Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,

**Extra Curricular Activities**

Much is happening this year to ensure students are reaching their full potential in and out of the classroom. A regular chess club has been established by Mrs Green. Students from Years 3-6 can participate on Mondays from 1.10pm until 1.40pm. Thank you Mrs Green. In Term 3, there will be a school musical production. As well, we are starting a school choir and band under the tutelage of Jacqueline Hansson. Students already have the opportunity to engage in instrumental tuition in piano, violin, keyboard, drums, guitar and voice.

**School Assemblies**

We have made changes to our school assembly format for 2016. Two assemblies will be held each term and every class will attend. Two classes will present items with Principal Awards being handed out to Primary and Infants students at each assembly. Our main reason for changing was to continue to develop a sense of community and belonging within the students.

**Community Council**

Our first Board meeting will be held tomorrow evening. The parent representatives are: Kate Seselja (Chair), Paul Twohill (Treasurer), Leigh Bush (Vice Chair) and Stephanie Harding (Secretary). Other Council members include Michael Green (Staff Representative), and Fr Mick Burke (Parish Priest) and myself as ex-officio members. My thanks to each Council member as they undertake their governance responsibilities this year.

**Collaborating on Student Achievement (COSA+)**

In 2016, teachers will continue with our numeracy project focusing on using data to inform learning and teaching and its consequent impact on student achievement in Numeracy. Every school across the Archdiocese will be involved in either a literacy, numeracy or Religious Education project. Shelley O’Brien, a Teaching and Learning Senior Officer from Catholic Education, will be working with staff fours days every term. COSA+ is a systematic and organised change process to improve students’ learning outcomes in numeracy and literacy. We have continued to select numeracy as our focus area for our 2016 Annual Improvement Plan.

**Student Information Checklist**

A student information checklist was sent home today. It is important that our records are kept up to date. Please check the details, particularly your mobile phone contacts and make any necessary corrections. When you have completed the form, please sign in the space provided and return it to your child’s class/homeroom teacher. The form needs to be returned even if there are no changes to any details. If you have any questions about the form, please contact Emma or Carol on 6226 3357.

Enjoy the week and peace be with you!

Gaye McManus
Principal

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>NR Swimming Carnival Yass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Student Leadership Training Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Swimming Assembly 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Kinder away</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>2AH and 5/6MA Assembly 2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Parent Reading Sessions 9.30am and 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>End of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Students return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>End of Term 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2016 TERM DATES**

- **Term 1**
  - 24 March: Pupil Free Day
  - 25 March: Good Friday
  - 28 March: Easter Monday
  - 8 April: End of Term 1

- **Term 2**
  - 25 April: ANZAC Day Holiday
  - 26 April: Pupil Free Day
  - 27 April: Students return
  - 13 June: Public Holiday
  - 1 July: End of Term 2

- **Term 3**
  - 18 July: Students return
  - 23 Sept: End of Term 3

- **Term 4**
  - 10 Oct: Students return
  - 16 Dec: End of Term 4

**BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2016**

Please contact Rebecca Hodgkinson on 0458 969 206 or Lynette Cram on 0458 028 990 for further information.

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**Carmeletta**

Our mission is to encourage each individual to achieve their personal best in a meeting place where Christ’s teachings are learned and lived.

“Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy” Matthew 5:7
Thought for the Week
I believe in peace. I believe in mercy.
~Malala Yousafzai~

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 1.30pm

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)

Claim the Date 2016
Primary Archdiocesan Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 1 March 2016
at
Queanbeyan Swimming Pool

Chess Club
Can you play chess? Would you like to learn? Are you in years 3-6? Chess Club could be for you!

When: Monday Lunchtime
1:10-1:40pm

Where: 4JG

Parents and Grandparents who would like to come along and share tips and strategies, or challenge the kids for a game, are more than welcome – please remember to sign in at the front office.

Any questions or queries please contact me.

Jaclyn Green
jaclyn.green@cg.catholic.edu.au

Community Calendar 2016
Please note that all families will receive a community calendar today. It outlines key events for 2016. A copy is also available on the school’s website at www.mtcarmel.nsw.edu.au

Prayer Fasting Works of Love
40 Days
Mt Carmel Playgroup
for toddlers and pre-schoolers

Thursdays 9am-11am
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

24 Dutton Street Yass | PO Box 447 | Yass NSW 2582
Telephone (02) 6226 3357 | Fax (02) 6226 3033
Email office.mtcarmel@cg.catholic.edu.au
www.mtcarmel.nsw.edu.au
Do you want to know how children learn to read?

Is your child struggling with reading and you want to learn more about how to support their reading?

Has your child just started Kindergarten and you want to know how to help him/her with Home Reading?

Do you want to help with reading in the classroom?

If you answered YES to any of the above questions then please come along to one of the following Reading Information Sessions to be held tomorrow, Thursday 18 February at 9.30am and 7.00pm in the Staff Professional Learning Room. Trish O’Dell our Learning Support Teacher will facilitate the sessions. You only need to attend one of these sessions on Thursday as the content is the same for both sessions.

*Parents who wish to assist with reading in the classroom must attend one of the reading sessions.*

*Where is the Staff Professional Learning Room?*
Please enter the school via the small gate on Dutton Street and come into the front office where you will be directed to the Staff Professional Learning Room.

Please contact Trish O’Dell if you have any queries and RSVP either by email at patricia.odell@cg.catholic.edu.au or by ringing the front office on 6226 3357.
Our 2016 school theme is “Blessed are the Merciful for they will receive mercy.” (Matthew 5: 7) These inspirational words encourage us to extend Christ’s love and compassion to others through our actions in our everyday lives.

**Project Compassion**

The theme for Project Compassion 2016 is “Learning More Creating Change”.

Caritas Australia has programs in place in over 30 developing countries. Our programs help break the chain of poverty and injustice. They are a beacon of hope for women, men and children in marginalised communities.

Food is essential for all life, yet many of the world’s poorest people do not have food security. That means they live from day-to-day, uncertain of how to afford or how to access their next meal. Without food, the rest of life is impossible to contemplate: how can you plan for the future or educate your children when you fear you will be hungry? 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.”

Caritas Australia’s annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Last week the Project Compassion Boxes were distributed to students. Please donate generously this Lent to this important fundraising mission.
ASH WEDNESDAY

Last Wednesday the students all reverently attended the Ash Wednesday Prayer Services in the Mercy Chapel.

Thank you to the SRC Leadership team and the Staff for your assistance during the prayer services, and the distribution of the ashes.

RECONCILIATION

It is wonderful to witness so many of our students with their parents making a commitment to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. This is a very special time for our students as they begin the next step of their Sacramental Journey.

Jan Harvey
Religion Education Coordinator
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.

**SACRAMENTAL 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

**Thank you**

A very big thank you to Mrs Tanya McPherson and Mrs Louise Hill for helping to cover our new library books over the holidays. The students appreciate the time and effort you spent doing this.

Ev Turner
Teacher/Librarian
Northern Region Swimming Carnival
The Northern Region Swimming Carnival is scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday 18th February at the Yass Swimming Pool in Laidlaw Street, Yass. As the host school Mt Carmel must provide timekeepers for the carnival. If you are able to assist as a timekeeper on the day, please come to the pool and look for Mr Deon Norval or Mr Michael Green and let the pool staff know you are an official when entering the pool.

Archdiocesan Winter Trials
The Winter Trials are scheduled for Monday 7th March at various locations in the Archdiocesan. 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:
- 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
New BOOK FAIR times!!!!!!!!!!!

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.

Regards, Evelyn Turner (teacher/librarian)

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 4\(^{th}\) 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!

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**Grandparents and Older Friends**

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

*Time*: 10.00am until 11.30am  
*Date*: Friday 4\(^{th}\) March 2016
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
OUR 2016 SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING
ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

YASSNA.NSW.NETBALL.COM.AU

Please contact: yass.netball@bigpond.com or 04811159079 if you have any question

To register go to yass-na.nsw.netball.com.au or follow the link on our Facebook page

Register as a team or as an individual.

Net-Set-Go $55 Juniors 11 – 17yrs $60
Seniors 18 & Over $80 plus online processing fee

Net-Set-Go Skills, Net Set Go Competition (3/4 division), 5/6 division, 7/8/9 divisions
FRIDAY Nights.
Times TBA commences 29th April

Opens division Tuesday nights 6.30pm Commences 26th April

Online Registration and Payment Only
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 Weller – YJRUC President, on 0438 846 752

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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:
Berinba Primary School

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

Fitness with purpose: Learn self defence

—

Karate
What are your fitness goals for 2016?

GKR Karate classes for all the family

No contracts: pay as you go
Family specials

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

Yass classes in:
Berinba Primary School
Classes: all around Canberra, Cooma, Goulburn, Queanbeyan
contact Wendy 0406 375 091
wendy.gkr@gmail.com

Fitness with purpose: Learn self defence
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

7.30am to 5.30pm Mon to Fri
39 Place Centre
6 weeks to school age
41 Orion Street Yass 2582
Ph: 02 6226 6598
www.yassprekindergarten.com.au
CCB & CCR Approved

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.

Yass Farmers Market
St Augustine’s Hall
1st & 3rd Saturday of the month
10am to 1pm
All the usual goodies including bread, fruit and vegetables, farm produce, meat, wine, craft, cakes, oils, and much more
Jumping Castle weather permitting
www.yassfarmersmarket.org.au

YASSarts
arts & culture in the region
YASSarts is for everyone!
A vibrant regional arts culture helps promote growth and quality of life in a community
Become a member today and help us nurture the arts & culture of our region

Go to www.yassarts.org and download a membership form today
Don't forget to like us on Facebook. Help us spread the news!