Dear Parents,

Today we celebrated Pancake Tuesday (also known as Shrove Tuesday) because it is the last day before the period of Lent begins. As Lent is traditionally a time of abstinence, giving things up or self sacrifice, Pancake Tuesday is the last chance to indulge a little. Pancakes are eaten on this day because they are typically rich in fat, butter and eggs which historically were foods forbidden during Lent.

Tomorrow we begin our Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday which marks day one of our forty day experience as we prepare to celebrate Easter. Prep, Years 1 & 2 will join with our Year 11 Good Counsel College buddies at 9am and Years 3 - 6 will recognise Ash Wednesday at the 10.00am service. Parents are most welcome to attend either of these liturgies. At each liturgy a cross of ashes will be placed on our foreheads. This is a powerful sign of our belief in God and serves as a reminder of our promise to follow Jesus. Quite simply, when we receive the ashes we remember that we are members of God’s family and that we are called to be faithful to the gospel through our words and actions.

For us, Lent is a time of self-examination and self-renewal. We are encouraged to think about what the gospel means to us and to think about how well we are living up to God’s law of love.

Lent is celebrated by Catholics of all ages and is characterised by three main components: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. This means that it is a time for us to try to become more prayerful, to make our lives simpler and to share what we have with those who are in need. Our commitment to Project Compassion is a wonderful way to achieve the latter. Mrs C has explained our Project Compassion focus for 2015 in her section of the newsletter.

In 2015, the message of Pope Francis for Lent is “Make your hearts firm (cf. Jas 5:8)”. Based on the theme of the globalisation of indifference, the Holy Father expresses his hope “that all those places where the Church is present, especially our parishes and our communities, may become islands of mercy in the midst of the sea of indifference!”.

We all need to look at ourselves and ask the question; Do we display indifference to our neighbour? Our aim during Lent this year could be to show more mercy, be attentive and generous towards others.

Regards,

Liam
Mini Vinnies...

Congratulations to all our Year 6 students in becoming pledged members of GCPS Mini Vinnies for 2015. Thank you to our special St Vincent de Paul Society members: Mr Jos Van Slooten (President), Mr Jim Arnell, Mr Mark King, Mr Frank Cazzulino and Mrs Gwen Hansen for their presence at the Commissioning Ceremony. Congratulations to the Good Counsel Primary Mini Vinnies Office Bearers—School President: Levi Devereux-Phillips
6B President: Tayla Holdcroft 6H President: Jack Shinn
6B Secretary: Kasey Zahra 6H Secretary: Summer-Rose Davis
6B Treasurer: Jake Wynne 6H Treasurer: Allan Chuang

Who said...?

Zacchaeus said, “I will give half my belongings to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay back four times as much.” Congratulations Grace Wone and a special someone who gave Mrs C their note without their name! (See me please).

Ash Wednesday...

Parents and extended family are invited to join us.
Wednesday 18 February—Liturgies Mother of Good Counsel Church
9:00a.m. Prep C, Prep FD, 1G, 1S, 2AL & 2WH and GCC Year 11 students
10:00am. 3Y, 3/4K, 4PM, 4/5H, 5GH, 6B & 6GH
Friday’s 4PM Prayer Assembly...

Please join us as the children lead us into Project Compassion for this season of Lent. This year classes will focus on the stories of particular people in Fiji, Niger, Peru, Nepal, remote Australia and Indonesia.

Thought for the day...

“I saw an angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.” Michelangelo

Yours in Catholic Education—Maria Caltabiano—Mrs C.
Assistant Principal Religious Education & Administration

2015 TERM DATES...

TERM ONE
Wed 18.02 Ash Wednesday Liturgies
9:00am Prep—2 & GCC Yr 11 Buddies
9:00am Cowboys Development Cup Yr 6 Theatrette
10:00am Yr 3—6
Fri 20.02 4PM Project Compassion Prayer Assembly
Sat 21.02 Mini Vinnies at Mass 6:30pm
Fri 26.02 Caritas Just Leadership Day
Fri 27.02 Colour Captains Assembly
Fri 06.03 3/4K Prayer Assembly
Tue 11.03 School Photos
Fri 13.03 6H St Patrick’s Pr. Assembly
Tue 17.03 St Patrick’s Green Dress Day
Fri 20.03 4/5H Good Samaritan Charism
Sat 21.03 Mini Vinnies at Mass 6:30pm
Fri 27.03 3Y Palm Sunday Assembly
Tue 31.03 6B Last Supper Assembly
Wed 01.04 CROSS COUNTRY
Thu 02.04 5GH Stations of the Cross
Fri 03.04 Good Friday

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Easter Mon 6 April
TERM TWO
Mon 20 April - Fri 26 June (10 weeks)
Sat 25 April ANZAC Day
Mon 8 June Queens Birthday
TERM THREE
Fri 10.07 INNISFAIL SHOW
Mon 13 July - Fri 18 Sept (10 weeks)
Sun 26.07—Sat 01.08 CEW
TERM FOUR
Mon 5 Oct Labour Day
Tue 6 Oct - Fri 4 Sept (9 weeks)
This year’s theme is “Food for Life.” Food is essential to sustain life, yet many of the world’s poorest people do not have food security, which means they do not have a reliable and nutritious food source, or enough money to buy food every day.

As Pope Francis says: “It is a well-known fact that current levels of production are sufficient, yet millions of people are still suffering and dying of starvation. This is truly scandalous.”

The theme aligns closely with the Caritas International’s global initiative “One human family, food for all”, aimed at ending hunger by 2025.

Project Compassion 2015 throws a spotlight on food security, focusing on the ways in which Caritas Australia is working with partners in six countries to empower vulnerable people and communities to establish sustainable food sources and develop income streams for life.

Examples of Persistent behaviour:
- Continuing to try even when school work is hard
- Not being distracted by others
- Checking my work when I’m finished to make sure it’s correct
- Completing my assignments on time

Week 3 School & Overall Colour Points
House Winner — MacKillop

SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL LEARNING AWARDS 2015
Term 1 Week 3 Recipients

| PC | Navrajvir Gill | Getting Along |
| PC | Tristan Johnson | Getting Along |
| PFD | Isaiah Portelli | Getting Along |
| PFD | Scarlet Tabone | Getting Along |
| 1G | Tatyana Richter | Emotional Resilience |
| 1G | Joe Anau | Emotional Resilience |
| 1S | Joshua Green | Getting Along |
| 1S | Joshua Iki | Emotional Resilience |
| 1S | Reagan Vang | Emotional Resilience |
| 2AL | Karleigh Costa | Organisation |
| 2AL | Jared Spinella | Getting Along |
| 2WH | Cooper Ingram | Emotional Resilience |
| 2WH | Jamie Pedley | Emotional Resilience |
| 2WH | Shyanne Moidin | Emotional Resilience |
| 3Y | Belle Gallagher | Organisation |
| 3Y | Byron Welch | Emotional Resilience |
| 3/4K | Lachlan Maccarone | Organisation |
| 3/4K | Ashley Lynn | Organisation |
| 3/4K | Jack Mills | Getting Along |
| 4PM | Bobby Johnson | Confidence |
| 4PM | Tess Wilson | Organisation |
| 4/5H | Kaitlin Onaindia | Organisation |
| 4/5H | Thomas Herbert | All Keys |
| 5GH | Daniel Slater | All Keys |
| 5GH | Jasper Di Carlo | Persistence |
| 6B | Akeesha Surha | Confidence |
| 6B | Alana Puccini | Persistence |
| 6H | Levi Devereux-Phillips | Confidence |
| 6H | Joshua Rupp | Organisation |
TERM FEES

Term fees will be issued in due course. *Those families seeking a remission for 2015 must make an appointment to see the Principal ASAP.*

As we are now operating with the new system, your Term Fee invoice will be emailed to you each term.

For direct deposits please use your Reference No 973........... (ask at office or note on bottom of invoice) to ensure that monies are paid against correct family.

PAYMENTS OVER THE INTERNET

NEED TO ENSURE USE OF FAMILY CODE AND EMAIL/FAX CONFIRMATION OF PAYMENT TO OUR OFFICE ON 40612271.

MILO / HAVE A GO CRICKET

FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY

5.30PM-6.30PM

GOONDI SPORTS RESERVE

BBQ & Presentation break-up

CONTACT: JOHN DALAMARAS 0428 744 538

CASSOWARY COAST LITTLE ATHLETICS

SIGN ON DAY: 27 FEB 2015
WHERE: CASTOR PARK, MOURILYAN
WHEN: 5.30PM - 6.30PM

Club nights start on 6 March
with a free sausage sizzle.

For more info contact
Cameron on 0409485566

Seasons for Growth

An 8 week group program for children

Supporting Children Through Times of Change

Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives.

Seasons for Growth is an innovative grief and loss education program that aims to strengthen the social and emotional wellbeing of children (6-12 years) who are dealing with significant changes.

When: Mon 9th March 2015
Time: 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Cost: Free
Where: 10 Thomas St, North Cairns
To register please contact Linda on 4044 0130 or Linda.Ryan@centacarecairns.org

SCHOOL PHOTOS

WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH

Envelopes will be sent home next week.

Money and envelope to be brought in on photo day.

More info to follow