Welcome to the 2016 school year!
Parents and carers, I thank you for the support and encouragement you have given your children to allow them to start the school year in such a positive and organised way. They came to school on Monday with big smiles and such positive mind-sets (in spite of the rain!), ready to make 2016 their best year ever at school. Thank you for your continual support of the work we do with your precious children.

Staffing Announcement
Mrs Amanda Peek, our Front Office Manager Admin has been accepted into university to study midwifery! Amanda’s last day will be next Friday 12 February as she starts uni the following Monday. We will say a whole school farewell at assembly on Friday morning. I know you will join me in wishing Amanda every blessing as she begins this new path in life.

Calendar and Notes
On Monday you will receive a paper copy of our whole year calendar. These dates and details can also be found on our Google calendar on our school website. All notes sent home from school can be found at http://stmattsps.act.edu.au/communication/notes.html.

Start of School Year Social
SAVE THE DATE! Every member of our school community is invited to attend the Community Council Start of Year Soiree on Friday 26 February from 3.20 pm to 5.00 pm. We will be hosting this event on the Kinder/Year 1 playground this year. It will be a great opportunity for the kids to have a play, for you to meet the teachers and other parents in an informal setting and to keep building our wonderfully inclusive and supportive community. The Community Council will provide a sausage sizzle for everyone and a bouncing castle for the kids. Bring along some drinks to share.

Swimming Carnival
Our Year 1-6 children will be taking part in the annual swimming carnival at Big Splash next Monday 8 February. A HUGE thank you to parents who have volunteered their services to assist on the day. Once again, children will be permitted to have free time in the pools and on the slides at lunchtime—provided they wear a rashie or t-shirt to be SunSmart.

Important Dates

- **Friday 5 February**
  9.30 am Start of School Year Mass

- **Monday 8 February**
  Year 1-6 Swimming Carnival
  Big Splash

- **Tuesday 9 February**
  ‘Meet the Teacher’ notes due at school

- **Wednesday 10 February**
  9.30 am Ash Wednesday Mass

- **Monday 15 February**
  3.10 pm—5.30 pm Meet the Teacher

- **Tuesday 16 February**
  3.10 pm—5.30 pm Meet the Teacher

- **Friday 19 February**
  9.30 am Year 3 and 5 Mass

- **Friday 26 February**
  9.30 am Year 6 Mass
  3.20 pm Community Council
  Start of Year Soiree

- **Wednesday 2 March**
  6pm Sacramental Parent Meeting

- **Friday 4 March**
  Year 2 and 3 Botanical Gardens Excursion
  9.30 am Year 1 Mass

- **Friday 11 March**
  9.30 am Year 2 and 4 Mass
  12.30 pm Year 6 Leadership Ceremony

- **Monday 14 March**
  Canberra Day Holiday
Staff List 2016

Leadership Team
Principal          Ms Brenda Foley
Assistant Principal Ms Cathy Talbot
RE Coordinator     Mrs Sylvia Campbell
Curriculum Coordinator Mrs Rachel Powell

Class Teachers
Kinder Blue        Mrs Louise Egli
Kinder Maroon      Mrs Karen Evans
Year 1 Blue        Miss Claire Campbell
Year 1 Maroon      Miss Louisa Vance
Year 2 Blue        Mrs Fiona Debenham
Year 2 Maroon      Miss Domenica Laria
Year 3 Blue        Mrs Alison Ewyk
Year 3 Maroon      Mrs Michelle Johnson
Year 4 Blue        Miss Kerrie Buckler
Year 4 Maroon      Mrs Millie Leonard
Year 5 Blue        Ms Tegan Bew
Year 5 Maroon      Mrs Victoria Taber (Mon-Tue, even Wed)
                    Mrs Marnie Mills (odd Wed, Thurs-Fri)
Year 6 Blue        Mrs Rachel Powell (formerly Miss Fish!)
                    Mr Kel Hathaway (Fridays)
Year 6 Maroon      Mr Jeremy Stevens
Library            Mr Kel Hathaway
Creative Arts      Mrs Veronica Ellis (Tues—Thurs)
Japanese          Mrs Anne Hodgkin (Mon-Tues)

Learning Support Team
Learning Support Teacher Ms Cathy Talbot
Reading Recovery Teacher Mrs Sylvia Campbell
Learning Support Assistants Mrs Donna Apps, Mrs Janice Colley, Mrs Kerry Tozer

Office Managers
Finance          Mrs Belinda Eaton
Administration TBA