Dear Parents,

STAFF NEWS
Congratulation to Claire Nunweek (our Year 3 teacher) and Adam Devereux who will be married in Stawell on Saturday. We wish them every happiness in their married life together.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
The St. Thomas Aquinas Parents & Friends Association would like to welcome all families, new and old, to the school year of 2015. By having a child at St. Thomas Aquinas School, you are all members of the Parents & Friends Association. The Parents & Friends Association plays a vital role in the school, both as the primary organizer of social functions (designed to foster community spirit) and as the major fundraising body for the school, running the Canteen on Wednesday and Friday. Over the years the P. & F. have purchased many items for St. Thomas Aquinas School, which benefits all children. The work for all these activities is largely done by a small group of mothers who come along to the monthly meetings. It is a perception that other parents don’t make themselves available because they are frightened of being “roped in” to do too much, or are too busy to commit to regular attendance at the meetings (Also, parents are probably just unaware of who is actually performing all the work. The trusty few have been too efficient!!) However, most parents are probably willing to help occasionally, if they are given well organized tasks that aren’t too time consuming.

The monthly meetings of the Parents & Friends Association are held in the Hall at 2.30 p.m. on a Thursday afternoon. Our first meeting for the year is NEXT THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19 at 2.30 p.m. Do come and join us.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Our school uniform plays an important part in developing self-esteem, personal pride and school pride. All children are expected to be in correct school and sports uniform. Black school shoes are the correct footwear. Jewellery, hair ties (other than school colours) and arm bracelets are not permitted. If for some reason your child must attend school ‘out of uniform’ please supply a note to the class teacher. Children who are continually out of uniform will receive an in house detention. As a Sun Smart School all children must wear a “St. Thomas Aquinas” school hat whilst outside during terms 1 & 4. “NO HAT NO PLAY”

STUDENT GOAL SETTING MEETING – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Meetings will be held between 2.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. and children will be dismissed at 1.00 p.m. on the Thursday, February 26. Parents/Carers are asked to use the link on the attached sheet to make an appointment time. This term we will be holding Student Led Goal Setting Meeting where parents and child will meet with the classroom teacher to set two academic and one personal goal. We, the staff, see these meetings as an important part of your child’s education this year. With your child, parents and teachers, we will select three goals.

1. Literacy  
2. Numeracy.  
3. Personal

Possible Goals to discuss with your child prior to the meeting.

Literacy (1)
Reading  Predicting; Connecting; Inferring; Creating Images; Reading on; Rereading;  
Spelling  Using resources e.g. dictionaries; Looking if the word looks right (visual);  
Stretching it out; Chunking; Initial sounds etc.;
As part of some upcoming art projects this year we are also collecting wool scraps, shoe boxes and bottle tops, in particular the plastic type you find on milk and juice bottles. Please send boxes and washed bottle tops to the art room for collection. Narelle Norman (Art Teacher)