First Sunday of Advent (Sunday 1st December)

In your coming Lord, may our hearts be open,
So that we may be filled with peace.

May our minds be open,
So that we may know your will.

May our eyes be open,
So that, in others, we might see your light.

And may our lives be open, so that you may come to us
And fill us with hope and joy.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN

Dear Parents

As we are about to enter the season of Advent we should explore many themes in our own lives. Although you will probably not be directly confronted with the crowds of hungry or suffering people this day, as Jesus was, you doubtlessly do know someone who is in need; spiritually, emotionally or materially. Possibly this week you could spend some time and open up your compassionate heart to another?

A sincere thank you to all of the wonderful and dedicated parents and staff who attended Wednesday nights AGM’S. It is refreshing to see the commitment of so many people who make the St Andrew’s community so vibrant. I thank the following parents who will join Fr Robert, Mr Smith, Mr Archer and myself on the School Board for 2016. They include; Kate Mesiti, Trish Ryan, Bede Callaghan, Michelle Hendry, Nicky Jaschinsky, Jo Zanoli, Leanne Stainton and Serena Spadaro.

Thank You!
It is a pleasure to report the following parents that have joined together to participate in the St Andrew’s Parent and Friends Association:  

**President:** Melanie Boshin  
**Vice President:** Sally Cole  
**Secretary:** Gwen Carroll  
**Treasurer:** Melinda Leedham

The P & F of the school are very innovative and energetic and always consider the needs of the children. I eagerly look forward to working with them all again next year.

**SCHOOL SHOES/SANDALS**

A number of parents have spoken to me about the difficulty in getting brown sandals for the children to wear. With this being the case for 2016, I am happy for the children to wear either black or brown school sandals. (No sport sandals will be accepted). However, there will not be any change to the school shoe which still have to be black.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS – GIVE A GIFT AT CHRISTMAS**

A sincere thank you is extended to all of those very generous families who donated to the St Vincent de Paul Hampers. I was overwhelmed when I saw all of the hampers in Pre-Primary.

**CAROLS NIGHT – ALL INVITED**

On Friday 4th December you are invited to the annual Carols Night commencing at approximately 5:30pm with a bring-your-own picnic tea. The venue is the school oval, weather permitting, otherwise if inclement weather – School Hall.

At approximately 6:00pm, the School Choir will lead all families with a range of Christmas Carols. All class groups are requested to wear a Christmas t-shirt and a small Christmas hat. (Please keep it VERY SIMPLE!!!! – no large hats to block the vision of other children). This will prove to be a very rewarding night for those families, who wish to commence the season of Advent in this way. If parents require any other clarification, they are welcome to contact Mrs. Mulholland directly.

**THE PLAYGROUND IS OUT OF BOUNDS ON THIS NIGHT!**

**ENROLLING YOUR CHILD AT ST ANDREW’S**

Parents who have younger children (0-3 are encouraged to enrol their children for future years, as places are limited. (There is a small fee associated with placing your name on this list). We can only enroll your child if the school has the appropriate forms on file. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

**PRE-PRIMARY ORIENTATION**

On Tuesday afternoon the current kindergarten parents were invited to the 2016 Pre-Primary Parent Orientation afternoon. There was a lot of relevant information and it was wonderful to see the new bonds that have been created between the parents who have taken the opportunity to make a larger circle of friends. A very productive and informative afternoon was had by all!

God Bless

Mr. 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.
DATES TO REMEMBER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27 November</td>
<td>St Andrew's Day Mass and Celebration Incursion Permission Slip (Kindy-PP) - P&amp;F Splash Day Due P&amp;F Splash Fun Year 1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 29 November</td>
<td>1st Sunday of Advent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30 November</td>
<td>Feast of Saint Andrew</td>
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<td>Wednesday 2 December</td>
<td>Christmas Mass</td>
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<td>Thursday 3 December</td>
<td>MJR Assembly Volunters Morning Tea St Francis Xavier Feast Day</td>
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<td>Friday 4 December</td>
<td>Carols – on school oval. Picnic 5.30pm. Carols at 6.00pm.</td>
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<td>Monday 7 December</td>
<td>Free Dress Day Theme – Holidays (gold coin donation)</td>
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<td>Tuesday 8 December</td>
<td>Feast of the Immaculate Conception St Andrew's Day Celebrations – Kindy and Preprimary. P&amp;F Splash Fun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9 December</td>
<td>Last Day Year 6 Year 6 Graduation Mass 6.30pm. Church and Hall.</td>
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<td>Thursday 10 December</td>
<td>Final Assembly 2016 Class Orientation Year 1-6 (10.40am -11.30am) Class lists on display</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11 December</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4 for students</td>
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<td>Thursday 28 January 2016</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 10.00am-11.00am</td>
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<td>Monday 1 February 2016</td>
<td>Students Return Term 1 2016</td>
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2016 P&F COMMITTEE
The 2016 P&F committee will be holding a planning meeting tomorrow at 1.30pm in the boardroom. This meeting will set out events and fundraising ideas for the coming year. If you have any suggestions for what you would like to see happen in our school community, please come along. If you are unable to make it, please contact one of the P&F executive to pass on your ideas. We are looking forward to a fantastic 2016!

The final event for 2015 will be the P&F splash days. Grades 1-6 are having their splash day as a celebration of St Andrew's day tomorrow, and the Kindy and Pre-Primary children will have their own splash day on Tuesday 8th December. This year, the Splash day will be BIGGER and BETTER than the fantastic event we held last year!

A GREAT RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES
The Raising Children Network website is based on the philosophy that all children and families are individual and different. They provide scientifically validated information, translated into everyday language, to help parents and carers make decisions that work for them in their individual family circumstances.

- Children do as you do. Your child watches you to get clues on how to behave in the world. You’re her role model, so use your own behaviour to guide her. What you do is often much more important than what you say. If you want your child to say ‘please’, say it yourself. If you don’t want your child to raise her voice, speak quietly and gently yourself.

- Show your child how you feel. Tell him honestly how his behaviour affects you. This will help him see his/her own feelings in yours, like a mirror. This is called empathy. By the age of three, children can show real empathy. So you might say, ‘I’m getting upset because there is so much noise I can’t talk on the phone’. When you start the sentence with ‘I’, it gives your child the chance to see things from your perspective.

Reflections of Year 1 Blue

JOEL “My favourite thing in Year one was making baubles because it was colourful.”

SEAN “What I like about Year one is drawing and reading and making books.”

ABRAHAM “My favourite thing is reading and playing football with my friends.”

AIDEN “My favourite thing in Year one blue is reading books. It’s easy!”

SAM “My favourite thing about Year one is making new friends and getting on new levels in reading.”

ANGELO “The best thing about Year one is reading and music.”

ASHTON “I like art because it is fun and I like getting messy.”

ORLA “My favourite thing in One Blue is art because it is so fun and I like making books too.”

ANTHONY “My favourite thing about Year one is playing with my friends.”

BEN “The best thing in Year one is reading because it makes me better at learning more.”

TORYN “The best thing was going to the museum.”

ARIEL “My favourite thing about Year one is that we get to do Christmas activities.”

Flynn “The best thing about Year one is doing maths because I like learning.”

JACOB “My favourite thing in Year one was the museum.”

FINN “The best thing in Year one is maths because you get to do times tables. I love it!”

Haley “My favourite thing in Year One Blue was making the bells for our Christmas tree.”

LIVINIA “In Year one my favourite thing is doing art and maths and reading because it’s fun.”

ELLA “My favourite thing in One Blue was when I went in the big pool. It was fun!”

AVA “The best thing about Year one is maths, my friends and my teacher’s making stuff.”

TAJ M “My favourite thing in One Blue is Mrs Brown and Mrs Stokes.”

DHUENG “The best thing about Year one was getting to meet new friends.”

ATHIEI “My favourite thing in Year one is writing because I get smarter and neater and learn.”

WILL “My favourite thing is when we made the Christmas trees and when we do sport.”

ZOE “My favourite thing in Year one is art because it is fun.”

JAMES “My favourite thing about Year one was making baubles for Christmas.”

HOPE “My favourite thing was swimming lessons.”

MEISHA “My best thing about Year one is doing art because I like getting messy.”

JAI “My favourite is maths and art and spelling. Maths is fun!”

TAJ B “My favourite thing in One Blue is eating recess.”

ALYSHA “My favourite thing in Year one is Christmas activities because it is fun.”