

## ST CLARE OF ASSISI PRIMARY SCHOOL, CONDER

The school community at St Clare of Assisi is in mourning today after the tragic death of a parent yesterday afternoon.

"Our prayers and efforts today are focused on supporting the students, families and staff involved," said Ross Fox, Director of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn.

"St Clare's principal Matthew Egan-Richards contacted all families last night to advise them the school would be closed today.

Mr Egan-Richards is now focussed on the welfare of his students and their families as well as the staff at the school.

"Staff will gather today to reflect in prayer and prepare for the return of students. Counselling support for the school community including parents, students and staff is being provided."

"The school will remain closed until police finish their investigations in the cordoned off car park area.

Students will return to school on Monday 6 August.

"This is a tragic event for the school community and we will be doing everything we can to support the family who has lost their father," Mr Fox said.

Anyone affected by this event who requires urgent support should contact Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or see a healthcare professional.

Catholic Care counselling will be available for staff, students and parents and can be initiated through the school office.

For further information contact: Adam Pearce, 0448 522 266