Last Friday we were finally able to have our Walkathon. We were blessed with beautiful weather and it was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and friends helping out on the day at checkpoints and the barbecue or joining in on the walk. The Walkathon was a huge success and we are extremely grateful for the overwhelming support from families and the community. Congratulations to Kurtis Schoppema to won first prize having raised the enormous sum of $605 and Dean Starling who raised $363. Many of the children received lucky draw prizes and those who missed out an ice block. Thank you everyone on a fantastic effort with $6500 going towards furnishings and resources for the new classrooms.

Year 6 Graduation: Plans are well under way for the Year 6 Graduation. While it is several weeks away, to assist parents with some forward planning, the dress attire for the Year 6 students for the graduation will be what your child would wear to a birthday party- smart casual. Parents please do not organise the purchase/hire of suits for the boys as has been a tradition in the past as it is far too hot and uncomfortable. Mass will commence at 6pm at St Anthony’s Church followed by a supper at Jackson’s Bakery.

Next Tuesday November 29, the Year 6 students attending Hennessy in 2017, will be travelling to Hennessy for their orientation day. The students need to make their own way to Hennessy and back.

Each week I will be doing a profile on two of our 2017 staff to give you some background about their experience and interests.

Marylou Gorham (Principal). Marylou has been an educator in the Canberra-Goulburn Diocese for over 30 years. She has worked at St Monica’s Evatt (Assistant Principal, Learning Support teacher and Years 3-6 and teacher), St Gregory’s Queanbeyan (Co-ordinator, Years 2-6 teacher & Numeracy Focus teacher, McKillop rugby selector and organiser), St Francis of Assisi Calwell (Years 3-6 teacher), St Matthew’s Page (Years 4-6 teacher) and St Anne’s Temora (Years 3-6 teacher and Sports Co-ordinator). Marylou has received a National Excellence in Teaching Award and has her Masters of Education Australian Catholic University, Bachelor of Education Adelaide University and Diploma of Teaching Signadou. Marylou has a passion for learning support and Numeracy, having been selected
by CE to be a Numeracy Consultant whilst teaching in Queanbeyan. Marylou is passionate about student learning and inclusiveness.

Rebecca Cooper (Assistant Principal) Rebecca has been an educator for 16 years having worked at Murrumburrah Public School, Tallarook Primary school, ABC Development Learning Centres and relief teaching. Rebecca has a Bachelor of Education Charles Sturt University. Rebecca is passionate about student achievement and incorporating innovative teaching practices and technology into her teaching.

Mrs Amy Mergard has been quietly working on the Trinity school 2016 magazine. A note will be sent home today for all families to complete if you wish to purchase a magazine and the number of copies that you would like, the cost is $25. Please complete the request form and return to Trinity with the money no later than Friday December 2. If your child competed successfully in any competitions outside school eg music, which you would like included in the magazine could you please forward a picture and brief description to Amy at amymergard@mac.com

The children are enjoying intensive swimming lessons. We were very fortunate to have obtained a grant from Sporting Schools Australia, which have enabled this to occur. A special thank you to Rebecca Cooper for obtaining the grant and to Leanne Davis who is driving the children to and from the pool. This means the front office is often unattended from 12:50pm. **Please ensure your children have clear instructions regarding pick up arrangements after school.** Quite a few children are unsure how they are getting home from the pool. There are no buses that go from the pool to Murrumburrah Public School to take them to OOSH. If your child has a change of circumstances or is leaving the pool with another adult or parent, please ensure the class teacher has written permission for this to occur.

The teachers have been very busy working on the school reports. I will be absent next Wednesday and Thursday at the Principal retreat and on Monday December 5. Reports will not be sent home until Wednesday December 7 which enables more time for me to read and sign reports. It is important that I take the time to read each report thoroughly which ensures that I have a clear picture of each child and their academic progress. Thank you in advance for your understanding of the need to change the date the reports are being sent home.

This Sunday is our Family Mass at St Anthony’s. It would be lovely to see as many students and families there as possible to celebrate our final Family Mass for this year and reflect on all the wonderful things that have happened in our lives this year. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in the Mass with fellow students and come together with the community of Harden-Murrumburrah. Thank you to Helene Boller REC for her wonderful organisation of this Mass.

God Bless

Marylou Gorham
Sunday is the beginning of Advent – the time of preparation for Christmas

*The Advent wreath is a traditional centrepiece of the Christmas season. A candle is lit on each of the four Sundays preceding Christmas. The first candle (violet) represents hope, the second (violet) peace, the third (rose) joy, and the fourth (violet) love. The central white candle is lit on Christmas Day and represents Christ.*

*The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of life and resurrection, the laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering, pine and holly signify immortality, and fruits (such as apples) represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.*

*The word ‘advent’ means ‘coming’; lighting the candles on the Advent wreath symbolises the coming of Light (Jesus) into the world. The Advent Wreath teaches us about Christian preparation for celebrating Jesus’ birth and making our hearts truly ready to receive Him.*

As with so many religious traditions, the real meaning behind Advent has been swamped by commercialism. Perhaps as a family you could avoid the glitz, the sugar overload and also reduce your carbon footprint by creating a simple Advent calendar with small boxes that the children can decorate. Rather than receive a lolly or chocolate, a coin can be placed in a box each day and then given to a charity. Just $25.00 can restore sight to a child in an indigenous community in Australia or in Nepal; $10.00 provides clean water in a school. This promotes the real meaning of Christmas as a time to give – of self. An Advent wreath can be made from greenery in the garden.

http://www.hollows.org.au/home

Give the Gift of Sight - $25.00 for Cataract surgery
Don’t forget
Vinnies Christmas Appeal – items can be sent in any time.

Family Mass on Sunday 10.00 am at St Anthony’s – helpers needed for choir

Community Christmas Carols Saturday 17 December at St Anthony’s commencing at 7.00pm (sausage sizzle 6.00pm) – Trinity have been asked to present an item.

*God of hope, as we light this first candle on our Advent wreath may we be filled with your love.*

*May we be people of hope among our friends and family. Amen*

Helene

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Requirements</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th – Friday 11th</td>
<td>Book Fair – Buy 1 get 1 Free Book</td>
<td>St Mary’s Church</td>
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<td>November</td>
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<td>Friday 11th November</td>
<td>Rememberance Day</td>
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<td>Thursday 17th November</td>
<td>Kinder 2017 Orientation</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>9:10am – 3:10pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 17th November</td>
<td>Kinder 2017 Information Night</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>7pm</td>
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<td>Friday 18th November</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Open Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th November</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Mass</td>
<td>St Mary’s Church</td>
<td>2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th November</td>
<td>Kinder 2017 Orientation</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>9:10am – 3:10pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 29th November</td>
<td>Hennessy Year 7 Orientation</td>
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<td>Wednesday 7th December</td>
<td>Reports sent home</td>
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<td>Friday 9th December</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation</td>
<td>St Anthony’s Church</td>
<td>6pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 13th December</td>
<td>Presentation Night</td>
<td>School Grounds</td>
<td>6pm</td>
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**REMINDER HENNESSY YEAR 7 2017 ORIENTATION & PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

Hennessy Year 7 – 2017 Orientation day and Parent Evening to be held on Tuesday 29th November, 2017.

Orientation Day: 8.45 to 3.10pm

Parent Information Evening: 6.30 to 8.00pm
FAMILY DAY OUT

WHEN:  Friday 25 November 2016
WHERE:  Jubilee Park, Cootamundra
TIME:  4:30pm till 8:30pm

Free community event to promote positive interaction between children & their families

- Free Local Entertainment
- Free BBQ
- Free Family Activities
- Bring your own chairs & picnic rugs

For enquiries please contact:
Georgie Visser    0455 050 806
VisserG@missionaustralia.com.au
Jayne Halls    0428 162 559
HallsJ@missionaustralia.com.au

This is an alcohol free event

Supported by:

Mission Australia 6942 8001