Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony’s

3 DAYS to the SPRING FAIR

What Makes A Dad
God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle’s flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so,

He called it……. Dad

To all of St Anthony’s Fathers and Grandfathers,

Happy Fathers’ Day for Sunday 4th September, 2011.
Best Wishes from the staff and students of St Anthony’s Girraween

I look forward to joining the fathers and grandparents of St Anthony’s at Breakfast tomorrow morning. Breakfast will be available from 7:30am through to 8:45am followed by a Fathers’ Day Liturgy at approximately 9:15am.

A Reminder to all parents - the Fathers’ Day Stall is available tomorrow for your child to do their Fathers’ Day shopping. There are many gifts for the children to browse through, to find the ultimate gift for dad. Please don’t forget to give them some money.

Count down….5, 4, 3, 2, 1 The St Anthony’s Spring Fair is happening this coming Saturday. I am sure everyone is aware of the BIG EVENT! St Anthony’s transforms over the next few days into a fun fair! So much work has been happening behind the scenes over the past months. Each class has created a beautiful piece of artwork. If you are interested in viewing the masterpieces visit the School Website www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au under the Grade Blog webpage.

On Monday I attended the Voice of Youth Semi Final at Our Lady Queen of Peace. The Year 6 students and teachers were very proud to see Elijah Habito, David Kot and Ashton Andre-Evarts compete in the competition. William Christie supported the team as the reserve speaker. Each of the boys spoke with confidence and presented a quality topic talk. The competition was of a high standard.

I wish to congratulate all the Year 6 students who competed at the school level for the Voice of Youth competition. It takes a lot of courage to speak in front of your peers, but it is a great experience for the future. Well done!

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents for attending the Reading afternoon today. I know the students love having their family members come to school to see the wonderful events that happen at our school.

I am so excited to talk about the learning and teaching that happens at St Anthony’s.

- Year 2 teachers and students are working with Mrs Lyn Stevenson and Ms Kate Robertson on Tuesday morning on the integrated unit. The students rotate between four group activities across the classroom and Hub learning environment. The students are using ipads, ipods and the interactive whiteboard in developing knowledge, skills and processes.
- Year 1 students are crunching big numbers in Number Busting activities, any number from 20 – over 1000. Children challenge themselves in identifying the number Triad – numeral, quantity and word. I love it when they come and visit me to demonstrate how clever they are.
- Kindergarten students are amazing, they are so eager to learn. Every time I visit the classroom I am so impressed with their...
learning. The students are keen to explain what they have learnt.

- Year 5 students and teachers are getting ready for the Choral Development Performance on the 9th September, 2011. The students and teachers will travel to the Hills Centre by bus arriving 12:30pm approximately. The students rehearse during the afternoon in preparation for two (2) concerts 6pm and 8pm.

Year 5 parents are to pick up their child promptly at 9:30pm. Mrs Patricia Charlton will be in attendance on the evening as I will be attending a course beginning on 9th September and returning to school on the 19th September, 2011.

- Year 3 students and teachers will be attending their excursion on 23rd September, to the Australian Reptile Park.

- Year 6 students have been engaged in their own Parliamentary Role play. The 6G class is the Government and 6W is the opposition. They are called the Green party and the White party. They have been debating issues such as ‘Whether Western Sydney needs a theme park’, ‘Should there be a zebra crossing on Girraween Road’ and ‘Should the government use Christmas Island as a detention centre’.

- Year 4 are beginning to prepare for their “Student Showcase” which they will host in their classroom on Thursday 20 October. The evening will give the Year 4 students a chance to share with the community their hard work and achievements over the course of the year, and show off their creative talents. Stay tuned for more details.

- **Pupil Free Day 5th September, 2011.** Please remember to organise care for Monday.

- **Staff Development.** On Monday the Student Learning Support team will be running a professional learning day focussed on building teamwork and analysis of student learning data. Each stage will be working together to share their class profiles and assessment and reporting practices.

- On the 6th September the students will be entertained by a Book Week Performance, there is no cost, as the event is covered in the incursion fee.

- Information regarding the swimming program for Term 4 will be coming home very soon. Please ensure all payments are sent to the office before the program starts, thanking you in anticipation. The swimming program is compulsory for all students.

- Mrs Digwood, Mrs Sheraton & Miss Younes attended the Extending Mathematical Understanding Reconnector today. Year 4 and Kindergarten teachers have been involved in professionally developing other grade teachers in the EMU framework. Year 2 and Year 5 grade teachers will be involved in the EMU program. Firstly, the Numeracy Coordinator and Teacher Educator will extend the program with Year 2 this term and continuing in Term 4. Year 5 will engage in the program during Term 4.

- Last Friday seven (7) students represented our school at the Diocesan Athletics carnival at Blacktown Olympic Centre. Each student participated in their individual events representing the Cumberland Zone. The students were: Abaris Angoang, Stephanie Longo, Nicolas Jahshan, Agol Theph, Theph Theph, David Kot and Atak Ashor. Abaris Angoang qualified for the MacKillop Trials on Wednesday, 21st September, 2011. We wish him well and thank Miss Katrina James and Mrs Longo for supporting our school students at the event.

- I will be returning to the second session of ELIM on 9th September and will return on 19th September, 2011. Mrs Chariton will be acting Principal in my absence.

- As Term Three comes to a close please be reminded to finalise your school fees as soon as possible. Thanking you in anticipation.

Please keep the following staff members in your prayers:

Mrs Sonia Awkar, her husband Georges had recently undergone surgery and she has been caring for him. Sonia’s family are also grieving as her grandfather is not well.

Mrs Sue Haigh has been on leave this week as she has had a number of close friends pass away.

Enjoy the week and may we all live by word and deed.

Kind regards

Cheryl Brown
Principal

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Celebration of the Word in Thanksgiving for Fathers**

A reminder that everyone is invited to join us for our Celebration of the Word where we will give thanks to God for the gift of fathers. This will take place tomorrow morning at 9:15am, following the Fathers’ Day breakfast (which is being held before school).

**Celebrating Mass – The Liturgy of the Word**

In the Liturgy of the Word, God speaks to us. Through the proclamation of the scriptures at Mass, Christ is made present amongst us. After the Second Vatican Council, one of the obvious reforms to the Mass was the increased use of scripture. After we listen to God’s word in the readings and have it broken open for us in the homily, we respond by professing our faith and praying for the needs of the Church and the world.

For most of the Liturgy of the Word, there is very little that is affected by the new translation of the Missal. The one part that will be obviously different, however, is the Profession of Faith. The Nicene Creed is retained, although the words will change.

This creed was never intended to serve as a liturgical text. Developed in the fourth century, it was a direct response to clarify and affirm central elements of the Church’s doctrine in the light of some who challenged its beliefs. It
was not until the end of the millennium that the creed started to be used as a prayer during the Mass itself. Eventually in 1014 it was adopted by Pope Benedict VIII. It now forms part of our response to God's word on Sundays and solemnities.

One of the noticeable elements of the new translation of the Nicene-Constantinople Creed is that the existing text “We believe…” is replaced with “I believe…” As we’ve already discussed, the new translation of the Missal is characterised by a closer, word-for-word translation of the Latin text into English. The Latin word *Credo*, which begins the creed, translates into English as “I believe”. There is more to consider here, however, than simply translation.

Parents are asked to renew their baptismal promises when they want their child to be baptised. Confirmation candidates are asked to profess their faith, as are adults when they approach Christian Initiation. Each of us is invited to renew our baptismal promises at Easter time. In each case, we respond not with “We do”, but “I do”, for each of us is called to give personal testimony and witness to our faith.

While we have been used to saying “We believe…” each Sunday, the upcoming change back to “I believe…” does not try to deny the communal nature of the Eucharistic celebration. The use of the words “I believe…” will hopefully challenge each of us to personally consider our subscription to the faith of the Church and its consequences. Our communal praying of the creed will hopefully serve as a sign to each of us that we stand in solidarity with everybody who belongs to this community of faith.

Upcoming Dates

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<tr>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>1 Sep</th>
<th>Celebration of the Word in thanksgiving for Fathers, 9:15am</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat &amp; Sun</td>
<td>3 &amp; 4 Sept</td>
<td>First Communion Workshops begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>16 Sept</td>
<td>Parish Mass - 9:30 am – Years 2 and 4 attending</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat &amp; Sun</td>
<td>17 &amp; 18 Sept</td>
<td>First Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>23 Sept</td>
<td>Celebration of the Word for the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, 9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat &amp; Sun</td>
<td>24 &amp; 25 Sept</td>
<td>First Communion</td>
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Kind Regards

Robert Barden
Religious Education Coordinator

Staff Development Day

All teaching staff of St Anthony’s will participate in professional development on Monday 5th September. A number of sessions have been planned for the day that will support our learning agenda and contribute to improving the learning outcomes of all our students as well as building teacher capacity.

Topics to be covered include an overview of contemporary learning (student learning / teacher learning); management of student learning through building effective learning teaching teams; constructing class and student profiles to gain a deeper knowledge of individual student needs; evaluating assessment practices and planning for professional learning time for teaching teams. All members of St Anthony’s learning support teams (teachers’ aides, learning support teachers, classroom teachers) will have the opportunity to work together to further improve learning / teaching and assessment practices at St Anthony’s.

Kind Regards

Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

Personal Assistant / Human Resource Administrator

- Located in Belrose
- Casual Position 2 – 3 days per week (flexible days and hours – may suit University student studying Human Resource Management or Law).
- $26.48 per hour inclusive of 20% casual loading.

A Personal Assistant / Human Resource Administrator is required for an immediate start to provide administration support to the Executive Manager People, Learning & Culture and the Human Resources Department of UnitingCare Ageing Northern Sydney Region.

Regional Community & Volunteering Facilitator

- Located in Belrose
- Full time position
- $50,000 plus super

Are you highly motivated? Friendly, vibrant and engaging? Do you enjoy making a difference? Meeting new people? If you answered yes to all of the above please read on:

The Northern Sydney Region has approx 400 volunteers assisting at their 12 aged care villages and 10 senior day centres across the Region. Working closely with the Managers you will be responsible for the facilitation, coordination and maintenance of a quality volunteer-based program.

Contact : Robyn Madry, T: 9975 0502 M: 0448 420 126
For further information and a copy of Position Description. Applications addressing the essential criteria to recruitment@nsr.unitingcare.org.au by: 16 Sept 2011.

Kind Regards

Robert Barden
Religious Education Coordinator

KINDER ENROLMENTS – 2012

We are still taking Enrolments for Kindergarten 2012. We are currently interviewing parents and children so please get your Enrolment forms in. 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.
PARRAMATTA PARK TRUST
Free family fun day for History Week at Parramatta Park
Colonial Kids Down at the Diary
When: Sunday 11th September
Time: 10am – 4pm
Where: Parramatta Park, Salter’s Field
Refreshments available
Further information: www.parrapark.com.au

PASTORAL CARE GROUP

- The “Cuppa and Chat” is happening on Monday mornings at The Hub. Look forward to seeing you all.
- The Fathers’ Day Breakfast is on tomorrow, Thursday 1st September. Hope to see you there.
- Don’t forget to take a look at the Community Noticeboard and remember everyone is welcome to add something to it. Just see Rowena in the office.
- Keep the 21st October in your diaries for the St Anthony’s Movie Night. There will be more details to come.

CAUGHT DOING IT RIGHT

Jack Norman of 5W was caught doing the right thing by being kind and friendly to a Kindergarten child who needed some help in the playground. Well done Jack.

CANTEEN NEWS

CANTEEN ROSTER – SEPTEMBER 5 - 9

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Staff Development Day – Pupil Free</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Mim Zammit, Gabbie yates</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Louise Frendo, Vicky Barlow</td>
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CALENDAR UPDATE

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<tr>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>1 Sep</th>
<th>Fathers’ Day Stall</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>3 Sep</td>
<td>SPRING FAIR</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>4 Sept</td>
<td>Holy Communion 10am Mass</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>5 Sept</td>
<td>Staff Development Day – Pupil Free</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>7 Sept</td>
<td>Voice of Youth</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>23 Sept</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>26 Sept</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>School Community Group Meeting &amp; AGM</td>
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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.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KG Antonella Riskalla  KW Helena Arronis
1G Taylor Toni       1W Michael Beshara
2G Calvin Kandiah    2W Christian Capaldi
3G Hannah Seballos   3W                            
4G Ashetip Amom & Megan Wright 4W Damon Mock
5G Tamara Malak      5W Nardo Antonios
6G Bailey Strahan & Atak Ashor 6W Samantha Pietra

NUMERACY NEWS

August 29- September 2 is National Literacy and Numeracy Week.

As we have previously shared Maths activities in the classroom and at Parent Meetings the focus in the open classrooms this week is Literacy.

However, you can still participate in numeracy at home by logging on to the literacy and numeracy week website for great activities and competitions. Visit http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

Don’t forget to use the great activities that were shared at the Parent Meetings and in past newsletters.

Joanne Digwood
Numeracy Coordinator

TEACHERS’ STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY –
Monday 5th September, 2011

A reminder that there is a STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY on Monday 5th September, 2011. We ask that you make suitable arrangements for your child on this day as it is a pupil free day and they are not required to attend school.