Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent

Thank you to Mrs Harvey for coordinating the prayer services today and to our Year 6 leaders for their assistance. The Gospel for Ash Wednesday gives us good advice on how we are to act during Lent. Jesus speaks of the three main actions of the Lenten season: giving alms, praying and fasting. All of these spiritual activities, Jesus teaches us, are to be done without any desire to be recognised by others. Each of the actions are to be done out of love of our neighbour, not in order to be seen by others. Through the season of Lent we are preparing for the Risen Christ at Easter. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year until the beginning of their sixtieth year. The law of abstinence (no meat) binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. There is a Mass this evening at 5.30pm in St Augustine’s Church for those who would like to attend.

Project Compassion

The season of Lent begins today with Ash Wednesday. It also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. This year’s Project Compassion stories focus on the ways in which education, training and sharing knowledge helps to transform futures of communities and bring about lasting change. Your donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Each family will receive a Project Compassion box and/or can order a set of leaflets for their donations. You can also donate online via the website at www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion. Please put your mercy into action this Lent by supporting Project Compassion 2016. Project Compassion is an annual fundraiser for Mt Carmel students. Fundraising events for this term include St Patrick’s Day Celebrations (students wear green for a gold coin donation), a Year 5/6 Cake Stall as well as each class collecting money through their project compassion box.

Opening School Mass

Fr Mick Burke celebrated our Opening School Mass last Friday as well as blessing and inducting our student leaders for 2016. Thank you to Jan Harvey and Michael Green for their coordination of the Mass, music and student leaders. The singing was beautiful. May our community with the 2016 Student Representative Council be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous in aspiring to bring Christ’s mercy to others through service and kindness this year.
Thought for the Week
You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson~
American poet

Community Council Meetings
Thursday 6.30pm
18 February
10 March

K-6 Assemblies
Fridays at 2.15pm
26 February
2AH and 5/6MA
18 March
1EB and 4JG

CatholicCare Student and Family Counsellor
Kirsten Stafford will be at Mt Carmel every Monday from 9am until 2pm

St Augustine’s Parish
Priest Fr Mick Burke PP
Secretary Irene Carr
Office hours
Mon, Tues, Fri 9am-4pm
Parish Office
Meehan St Yass NSW 2582
PO Box 24 Yass NSW 2582
Phone 02 6226 1086
Fax 02 6226 2220
email sta.yass@cg.catholic.org.au

Weekend Mass Times
Vigil Saturday 6pm Yass
Sunday
8.30am Gunning
(5th Sun Liturgy of the Word)
10.30am Murrumbateman
(5th Sun Liturgy of the Word)
10am Wee Jasper (5th Sun)

3-6 Swimming Carnival
It was a fantastic day with thanks to our awesome staff, parents and students – we had so many helpers and as such the Swimming Carnival was an outstanding success. Thank you so much to Deon Norval for his preparation and organisation of the carnival. Thank you to David Cassidy, Ian Wynne and Sherree Bush. My thanks to Leanne Goode and her pool attendants who were most gracious in their assistance as well as providing an excellent venue. Congratulations to all the students on their participation in events and the wonderful community spirit. The Swimming Carnival Assembly will be held on Monday 22 February at 9am. Age Champions, medallions and ribbons will be presented to placegetters along with announcing the winning House. Best wishes to our students who are participating in the Northern Region Swimming Carnival to be held in Yass next week.

Road Safety
As a child safety initiative, Mt Carmel School purchases Child School Safety Vests for each of the new Kindergarten students. The Reflective Safety Vests promote visibility within the school zone. It heightens the awareness of drivers and road users within our school zone and highlights the smaller children and making them easier to see by all traffic and road users. It also makes the School Zone easier to identify when the yellow vests appear. The vest increases the reaction time for drivers to respond to stopping and of course increases the margin of safety. Please ensure you are following the road rules. Residents in Rossi Street would very much appreciate parents not parking in their driveway. If you are unable to walk your children into the school, students can be dropped outside the front office in Dutton Street where cars can park safely.

Enjoy the week and peace be with you!

Gaye McManus
Principal
Class Information Evening
tomorrow Thursday 11 February

On Thursday 11 February, Mt Carmel School Community Council and Staff would like to invite you to attend our Welcome BBQ starting at 5pm and our Class Information Evening commencing from 6pm. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child’s class teacher for 2016 and to view your child’s classroom. We encourage as many parents and caregivers as possible to attend this evening ensuring that we are working in partnership to provide the best possible start to your child’s education in 2016.

During the evening your child’s teacher will:
- Explain the expectations and routines for your child
- Provide an overview of the curriculum for the year
- Discuss any special events or excursions for this year group
- Be available to clarify any questions after the presentation

The class teachers will commence their 25 minute presentations at the following times in your child’s classroom:

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<th>Time</th>
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Please note that the class information evening is not an opportunity for an individual parent teacher interview. If you require time to talk with the teacher about your child, please make an appointment at another time satisfactory to both of you.

We have enjoyed welcoming your child back to school this year and look forward to meeting with you on Thursday evening.

Student Supervision
Please note that parents are required to supervise their child at all times. If your child comes to the BBQ with you, they must attend the class information session and sit with you. They cannot be left outside to play in the playground.

Community Council Welcome BBQ

You are warmly invited to a Welcome BBQ to meet our new families and staff members.

Venue: Primary Asphalt | 5pm
Followed by Class Information Evening 6pm

A gentle reminder: if you have overlooked paying your fees at the end of last year, please do so as soon as possible. With thanks.
Claim the Date 2016
Northern Region
Swimming Carnival
Thursday 18 February 2016
at
Yass Swimming Pool

Primary Archdiocesan
Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 1 March 2016
at
Queanbeyan Swimming Pool

Receive your Carmeletta by email!
A request to new families to return the information regarding your email contact details ASAP.

Coming to Mt Carmel School in 2016...

Mt Carmel Playgroup
for toddlers and pre-schoolers

Thursdays 9am-11am
Venue: Hartigan Centre (entry from Meehan Street)

Facilitated by a fully qualified teacher
Games, craft activities, music, stories and much more…

Everyone is welcome!
$3 for first child and $1 for each subsequent child in family.
Morning tea provided for parents and children

Commencing Week 3 Thursday 11 February 2016
**Ash Wednesday**
On Ash Wednesday, either at Mass or at a special celebration, people of all ages receive ashes in the form of a cross on their foreheads. As the persons who are distributing the ashes make the Sign of the Cross, they say: *Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel* (adapted from Mark 1:15) or *Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return* (adapted from Genesis 3:19). The ashes are made of the palm remaining from the previous year's Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion.

Today all Year 1-6 students attended the Ash Wednesday Prayer Services in the Mercy Chapel. A special thank you to the Staff and the SRC members who led us during these prayer services this morning and for helping with the distribution of the ashes.

**RECONCILIATION REGISTRATION**
Just a reminder to parents/caregivers and students that Registration for Reconciliation will take place this afternoon and tomorrow afternoon at the Presbytery. Also, the Reconciliation Commitment Masses will take place this weekend.

*Jan Harvey*
*Religion Education Coordinator*

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**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

The Catholic Parish of St Augustine's, Yass, invites children baptised in the Catholic tradition, Year 3 or older, to continue their journey in faith by preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for their First Holy Communion.

If you believe your child is ready to take this next step and you are prepared to be involved in the journey, please enrol your child at St Augustine's Presbytery on Wednesday 10 February or Thursday 11 February between 5-6pm.

For further details contact Dianne Carey 0419 276 889 Sacramental Team Leader.

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**SAARMACENTAL PROGRAMME 2016 - CLAIM THE DATES**

1st RECONCILIATION  Wednesday 16th March 6pm

Reconciliation Registration at the Presbytery  
Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th February between 5-6pm

Commitment to the programme will be held during 6pm Mass, Saturday 13th February at St Augustine’s Yass or 10.30am Mass, Sunday 14th February at Uniting Church Hall, Murrumbateman.

First Eucharist - Sunday 29th May, 10am
Confirmation - Sunday 18th September, 10am
On **Friday 4th March 2016** we will hold a Scholastic Book Fair in the Lacey Library. The students will be able to purchase books for themselves from the great range which Scholastic have provided. The more books sold, the more free books can be bought for the Lacey Library! Parents you are most welcome to visit the Book Fair on Friday with your child or children. If you can’t make it, I will visit the classrooms and collect any student who wants to purchase a book or resource and take them to the Book Fair.

There will be four browsing afternoons, where you can purchase the books or place an order before the actual book fair. The orders will be sent off by email and returned to the school as soon as possible. This reduces disappointment when there is a particular popular book.

This year you will be able to visit the Lacey Library on **Wednesday 24th February at 3.30-4.00pm, Friday 26th February at 3.30-4.00pm, Monday 29th February at 3.30-4.00pm** and **Tuesday 1st March at 3.30-4.00pm** to browse, purchase or order books.

We would like to invite our grandparents and older friends to the Book Fair and have morning tea at Mt Carmel. If you can provide some food for our morning tea that would be **Fantastic!**

There is an invitation attached which you may like to give to your grandparents or older friend. Please come and enjoy the day.

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**When:** Friday 4th March 2016  
**Where:** Lacey Library  
**Browsing Days:**  
Wednesday 24th Feb 3.30 - 4.00pm  
Friday 26th Feb 3.30 - 4.00pm  
Monday 29th Feb 3.30 - 4.00pm  
Tuesday 1st March 3.30 - 4.00pm  

**Time:** Book Fair 9.00am - 3.45pm  
Morning Tea 10.00am - 11.30 am
Book Fair/Grandparents Morning Tea

When: Friday 4th March 2016
Where: Lacey Library
Time: Book Fair 9.00am-3.45pm
Morning Tea: 10.00am-11.30am

Ask your Mums and Dads to visit the Book Fair!
Invite your Grandparents or an Older friend to come and have morning tea!

Grandparents and Older Friends

You are invited to the Mt Carmel’s Book Fair and Morning Tea.

Time: 10.00am until 11.30am
Date: Friday 4th March 2016
Swimming Carnival Thank You.
A very big thank you to all the parents who helped during the day and also the our wonderful students for their assistance and participation on the day!

Northern Region Swimming Carnival
The Northern Region Swimming Carnival is scheduled for Thursday 18th February at the Yass Swimming Pool in Laidlaw Street, Yass. As the host school Mt Carmel must provide 8 timekeepers for the carnival. Please let me know via email (deon.norval@cg.catholic.edu.au) if you can assist as a timekeeper.

Archdiocesan Winter Trials
The Winter Trials are scheduled for Monday 7th March at various locations in the Archdiocese. Nominations are due before or on Monday 22nd February. The cost is $15.00 per student. Students who are nominating must be competitive in the sport they nominate for because the skill level at the trials is very high. Each school can only nominate 6 students in each sport so if I receive more than 6 nominations I have to run our own trials to decide who will compete at the Winter Trials.

Individual Summer Sport Nominations
The following summer trials are held during February and March:
• Basketball Trials in Young on Friday 12th February – Nominations closed!
• Cricket Trials in Gundagai on Friday 12th February – Nominations closed!
• Tennis Trials in Young on Friday 12th February – Nominations closed!
• AFL Trials in Wollongong on Wednesday 17th February
• Softball Trials in Sydney on Friday 4th March

Yass “Come Try” Rugby League Gala Day
Our school has been invited by the Canberra Raiders to participate in the Yass “Come Try” Gala Day where the students have the option of competing in Rugby League (Boys – tackle) and Girls League Tag at Walker Park in Yass on Wednesday 24th February. The format of the day will be a gala day with schools playing in a round-robin competition.

Deon Norval
Sports Coordinator
Yass Montessori Preschool is pleased to announce we have extended opening hours for 2016! Now open from 8.30 am to 4 pm, Yass Montessori has vacancies for children ages 3 to 6. Yass Montessori is a not-for-profit preschool run by the community, for the community.

Fees are only $36 per day (or less for eligible concessions). To enroll your child or grandchildren for Term 1, or for more information please call Kathy on 6226 1596.
Mt Carmel Drums & Percussion Programme 2016

Held Mondays at school during class time for students
Year 1 & above
♦ Drum Line Group
♦ Mixed Percussion Group
♦ Private lessons in Drum Kit
♦ Wagga Eisteddfod entry in 2016
♦ Examinations in drums also offered
Tutor: Gerard Noonan (CPMIII, Honours)
Phone: 0408 622 819 or email gerardnoonan11@hotmail.com

Instrumental Music Tuition

The myriad benefits of learning a musical instrument have been well documented over recent years. Many studies have proven that young people who learn a musical instrument are better organised, achieve well academically, have increased self-esteem and work well in group or ensemble situations among many other benefits.

Instrumental tuition is again being offered at Mt Carmel this year. We definitely have teachers for piano, violin, guitar, drumkit, Swiss Drum Corps and voice. Generally lessons cost around $30 for a half hour lesson but this does depend on which instrument the child chooses. This is an approximate figure. Please fill in the expression of interest form below and you will be contacted as soon as possible in regards to lessons. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter. Please note, there are only limited places and these will be given to those who express interest first. Of course you may wish to email me with the details below which is fine –

Michael Green
Assistant Principal

Please cut off this slip and return to school office

My son/daughter _______________________________ in class ______________ would like instrumental tuition in _______________________________ (instrument).

Parent name ______________________________  Parent signature ______________________________

Parent contact number ________________________
COME TO THE INTERACT FAIR!!

SATURDAY 12 MARCH

8.30 am – 1.30 pm at Banjo Patterson Park

-Gold coin entry-

GREAT FOOD, STALLS, & FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES!

RIDES, JUMPING CASTLE & FACE PAINTING!

LIVE MUSIC, GUEST PERFORMERS & EXCITING DISPLAYS!

PLUS THE HUGE YASS SCAVENGER HUNT!

Great family fun & prizes up for grabs!

Come on! ENTER THE YASS SCAVENGER HUNT!

Organise the family or a team of mates for this fun event!!

Enter on the day / via email: E: yassinteract@gmail.com

Proceeds to support Club international project in Amed, Indonesia - Medical Centre & School

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Yass Minor Rugby League Club
Est. 1968

Yass Magpies
2016 Junior Registration Day
Under 6’s to 16’s
Girls League Tag and Tackle U15’s & U18’s
(Above Girls Ages Will Be Combined)

When: Saturday 20th February 2016
Where: Jim Beck Oval, Walker Park
Time: 11.00am to 1.00pm

A free BBQ will be provided on the day.

For new players, please bring along your original Birth Certificate, plus an additional copy for the Club. Previous players can register at any time via ‘Sporting Pulse’, following the link:
http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?clubID=18167&c=7-1084-0-0-0

Cost: 1 Child $130
      2 Child $120
      3 Child $110

We will be sizing up for jerseys and shorts on the day.
Each registered player will receive their team sponsored jersey, shorts, and socks.

President: Peter Timmer 0418 261 050
Secretary: Mell Beck 0439 377 987

Proud Supporter of Can Assist- Yass
YASS JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB
IS INVITING PLAYERS FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON

With rugby debuting at the Olympics in 2016 and the Wallabies in great form at last year's world cup, why not make this the year your family gives rugby a go!

Registration Day will be held on 13 February 2016 at Victoria Park in Yass, 9.00am to 12.00pm

Players are invited to register in the following age groups:
Under 7’s (children turning 6 & 7 – non-tackle)
Under 8’s, 9’s, 10’s, 11’s and 12’s

Registration includes the player's jersey to keep!

For more information about the Rams or playing rugby call:
Greg Werner – YJRFC President, on 0418 846 752

GKR
Karate

Set achievable fitness goals for 2016
No contracts: pay as you go
Family specials

Children who train in karate are less likely to be bullied and school work and class behaviour can improve due to karate’s disciplined and respectful training.

classes continue during school holidays

• Build confidence
• Improve fitness
• Gain self discipline
• Learn self defence

Yass classes in:
Berinha Primary School

Classes: all around Canberra, Cooma, Goulburn, Queanbeyan
contact Wendy 0406 375 091
wendy.gkr@gmail.com

Fitness with purpose: Learn self defense

GKR Karate classes for all the family

What are your fitness goals for 2016?

No contracts: pay as you go
Family specials

• Build confidence
• Improve fitness
• Gain self discipline
• Learn self defence

Yass classes in:
Berinha Primary School

Classes: all around Canberra, Cooma, Goulburn, Queanbeyan
contact Wendy 0406 375 091
wendy.gkr@gmail.com

Fitness with purpose: Learn self defense
Yass Valley Early Learning
Before and after school care with Rebecca Hodgkinson and Lynette Cram.
For further information contact
Rebecca Hodgkinson on 0458 969206
or Lynette Cram on 0458 028 990

What? Family Disco
(pre-schoolers to Year 6)
When? 2nd Sunday of the month, 5pm - 8pm
Where? Yass Golf Club Function room (upstairs)
How much? Free entry!! (kids’ drinks (ie fruit poppers) $1)

Parents can sit back and have a refreshing beverage at the end of the weekend, overlooking the first fairway (and their children!) while the kids burn off some energy and tear up the dance floor…
Mobile DJ is DJ’N4U
And if you are hungry, ‘Gil & Sue @ The Golfie’ is open with a choice of a Snack Menu or two dinner menus including a dedicated Thai menu.