



# By The Way



Celebrating 40 Years of Catholic Education at Emu Plains

**MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am. All welcome!**

21<sup>st</sup> February 2019

## DIARY DATES

**Friday 22 February**

Diocesan Swimming  
Carnival

**Wed 27 February**

Cyber Safety Parent  
Session 1, 2.00pm

**Thursday 28 February**

Penrith Police visiting  
Year 1

Caroline Chisholm &  
St Dom's visiting  
Yrs 5 & 6

**Monday 4 March**

Catholic Schools  
Week begins

Celebrations of  
Learning, 9.30am

**Wednesday 6 March**

Ash Wednesday  
Yrs 3-6 Mass 9.15am  
Kinder Liturgy  
11.30am  
Year 6 GRIP  
Leadership Day

**Friday 8 March**

Open Day for new and  
prospective families

Catholic Schools  
Week Games  
Afternoon

**Monday 11 March**

Graffiti Prevention and  
Life Skills Program,  
Yr 5

**Thursday 14 March**

Kindy Munch and  
Crunch

Reading Complex  
Texts across the  
Curriculum  
Stage 3 Day 1

**Friday 15 March**

Student Maths Work  
Sample Sent Home

**Sunday 17 March**

Reconciliation  
Blessing Enrolment  
Masses

Dear Our Lady of the Way Community,

Thank you to all those who attended our Information Evening on Monday. It was wonderful to meet so many families and to be able to share with you our vision and goals for 2019. It is vital that the partnership between home and school is valued and clear lines of communication exist. We value the role that you all play in being the first educators of your children.

What are our goals for 2019?

2019 GOAL - RE / MISSION	2019 GOAL - LITERACY	2019 GOAL - NUMERACY
<b>Goal:</b> For students to demonstrate an enhanced engagement in the Religious Education Curriculum through the inquiry process.	<b>Goal:</b> For students to improve their reading comprehension through improved self-correction rates and inferential comprehension strategies.	<b>Goal:</b> For students to show evidence of a greater understanding of mathematical tasks through developing vocabulary and the use of efficient reasoning.

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for you to see evidence of these goals. Students will bring home work samples, we will be hosting celebrations of learning events where you will be invited into our learning spaces and your child will showcase their learning. In addition to this, we encourage you to regularly check our Facebook page and Skoolbag App.

Last Sunday's Gospel was from Luke 6: 17, 20-26. It was about the challenges we all might have in our lives and how we can still have faith even in these difficult times. The Beatitudes invite us to be the best we can be. In this Sunday's Gospel Luke 6:27-38, we gain an insight into how we are called to treat one another. I can say that I certainly believe that OLOW Emu Plains is indeed a true Catholic community where respect is shown to each individual. It is wonderful to see how the students encourage each other to do their best. This was particularly evident at the zone swimming carnival at Glenbrook on Tuesday.

Our school motto relates to both the above mentioned Gospel readings.

'This is the only thing that God asks of you:

To act justly,

Love tenderly,

And to walk humbly with our God.'

Micah 6:8



## Newsletter of Our Lady of the Way Catholic Primary School, Emu Plains

17 Troy Street, Emu Plains 2750 Phone: 4777 7200, Email: [OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au), Web: [www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/](http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/)

**"To act justly, To love tenderly and To walk humbly with our God"**

This motto is brought to life in our school community in the following ways:

1. To act justly - all personal interactions are built on the example of Jesus. Students, teachers and parents give example to this in how they treat one another, the life choices that we make and the bringing to life of the Gospel that guides us.
2. Love tenderly - life is given to us through the love of God and the love of our families. Our Lady of the Way School strives to create this loving comfort of family for the students in our care. School should be a place of personal safety, where each child feels loved and encouraged to achieve their very best. The power of love allows each of us to be the person that God truly intended us to be.
3. Walk humbly with our God – this is a description of our heart's attitude towards God. We need to depend on God and be committed to justice and love. School is not a place of learning everything that is needed in life, but rather it is a place to learn how to love learning and love one another. To be truly alive, learning does not stop when we leave school but school gives us the skills and the passion to want to keep learning throughout our lives.

As a school community we will work with you in developing Christ in your child's life through their actions, their relationships and their learning. We thank you for entrusting our community in sharing in the development of your child. This is a responsibility we are honoured to share.

With Our Lady of the Way by our side, we pray we will respond with a Godly heart outwardly (do justice), inwardly (love mercy), and upwardly (walk humbly).

Yours in Christ,  
Mrs Donna McFadzean  
Principal

## **AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students for being safe, respectful learners

### **Week 3 Awards**



Kinder: Sophia Ebeid, Zoe Radcliffe, Mason North, Charlotte Robinson

Year 1: Maison Still, Aisling Cremen, Marcus Belcastro, Xavier Clark

Year 2: Trinity Callaghan, Ben Thomas, Oliver Casey, Rowan Astridge

Year 3: Eva Curry, Colby Tran, Mason Benitez

Year 4: Caleb Vanegas, Jake Thompson

Year 5: Zac Levy, Myra Davidson, Samuel Cashel

Year 6: Jade Elford, Dominic Vella, Benny Tabor, Isabella Bradley-Labra

## Week 2 Awards



Year 1: Archie Pearson, Adam Penny, Ruby Coghlan, Flynn Weber

Year 2: Patrick Moran, Makaela Jarrett, Annalise Henderson, Zoe Robertson

Year 3: Lauren Ryan, Charlotte Gabriel, Abby Calleja

Year 4: Jackson O'Brien, Demi Boormakin, Jessica Penfold, Hayley Burton

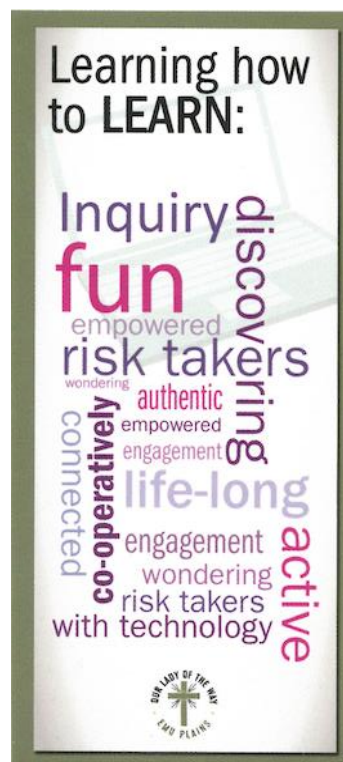
Year 5: Annabelle Tran Cruz Vilar

Year 6: Grace Foster, Riley Tait, Lachlan Stonehouse, Mia Kuster

### FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

At Our Lady of the Way we provide a safe, welcoming, stimulating environment as a prerequisite to productive learning that recognises the unique learning path that each child takes. We believe that students construct learning through exploration and experimentation, through questioning and with the experience of appropriate learning tasks, activities and technologies. Teachers facilitate children's learning by:

- addressing the literacy & numeracy needs of the learner
- catering for the individual needs and learning styles of their students
- providing positive modelling experiences in the classroom
- encouraging students to reflect and act upon their learning experiences
- creating a classroom environment that is well managed with defined expectations and routines
- fostering a student's self-esteem by facilitating a responsibility for their own learning
- providing constructive and encouraging feedback that fosters future learning.



## Celebrating 40 years of Catholic Education at Our Lady of the Way



*Each newsletter we will share something about Our Lady of the Way over the past 40 years. We will use this as one way to reflect upon the past and celebrate what makes us who we are. Do you have any stories or photos that you'd like to share? Please email or see the school office.*

*Our Lady of the Way Primary opened its doors in 1979. In our first year we had a total of 52 children in two classes, Kindergarten and Year 1. By 1983 our school population had grown to 223 students in nine classes, some of which were housed in demountable buildings. In October 1982 a new primary block comprising of 8 classrooms was officially opened and blessed by Bishop Bede Heather and in 1985 four additional infants classrooms were added.*



## Road Safety - We all have a part to play

*This week is Bus Safety Week and is part of the 'Be Bus Aware,' campaign aims to help all road users can keep safe on and around buses.*

### **Pedestrians**

*Pedestrians are our most vulnerable road users and make-up half of all fatalities from bus crashes in metropolitan areas. Bus Safety Week promotes safety for pedestrians, who should:*

- *Plan ahead and don't rush for the bus*
- *Obey traffic signals and cross with care*
- *Avoid being distracted by mobile devices*
- *Stand back from the kerb when waiting for a bus.*



### **Adults always hold your child's hand when crossing the road**

*School-aged children might seem independent, but they still need a hand. Remember:*

- *Always meet your child AT school or the bus stop. NEVER wait on the opposite side of the road and call them across.*
- *Always supervise your child and hold their hand when walking to and from the bus stop or interchange and when crossing the road until they are at least 10.*
- *Wait until the bus has gone then use a safe place to cross the road.*

### **Drivers**

*We know that because of their sheer size and mass, buses cause severe outcomes for other road users in crashes. Buses can't stop quickly and drivers should:*

- *Give way to buses*
- *Not merge too closely in front of buses*
- *Keep a safe distance from buses in front of you*
- *Slow down to 40 km/h when bus lights are flashing.*

### **Bicycle riders**

- *If you are overtaking a bus, avoid passing it when it is turning - buses can take up more than one lane when they turn*
- *You may travel in a Bus Lane, Tram Lane, Transit Lane or Truck Lane but not in a Bus Only Lane*
- *Follow the rules and ride with care.*

### **Passengers**

*More than 20 percent of all seriously injured bus passengers are aged 70 years or over. If you are older, have a disability or are pregnant, try to sit closer to the front of the bus or in a courtesy seat and use the front doors, which can be lower and closer to the kerb. All bus passengers should:*

- *Press the button well before your stop to give the driver plenty time to stop safely*
- *Wait until the bus has stopped before you get out of your seat.*

**Emma Mizzi**

Assistant Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### **Scripture Bags:**

Once again we will be sending home Scripture Bags so that your family can engage in prayer time together. This is our third year of sending home the Scripture Bags and we thank you for your support in adding another dimension to your child's faith development.

For those of you who are new to the school and for those of you who need a 'refresher' on the significance and use of the Scripture Bags, you are invited to take a look at the following:

*The Scripture Bags offer an opportunity for families to sit down together, share Scripture and pray together. There are a variety of options to engage with the bags and there are a number of items in the bag to encourage prayer.*





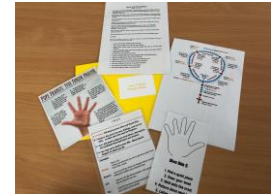
*You might like to set up a prayer space with the cloth (the colour of the liturgical season), the battery operated tea light and holder and the cross made of olive wood.*

*There is a script and items to help share a piece of Scripture that your child has focused on in class. Your child might like to share this with you or you could read the script yourself. There are 'I Wonder' questions for you to reflect on the Scripture together.*



*You will find a set of rosary beads that Mrs Veling bought back from Rome and were blessed by Pope Francis and inside the 'Scripture and Prayer Ideas' folder you will find instructions on how to pray the rosary.*

*Also in the 'Scripture and Prayer Ideas' folder you will find some other ideas of how your family might like to pray together. You can do as much as reading scripture and reflecting on questions or as little as holding the wooden cross and sitting quietly in prayer.*



*There is a prayer journal (with a pencil and sharpener) that you might like to use to write prayers that can also be shared with your child's class. You will find a copy of a P-R-A-Y method which helps you share a formal type of prayer. You might like to say these prayers or even write a copy in the Prayer Journal if you like.*

*We hope that the Scripture Bags will allow you an opportunity to spend some quality time together as a family - reflecting, praying and strengthening your relationship with God.*

**You must realize that studying without prayers is no use. We must pray to Jesus to get to know him better. The great theologians did their theology while kneeling. Pray to Jesus! By studying and praying we get a bit closer... But we'll never know Jesus without praying.**

**Pope Francis 16th of May 2014**

**Opening School Mass: 'Put Out into the Deep...Be Not Afraid'**



Thank you so much to those who attended the Opening School Mass. It was a beautiful celebration led by students from all the grades. Thank you to all the teachers who did a wonderful job preparing the children to involve us all in our celebration.

**Parish Sacramental Program - CLAIM THE DATES**

**RECONCILIATION:**

Sunday 3rd March - information meeting straight after 9.30am Mass – from 10.30 am

Sunday 16th March (6:00pm) or 17th (8:00am or 9:30am) - choose which Parish Mass to attend - blessing and registration

Sunday 31st March (6:00pm) or 17th (8:00am or 9:30am) - choose which Parish Mass to attend - look at the process of the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 3rd April - celebration of the Rite of Reconciliation - 7:30pm

**EUCCHARIST** (generally children around the age of 9)  
First Eucharist will be celebrated on a choice of;  
Sunday June 23 (8am Parish Mass or extra Mass at 11.30am)  
Sunday June 30 (9.30am Parish Mass or extra Mass at 11.30am)

**CONFIRMATION** (generally age 10-11)  
celebrated on the evening of Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September)

Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

**Carole Day**  
*Religious Education Coordinator*

## SPORTS NEWS

### ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of February, OLOW had 31 children participate in the Zone Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to the following participants:

Thomas Sheen (Yr 2)  
Mia McGrath, Mikayla Blazek, Kye Chapman, Eva Curry, Lara Dwyer (Yr 3)  
Declan Casey, Akeda Deacon-Chilmaid, Nicholas Heffernan, Archie King, Holly Penny, Carter Pereira, Jacinta Roser, Jake Thompson (Yr 4)  
Jacob Bennett, Samuel Cashel, Eden Chapman, Michael Gardiner, Oliver Herps, Hamish Rose (Yr 5)  
Holly Clark, Finbar Cullen, Lewis Edwards, Ava Eekman, Mason Eekman, Jade Elford, Grace Foster, Lucienne Heffernan, Isabelle Moran, Tianna Stansfield, Dominic Vella (Yr 6)

They represented OLOW beautifully and demonstrated exceptional talent in the pool. We are very proud of all their efforts. A special congratulations to Lucienne who was named the 11 Years Girl Champion and to Jake who was awarded Equal Runner Up for Junior Boys.

We would like to give a massive thank you to our many parent helpers who volunteered on the day to do different jobs. It was great to see OLOW being represented not only in the pool by our students but also by our parents behind the scenes. We are very appreciative of your time and effort.

Another thank you to Taylor Latham, Milly Brace and Harrison Phillips from Year 6 who attended our carnival as helpers - you did a great job!

We wish the following students the best of luck on Friday at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. We look forward to celebrating your success with you on Monday at assembly.

Mikayla Blazek, Kye Chapman, Lara Dwyer (Yr 3)  
Akeda Deacon-Chilmaid, Archie King, Holly Penny, Carter Pereira, Jacinta Roser, Jake Thompson (Yr 4)  
Samuel Cashel, Eden Chapman, Oliver Herps (Yr 5)  
Holly Clark, Grace Foster, Lucienne Heffernan, Tianna Stansfield (Yr 6)

A special congratulations to Jade Elford and Declan Casey who also qualified for the Diocesan Carnival but are unable to attend due to other sporting commitments.

## GENERAL NEWS

### CLOTHING POOL OPENING HOURS

The OLOW Clothing Pool operating hours will be:

Monday 8.45am - 9.15am  
Monday 2.30pm - 3.05pm  
Friday 2.30pm - 3.05pm



A big thank you to our parent volunteers Ms Smythe, Mrs Trigg and Mr & Mrs Burke. We greatly appreciate you dedicating your time to help service our school community.

*Enrolments are now open for Kindergarten 2020.*

**There will be an OPEN MORNING on  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 from 9.15-10.15am**

Come along, tour the school and visit our learning spaces.

Morning tea will be provided for parents and pre-schoolers.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 to Julie Irvine on 4777 7200 or email [jirvine@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jirvine@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### **SCHOOL FEES**

Families should start receiving their school fee statements over the coming week. If you have not received your statement by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, please contact me on 4777 7200 to arrange for a copy to be sent home.

The Flexible Payment Plan will again be offered as an option for the payment of 2019 fees. The necessary information required to take up this convenient payment alternative will be provided with your first instalment fee statement. Please note that if you wish to be included in the Flexible Payment Plan option, all paperwork needs to be returned to Catholic Education Office, Parramatta by the date specified on the form.

The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, you are encouraged to contact the school to arrange an appointment with the Principal to discuss payment options. Your situation will be treated with care and confidentiality and an appropriate arrangement will be made for you. Please note that as part of this process you may be required to complete an Application for School Fees Assistance Form so that the school is able to conduct an accurate assessment of your current financial situation. Please be assured of **complete confidentiality** with regards to any information you are asked to provide.

**N.B. If you were on a payment arrangement for 2018 (except Flexible Payment Plan or Salary Sacrifice) it is important that you contact me when you receive your First Instalment statement so that I am aware of your intentions for 2019.**

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made regarding the payment of your account it will be assumed that full payment will be made on or before the due date. Fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states "all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued". Outstanding accounts will be forwarded to the Catholic Education Office for actioning.

If you need to discuss any issues, or have any questions, regarding the school fees, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone on 4777 7200 or by email [olow-emupfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olow-emupfees@parra.catholic.edu.au)

School fees can be paid by Bpay, Postbillpay, cash, EFTPOS, credit card or cheque.

**Pascale Vion**  
Senior Finance Officer



### **BOOKCLUB**

Please note that all book club orders must be placed online. Instructions are given on the Scholastic brochure. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



## Our Lady of the Way, Emu Plains



### Parish Gathering

24 February 2019

After 9.30am mass – finish approximately 2pm

**All parishioners** are invited to come along to hear and discuss the outcomes from our Plenary group meetings. A lot of great ideas on how to re-energise our parish have come forward from our discussion groups.

This gathering will offer a great opportunity to talk about the many ways we can revitalise our parish and prepare for the future.

*How can we foster a greater awareness and involvement in our parish community?*

*What do we need to do to encourage and welcome others?*

*How can we recapture our closeness as a community and bring a sense of belonging to the parish?*

**We want to hear your thoughts and ideas**

**Come along and share your opinions and insights with fellow parishioners**

**SAVE THE DATE: Everyone is welcome**

Rsvp sheet for catering purposes in the foyer of the Church  
or phone Chris Rannaste at the parish office on 4735 1041



## ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

*Year 7, 2020  
Information  
Evening*

**Wednesday 27th February, 2019**

**Session 1:**  
3.15pm Register for tour  
3.30pm Tour of the facilities  
4.30 - 5.00pm Address by the Principal  
**Session 2:**  
5.15pm Register for tour  
5.30pm Tour of the facilities  
6.30 - 7.00pm Address by the Principal

Bookings are  
not required.

Please register at the  
College Library  
upon arrival.

- Tours will begin at 3.30 and 5.30pm *sharp* to enable visitors to view all of the College facilities.
- Prospectus and enrolment application forms will be available on the night.

Enquiries: Sandra O'Brien, Enrolments Secretary 4754 8907

St Columba's Catholic College 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777  
Phone: (02) 4754 8900 Email: [stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Web: [www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au)





# 2020 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open Night: Monday 11th March 2019

5:30pm - 7:30pm

CAROLINE  
CHISHOLM  
COLLEGE



.....  
Come along and see for yourself why girls are  
so happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College.  
.....

**Tours of the college: 5:30 - 7:30pm**

**Principal's information sessions:  
6pm & 7pm**

Further information can be obtained on our  
website and Facebook pages.

[www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au)

**90-98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park**

Enrolment packages can be obtained by  
contacting the college on:

**4737 5500**

Follow us on  



St Dominic's College

# Open Day 2019

Sunday, 3rd March

**You are invited to join us for our  
Annual Open Day at the College from  
10:00am to 2:30pm.**

**The morning session starts at  
10:00am, followed by a tour of the  
College at 10:30am.**

**The afternoon session starts  
at 12:30pm, followed by a tour  
of the College at 1:00pm.**

St Dominic's College  
54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747  
Ph: 02 4731 1933  
Email: [info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au)







Parents Representative Council  
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



# HELPING YOUR CHILD MANAGE ANXIETY



Learn effective way to deal with child anxiety and positive behavior practices  
What can you do?

How is the Catholic Education Department Parramatta (CEDP) helping?

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

## Anoushka Houseman

### Clinical Psychologist

Wellbeing Coordinator - Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP)

Register FREE now: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm (2 hours)**

(PRC AGM- will be held prior to guest speaker)

**St Patrick's Primary School: 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown**

Light supper and refreshments will be provided and  
a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

[www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)



@preparra



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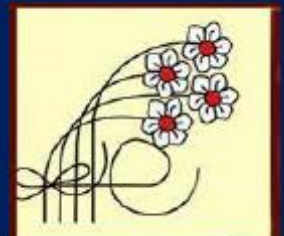


THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SPONSOR

## Floral Expressions

For details on the school fundraising program

Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116





# *Penrith City Children's Choir*

invites you to its first project for 2019

## *Singing Day*

directed by

**Lucy McAlary**

Boys and girls (7 – 13 years) are invited to join us for this project on

*Sunday 17 March 2019*

*If you love to sing, please join us.*

No auditions!

For further information contact the Administrator, Liz Strasser:

0418 202 849 or [pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au](mailto:pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au)





<https://www.cdcbus.com.au/blue-mountains-school-timetables>

The School Opal card gives eligible school students free or subsidised travel on public transport between home and school on trains, buses, ferries and light rail in the Opal network.

### **Apply for a School Opal card (new applications only)**

#### **Already have a School Opal card? Keep it for next year**

Don't throw out this year's School Opal card because eligible cards will be automatically updated for the new school year.

#### **Don't forget a Child/Youth Opal card**

It's important to remember that the School Opal card is only for travel to and from school on school days and doesn't cover travel to After School Care, school excursions, sport and other activities away from school, so it's a good idea to get a [Child/Youth Opal card](#) for personal travel.

#### **Notice to Students and Parents**

You have received this notice as there is an issue with your child's Student Opal Card, the issues are listed below. It is important that those students utilising free travel under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) use their Opal Card that has been issued to them for travel to and from school correctly on every trip. Data gathered from the correct use of Opal cards is used to determine how best to regulate school bus services in your area.

- ☐ - Student does not have or has lost Card.
- ☐ - Not entitled to be used on this mode or provider.
- ☐ - Not entitled. Child lives inside 1.6 km radius of school. Please purchase an OPAL school term pass
- ☐ - Card is damaged or faulty.

**For any of the above issues contact Opal on 13 67 25 (13 OPAL) or visit [opal.com.au](https://opal.com.au).**