Dear Parents and Carers

**Year 6 Graduation**

Congratulations to our 2014 Year 6 student cohort. On Thursday evening they formally graduate from Primary School to High School. They have their special Graduation Mass at St Anthony’s Parish Church at 5.30pm this Thursday 12 December followed by dinner together at the Hellenic Club at 7.15pm. Their graduation is a ‘milestone’ in their lives and part of their spiritual and educational journey. There is never ‘one’ moment, ‘one’ event or ‘one’ teacher that defines a student’s time or achievements at school. Each student’s journey has been unique but has been fostered and shaped through a strong partnership between home, school and the parish. I hope that each child’s journey through St Anthony’s has contributed to them becoming a more respectful, confident and engaging young person. On behalf of the school community I wish each and every graduating student all the very best for their future schooling and endeavours in life. May God continue to bless you and walk with you.

**Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

On 9 December, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will examine the Catholic Church’s protocols for addressing sexual abuse within the Church, Towards Healing.

“This will be the first time the Catholic Church will be the central focus of the Royal Commission,” according to Mr Francis Sullivan, Director of the Truth Justice and Healing Council. “Catholics around Australia need to know how the Church leaders are approaching the issue of sexual abuse and the disposition we are taking to the Commission. This is succinctly outlined in the commitment statement.” Mr Sullivan concluded. You are encouraged to read the Commitment Statement from Leaders of the Catholic Church in Australia for the Royal Commission hearings into Towards Healing. The Commitment Statement can be read at: http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/media/42389/131112-Statement-Our-Commitment.pdf

The Catholic Education Office, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn seeks to provide a safe learning environment for all staff, students and families via a culture of education and training on child protection issues. Therefore, the CEO is cooperating fully with the Royal Commission and seeks to be truly open to the wisdom that it will offer to ensure greater protection for Children. If you wish to stay educated about the proceedings beginning on 9 December, visit the Truth Justice and Healing Council (TJHC) website. www.tjhcouncil.org.au.
Meet-the-Teacher Session
Students in Years 1-5 will meet with their 2014 class teacher/s at 2.15pm next Wednesday 18 December. This is just a 30 minute initial activity they will share together, but it will be an exciting time for all students and teachers as they begin to develop a relationship to start the school year. This transition time for students is very important and where required processes will be put in place to make this time as beneficial as possible for students. There are a number of staff changes for 2014 and some of these have already been communicated to you through the school newsletter. I am confident some excellent teachers have been employed for 2014 to complement our already fantastic staff. I encourage you to talk positively about your child’s teacher for next year once they are announced, as students often make their judgement from your lead and response. I do look forward to working with all staff and students again in 2014.

Thanksgiving Mass and Morning Tea
I would like to invite all parents, grandparents and carers to our 2013 Thanksgiving Mass at 10.00am next Wednesday 18 December in the school hall. This will be a time to give thanks to God for the school year and all of its events and achievements. Mass will be followed by a thank you morning tea for all of our parents and volunteers. Your efforts in supporting the school have contributed in so many ways to each student’s rich experience of school.

Kindergarten to Year 2 Christmas Party
I wish all of our junior students all the best for their Christmas Party on this Friday evening at Lollipops. Thank you to our parent network who has been organising this celebration and I hope that everyone can get together and rejoice this special time of the year.

Semester Two Student Reports
Each student will bring home their Semester Two Report this Friday 13 December. I congratulate each student on their efforts and academic achievement during this time. Parents and carers have the option to contact their child’s class teacher in Week 10 to discuss the report or their child’s progress. Please contact the teacher directly or contact the school office and a message will be passed on to the teacher.

Together we continue to “Build God’s Kingdom” through our actions and words.

Greg Walker
Principal
From the Religious Education Coordinator...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please enjoy a poem and prayer written by two Year 4 students.

Blakes CHRISTMAS POEM!

On the 24th of December

I snuggle up tight
But Santa delivers presents all through the night
when I wake up I rush to mum & dad

And then to The Christmas tree

I am really glad It is the 25th ans I get my presents

I go to the letter box to look for the carrots

But the only thing left was a note saying

MERRY CHRISTMAS

My Gift

Dear Loving God,

Thank you for my gift of laughter. Whenever my friends or family are hurt or sad I put a smile on their face with a joke. Because they have a smile on their face I have a smile on mine.

Please help me to continue to be the positive person I am through everyday life and help me to be like this when I'm older.

When I'm older I would like to use my gift to write funny books, support charities, sing bright songs, and to make people happy!

When I'm older I wish not to be a grumpy old teenager but to be a positive source of energy.

Love from
Lana 😊

Wishing you a peaceful week,
Sarah Maldon
Religious Education Coordinator

Community Prayer:
Please join us as Kinder Lisbon and 6 Padua lead Community Prayer this Thursday at 9am.

Date to remember:
- Year 6 Graduation Mass – Thursday December 12th 5:30pm
- Year 6 Graduation Dinner – Thursday December 12th 7:15pm
School Fees
If your child is leaving St Anthony’s at the end of this school year, fees will need to paid in full. If this is not possible please contact myself of Greg Walker otherwise debt collecting proceeding will be put in place. Judy Mead

Congratulations to the following students who are this week’s Students of the week:

Happy Birthday to the following students:
Enjoy your day!

OOSCA News
Vacation Care bookings will close this Friday and places are filling fast. Places will only be accepted if your account payments are up to date. Accounts will be emailed out again this Thursday and payment must be made in full before the end of the school year.

Library News
Could all library books please be returned to the library before the end of this week so Mrs Warnes and Mrs Richardson can do the stocktake next week. Overdue notices are being given to students in library lessons this week.

Year 5 Excursion
Year 5 will be going to the Australian National Gallery and to the Portrait Gallery this Friday. They will be departing school at 9:45am and returning to school at 2:30pm. Please make sure that all permission notes are returned to school as soon as possible.

Year 4 – End of Year Picnic
Families of Year 4 students are invited to an end of year picnic at Pine Island next Wednesday 18th of December at 5pm. Those who would like to take to take a picnic can do so others are welcome to put in to get take away. Directions: drive into Pine Island – Turn left and drive as far as you can go. You will see a St Anthony’s sign. Look forward to seeing you all there. Jenny Rappa.

2014 Fete – Craft Stall
Donations of the following items for the Fete Craft stall can be dropped off at the school front office any time before the end of the year. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Ribbon - any kind (big lengths are preferred)
Lace - any kind (big lengths are preferred)
Felt sheets – any colours (A4 size)
Hair ties - any colour
Material scraps (children’s patterns preferred)
Shoelace style elastic (the round kind)
Glitter

Kerrie Fradgley, Craft stall coordinator

P & F Christmas Raffle
The St Anthony’s P & F Christmas Raffle was drawn on Friday morning at the School Assembly. Many thanks to all the families for their efforts in selling the tickets, after expenses the raffle has raised close to $3,000 to be invested into our children’s educational experience. Children from kindergarten to year 6 assisted with the prize draw, including Liam N who managed to pull his own name out of the tub for the booby prize of a box of chocolates!

Congratulations to all our winners and a big thank you to all our generous sponsors – please remember to support the businesses that support our school community when you can:


The lucky winners of the raffle prizes are as follows:

1st prize: Mr R Mann, Googong
2nd Prize: Mrs A Greanwood, Kambah
3rd Prize: Mrs S Beck, Yarralumla
4th Prize: The Stone Family, Wanniassa
5th Prize: Mrs A Greach, Condor
6th Prize: Mr Tao, Wanniassa.

Again thank you both for all your help and advice! In case I don’t see you again this year I’d like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe 2014.
Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon

The Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is the biggest kids triathlon in the world and continues to grow with over 35,000 kids in Australia and New Zealand taking part this year.

The Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon inspires children aged 7 -15 years to get moving in a friendly and supportive environment where the emphasis is on enjoying an active lifestyle. Kids of all abilities cross the finish line a champion and everyone who participates takes home a medal.

St Anthony’s encourages students to take part in the event at AIS on Sunday 16th February 2014. By having at least 15 of our students registered to participate, kids will not only share in the fun and excitement of the event but will give our school a chance to WIN a $5,000 cash prize to go towards sports equipment or one of 12 trampolines from Springfree Trampoline valued at over $1,200.

Parents can register their children online at http://try.weetbix.com.au/ Entry is just $42.60 (further discounts may apply) however places are limited so get in early! Entries will close when field limits are reached.
Dear Parents/Carers

A Sibling discount of 20% will apply next 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 **Friday 06/12/2013**.

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, 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

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

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Please indicate: Weekly / fortnightly / monthly

Name:

Phone:

Email:
NOMINATION FORM FOR POSITION ON THE

ST ANTHONY’S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

Appointment and Elections of Parents to the School Board

‘The protocols for appointing Parent Members to the Board are to be determined by the Board and publicised to the school community each year.’

The St Anthony’s Parish Primary School Board has determined and approved the following process:

1. The Chairperson will call for nominations from parents of students currently attending St Anthony’s Parish Primary School to fill the vacancies on the School Board at the end of each year.
2. Nomination and balloting periods will be advertised in the school newsletter prior to the election.
3. Nominations must be in writing on the official nomination form and seconded by another family of a student currently attending St Anthony’s Parish Primary School. Nominations must be accepted by the nominee.
4. The list of nominations will be published in the school newsletter as well as on the ballot paper.
5. All families with students currently attending St Anthony’s Parish Primary School are entitled to one vote. That is one vote per family.
6. Each family is allocated one ballot paper, which will be sent home on coloured paper.
7. Completed ballot forms are to be returned to the school by the date set below.
8. Votes can be lodged at the front office; they can be returned personally or may be returned to school by students as per our normal practice for returning school notes.
9. Ballot papers will be lodged in a locked ballot box located at the Front Office.
10. The Principal and the Parish Priest will act as returning officers.
11. The election is determined by a simple majority.
12. In the event of a tied vote, the Parish Priest will cast the deciding vote.

Nominations are to be returned to St Anthony’s School by 4pm

Thursday 12th December 2013

If an election is required, ballot papers will be emailed on Friday 13th of December to be returned by 12pm on Friday 20th December
NOMINATION FORM FOR POSITION ON

ST ANTHONY’S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

To: Father Lachlan Coll, Parish Priest & Mr Greg Walker, Principal

Proposed:

I, __________________________ (your name) nominate __________________________ (person you wish to nominate) for a position on the St Anthony’s Primary School Board to serve for a period of two years.

Signed __________________________

Date __________________________

Name and Class of your Eldest Child __________________________

Seconded:

I, __________________________ (your name) second the nomination of __________________________ (person being nominated) for a position on the St Anthony’s Primary School Board to serve for a period of two years.

Signed __________________________

Date __________________________

Name and Class of your Eldest Child __________________________

Nominee Acceptance

I, __________________________ (your name) accept the nomination proposed by __________________________ (person who nominated you) for a position on the St Anthony’s Primary School Board to serve for a period of two years.

Signed __________________________

Date __________________________

Name and Class of your Eldest Child __________________________