FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

I’m sure that you all love to receive gifts be it a birthday, Christmas or just a surprise from one of the family. The gift warms our hearts for some time but will eventually pass from the forefront of our minds and maybe end up in the back cupboard and forgotten. That’s the way with material goods. But we do have a gift that is eternal and more precious than anything else. It is the gift of Jesus given to us by God our Father. How then do we appreciate this gift? There are many ways that we can share in the graces of God but none as tangible as when we spend time, in the church, in the presence of Jesus in the form of the Blessed Sacrament. This weekend we celebrate the great feast day of the Holy Trinity. This feast celebrates the mystery of God – that he is 3 aspects or persons (God the father, Jesus the Son and The Holy Spirit) but the one God. God’s plan as the Father was to send Jesus to show us the way to him. After Jesus’ earthy ministry was over, the Holy Spirit was gifted to us as our Advocate – to be within us forever. We do, however, not need this feast day to spend time with Jesus. Each day, for many of us, we pass by the open doors of the church as we bring our children to school. Our gift of Jesus is permanently present there! I would strongly encourage you and your children, to take just a few moments to visit with him throughout the week. This action, to spend a few moments in contemplation, will help you to come to know Jesus more fully in your life. Your children will also come to know Jesus in the same way. We all need to spend time with Jesus and what better way than in his house. Come to know Jesus.

Attila Lendvai
Principal

STAFFING UPDATE

It is with regret that I announce that, due to personal circumstances, KG teacher Ms Katrina James will be taking leave, effective from the end of term 2 until the end of 2014. During terms 3 and 4, Mrs Luisa Onorato will be replacing Ms James. Mrs Onorato is a current member of staff with a long association with St Anthony’s. She has previously taught Kindergarten and many other grades and is currently a Learning Coach and Support teacher. I trust that you will join me in thanking Ms James for her wonderful contribution to Kindergarten and St Anthony’s this year.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our Year 5 students who received the sacrament of confirmation last night during a beautiful liturgy con-celebrated by our parish pastor Fr Paul and the Diocesan Vicar General, Rev. Fr Peter Williams. 31 of our students have now ‘been sealed with the Holy Spirit’ and have completed their Sacraments of Initiation. We happily welcome them as full members of the parish and Church.

SCHOOL REPORTS

School Reports will be sent home on Wednesday 18th June 2014. Parents are asked to make appointment times for the accompanying Student Led Conferences. The mid-year Student Led conference is perhaps one of the most important times of the year when parents have the opportunity to discuss their child’s learning. I hope that all parents can avail themselves of this opportunity. I know that the children will be keen to share learnings with their parents.

SCHOOL ROUTINES

Mornings can be very busy times during the school week with getting ready, making lunches, traffic etc. Recently an increasing number of students have been arriving to school late which is impacting on classes in 2 concerning ways:

- Students are missing part of the first lesson of the day which affects their learning;
- The first lesson of the day is being interrupted by children arriving late.
To assist in delivering quality learning and teaching outcomes, parents are reminded that:

Playground supervision begins at 8:30am. School then starts at 9am with assembly on Monday mornings only and then straight into literacy. Thank you for your understanding and assistance in this matter.

**ST ANTHONY’S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS**

As a school, we will celebrate Mass in the Church tomorrow, Friday 13th June, for our patron’s feast day. As a parish we will begin our celebrations Friday afternoon from 3:30pm in the school grounds. Please note that in the event of wet weather, the celebrations and Mass will be held in the parish hall and church. *(Watch out for the Skoolbag alerts)*

**ST ANTHONY’S SKOOLBAG**

Have you downloaded the FREE St Anthony’s Skoolbag app to keep updated with all events and news? We’re up to 316 downloads and counting! Download it now.

**FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

**Dance Fever Interschool Challenge – Years 3-6**

State Sports Centre Homebush
Tuesday 17th June
5.30-8.30pm

A reminder that the Dance Fever Interschool Challenge for Years 3-6 students is coming up next Tuesday evening. We are looking forward to watching our students perform in front of an audience and engaging in friendly competition with other schools as they dance the Tango, Jive and a school Hip Hop performance.

Parents and family members are all invited to come along on the night for a fun evening of celebrating our students’ achievements in the area of performing arts. Doors open at 5.00pm.

A reminder that Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students will perform their Dance Fever items at school on Wednesday 25th June at 2:15pm.

**TOP TIP – Helping your child with counting**

Counting is one of the first experiences children have with numbers. Learning to count a pattern of words and/or numbers in the correct sequence is just the beginning. As the skill of counting develops, children need to increasingly relate the numerical symbol, the number words to a quantity or number of objects. At school, we call this the number triad and we encourage students to gain an understanding of and the capacity to represent their understanding of numbers and counting in this way.

To ‘count’ children need to match saying the number words, to the correct number symbol to the correct number of objects e.g. nine – 9 - ####### ####

Children should be given lots of opportunities to practise and explore counting groups as well as making groups and naming numbers by symbol and word.

Counting is not just a basic skill that is mastered in the younger years, it is progressively built on as children progress through school.

Below are some of the skills along the continuum of counting development:

* Rote counting to 20 and beyond – stating the sequence of number names
* Counting a collection of 20 or more objects – stating the correct number of the collection
* Counting by 1’s to 100 and beyond - counting forwards and backwards, identifying one more and one less, counting from various starting points other than 0 or 1
* Counting in multiples of 2’s, 5’s, 10’s both from zero and a non zero starting point
* Counting from any given number by any single digit number e.g. start at 73 and count by 4’s
* Apply counting skills to any practical task where counting is required
* Extend counting skills to counting by and with fractions and decimals
LEAVING STUDENTS - SCHOOL FEES POLICY
The following is an extract from the Fees Schedule with regard to leaving students as set out by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

The Diocesan Tuition Fee and School Building Levy are annual fees billed in terms 1, 2 and 3. A pro rata fee based on weeks enrolled for the year is made for students entering the School part way during a term. If a student leaves the School during a term, no refund will be made in respect of the remaining portion of that term. Other School Based Fees for items such as camps, excursions, materials or technology may be charged to a student’s account and are payable under the same conditions as Diocesan Fees. A term’s notice in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term’s fees will be payable. The same applies to withdrawal from an extra subject.

JOKES OF THE WEEK
Next Monday is Year 6’s Week!

J. What kind of music are balloons scared of?
A. Pop Music.
Ayush Gaur

J. What do you call a sleeping Bull
A. A bulldozer.
Nygel Shah

J. Why did the boy bring a ladder to school?
A. Because he wanted to go to high school
Jake Brennan

J. Why are fish so smart?
A. Because they live in schools.
Anshi Mehta

J. Why are teddy bears never hungry?
A. They are always stuffed.
Ayaan Malik

J. What did the ground say to the earthquake?
A. You crack me up.
Caixia Temmo

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
ST ANTHONY’S FEAST DAY
Our school and parish community celebrates the feast day of our patron saint, Anthony of Padua tomorrow. Our school will participate in the 9-30am Mass at the church. This week we are also learning more about St Anthony and participating in a Good Deeds Week - doing and recognising good deeds around the school. This reflects our school motto, Word and Deed, and St Anthony’s own preaching that actions speak louder than words.

Our parish and school community will come together to celebrate the feast day after school, with family fun activities, picnic dinner and Mass commencing at 3:30pm. Please refer to the flyer that was sent home. We warmly invite everyone to come along and celebrate this important day in our parish calendar.

CONFIRMATION
Congratulations to the children from our school and parish who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation last night. Their happiness was clear to see. Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, they have been sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit they first received at their Baptism and have become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

SOCIAL JUSTICE – WINTER APPEAL
Winter can be a particularly difficult time for people who are struggling with finances, who are without a home, or lack the basic essentials for whatever reason. As our newly confirmed children heard in last night’s homily at Mass, the Holy Spirit within us stirs us to respond to injustices such as these in our community. To support those in need during this winter, we are asking children to bring in an item of canned food. These canned foods can be brought in any time between now and the end of term, and will be collected and given to the St Vincent de Paul Society to distribute. This is a very simple and real way of contributing to their outreach and our Church’s commitment to social justice. Thank you for your support.

FIRST COMMUNION
The parish process of preparation for First Communion begins next month. If your child is in Year 4 or above, and you believe they are ready to celebrate their First Communion, you need to attend one of the enquiry sessions to be held in the parish hall. Please refer to the upcoming dates below for dates and times.

Upcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13th June</td>
<td>St Anthony’s Feast Day Mass and Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 21st June</td>
<td>First Communion Enquiry Session, 12pm</td>
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Keep up with all the latest news and information

www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au  facebook.com/StAnthony'sG  twitter @StAnthony's_G
Communion Enquiry Session, 7:30pm
First Communion Enrolment at 6pm Mass
First Communion Enrolment at 10am Mass

Toonie Tots Playgroup (0 – 5 Years)
They meet every Monday morning from 9:30am – 11:30am (during school term) at St Anthony’s School. Next Monday 16th June there will be a special visit from the Mini-Vinnies team here at St Anthony’s. For further information please contact Eve on 0405 195 411 or Lynda on 0411 147 568.

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta is celebrating 125 years of Mercy Excellence in education. Discover rich tradition and cutting edge education at OLMC Parramatta during an Open Morning Tour on June 16. Tour the College and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Leadership Team.
The College is now enrolling for 2015 and 2016. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Community News

SKOOL IS KOOL
Our school registered for the “Skool is Kool” program with Good Guys Prospect. Under this program, every time you spend $35 at Good Guys Prospect, The Good Guys will donate $1 to our school with your name. So next time you are looking for electrical appliances or gadgets, have a look around Good Guys Prospect – and don’t forget to mention St Anthony’s Girraween School when you pay for your goods.

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES
The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday 16th June, 2014 from 8:30am – 9:15am. Orders can be placed through the office at any time.

Student of the Week

Calendary

Canteen Roster
16th – 20th June

KG Abi Elankeeran
KW Jonathan Rubijono
1G Ameera Angoang
1W Rebecca El Khoury
2G Tanush Veluppillai
2W Izabela Peranovic
3G Dana Aani
3W
4G Cameron Frendo
4W Marissa Mbarak
5G Bianca Simonetta
5W Angelo Haber
6G Pia Semaan
6W Adriana Busic

KG
1G
2G
3G
4G
5G
6G

Annemarie Saliba
Emma McKenna

18th June
16th June
16 June
17th June
18 June
18th June
19th June
20th June
20th June
23 June
24 & 26 June
27 June

Mini-Vinnies visit Toonie Tots Playgroup at School
ICAS – Writing
SCG Meeting - 7:30pm in the HUB
ICAS – Spelling
Musical talent showcase of Kindy, Yr 3 and the choir – further information to come
Reports go home
Year 6 excursion to Canberra
Year 6 return from Canberra
Year 5 excursion to Bathurst
Spring Fair Meeting
Student Led Conferences
School Disco

Fri 27th June
Last day of Term 2
Mon 14 July
First day of Term 3

Mon 16th June
Mon 16th June
Mon 16 June
Tues 17th June
Wed 18 June
Wed 18th June
Thurs 19th June
Fri 20th June
Fri 20th June
Mon 23 June
Tue/Wed 24 & 26 June
Fri 27 June

Keep up with all the latest news and information

www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au facebook.com/StAnthonysG twitter @StAnthonys_G
**PARISH NEWS**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**
Parents/Guardians ONLY are invited to attend one of two enquiry sessions to be held Saturday 21 June at midday or Wednesday 25 June at 7.30pm. Both sessions will be held in the church. Any child in Year 4 or higher is eligible providing they have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**SPORTING NEWS**

**NETBALL**
The Netball Gala Day will be on Tuesday the 19th of August at Penrith. The number of teams entered will be dependant on the number of coaches and managers we have. If you would like to assist with training sessions and on the day please contact the office with your details. Thank you in advance. Cross Country

**CROSS COUNTRY**
Good Luck! Tomorrow Hannah Hamilton will represent Parramatta at the NSWPSCC. We wish her all the best in her race.

**HELPERS NEEDED**
Mums, Dads, Grandparent, Carers,

We need your help! There are a number of new guided reading books that we are keen to start using in our classrooms for your child's reading. If you are able to help us out by covering these books with contact please let us know by filling out the slip below and returning it to your child's teacher. We will then send the books, with the contact, home with your child to be covered and then returned to school.

Thank you for your assistance.
Elizabeth Henness and Lorraine Buhagiar

**BOOK COVERING**

☐ Yes I am able to help contact the books.

Child's name: ______________________________________

Class: _____________________________

Your Name: ______________________________________

**BORONIA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES**

Are you caring for a child with a disability or illness?

You are warmly invited for Morning Tea

Wednesday 25\(^{th}\) June 10am – 12pm
Toongabbie Community Centre
244 Targo Road, Toongabbie
Cost: Free
Tea, Coffee and snacks provided
Free Childcare available.

This initial meeting will be an opportunity to come together and discuss current issues and to create a parent/carer support group. Come along for a chat, to relax, have fun, build new friendships and gain more information. Please call 9631 1777 to confirm your participation.

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**Possum Magic**

Last week Year 3 presented a Reader’s Theatre to Mr. Lendvai, Year 1 teachers and students.

Reader’s Theatre is when you start with a great book and turn it into a script to present to an audience. We had a cast including narrators, Grandma Poss and Hush. The rest of the cast were responsible for making props, providing sound effects and appropriate actions. Year 3 had lots of fun preparing this script and presenting it to Year 1. The feedback from Year 1 was that we used expression in our reading, our props and actions matched the story and we were entertaining. If you would like Year 3 to perform Possum Magic to your class please contact us, using your classroom phone, on 21014 to make a booking!

By Bailey, Lucas and Chiara.