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

I am currently attending the Year 6 Camp. Everyone is having an enjoyable time with rewarding and challenging experiences for each student (and staff members).

A reminder that Good Friday falls on Friday March 25th. Monday and Tuesday 28/29th March are gazetted school holidays. We hope that you enjoy your Easter break.

Since Easter falls within the school term, the school has organised the following events. Please mark them in your diaries. We hope to see you there.

**Thursday 24th March – Easter assembly – 8:40am - including the P&F Easter Raffle Draw.**

**Thursday 24th March – Stations of the Cross – 1:30pm – Hall.**

**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 term, the school will be undertaking several events to celebrate this special time in our church and our own lives. At approximately 1:30pm on Thursday 24th March the children will be representing the Last Supper / Stations of the Cross in the Hall. **We believe, as a staff, that this will enable the children to leave for Easter with a Catholic Christian message.** Parents are most welcome to join us for this celebration.
EASTER RAFFLE
The school will be holding its annual Easter Raffle. We thank you and encourage you to support the P&F in this endeavour. Raffle tickets have been sent home today. The draw will be held on Thursday 24th March at approximately 8:40am. There will be one prize per class.

SWIMMING NOTE YEARS 1 - 5
A separate swimming note has been sent home 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 day back next term and as such, the swimming fee of $110 needs to be paid by Friday 1st April. If you have any questions about swimming, please contact Mrs Peacham directly.

PARENT – TEACHER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (YEARS 1 – 6)
An initiative that has been developed by the school is the Parent / Teacher Partnership Program. In brief, it is another way in which we can work together for the benefit of the children at our school. On Monday 4th April children in Years 1 – 6 will be bringing home a selected learning area workbook for the night. Parents are requested to go through the book with their child, highlighting the positive aspects as well as the areas of improvement. Parents will also be asked to initial a covering sheet to say that they have looked at the workbooks.

Parents should remember that these are workbooks and it is all right to make mistakes, so that learning can take place. Some of your child’s work is on display around the classroom and some work has been placed into work sample books. (Please remember that we have had numerous initial testings and draft only work completed.) Children need to bring back their workbooks the very next day to continue working in them. This gives the opportunity for parents to not only discuss what work has been completed with their child, but to also arrange an interview with the classroom teacher, if needed.

Parents should note that at the end of Term 2 parent / teacher interviews are held following the handing out of the first semester reports.

In Term 3 all family members will be invited to an Open Night, where the classrooms will be open and work will be displayed around the room and workbooks can again be examined.

MY FIRST RECONCILIATION
On Saturday afternoon, the children from St. Andrew’s School celebrated their first reconciliation. The ceremony was very reverent and the children were excited. A sincere thank you to all of the priests that attended and especially Fr Robert and Fr Israel.

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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| Friday 18 March    | Uniform Shop Open 8.00am-9.00am  
Staff Prayer  
Year 6 Camp – Ern Halliday Camp Sorrento  
Feast of St Joseph (19th) Classroom Prayer |
| Monday 21 March    | Parent IT Workshop 8.30am-9.30am                                                   |
| Tuesday 22 March   | Playgroup 9.00am-11.00am  
World Water Day – Tupperware Fundraiser. Jnr courtyard  
2.15pm-3.15pm  
Staff Meeting  
Uniform Shop Open 2.15pm-3.15pm |
| Wednesday 23 March | Board Meeting – Staff Room – 6.30pm                                               |
| Thursday 24 March  | Easter Assembly 8.40am  
1.30pm Stations of the Cross/Last Supper Hall (Year 5B) |
| Friday 25 March    | GOOD FRIDAY                                                                       |
| Monday 28 March    | Easter Monday – Public Holiday                                                     |
| Tuesday 29 March   | Easter Tuesday – School Holiday                                                    |

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES


SCHOOL NEWS

GRIEF AND LOSS IN CHILDREN

Being angry, sad and upset can be an indication that a child is suffering grief and loss. There could be a number of reasons for this but one possible cause could be parents separating, a parent or sibling has died or significant change has occurred in the family. Children can find it difficult to deal with all their emotions. Learning to manage their feelings through education, knowing that it is normal to feel angry at times, can assist a child to feel empowered and in control.

Seasons for Growth is a peer group programme that helps children learn and discover that their feelings are normal and that others also feel the same. Seasons has been running at St Andrew’s for many years and will be starting again in Term 2. Parents who think their child could benefit by participating in the programme may like to discuss the idea with them.

Sister Wendy will be their ‘companion’ during the eight weeks that Seasons will run. Children attend during class time for 20/30 minutes. The school supplies the journals that each child needs for the sessions and will keep as a reference once the programme is completed.

Parents will need to complete a ‘permission’ slip for your child or children and return it to the office by the 17th March, so that the correct amount of journals can be ordered from NSW and arrive in time for the commencement of the programme. Permission notes can be collected at the School Office and returned to Administration. For more information you can call Sister Wendy at the school on 94078000.
SCHOOL BANKING
It is terrific to see so many children are now involved in school banking. Please remember that the parents that help with your child’s banking are volunteers. Would you please be kind enough to fill out the banking slip each week for your child because it is quite time consuming for the volunteers to complete the forms for all the children.

P&F NEWS

First Aid Course
A very enthusiastic bunch of parents attended first aid training on Monday. This covered CPR for adults, children and infants, as well as what to do for snake bites, burns and breaks. Participants practiced CPR and using defibrillators on specially equipped dummies, as well as administrating EpiPens on each other with trainer EpiPens. They also found out the special uses for glad wrap in various emergency situations! The P&F would like to thank Narelle Pestana for organising this worthwhile event.

World Water Day – Tuesday 22 March
Next Thursday is World Water Day and the P&F will be holding a Tupperware fundraiser. Promoting sustainable management of fresh water resources. Please see the posters up around the school for more information.

Come and see me in the junior courtyard with the beautiful water bottle range on display 2.15 – 3.15pm TUESDAY 22nd MARCH. Its fundraising made FUN – and easy! Bottle prices – set of 4 x 500ml Eco Bottles $35. Set of 4 x 1 litre Eco Bottles $59. Purchase both sets and receive a set of Snack on the Go’s FREE! Snack on the Go’s also available for $25 set of 4.

By simply placing an order for some of our colourful and handy drink bottles, or booking your own Tupperware Party, you will be helping to raise funds.

To place an order, detach, fill out an order form on the day. We accept cash, MasterCard or Visa, to make payment easy.

Delivery: Your order will be delivered within 14 days. All orders will be individually packed and identified with your name. These will be distributed by the school.

See you then! Larissa Rodoreda
(Tupperware consultant Matrix sales.)
PH: 0402422051
Email - Larissa.rodoreda@gmail.com
EASTER
This year’s Easter raffle will be drawn at the assembly on Thursday 24 March. We have once again received a fantastic donation from Atlantis Play Centre (thank you!): 6 passes including a go-kart voucher which will be raffled among the K-Y4 classes (1 prize per class year) and for the Y5 and Y6 classes we have movie vouchers on offer. Tickets will be sent home today, please return all money and tickets to your class teacher by Tuesday 22 March. **No money will be accepted after this date.** The P&F Committee has organised that the Easter Bunny will be making a visit to each class after assembly to hand out Easter Eggs to each child. Kindy classes will have their visit on Tuesday 22 March. Students with specific allergies will be catered for.

AFL MARGIN LOTTERY
This is your last chance for entries for the AFL Margin Lottery. Get your $10 and entry form into the school office not later than Friday 18 March. The draw will take place Monday 21 March and participants will be notified of their margin via the FB page on this day.

P&F SPRING BULBS FUNDRAISER
Gardening enthusiasts will be delighted with this fundraiser! The P&F Committee is running a spring bulbs fundraiser with the help of Garden Express, to raise money for our school. Available to buy are a wide range of spring flowering bulbs for your garden. The packages start from as little as $6 with some great gift ideas for all the women in our lives this upcoming Mother’s day! Each family will receive a full colour catalogue with an order form attached. The order forms and all monies will need to be returned to the front office by no later than **Tuesday, April 26th**.

MOTHER’S DAY
The P&F have already started planning for the Mother’s day activities which will take place over the first week of Term Two. Our popular Mother’s Day stall will be back again and we are hoping to have some great prizes for a raffle. If any family business would like to donate a prize to the raffle or parent offer their time to help with the stall, please get in touch with any of your P&F Executive Committee or better still, come along to our next meeting!

NEXT MEETING
Wednesday 6 April at 6:30pm in the staff room.
Pre Primary Blue share their thoughts about what they think God looks like...

Elena- I think he wears a white robe and has a beard.

Liam- He has a beard. He has a face and very big legs!

Alexandra- He has shoes and a dressing gown. He looks like God.

Renait- He has an oval face. He has legs, arms, hands, feet and a nose.

Katie & Leni- He’s got a beard.

Talia- He wears a dress and he wears a crown.

Keira- He has a beard. He has yellow hair. He has shoes.

Jaison- He has feathers so he can fly. He has arms, legs, clothes and a smiley face.

Joel- He has a dress with stars on it. He has a wizard hat with a star on it.

Maali- He looks a little bit angry. Sometimes he looks a little bit happy. He has two legs and two hands.

Ameleah- He looks like magic. He has blue eyes.

Tighe- He has long hair. He has a beard.

Georgia- He wears a dress. He wears a thing on his hair. He has shoes.

Miranda- He has a beard. He wears a dressing gown.

Micah- He has a happy, circle face.

Kane- Big and he has a big head!

Mijak- He looks big and he has powers.

Marcus- A person.

Ashmeet- Dad.

Ruby-Rose- He has a beard. He has no hair. He has glasses.

Thomas- Magical!

Levi- Santa.

Caleb- Well, he has a beard and a long t-shirt that touches the ground.

Isla- Purple, pink, blue and yellow.

Caitlyn- He looks like Jesus.

Charlise- He wears a kind of suit.

Lily-May- He looks like magic!

Paul & Abigail- He has a beard.