Swimming Starts

Year 5/6 Class Chillagoe Excursion

New Shade Sail going up!
## Student of the Week

### Prep One Two Class
Brayth Miller for joining in group with enthusiasm.
Mia Gargan for patience & kindness when helping others.
Rowan Turnbull for an informative toy report.
Alexandra Serafin for careful bookwork and taking pride in her efforts.
Livinia Di Salvo for remembering to stop and ask before leaving the classroom.
Sam Williams for excellent listening and respectful comments.

### Year Three Four Class
Matthew Bin for an informative and articulate talk time presentation.
Georgia Williams for an inspirational and original talk time presentation.
Clancie Sivyer for trying her best at writing.
Nate Mitchell for being attentive and trying his best at every task.

### Year Five Six Class
Julius Srhoj for excellent work on his History assessment task and for always giving 100%.
Kellie O'Shea for excellent work on her History assessment task and working independently.
Cody Harrigan for excellent work on his reading cards and demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities.
Marco Cappella for working diligently on his History task and providing thoughtful responses to class discussions.

## COMING EVENTS……

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Principal’s Report

Although the end of the 2015 school year is fast approaching there is no slowing down for the staff, students and community of St Anthony’s. The school calendar is full of events that are still yet to take place, none bigger than the upcoming Christmas Fair. Despite the busyness we will do our best to remain committed to our core business that is teaching and learning.

Mutchilba Dinner

The Mutchilba Dinner was a huge success with a large crowd in attendance. A great night was had by all who were present, with the excellent weather allowing an opportunity for people to catch up and socialise. Over $1500 was raised with this money being earmarked for the provision of resources for Early Childhood Education. We would like to thank the Mutchilba Community Centre for allowing us to host the evening and for their generous donation. Our sincere thanks to the many parents and staff who assisted prior to and on the evening, with tasks such as shopping, cooking, serving, cleaning and packing up. This event once again highlighted the strong community spirit that exists within our school.

Christmas Fair

There is a sense of excitement and anticipation amongst students as the Christmas Fair approaches. It promises to be a brilliant night with plenty on offer for children and adults. Over the coming days there is likely to be a lot of correspondence and information being sent out. Please keep an eye out for emails or notes in school bags.

An enormous amount of work is being done to prepare for the Fair by a number of parents and community members. We thank these people for their efforts and for their desire to improve learning outcomes for the students of St Anthony’s. We would encourage any parents who have not yet indicated their availability to assist at the Fair and who are intending to help to contact school ASAP.

2016 Class Information

Staffing schools can be a very complex process. When you consider that our school is part of the Catholic Education System, external issues, which may not be evident to the local school, can affect the ability of a school to quickly confirm teaching positions for the following year. These can include, teacher transfer process, teachers returning from leave, current staff taking leave, enrolment number and government funding.

Teaching staff for 2016 is completed with all positions finalised. As such, we announce the following classroom teaching staff: Rachelle De Iacovo (Year 5/6 & APRE), Katie Jayne O’Brien (Year 3/4), Shannon Grantley (Prep/1/2), Terry Wilcox (PE & 5/6), Ruth James (Learning Support) and Cristina Mahmut (Literacy).
From our Principal

At the end of this current school year we will farewell Terri Higgins, Kerryn Cameron and Trudy Pretorius. Each of the staff finishing at the end of 2015 has brought with them their own gifts, talents, both personal and professional and has dedicated themselves to improving outcomes for the students at St Anthony’s. We thank them for their commitment and efforts and wish them all God’s very rich blessings for the new paths they will walk in the future. As a community, we will have the opportunity at the End of Year Liturgy to properly acknowledge the valued contributions these staff have made to our school and students.

**Term 1 2016 – Catholic Schools to follow suit on Student Free Day**

Catholic school children will have a student free day on Monday, January 25 after Education Minister Kate Jones declared that state schools would start next year on Wednesday, January 27, after the Australia Day public holiday on January 26.

Catholic Education Services Executive Director, Bill Dixon said as some parents had students in both education systems and to avoid complications with the school bus transport system, it made sense for Catholic schools to fall into line with the state system and also declare a student free day.

Parents are asked to note that the start of the school year in Term 1 2016 will be Wednesday, 27 January with Monday, 25 January being a Student Free Day and Tuesday, 26 January being the Public Holiday for Australia Day.

**Valued Supporters**

We are very fortunate at St Anthony’s to receive support and assistance from a large number of parents, community members, parishioners and businesses. This support comes in many forms, be it volunteering time or resources, donating items or financial sponsorship. A lot of the support we receive is done behind closed doors and sometimes goes unnoticed. As a school we are extremely grateful for the assistance we receive and for the opportunities presented to students as a result. We thank those who continue to support our school and acknowledge the work they do in ensuring St Anthony’s is able to provide a quality education for the students.

**Fees**

Term Four Fees are now overdue and require finalisation. Statement Reminders were sent home yesterday. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

**Remembrance Day**

Yesterday marked the 96th Anniversary of Remembrance Day. Formerly known as “Armistice Day”, Remembrance Day is observed throughout the British Commonwealth to commemorate the armistice agreement that ended the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11:00am-on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. St Anthony’s staff and students observed a minutes silence and participated in a small prayer service to pay our respects to the servicemen and women, who willingly sacrificed their lives in wartime, so that our lives would be full and free. Lest We Forget....
Tuition Fee Discounts for Holders of Means-Tested Health Care and Pensioner Concession Cards – Commencing in 2016.

In addition to the family and country school discounts that have historically been offered, Cairns Catholic Education has introduced means-tested concession card discounts.

Parents with a means-tested Australian government health care of pensioner concession card are eligible to receive a discount to tuition fees (not school levies). The cards must be current and list, as dependents, the students for whom the discount is sought and the School Fee Account Holder holds the Health Care of Pensioner Concession Card.

The following categories are eligible for the discount:

- FA (Family Allowance)
- PP (Parenting Payment)(Partnered)
- NSA (New Start Allowance)
- SA (Sickness Allowance)
- SL (Special Benefit)
- WA (Widow Allowance)
- LI (Low Income)
- PPS (Parenting Payment Single)

To apply:

Parents should present their eligible card to the school office for verification. The school will make a copy of the card and provide a Health Care Card Tuition Fee Discount Scheme Form for the parent to complete – this is a single page form. The fee discount will then be applied to tuition fees on future term invoices. For families with children at a number of Cairns Catholic Diocesan schools this process must be repeated for each school.

The discount arrangement will expire of the expiry date of the card or at the end of the school year. Parents receiving the discount have a duty to inform the school of any renewal or change in eligibility for the card.

In 2016 a discount of 70% on tuition fees will apply to holders of eligible cards.

Family Mass

It would be great to see as many families as possible at Mass on Sunday. The Mass is being hosted by the Prep-Year 2 class.

Next Newsletter: Thursday 26th November

Next Assembly Dates: Monday 16th November (School Captains)
Monday 23rd November (Year 5/6 Class)

Yours in Catholic Education,
Brad Williams

Principal,
St Anthony’s Catholic School
From our Principal

Principal’s Award

Congratulations to Eric Tosoni and Rowan Turnbull

Community News…….

URGENTLY NEEDED
TIN LIDS, WIRE COATHANGERS, BEADS

The gardening club is looking for 3 particular items for a project. They are:

- Tin lids – such as the lids from Milo or international roast coffee tins (we need up to 30 of these if possible)
- Wire coathangers – such as the coathangers from dry cleaners
- Pretty beads - of any description that you no longer want

If you have any of these items in your home and you would like to donate them, please drop them in to the office anytime. Thank you!!!

Dimbulah & District
Museum Markets
Heritage Park,
Dimbulah

1st Saturday of Each Month
9am to 3pm

Starting Saturday
3rd October 2015
Come and join the fun.
If you would like to have a stall
contact Ian 0447 796 049.

Ride
The Savannahlander
from
Dimbulah to Mutchilba $5.00 per person.

Tickets available at the
Dimbulah Train Station.
Guidance and Counselling Information.

Supporting and Enhancing SEL at St. Anthony’s.

Friendship Skills.

The following article has been derived from Heart-Mind Online, [www.heartmindonline.org](http://www.heartmindonline.org) which has an abundance of information topics related to information relating to young people of all ages and is well worth having a browse through.

People are hardwired to be in relationships, both with family and friends. However 5-10% of children experience chronic peer relationship difficulties, which inevitably is linked to loneliness, depression, anxiety, school problems and poor physical health. In addition, neuroscience informs us that this type of distress is biologically linked to pain.

Brain scans of people who are experiencing social exclusion exhibit stimulation in the area of the brain that is associated with pain. Two questions emerge from this:

**What are the necessary skills that children need in order to develop and maintain friends?**

**How can we as adults, promote these skills?**

1. **Cooperative Play.**
   - Make music together - being a member of a choir or band utilizes many cooperative skills in practice, playing and performance. Research supports that singing in a choir promotes behaviour that is pro-social.
   - Learn a new skill to create a collaborative project requiring the group members to help each other: team sports or joining Scouts or Guides are examples of this.

2. **Language and Communication.**
   - The ability to communicate, according to theorists such as Vygotsky, is paramount in the development of reasoning and higher cognitive functions, both contributing to the development of friendship skills.
   - Imitating another child’s actions - the brains mirror neuron system is responsible for helping us to understand another person’s emotions through visual cues and body language: games such as Simon Says and Follow the Leader are good activities to develop this skill.
   - Learning and practicing friendship communication strategies: Get your friend’s attention, use short sentences, use gestures or props, give your friend time to think about what you are saying and then answer you, give your friend choices (try not to “boss” them around) and use friendly words.
3. **Emotional Understanding and Regulation.**

A child who is depressed, frightened, anxious or angry will find it very difficult to use pro-social behaviours required to foster friendships. Those who can understand their own emotions can develop the ability to manage themselves in social settings.

- Learning the words to describe their feelings and emotions provides children with the emotional literacy to express how they feel and gives them an understanding of what those feelings are like (e.g., a good feeling or a bad feeling or feeling sick and so on).
- Learning strategies to self-soothe is also important in helping children regulate their emotions, whether, for example, it be breathing exercises, use of distractors, going for a walk or quiet time, walking away or talking to someone, as long as it prevents them from escalating their behaviour.

4. **Aggression Control and Problem Solving.**

Feelings of anger and frustration are normal and healthy ..... it is how the child deals with these feelings and how they approach finding a resolution that is important in building trust and commitment between people in a friendship.

- Good, strong, positive role modelling is required, especially for boys, in demonstrating how to deal with anger appropriately and how to solve problems peacefully and justly.
- Increasing emotional literacy as has been mentioned before.
- Proper problem-solving techniques can also be taught to children to help them reach a positive resolution.

Teachers and specialist staff in schools work diligently with parents at promoting the social/emotional well-being of students and this provides children with the best possible pathway for them to achieve success and happiness in their lives. I am hoping you have found this article of some interest and encourage you to contact the school should you have any concerns regarding the well-being of your children. Wishing you a safe and happy week.

Bryan Schofield- Student Counsellor.
Dear Parents/Carers,

On Wednesday we commemorated Remembrance Day by participating in the one minute silence to pay tribute to all the service men and women who fought and were killed during the two World Wars and other conflicts. Remembrance Day was once known as Armistice Day before it was renamed after the Second World War. It is also commonly referred to as Poppy Day, because it is traditional to wear a poppy. The poppy is associated with the remembrance of those who died in order that we may be free and of the poppies which grew in the Flanders Fields.

The students also paid tribute by completing activity sheets, which looked at the history of the wars, the significance of the poppy and the meaning of the poem “In Flanders Fields”. They also created bookmarks and give peace a hand posters, which you can see displayed around the classrooms.

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**Reminders**

**2016 Leaders**

The students wishing to nominate for School Captain next year will be delivering their speeches on Wednesday 25th November at 11:20am in the undercover area. All welcome to attend.

**End of Year Liturgy**

Everyone is welcome to attend this special occasion and we please ask that you RSVP by the date indicated on the invite which went home a couple of weeks ago for catering purposes.

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May God’s Spirit be with you always

Rachelle De Iacovo

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**In the words of Saint Mary MacKillop**

“Truly wonderful are the ways of God.”

1873
Swimming

Thank you to all parents for ensuring students are attending swimming lessons. The progress being made is very noticeable and will provide a sound platform on which to implement our full swimming program in Term 1 next year. It is also great to see a number of our students training and supporting the Dimbulah Dolphins Swimming Club. A special thanks goes to Brigitte, Elizabeth Rosenberg, and Kim Johnson for their assistance at the pool.

Tennis

All students are taking advantage of the 5 week tennis program being conducted each Thursday by Mareeba Coach, Libor Konicek. It is amazing watching the kids develop their skills through fun activities and hopefully they might consider taking further lessons, joining a club or playing socially or competitively in the future. We have been told that the Council will clean up the local courts and leave them unlocked in the hope that they will be used.

Christmas Fair—’Knock ‘em Downs’ Stall

I challenge all students to practise their throwing skills to see if they can win some money at the Knock ‘em Downs Stall next weekend. Every year the challenge goes out and occasionally we find a winner but more often than not I feel I’m not doing a very good job of teaching PE. Please come and prove me wrong!!!
St Anthony’s Parish School

Christmas Fai
Around the World
2nd November 2015 @ St Anthony’s Parish School
5 pm start

A very big thank you to all who give generously to this great community event

Mega Raffle
Taste of Summer Auction

Hot Food
Sweet Food
Bar open till late

Exciting Live Entertainment
Featuring Dancers From around the world

.....Santa’s apprentice is coming to this year’s fair
Look out for the yellow fire truck

Fair Favourites
St Anthony’s Class Performances & St Stephen’s & St Thomas Combined School Band
Cent Sale Bake Stall Produce & Craft Stall Mega Lucky Number Stall
Poker Table Knock Em Downs Trash ’n’ Treasure Amusement

FREE Face Painting by Chance

FoodWorks Dimbulah Shane Knuth MP Tosoni Farming Dimbulah Health & Beauty
G&G De La CAMP 64 Stannary Hills Organic Produce A&N Brazzale Mutchilba Community Centre
D&M Miller Helen Velnich Photography Dimbulah Caravan & Swimming DB Engineering
TravelExperience.com Cr Nipper Brown Dimbulah Lions Club
Mutchilba Cash Store F&R De Iacocho Casali’s EVY Entertainment
A&J Schincariol Electrical Wolfram Rd Rural Fire Catering With Class
Help say a ‘Big Thank You’ to your teachers – win cool stuff for your school (and you)!

With the TUH ‘Big Thank You’ Giveaway, there are 5 x $1,000 Education Resource Bursaries to be won for schools and early childhood centres. Plus you could also win one of 100 x $50 gift cards, just for saying thank you. Entries close 4 December 2015.

How to win.
Visit bigthankyou.com.au

Tell us in 50 words or less how your librarian or teacher helps inspire a love of reading (parents can help young students). ‘Still reading?’ You’re just the kind of reader we’re looking for to help say a ‘Big Thank You’.