Advent God, we praise you! Glory to the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Dear Parents and Guardians

School Board AGM: Last Wednesday, the 27 November the annual AGM of the Saint Andrew’s School Board was held. Mrs J. Birchall, Board Chairperson and I tabled our reports and these are now on the School website. Mrs Birchall, Mrs P. Taylor, Mrs V. Reid and Mr B. Callaghan will be continuing in their current Board terms. These wonderful parents have been a great support to both Mrs Climo and I over the years and I thank them whole heartedly for their generous natures and great experience that they present with. Mrs M. Russell has completed the maximum term on the School Board. I thank her for 6 fantastic years of service. Mrs M. Hendry, Mrs K. Mesiti, Mrs T. Ryan and Mr M. McGarry have been elected to the Board and will work alongside the other members in the New Year.

Staff Wedding: It is with great delight that I announce that Miss Brooke Mallon will marry during the Term 4 holidays. She and her fiancé Ciaran will be enjoying married life prior to Brooke returning to school as Mrs Allen. Congratulations Brooke the school community wishes you a very special day and many, many years of wedded bliss.

Mission Fundraising Day: Yesterday, Wednesday the 4th of December the Year 6 classes held a most successful fundraising day for Father Robert’s severely damaged area of his homeland, The Philippines. We are very delighted to say that the overwhelming majority of families got into the charitable spirit of the occasion! It was wonderful to see the many smiling faces as children proudly wore their green and gold and gave so generously. I am humbled by the children who gave of their own pocket money! Thank you so much, I am sure Father Robert will be amazed at our significant donation. We raised $400.00 for our one third share of Father Robert’s return airfare to the Philippines and another $435.00 which we will give to him to further assist his people. Thank you for your support parents, we do appreciate the way you assist us and our endeavours to teach the children the Gospel values of Jesus.

Christmas Masses at Saint Andrew’s Parish Church: Father Robert is very happy to announce the following arrangements for the celebration of mass over the Christmas period.

Christmas Eve – 6.30 pm mass for families with children.
                                 9.00 pm.
Christmas Day – 7.30am.
                          9.00am.

Community Carols on the school Oval / Picnic Dinner: Our Family Picnic is set to take place on the oval on Monday 9 December from 5.00pm followed by the singing of Christmas Carols from 5.30pm. The evening should conclude at about 6.30pm.

God bless

NOTES SENT HOME THIS WEEK
Preprimary - School Sores
Warren Smith
Year 3 - School Sores
Principal
Year 1 - Christmas Party
SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9 December</td>
<td>Community Carols on School Oval/Picnic Dinner 5.00pm, followed by Carols – approx. 5.30pm-6.30pm</td>
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| Wednesday 11 December | Christmas Mass in Church 8.45am  
Last day for Kindy White & Year 6 with Reports   
Year 6 Graduation Evening 6.30pm |
| Thursday 12 December | Christmas Concert Assembly followed by the annual   
Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea  
Last Day for Kindy Blue and Kindy Gold with Reports |
| Friday 13 December | Last day of Term 4 for students PP-Yr 5 with Reports |
| Friday 31 January 2014 | UNIFORM SHOP OPEN 9.00am-12.00pm |
| Monday 3 February 2014 | Term 1 - Students |

Congratulations to those children who have or will be celebrating their birthday’s soon!!

Carey C, Katie L, Alek D, Liam M, Jelyn S, Emma H, Caitlyn D

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MAKING JESUS REAL AWARDS FOR THE 5 DECEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Lauren B, Mia R</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>Lucas C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>Christian F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4</td>
<td>Bella P, Erin M, Phoebe K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>Julian J, Alysia C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Chelsea S</td>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MERIT AWARDS FOR THE 5 DECEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Alyssa M, Rokko O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>Samuel P, Savannah P, Ella W, Kaitlyn B, Kai C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>Jaylin W, Cayden M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>Lleyton S, Destinie M, Jacob T, William H, Logan S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4</td>
<td>Rosie M, Andrea D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>Phoebe S, Regan O, Lucas P, Amelia R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Jazminblue L, Caleb W</td>
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Confirmation: Year 6 Parents please be advised that Confirmation certificates were presented to the newly confirmed at the assembly today Thursday the 5th December. Confirmation photos can now be ordered. Order forms are located on the main table in the foyer area of the Church.

Building The City of God – Christian Service Learning: Congratulations everyone – we reached our target of 15 boxes which means that we symbolically reached the top of the world’s tallest building which is located in Dubai. If you have a look in the Library, you can get some idea of the enormous amount of food you have so generously donated by seeing how much space the 15 boxes take up. Most of the food will be distributed by St Vincent De Paul volunteers for emergency assistance in the Clarkson area. A few boxes will go to Father Robert to send to the Philippines. If you wish to send in any more tins of food this week or next week, they will be gratefully accepted, especially tins of spam, beans, corned beef or ham to add to Father’s collection for the Philippines. Your acts of kindness have been outstanding. This has been a wonderful display of ‘Making Jesus Real’ in St Andrew’s School. On behalf of all involved, especially the recipients, thank you very, very much. Thank you also to our students in Young Vinnies and their teachers who guide them – you have done a great job!
Nut and Peanut allergy: From time to time it is necessary to remind ourselves of why we have school policy documents that are consistent with Health Department policy and guidelines.

Nut and peanut allergies are the second most common food allergy in children. Kids who are hypersensitive to nuts may have an instant and severe reaction to even the smallest quantity of nuts. Nut allergies are on the rise. In nut and peanut allergies, like any allergy, the body believes the protein found in nuts is a harmful substance that has to be destroyed. The body releases histamine, the chemical that causes the allergy symptoms. Nut and peanut allergies can be life-threatening. Exposure to even the smallest quantity of what causes an allergy can result in anaphylaxis, a condition in which the child can stop breathing. An immediate injection of adrenaline can combat the allergic reaction. It is important that there is strict avoidance to this food in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. We are asking your help to provide the students with a safe school environment. Any exposure to peanuts/nuts may cause a life-threatening allergic reaction that requires emergency medical treatment.

To reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you do not send any peanut or nut containing products to school with your child that will be eaten in the classroom. This includes foods such as nut bars, Peanut Butter and Nutella (Hazelnuts are the primary ingredient.) If your child has eaten peanuts/nuts before coming to school, please be sure your child’s hands and face have been thoroughly washed before entering the school. We appreciate your support of these procedures as we know that if it was your child, you would want them provided with the safest environment whilst at school.

Uniform Shop Opening details: Mrs Bramwell will keep the uniform shop open as per normal through to the end of Term 4. She will open in the New Year between 9.00am and 12.00pm on Friday 31 January. Note this is the only day that the shop is open before school resumes on Monday 3 February.

Easter 2014: Many families organise their holidays around Easter so please be warned that Easter occurs during the Term 1 school break in 2014. Term dates for students are:

- Term 1: Monday 3 February – Friday 11 April
- Term 2: Monday 28 April – Friday 4 July
- Term 3: Tuesday 22 July – Friday 26 September
- Term 4 Monday 13 October – Friday 12 December

School Fees are now a priority: Thank you to the families who have already met their fee commitments for the 2013 school year. The deadline for 2013 school fees has now past. Over the next few days we will be making contact with those families who have benefited from a Catholic education for their children and whom have taken limited or no responsibility for making payment. As we have reiterated in the newsletter on a number of occasions we are open to dialogue about how debt can best be serviced. We greatly welcome the payment of all outstanding monies which will help us meet our financial responsibilities as we draw even closer to the conclusion of the school year. Fees can be paid by cash, credit card, and direct debit or B Pay if these options are in place.

Class Lists for 2014 / Orientation: Class lists for 2014 will be completed in the next few days and there will be some changes to the existing class lists. All parents were given the opportunity to share information with the Principal that could impact a decision on where their child is placed. This information was requested in writing prior to Friday 22 November.

On Tuesday 10th December the children will be sent to their 2014 classes to meet their new classroom teachers and to do orientation activities. In the case of a teacher being unable to attend the orientation we will cover that teacher with a current staff member. Next year’s class lists will be displayed on the wall outside each classroom, until Friday 13 December.

Saint Andrew’s Day Celebrations were held on Friday 29 November. The day commenced with a school Mass at 8.45am in the Church. During the day PP – 6 classes engaged in specially prepared buddy-class activities and attended a special theatre production in the hall.

The Fine Edge Theatre Company presented “A Lone Star Christmas: A new play about Compassion, Community and Christmas.
Synopsis: It’s Christmas in the gold rush town of Kalubalubalee, but there’s no celebratin’ to be seen. A spate of robberies looks to ruin Christmas and has the town’s folk on edge. Then out of the bush rides Lone Star, a mysterious stranger unlike anyone they’d ever met. When suspicion falls on Lone Star, she must prove her innocence and find the real culprit before she’s made to face some old style – west justice.

This hilarious and meaningful play used the Christmas story to explore compassion, community and inclusivity. Students learnt about respect and concern for others, as well as strategies to welcome and help those around them who feel left out. It mirrors many of the values taught through both the RE Units of Work and the MJR Programme. Many parents took up our invitation to share lunch with their children during the lunch break. Unfortunately, after a number of consecutive warm days we had some rain and lunch was eaten inside the classrooms.

Classroom Clean up: During Weeks 8-9 classroom teachers will start to organise times when student desks and chairs as well as general classroom furniture such as book shelves will need cleaning. Teachers and Teacher Assistants will greatly appreciate all the help that they can muster at this ‘challenging time’ of the term. Please volunteer in advance as many hands make light work.

Year 6 Graduation will take place in the Church at 6.30pm on Wednesday 11 December. Mass will be followed by the presentation of graduation certificates, awards, a guest speaker and a presentation by the Year 6 children. A PowerPoint which is currently being worked on by the graduating class will be shown and this will be followed by a light supper. Families are advised to follow the instructions on the Graduation note and circle this date on the Term Planner. Boys MUST wear school ties.

Christmas Concert/ Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea: On Thursday 12 December the school community will assemble in the hall at 9.00am for a Christmas Concert. There will be performances by the school band, the school choir, the flute ensemble, Year 5B, the Year 6 dance troupe and Year 1W will perform the Nativity. The P&F Christmas Raffle will be drawn at this time. The raffle for Year 6 and Kindy W will be drawn on Wednesday 11 December. The concert will be followed by the annual Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea.

Making Jesus Real:
This year we have spent a lot of time spreading the Good News of Jesus through the Making Jesus Real Programme. Many important Gospel messages have been highlighted in the newsletter each week. At this stage of the academic year we thank God for blessing us throughout the year and for helping us to value our mission in making Jesus Real in our lives. Following is the Prayer of St Teresa of Avila. It is well worth praying and reflecting on.

Christ has
no body on earth but yours,
no hands but yours,
no feet but yours.
Yours are the eyes
through which Christ’s compassion
for the world is to look out;
yours are the feet
with which He is to go about
doing good;
and yours are the hands
with which He is to bless us now.

The Language of Resilient Families by Michael Grose: Resilient families develop their own words and phrases to help each other get through the inevitable tough times that each person experiences. The language of resilience generally refers to coping strategies such as empathy, humour and acceptance. Today I conclude the 10 examples of resilience, the coping skills each reflects and the types of situations where they are applicable.

10. “What can we do about this?” Strategy: Taking action Good for: kids who mope; who experience disappointment; who feel inadequate.

Kids can sometimes feel overwhelmed by events such as constant failure, constant rejection or always narrowly missing being picked for a team. They can be overwhelmed by feelings of inadequacy and helplessness. Action is often the best remedy. Help them take the first step and hold their hand while they take it. Taking action is a quality shared by resilient communities, organisations and individuals.
Vatican Questionnaire: Pope Francis has invited Catholic families to complete a questionnaire looking at pastoral challenges of the family. The survey can be completed by hand and posted to the Archdiocese, via email or online through Survey Monkey. Further information can be found on the Archdiocesan Website at www.perthcatholic.org.au

Lost or Misplaced Library or Classroom Books: At this busy time of the year the Library staff are on the hunt for Library books that are overdue or misplaced. Parents please look in bags, bedrooms and places in your homes where reading takes place. If you discover any books belonging to the library or classrooms please send them in. We will be most grateful!!

Thank You from Kindy Blue! Mr Bourne was very kind to us and donated wood to our class so we could make ‘Santa Stop Here’ signs. He then gave his time to help us nail our signs together. Thank you so much Mr Bourne, we really appreciate you sharing your time with us! Santa will love our very stylish signs too.

Resident’s Concern: We received some excellent advice from a local resident last Thursday pleading for courtesy from parents of students at our school when picking up their children. At the moment, she tells us that local residents are not happy with traffic banking up on Victorsen Parade and cars parked inconsiderately across footpaths on Waring Green. “It is not safe”, she said, “When parents park half on the road and half on the footpath, putting school children and children of local resident’s homes in danger.”

She also pointed out that most schools don’t have the car-parking space that we do, which includes options of parking in the Church and the car-park on Anthony Waring Oval. “You can find 30 minutes a day’ for exercise and spend quality time with your children if you park in one of these areas and walk in”. We agree with this advice and stress the need to park safely and drive considerately. Hopefully, with the alterations to the car-park over Christmas, along with courtesy and safe parking, this can be overcome.

PARISH NEWS

The Parish of Saint Andrew’s Church, Clarkson invites you to a performance of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s Masterpiece performed by the Mill Point Quartet which comprises Tashana Tweddle and Daemon Clark on Violin, Alix Hamilton on Viola and Laura McGrogan on Cello. Tickets are: Adults - $20.00 Children - $10.00 and can be purchased from Sasha on 0422 659 027 or at the Church on performance night – Friday 7 February, 2014. Performance starts at 7pm.

P&F NEWS

Save the Date: Welcome to St Andrews Night is being held on Friday 14 February 2014. Chris Murphy (former Australian Idol contestant) will be performing, there will be jumping castles, face painting and balloon twisting. Volunteers are needed to assist in organising this event, if you are able to volunteer, please contact Michelle Hendry at welcometostandrewsnight@hotmail.com
Hi Everyone,

Pre Primary Blue learnt all about Jesus’ birth and the real meaning of Christmas. We listened to stories from the bible and talked about how Mary and Joseph were feeling when they had no where to stay.

We also decorated our very own class Christmas tree. We learnt how to wrap presents using wrapping paper, sticky tape and box construction.

May you all have a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!