Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony's

A Reading from the Gospel of John 15:9-10

Jesus said to his disciples: “As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandment, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandment and remain in his love.”

Reflection

Today Jesus gives us a new commandment: to love one another. The new law of Jesus is fundamentally a law of love. Jesus invites us to remain in his love. We are called to remain in the love that he has revealed to us through the out-pouring of the cross and the glory of his Resurrection. Through love, we enter into complete joy and life. May the love of the Father bear fruit in our lives as we remain united in Christ and the Holy Spirit..

Let us pray together...

Heavenly Father,
you are the source of unending love.
In your Son, you have appointed us to go and to bear much fruit that will remain.
Send your Spirit upon us,
that we may always remain in the eternal love of the Trinity,
and go out to share your love with those around us.
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, forever and ever.
Amen.

Welcome to Week 3. Last week’s Catholic Schools Week celebrations were outstanding. There was a definite hype associated with all the events that were presented last week. The St Anthony’s School’s website and Facebook pages demonstrate the excitement and success of the whole week. Thank you to the many parents who praised the staff and students for their great efforts in showcasing our school’s talents, gifts and the quality Catholic learning and teaching that happens every day at St Anthony’s Girraween.

Most importantly, I know that the students had a marvellous time listening to and watching their peers:-
- reading their writing
- playing instruments
- sharing their learning experiences
- dancing
- spelling bee
- sharing the Word of God in our CSW Liturgy

On behalf of the students, parents and myself, I wish to thank Mrs Charlton, Mrs Francis and Mrs Digwood for the planning and implementation of the Catholic Schools Week celebrations.

This term we continue to offer lunch time extra curricula activities starting this week and ending in week 6. The activities are as follows:

Monday  Cup Cake Decorating with Miss James
Reading Challenge with Mrs Leach

Thursday  Cooking with Mrs Charlton
Cross Stitch with Miss Small

Students have nominated for these activities already and there will be more opportunities for extra curricula activities in Weeks 7 – 10. Thank you to the teachers who volunteer their time to take on extra activities for our students.

Today, we welcome back Mrs Flood from her holidays and thank Ms Robertson for covering Mrs Flood’s long service leave. I really appreciate the wonderful way our teachers work collaboratively together for the good of all our students.

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Diocesan Cross Country last week. The whole school community is very proud of your efforts. Thank you to Miss Small and Mrs Baiada for your support and supervision of our students. Thank you to the parents who also attended the day providing support and cheers for our students.

Year 4 will be attending their excursion on 25th May, 2012. They will be travelling to the Hyde Park Barracks. Year 5 will be travelling to Bathurst on 31st May and returning on 1st June, 2012. Year 6 are excited as they will be travelling to Canberra leaving on 30th May and returning on 1st June, 2012. Year 3 will be travelling to Warragamba Dam on 22nd June. This will be an interesting excursion for all the students and teachers.
School photographs will be on 26th June and I expect all students to be wearing their correct uniform as usual on the day and please ensure your child’s hair is neatly presented and school shoes are cleaned and polished.

I would like to draw your attention to a few items of importance this week.

**KISS AND DROP**

Last week a representative from Holroyd Council visited our school in the morning after observing the Kiss and Drop routine. A team of staff from the council visited the school site to evaluate the Kiss and Drop routine as there have been a number of complaints from parents and residents about the way in which the St Anthony’s parents are arriving and departing the area. Also there was an incident last week which also raised the attention of the council and police. I was advised of the following in the meeting:

- cars are queuing around the corner of Girraween and Targo Road very close to the corner
- drivers are doing ‘u turns’ across double white lines in Girraween Road
- drivers are parking very close to the corner of the intersection in Carinya Road
- ‘u turns’ are being attempted in the entrance of Carinya Road and intersection of Girraween Road.
- drivers are not driving safely and being aware of the traffic conditions when arriving and departing Kiss and Drop
- parents getting their children out of the car on the road side not the kerb (parents should remain in the car and the children should alight from the car on the kerb side)
- drivers doing ‘u turns’ in resident driveways when leaving the Kiss and Drop line

I advised the council staff that I included reminders in the Newsletter on a frequent basis and contacted the council and police departments to send a patrol to remind parents of the safety rules when driving and parking. What disturbs me the most is that there are a number of parents who are not following the road rules at the risk of themselves and our students.

The aim of the meeting with the Council was also to identify ways the Council can assist in the above matter. The following was identified:

- more signage will be installed to identify the correct distance a car can be parked near a corner.
- double white lines will be marked in Carinya Road approaching the Girraween Road intersection
- Road Offences will be advertised by signage on the school perimeter fencing
- Signage promoting safe driving habits will also be prominently displayed

Above were a few of the suggestions we discussed. However, if parents do not take this matter seriously it was indicated that the Kiss and Drop routine may be stopped because of student and driver safety reasons.

A suggestion was to implement a process where parents who use the Kiss and Drop routine would register for the service and be given a set of guidelines to follow and if the parent is observed not following the protocols they will be suspended from using Kiss and Drop. I realise how important this service is to our parents and I do not want to be told by the council that the Kiss and Drop routine is not allowed anymore. So I would appreciate your thoughts on this matter as well. If you are interested in meeting with me to discuss a way forward with this matter I would appreciate you completing the ‘Expression of Interest’ tear off included in this newsletter.

**BRETT MURRAY**

As Australia’s Leading Authority on Anti-Bullying with over a decade of experience presenting in schools and school communities, Brett Murray has presented to over 1,000,000 students, teachers and parents and most recently in the Parramatta Diocese. Brett has had the incredible honour of being nominated 4 times for Australian of the Year, had his own TV series called CampDARE on National TV, and is an International Youth Author.

**What Brett brings.**

Kids are suffering from the impacts of bullying now more than ever. Every time Brett presents a seminar, the question is always asked, is bullying on the rise. Unfortunately the answer is yes. Again, The good news is, we can do something about it. The seminars Brett has been delivering over the past decade are designed to educate, empower and encourage students, teachers and parents on the issues of what bullying is, and goes deeper into the ‘Why’ people Bully. The ‘Why’ behind the ‘What’.

I have had some very positive feedback from parents who attended the seminars last week and I would like to invite Brett Murray to our school as a guest speaker, however, I would need to know that the event would be well attended. Could you please fill in the tear-off slip below if you would be interested in attending a seminar presented by Brett Murray on “The Power of Parenting and Learn How to Bully-Proof your Kids”.

**AND MOST IMPORTANTLY…**

To all the St Anthony’s Mothers and Grandmothers I wish you a lovely Mothers’ Day on Sunday 13th May, 2012. I look forward to Friday when the School Community Group will provide a wonderful breakfast for all our mums and grandmothers at approximately 7:30am onwards. At 9:15am the students, mothers and grandmothers will join together in prayer for a Mothers’ Day Liturgy and afterwards a cup of tea in the HUB. Sounds great to me, look forward to seeing you there!

**SCHOOL SPORTS SOCKS**

Last week I spoke to the students about wearing the correct sports socks and Mrs Laurie included a picture of the correct sports socks to be worn with the sports uniform. There are quite a few students who are wearing the ‘no show’ socks and I ask you to purchase the correct socks for your children as soon as possible. I have given the students a 3 week change over time so I would appreciate it if all students were wearing the correct school socks.

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socks by 3rd June, 2012. After this date students will receive a letter for their parent regarding wearing the incorrect uniform item. Please support your child and buy the correct socks as soon as possible so they won’t worry about this matter.

God bless and keep safe.

Cheryl Brown
Principal

KINDER ENROLMENTS – 2013
The Enrolment period for 2013 has commenced and will run until Wednesday 30th May. Parents wishing to enrol their child should collect an application package from the school office. For enquiries please contact Mrs Laurie on 9631 5283, email: Girraween@parra.catholic.edu.au.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
The month of May is a traditional time within the Church to remember and honour Mary as the mother of God. Mary is someone we look to as a model and example of trust and of faith. She gave birth to God incarnate. She experienced grief, sorrow and anguish as she watched her son die. Finally, as we remember at this Easter time, she joyfully gave witness to the resurrection of Jesus and remained with the apostles as they began their mission and built up the Church.

Our Church dedicated and entrusted our country to the patronage of Mary under the title of Help of Christians. This reminds us that Mary is someone we can turn to, to pray for us, to protect us, and to stand beside us as we endure the very human struggles that Mary faced as well. Many of the schools established by the Sisters of Mercy called on Mary’s help through the school motto Sub Tuum Praesidium (Under Your Protection). Some, such as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Wentworthville, St Patrick’s Primary and Our Lady of Mercy College in Parramatta, still bear those words on their school crests.

Yet Mary should not be seen simply as a distant figure of history who now listens to us from afar. Mary was a woman who cared for others and responded to their needs, just as we are called to do here at St Anthony’s through the mission of Christ and our Mercy tradition. Whilst pregnant with the Son of God, she made the selfless journey to visit her relative Elizabeth, who was soon to give birth herself to John the Baptist. Like Mary who visited Elizabeth, we must be aware of those who need our assistance and ‘visit’ them.

Perhaps during this month you may take some time as a family to pray the Hail Mary, the Hail, Holy Queen or another prayer to Mary together. Maybe it could be a good time to learn more about, or teach your children more about the Rosary. Years 3-6 will join parishioners to celebrate Mass on the Feast of Australia’s Patron Saint, Our Lady Help of Christians, on Thursday 24 May. Kindergarten – Year 2 will join parishioners to celebrate the Feast of the Visitation of Mary a week later on Thursday 31 May.

Celebration of the Word in Thanksgiving for Mothers
We invite all parents, family members and friends to join us for this celebration tomorrow morning. As has been part of our tradition for several years now, an important ritual within this celebration will be the blessing of all mothers who are present. The celebration will take place at the assembly area, beginning at 9:15 am.

Confirmation
A number of senior students from our school are participating in the parish process of preparation and formation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will celebrate the sacrament with Vicar General Monsignor Bob McGuckin, on Tuesday 29 May. Please keep them in your prayers at this time.

Prayer will do more… than all the money in the Bank of Ireland
Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy

Kind Regards

Robert Barden
Religious Education Coordinator

CURRICULUM NEWS
What’s Happening at St Anthony’s

Walk Safely to School
Next Friday (Friday 18th May) is Walk Safely to School Day. This program was initiated 13 years ago to help encourage regular physical activity. The event, promotes the vitally important message: ‘active kids are healthy kids.’ It is hoped that through participation in this program parents, carers and children will be encouraged to build regular walking to and from school into their daily routine because children need a minimum of 60 minutes regular physical activity per day. It also encourages parents / carers to drive less and walk more; aiming to decrease dangerous vehicle congestion around schools and reduce carbon emissions. So children next Friday put on your joggers and walk to school with a parent or carer and remember to keep the road rules and walk safely.

If you are intending to participate I ask you to complete the tear-off slip in the newsletter and to return to school by next Friday. The Walk Safely to School Committee is conducting a survey to gauge the effectiveness of the program and the participation rate.

Lunchtime Activities
A new round of extra curriculum activities started on Monday. A group of children experienced cake decorating with Miss James and another group had the opportunity to improve their reading skills with Mrs Leach, participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge. Today Miss Small introduced a group of students to ‘cross stitch’ while I had a wonderful time baking chocolate swirl scones with a group of Year One and Year 4 children. If you would like to sample a delicious treat then follow the recipe below and whip up a batch of scones for the family to enjoy.

Chocolate Swirl Scones
Makes 16    Preparation – 15 mins
Cooking – 15 mins

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2 cups self-raising flour, sifted
¼ cup castor sugar
pinch salt
½ cup thick cream, plus extra
tablespoons, for brushing
½ cup lemonade
1 cup milk choc chip bits

1. preheat oven to 220 C. Line an oven tray with baking paper.
2. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar and salt. Make a well in the centre and stir cream and lemonade through with a butter knife until just combined.
3. Turn dough onto a lightly floured board. Knead lightly to combine. Gently flatten to 3cm-thick square.
4. Use a floured knife to cut dough into 16 squares. Arrange close together on tray. Brush with extra cream.
5. Bake 10 – 15 minutes, until scones are lightly browned and sound hollow when tapped. Allow to cool.
6. Fit a piping bag with a writing tube and fill bag with melted chocolate. Pipe chocolate in swirls over cooled scones.

Year 6 Writing Task and Speeches
Year 6 is currently studying a unit on the Australian Government in preparation for their upcoming excursion to Canberra. As part of this unit students were asked to research a past Australian Prime Minister and to write information about their time in office. Students were then required to turn the information report that they had written into a 1-minute speech on that Prime Minister. The sample below is the speech (about Kevin Rudd) that Joshua Dodds delivered to his writing group. Speech writing was also introduced this term in preparation for the Year 6 Voice of Youth Competition, which will be taking place in Term 3. Congratulations to all our Year 6 students for the great effort in presenting their speeches.

Past Prime Minister Speech
Good morning my name is Joshua Dodds and I’m here to talk to you about our past Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

Kevin Rudd was born 21st September 1957 in Nambour, Queensland and is married to Therese Rein. He has three children Nicholas, Jessica and Marcus.

Kevin Rudd, held office for two and a half years. His election win in November 2007 brought the Labor Party back into power after a long 11 years in opposition.

Two of the important events that took place while he was Prime Minister were an Indigenous welcome to country at the opening of Australia’s 42nd Parliament and an apology to Indigenous people on 13th February, 2008. He also attended the convention on climate change in Bali, Indonesia in December 2007.

Some of the negative things he will be remembered for are swearing on TV, throwing chairs and breaking water bottles.

In his new role as Foreign Minister, he made official visits to over 20 countries including Pakistan, The United States, Egypt, Israel and Jordan. He no longer holds the position of Foreign Minister, he is now a member of the Federal Parliament for Griffith, Queensland.

Kind Regards

Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

I would firstly like to thank the parents (over 70 of you) who attended the Numeracy Workshops last Monday. We received a lot of positive feedback from parents and I think you were enjoying yourselves, as you got involved in the Numeracy activities, which can be easily practiced at home.

Below are a few simple activities that you can easily do at home.

Helping your child with –NUMERACY: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Through everyday activities and play situations children will naturally use numbers. Young children are very capable of sharing out things such as lollies so that each person has a fair share or adding a friend’s collection to his or her own and finding the total. We need to help children discover quick and easy ways of using numbers.

How do children learn to use numbers?
When first learning to use numbers, children will need to have the objects with them in order to add, subtract, multiply or share equally (divide). They will go through a process of needing to see and count each thing, one at a time.

We need to help children learn to start counting from a larger number and add or subtract a second number. We also need to help children build mental images of a group or quantity so they do not always have to rely on seeing the objects. Helping children to mentally “see” groups of things will also help them with understanding multiplication and division before they learn the “tables”.

What can you do at home?
• Play board games such as Snakes and Ladders with two dice and encourage your child to add the two numbers rolled. Show them how to count from the larger number.
• Play card games such as 21 or bust. In this game, two cards are dealt to each player who adds the numbers together. Each player may ask for more cards from the “kitty” with the aim of being the person with the highest score that does not go over 21.
• Share fruit such as mandarins with your child and add the number of pips you both have.
• Ask your child to help you work out how many more items are needed when you are shopping. I have six apples here, how many more will I get to make ten?
• Look at house numbers when going for a walk. Ask your child to guess what the next number will be.
• Set the table for one person and ask your child to put out enough plates for everyone. Ask them how many more were needed.
Count the number of eggs in a carton, and again after some have been removed. Ask your child, How many were taken away?

Read a book to your child that has a contents page. Look for a story or chapter on a certain page and work out how many pages until the next story.

Use empty toilet rolls or empty plastic bottles and a ball to make a game of skittles. Encourage your child to tell you how many were knocked down and how many are still standing after bowling. Keep a score of how many are knocked down to see who is the winner.

Sing songs that include numbers. Ask your child to tell you the next number in the song before you sing the next verse.

Go for a drive and point out the signs that indicate the distance to the next town. In the country the numbers on the kilometre signs go down by 5. Ask your child to work out what number will be on the next sign.

Have your child help share out food to the family. How many slices will I need to cut the pizza into so that everyone has two slices?

Ask your child to share out items fairly with others. Count the number of things in a collection such as shells in a bag or a large jar of buttons. Ask your child if there is a quick and easy way of counting, say counting by fives.

Decorate patty cakes with sultanas or smarties. Place the same number of sultanas or smarties on each cake and ask your child to find out how many you will need altogether.

Count the number of ice cubes in a tray. If your child counts by ones suggest counting by the number in each row of the tray. (This will usually be counting by twos.)

Joanne Digwood
Numeracy Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Discover OLMC Parramatta in May

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta would like to invite you to tour the College and see Mercy values in action at our Open Morning Tour Monday May 21, 2012. Future Mercy girls are invited to get a taste of life at OLMC at the Year 7, 2013 Getting Connected Afternoon on Wednesday May, 30, 2012.

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

CALENDAR UPDATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>17 May</th>
<th>NAPLAN exam</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Survey Results due back</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Walk to School Safely Day</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>ICAS Assessment – Computer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>School Disco – 2 sessions 5 – 6pm Kinder, 1 &amp; 2, 6:30-8pm Yrs 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>28 May</td>
<td>Spring Fair Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>Confirmation 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Canberra excursion</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>31 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Bathurst excursion</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>6 June</td>
<td>ICAS Assessment – Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday – no school</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>12 June</td>
<td>Staff Development Day – Pupil Free</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>13 June</td>
<td>St Anthony’s Feast Day – Picnic Day</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>15 June</td>
<td>Reports go home</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>ICAS Assessment – Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>ICAS Assessment – Spelling</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>ICAS Assessment – Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Student-led conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Maths Olympiad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>Year 3 excursion to Warragamba Dam</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Spring Fair Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Cerdon students visit school for week – Volunteers in Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Brainstorm – 9:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Last day of Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Mrs Leach begins Maternity Leave</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>2 July</td>
<td>Staff Professional Learning Day – in holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>16 July</td>
<td>First day of Term 3</td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>26 July</td>
<td>Grandparents’ Day – more details to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>30 July</td>
<td>Life Education Week – Van on site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>7 Aug</td>
<td>Captivate Showcase</td>
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WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROMOTION

It’s Back!! The Woolworths Earn and Learn Promotion has started again and this term the Year 6 Fundraising Committee will be asking St Anthony’s students to collect Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers.

For every $10 spent, you receive 1 sticker. These stickers should be stuck on your sticker card (which will be coming home today) and once redeemed can be used to buy...
resources for our school. These include things such as library books, classroom supplies, outdoor sports equipment and art and craft materials.

The sticker card box will be placed in the front office, and completed cards should be placed in there. Extra cards will be available from the office or the year 6 classroom.

So please start collecting your stickers and filling up your card.

Thank you.

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<th>STUDENT OF THE WEEK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KG</td>
<td>Jean-Luc de l’Epine</td>
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<td>1G</td>
<td>Clare Pooley</td>
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<td>2G</td>
<td>Deng T</td>
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<td>3G</td>
<td>Calvin Kandiah</td>
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<td>4G</td>
<td>Lauren Cooper</td>
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<td>5G</td>
<td>Eleanor Christie</td>
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<td>6G</td>
<td>Bronte Charles</td>
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<tr>
<th>PARISH NEWS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make a note on your Calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keep the evening of the 2 June free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Come and join in the fun at our Parish Bingo Night Fundraiser: Book of 20 games $10 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other games and prizes to keep you amused</td>
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<td>Tea and Coffee with slices available for a gold coin donation</td>
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<td>Soft drinks will also be available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where: Our Church Hall St Enda’s When 2 June Time: commencing at 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Raffle and lucky door prize on the night.</td>
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<th>UNIFORM SHOP NEWS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spray Jackets are here - If you only paid the deposit, could you please pay the outstanding money at the office and your spray jacket will be sent home.</td>
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