Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to warmly welcome all families and students to the 2014 school year. I trust that you and your children have had a restful and re-energising holiday period. I know the staff and I are excited about the new school year. They have been at work for a while now engaging in Professional Learning sessions and administration in preparation for the year.

**Literacy PD** – The staff attended a very interesting and inspiring day with Kaye Lowe, a respected educator, author and literacy consultant. I hope that many of her ideas will flow into our literacy time at school. Literacy is a major focus area at St Anthony’s from 2014 so I will keep you informed of our new initiatives.

**Staff News**

This year I am pleased to welcome the following new members of our staff:

- **Miss Stephanie Edlinger** (Kindergarten)
- **Mr Wayne Young** (Year 1)
- **Miss Orla Duggan** (Year 3)
- **Mrs Donna Gordon** (Year 3)
- **Miss Nicole Ptycia** (Year 5)
- **Miss Emily O’Rourke** (Year 6)
- **Mrs Annette Smith** (Front Office)

I would also like to offer a special welcome to **Mrs Anne Walls** who has been appointed as our new Catholic Care Counsellor for 2014. Her day at St Anthony’s will be Mondays. It is wonderful to have a school counsellor again but remember her time is limited. There is a formal referral process for parents and staff. Please contact the front office or your child’s teacher if you would like to make a referral or ask for more information.

Congratulations to **Mrs Sarah Maldon** and the birth of her daughter Charlee at the end of Term 4. Sarah and Charlee are doing well and her husband Josh and son Saxon are very proud too! Sarah will be on Maternity Leave in 2014.

Good Luck to **Mrs Nikki Napier** and **Mrs Janice Spackman** as they also await the birth of the babies shortly.

Welcome to **Miss Stephanie Martyn** who has recently been employed as Acting Assistant Director at OOSCA while Nikki is on leave for 6 months. Good luck to **Mrs Neecta Gianakis** who will be the Acting Director of OOSCA for this 6 month period too.
Homework Review
In talking with staff and parents in 2013 it became very clear that we needed to review our school homework policy. The teachers have started this process in the holidays and have made a decision to begin Term One 2014 with a modified version of homework. The homework will consist of core literacy and numeracy activities only. Reading is a priority for all students and they should read every night. There will be some writing and spelling at times. At times there will be some Mathematics tasks. **There will no more grid style homework sheets that include chores or family activities.** The timeframe for homework will be one week. The teachers are reviewing the purpose of assignments and projects and the suitable year level these should be introduced. **Keep in mind that Catholic High Schools expect Year 7-8 students to be undertaking 1-1.5 hours of homework per night and these schools are where the majority of our students will attend!** I encourage you to talk with your child’s teacher about your beliefs about homework and together the school will update our homework policy. Remember each person you talk with has a different opinion about homework so we must be sensitive to each other beliefs and ideas.

Afternoon Oval Crossing Duty
Remember that you have the option to pick up your children earlier than other families by using the Wanniassa Oval pick up area (next to the school) at 3.10pm. Students will be dismissed from class at 3.10pm and be walked across the oval to you. The teacher will wait until the last child is picked up or 3.30pm which ever time is first. Uncollected children will come back to the front of school pick up area.

Car Park
You will notice that the school driveway and car park areas have been re-marked during the holidays. I hope these markings and new signs make the areas safer and more clearly explained for traffic flow. **Please remember to keep the front driveway entrance to Wheeler Crescent free for buses to turn into the school, as well as the curve in our internal school driveway.** These two areas need to be clear at all times. I will go over other safety areas and traffic arrangements through the school newsletter in coming weeks. Thank you for your support and safe driving.

New Friday Focus Assembly Times
This year we are trialling a new Friday Focus Assembly time – **they will at 2.15pm.** Student of the Week Award Cards will also be given out at this time. A later assembly time will restore the middle session for teaching lessons on Fridays – valuable time for teachers! Some parents may also be in a position to take their children home directly after assemblies on Fridays to save two trips to school on one day! Please keep an eye out for your child’s year group Focus Assembly date.

Holiday Security Roster Thanks
I would like to offer a big thank you to the parents and families who formally placed their name on our holiday security roster and patrolled our school grounds. **The school has had a relatively incident free holiday period with the grounds and facilities suffering minimal damage.** The window and door panels you see broken actually occurred before school ended in 2013. They are due to be fixed this week. The school mobile was called in the holidays by vigilant parents to report any suspicious activity or open doors or windows. Thank you again for everyone’s support in looking after our school.

School Calendar – Website and Hard Copy
This week the **school website** has been updated with 2014 dates and times or important events. Families will soon receive a hard copy of 2014 school calendar but until this time I encourage you to have a look through the electronic calendar on the front page of the website.
Opening School Mass
You are warmly invited to attend our Opening School Mass at 10.00am this Thursday in the school hall. Father Lachlan Coll will celebrate mass as we gather together to ask God’s blessing on our new school year.

2014 Meet-the-Staff-Night and Family BBQ
You are also invited to attend our first school and community event next Thursday 13 February. This is our 2014 Meet-the Staff-Night and family BBQ. All teachers and staff will be in attendance for you to meet and discuss your child’s start to the school year. You will have the opportunity to meet your child’s teacher/s between 5.00pm and 6.30pm.

Kindergarten and Year 1 teachers will present their information in a formal manner with a talk at 5.30pm. There is only one presentation. Their classrooms will also be open between 5.00pm and 6.30pm.

Year 2-6 teachers will open their classrooms between 5.00pm and 6.30pm for you to come through and collect relevant information and spend a few minutes with the teacher.

Teachers and staff in other roles will also be available to talk with on the night. There specialist rooms will be open for display and I hope you take the time to visit these special areas too.

There will be a complimentary community BBQ in the asphalt area for you to spend time mingling with other families and school staff. At 6.30pm I will ask all teachers and staff to come out and also participate in the BBQ. This will give staff time to mingle with families outside their direct class group too. The night is an early start and early finish to allow all families to attend and be home at a reasonable time. I envisage the evening will conclude around 7.15pm as it did last year. I look forward to talking with as many families as possible on the night.

Our school theme for 2014 is “Life’s a Celebration” and it is wonderful that we are all blessed with unique gifts and talents that we can share with the community. Let’s make each day a day to celebrate. Again, I wish you all the best for a great start to the 2014 school year.

God Bless

Greg Walker
Principal

SCHOOL FEES
Term 1 school fees will be sent home next week. Prompt payment of outstanding fees is appreciated unless you have a direct debit in place. Payments may be made by cash, cheque, credit card, BPAY, EFTPOS or Direct Debit.

There is a formal process to apply for fee concessions if you are experiencing financial difficulties. Please contact me for more details.

Thank You. Judy Mead

2013 School Year Books
Extra 2013 Year Books are available from the Front Office at no cost until stocks run out.

Appeal for Doorknock Volunteers:
St Anthony’s SVPD Conference urgently requires volunteers to assist in this year’s doorknock. We appeal to all those who may not have doorknocked before, to help us in collecting much needed funds to assist the disadvantaged in our community with food, emergency accommodation, care and other services. Donating 1 – 1.5hrs for this event will be invaluable to us and the experience rewarding to you. The doorknock is held during the month of February, 2weeks before and about the 16th Feb 2014. Please phone Mario 0413 393 222.
These four beautiful words are our school focus for 2014 underpinned by St Anthony's message ‘among all things that are lovable, there is one that is more lovable than the rest, and that most lovable of all things is life’.

This year we are celebrating life and all that embodies it. A part of this year’s celebration focuses on commending the diverse range of gifts and talents each of our students possess. ‘Your heart and soul are God’s gift to you. What you do with each of these things is your gift back to God’.

School Value: Respect
To begin this school students have been reading ‘Have you Filled a Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud.

This heart-warming book encourages positive behaviour as children see how rewarding it is to show, kindness, care, inclusivity and love to others. Bucket filling not only makes someone else feel special but also makes you feel special too. This story underpins each of our school values, and when paired with the Religious Education Curriculum and our School wide Positive Behaviour Focus (SWPB) helps children to understand the effects our words and actions have on the wellbeing of others and ourselves.

Opening School Mass:  
We would like to invite all parents, carers and families to our Opening School Mass this Thursday 6th February, 10am in the School Hall. The Year 6 School Leadership badges will also be blessed during mass and handed out at our upcoming Leadership Ceremony.

Orla Duggan
Acting Religious Education Coordinator.

John 10:10
‘I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full’
Principal | Mr Greg Walker
---|---
Assistant Principal | Mr Michael Bradley
REC | Ms Orla Duggan
Co-ordinators | Mrs Leah Taylor & Mr Angas Quantrill
Front Office | Mrs Judy Mead, Mrs Sarah Waller
Learning Support Teacher | Ms Trina Twyford
Teacher/Librarian | Ms Danielle Richardson
Learning Support Assistants | Mrs Marg Nolan, Mrs Jenny Stallari & Ms Jacki Hagger
Numeracy Interventions Teacher | Ms Kelly Mara
Canteen | Mrs Maree Alchin
Groundsman | Mr Leo O’Keeffe
Cultural Studies Teacher | Mrs Leah Malpas
Counsellor | Mrs Anne Walls
Music Teacher | Ms Bernadette Wilson
OOSCA Director | Mrs Necta Gianakis (Acting)
OOSCA Assistant Director | Ms Stephanie Martyn (Acting)

**2014 CLASS TEACHERS**

| Kinder Assisi | Ms Emily Henderson (Boettcher) | 3 Assisi | Mrs Orla Duggan/Mrs Bernie Wilson |
| Kinder Padua | Miss Stephanie Edlinger | 3 Padua | Mrs Anne-Marie Devlin |
| Kinder Lisbon | Miss Bernadette Whitfield | 3 Lisbon | Mrs Jo Dufelmeier/Ms Donna Gordon |
| 1 Assisi | Miss Vanessa Salem | 4 Assisi | Ms Jo Dignan |
| 1 Padua | Mrs Leah Taylor | 4 Padua | Mr Matthew Cassidy |
| 1 Lisbon | Mr Wayne Young | 5 Assisi | Mr Jon Liddle |
| 2 Assisi | Ms Cate Druhan | 5 Padua | Ms Nicole Ptycia |
| 2 Padua | Miss Laura Hadley | 5/6 Assisi | Mrs Alisa Spackman |
| 2 Lisbon | Mr Angas Quantrill | 6 Assisi | Mr Greg Rick |
| 6 Padua | Ms Emily O’Rouke |

**IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION**

**School Hours:** Supervision of students begins at 8:30. Morning assembly begins at 8:55. Recess begins at 11:00 for eating followed by play between 11:10 and 11:45. Lunch begins at 1:15 for eating and 1:25 to 2:00pm for play. The official time for the school day to finish is 3:20pm. The children can be collected from the asphalt or they will make their way to the line for their main method of travelling home ie: Bus/Walkers/Oval Crossing/OOSCA/Drive through Line. Children are expected to be OFF the grounds no later than 3:45. **It would be especially helpful if parents could encourage their children to walk to Wanniassa Oval. This will help to alleviate traffic congestion in the drive through section.** If travel arrangements will change due to weather conditions please have those plans in place and make sure that your child understands.

**Office Hours:** The front office is open from 8.30am till 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

**Health Advice:** If your child suffers from any health problems that can cause serious episodes resulting in an emergency plan (e.g. asthma, severe allergic reactions etc.) we require specific information that would enable us to quickly identify both the student and the appropriate action. Please contact the front office if your child requires an Action Plan. Up to date information is required on existing students for 2014 action plans.

**Pupil Information Cards:** (Pink) Cards will go home this week. We ask that parents complete the card (front and back) carefully. These cards are used so we can contact parents quickly in case of emergency and to update our computer records. If, at any time during the year, your contact details change please notify the office immediately. Return your completed card to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. If you do not know your child’s Sports House, please leave it blank and we will fill it in.

**Messages to Students:** If you need our staff to pass a message on to your child please call us before 1pm, after this time we cannot guarantee your child will receive the message.

**Collecting Students Early:** If you need to collect your child early from school you will need to complete a sign out slip at the Front Office (This is a legal requirement). The students are to be collected by their parents (or carers) from their classroom and the slip given to the teacher. Front Office staff are not able to page your child as this process causes disruption to the whole school. This process can take some time so please factor this into your schedule or ideally make appointments outside school hours.
**Working with Vulnerable People:** Parents and carers who wish to volunteer in any capacity at our school have to show their “Working with Vulnerable People Card”. This is a formal application process through the Office of Regulatory Services ACT and can be applied for at the ACT shopfront. The card is free and is current for 3 years. If you do not have the card you are able to complete a Statutory Declaration however this method is limited to 3 days in a four week period or seven days in any 12 month period. The school keeps the Statutory Declaration and keeps record of the days you have volunteered. This method is very time consuming to register, but does allow people to help with less regular events like the annual school fete.

**Medication:** We are required by law to hold a signed ‘Consent to Dispense Medication’ form before we administer medication to any student (All medication needs to be supplied by parents/carers). If your child needs temporary or long term medication please contact the office to obtain the necessary consent form. Similarly, if the dosage requirements alter, it is necessary for us to hold a ‘Notification of Change to Medication’. These forms are also available from the front office. As a safety precaution we ask that regular medications be placed in a segregated container (available from most pharmacies) with the child’s name, dosage and frequency clearly marked. **PLEASE LABEL ALL YOUR CHILD’S BELONGINGS**

**School Banking:** St Anthony’s provides the students the opportunity to bank at school. Bendigo Bank come to school every Tuesday morning. When students make a deposit to their bank account they will receive stickers and later in the term will be eligible to win prizes. For further information please contact Sarah Waller by email: Sarah.Waller@cg.catholic.edu.au.

**Traffic Arrangements** If your child needs assistance getting in and out of your vehicle please do not use the flow through area. You will need to exit your vehicle in the allocated car park and collect your children from the asphalt until they can independently get in and out of your car. Parents who arrived before 3:20pm will be required to park in the car park and walk to the asphalt to collect their child/ren. In the afternoon please do not start queuing into the school until you are absolutely sure that the last bus has collected children. You will know the right time as staff will call the pick-up children from the asphalt area to the front of the school. Please be courteous and patient.

**Temporary School Closure on days of Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating.** Parents, carers and students need to be aware that our school will be closed on days with a fire danger rating of Catastrophic. This decision has been made following a risk assessment by the ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA) and the Catholic Education Office. The daily Fire Danger Rating is published by the ESA and announced in the media. A rating of Catastrophic means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving, similar to the January 2003 Canberra firestorm. On such days, advice from the ESA is that people in areas of Canberra identified as at risk should relocate to other areas. Further information is available on the ESA website: www.esa.act.gov.au.

It is expected that a Fire Danger Rating of Catastrophic will be declared by ESA around 4.00 pm to be effective the following day. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure students do not attend school on days with a Fire Danger Rating of Catastrophic. Parents and carers should not rely solely on contact from the school and are advised to keep updated by Radio, Television, Press or call Canberra Connect on 132281.

It is expected that the ESA will declare Catastrophic fire danger days very infrequently and it is likely that most bushfire seasons will pass without any such declaration being made. However, it has been determined in association with the ESA and the ACT Department of Education, that it is safer and more appropriate to close schools on such days rather than try to evacuate them should a fire event actually occur. This procedure has also been adopted by ACT government schools and the Association of Independent Schools for all schools identified by the ESA as being at risk.
Happy Birthday to:

Have a wonderful day!

Sport Days
Please find listed below the Sport Days for all year groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Wednesday and Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(starting week 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>Monday and Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>Monday and Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>Wednesday and Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>Monday and Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>Tuesday and Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>Tuesday and Friday</td>
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DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening School Mass</td>
<td>Thurs 6 Feb</td>
<td>10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary MacKillop Year 7</td>
<td>Tues 11 Feb</td>
<td>7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Carnival Years 2-6</td>
<td>Mon 17 Feb</td>
<td>Tuggeranong Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen Tuck Day</td>
<td>Wed 26 Feb</td>
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CANTEEN ROSTER: 6231 4022
Maree Alchin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 5 Feb</td>
<td>9am-11:30am</td>
<td>Kim Kable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marie Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 6 Feb</td>
<td>9am-11:30am</td>
<td>Renee Kite</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Leah Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 7 Feb</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>Vicky Schmidt</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gemma Dowie</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lea Locke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 11 Feb</td>
<td>9am-11:30am</td>
<td>Kylie Shenton</td>
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Specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Items</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Cupcakes 70c each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pizza Muffins $1 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Choc Chip Cookies 50c each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Ice-cream Cone 60c each</td>
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Flexischools On-line Ordering available now
Go to www.flexischools.com.au

- Click register
- Enter your email address
- You will be emailed a link to an online form – follow the link
- Choose a username and password and complete the form
- Add each student and their class
- Top-up the account using visa and mastercard.

Flexischools is now the only way to place an order at the canteen. Over the counter sales are still available at recess and lunch (snack foods only).
Dear Parents/Carers

A Sibling discount of 20% will apply this year to the CEO Tuition Fee for the eldest child attending an ACT system primary school where they have an elder sibling in a system secondary school.

The four CEO systemic secondary schools are St Francis Xavier, Merici, St Clare’s and St Mary MacKillop College. (St Edmunds, Marist and Daramalan are not systemic schools.)

With the introduction of a sibling discount it is important that the following information be completed showing where all school age children will be attending in 2014 and returned to the front office as soon as possible.

Failure to do so may mean families missing out on the discount.

This information will also be used to determine where the building fund contribution will be billed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Child's Name</th>
<th>Year/Grade 2014</th>
<th>School Attending 2014</th>
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Discounts that will apply for the CEO Tuition Fee in 2014 are:

20% for the 1\textsuperscript{st} child with an elder sibling attending an Archdiocesan Secondary School
70% for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} child attending an Archdiocesan Primary School
80% for the 3\textsuperscript{rd} child attending an Archdiocesan Primary School
No charge for a 4\textsuperscript{th} or subsequent child/children attending an Archdiocesan Primary or Secondary School

To enable us to pass on these fee discounts it is a requirement to complete the following information and return it to the school by \textit{Monday 10\textsuperscript{th} February}.

Yours Sincerely
Greg Walker
I am organising the canteen roster for Term 1, 2014. I would love for you to come and help in the canteen, no doubt your children will get a kick out of seeing you as well.

Duties include preparing food, serving, cleaning up and that all important cuppa.

Parents/carers/grandparents and siblings are very welcome. We have a playroom for the littlies to enjoy.

You can volunteer for the whole day 9 – 2 or for half the day, or elect a timeframe suitable to you - all help appreciated.

If you have any queries or would like to volunteer please return the form below to school or call in and visit.

Maree 6231 4022
maree_alchin@hotmail.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANTEEN ROSTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>9-11.30</td>
<td>11.30-2.00</td>
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Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Please indicate: Weekly / fortnightly / monthly

Name:

Phone:

Email:
The Tuggeranong Buffaloes
Junior Rugby League Club

2014 Registrations are now open
From Under 6’s to Under 16’s
WE WANT YOU!

www.thebuffaloes.org
info@thebuffaloes.org

Registrations for the 2014 Season will be held on
Sunday 9th February at our home grounds Kambah Oval No1,
off Chirnside Circuit Kambah 10am- 2pm
Sunday 16th February at Tuggeranong McDonalds 10am – 2pm
We look forward to seeing you there