Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are truly blessed……

Last Friday we gathered as a whole school community to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This was a truly beautiful Eucharistic celebration with high levels of student involvement and lovely participation by all students and many parishioners and extended family present. Special thanks to Year 4 for their significant contribution.

As well as the Mass itself, the incredibly generous families of Our Lady of the Way donated many gifts of food to the Penrith Community Kitchen and our biggest morning and afternoon tea was a wonderful example of people being Christ-like towards others in our own community as $1 033.65 was raised as a donation to go towards breast cancer research.

We are called to be the hands and face of Christ in our world today. Mary MacKillop challenges us to never see a need without doing something about it! Our lovely liturgy AND the generous actions of many meant that the children have a deeper understanding of the significance of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved in every place.

On Saturday and Sunday our Year 4 children will make their First Holy Communion. We ask God to bless them and their families at this special time. May these young people truly experience the wonder and grace of receiving Jesus through the Sacrament of Eucharist. May they be filled with joy through this sacred and special moment in their lives.

This is not only a special time for the children but also for our wider school and Parish community. Our entire faith and learning community is blessed by these children receiving Jesus through Eucharist.

We are truly blessed……

Literacy Learning at its very best……

As we move deep into this school year, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous work being done by the teachers, support staff and especially the students as we strive to improve not only our reading and comprehension, but all aspects of our literacy learning and teaching practice here at Our Lady of the Way. The improvements in reading are already proving to be very strong. We are well on the way towards achieving our Whole School Learning Goal of ALL children improving their reading skills, knowledge and comprehension strategies.

Reading without comprehension, is not reading!

As I move around the school I see children and teachers very focused, highly engaged and enjoying their learning! I also see ‘parent helpers’ regularly involved and supporting the great learning! The consistency of practice from Kinder to Year 6 and the very best use being made of every available minute of learning time is extraordinary.

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!
Mark your Diaries!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st June</td>
<td>Crazy Hair Day – Gold Coin Donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28th June</td>
<td>Pyjama Mufti Day - gold coin donation for St Vincent de Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 5th Sept</td>
<td>GRANDPARENTS' DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11th Sept</td>
<td>Whole School Creative Arts Performance</td>
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Students Arriving Late or Leaving Early
From the start of this term we have been using an electronic Student Attendance Roll. This makes tracking student attendance much easier. Any children arriving late or leaving early MUST CONTINUE to report to the office to be signed in/out.

There has been a large increase in the number of students arriving late and leaving early. This practice cannot continue. 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.

As previously stated parents 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 co-operation in this regard is greatly appreciated.

Mid-Year Reports
Through these reports the teachers aim to provide you with valuable information about your child as a learner – their achievements, their challenges and the ‘Where to next?’ for their learning. Above all we aim to celebrate each and every unique child and their God-given gifts.

It’s not, is each child intelligent? Rather, how are they intelligent!?

Dance Fever
Congratulations to all the children on the enthusiastic way they have made the very most of their Dance Fever lessons! Our best wishes to our Dance Fever Team who will be representing our school at the upcoming Dance Fever Competition at Homebush! Many thanks to Mrs Blazek for coordinating this program and to the many other teachers who have offered to help out on the night.

Cross Country
Best wishes to Keisha Chilmaid, Laura Patterson, Patrick Daley, Aimee Wagner and Georgia Ristevski who will compete at the NSWCCS (State level) Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek tomorrow. Many thanks to Mrs Walsh and Miss Lamaletie for coordinating our Cross Country program for 2013.

Principals Are Learners Too!
For the last week of this term (and another week late in Term 3) I will be attending the ELIM Program. This is an intensive professional development and spirituality program for Principals starting on Friday 21 June and running through until Friday 28 June. I will be joining colleagues from across New South Wales for what I believe will be a highly valuable learning experience. I leave you under the leadership of Mr Mifsud and our Leadership Team who will be able to help you with any matters which may arise.

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

Allan Jones
PRINCIPAL

LEARNING TOGETHER AT OLOW

Book Fair
In week 9 of this term the school will again host a Scholastic Book Fair. The Book Fair will offer a range of exciting books to cater for all our students and is a great way to celebrate reading whilst earning valuable resources for our school.

The Library will be open for students to purchase books on Monday 24th Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th of June from 8.15 am to 3.30pm.
Feast of the Sacred Heart and Penrith Community Kitchen:
Congratulations and thank you to Ms Glynn, Mrs Khalifeh and the beautiful students of Year 4 for helping to lead our Eucharistic celebration last Friday. You all helped us to experience such a lovely spirit as we celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart.

Thank you to those who showed an act of love and compassion and sent in items to help our collection for the Penrith Community Kitchen. Once again the generosity of the Our Lady of the Way community was overwhelming. If you still have items you would like to send in, please do so as we will arrange for the donations to be delivered in the next two weeks.

Sacramental Program:
Congratulations to the children who have been preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. They showed great knowledge from their lessons and had a wonderful rehearsal. The community is very much looking forward to celebrating with these children as they prepare to meet Jesus for the first time in this Sacrament. Each grade has been praying for a group of children every day. We wish the following children a wonderful experience this weekend:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 2 children</th>
<th>Stage 3 children</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam Hurley</td>
<td>Ciaran Rudge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adriana Marakovic</td>
<td>Connor Clifford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aiden Moore</td>
<td>Cooper Haley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aimee Wagner</td>
<td>Curtis Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alannah Walker</td>
<td>Dominic Sagun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber Dempsey</td>
<td>Dylan Matapo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annabelle Ruskin</td>
<td>Ebene Montgomery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bailey Sultana</td>
<td>Elizabeth Sweeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bianca Jordan</td>
<td>Emma Graham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair Stewart</td>
<td>Euan Burns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridie Witjes</td>
<td>Gabriel Bartolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke Robertson</td>
<td>Isaac Brace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chloe Montgomery</td>
<td>Jack Prendergast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Woods</td>
<td>James Borland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyal Risse</td>
<td>Jarrod Whiley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lara Roser</td>
<td>Jasmine Moffitt-Bourke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas James</td>
<td>Madalyn Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noah Panczyk</td>
<td>Madeleine Haley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Newton</td>
<td>Madison Whiteley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Kennedy</td>
<td>Mia Klokocki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan West</td>
<td>Mikaela Quiogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shania Marks</td>
<td>Mika Vlauthman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanene Matapo</td>
<td>Nicholas Peleti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tahlia Rando</td>
<td>Tara Altchison</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parish Children’s Mass:
On the 23rd of June we will be celebrating our next Parish Children’s Mass. It is also the day of Reconciliation enrolment. We are inviting children to take part in reading God’s Word, the Prayers of the Faithful, Gospel procession, offertory procession and the choir. A separate note was sent home yesterday for you to indicate if your child is interested in participating in the Mass.

Pyjama Day:
On the last day of term, Friday June 28, we will be holding a Pyjama Day to raise money for the St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. The students are invited to wear their pyjamas and bring in a gold coin donation. Students in the Social Justice Team will be sharing some information about the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society throughout Week 9. We hope in this way other students are able to make a connection with why we give in these situations.

Carole Day
Religious Education Coordinator

SPORTS NEWS

Netball News
On Tuesday August 20th, 6 teams from OLOW will compete in the St Nicholas Netball Carnival at Penrith Netball Courts. We congratulate all players and thank you in advance for your commitment to training. Training sessions will be held at school during break times for most teams.

We still require coaches for some teams. If you are able to assist please contact Mrs McKeon. Any ex-students who wish to umpire at the carnival are also asked to contact Mrs McKeon. This carnival provides a wonderful opportunity for emerging umpires to refine their skills.

Anne-Marie McKeon and Anne Atkins

Athletics Carnival – Monday 24th June
Thank you to the parents that have already offered to help at our Athletics Carnival on Monday 24th June. We are still needing some additional parent helpers. If you are able to assist, please return the note that was previously sent home to Mrs Scott.

Soccer Gala Day – UMPIRES NEEDED!!!
Stage 2 children will be participating in the Soccer Gala Day at Rooty Hill on Tuesday 24th (boys) and Wednesday 25th June (girls). We are required to take a referee with us. Do you know of someone that could help on either one or both days? Any Dads, Brothers, Uncles, Mums etc that could help would be greatly appreciated. Please send a note in to Mrs Grima Starkey or Mrs Khalifeh if you can assist.

Mark Taylor Shield Cricket
Our next game will not be until late next term. This gives time for other schools to complete their games and also for a ‘winter recess’. Possible dates are Friday 6th or Friday 13th September. A final date will be confirmed next term.
Creating Life Long Learners

Creating an environment where we create, nurture and celebrate life-long learning is our aim as educators. Whilst the children undertake a variety of rich, challenging and engaging tasks daily at school we need to also take into account the need for them to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and cultural pursuits.

To consolidate your child’s learning and to promote lifelong learning beyond our learning spaces try some or all of the following activities. Involve family members and friends in their learning and develop independence in study habits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTINGS</th>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help plan a holiday/trip: research attractions, compare and contrast the costs, calculate daily distances if driving.</td>
<td>Play sports or after school activities.</td>
<td>Swimming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grocery shopping: read ingredients to help choose the healthiest products for the best prices, find products that you have coupons for, figure out best deal between sizes of items.</td>
<td>Establish daily exercise plan: calculate distance walked, swam, biked, etc. and how many calories are used.</td>
<td>Relay races.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going shopping and computing how much 25/30/50% off would be on the sale price of clothes.</td>
<td>Spell words or do multiplication tables as you jump on a trampoline- one letter/number per jump.</td>
<td>Learn and perform magic tricks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go to a play or musical.</td>
<td>Spell words or do multiplication tables as you play basketball. One letter/number per shot.</td>
<td>Hopscotch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>While in the car make up words using the letters and add up the numbers from the surrounding number plates.</td>
<td>Spell words or do multiplication tables as you jump rope.</td>
<td>Puddle jumping.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALWAYS LEARNING WITH YOUR CHILDREN

**MATHEMATICS**

- Use homemade pizza, pie, pieces of bread to work on fractions.
- Use a fish tank to discuss conversions: litres to gallons.
- Create items for an “Estimation Table” where kids “estimate” how many items are in different containers with colourful objects.
- For multiplication facts, use small blocks with multiplication factors on them.
- Addition and subtraction of food on their plate during dinner. It works really well using vegetables!
- Measure the time it takes to count to ten, one hundred, one thousand etc.
- Count the steps it takes you to get to different locations in your house from the front door.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS**

- Make a simple scribble and the other person turns it into a completed composition.
- Origami (Japanese paper folding).
- Make a family banner using handprints to tell about a family member.
- Write a script from their favourite book, do research on the web to find out how to make puppets and produce a puppet show.
- Build models, such as birdhouses, cars, etc. This activity requires organization tools, measuring, cutting, creativity, art, painting, neatness: the list goes on, and at the end, they have something they created, that can be used or enjoyed by them, birds, etc.
- Create mosaics from bits of coloured paper.
- Make birthday cards for relatives: recycle objects around the house and include a picture of the kids in the card to make the card extra special.

**GAME AND ACTIVITIES**

- Reading out loud to each other.
- Email relatives: this makes writing and spelling words fun.
- Tic tac toe.
- Checkers.
- Watch a movie or show together and talk about it after.
- Cook as a family: include meal planning within a budget (cost, calories, nutrition), time it takes to create meal, etc.
- Make a graph of TV/Video time for a month. Compare with sleeping and/or exercise.
- Read the newspaper.
- Junior Monopoly/Original Monopoly.
- Read a book together, then watch the movie - compare/contrast the contents.

Contact me at mmifsud@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to the OLOWCURRICULUMSPOT.

“I never teach my pupils, I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.”

Albert Einstein

Michael
**GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS**

**OLOW PYJAMA DAY - Raising money for St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal**

On Friday 28th June, OLOW will be holding Pyjama Day! On this day all children are invited to come dressed in their pyjamas and to donate a gold coin to St Vincent de Paul to raise money for their Winter Appeal. The motto for this year’s Winter Appeal is “Do something about it”. The money we raise at OLOW will be donated in order to help provide families living in poverty with food, money to pay their house-hold bills and warm clothes for winter.

*Rebecca Kacoschke and Deanne Kuipers*

**Winter Uniform Changeover**

A reminder that we have no set date or time for changeover to winter uniform. This is up to parent discretion depending on how much their child feels the cold. We do ask, however, that your child dresses in either FULL winter or FULL summer uniform. The same applies for change back to summer uniform. Thank you for your cooperation.

**New Baby on the Block**

Congratulations to Ryan (4G) and Tegan (6D) West and Tracey and Adam on the safe arrival of a beautiful baby girl – London Olivia West. Welcome into the big wide world and may God bless you and your family always!

*Remainder – DISCO POSTPONED*

The school Disco has been postponed until early next term due to an unexpected clash with the Dance Fever competition.

**Celebrations of Learning and Merit Awards**

We have already moved from regular whole school assemblies, which mainly involved children sitting and listening, to a more interactive model at grade and stage levels. More opportunities for children to share and show their work and learning. Not only work samples but also the chance to show and share HOW they are learning.

The next change we are making is to discontinue our Gold and Silver Awards. This system will be phased out between now and the end of this term. We have already started to shift our emphasis and put focus on giving children immediate feedback on their learning and acknowledge the children’s efforts as immediately as possible.

Why are we changing?

Research tells us that rewards systems DO NOT have a significant impact on learning success. Positive and immediate feedback from teachers is what DOES make a difference so this is what we have decided to put more energy into.

What we have observed over time is an increased preoccupation with the ‘awards system’ rather than a focus on the children’s learning! Let us work together to place more importance on the intrinsic value and joy of learning, and less on external control and rewards. We need to teach the children to take personal responsibility for their actions and their learning.

From the Principal’s perspective this will give me more time to give immediate feedback to children when I visit their learning spaces, which I do regularly!

Teachers will continue to give out some merit awards to celebrate and acknowledge the children’s learning and achievements with a strong emphasis on recognition rather than reward and on this being more immediate and closure to the learning!

It was a unanimous staff decision to make the above changes following in depth discussions and careful consideration.

**If you have any awards please send them in by Wednesday 26th June.**

**School Funding Uncertainty**

With a Federal Government elections looming, the future funding of our Catholic schools is of great concern! There is great uncertainty about the funding of our schools coming from all sides of politics!

Some questions to ask our Prime Minister and other federal politicians!

1. When will the final financial outcomes for each of the six years of the rollout, 2014 to 2019 inclusive, for each Catholic school (both Catholic Education Commission and non-systemically funded) be known?
2. Can you explain your claim on Sunday 19 May that the average non-government school in NSW will lose $800,000 if the new funding model is not adopted?
3. What guarantees do we have that the full funding for the model will actually be found, or delivered, by 2019?
4. How can the Commonwealth predict funding for 2016 at this stage, given the 2015 review of indexation?

As a community we need to be proactive in ensuring justice for those families who choose a Catholic education and already pay up to 20% - 25% of the overall cost through school fees and fundraising (depending on which figures you choose to believe!). Will we be further penalised for saving the government money!?
School Website
Check out our website to see the latest photos from school events:

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Thank you to everyone for collecting the Woolworths Stickers. Please note that this promotion has now ended. It would be appreciated if any stickers and/or cards are sent into the office as soon as possible. Partially filled out cards are more than welcome. A very, very big thank you to the Flanagan family (Abbey, Mikayla) the Budge family (Sarah, Erin and Kate) and the Jordan family (Ethan, Hayley and Jeremy) who have been busy sticking our stickers on the cards. Thank you, your help is greatly appreciated.

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deal $ 4.00
Sausage Roll, Juice Popper, Frozen Juice Cup
(Valid from Tuesday 11th June to Tuesday 25th June)

Keep active in the colder months
Don’t be a winter wannabe and let you and your children be sedentary this winter. Encourage children to engage in active play such as bush walking, bike riding, kicking the footy, or playing a game of tag all year round.

Cool Kids Crunch&$ip®!
Don’t forget the bottle of water and fruit or vegetables for Crunch&$ip® everyday!

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

Silver Awards
- Olivia Newton
- Aimee Woods
- Jorja Tabor
- Olivia Pintos
- Finbar Cullen
- Annika Taber
- Samuel Bray
- Liam Darke
- Cody Luczak
- Elizabeth Fischer
- Abbey Flanagan
- Sandra Elias
- Harry Lewandowski
- Alex Godwin
- Hakopa Raukawa
- Ellie Moore
- Benjamin Robinson
- Benjamin Garrahy
- Tyler Clifford
- Sophie Proctor
- Sienna Craig
- Mia Kuster
- Riley Tait
- Seth Bourke
- Brianna Mangan
- Charlize Risse
- David Weld
- Archie Prendergast
- Mikayla Mercieca
- Milayna Brace
- William Pearson
- Georgia Cashel
- Cohen Borg

Gold Awards
- Isabella Roots
- Olivia Newton
- Liam Darke
- Ben Garrahy
- Lachlan Aitchison
- Kees Muller
- Harrison Bennett
- Keira Blazek
- Brooke Bentley
- David Weld
- Jorja Tabor
- Isobel Campbell
- Charlotte Risse
- Grace Foster
- Sienna Gahagen
- Sophie Proctor (x2)

Community News
Discover OLMC Parramatta
Discover Contemporary learning, Academic Excellence in the Mercy Tradition at Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta at the College Open Morning Tour on Tuesday, June 18, 2013.

The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.
You are invited to join us for

**St Joseph’s Primary School’s 50th Jubilee Dinner**

**Friday 28th June at 7.00pm**

Emu Sports Club,
1 Leonay Parade, Leonay

The evening will include the following:

- Nibbles on arrival
- 3 course dinner
- Band or DJ

(Drinks are not included, however a bar is available)

Tickets are $50 each.
Book individually or per table (8 people).

Tickets are available from the school office from
Wednesday 1st May to Friday 14th June
or until sold out.

There will be a maximum of 200 tickets available.

Please note that this event is available to adults only (ie 18 years or older).