through till Friday this week. The principals of the Archdiocese and key personnel from Catholic Education will also be there. On the Wednesday we will be led through a process of review in order to begin preparing the new strategic plan for Catholic Education as the current one ends this year. From Wednesday evening through till lunch time on Friday we will be having our annual Catholic Leaders Retreat. This year the theme is Truly our Sister: How Mary of Nazareth can help us become better Catholic Leaders. I am very much looking forward to this time of prayer and reflection. Please be assured that the St Gregory's School Community and the needs of its members will be very much in my prayers.

THE MAGIC WORDS: Today Brainstorm Productions presented their student wellbeing program 'The Magic Words' at three different performances for all classes. The Magic Words is a live educational theatre show of comic adventures, which helps students discover the true meaning of using magic words – "sorry", "thank you", "please", "excuse me" - and come to understand that having good values and showing respect is an important and essential part of growing up. Students will also learn the value of using their 'magic words' online and how to safely share information about themselves and others in an increasingly digital world. The Magic Words is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and nonjudgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools that they can use in their everyday lives. More than 350,000 Australian students have already benefited from Brainstorm Productions multi award-winning educational theatre programs over the past twelve months. Their programs cater to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a healthy and harmonious school environment. If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, visit their website at www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

LOWE STREET PARKING: Please be aware that parking directly in front of the school at peak times is for 10 minutes only. This is important for parents who wish to drop/pickup their children and leave promptly. If you intend staying for assembly, or to wait for siblings from Mac please use alternative parking – showground or the Q carpark.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: Schools in NSW will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week next week 5th - 11th March. Schools in the ACT will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week in May (1st - 7th) and linking it with the enrolment period. Given our close location to ACT and the fact that families from Queanbeyan will be seeking enrolment in Catholic High Schools in the ACT we have elected to link our celebration of Catholic Schools Week with the ACT.

OPTIONAL PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS: will be held next week from 6th - 9th March. In the mail you would have received a PTO (Parent Teacher Online) letter outlining the process for booking a Parent Teacher interview. **Bookings will close at 6pm this Friday, 3rd March.** If you do not receive your letter or have misplaced your login details please contact Jane King (6297 2221).

PARENT CONTACTS: Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to support the school in the role of classroom parent contacts. Kate McManus-Green will be in touch via email with our volunteers this week. We are still seeking parents for the following classes - 2 Gold, 2 White, 4 Red, 5 Blue, 5 Gold, 5 Red, 6 Blue and 6 White.

CARWOOLA BUSHFIRE APPEAL: Just a reminder that you can make direct donations by depositing funds into the Carwoola Bushfire Appeal account BSB – 032724 Account No – 362257. Donations can also be made in person at Westpac branches. If you would like to send money via the school, we will ensure that the funds go directly to the appeal.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated in St Gregory's Church on 5th and 6th April for the following classes.

5th April
9:30am 3 Blue
12pm 3 Gold

6th April
9:30am 3 White
12pm 3 Red

ASH WEDNESDAY



Tomorrow we begin the season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday prayer celebration for Kinder – Yr 2 at 9:30am and mass for Yr 3 – Yr 6 at 12:30pm at St Raphael's Church for our school community.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, blessed ashes are put on your forehead in the shape of a cross. These ashes are made by burning palm leaves which have been saved from last year's Palm Sunday, and remind us to follow Jesus.

During the forty days of Lent we focus on improving our relationship with God and others. The Church suggests three special practices for Lent: pray, fast, almsgiving.

Pray - pray more often, perhaps around the dinner table/ going to Mass.

Fast - perhaps giving up a certain food or treat.

Almsgiving - means doing good for others.

- Kate McManus-Green, Religious Education Coordinator.

ARCH SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Good luck to our representatives in the Northern Region swim team competing at the Archdiocesan carnival in Boorowa today. They are: Giselle Arona, Madeline Bennett, Angelina Brown, Grace Carswell, Imogen Dorsett, Laila Gatt, Thomas Keillor, Isaac Kirkpatrick, Eleni Lolesio, Brent Marsden, Thomas McIntosh, Ivana Rodriguez, Brad Sliwinski, Kaleb Gowland, Emmett Smith and Hannah Zutt.

Congratulations to St Gregs Swimming Age Champions who were presented with their medals at last Friday's whole school assembly.

Junior Girls: Madeline Bennett - Runner Up Laila Gatt
Junior Boys: Tom McIntosh - Runner Up Nic Pulciani
Inter Girls: Angelina Brown - Runner Up Giselle Arona
Inter Boys: Daniel Ossato - Runner Up Emmett Smith
Senior Girls: Imogen Dorsett - Runner Up Eleni Lolesio
Senior Boys: Aaron Ciuffetelli - Runner Up Kaleb Gowland

- Matthew Maloney, PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator.

PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a Principal's Award at the last whole school assembly.

K Blue	Toby Guy
K Gold	Lewy Haraldson
K Red	Zvonimir Mrkonjic
K White	London Imrie
1 Blue	Hayley Hughes
1 Gold	Harvey Canestrari
1 Red	Kiara Webb-Menzies
1 White	Zoe Adkins
2 Blue	Aiden Settin
2 Gold	Kathleen Connelly
2 Red	Jacob Hewson
2 White	Tia Ivanos
3 Blue	Briannah Fitzpatrick
3 Gold	Charli Stokes-Oldfield
3 Red	Aleisha Worner
3 White	Ava Rhule
4 Gold	Breanna Gillego
4 Red	Regan Terry
4 White	Ethan Picker
5 Blue	Charlie Fahey
5 Gold	Brooklyn Dagwell
5 Red	Chloe Mansell
6 Blue	Amanda McCauley
6 Gold	Sem McNeill
6 White	Joseph Larobina
AR Millionaires	Madeleine Heller (6 Blue)
Gold Bands	Alexander Dormer (3 Blue) Thomas Keillor (3 Blue) Matilda Howell (4 Red) Isabelle Edmondson (4 White) Alyce Greentree (3 Gold) Hannah Zutt (6 Gold) Oliver Morgan (2 Red)

CLOTHING POOL

2 FOR 1 WINTER SALE

Clothing Pool will be having a 2 for 1 winter sale on the following days:

Monday 27 March	9am - 10:30am
Friday 31 March	2pm - 3:30pm
Monday 3 April	9am - 10:30am
Friday 7 April	2pm - 3:30pm
Monday 24 April	9am - 10:30am
Wednesday 26 April	9am - 10:30am and 2pm - 3:30pm
Friday 28 April	2pm - 3:30pm

And open as usual during March on **Mondays** 9am - 10:30am and **Fridays** from 2pm - 3:30pm.

School hats are available from the offices for \$15.



ICAS COMPETITIONS

The UNSW is offering students an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2-12. Assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

ICAS gathers performance information through a 30-60 minute supervised in-school test. These tests are **voluntary**.

Subject	Cost	Sitting Date
Digital Tech (Yrs3-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 23 May
Science (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 30 May
Writing (Yrs3-6)	\$17-00	Monday, 12 June
Spelling (Yrs3-6)	\$11-00	Wednesday, 14 June
English (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 1 August
Mathematics (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 15 August

Registration forms are available from the MacQuoid Office and the school website (under the Notes tab). If you would like to register your child, please complete the form and return it, along with your entry fees, to school by Tuesday, 7 March, 2017 – Garreth Wigg, Administration 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 to 8:30pm

Price: \$20 donated to our school*

*Please note a \$1 booking fee is also applicable

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:

<https://www.advancedimage.com.au/studioPortalPymt/booking-form-step-1.aspx?SIC=N3TWPDGBC>

Any questions? Please phone 1300 653 883.

CANTEEN NEWS

Volunteers at Lowe Street Canteen this week are:

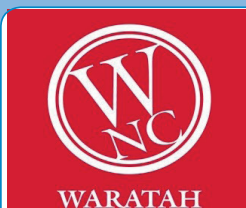
Thursday 2 March

Erika O'Brien

Friday 3 March

Betty Crowe

NOTICEBOARD



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR 2017

2017 Registration Cost

Net-Set-Go (players turning 5-10 in 2017) \$105

Juniors players turning 11 – 16 in 2017) \$135

Registration Day (1 only)

18 March 2017 Riverside Plaza 10.30am – 12pm

The 2017 season commences Saturday 29th April.

Further enquiries: Ph: 0421 018 799 or

Email: waratahnetballclub@outlook.com.au

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/>



Queanbeyan Roadrunner Representative Trials

Sunday 5th March 2017

Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium



Trial Times:

U10's Boys & Girls 8am-9am

U12's Boys & Girls 9.15am-10.15am

U14's Boys & Girls 10.30am-11.30am

U16's Boys & Girls 1pm-2pm

Further information:

Website: <http://.../Documents/BBall/Sponsorship/www.qbnbasketball.sportingpulse.net/www.qbnbasketball.sportingpulse.net>

Email: Rosie: rosiebball1@tpg.com.au or

Tracey: whittakertracey.tw@gmail.com



WANT TO PLAY JUNIOR RUGBY IN 2017?

COME & JOIN THE WHITES

TEAMS IN QUEANBEYAN - U7 TO 18S

TEAMS IN GOOGONG & BUNGENDORE - U7 TO 9S

NEW GIRLS 10 A-SIDE RUGBY - U13 U15 U17



COME N TRY RUGBY DAYS

QUEANBEYAN - GOOGONG - BUNGENDORE

CONTACT THE CLUB FOR DATES N TIMES

INTERESTED

OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFO

EMAIL THE CLUB AT

INFO@WHITESJUNIORRUGBY.ORG.AU

www.whitesjuniorrugby.org.au