Dear Parents and Carers,

Recently we had our beginning of year census and I thought you might be interested in the basic statistics. At St Clare of Assisi in 2016 we have:

- 605 Students
- 426 Families
- 319 Males
- 286 Females
- 45 ESL Students
- 23 Students with a Disability
- 18 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islanders
- 265 non Catholic students (44%)

K  82
1  95
2  85
3  93
4  84
5  76
6  90

As I have discussed on numerous occasions, the demographics of the Tuggeranong area are changing and the numbers of students enrolled at St Clare of Assisi are declining as expected. While we only have 2 year levels with 3 classes and the rest with 4 classes in 2016, it won’t be long before we will be a 3 stream school.

STUDENT WELFARE AND BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

Please take some time to reiterate our school wide behaviour management steps with your child and to become familiar with them yourself. The school wide steps are:

• **Step 1**  **WARNING** - Verbal or non-verbal warning given.

• **Step 2**  **THINKING TIME** - Movement within the class or the class next door for a short period of time whilst continuing with the class activity. It is an opportunity to think about actions and refocus on expected behaviours. Usually 5-10 minutes.

• **Step 3**  **TIME OUT** - Student is sent to a member of the Leadership Team at the Front Office. The student completes the Time Out Sheet. The sheet is signed by the student, classroom teacher and Principal, sent home and returned signed by the parent. When the student wishes to re-enter the classroom, a Corridor Conference is held and expectations are clarified. A Restorative Justice session with the student/s may also occur. There may be a loss of privileges such as excursions, school discos, representative sport, play time and merit cards, etc. Information is documented on STARS.

Canteen Assistance

Are you able to spare an hour or two to help out in the Canteen?

Any help is greatly appreciated. Contact the Front Office or there are volunteer forms available on the school website.
Step 4 **IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION** - Parents are contacted and notified of the suspension and the reasons why. Suspension is supervised by the Principal or the Assistant Principal and takes place during school hours, with the student remaining off the playground at recess and lunch time. There will be a loss of privileges such as excursions, school discos, representative sport, play time and merit cards, etc. Parents will meet with the Principal, the Assistant Principal, classroom teacher and the student to discuss an action plan to curb the behaviour(s) and future consequences will be clearly outlined. Information is documented on STARS.

Step 5 **SUSPENSION** – The length of the Suspension will be at the discretion of the Principal. There will be a re-entry meeting with parents before the student can re-commence classes. It will be clearly outlined that Exclusion is the next step in the process. CEO will be informed of the suspension and information is documented on STARS.

Step 6 **EXCLUSION**

As you can see our steps are quite clear and all students are regularly made aware of them. STARS is the Student Tracking and Reporting System where we are able to track a student’s behaviour and collect whole student behaviour data.

**WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

*ANY PARENT* who volunteers to assist in classrooms, with sporting teams, working in the canteen, uniform shop, walkathon, fete, etc **MUST HAVE A WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE CARD** on them at all times. As with your driver’s licence renewal, your photo will be taken at Canberra Connect Office Tuggeranong, and a card sent to you within two weeks. There is no fee for this. Many parents will find that their card is about to expire. Please ensure you renew your card on-line and when your new card arrives please bring it in to the school so it can be photocopied and a copy left at the school. Thank you.

**CARE MEALS**

We have a number of families in our community who would benefit from a care meal and our freezer is empty. It would be much appreciated if you could provide a clearly labelled care meal with ingredients in a disposable container for our freezer. Thank you in anticipation!

**PRINCIPALS’ RETREAT**

I will be attending the annual CEO Meeting and Archdiocesan Principals’ Retreat next week. This year’s retreat is being run by Archbishop, Christopher Prowse. During this event we hear the latest news, procedures and policies from the Catholic Education Office. I thank Val Ciuffetelli and the Leadership Team for holding the fort, enabling me to attend this annual event.

Have a good week.

Brad Gaynor
Principal
brad.gaynor@cg.catholic.edu.au
Religious Education

Be the Light of...Faith
Catholic, Identity, Prayer and Tradition

Confirmation Reminder

Confirmation enrolment is on this week!
If you wish for your child to celebrate the sacrament of confirmation in 2016 you must attend one of these sessions. The main night for SCA parents is Thursday but you are able to attend on either night.

Where: Holy Family Church, Gowrie
Date: Wednesday 24th February (SFA and HF) and Thursday 25th February (SCA)
Time: 6pm

Project Compassion

Have you supported our Term One fundraiser yet?
A few coins can make a very big difference to the lives of others.
Please help us out with our Project Compassion fundraising. Each student is asked to bring in a few coins to add to their class Project Compassion box. A little goes a long way as we support this year’s theme of ‘Learning more, creating change’. We can help people transform their futures and create lasting change.

Vinnie’s Door Knock

Have you had a knock on your door yet?
You may have notice the signs around town or the ads on TV at the moment for the annual St Vincent de Paul door knock appeal.
This is a very worthy cause and one that directly assists families in our area and at our school.
We have Calwell and Gowrie Vinnie’s chapters within our parish, both of which work tirelessly to support our community. If they come visiting your house, please give what you can.

No class mass this Friday 26th February, as there is an Anointing Mass at HFC @ 10:30am. ALL WELCOME!
International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

What is ICAS?
ICAS is the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools conducted by Educational Assessment Australia, UNSW. Ten countries now participate in ICAS. In Australia and New Zealand there are over 1.7 million entries in the subject areas of: English, Mathematics, Science, Computer Skills, Writing, Spelling. ICAS papers assess the skills students require to address the curriculum of each of the subject areas. ICAS test items are mapped to the curriculum of every Australian state and territory ensuring the relevance of ICAS test content. St Clare of Assisi Primary School will offer students from Years Three to Six the opportunity to participate in the University of NSW Schools Competition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 31 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 13 June</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday 15 June</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 2 August</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 August</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will notice that some competitions are more expensive than others. This is due to the fact that these papers are hand marked by experienced teachers.

These competitions are open for students from Years Three to Six. There are no expectations placed upon students to compete. If you wish for your child to participate in any of the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools please complete the slip enclosed with this newsletter and return it to the office by Wednesday 30 March 2016. No late entries will be considered.

Thank you for your attention to this matter

Val Ciuffetelli

_________________________  ______________________  ____________
Child’s Name:          Child’s Class:         Date:   

I grant permission for my child to participate in the following International Competitions and Assessments for Schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Skill</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total $
White Card Recipients

Week 4 Term 1
Congratulations to the following students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savannah Apoderado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Blenkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey Emblen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruno Filipovic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Giannis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charli Heinrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie-Lee James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanuki Jayasekara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastian Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamish Marsic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristelle McGowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasey Paterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Prstec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Reilly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Smits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isla Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabrielle Ticehurst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashlee Young</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

White Cards are awarded to the children on Friday mornings at the 8.50am assembly.

Canteen Roster

As you can see below the Canteen is in desperate need of assistance. Please consider volunteering even just for an hour. The kids love to see you there!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Thursday 25 February</th>
<th>Friday 26 February</th>
<th>Monday 29 February</th>
<th>Tuesday 1 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 2 March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>E. Mowlam</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>S. O’Connor</td>
<td>N. Muir</td>
<td>J. Price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C. Davis</td>
<td></td>
<td>M. Haynes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>N. Muir</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**Yr 5/6 Representative School Sport**

In Years 5 & 6, the children have an opportunity to represent the Tuggeranong region in a range of sports against the rest of the ACT regions. This is separate from weekend sport and usually entails one or two afternoon trials, one training session and one day’s competition. Parents will find everything they need to know on the school sports web page.

[www.schoolsportact.asn.au](http://www.schoolsportact.asn.au)

Information, dates and permission forms for children to trial in these 20 or so sports is all on the sport act website. Parents will need to register their child to TRIAL for a sport on the web. All notes will be online for parents to fill in eg permission, medical, etc. A non-refundable fee of $3 is required at the time. $7 needs to be paid to school if they make the team. This nomination then goes off to Mr Gaynor for approval before the child can participate.

**SCA Swimming Carnival**

Friday 4th March

Please make sure all **swimming race entry forms** are returned to school no later than tomorrow, **Thursday 25th February**. Race allocations will be determined after this date. Changes or additions cannot be guaranteed.

All forms can be accessed on the school website under the Parents, then Notes tab.

**SCA Athletic Carnival**

Friday 8th April 2016

Last day term 4

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**Parent Program**

Supporting your child following separation and divorce

Tuesday 10th May & Tuesday 17th May

For more information contact:

Karen Snowball
6249 1860
karen.snowball@cg.catholic.edu.au

**Parent Network**

Thank you to all the lovely parents who have volunteered as Parent Class Representatives. We have had an overwhelming response.

Taryn Vassallo the coordinator will contact you shortly. If you would like to be part of the Parent Network please contact the Front Office.

**SCA Parent Network Walking Club**

We will walk this Friday 26th February. We will meet at Coffee Guru at 9.15am, walk around Gordon Pond & on our way back stop at Coffee Guru. You are most welcome to meet up with us at Gordon Park or we will be back at Coffee Guru at 10am.

We look forward to seeing some new faces!!

The Parent Network
For further information please contact:
Lisa Brussow: 0431 078 555 or
Taryn Vassallo: 0419 942 024

**Reminder:**

Netball registrations are due by Friday 26th of February
Community Notices

VIKINGS JUNIOR RUGBY

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

For details contact vikingjuniors1@gmail.com or head to our Vikings Junior Rugby Facebook Page

IF YOU LOVED ‘BRING IT ON’ THEN AMERICAN CHEERLEADING IS FOR YOU!

VELOCITY VO-VO’S
FROM 4 YEARS TO 8 YEARS
LEVEL 1 FROM 9 YEARS UP TO TEENS/ADULTS

POMS DANCE TUMBLING STUNTING
GROUP STUNTS JUMPS

65 SHEPPARD ST, HUME TEL: 62601171

Come and try Australia's game with the Calwell Swans!

Before the 2016 season starts the Calwell Swans are running ‘Come & Try’ training sessions. Open to all boys & girls aged 4-12 years old.

Check Facebook for more details www.facebook.com/CalwellSwansFootballClub

GWS Giants Community Camp
Friday 26th Feb from 4-6pm at Mackillop Oval, Isabella Plains

This is a great opportunity to come & meet some of the Giants players! The players will be giving away prizes, signing autographs & interacting with the kids! It will be a fantastic afternoon for all!

READY, SET... DANCE

DANCE CLASSES FOR PRESCHOOLERS!

Get ready for a brand new music and movement class for your pre-schooler that is jam packed with fun!

Legs Performing Arts
65 Sheppard St, Hume
Tel: 6260 1171
mhidemails@gmail.com

Have a bright cheerful week!