Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Week 4. How fast the term is going!

Prayers Please
Please keep the Costigan-Wittman families in your prayers and thoughts this week on the first anniversary of Tara’s tragic death (28/2). Tara’s little baby Ayla turned 1 on Saturday.

Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to everyone for contributing to a very successful swimming carnival last Thursday at Tuggeranong Pool. Well done to Mr Greg Rick for his organisation and efforts on the day. There was a terrific atmosphere and lots of people commented on the school spirit displayed. Thank you to volunteers and staff that helped in many ways including House Duty, Novelty Events, Judging, Timing, Scoring, Marshalling, Announcing, First Aid and our dedicated Life Savers! Our Year 6 sports captains did a great job motivating their teams all day too.

‘Sticks and Stones’ Show
Today a visiting theatre group will presented a performance called “Sticks and Stones” to our students. Essentially the show raised awareness of strategies students can use when they feel bullied or worried and also help the students continue to build a school culture against bullying behaviour.

Staff Retreat
This weekend the St Anthony’s staff will gather together for their annual faith formation retreat and dinner. This year the venue for the retreat is at St Clare’s College Griffith. The theme of the retreat is based on the Church focus for the Year of Mercy.

Catholic Education Recognition Awards
The acknowledgment of the Catholic Education Recognition Award nominations and winners from 2015 will be held on Friday 11 March. The evening starts with Mass at St Christopher’s Cathedral at 4.45pm followed by a celebration at the CEO in Manuka.

This year teacher Mrs Bernie Wilson and parent Libby Andrew will receive an award for their wonderful work on the Sensory Garden project. We all know how hard they worked personally on this project but also how they engaged our school community and the wider community through initiatives like the Indigenous Art Show. Bernie and Libby have been awarded the highest honour and their achievements will also be recognised at the special dinner for “Outstanding Efforts” at St Francis Xavier College Florey. Well done to both Bernie and Libby. Their honour reflects the hard work and inspiration of all people that supported and worked on the Sensory Garden project.

I am also humbled and proud that I will also receive a CE Recognition Award at the mass for my service and leadership as a principal. Thank you to the staff who nominated me on behalf of the school community. In particular, my nomination reflects the whole St Anthony’s school community that came together as one last year to support each other during a most sad and challenging time with the tragic death of Tara Costigan.
Hall Music Room to be ‘Trimmed’
The Early Learning Centre site is being established at present and I understand that the music room will undergo somewhat of a ‘trim’ shortly. I support this change as it will provide the width for a proper footpath to be established around the hall to link the ELC, car park and the main school—much safer for everyone! The sacrifice is that the area of the music room will be reduced by about a third. This should still allow enough space for music lessons and the P&F clothing pool to operate. In the short term music lessons and the clothing pool may need to be relocated to other areas of the school. More information on this soon.

Canteen
Last year on behalf of the P & F the Canteen was able to transfer $5,000 to the school account. This is due to the fantastic management of the canteen by Mrs Maree Alchin and her dedicated team of helpers. The canteen is essentially run by the P & F and provides a wonderful service to our families, it is an extra bonus that surplus funds go into the school. Congratulations Maree and all the volunteers on another successful year.

Year 1 Class Mass
This Thursday Father Lachlan will celebrate the first class Mass of 2016 in the library at 10.00am with our Year 1 students. Parents and visitors are invited to attend mass with the students and staff.

I wish everyone a good week at school and home. God bless.

Regards

Greg Walker
Principal

‘CHILDREN OF GOD

Jesus chose Peter, James and John to be present at his Transfigurations in order to strengthen them for his approaching sufferings and death at Jerusalem.

For the only time during his earthly life, Jesus allowed the glory of his divinity to shine through his human body. Luke tells us that “the appearance of his countenance was changed and his raiment became dazzling white”. Two of the greatest men of the Old Testament times, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with him about what was to occur in Jerusalem. As Moses and Elijah began to depart, the three disciples were covered with a cloud and the Father spoke, “This is my Son, my Chosen. Listen to him.” Then Jesus led the three disciples down the mountain, back to their ordinary, messy, sometimes dangerous, life. The time for celebration had not yet arrived.
It was only after the resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit that the three disciples understood the significance of the Transfiguration. Peter never forgot it; years later he mentioned it in one of his letters, “We were eye-witnesses of the majesty.” He and his companions realised that they were to walk the road to Calvary as their divine master had done. Their life on earth was to be one of joys and sorrows, triumphs and failures, rejections, suffering and death. But awaiting them was the glory of the resurrection.

The Transfiguration is as much for us as it was for the three disciples. Just as his first disciples were changed from ambitious, power-hungry and self-seeking men to humble, zealous and loving followers of Jesus, so the Lord wants to change each one of us. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit that can change us. St Paul gives us a wonderful enumeration of the fruit of the spirit; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

As always, God respects our free will. He will never force us to love Him and to serve Him, even though He has made us to be perfectly happy only with God. More than anything, He values our freely-offered love and service.

If we accept the Holy Spirit as our guide and mentor, gradually wonderful things will happen. The spirit will help us to overcome the obstacles of God’s love, the sinfulness in our lives. As we surrender our lives more and more to the Holy Spirit, his glory will shine through us on to those we meet. Not in the dramatic way of the Lord’s Transfiguration but in little ways. Our love, peace, kindness and gentleness will have a powerful influence on all we meet. That is how the Lord loves to work: with people through other people, because we are all children of the one God.

May He transform us as He transformed his apostles.

Reg Ahearn CSSR
Redemptorists 2016

**Grade Mass**
Please join us for the Year 1 Grade Mass This Thursday 25th February at 10:00am in the School Library.

**Community Prayer**
Please join us for Community Prayer this Thursday 25th February.

4 Assisi and 4 Padua will be leading Community Prayer in Block One
5 Lisbon will be leading Community Prayer in Block Two.

**Sacramental Enrolment Forms**
During Week 2 students in Years 3, 4 and 6 were given Sacramental Enrolment forms. Thank you to all those families who are beginning to send in them in to the front office. Please return these forms no later than **Tuesday 15th March, 2016 with a copy of your child’s baptism certificate.**
More forms can be found at the front office and on the school website.

**St Vincent de Paul Doorknock Appeal**
On Sunday 21st February a number of volunteers set out to collect funds for St Vincent de Pauls annual Doorknock Appeal. We only had 65% of houses covered in the Wanniassa area- if you can spare 1 ½ hours to 2 hours this coming weekend and want to be involved in this amazing cause please contact Mario on 0431 240 530 for more information. Please give generously when a “Vinnies” volunteer knocks on your door.

**Parish Trivia Night**
The annual Parish Trivia Night will be held on Saturday 2nd April- more information coming soon 😊
Parish Working Bee
There will be a working bee in the parish on Saturday 19th March commencing at 8am.

Orla Rutledge
Religious Education Coordinator.

Student of the Week:
Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded student of the week for their class this week:


Certificates will be presented to students at Friday morning assembly.

Vacation Care - OOSCA
Booking forms for Vacation Care will be available in week seven. No early bookings will be accepted. These forms will be made available on the website, on the skoolbag app and via email.

Happy Birthday to:

Have a wonderful day!

Absenent Notes
Dear Parents/Carers
Please ensure that you inform your child’s teacher if your child is not at school for any reason. This may be done through sending a note with your child on the next day s/he attends school. Alternately, you may use the SKOOLBAG app and send a message or you may email your child’s teacher. It is a legal requirement that we account for all school absences. It is worrying that we already have a number of unaccounted absences. Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

School Disco
Our first disco for the year will be held on Friday 4th March. Kinder – Year 2 5pm-6:20pm and Years 3-6 6:30-8pm. The theme is fluro (the brighter the better).

Traffic Reminders
Drop off and Pick Up: The lane closest to the school is for BUSES ONLY, until a teacher instructs you that it is clear for pick up purposes. No cars are to use this lane in the mornings.

If using the drop off and pick up zone you are not to get out of your vehicle this is a flow through area. If your child requires help to exit your car you need to park in the car park to assist them.

NO RIGHT TURN: Cars are not allowed to turn right into the school from Wheeler Crescent during the morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Buses excepted.

Please abide by the law to avoid a traffic infringement. It helps with the efficiency of these busy times and to keep your children safe.
**St Anthony’s Canteen**
Open Tuesday - Friday
6231 4022
Manager: Mrs Maree Alchin

**Roster of Volunteer Helpers**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 17 February</td>
<td>Peta Crowder</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
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<td>Bec Benton</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 18 February</td>
<td>Carole Coulton</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
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<td>Fri 19 February</td>
<td>Selina Walker</td>
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<td>Vicky Schmidt</td>
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<td>Sue Kemp</td>
<td>12-2pm</td>
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<td>Jodi Stewart</td>
<td>9am-12pm</td>
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**WEEK FIVE**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 23 February</td>
<td>Lea Huber</td>
<td>9am-12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24 February</td>
<td>Sue Duckett</td>
<td>9am-12pm</td>
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Helpers always welcome – drop in and have a chat.

**Claim the dates:**
School Disco – Friday 4th March
Athletics Carnival (Helpers Needed) 1st April
(No Tuck Day this term due to the Athletics Carnival)
Flexischools On-line Ordering

**Parent Network**

This week, a notice will go out regarding nominations for Class Representatives for our Parent Network.

A Parent Network is essentially about building community with our school. Parents are an essential ingredient in helping to support the parents of your child’s class and helping them to feel that they are a special part of our school community.

The Network is also being created to ensure that all new families to our school community feel welcome. The Network may also assist with support needed in the school, for example, help in classrooms, coordinating teacher birthday class parties, assisting with social events, distribution of contact list/s, charity fundraising, preparation and management of care meals, assisting with school open days.

Being a class representative is not an onerous job. There are no meetings to attend, nor is there a big workload. You will also have plenty of support if and when needed. What we are looking for are interested parents and carers who are willing to be a contact for each class group.

If you would like to be involved, we would love to have you on board. Please email your contact details (including your child’s name and class) to rouba.eladhami@gmail.com

Thank you.

**Rosemary 2 A**

I am reading Back to School by Meredith Badger. The book is about a little girl, Chloe who is nervous about going back to school. She has to get used to a new, strict teacher and harder work and no friends. Chloe can’t keep up with spelling, she uses the wrong toilet and can maths really be so hard? This story does have a happy ending because her teacher realises that Chloe is a great writer and asks her to share her story with the school in assembly. She is also allowed to be a pet monitor which she loves, once she learns how to avoid being bitten by the hermit crabs! When I read this story it reminds me to be happy that I am good at drawing and it encourages me to be nice to others … even hermit crabs.

**Erin 6 A**

I am reading an amazing and fascinating book about a kid with strange parents who send him off to boarding school. David has been expelled from his old school and his parents decide to send him to Grosham Ormange, where he will be whipped into shape. This is not an ordinary school. Lots of strange things happen here with magic and David has to work out what he is going to do. Will he do as he is expected or will he make another choice?

This book made me laugh and I really liked all the puns. Anthony Horowitz uses language in a really interesting way. There is another book in the series so if you want a great fun read pop along to the library and borrow the books. It is a great book to spend the afternoon reading.

Would you like to appear here next week? Contact Mrs Twyford
No doubt you have all heard that this year’s fete will be held on Saturday 14 May 2016 - so don’t forget to mark this special date into your diaries. We would love to see you all THERE!!
The 2015 fete was a great success – we raised a great deal of money which went straight back into resourcing our wonderful school.
So now its time to start thinking about doing it all again! The customary rides have been booked, returning stall holders are keen to get going, an entertainment schedule is being created and the raffle is being organised - please keep a look out for raffle books in your children’s bags in the coming weeks.

**STALLS**

A huge thank you to the following stall holders who have already signed up to run a stall again this year:

- **Cakes** Mel Scott-Cameron and Liza Marando
- **Chocolate Wheel** Peter Blackshaw
- **Sand Art** Necta and the OOSCA crew
- **Lollies** Penny Shaw
- **Toys** Helen Fletcher
- **Wood fired Pizza** Stewart and Elena Winslade
- **Vietnamese Food** Thuy Nguyen
- **Devonshire Tea** Stephanie McAlister
- **Chocolate Trailer** Eugenie Hickey
- **Coffee** Heres the coffee - Marie Andersson
- **Raffle** Penny Shaw and Bron Bergersen
- **Canteen** Alicia Segrave and Jason Egan
- **Showbags n Lucky Dip** Kerrie Fradgley
- **Fete mates** Todd Dzur

But….. there are still a few stalls that require someone to coordinate them, including:

**Pre-loved clothes stall, Trash and Treasure, Books, Plants, Tombola, and Craft or ….. If you have any bright ideas for a new stall then please let us know the details. It is always great to have something different and exciting on offer!!**

If you are keen to give one of these a go we would be so happy to hear from you – please contact us to sign up or to find out more details (2016fete@gmail.com).
Volunteers

If co-ordinating a stall is not your thing then just volunteering a few hours to help out is a **HUGE,** **HUGE** help – there can never be too many helpers on board, so please let us know if you are able to help out and in which capacity you prefer – some options are – **setting up on fete day morning (7am – 9am), packing up after the fete (2pm-4pm), shopping for fete requirements prior to the fete (purchasing drinks, prizes etc), volunteering for a couple of hours at a stall or selling raffle tickets on a weekend.**

Without volunteers helping out with the above tasks it becomes a huge job for one person, so please consider helping out in any capacity you can so the fete can run as smoothly as possible.

Fundraising

To raise money for the 2016 Fete - we will be running a few events:

**Easter Hot Cross Buns**

We will be running a Hot Cross Bun fundraiser (with the help of Bakers Delight Tuggeranong). A 6 pack of freshly made Hot cross buns (either fruit or chocolate chip) will be available to order for $7 and will be delivered to the school on Thursday 17th March. An order form will be sent home shortly with your child. Make sure you ask all your family and friends!!!

**Spare Change Challenge**

As the Spare Change Challenge was such a **HUGE** success (and LOTS of FUN!) last year, we have decided to run it again this year in week 5 (Monday 29th Feb to 4th March)! The prize will be an afternoon of water play on Friday 11th March for the class who raises the most money. So make sure you start hunting around and bring in all your spare/loose change...

**‘Open shed’ day**

For donations towards the trash and treasure stall, toy stall, book stall and plant stall, we will hold an open-shed in week 6 (7th - 11th March) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 3 till 4pm. We will do another one closer to the fete if needed.

Please note - Trash and Treasure – Electrical Items **cannot be accepted.**
**Sponsorship**

If you own a business and would like to support your community by sponsoring the fete then we would be very grateful and would love to hear from you! We will do everything possible to reciprocate your generosity by promoting your business at every opportunity. Sponsorship can be made in a variety of forms from financially sponsoring a specific stall, financially sponsoring the raffle, donating a prize for the chocolate wheel or donating goods and equipment. Please consider helping us out, get in contact with us via email for further details.

For any questions, to sign up to volunteer, or to be a sponsor please contact us via email at:

**2016fete@gmail.com**

That's all for now!!

Thank you

The 2016 Fete coordinators