FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Welcome to Week 5 and the second week of Lent.

Professional Development:
Last Thursday three of our Staff attended a workshop run by Sue Larkey. The title of the workshop was: Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders: Teaching Strategies and Behaviour Support. Those who attended found it very valuable and came away with new ideas and resources to support the teaching and learning that is taking place in their classrooms. On Wednesday 16th March, Positive Partnerships are offering a free one day workshop for parents with children on the spectrum. If you would like further details about this, please contact me and I will pass this on. Last week I attended a Principal's Conference in Wagga. During part of the Conference we explored a new document called “Mapping the Connections for School Improvement: A Performance Frame”, which is a document that has been written by two CSO personnel, Anne Ryan and Pru Horan. It maps the connections between two existing documents, the National School Improvement Tool and the AITSL standards for Teachers and Principals. It was developed to provide educators with an integrated tool to assist mapping of the existing practices that relate directly to school-wide improvement, and in doing so see that this is dependent upon the quality of the combined effect of teacher and Principal/Leadership Team Practices. We also engaged in dialogue about contemporary learning and were fortunate enough to visit schools who are implementing this collaborative approach in their schools. This was most beneficial and provided me with some current and practical ideas of how teaching and learning should look in 2016. On Friday Cassandra Jones attended a Mentoring Workshop in Wagga. This provided useful information to assist with the mentoring of Early Career Teachers. Yesterday Annie Gould attended a Cystic Fibrosis seminar at the Royal Children's Hospital. This session also proved to be most beneficial, providing a greater insight into CF and its educational implications.

Albury Gold Cup: As in previous years, Albury Gold Cup has been declared a half day public holiday (Friday, 18 March), therefore our school will be closing at midday. Children can be picked up from 11.15am. Please note that buses will not be running at this time.

Just a few timely reminders:
• school supervision hours begin at 8.25am. We seem to have many children being dropped off or walking/riding, well before this time. We understand, at times, circumstances prevent this but we remind children that they need to be seated in the Courtyard until the teacher on duty commences.
• for the children to be aware of all aspects of safety when travelling to and from school.
• our welcome BBQ which will be this Friday, 26th February. A separate note has gone home about this. This is a great opportunity for us all to celebrate the new school year and meet other members of our school community.

Looking at last Sunday’s Gospel, we see three of Jesus' disciples almost missing something important because they were sleeping. If the disciples had stayed asleep, they would have missed this amazing event. They would not have seen Jesus in glory. They would not have heard the voice from heaven saying, “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” Our lives can sometimes be like this. We can be asleep, not recognising that Jesus is with us always. During Lent, let's try to “wake up” to see Jesus more clearly and to listen to what he tells us. We can do this by making a more concentrated effort to keep ourselves aware of Jesus’ presence in our lives, through fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Enjoy your week,
Liz Johnston

"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference.” – Claire Fagan.
UNIDENTIFIED SCHOOL FEE PAYMENTS
We have received two payments that we cannot identify-
1. Received on 5/2/16 with the reference “Dr Christopher”
2. Received on 23/11/15 from WAW Credit Union, without any reference.
Please call the office URGENTLY if either of these payments might belong to you

WELCOME BBQ
Come along to meet other school families and enjoy a free BBQ!
this Friday, 26th February, 5.30-7.30pm
We have had a great response to our invitation to the Welcome BBQ! If you wanted to come along but have not yet returned your note, there’s still time to do so (or just call the office with your details). Whilst the BBQ is free, we need to know attendance numbers for catering purposes. We hope to see you there!

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS
We often have children who are unsure of their arrangements for after school. If the arrangements for your child vary throughout the week (e.g. bus some days and pick-up on other days), please ensure that you remind your child every morning of the arrangement for that particular day. This will help to reduce confusion and hopefully reduce the number of children who miss their bus while we attempt to contact their parents.

YEAR 3 EXCURSION
On Thursday, our Year 3 children will be travelling to the Albury Library Museum for a session with talented poet and children’s novelist, Steven Herrick. The children will then have the opportunity to visit the ‘Experimenta’ exhibition at the Museum, followed by a BYO picnic recess in the QEII gardens. Permission notes for this excursion are due back at school by Wednesday, 24th February

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
The Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesdays 8.30-8.45am and Fridays 3-3.30pm.
Size 10 and Size 12 polo shirts are now in stock and available for purchase.

STUDENT BANKING
Wednesday is student banking day. Application packs for new accounts are available from the office.

DYSONS BUS PASSES
There is a delay in the issuing of Dyson’s bus passes. If your child has not yet received their Dyson’s bus pass, please ask them to collect a letter from the office here at school that will suffice until the passes are received.

FUNdraising MEETING
Monday, 29 February, 7.30pm at Sodens.

LATE ARRIVALS & EARLY DEPARTURES
If your child arrives late for school or leaves early, you will need to come into the office with them to fill out a late/early note. These notes are given to your child’s classroom teacher who will record the details on the official electronic record of attendance. As the class rolls are marked as soon as the school day begins, a ‘late arrival’ note must be completed if ever your child arrives after the bell has rung. If you ever need to collect your child early, please send a note in to the classroom teacher in the morning so that your child can be sent to the office in time for you to collect them. Please note that you will also need to fill in an ‘early leaver’ note when you arrive to collect them.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
Just outside the office are two noticeboards that we use for Community Notices. Please check these boards regularly for items that may be of interest to you or your child (e.g. registration details for local sporting teams).

Please do NOT send nuts or nut products to school.
EASTER RAFFLE
The FUNdraising Committee are organising the annual Easter raffle. The raffle will be drawn on 24th March. A proportion of the proceeds will be donated to Caritas with the remainder to the school's fund-raising efforts.
Each family is invited to make a donation to be used in the raffle. We would welcome donations of one item per family, such as:
- ONE egg OR a suitable allergy friendly non dairy alternative
- Easter colouring book or small story book
- Cellophane for wrapping baskets
- Small baskets suitable for prizes
Raffle tickets will be sent home next week.

SCIENCE CLUB ‘COMPUTER CODING’
Children in Yrs 3-6 interested in Computer Coding are invited to attend Science Club on Mondays at lunchtime. Numbers are strictly limited to enable hands-on participation. Children are to email Mrs Moran (moranb@ww.catholic.edu.au) to register their interest. Science Club will begin next Monday, sessions will be held in the 3M classroom.

SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM
Our school has just recently received a grant from the Australian Government's ‘Sporting Schools’ Program. The funds will be used for sporting activities for our students and to purchase some new sports equipment (see picture). Thank you to Josh Gaynor for submitting a successful application for our school.

SWIMMING NEWS
Congratulations to all the children who were presented with ribbons at our Swimming Carnival Assembly last Friday.
A special mention goes to our seven Age Champions - Sam, Alicia, Halle, Mason, Brady, Lani and Amalia. Well done!
Good luck to all our students who are travelling to Leeton on Thursday for the Diocesan Swimming Carnival, we hope you have a great day!

CANTEEN NEWS
A huge thank-you to those parents who have generously offered to donate some of their time to helping in our school canteen. Our Thursday volunteer numbers are looking healthy. However, we are in desperate need of another 6 helpers for our FRIDAY roster. If anyone could spare a couple of hours between 12-2.30 on a Friday, even if it's just once per term, please leave your name & contact number with Tina in the office.

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR CANTEEN IS OPEN ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY EACH WEEK.
(We have recently had a number of lunch orders received on a Wednesday)
The canteen is open on occasional Wednesdays for our ‘Canteen Special Days’ (for example, last year we had a ‘Soup Day’ and a ‘Tasty Wrap Day’). Future Special Days will be advertised in the newsletter.

- New Canteen Rosters will go home this week
- Canteen Menus will be sent home to new kinder families this week
- Menus are available in the office for any other families who may have lost last years copy.

THIS WEEKS VOLUNTEERS - THANK YOU!
Thursday 25th February- KAY LOCKE Friday 26th February- ANNA KAYE

THIS WEEKS TASTY TREATS- available at both breaks, until sold out
- Mini Thai beef wraps $2
- Vegetable cous cous & minted yoghurt $1
- Sunshine Scones with caramelised banana 80c
- Watermelon & pomegranate Ice $1
Our Year 5 and 6 classes have some great new classroom furniture this year. They have new tables, standing-desks, work-stations, chairs, stools & ottomans.