FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Reflection

“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’” Matthew 5: 13-16

St Ignatius says love is shown in deeds not words. The gospel for this Sunday ends by encouraging us to good works in the world we live in. The good works needed today – anything that brings hope, which speaks to the darkness and emptiness of life with so many people and suicide and addiction. Hope of friendship and in getting certainty that we are who we are, not what we have or what we do. We need a church of people who get involved in neighbourhood and parish; who want to share faith and hope with their children, who might pray every day with their child. Good works of care for life from beginning to end, standing up for respect for life and caring for the elderly are deeply needed. We want a new sort of government which will radically change our health care and care properly for education for now and the future. We want a leadership which will allow the goodness and good contribution of the church and be active in education and everything else. We need salty people and delightful people. The salt of the strength and the taste of God and the light which is the gentle illumination which delights people. Salt for the earth means that we are full of the potential for good works, and light for the world that our lives can enlighten others.

St Anthony’s

Dear Parents,

I trust that you all received my holiday correspondence some weeks ago and that you found your way to a safe and happy start to the new school year. I have had the most wonderful start to my principalship here at St Anthony’s and I would particularly like to thank Mrs Cheryl Brown and Mrs Patricia Charlton for their invaluable assistance in handing over the school so successfully to Ms Linda Ducksbury and myself. Their efforts have certainly made our jobs so much easier. Over the course of this week I have met an extremely dedicated and highly motivated staff who deal with your children each day in all manner of ways. I have also met many parents who have expressed their best wishes for my appointment. Thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome. I have also met many children and I am amazed by the ‘smiles on their dials’. They all seem so happy and enthusiastic to be back at school! Over the course of this year I hope to meet all parents in some capacity. Later this term I would like to canvass your opinions about a range of school activities through our dedicated Parent Group. This will help me set directions as well as assist you in becoming more involved in the life of the school. I am so proud to be the principal of the community of St Anthony’s. Education is about partnership – a 3-way partnership involving the teachers, the children and you, the parents. I would urge you to become an involved and active member of the community by your support of all school activities. Throughout the year there will be many fun and educational activities which you can be involved in – some in school time, some outside.

I look forward to working more closely with all families,

Attila Lendvai
Principal
STAFFING UPDATE
At the end of last year a number of new staff were appointed to St Anthony’s. Our staff for 2014 is as follows:

Kindergarten
- Katrina James
- Charlene Sheraton
Year 1
- Amanda Stone
- Venessa Ward
Year 2
- Sonia Akwar
- Anna Marks
Year 3
- Tania Geracitano
- Sheldon Law
Year 4
- Louise Korny
- Kate Robertson Mon / Tue
- Belinda Martin Wed / Thu / Fri
Year 5
- Felicity Carvalho
- Artelle Lenthall Mon / Tue
- Amanda Khoury Wed / Thu / Fri
Year 6
- Robert Barden
- Deepa Francis
Learning Coach
- Luisa Onorato
Learning Coach & Reading Recovery
- Moira Battikha
Learning Coach, Literacy & Numeracy
- Kathleen Mitchell
Teacher Release
- Ross Howse
Teacher Release
- Kylie Leach

Leadership Team
Principal
- Attila Lendvai
Assistant Principal
- Linda Ducksbury
Religious Education
- Robert Barden
Co-ordinator
- Venessa Ward
Leader of Learning
- Tania Geracitano

Finance Secretary
- Carole Brigden
Admin Secretary
- Rowena Laurie
Library
- Lorraine Buhagiar
Library
- Elizabeth Heness
Teachers Assistant
- Vicki Baiada
Teachers Assistant
- Michele Bowen
Teachers Assistant
- Karin Hanlon
Teachers Assistant
- Linda McKinnon
Canteen & Uniform
- Sue Haigh
Maintenance & Cleaning
- Rob Stewart
Gardener
- Anne Grieve
IT Support
- Brendan Moore
School Counsellor
- Trudy Ricketts

MEET & GREET INTERVIEWS
Meet & Greet Interviews will be conducted next week on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. I would urge all parents to book in and attend their appropriate meeting so as to communicate directly to your child’s teacher about their learning needs. This is an invaluable time to begin this year’s educational partnership.

KINDERGARTEN 2014
Last Friday we saw our newest St Anthony’s students begin ‘big school’. 60 beautiful boys and girls began very enthusiastically along with 2 very special students – Tony & Paddy! (See the photo) Congratulations to Kindy teachers Mrs Charlene Sheraton & Miss Katrina James who very ably looked after the children and made them all feel so secure and comfortable. Many thanks also, to Mrs Luisa Onorato and Mrs Kathleen Mitchell for their assistance with settling the children in. Many tissues were used to dry the teary eyes of the mums and dads who also did so well to ‘let go’ of their cherubs! (remember 1 hug and 1 kiss and then wave them goodbye!) Special thanks to the Parent Group mums, especially Julie Brownlow, Deb Pooley, Louise Frendo, Rachael Sutton and Leah Smith who provided morning tea.

MONDAY JOKE DAY
As a part of each Monday assembly, each grade will be invited to share some jokes or riddles to begin our week with a ‘smile on our dials’. Mr Lendvai shared his best joke “What do you call a fake noodle? – An impasta!”

The roster for jokes will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Parents</td>
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SKOOLBAG
Want to stay in touch with school events? Receive message notifications directly to the front page of your smartphone? Be able to access notes and newsletters anytime anywhere? Get instant alerts and not be reliant on finding a note in the bottom of your child’s bag? Then the SKOOLBAG smartphone app is for you. Simply follow the instructions below and install the app. It’s free so give it a go and let us know how it goes!

UNIFORM & GROOMING
We believe that the standard of our uniform contributes greatly to the dignity and self esteem of our children. The staff continue to monitor each child with a reasonable, appropriate and caring approach. Especially with the new year beginning we ask that parents ensure that their children adhere to our uniform and grooming policy:

Uniform
☞ Shoes – Black (buckled, Velcro or laced) and polishable
☞ Sports shoes – Predominantly white, lace up or Velcro, supportive sports shoe
☞ Socks – Bottle Green and above the ankle available from the Uniform Shop

Grooming
☞ Hair – Tied back if longer than shoulder length
☞ Hair – Avoid excessive use of any grooming product
☞ Hair – Should be of its natural colour and not to be extreme in nature – no steps or incuts.
☞ Hair accessories (elastics / ribbons / hair bands / clips) – To be plain green only
☞ Make-up & nail polish is NOT to be worn at school
☞ Jewellery – May only be a watch, religious cross or medal worn inside the shirt and / or plain ring, but no costume jewellery.
☞ Earrings – Should be one set of plain metal studs or sleepers

1st DAY BACK 2014
Returning to school after the Christmas break can be a difficult thing but for the children at St Anthony’s, it proved to be an exciting back to learning event. Kids should love returning to school and have a strong sense of motivation and inquiry. As such the children returned to find signs displaying the theme of “reach high with your learning” and, to their surprise, blow up people waving madly and reaching high! Mr Lendvai began the day by speaking to the children and parents about how they could reach higher especially in reading, writing and numeracy. St Anthony’s will begin each school term with...
a motivating event which the children only discover on their return to school each term. Each event focuses around a theme for learning which is explored by the children throughout the term. This refocus provides an opportunity to set personal goals as well as co-construct new paths of learning. “I will be more creative with my writing by visualising my mind by visualising scenes,” said one student in her goals.

LABELLING ALL SCHOOL ITEMS
Please ensure that ALL school items are clearly labelled with your child’s name. Uniform and lunch boxes are frequently found without names and this makes returning the items very difficult. Class stationery items should also be labelled to avoid confusion.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS
All parents are cordially invited to attend our opening school mass to be celebrated next Friday 14th February at 11am in the church with Fr Paul. Our recently elected school leaders will also be invested.

ST ANTHONY’S SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING
All parents are cordially invited to attend the first School Community Group meeting next Monday 10th February at 7:30pm in the Hub.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS
Education is a partnership between teacher, parents and the child. One of the strongest ways you can support the education in the school is by volunteering as a class parent volunteer helper. All classes would greatly appreciate any help in the classroom. Teachers are always grateful for parents to assist with listening to children read, helping with writing groups, maths groups, art, sport etc. Remember you don’t need to be an expert, just possess lots of enthusiasm! Come and join a growing number of helpers who are making a difference for our kids. (NB All helpers must complete an on-line Child Protection module once every 2 years as well as complete the Prohibited Persons Declaration form in order to assist) Please see your child’s class teacher for more details.

MONDAY PARENT COFFEE MORNING
I would like to invite as many parents as possible to a Monday Morning Coffee Chat next Monday. This activity will take place straight after the Monday morning assembly and every Monday fortnight in the Hub. I’d love to chat to you. I’ll provide the coffee if you provide the chat!!

SCHOOL TIMES
Please be aware that our school times are as follows:

- **8:30am** Playground supervision by teachers begins (Parents are asked NOT to drop off their children before this time)
- **9:00am** School begins (All children should be here by that time)
- **3:00pm** Kindergarten concludes (Term 1 only)
- **3:15pm** School concludes (All children are suitably supervised as they leave the school grounds, escorted to buses or waiting for parents to pick them up)

NEW KINDERGARTEN & FAMILIES DINNER
All Kindergarten families and new families to the school received an invitation yesterday to attend our Welcome Dinner on Friday 21st February 5:30pm for 6pm start. Please put this date in your calendar.

SCHOOL FEES
The Catholic Education Office will be sending out School Fee Statements in the mail early next week. These fees are due by Friday 7th March. Please contact Mrs Brigden in the school office if you have not received your Statement or if you wish to discuss payment arrangements other than those offered on your Statement.

Parents who had agreements with Mrs Brown in 2013 will need to contact the office to make an appointment with Mr Lendvai to discuss 2014 school fee payments.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help spread the GOOD NEWS of GOD’S LOVE to the many children in our Parish who may never have heard it before. Could you spare time each week to prepare a lesson and go to teach, or help out in a class in one of the State Schools in our Parish? Your commitment to your Faith and a love of children are the only requirements. Full teaching manuals are supplied and training is available. Please ring Mary Cook in the Parish Office if you would like to know more about this important Ministry 9631 3316 or speak to Fr Paul or Fr Larry after Mass.

TOONIE TOTS PLAYGROUP (Ages 0 – 5 years)
We meet at St Anthony’s School every Monday (during school term) 9:30am – 11:30am. Bring morning tea and drink for your child. Strictly no nuts. Tea/coffee for parents provided. Cost $2 per family. Contact Eve 0405 195 411 or Linda 0411 147 568.
Prayer Force One
School Years 5, 6 & 7
Is a place for fun, faith, activities and belonging in our Parish community. Running every second Saturday during the school term, with loads of great activities like team sports, trivia, cooking, games etc and an outing held once every term.

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES & NEWS
The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday 10th February, 2014 from 2:30pm – 3:15pm. You can place orders through the office at any time.

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>SCG Meeting 7:30pm in the HUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews 3:30 – 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>12 Feb</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews 3:30 – 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews 3:30 – 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>14 Feb</td>
<td>Commencement of School Year Mass – Church at 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>14 Feb</td>
<td>Census Day</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>21 Feb</td>
<td>Finance Audit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>21 Feb</td>
<td>Kindergarten &amp; New Families Dinner</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>28 Feb</td>
<td>St Paul’s Year 7 2014 Visit to Year 6 boys</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>4 Mar</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>5 Mar</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>6 Mar</td>
<td>Diocesan Education Mass</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>Catholic Schools Week begins</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>14 Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>14 Mar</td>
<td>SCG – Parent Night Out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>SCG Meeting 7:30pm in the HUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Sat</td>
<td>5 April</td>
<td>Open Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>Spring Fair Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade &amp; Raffle</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Term 1 concludes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>17 April</td>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>Term 2 starts</td>
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Welcome back everyone to 2014.

10 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD ABOUT HIS DAY AT SCHOOL

- Tell me about the best part of your day.
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Did any of your classmates do anything funny?
- Tell me about what you read in class.
- Who did you play with today? What did you play?
- Do you think maths [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
- What’s the biggest difference between this year and last year?
- What rules are different at school than our rules at home? Do you think they’re fair?
- Who did you sit with at lunch?
- Can you show me something you learned (or did) today?

Keep up with all the latest news and information

http://www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au  
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twitter@StAnthonyssG

Join the conversation #stanthonyssg