Father of Peace: we are joyful in your word, with your Son, Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to you. Let us hasten towards Easter with the eagerness of faith and love. Amen.

Dear God, Lent has almost finished. I am about to enter Holy week. I hope that I won’t ruin everything that you have accomplished in my heart. During this time of preparation allow me to be more than just a spectator. Make me a full participant in the days to come. Amen.

Dear Parents,

We welcome Christ as our King and give thanks that this King died to save us. Here comes Jesus, riding a donkey, riding to Jerusalem. All the folk came flocking out to greet him, bringing things to wave. Hosanna for the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes. In the air they wave their leafy branches, torn from the trees around. And they spread their cloaks along the wayside, like a carpet on the ground. We see Jesus, riding on a donkey, and we wave and shout and sing; for we know that this man, so kind and humble—He is Jesus Christ our King.

PASSION / PALM SUNDAY

The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is celebrated this Sunday. Palms remind us of that joyful procession where people waved branches and acknowledged Jesus as King. During the days of Lent, we have journeyed with Jesus. We have been challenged to look at our lives and to see how we can live in a more humane and Christian way. As we approach Holy Week, the church invites us to reflect on the death of Jesus Christ. He chose to die fearlessly and with dignity. In choosing to die on the Cross, He found meaning and life in his pain and suffering. With him our faith carries us beyond death to the joys of the new life of Resurrection.

Passion / Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week. This week is the most important week in our church’s calendar, because it leads to the central mystery of our faith – the death and resurrection of Jesus.

EASTER PROGRAM

With Easter falling during the school holidays, the school will be undertaking several events to celebrate this special time in our church and our own lives. At approximately 2:00pm on Thursday 2nd April the children will be representing the Stations of the Cross in the Parish Church. We believe, as a staff, that this will; enable the children to leave for the holidays with a Catholic Christian message in preparation for Easter. Parents are most welcome to join us for this celebration.
FIRST RECONCILIATION
A big thank you to all who attended the Sacrament celebration. An enormous effort was placed into preparing the children for this Sacrament and this was evident from the beautiful and spiritual ceremony. A special thank you to all of the staff for their huge efforts and the commitment that was placed into the program.

FREE DRESS DAY – Wednesday 1st APRIL – GOLD COIN DONATION – CRAZY SHIRT and or TIE DAY
Children are invited to wear appropriate free dress (no thongs or offensive t-shirt slogans, etc.) on Wednesday 1st April for a Gold Coin Donation to Catholic Charities – Project Compassion. Thank you for your support. The Year 6 Spiritual and Leadership Ministries

SWIMMING NOTE YEARS 1 - 5
A separate swimming note was sent home, last week, with the children in Years 1 -5, from Mrs Peacham, with all of the details about this event. Parents are reminded that swimming commences the first week back next term and as such, the swimming fee of $100 needs to be paid prior to your child commencing lessons. (27th March).
If you have any questions about swimming, please contact Mrs Peacham directly, as soon as possible.

SWIMMING PARENT SURVEY
In week 2, next term, all families will be provided with the opportunity to evaluate the in-term school swimming lessons. While many people have their own individual ideas, we feel that after the lessons have concluded would be the best time for the community to be surveyed as to whether they want the in-term swimming lessons to continue, on a yearly basis.

Some points to consider:
• Catholics schools pay a lot more for the same swimming lessons than Government schools. (We can't change that).
• Learning to swim may save lives.
• The price of transport always adds a great deal of expense to the lessons (9 trips back and forward is equivalent to 9 excursions).
• Catholic schools are given the last available places/times for the lessons to occur.
• In-term lessons provide valuable swimming safety/lessons to the students who can’t attend holiday programmes.

As the Principal of our school, I am not encouraging or discouraging participation in-term swimming, I will eagerly view the results of the survey and then make a judgement.

PAINTERS REQUIRED
As a part of the school’s on-going maintenance requirements, we require the service of a qualified painter. Expectations are that the painter must:
• have their own company (ABN);
• be fully insured;
• be able to complete all work during the school vacation period, particularly in January.

Please see Mr Fontaine or Mr Archer, for a scope of works required. Our priority is to try to involve members of our school community in as much work done for the school as possible.
TOYS REQUIRED - PLEASE DONATE TO OUR SCHOOL – NEW PLAYGROUP
If any family would like to donate some old toys to the school, it would be truly appreciated. The toys need to be suitable for children aged between 1 and 3 years of age. (No small pieces that children can put into their mouths). The toys need to be clean and complete (no parts missing), they can be either wooden or colourful plastic. If you have any toys that you no longer use and would like to donate them to the school, then please bring them to the front office or directly to Mr Fontaine. Thank you so much for your generosity!

God Bless

Sam Fontaine
Principal

VISION STATEMENT
St Andrew’s CPS offers an education that acknowledges, respects and nurtures the uniqueness of each person. Within a framework of Catholic values and teamwork, the students will be challenged and supported to recognise their gifts and develop their potential as they learn and contribute to their community.

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE AT ST ANDREW’S PARISH

CHRISM MASS (31 March - Tuesday) 7:00pm Cathedral - Perth

HOLY WEDNESDAY: Reconciliation 7:00pm St Andrew’s

MASS AND CEREMONIES

HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Last Supper 7:00pm St Andrew’s

GOOD FRIDAY
    Stations of the Cross 10:30am St Andrew’s
    Veneration of the Cross 3:00pm St Andrew’s

HOLY SATURDAY
    Easter Vigil 7:00pm St Andrew’s

EASTER SUNDAY
    Celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection 7:30am St Andrew’s
    9:00am St Andrew’s
    No Evening Mass

KINDY FINAL REMINDER FOR 2016: We are in the process of finalising 2016 Kindy enrolments. If your family, parish member, friend or neighbour have indicated to you that they intend or want to come to St Andrew’s Kindy in 2016, could you please inform them that they must put in an application immediately. Interviews will be held at the beginning of next term, so please rush to avoid disappointment.
ST.
ANDREW’S SCHOOL PLAY GROUP (1 – 3 Years old) - 2015: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: For those families who have younger children (1 - 3 year olds) there is a PROPOSED playgroup to commence operating through the school on a Tuesday morning once a week in 2015. (Approx. 2 hours, 9:00am – 11:00am). Parents will be expected to stay with their child and the school will provide a staff member and obviously the venue. There will be a charge associated with attendance. (Attendance to the playgroup does not automatically enrol your child into St. Andrew’s School and there is no guarantee of a position for Kindergarten) If you are interested in attending or joining such a group, please contact Mrs. O’Neil, School Senior Office Administrator, indicating your interest in participating in this group.

The main goal of this program will be socialisation and familiarity with the school environment and a positive outcome for both parent and child prior to commencing their education at St. Andrew’s Catholic Primary School.

SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26 March</td>
<td>MJR Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 28 &amp; Sunday 29</td>
<td>1st Reconciliation church 4.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31 March</td>
<td>Preprimary excursion to the Museum of WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 April</td>
<td>Free Dress Day – Gold Coin for Project Compassion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>School Finishes – Holy Thursday Easter Liturgy in Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20 April</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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Happy Birthday to those children who are celebrating their birthday …………………

**MJR AWARDS – 26 MARCH 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PP</th>
<th>Emily C, Eleanor B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Madeline, Taj McD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Chloe T, Mitchell M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Catherine P, Noah D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Adam L, Shaye G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Logan S, Raquelle M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Chelsea B, Rosie M</td>
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**HARMONY WEEK**

Our students celebrated Harmony Week by holding a “Diversity Challenge” using a chatterbox.

During the week students from year three to six have been asked to make a chatterbox containing cultural based questions. Teachers have used this time to discuss what is culture? and how our school is rich in diversity.

At lunch time on Thursday 19th March students were invited to bring their chatterbox’s to the library to participate in the challenge and learn from each other using the questions created by the students.

Younger students were also invited to join us in the library were they could also participate in a variety of Harmony Day activities. A special thank you to the older children for helping out the younger ones by assisting them in the library. It was wonderful to see.

**UNIFORM SHOP**: All Winter uniform orders are ready to be picked up this Friday from 8.00am to 9.00am or next Tuesday from 2.00pm to 3.00pm from the Uniform shop.

Please note that pets are not allowed on the school property unless they are guide or assistant dogs.

**DID ANYONE MENTION HIGH SCHOOL?** If you are considering your children attending a Catholic High school may I suggest that placing your child’s name on an interview list at the earliest age possible is the best way to go. Geographically the closest Catholic high schools are: Irene McCormack College at Butler, Prendiville College at Ocean Reef and Mater Dei College in Edgewater. Many of our families have established allegiances with one of these schools but overwhelmingly our students tend to transition to Irene McCormack College. Nowadays, high schools tend to interview students in Year 5 with enrolment in Year 7. The days of assuming that entry to high school is automatic based on attendance at a Catholic primary school are long gone. All three schools have waiting lists that can be lengthy.
MISSION BOXES – PROJECT COMPASSION
Each family has been given a mission box for Project Compassion. This is a great opportunity to teach the joy of giving and helping others in need in different parts of the world and is also part of the children’s “Christian Service Learning” in supporting the mission of the Church. We encourage you to return your Mission Boxes to the school in the last week of term and we will send the money on to Caritas. When you listen to the news this week and hear about the devastation wreaked on Vanuatu with the recent cyclone, you and your children may feel a strong urge to help. A simple way is to put money in the Mission Box you have been given – Caritas is already helping!

Sustainable food for life
Until recently, the weather in Vinsen’s small farming village in West Timor has been quite stable. However, in the last few years changing weather patterns have made harvests unpredictable and unprofitable.

To combat the variable weather patterns affecting farmers in Vinsen’s village in Indonesia, a local community program supported by Caritas Australia, is teaching farmers how to terrace land and grow sustainable crops for life – regardless of the changing weather.

Your donation to Project Compassion 2015 helps farmers in remote West Timor create a life-long source of food, improving the future wellbeing of their families and communities.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion 1800 024 413

ST VINCENT DE PAUL – ongoing food donations: Just a reminder to those who may have forgotten, and to inform those who may not know - we have a cane hamper in the school office for the collection of non-perishable food items.

You can place food items in here ANYTIME of the year. Any and every little bit helps the SVdP Society with their mission of helping those in need. St Andrew’s has always been a very generous school, so let’s continue with this tradition.
Warren Smith (Assistant Principal)
The P & F committee has been working very hard since our AGM. There are a few exciting projects happening in our school at the moment. The Easter Raffle tickets went home yesterday with the eldest child in your family. Atlantis Play Centre in Clarkson have generously donated 17 free passes as prizes for our raffle this year, one child in each class will win a free pass. Simply fill out the tickets you wish to purchase, with your child's name and class, then return the purchased tickets, with the correct money to your class teacher. Tickets are 50c each, or 3 tickets for $1.00.

There is a Boot Camp being run on Saturday 18th April, at Richard Aldersea Reserve in Clarkson. Two personal trainers are running the Boot Camp. All information, including contact information, is available on our P & F Facebook group. Tickets for the Boot Camp are $10.00 per person, and are available from Narelle Pestana, in the courtyard near the playground, on Tuesday and Thursday after school.

We have an AFL Margin Competition running this year. Again, all information including an entry form, is available on our P & F Facebook group. Alternatively, call into the office for a copy. The prize money is $20 per round, for the person with the winning margin. All entries need to be back to the office by Thursday, April 2.

Finally, we have our March P & F meeting this Friday, at 1.30pm in the school hall boardroom. On the agenda will be Easter, Mother’s Day and establishing a limited fundraising committee. All interested parents, please come along with your ideas. We finish at 2.45pm so come along before school pickup and become more involved in how events are run at our school.
We have an active music programme at St Andrew’s, where students have the opportunity to learn to play recorder, flute, clarinet, saxophone, guitar, piano and percussion. Research shows that there are many benefits from studying music and from learning to play an instrument. These benefits include: enhancing listening skills, teaching self-discipline and improving academic skills.

Some comments from students in our school who are learning to play an instrument:

Indahly 5W ‘I like the flow of the music and if I play the piano when I am sad it cheers me up.’
Jarrod 5B ‘Playing the guitar stops me from feeling bored. I like learning new songs.’
Sarah R. 5B ‘I love learning different songs and so many different rhythms on the drums.’
Jessica M. 5W ‘Learning to play the piano is a challenge and it keeps me calm.’
Ella M. 5B ‘I feel proud when I play the guitar and I know that I have improved and that the practice has paid off.’
Frankie 6B ‘Learning to play the guitar gives me something to do in my spare time.’
Charlotte 6B ‘I like being able to express my emotions when I am playing my flute.’
Kynan 5W ‘Playing the flute is so relaxing and when I am stressed it relaxes me’
Jordan 6B & Millie 6W ‘I love the sound of the piano and the songs that I play.’
Ella B 6W ‘Scott makes the guitar easy to learn to play.’
Simon 6W ‘I like the sounds of the guitar’s strings when I strum them.’
Luka 5W ‘I heard somebody play the flute and I wanted to learn to play it too and because not as many people learn to play the flute.’
Te Huika 4W ‘I love the sound of the flute.’
Lachlan 5B ‘I like learning new notes and playing the flute makes me happy.’
Priscilla 3B ‘I like learning new songs on my flute.’
Isabel 3B ‘I like practising with A & B on my flute.’
Millie M 6B ‘I like learning new things so I like learning to play the guitar.’
Seth 6W ‘The guitar sounds nice.’
Jessica B 5B ‘I love the smooth sounds the flute makes...they aren't harsh.’
Josh 6B ‘I get to learn something new when I am learning to play the clarinet.’