Dear Parents and Caregivers,

ANZAC Day
Late last term students from Year 6 gathered with students from across the Penrith area for the Penrith RSL ANZAC Day Service at Penrith Paceway.

This afternoon we gathered in our church to commemorate ANZAC Day as a whole school. It was a moving service as we gave thanks and remembered those who have served our country as well as praying for peace in our world. Our Year 3 did an outstanding job of leading us in prayer.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young.
Straight of limb, true of eyes, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

A special moment for Olivia......
On Anzac Day at 4 o'clock in the morning I went to the Dawn Service at my Mum’s work. We listened to people make speeches about army people who were in the war. Then Mum and I walked down the aisle and I laid a wreath. I wore my great, great Grandfather’s victory medal from World War 1.

Olivia Boulous 3G

Mothers’ Day
Next week we will gather on Friday afternoon to celebrate Mothers’ Day. All mothers, grandmothers and special ladies in our lives are very welcome to join us. Hope to see you there.

A blessing and prayer tribute to all mothers
“Blessed be all mothers
Who have come into our lives
Whose kindness, care and loving
Remain with us to guide.

Your inspiration in us
Made us strive in every way
Especially to remember
Helping others makes our day.

Mothers, this little tribute
Flows directly from my heart
You are so loved and cherished
Invaluable, one and all, you are.

Susan Kramer

Together, we are learning! Learning how to relate...... Learning how to be Learning how to learn.....Learning how to think......and Learning how to choose!
Dance Fever
There will be many excited children coming home tomorrow following the first of our Dance Fever lessons for this term! This program was an outstanding success last year and we look forward to it being another great learning experience in 2013!

Kinder 2014 Interviews Reminder
Please spread the word and encourage those you know who may be interested in enrolling their children at OLOW to submit their applications as soon as possible. The official enrolment period ends on 31st May after which places will be offered for 2014.

For siblings of current students an interview is required and again we ask you to submit an enrolment application as soon as possible. Places cannot be guaranteed after 31st May if we have not received an enrolment application.

ROLLMARKER
From the start of this term we have been using an electronic Student Attendance Roll. This will make tracking student attendance much easier. Any children arriving late or leaving early MUST CONTINUE to report to the office to be signed in/out.

As a whole school community let us make a concerted effort to be at school on time and to stay until the home bell unless there is a very good reason to do so. We do encourage you to aim to be at school by 8:30 so the children can play and socialise for a short while before going into class to start their learning together.

So that we can monitor what is happening, from the start of next term you are asked to send a letter addressed to the Principal (via the class teacher), before the day, asking for permission and naming the reason why your child needs to arrive late or leave early.

It is a legal requirement that all children attend school. Children who arrive late or leave early disrupt ALL children’s learning. It is unfair for this to happen unless there is a very good reason.

Your full cooperation in this regard is greatly appreciated.

The Great Learning Continues……
My best wishes to you and your children and to all our teaching staff for an enjoyable and successful term of learning. It is an important term as we build upon the excellent learning throughout Term 1.

Together, let us act justly;
Together, let us love tenderly and,
Together, let us walk humbly with our God.

Allan Jones
PRINCIPAL

Our Deepest Sympathy and Sincere Condolences
Our condolences are extended to Mrs Sarah Zarlenga, one of our school secretaries, whose mother passed away in the holidays. Her loss and sadness were then deepened with the passing of her father earlier this week. Please keep Mrs Zarlenga and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

OLOW has a ‘No Hat No Play’ policy.
All students are to wear a school hat when they are outdoors.
(Sporting activities, before school, First Break, Second Break & After school)

We also encourage all parents to be Sun Smart by wearing a hat when you are dropping off or picking up your children, and also during any outdoor activities.
Head Lice
There have been cases of head lice found among the students. There is no reason to be alarmed as it can be controlled if everyone takes action. Head lice spreads quickly and we ask that ALL parents do the following:

☐ Check your child/children’s hair for head lice and eggs.
☐ If found, treat with the special medicated shampoo available from chemists and also use the special comb to extract the eggs from the hair.
☐ Students with head lice need to stay at home until the lice and eggs are completely gone.
☐ Parents need to also wash bed linen, brushes and hats etc.
☐ If your child/children have long hair, please tie it back neatly.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Parramatta Diocesan Girls Soccer Gala Day

On the 9th of April, 12 Stage 3 girls participated in the Parramatta Diocesan Soccer Gala Day. The day was an absolute blast! We had so much fun! It was a refreshing day of sport. The only thing you could hear was laughter and cheering and the only thing you could see were smiles and fair games. Everyone was a great sport, winners or losers. It did not matter. The results for Our Lady of the Way were: 1 win, 3 draws and 3 losses but still everyone enjoyed themselves and had super fun playing games of soccer.

Thank you to Mrs Scott and all the parents who helped with transport and made the day a great one. Also thanks to all the girls for making Our Lady of the Way proud.

Congratulations to Stephanie Hormovas, Sasha Panczyk, Isabella Jones, Isabella Meeings, Ruby Ritchie, Paris Buchtmann, Maddison Voiglander, Georgia Mayor, Kaitlin Bell, Gabby Gregory, Antonia Winch and Caitlyn Pearson.

Ruby Ritchie and Isabella Meeings
Journalism Team

Budding actress in the Making
Amber Dempsey, in Year 4, made her acting debut on television during the holidays. Amber was seen on the television show “Enquiring Minds”, TVS channel 44. The show features a number of children who wish to follow a particular career path. Amber, who is interested in archaeology and all things Egyptian, was able to speak with a specialist in this field and was even able to touch (wearing gloves) Egyptian artefacts and be in the same room as an Egyptian mummy’s head. The series can also be seen on YouTube. We wish to congratulate Amber on her success.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Be healthy – be active
Children and adults need physical activity every day. Activity helps bones, muscles, joints and helps maintain a healthy weight. can also reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes and Get active anyway you can - walking, riding, swimming, and games such as Duck, Duck, Goose or Bull Rush.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Monday 8th April to Sunday 9th June, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and when it’s complete, the Points Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local store.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Please get busy collecting the stickers over the holidays.
Child Protection Information Line - Royal Commission
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has established a Child Protection Information Line in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

The dedicated information line will provide information about how schools are handling child protection matters and will be able to respond to individual enquiries and assist people who have concerns or help them take allegations to the police. It can also put people in touch with appropriate support services if needed.

The Child Protection Information Line is 1300 661 015 (cost of a local call within Australia). The line is available outside of school hours and connects directly to a Catholic Education Office staff member. A message service is also available on this line.

Facebook
Come like our page on Facebook. You can find us at Our Lady of the Way, Emu Plains. This page is intended to further our communication between home and school. We will be posting reminders, updates and pictures about daily life at school. It is not intended for students to access, as they are under the age limit as determined by Facebook.

Gold Award Recipients
Congratulations to the following children who received awards this fortnight:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◦ Ella Boyer  ◦ Sarah Budge  ◦ Noah Pascoe  ◦ Ellie Tsahtaris</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Did you know...
Tomatoes gain weight as they ripen!

Cherry or grape tomatoes make a tasty snack for children. Why not pack your child some for Crunch&Sip®?
"The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au."

Please speak with your class teacher(s) or contact me at mmifsud@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to the OLOWCURRICULUMSPOT.

Michael
Are your kids interested in art? Then look no further - come along to the Gallery for a special After School or Saturday workshop. The Gallery provides the perfect inspirational setting being the former home of artists Margo and Gerald Lewers. Book your child a spot so they can make, learn and have fun in a truly special environment. Whilst the kids are busy being arty parents can enjoy some quiet time to contemplate their creative thoughts. Call us now for more details 4735 1100.

**After School Workshops (Wednesdays)**

**ArtBox**
Students will work both in the exhibitions, being inspired by original artworks, and in the studio with an exciting variety of art materials includes drawing, collage, clay work and painting. Suitable for new and returning students. Inspired by music, with musical scores as drawing paper, make a simple musical instrument and create a series of drawing and collage inspired by the exhibition *Noise*.

5 - 9 years old. 4 - 5.30pm $130 per student 8 week program 8 May – 26 June

**Clay Capers**
Students will learn how to build objects from clay, starting with the designing stage and going on to complete three projects using a variety of hand building, joining and decorating techniques. Two of the three objects will be fired and under glazed. Suitable for new and returning students. Drums can be loud, decorative, ceremonial, and always cool! This term students will make a drum which will be fired. It will have impressed decoration and a leather skin. To conclude the term there will be a fun, short student drumming performance on 26 June.

10 - 14 years old 4-5.30pm $140 per student 8 week program 8 May – 26 June

**Art Attack Saturdays**

Not enrolled in Saturday sport? Come and join us at the Gallery for an eight week skilled based art making program. Students will learn innovative art techniques and try new mediums. Children will work in the studio discovering the world of art through fun, hands-on art making activities.

**Art Attack Joeys 5 – 8 years old, 10am -12noon $130 per student 8 week program 11 May – 29 June**
Students will work on a series of ‘crafty’ projects whilst learning about art and experimenting with different mediums including paint, clay, charcoal, card, soft wire and simple print making.

**Art Attack Kangas 9 – 12 years old, 10am-12noon $130 per student 8 week program 11 May – 29 June**
Workshops will include painting ‘plein air’ (outdoors in the fresh air) like the impressionists, working with a variety of painting mediums, sculpture and both expressive and observational drawing in a variety of mediums.

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**1st Emu Plains Scouts**

New Joey Scouts Mob
(Boys and Girls, ages 6 to 8)

Tuesdays, 6pm – 7pm
Lapstone Scouts
175 Explorers Rd, Lapstone 2773

Call Anne for more info Ph 47 39 6893 or 0466 235 990
Or just turn up on Tuesdays! [www.emuplainsscouts.org.au](http://www.emuplainsscouts.org.au)
(see poster on school noticeboard)
CELEBRATE THE CROSSING WITH US

2013 marks the bicentenary of the first successful European crossing of the Blue Mountains by explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

Join in the celebrations at the following free events:

Saturday 11 May - 7am - Luddenham Road off Mamre Road, St Marys
Breakfast and commencement of the Blue Mountains Crossing re-enactment treks at the site of Blaxland's farm. Featuring Jack Thompson.

Saturday 11 May - 3pm - Weir Reserve, Penrith
Family camp out 'a night under the stars' and historical activities, featuring a poetry reading by Jack Thompson.
*only a limited number of camping sites available, bookings essential.

Sunday 19 May - 10am - Mamre House, St Marys
Historical Festival, interactive activities, family entertainment and historical demonstrations. Farm and Cumberland Plains walking tours.

Saturday 25 May - 11am - Melrose Hall, Emu Plains
Morning tea and local historical commemorations, research your family tree and historical walking tours.

Sunday 26 May - William Cox Open Day - Arms of Australia Inn, Emu Plains
Historical Festival celebrating local colonial history.

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

Phone: 4732 7645
penrithishere.com.au
Rollercoasters™
A Curriculum for Children of Change

FOR KIDS WHOSE FAMILIES ARE CHANGING

Group activities for children age 6-11 who are experiencing & struggling with
Family separation | Parents' divorce | Family changes

Six Tuesdays: 21st May to the 18th of June 2013

Time: 4.00pm – 5.15 pm. After school

Venue: Anne D Clarke Building 2A Villiers St Parramatta

Bookings: Phone 99330222 to reserve a place
Cost: $10 per child per session (includes snack)

Topics Covered:
Week 1: Everything is different
Week 2: Is it my fault?
Week 3: I wish everything was back to normal
Week 4: I am so mad!
Week 5: How can I manage?
Week 6: What I have learned?
Rollercoasters

Letter to Parents

Dear Parents,

Working with children holds both rewards and challenges. For many children, one of their challenges will be to cope with family change. They need support and information to navigate these uncharted seas successfully. When parents and counsellors work together, sending similar messages of encouragement and hope, children’s anxieties diminish.

For this reason, a group for children of changing families, called Rollercoasters, is being formed for primary aged children. This group is designed for children who have recently experienced parental separation, divorce, or other changes in family composition. Whether your children reacted strongly or mildly to changes in their family, they often benefit from working with other children who have had similar feelings and experiences.

Rollercoasters utilizes discussions, games, role-plays, art and craft to help children cope with feelings and loss, manage anger and improve self esteem. Groups will meet once a week for 6 weeks from 4.00pm-5.15pm. There is a small weekly cost of $10 for the programme. Currently the group runs each term alternating between our Parramatta and Blacktown group room.

There is a ‘Tip Sheet for Parents’ available on request and a flyer with the dates and venue for the next group. I look forward to having your child in our group. Together we can support your child to adjust to these changes.

If you have any questions or if you are interested in having your child participate in this group please contact me.

Kind regards

Allan Mackey

Education Coordinator and Group Facilitator

CatholicCare Social Services Parramatta
Ground Floor | 2A Villiers Street | Parramatta NSW 2150 |
PO Box 2023 North Parramatta NSW 1750 |
Phone (02) 9933 0222 | Fax (02) 9933 0299 | allan.mackey@ccss.org.au |
Stepping Beyond is a Process/Personal Exploration Group. It is a monthly gathering for men and women who are separated or divorced. Through facilitated group interaction opportunity is given to individuals to address issues that arise as a result of changed life circumstances and ongoing adjustments. Emphasis is on personal awareness and self-development.

Facilitators: Sr. Eileen Quade and Ruby Chan

Date: Last Tuesday of each month
Time: 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Fee: $5.00
Venue: CCSS Centre Blacktown
51 -59 Allawah St
Blacktown

Bookings Essential
Solo Parent Ministry
Phone 9933 0205
seoparentministry@ccss.org.au

Focus Questions for Sharing

- How well are you "stepping beyond"?
- What do you want to "step beyond"?
- What are you currently "stepping beyond"?
- What is stopping you from "stepping beyond"?
- What have you learnt as you keep "stepping beyond"?
Foster Care Information Session
12 – 14 Second Avenue
(Tradelink Building)
BLACKTOWN NSW 2148
Wednesday the 1st of May 2013
1:00pm and 7:30pm

MacKillop Family Services is having an information session on
becoming a Foster Carer.

MacKillop Foster Carers offer care to children and young people
who are unable to live at home with their families.

We will also be providing information regarding our Therapeutic,
Short term, Emergency and Long Term Foster Care Program.

If you are interested in opening your home to children and you are
able to offer a stable and nurturing environment come along to the
information session and find out more. Supper supplied.

Please RSVP

Rhiannon Carvill or Pennelope Tan
on
8881 4800
Garage Sale

Date: Saturday 25th May 2013

Time: Sellers Set up 7am

Where: Emu Plains Guide Hall
Corner Great Western Highway and Nepean Street
Emu Plains. Follow the big yellow signs.

Sellers Wanted:

- Book your stall now
- $10.00 per stall
- Bring your own table and shelter as it is outside
- Don’t want to sell your own stuff, then donate to us and we will take care of
  the rest, give us a call. We can arrange for you to drop it off to us.

Please come and help support the Nepean Valley Trefoil Guild. Heaps of
bargains to be had.