Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony’s

Gospel Reading of Sunday, 25th November, 2012

John 18:33b-37

Pilate said to Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?” Pilate answered, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here.” So Pilate said to him, “Then you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Reflection

Today, on this Last Sunday of Ordinary Time, we celebrate the solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the universe. Jesus’ kingship is unlike other kings and rulers, for in today’s gospel we hear Jesus tell Pilate that his kingdom is not of this world. Jesus reveals the unique mystery of his kingship most fully on the cross as he pours out of himself for the salvation of all souls whom he desires to draw into the glory, joy and life of his kingdom.

Let us prayer together:-

Lord Jesus Christ,
We bless you and honour you,
for you are the King of kings and
Lord of lords...
May your reign extend over all earth.
Draw us into your holy kingdom,
that, with one voice, all peoples may
praise your blessed name.
You live and reign forever.
Amen.

Welcome to Week 7
This week we welcomed a group of our 2013 Kindergarten students. It was wonderful to witness their enthusiasm and excitement to enter the school community. I am looking forward to working in partnership with our new parents in ensuring that their child achieves the best possible outcomes in their spiritual growth and educational development.

The end of the 2012 school year is fast approaching. Over the next few weeks there are very significant school events, which will take place.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUP – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
On Monday 26th November, 2012, the School Community Group Annual General meeting will be held in the HUB at 7:30pm. I invite all members and new members of the school community to attend the meeting as it is vital to have parent support. Please read the SCG Flyer providing information for the event. I wish to thank the 2012 SCG Executive for their leadership in providing quality events throughout the year which have contributed in building a welcoming and pastoral community for all members.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS AND DINNER
The Year 6 students and parents will be attending the Graduation Mass and Dinner on 4th December, 2012. This evening is a very special occasion for the Year 6 students. After the Mass the parents and students will attend the Fox Hills Golf Club for a sit down meal at 7:30pm. I wish to ask parents to invite extended family members to the Mass at 6pm at St Anthony’s Parish Church, Toongabbie. The celebration of Mass with family, peers and teachers is a memorable experience for the Year 6 students. Also the last day of school is a very special event as well. In the afternoon the Year 6 children are farewelled by the whole school community at the end of day. All parents are most welcome to attend. The proceedings will start at 2:45pm.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
On 14th December, 2012 the Christmas Concert will be held at St Anthony’s. It will be a wonderful event, the students are beginning to prepare and they are looking forward to sharing the evening with their parents. The concert will start at 7pm. Further information will be sent home shortly.

PARENT HELPERS BIG THANK YOU LITURGY AND MORNING TEA
If you have helped in any way in the St Anthony’s School community you are most welcome to attend the parent helpers liturgy and morning tea. This event is our way of saying how much we appreciate the support of parent assistance e.g.

- Reading with students
- Classroom assistance
- Canteen support
• Assistance with community events e.g. Spring Fair, Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ Day stalls to name a few
• Classroom assistance
• School Banking
• Library assistance.

These are only a few of the areas in which parents assist our students, teachers and the wider school community. You are greatly appreciated **SO COME AND JOIN US** in prayer and a cuppa.

**END OF YEAR MASS**
On 19th December, the whole school community will attend Mass at St Anthony’s Parish Church, Toongabbie. I invite all parents, grandparents and friends of St Anthony’s to attend the Mass with their children.

**KISS AND DROP ZONE**
I will be meeting with a representative from the Holroyd Council on Friday 23rd and I will be engaged in discussion on making the Kiss and Drop Zone safer for our students. Our school has been commended on the protocols in place in ensuring your child’s safety. However, it is the behaviours of the drivers using the kiss and drop zone that has prompted neighbouring residents, police, school parents and myself to contact Holroyd Council for their assistance in designing signage, regular Council patrols etc to monitor and hopefully improve the safety routines beyond the school’s responsibilities.

The aim is to ensure that the school continues to follow safety practices, so that all people (especially school families) driving in the Girraween & Carinya Road vicinities will observe ample signage, boundary marking for pedestrians and kiss and drop protocol in place. There is an expectation that all drivers follow the rules of the road and violation will constitute a fine from either the NSW Police or Holroyd Council. After Friday’s meeting I am sure I will be communicating more information to you. I would appreciate your support in this matter, especially for our children’s safety.

**IMPORTANT ITEM - SCHOOL STARTING DATES 2013**
This is a short explanation for the change of School starting dates for 2013. More correspondence will be forwarded next week.

Please mark the following dates in your diary as there will be no usual school attendance on some of the dates below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>26th January 2013</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>28th January 2013</td>
<td>Public Holiday for Australia Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>29th January 2013</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30th January 2013</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>31st January 2013</td>
<td>Years 1 – 6, First day of School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1st February 2013</td>
<td>Kindergarten – First day of School – 9:30am–3pm</td>
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The reason for this arrangement is so that the teachers can complete the early assessment of MAI (Mathematical Assessment Interview). This assessment takes approximately 20 – 30 minutes per student. Therefore the two (2) staff development days will be utilised for teachers to assess their students individually. This will also mean that the Kindergarten teachers will have the 29th, 30th and 31st January to complete the MAI with all students, and if possible the Early Literacy testing as well.

Details of how the students will be appointed interview times will be sent home next week. I realise that a number of parents have work commitments; this is why I am advising you well in advance so you can work around your child’s assessment time. Parents will be invited to wait while their child is being assessed, hospitality catering will be available while you are waiting. The whole purpose of the assessment being completed on these days is so that the learning and teaching is planned in light of the data collected and there will be no disruptions to the learning in the following weeks.

I thank you in anticipation for your support and patience.

Yours truly in Word and Deed.

Cheryl Brown
Principal

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Upcoming Dates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 23 November</td>
<td>Parish Mass, 9:30 am – Years 2 and 4 participating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 24 November</td>
<td>Parish Youth Mass, 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 30 November</td>
<td>Parish Mass, 9:30 am – Years 1, 3 and 6 participating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3 December</td>
<td>Prayer at Assembly, First Week of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4 December</td>
<td>Graduation Mass, 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10 December</td>
<td>Prayer at Assembly, Second Week of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 14 December</td>
<td>Christmas Pageant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17 December</td>
<td>Prayer at Assembly, Third Week of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 December</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Mass, 11am</td>
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**CURRICULUM NEWS**

**What’s Happening at St Anthony’s Professional Development**
Last Week all teaching staff of St Anthony’s participated in a professional development workshop on integrating Ipads into the curriculum. The workshops were facilitated by Steve Iuliano from Apple Mac. Steve passed on his knowledge of educational and creative applications that could be used in the classroom. He demonstrated various features of Ipads such as text to voice and screen shots, as well as introducing staff to applications such as Puppet Pals and Story Patch, which allow students to create and retell stories digitally. Teachers also learnt more about creating presentations, setting up E book files, how to use
‘keynote’ more effectively and how to create books and comprehension questions for students. The teachers found the workshops to be a valuable experience and are now in the process of installing and integrating the applications into their programs.

**Diocesan Film Festival**

On Monday evening the St Anthony’s ‘Movie Making’ team will be participating in the Diocesan Film Festival... a celebration of student film-making. The event is hosted by the CEO Learning Exchange. Our students will have the opportunity to showcase their creativity and skills through presenting an original short film. All the films that will be presented on the evening have been scripted, directed, filmed, edited and produced by the students within our schools. Students have learned these skills through their involvement in the Movie Teams program. Miss Younes works in partnership with the Learning Exchange to facilitate the program at St Anthony’s. We wish the following students from Years 4, 5 and 6 every success for the evening. (Emily, Keeley, Ray, Josh, Reece, Natasha, Josh, Amber, Georgia, Ronan, Lachlan, Tiana, Nicholas, Claire & Vanessa) and we thank Miss Younes for her ongoing support of the program and working with the students.

**What’s Happening in Year 6**

This term, Year 6 have been learning about Australian Identity and ‘What makes an Australian Today’. They have researched about what makes up Australian identity, including politics, sport, fashion, food, people, events, landmarks and the arts. They have also been discovering the changes to Australia’s identity over time.

The year six students are currently working on researching a significant Australian and how they have contributed to shaping Australian identity. Once they have gathered their information they will be writing an information report about this and how the contributions that the significant Australian has made has impacted on Australian society.

The following report is printed with the permission of Revati Raja 6 W

**Australian Identity is what has shaped Australia and made it become what it is now. Australian identity is not just the appearance of something, but what people from all over the world think of Australia. In fact, Australia’s relationship with other countries is also a contributing factor to Australia’s Identity.**

At the moment, I Revati Raja, am researching Edward Gough Whitlam who was the 21st Prime Minister of Australia and led the Australian Labor Party. He has shaped the identity of Australia by making laws that still exist today such as: The Family Law Act, 1995(divorce), extension of Federal Jurisdiction to maintenance, custody and property matters, The National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act, which established a service plan and manages National Parks with National Standards, and the Racial Discrimination Act, to eliminate all forms of discrimination and racism.

As you can see Year 6 have been doing a lot of research on Australian Identify. We look forward to reading Revati’s finished report as well as some of the other reports on Ken Done, Julia Gillard, Fred Hollows, Lisa Ho, Steve Irwin, Don Bradman, Ned Kelly, Hugh Jackman, Glen McGrath, Cathy Freeman, Tony Roche, Jessica Mauboy, Bindi Irwin...

Kind Regards

Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

**MEDICATION PROCEDURES**

Only medication prescribed by a doctor can be given at school and must be brought to the school office where it will be kept in a secure location. Medication must be in its original container, accompanied by a signed authority from the parent detailing the child's name, name of medication, dosage, time and duration of treatment. Special forms are available from the school office for this purpose. Where a child requires ongoing medication at school parents should contact the principal to discuss an action plan.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**GOLD COIN DAY – HELPING NSW POLICE CELEBRATE 150 YEARS**

The New South Wales Police Force in 2012 is celebrating 150 years. To commemorate this achievement, Merrylands Police Station is raising money for Westmead Children's Hospital by asking primary schools within the Holroyd Local Area Command to hold a coin donation day in December. Merrylands police will run to each of the participating primary schools under a police escort to collect the fundraising tins. Further details to follow.

**CALENDAR UPDATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon &amp; Tues</th>
<th>26 &amp; 27 Nov</th>
<th>Kindergarten Orientation – Group 2 9:30am – 1pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 4 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Mass &amp; Dinner</td>
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<td>Fri 7 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Breakfast</td>
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<td>Tues 11 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Outing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Dec</td>
<td>Reports go home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 17 Dec</td>
<td>Helpers morning tea thank you and Liturgy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18 Dec</td>
<td>Class promotions at 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Dec</td>
<td>End of Year Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Dec</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4</td>
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Congratulations!! Kate Robertson was successful in achieving an excellent result. Herlinger and Jennifer Jo who were in the top 25%.

Nine of our Year 6 students entered the Australian Olympiad. Congratulations to Waris Rana, Andrew Herlinger and Jennifer Jo who were in the top 25%.

Waris did extremely well as his score was in the top 10% with the highest score for our team.

Each of the students is to be congratulated on their effort and the work they did to prepare for each Olympiad. Congratulations to Waris Rana, Andrew Herlinger and Jennifer Jo who were in the top 25%. Waris did extremely well as his score was in the top 10% with the highest score for our team.

This year the following year 5 and 6 students competed in the Mathematical Olympiads; Year 5 - Amber Palmer, Joshua Philip, Lachlan Foley, Rho Rubenecia, Matthew Horan, Tiana Nakat, Parth Rane, Reece Murray, Natasha Lette, Year 6 - Joe Mbarak, Jennifer Jo, Waris Rana, Andrew Herlinger, Suruthi Soumyraj, Melanie Veidre, Revati Raja, Arden Yeh. Each of the students is to be congratulated on their effort and the work they did to prepare for each Olympiad. Congratulations to Waris Rana, Andrew Herlinger and Jennifer Jo who were in the top 25%.

Waris did extremely well as his score was in the top 10% with the highest score for our team.

The Positive Partnerships initiatives have been developed and delivered by Partnerships between Education and the Autism Community (PEAC) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Helping children with Autism package.

**What will you learn?**

As a result of participating in the workshop as parents/carers you will gain:

- A greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- Knowledge about how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- Specific strategies on how to:
  - Advocate for your child
  - Support your child’s participation at school
  - Develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- Information about your local school system’s processes
- Opportunities to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- Opportunities for discussion around a range of topics relevant to students with an ASD and their families.

**Workshop details**

Venue: Rooty Hill RSL  
55 Sherbrooke Street, Rooty Hill  
When: One-Day Workshop  
6th December, 2012


Make a deposit into your CommBank Youthsaver account at school between 19th November and 14th December to go into the draw to win one of twelve iPad Mini (16GB with wi-fi).

**Start saving more today and you can be a winner!**