A Prayer On The First Day of School

Here we are again, Lord. Their backpacks are loaded and their faces are scrubbed and their lunch boxes are full. And I know you’ll walk with them, Lord. You always do. But a parent still has to ask. Will You walk with them? Will You whisper to them what they need to hear, when I’m not there to whisper it? Will You please, oh please, cover their school with the protection only You can give, and will You keep harm far away? Will You make their minds strong and ready to learn? Will You help them understand that hard work honours the One who created them? Will You guide their teachers, giving them patience and wisdom and creativity and more patience? Will You bless them for their efforts? Will You love all those children there, the ones whose lunch boxes aren’t full, the ones who feel alone? Will You teach my children to be kind and unselfish and to love those who are different from them? Will You point them back toward home just as soon as you can? Lord, I give them to You today and everyday, trusting them to Your care. Amen.

Dear Parents,

Thank you for returning all of the relevant documentation provided with last week’s newsletter. If you have not done so as yet, it is required tomorrow please.

Accompanying this newsletter is a message form the Director of Catholic Education, Dr Tim McDonald. Please take the time to read it. (Last week a letter was also attached from the Archbishop of Perth.)

INFORMATION OPEN AFTERNOON – ALL PARENTS SHOULD ATTEND: It is essential that all parents attend the open afternoon that will be held on Tuesday 14th February after school, 2:45pm – 5.00pm (Years PP – 6). At this time general information will be presented and it gives the parents an opportunity to meet and greet their child’s teacher. If you are unable to attend, please contact your child’s classroom teacher to obtain a copy of the information that will be handed out.

P & F MOVIE NIGHT – WELCOME BACK FUNCTION: This will be held on Friday 10th February. The event will go ahead rain or shine. We understand that some families may wish to have a picnic tea but with the unknown weather this may not be practical. It is preferred not to have excessive food or drink in the school hall where other people will sit to watch the movie.

SICK OR EVEN FEELING UNWELL: Please remember that if your child is sick or even feeling unwell, school is not the place to drop them off. A number of children have been brought to school unwell and should be kept home. While I fully understand that this may not be possible in all circumstances, it is essential that sick children are not brought to school. They could make others students unwell and will not be able to undertake the rigors of school work.

AQUA FUN DAY: The children in Years 1-6 have been invited to participate in the AQUA FUN DAY which will be held on FRIDAY 24th February at the Arena Joondalup. Mr Waddell has sent a note home with all children outlining details of this event as well as a permission slip which must be signed and returned urgently.

KINDY 2018 ENROLMENTS: We are processing applications for children who intend to participate in the St Andrew’s 2018 Kindergarten Program and interviews will be held shortly. If any parent has not enrolled their child and they are born between 1st July 2013 – 30th June 2014 they need to do so immediately. (We can only enrol children who have the correct enrolment application forms.) Please
do not assume that we ‘know’ that your child is seeking enrolment into the St Andrew’s Kindergarten program.

**STUDENT ABSENCE DURING SCHOOL TERM:** Parents who remove their children, during the normal school term for a vacation, need to inform the classroom teacher and the Principal in writing. St Andrew’s Catholic Primary School, does not support the withdrawal of children during important term teaching time for the purpose of vacations.

Should there be no alternative, please be aware that it is not the responsibility of your child’s classroom teacher to prepare and correct work during this time. Nor to catch up on work that is missed.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and I am personally happy to discuss this further with any parent, if required.

**CHILDREN IN OTHER GRADES WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:** Parents of children who attend our school in Years 3 - 6 and have missed receiving one or several sacraments during their Primary School education have the opportunity to join in the Sacramental program. If this applies to your child or you would like to find out further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Archer immediately.

**STUDENT ACTION PLANS FOR ANAPHYLAXIS / ALLERGIC REACTIONS:** Any student who requires an action plan for either Anaphylaxis, Allergic Reactions or Asthma will need to complete a new Action Plan form, complete with current coloured photo, consultation with your family doctor and hand it to the office urgently. Please do not assume that if you have completed one of these forms before that it will suffice. Each year a new and updated form must be submitted to the school according to legislation. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**ATTENTION ALL CURRENT YEAR 5 AND 6 STUDENTS:** Students who intend to enrol at Irene McCormack Catholic Secondary School, should ensure that their paperwork has been handed in and the necessary deposits paid. Interviews for prospective students will commence shortly. (Current Year 5 = Year 7 = 2019 and current Year 6 = Year 7 in 2018)

**BURSARY – CURRENT YEAR 6 STUDENTS ATTENDING IRENE MCCORMACK CATHOLIC COLLEGE IN 2018:** Any currently enrolled Year 6 student who has enrolled into Irene McCormack Catholic Secondary College and would like the opportunity to submit an application for a Bursary, will need to complete the application form and hand it back to Mr Fontaine by 1st March, 2017. All applications are considered on their individual merit and you must ensure that you meet all of the eligibility criteria. Applications have been sent home this week.

**CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGES:** It is the parent’s responsibility to enrol their child in the Catholic Secondary College of their choice. While we are a local school to Irene McCormack Catholic College, parents still need to send in the application forms by the due dates. (Current Year 5's should have returned their enrolment forms to the secondary school of choice by NOW!!!) We are very fortunate to have a number of excellent Catholic secondary colleges that our children can attend. *** A suggestion to all parents is that when your child is in Year 3, by the middle of that year, you should have submitted your enrolment forms to the secondary school of choice. Please do not leave it too late! Mr Fontaine is happy to discuss this further with any parent if required.

**May God Bless You All,**

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.
LITERACY AND NUMERACY AT ST ANDREW’S SCHOOL

At St Andrew’s Catholic Primary School we have dedicated Literacy and Numeracy Blocks in each class to further develop the child’s skills in these areas.

STRAIGHT TALK LANGUAGE SCREENING ASSESSMENT FOR KINDY: All kindergarten students participate in the Straight Talk Language Screening Assessment in Term 1. This allows for the early identification of individual student needs.

OEA: A computer based program known as OEA is used within the Pre-Primary. OEA is designed to determine the student readiness for learning and to pin point areas of student’s strengths and weaknesses.

OBSERVATIONAL SURVEYS: This is a package of assessments given to each student in Years 1–3. All Year 1 students will sit a full observational survey. The children in Years 2 and 3 will sit modified assessments, according to their individual needs.

The assessments are designed to again determine the student’s areas of strength and weakness. The results enable the teachers and support staff to begin teaching your child at an appropriate level. The results of these assessments are analysed and interpreted and the findings and recommendations are given to St Andrew’s School for further consideration and implementation.

RUNNING READING RECORDS / MATHS ASSESSMENTS: All students in Years 1-6, may be assessed using this process. The results again enable the teacher to gain an understanding for a starting point to teach your child. Assessments also occur in Mathematics.

STANDARDISED TESTS: Each class will be completing a number of Standardised tests in a variety of Learning Areas so that data can be gathered. Once the gathered data is analysed, then sound teaching and learning practices can be employed.

READING RECOVERY / EMU (EXTENDING MATHEMATIC UNDERSTANDING): Both of these very beneficial and valuable programs are being taught at St Andrew’s. Our goal is to assist students to at least meet, or better, minimum literacy and numeracy standards.

TEACHER PROGRAMMING: The staff at St Andrew’s School meet regularly after school hours in ‘Professional Learning Communities’ (PLC) as Junior / Senior clusters or as a whole group to plan, monitor and assess learning journey’s using the results from the data and other testing (e.g. NAPLAN). All grade teachers program collaboratively so that both classes cover the same content and concepts at approximately the same time. In this way, both of the grade teachers can share ideas, thoughts and skills to enhance the learning environment for the children.

JETS: Jets is a program that is offered at the school catering for children to be enriched above their current learning age.

RESOURCES: We have already purchased a considerable amount of resources, in every class, to support our programs. I hope that this information has assisted you. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.
DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 10 February</td>
<td>P&amp;F Movie Night – Welcome back to St Andrew's Gates open at 6.30pm. Movie starts at 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13 February</td>
<td>Support-A-Reader Parent training Session (Change of Date from Term Planner 1 2017) 8.30am-9.30am (KG-Yr3 Only) - Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14 February</td>
<td>Staff Prayer Playgroup 9.00am-11.00am Hall Information Open Afternoon 2.45pm-5.00pm (PP-Year 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 February</td>
<td>Year 5 Classroom Liturgy Reconciliation Parent Information Evening 6.30pm – Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 17 February</td>
<td>4B merit Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 18 / Sun 19 February</td>
<td>Reconciliation Commitment Masses in Church at all weekend Masses.</td>
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Happy birthday to Olivia W, Rory S, Jaxson J, Honey N, Joseph W, Jason H, Levi S, Taj F, Josie P, Emma W who have or will be celebrating their birthday soon!

P&F NEWS

WELCOME MOVIE NIGHT: The P & F would like to advise that due to forecasted weather conditions the Welcome Movie night will now be held in the school hall. You are welcome to bring pillows/cushions/beanbags/blankets for your comfort. There will be a designated area at the back for those who wish to bring chairs. The movie runs for 1 hour and 33 minutes.

OCEAN KEYS REWARD PROGRAMME: The Ocean Keys Reward Programme is off to a flying start with our school currently in 2nd place. Well done everyone who has already registered. The process is different this year in that you can now submit your receipts online. There is no card this year. Instead you can register under your email address.

We have now received our prize money from Grill'd of $100. This money will be used for the school vegetable garden. Thank you to everyone who participated.

COLOUR RUN INFORMATION NIGHT: Thank you to all those who participated in last night’s Colour Run Information Night. There was a great deal of discussion and new ideas brought to the table. Anyone who was unable to attend and who wishes to participate is asked to send their email address to the P & F as most correspondence in relation to the Colour Run will be sent in this way.

COMMUNITY NEWS

IRISH DANCE CLASSES (www.obrienacademy.com)
Classes for children and Adults. 1st Class Free. Great for socializing and fitness. For more details phone: Phone: 94016334. Mobile: 0423 382 706. Obrien_irishdancing@hotmail.com

St Andrew’s Sports News
Dear Parents,

As the new Physical Education Teacher at St Andrew’s this year, I am super excited about my new role and can’t wait to implement new Sports Programs and events throughout the whole school. 2017 has started out extremely busy. A number of parents may be aware already that we have some very exciting events coming up in the next few weeks. I would also love parents to introduce themselves to me, especially if you are wishing to get involved in our carnivals, and sporting events within the school. I would also especially welcome any parents that are talented or experienced in any specific sports (eg Netball, Touch Rugby, AFL, Soccer or any other sport) who may wish to volunteer their assistance to enhance our interschool teams when we compete with other schools at Lightning Carnivals and Cross Country events. Please be aware that A Working with Children Card and A Code of Conduct needs to be completed.

Please make note of the following important events coming up:

- **Arena Fun Day Swim**: Friday 24th February for all Year 1 - Year 6 students (permission notes should be handed back to classroom teachers as soon as possible).
- **Extreme Regional Games**: Thursday 2nd March for all Year 6 students and a small group of Year 5 students if required to fill specific teams. (Permission notes will be sent home and will need to be returned to classroom teachers as soon as possible). Sports included in this event are: Mod-Crosse, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball, Basketball and Cricket.
- **St Andrew’s after-school Badminton Program**: This after school program begins for Year 3 and 4 which will run for two weeks. Dates are the Tuesday 21st February and Tuesday 28th February.
- **The Year 5 and 6 students will have a 3 week after school Badminton Program running on the Tuesday 14th, 21st and 28th March.** Students that applied for the Free after school Badminton Program will be notified soon. Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of positions available.
- **GKR Karate is offering a limited number of FREE trial class passes to students and parents of St Andrew’s Catholic Primary School.** This open night will be held on the 14th February from 6pm-7pm and will introduce participants to excellent self-defence skills and safety awareness benefits. For further information and to reserve a spot please contact Gavin Smith on 0404 400 074. These lessons will take place in the St Andrew's Hall.

Notice about school swimming lessons will be given out in early March. I look forward to seeing all St Andrew’s students and families heavily involved in the exciting sports programs that we will be running this year.

Before and after school training will soon commence. I would encourage parents not only to stay and watch but to assist and become involved in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

Zac Waddell
Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to the start of the 2017 school year. This year promises to be full of exciting new opportunities and possibilities for your child in Catholic Education.

If you are new to our system, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family. I am delighted that you have chosen to join the Catholic Education Western Australia system, which provides a faith-based education and inspires a passion for learning and discovery for more than 75,000 students in 163 school communities right across the State. You are joining Catholic Education at an exciting time of system success, growth and transformation.

In 2016, one of the many encouraging indicators of the success of our system was the WACE achievement of our Year 12s. Approximately 96 percent of CEWA students achieved a WACE, above the total State average, while CEWA students improved their Median ATAR again to 81.95, and were awarded a total of 3,178 VET Certificate 2 or higher.

In the past four years, our system has grown with the opening of seven new schools and colleges. Early Years Learning and Care is a key focus for us moving forward in 2017 as we seek to offer exceptional learning experiences for children in a vital period of their development, while meeting the needs of today’s families.

This year we aim to reimagine collaborative learning at every school across our system by implementing our digital transformation initiative, LEADING Lights. LEADING Lights is a single digital eco-system, designed to equip students with the 21st century technologies and deep learning skills that will best prepare them for the future. Much work is underway in this space to ensure that this initiative supports world-class learning and development experiences for both students and staff.

Catholic schools rely on the contribution of parish, staff, students and parents working in partnership to sustain their vibrancy, educational excellence, and faith life. With your support and involvement in your child’s learning, the efforts of our dedicated staff and Principals, we will ensure that our Catholic schools help your child reach toward their God-given potential.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all the best for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tim McDonald
Executive Director, Catholic Education Western Australia
What are you MOST looking forward to in Year 4 White?

Emma: Learning how to write harder words.
Joshua: Using the iPads for school work.
Irela: Working on the iPads and doing Spelling.
Patrick: Using my own iPad for my work.
Summer: Playing football and cricket during Sport.
Matilda: Going on my own iPad and painting in Art.
Kayne: Using my own iPad for school work and I am looking forward to drawing in Art.
Suryansh: Being a Math star and doing Science experiments.
Deng: Reading lots of picture books.
Elias: Drawing cartoons in Art and learning more about how Technology works.
Rose: Painting in Art and running in Sport.
Brodie: Learning how to kick better in Sport and adding games in Maths.
Edoardo: I’m looking forward to using the iPads and headphones for school work.
Jack: I’m looking forward to doing a whole lot of writing such as, adventures and stories.
Tanika: Doing exercise at Sport and painting in Art.
Towera: I’m looking forward to doing work on the iPad and Art.
Charlotte: I’m looking forward to Music because it calms me down.
Alexis: Performing role plays with the class.
Siah: Learning new words in Reading and reading more books about animals.
Rouen: I am looking forward to experimenting with Chemical reactions in Science.
Andrew: Working on my timetables and dividing by fours.
Laranya: I am looking forward to doing timetables.
Alyssa: Mostly Art. I like doing painting and drawing.
Maker: I like to do Mathletics and versing other people.
Andrey: More complex computer lessons.
You are invited to attend a FREE TRIAL CLASS at our upcoming Open Night.

GKR Karate is offering a limited number of FREE TRIAL CLASS PASSES to students and parents of the St Andrew’s Catholic Primary School.

This will give you an excellent introduction into the self defence and safety awareness benefits of karate training. FREE family passes are also available.

6:00-7:00 PM 14 February 2017

St Andrew’s Catholic Primary School Hall
60 Victorsen Parade, Clarkson

Call Gavin Smith on 0404 400 074 to reserve your spot. Limited spots available.