From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony’s,

Gospel Reading of Sunday – 30th June, 2013

When the days for Jesus’ being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him. On the way they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his reception there, but they would not welcome him because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?” Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they journeyed to another village.

As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus answered him, “Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.” And to another he said, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, let me go first and bury my father.” But he answered him, “Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” And another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say farewell to my family at home.” To him Jesus said, “No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Reflection

In this passage, Jesus demonstrates his firm resolution to carry out his salvific mission. As he heads to Jerusalem, he carries a clear sense of purpose. He has come to submit to the Cross in order to rise again and invite us into eternity with him. His acute focus invites us to consider our life’s purpose.

Let us pray together:-

Heavenly Father,
grant us the wisdom of your Spirit to gain a sense of identity and mission in Christ, letting this become the light by which we live on earth.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen

Dear Parents and Carers,  

Welcome to Week 9

We have had an amazing nine weeks, culminating with Student-led Conferences and Reports. Last Friday night many of our school students participated in the Dance Fever competition. The Years 3 – 6 students gathered together with parents and staff to participate in the dance contest. Mrs Charlton has written our results in the Assistant Principal News. I was very proud of our students and very appreciative of the teachers who attended the evening. Thank you to Mrs Charlton, Mrs Flood, Mrs Henebery and Miss Pepin. The competition was very strong with students coming from our neighbouring schools e.g. St Monica’s North Parramatta and Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills to name a few.

A special morning tea was organized for today to celebrate Mrs Joanne Digwood’s new position as Assistant Principal at St Matthew’s at Windsor. Staff, students and parents will sadly miss Joanne. She has led the Numeracy Curriculum over the past 3 years and supported the school leadership with confidence and professionalism.

Mr Robert Barden will be returning in Term 3 after a long and enjoyable trip overseas. Mrs Sonia Awkar has been Acting Religious Education Coordinator for six weeks in Term 1 and all of Term 2. Sonia has embraced the role with enthusiasm and commitment to making a difference with the staff, students and the parish community. As a staff we also congratulated Sonia for her outstanding efforts in leading the Catholic culture in our school and being a supportive and professional member to the School Leadership Team.

ST ANTHONY’S WALKATHON

I am very pleased to advise that the walkathon monies have been coming in steadily over the past week. There are still about 100 students who have not brought their sponsorship money in to school as yet. We want to finalise the counting of money for each student and class so that we can give out the prizes on Friday at the 2:15pm assembly.
**CYBERBULLYING**

I would like to thank the parents and children who attended the Cyber bullying workshop on Monday 17th June. Their responses have been positive and they have gained some new tools to use to help manage the use of the internet at home. The workshop was presented by Monique Dalli who is the Leader of E-Learning at Gilroy Catholic College Castle Hill. As a leader of E-Learning she manages technology implementation, staff training and the 1:1 iPad program. She has programmed digital citizenship lessons into classroom curriculum across the school and presented to the Gilroy community on cyber safety.

**IGNITE LEARNING INFORMATION**

Ignite learning day. Parents I will add the destination for our big day out on the 16th July in Facebook and the school website on the weekend before school returns. I would like it to be a surprise for the children if possible. Thanking you for your trust.

**KISS AND DROP**

I thank the many parents who have been using the Kiss and Drop service safely over the last week. There are still a few parents who still get out of their cars. I had a parent who came in this week very distressed because they tried to help a parent by advising them that they need to stay in the car when using the kiss and drop. Sadly they received verbal abuse from the parent. It worries me that some parents are modeling such behaviour in front of their child/ren.

**KEEP ALL CHILDREN SAFE AND DO THE RIGHT THING!!!!**

Kind Regards

Cheryl Brown
Principal

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Our series of Sundays in ordinary time, following the Gospel of Luke, takes us through much of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee and then onwards towards Jerusalem. To the request ‘Lord, teach us to pray’ Jesus replies with the words of the Our Father. He then goes on to stress how important persistence in prayer is, because God is a father who will not refuse to listen to his children.

The most important learning for us is that prayer is not just about requesting and receiving; it is about relationship with God. (Taken from The St Vincent de Paul Society’s Spiritual Reflection Guide)

This therefore brings to mind, two questions for your contemplation. Is it easier for you to pray when things are going well or when life is difficult? Is your prayer ever a silent time before God?

Currently the church is celebrating the Year of Faith. When Pope Benedict announced the Year of Faith, he said that the ‘door of faith’ always remains open to us. Although there will be many public celebrations and common confessions of faith, the specific aim of this year is that every Christian may rediscover “the journey of faith so as to shed ever clearer light on the joy and renewed enthusiasm of the encounter with Christ” (Apostolic Letter, Porta Fidei, 2).

Early next term, every family in our diocese will receive a copy of God is with us, a prayer book for families. It is Mr Whitby’s hope that this prayer book may be a door of faith for all families in this Year of Faith.

I encourage all families to set aside a time for prayer, a time to reconnect with God our Saviour, during this important Year of Faith.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Brown and Mrs Charlton for all the support and encouragement they have given me during my role as Acting Religious Education Coordinator. It has been a wonderful learning experience and I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve the school in this role.

During the week we received a letter from Mrs Maureen Knight on behalf of St Vinnies thanking parents, children and staff of St Anthony’s for their support of the Winter Appeal. I am grateful that we at St Anthony’s are showing social justice to the less fortunate in our community and hope that this will continue in the future.

Father,

Help us to cherish the gifts that surround us, to share your blessings with our brothers and sisters, to experience the joy of life in your presence. Amen

**Upcoming Dates**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 22 June</td>
<td>12noon – Parents only session in Church - First Eucharist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturdays 20 July, 27th July, 3 August</td>
<td>4:30pm - Parents and Children followed by 6pm Mass – First Eucharist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundays 21 July, 28 July, 4 August</td>
<td>8:30am – Parents and Children followed by 10am Mass – First Eucharist</td>
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<td>Saturday 10 August</td>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
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<td>Saturday 10 August</td>
<td>Reconciliation for Year 4 at Church – 11am</td>
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<td>Sunday 11 August</td>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
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<td>Saturday 17 August</td>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 17 August</td>
<td>Reconciliation for Year 4 at Church – 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 18 August</td>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
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Kind Regards

Sonia Awkar
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Keep up with all the latest news and information

www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au www.facebook.com/StAnthony'sG twitter.com/StAnthony’sG
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
What's Happening at St Anthony's

Dance Fever
On Friday evening students from Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 took part in the ‘Dance Fever Competition’ held at the Sport's Centre, Olympic Park. The students competed against other schools in the Cha Cha, Foxtrot and Hip Hop. What a FANTASTIC EVENING! The children did us proud. They all participated with enthusiasm showing respect for each other and their dance partners. They encouraged and congratulated each other throughout all the phases of the competition and most importantly they had fun.

Many of our students (too many to name) made it through to the finals receiving ribbons for 2nd and 3rd places. We are also pleased to announce that two of our Year 6 students (Lachlan Foley and Amber Palmer) won first place in the Year 6 division in the Cha Cha, Lachlan Foley and Jorja Veluppillai won first place in the Year 5 division in FoxTrot and Zac Palmer and Hannah Hamilton (Year 4) won first place for the Foxtrot. Our Year 6 group and Year 4 group also won a trophy for the best overall performances on the evening. All parents and teachers who attended the evening thoroughly enjoyed the event – it was a wonderful experience.

Peer Support
Year 5 and Year 6 students have participated in 2 days of peer support facilitator training. Our senior students (Year 5 / Year 6) will lead groups next term in exploring the theme “Speaking Up.”

The Peer Support Foundation has developed ‘Speaking Up’ – a module that focuses on anti-bullying. This module supports students to develop skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to make positive contributions to the creation and maintenance of a safe school environment. ‘Speaking Up’ focuses on developing the following skills:

- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Assertiveness
- Empathy
- Relationship building

This program is another way in which we support our students in developing the skills and strategies needed for developing and maintaining positive relationships.

Although Term 2 is a shorter term it has been a very busy one. We have been very proud of the achievements of our students this term and the way in which they were able to share their learning, and set goals for future learning, with their parents during the recent student-led conferences. We look forward to working with all our students again next term. We will start the term with a wonderful day that has been organised to ignite the learning. This planned event will be something for all our school community to look forward to – it will be a great day. I would like to thank Mrs Awkar for all her hard work in organising the day for us.

Have a wonderful holiday break!

Kind Regards
Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUP
ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
The SCG are selling 2013/2014 Entertainment Books as a fundraiser this year. You can order your books online www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/214s888 or by completing and returning the form that was sent home. If you would like to have a flick through the book you can on this link http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/flickbook/sydney-west. When you order your book you can have it delivered direct to you for a $9 delivery charge or can collect from school. Once your book has come into school it will be sent home via your child unless you state otherwise. For more information please contact Louise Frendo, 0414 347 277 or stanthonysscg@gmail.com

STUDENT OF THE TERM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KG</th>
<th>Zack Phillips</th>
<th>KW</th>
<th>Jade Seghabi</th>
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<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Alyssa Natour</td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Izabela Peranovic</td>
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<td>2G</td>
<td>Chiara Simonetta</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>Blake Phillips</td>
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<td>3G</td>
<td>Sylvia Ghabar</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>Chloe Whyte</td>
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<td>4G</td>
<td>Anastasia Christie</td>
<td>4W</td>
<td>Clark Edillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5G</td>
<td>Carl Edillo</td>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Jorja Veluppillai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Tiana Nakat</td>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Hamish Ward</td>
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CALENDAR

| Thurs 27 June       | Year 6 excursion to Canberra |
| Fri 28 June         | Year 6 excursion to Canberra |
| Fri 28 June         | Last Day of Term 2           |
| Mon 15 July         | Staff Development Day       |
| Tues 16 July        | First Day of Term 3 for Students & IGNITION DAY EXCURSION |
| Fri 2 Aug           | School Disco                |

HEAD LICE
Several cases of head lice have been spotted over the last week. Please check your children’s hair and treat and remove all wild life. Seriously, this is an ongoing problem at school and we ask your cooperation in trying to stop the spread. Thank you for your support.
CANTEEN ROSTER
15th – 19th JULY

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</th>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Vicki Barlow, Linda Knight</td>
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If anyone is available to help in the Canteen on any day, it would be greatly appreciated. If you haven’t worked in the Canteen before but would like to find out what is involved, please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Haigh.

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES
The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday 22nd July, from 8:30am – 9:15am. You can place orders through the office at any time.

PARISH NEWS

FAREWELL TO FR SUNIL
Fr Sunil has been appointed parish priest of Logan, Queensland and will leave in the first week of July. Everyone is invited to join us for a light lunch after 10am Mass on Sunday 30th June in the hall. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. A ‘farewell book’ will be available in the courtyard for you to leave a message or to sign.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:
A relationship enrichment weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset… Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again! Weekend date:6 – 8 September at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au Information: website www.wwme.org.au

Discover OLMC Parramatta
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to discover contemporary learning, academic excellence in the Mercy tradition at OLMC and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Executive at the Open Morning Tour on Monday, July 22, 2013.

The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Mary MacKillop Place Museum
July School Holiday Program

Where? 7 Mount St, North Sydney
When? 8th – 12th July 2013
Time? 10.30 – 12.30
Cost? $8.00 per child per session
Includes morning tea
Suitable for children 5-12 years
Bookings? Museum Educator
T: 02 8912 4883
E: mackillop@sosj.org.au

OFFICE NEWS

REMINDER
If you have changed your phone number recently, could you please let the school office know as you never know when we might need to get in touch with you about your child.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
A reminder that there is a Staff Development Day on Monday 15th July. We ask that you make suitable arrangements for your child/ren on this day as they are not required to attend school.

YEAR 6 AT THE WAR MEMORIAL
Coming Home Today
Letter to Year 5 parents
AMF Bowling Flyer