Dear Parents and Carers

Prayers Please
It is with sadness that I inform you that Mrs Laura Stankovic’s father away on the weekend. This is a most difficult time for Laura and her family. Please keep Laura, her father and her family in your prayers as they prepare for the funeral. I know Laura appreciates all of the support from the students and families in Year 4, but also from the whole school community. Thank you for your continued support of the Year 4 teachers Miss Tea Vujica and Miss Lilley during this time.

Meet the Staff Night gets the year off to a positive start!
Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Meet the Staff night last Thursday. Given the extremely hot weather I am so grateful that you took the time to meet with teachers and staff and also mingle with other families.

Thank you to the staff for presenting information about the start of the year and plans for learning and activities for the year. It was great for staff to help on the BBQ too so that families could have a night off cooking and stay for a while. The evening sets the scene for building our partnerships and community spirit for 2017.

Kaye Lowe Visit Very Positive
Our literacy coach and critical friend Kaye Lowe was very impressed with the progress staff and students are making in their literacy teaching and learning. The reason I include the students in the improvement is that each child is asked to read and write every day, as well as reflect on their learning and take part in learning conferences. Teachers are learning ways to provide differentiated tasks but also to prompt students to read appropriate texts and write appropriate stories.

The ‘feedback’ is very affirming for the work the staff and students are doing, and the ‘feedforward’ is aimed at specific ways to keep improving. Kaye Lowe is planning 4 visits to the school during 2017 to support and monitor our teaching but also student progress/achievement.

There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.

Frank Serafini
Kindergarten Students Full-time now
Well done to Mrs Anne Marie Devlin and Mrs Tracey Adamson on their work with the new Kindergarten students who have completed their first two weeks of school. This week they started full days! Thank you also to our LSA’s, Mrs Alisa Spackman and others who have helped the Kinder team during this important settling in period.

Heat Policy Thanks
Well done to everyone for the way in which you supported each other and handled the excessive heat we experienced to start the school year, especially last Friday. The weather was extreme last Friday but the children were well cared for and coped with the day, actually some enjoyed the day with the sprinkler sprays and a few icy poles to cool them down. They also had ice water for re-filling their drink bottles and options for playing in the shade or inside. Hopefully we won’t see a return to such hot conditions any time soon.

I would like to offer a big thank you to one of our wonderful parents, Lee Shute who bought the supplies and built the walkway sprinkler system that was so effective for so many students at a time. A creative master stroke by Lee and one that she could patent!! If we see some more hot weather, we may use the sprayers again. Lee also volunteers her time to help with the planting and other tasks in the sensory garden. Thank you so much Lee.
The GIANTS are in town!!

Yesterday the GIANTS came to town and St Anthony’s were fortunate to be able to host some players and officials. The GIANTS squad and officials were in town doing lots of school visits during the day and then club training sessions after school. We had two Giants legends in Phil Davis and Tom Scully talk to the students which was awesome. Thank you to Mr Quantrill who booked our school in. St Anthony’s feature heavily on the GIANTS website and their Facebook pages if you are interested in viewing more. Are you a Giants fan? If not, why not! You can see I am from the photo below! (the Blues may be some years from a premiership). I think the GIANTS are going to have a big year in the women’s and men’s AFL competitions so we thank them for bringing AFL to Canberra.

Happy Valentine’s Day for 14 February
Regardless of whether you celebrate Valentine’s Day or not, this little extract talks about the value and importance of love in our lives.

Ananda, the beloved disciple of the Buddha, once asked his teacher about the place of friendship in the spiritual journey. “Master, is friendship half of the spiritual life?” he asked. And the teacher responded, “Nay, Ananda, friendship is the whole of the spiritual life.”

Love is something learned only by the long, hard labour of life. It is sometimes over before we’ve ever known we ever had it. We sometimes destroy it before we appreciate it. We often take it for granted. Every love, whatever happens to it in the long run, teaches us more about ourselves, our needs, our limitations, and our self-centeredness than anything else we can ever experience. As Aldous Huxley wrote: “There isn’t any formula or method. You learn by loving.”

But sometimes, if we’re lucky, we live long enough to grow into it in such a way that because of it we come to recognize the value of life. As the years go by, we come to love flowers and cats and small infants and old ladies and the one person in life who knows how hot we like our coffee. We learn enough about love to allow things to slip away and ourselves to melt into the God whose love made all of it possible. Sometimes we even find a love deep enough, gentle enough, tender enough to detach us from the foam and frills of life, all of which hold us captive to things that cannot satisfy. Sometimes we live long enough to see the face of God in another. Then, in that case, we have loved.
Source – ‘40 Stories to Stir the Soul’ by Joan Chittister.
REMINDER - Parts of the School Driveway Are Designated Bus Areas

Portable signs have been placed at the front of the school over the past week or so to remind parents and visitors that there is no parking permitted at key times in the morning and afternoon in the bus zone.

**The peak morning time is from 8.00am – 8.50am.** This morning when I was on duty 5 buses came through the driveway between 8.30am and 8.40am. I know the others buses also come through just after 8.00am. In the morning it is often our parents using the OOSCA service parking to walk to OOSCA that are in the wrong place.

**The peak afternoon time is from 2.45pm – 3.20pm.** The driveway needs to be clear for the early ‘home’ buses that come through predominantly between 3.10pm and 3.20pm on their timetables. The driveway pick-up process starts at approximately 3.20pm when the last of these buses has been through. Keep an eye on the teachers on duty who normally signal the cars to begin pick up.

**All buses need to be able to come through the driveway promptly so they can continue their runs on time. We are fortunate to have a good relationship with ACTION and other bus services and it is safer for our students to be picked up inside the school precinct.**

Anyone who has ever been ceremonially ‘honked’ for parking in this area at the wrong time knows this is quite awkward – but feel for the bus drivers who expect the school community to be informed of the shared zone processes. The portable signs out the front are not a sustainable solution to remind parents. Please share this information with members of our community. Thank you for your understanding.

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New BIKE STORAGE AREA – trial starts asap

As part of the school Master Plan and school upgrade, we are looking to find a new home for our bikes and scooters during the day. On reflection the area behind the hall may not be the best place. An idea was put forward to trial a new area outside the front office where there is a readymade concrete area. The area is where our main footpaths intersect and students/parents would not have to bring their bikes or scooters across the school playground. The area is in the sight of our office staff – providing a level of security. If the area works well a lockable fence will be installed and it will become the permanent home during the day. Please remember that students still have the option to lock their bike or scooter to the bike racks for added security.
**P&F MEETING REMINDER:**
Next Wednesday 22 February is the Parents and Friends Association AGM and first meeting for 2017. The meeting will be held at 7.00pm in the school library. All existing parents and carers as well as new family members are warmly invited to attend. The P&F undertake many essential services in the school community and carry out many valuable tasks to support the school. However, the P&F can only continue to exist and meet its goals through the generosity of the parent body. No two years are the same on the P&F and new members and ideas are always welcome. Roles on the P&F will be discussed on the evening and volunteers requested to fill each role. At these meetings school activities and initiatives are also discussed.

**Please consider coming along to the first P&F meeting and maybe bring a friend!**

In 2017, through Christ’s example and Grace, may we be more mindful of placing others’ needs before our own, supporting them through our actions and peaceful service.

Greg Walker
Principal

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**School Fees**

**Term 3 School Fee Accounts have been emailed out and are due Friday 10th March 2017.**

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. Parents who do not wish to pay the building fund due to financial difficulties need to put this in writing addressed to Mr Greg Walker, this is a yearly requirement. Thank You. Judy Mead

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**Successful Learner Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who are this week’s Successful Learners:


Certificates will be presented at Friday morning assembly.

**St Anthony’s Clothing Pool**

The Clothing Pool will be open this Wednesday from 3.00pm – 3.45pm.

**New items:** St Anthony school bucket hats $11 each. Sizes S, M, L.

**Pre-loved clothing:** shorts $2, Polo Tops $5, Skorts $5, Jumpers $5, Girls Summer Dresses $10.

Please note we do not have credit card facilities so please bring along your cash.

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**Happy Birthday to:**

Simon B, Angel B, Christopher C, Christy E and Dhanveer R.

**Have a wonderful day!**
**St Anthony's NETBALL REGISTRATIONS**

Registrations are now open for St Anthony's Netball teams from years 2-6 for the TNA winter competition which starts in April. Information on how to register is available via the Skoolbag app and school website. An email will be sent to previous players with details for online registration. We welcome all returning players and would love to see as many new players as possible join in the fun! Come and Try sessions will be held this week at lunchtime in the hall with all welcome:

Year 2 - Monday 13 Feb  
Year 3 - Thursday 16 Feb  
Year 4 - Friday 17 Feb

**OOSCA News**

The fortnightly OOSCA statements were emailed out to parents last Thursday and payment is due this Friday. The statements have one please contact Sarah Waller, week in arrears and one week billed in advance. The week which is billed in advance will not have CCR applied and may have CCB estimated as this data has not been submitted as yet. Please note that OOSCA does not estimate CCR. Parents are welcome to calculate what they should owe by checking the week that does have the rebates applied, or paying the total and being in credit. If you have any queries or have not received your statement Sarah.Waller@cg.catholic.edu.au.

**CELEBRATING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS**

Maebh Wright, Ben Symington, Ashley and Kate Patton competed in the ACT Swimming Championships recently. Great swimming from all including lots of personal bests, a bronze medal for Ben, a silver and three bronze for Ashley, a gold and three silvers for Kate. Kate is also the 8 year old ACT age champion. Amazing effort from Gabby Waller (ex-St Anthony's student and Mrs Waller's daughter) who achieved 5 gold and 1 silver medal and broke several ACT records.

**Medical Alerts for 2017**

Parents were emailed medical alert forms that were used last year for updating last week. All students who are flagged with a medical issue were sent hard copies home to be completed and returned as soon as possible.

If you have not yet received a medical alert form however your child have a severe medical condition that requires prompt attention please contact Sarah Waller in the front office at your earliest convenience.  
Sarah.Waller@cg.catholic.edu.au

**Absentee Notes**

Over the past two years we have been using the Civica electronic rolls package. If we do not receive an absentee note explaining your child’s absence, the system generates a letter that you will need to fill in. Please provide us with an absentee note asap after your child’s absence so we can avoid sending out these reminders. It is a legal requirement that the school account for all reasons for absences including sickness, family leave, doctor’s appointments etc.Patterns of unexplained absences will be carefully monitored and reports will be made to the relevant ACT Government authorities where necessary. An easy and time efficient way to inform your child’s teacher of an absence is to use the Skoolbag App.

Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

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**St Anthony’s Canteen**

Open Tuesday – Friday

621 4022 - Manager: Mrs Maree Alchin

**Roster of our Volunteer Helpers**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Helper 1</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 14 February</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 15 February</td>
<td>Peta Crowder 9am-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 16 February</td>
<td>Carole Coulton 9am-2pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 17 February</td>
<td>Rachel Esler 9-10:30am</td>
<td>Selina Walker 9am-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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**WEEK FOUR**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Helper 1</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 21 February</td>
<td>Megan Doherty 9am-12pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 22 February</td>
<td>Renee Kite 9am-12pm</td>
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**Sushi TUCK DAY – Wednesday 8th March**

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No doubt you have all heard that this year’s fete will be held on **Saturday 20 May 2017** - so don’t forget to mark this special date into your diaries. We would love to see you all THERE!!

The 2016 fete was a huge success – we raised a great deal of money which went straight back into resourcing our wonderful school.

So now it’s 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
- **Lollies**
  - Penny Shaw
- **Wood fired Pizza**
  - Stewart and Elena Winslade
- **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
- **Trash and Treasure**
  - Amanda Lewington
- **Pick-a-Pot**
  - Tracey Adamson

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

**Pre-loved Books, Toys, Plants, 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 ([stanthonyfete@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyfete@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**.

Volunteers make the fete happen - please consider helping out in any capacity you can so the 2017 fete can be the best one yet!!!

**Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser**

To raise money for the 2017 fete - we will be organising a cookie dough fundraiser. Order forms will be dispatched this week. Make sure you ask all your family and friends!!!

“**Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough is an outstanding home baking product that all the family will love getting involved in!”**

‘Open-Shed’ day

For donations towards the trash and treasure stall, toy stall, book stall and plant stall, we will hold open-sheds in the next month. Please start collecting goods and look out for dates and times.

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:**

[stanthonyfete@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyfete@gmail.com)

That’s all for now!!

Thank you

The 2017 fete coordinators
We Want YOU

The Tuggeranong Buffaloes would like to invite all players, new and old, boys and girls, from under 6’s through to under 17’s, to play with us for the 2016 Rugby League season.

This year we will also be launching our opens women’s team for 17 and over.

Registration will be held on the 19th of February at Kambah ovals Number 1 from 10am through to 1:00pm

Alternatively, you can register online at

playnrl.com.au/register
Today we commence our Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Easter Fundraiser. All funds raised will go towards our 2017 school fete. The moreish cookie dough is only available through fundraisers, not sold in stores, so stock up!

Attached is the Billy G’s Fundraiser order form for collecting orders from family, friends & neighbours.

Please return your brochure & monies by Wednesday 8th March to the front office. The current scheduled day for pick-up of your order is Friday 24th March 2017.

Paying for your orders

You have two options:

1. Return monies with the attached order form to the front office for yourself and multiple orders for family, friends, work colleagues and neighbours, or

2. Order and pay online
   Go to www.cookiedough.com.au and place your order and pay online.

   You must return your order form with the online order and payment details together with your prize selection filled in so your coordinator can total the tubs of cookie dough and prizes required for delivery.

Billy G’s is an Australian family owned and operated business. There are ten (10) delicious flavours including a Gingerbread and Shortbread Biscuit dough, a cheese flavoured Doggie Dough that your favourite furry animals will go bonkers over and a Gluten Free Choc Chunk.

**MAKE YOUR EASTER HOLIDAYS SPECIAL!**

Purchase the Gingerbread dough and receive a FREE Gingerbread Man cookie cutter.
Purchase the Shortbread dough and receive a FREE Easter Bunny cookie cutter.

The kids will love baking their very own Gingerbread Men and Easter Bunny cookies over the Easter break.

- The cookie dough is packed in a reusable 1kg tub which makes 40 x 25g cookies. **35c-40c per cookie.**
- You can RE-FREEZE the cookie dough and thaw it out as you require for baking.
- You can keep the thawed cookie dough in your refrigerator for up to 4 weeks.
- There are **FREE PRIZES** detailed in the order form. The more you sell the better the prize!

**Cruiseabout Holiday Promotion:** simply by purchasing or selling a tub of cookie dough you will have the chance to win a $5,000 Cruiseabout Gift Voucher. You have to be in it to win it so start selling today! To enter please go to www.australianfundraising.com.au/win.

We thank you for making our Billy G’s Fundraiser a huge success!
Woden Valley Youth Choir

OPEN DAY!

Tuesday 21 Feb

Do you LOVE TO SING?

Join Woden Valley Youth Choir for a rehearsal

Where: Woden Valley Alliance Church (WVYC is not affiliated with the church)
81 Namatjira Drive Waramanga

When: 8 – 10 year olds 5pm – 6pm
11 – 24 year olds 6pm – 8:15pm

We’re keeping things simple. No need to book. Just turn up! Stay for a bit or stay for the whole thing. It’s up to you.

For further information, please contact Veronica Moore on 0418 760 026 or email info.wvyc@gmail.com

www.wvyc.org.au