

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

2nd March 2017

DIARY DATES

Thursday 2 March

Reconciliation Parent Evening, 7.30pm

Mon-Fri 6-10 March

Catholic Schools Week

Tuesday 7 March

2018 Kinders Open Morning, 9.15-10.15am

Thursday 9 March

Celebrations of Learning 9.15am

Parent Workshop – Maths 10.30am

Sat/Sun 11/12 March

Reconciliation Enrolment at Masses

Monday 13 March

Reconciliation Lessons begin

Thursday 16 March

Kindergarten Munch & Crunch Fundraiser

Thursday 23 March

Cross Country

Wednesday 29 March

Rite of Reconciliation

Friday 31 March

Disco

Monday 24 April

PUPIL FREE DAY

Wednesday 26 April

ANZAC Day Prayer, 10.15am

Thurs/Fri 27/28 April

Year 6 in Canberra

Wed 3 / Thurs 4 May

Eucharist Parent Information Evening, 7.30pm (repeated)

Thursday 11 May

Mothers' Day Stall

Friday 12 May

Mothers' Day Mass and High Tea, 9.00am

Sat/Sun 20/21 May

Eucharist Enrolment at Mass

Wednesday 24 May

Feast of Mary Help of Christians Prayer

Wednesday 31 May

P & F Cookie Dough Promotion

Friday 23 June

Feast of Sacred Heart Mass, 9.15am

Saturday 24 June

OLOW School and Parish Trivia Night

Friday 18 August

PUPIL FREE DAY

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

We commenced our Lenten journey on Wednesday. The Season of Lent is a time for us to focus intentionally on what helps or hinders our commitment to Christ. It may be better not to give up something but to take on something, to build up our spiritual muscles.

There are often two approaches during Lent. The first is to give up something - perhaps chocolate, alcohol, gossiping etc. The second approach is to do something like - find peace within relationships, do hard things with joy, be a friend to someone you wouldn't normally etc.

During this Lenten period, whether it is the first or second approach that is taken it is the act of sacrifice or thoughtfulness for another that is important. Lent is about mindfulness, reflection, consideration and prayer to renew our relationship with God. Let us examine how we show love to help those less fortunate than ourselves... without boasting... as we walk humbly with our God.

There is nothing better than seeing a child's face when their loved ones walk into their classroom to see the great learning in action. As part of Catholic Schools Week, on Thursday 9th March, we have our first **Celebration of Learning**. I welcome all parents, grandparents and friends to join us as we showcase the learning happening at OLOW.



This will be followed at 10:30am by a **MATHS & COFFEE WORKSHOP**. This is open to all our community. Hopefully the coffee will help you feel welcome and comfortable as we explore together the ways we teach Mathematics at OLOW and what you can do at home to encourage your children.

During the week, we once again present to you the **OLOW ART EXHIBITION** showcasing the creativity and talents of our students. The exhibition will be on display in the Parish hall from Monday at 2:30pm to Thursday at 3pm. We encourage you to view each grades creations. If you wish to purchase your child's work, there is a \$5 fee or note donation. The money raised from this year's ART EXHIBITION will go towards the building of the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) on the infant's playground.

May God Bless You,
Mrs Sue Veling
Principal



OUR LADY OF THE WAY MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of the Way is a Catholic community in which children, teachers and parents nurture a sense of personal worth as they work together in a safe, happy, challenging and faith-centred learning environment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 1 WEEKS 4 & 5



Rory Muller, Lily Callaghan, May Fischer, Max Selby, Ivy Hooke, Pierce Lucas, Lincoln Mayer, Kate Roser, Charlize Risse, Ethan Hughes, Jack Sikic, Natalie Burke, Cruz Vilar, Marcus Skinner, Erin Downie, Patrick Urquhart, Kaylin Wilcox, Mia McGrath, William Drummond, Aidan Callaghan, Aimee Woods, Bailey Grima, Jayden Roots, Dylan Anderson, Jewel Bahlmann, Benjamin Hall, Maya Deacon-Chilmaid, Sophie Jones, Ben Garrahy, Ava Jones, Katelyn King, Cadence Biggar, Caleb Vanegas, Lucas Woods.

PUPIL FREE DAYS

Our next Pupil Free Day will be held in Term 2 on Monday 24th April – the first day back after the holidays.

OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR 2017

Dates have been set for parents who wish their child to receive the following Sacraments of Initiation in 2017.

Reconciliation - in Term 1 (Children in Year 3 or above)

First Holy Communion - in Term 2 (Children in Year 4 or above who have made their first Reconciliation)

Confirmation - in Term 3 (Children in Year 5 or above)

If you require further information, please speak to Julie at the school office or Chrissy at the Parish Office.

NAPLAN 2017

National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing will be conducted at *Our Lady of the Way* from 9-11 May 2017 for all students in Years 3 & 5.

	Tuesday 9 th May	Wednesday 10 th May	Thursday 11 th May
Year 3	* Language Conventions (40 minutes) * Writing (40 minutes)	* Reading (45 minutes)	* Numeracy (45 minutes)
Year 5	* Language Conventions (40 minutes) * Writing (40 minutes)	* Reading (50 minutes)	* Numeracy (50 minutes)

If you have any concerns about your child sitting the NAPLAN testing, please talk to Mrs Veling.

OLW NEW PHONE NUMBER

If the school has phoned you, you may have noticed a new phone number appearing on your screen. CEDP are installing a new phone system across the Diocese and our existing numbers do not comply. Our New number is **4777 7200**. The old number will continue to be diverted to the school for a few months.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S READING CHALLENGE 2016

Congratulations to the following students who were recognised for completing the *Executive Director's Reading Challenge* over the summer holidays. Each student received a special certificate signed by Mr. Whitby, the Executive Director of Catholic Schools in the Parramatta Diocese.

Keira Blazek; Mikayla Blazek; Oliver Herps; Isabelle Moran; Grace Carey; Taylah Cowley; Oliver MacLennan



Mr Whitby is a passionate reader himself because 'it takes him to new worlds that he could never go outside of his imagination.' The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is open every year to all students enrolled in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta. Students need to independently read 10 or more age-appropriate books during the summer holidays. We hope to see many more OLOW students participate in this wonderful initiative in the 2017/2018 summer holidays.



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

On Monday 15th May all students will have individual and grade photos taken. As in previous years, pre-paid envelopes will be sent home two-weeks prior to the date. Family photos are also available, and these envelopes will be available from the office. This year students will wear their SPORTS UNIFORM for the photos. Year 6 students will have a graduation photo in their summer uniform and a grade photo in their new white polo shirts.

ENROLMENT PERIOD FOR KINDERGARTEN 2018

If you have a child who is of school age at the beginning of 2018, please collect an enrolment package from the front office or download an application from our website during the month of March. We look forward to welcoming all our new families next week on Tuesday from 9:15am to showcase our wonderful school and its facilities.

SCHOOL FEES

The school fee statements for Term 1, 2017 have been mailed out and are due by Monday 6th March. If you have not yet received your statement, please contact me on 4777 7200 to arrange for a copy to be sent home.

If you would like to pay the 2017 fees as per the amounts shown on the Flexible Payment Plan paperwork, you need to contact me as soon as possible so that I am able to set the arrangement up for you. Please note that school fee arrangements made in 2016 do not automatically continue. This includes those families that have automatic payments deducted from Centrelink.



Catholic Education Diocese, Parramatta, 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 office to discuss payment options. Your situation will be treated with care and confidentiality and an appropriate payment arrangement will be made for you. Please note that as part of this process you may be required to complete a Statement of Financial Position so that the school is aware 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 2016 (except Flexible Payment Plan) it is important that you contact me when you receive your Term 1 statement so that I am aware of your intentions for 2017.

If you need to discuss any issues regarding the school fees, please contact me by phone on 4777 7200 or by email pvion@parra.catholic.edu.au

Miss Pascale Vion
Finance Secretary

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2017 @ Our Lady of the Way School

Catholic Schools Week is being celebrated across NSW and ACT between 5-11th March. The theme for CSW 2017 is '**Learning connected**', building on Pope Francis' statement that '*Everything is connected*'. This sense of connection calls for shared responsibility for the care of nature and our human relationships in a changing world.

Catholic Schools Week is about forging and strengthening connections between everyone who has a stake in our school – students, staff, families, priest & parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing our activities and actions.

During Catholic Schools Week, we take the opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our school every day.

For that reason, I invite you and your family to join us at Our Lady of the Way during Catholic Schools Week to celebrate with our school and parish community.

Our school has a supportive and talented community of teachers, parents, carers, P&F, clergy, parishioners and support staff who work together to give students the best education possible.

This special week on the Catholic Schools' calendar provides an opportunity for the community to recognise our committed and gifted teachers and support staff for their work in encouraging success, promoting discipline, supporting creativity and instilling compassion in our young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support of Our Lady of the Way and look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week with you.

As part of our CSW celebration at OLOW we invite you to attend:

- ➔ Monday 6th March at 8:45am our morning assembly and Catholic Schools Week prayer.
- ➔ Tuesday 7th March at 9:15am we welcome prospective enrolments and their parents for an open morning tour of the school followed by morning tea.
- ➔ Thursday 9th March 9:15-10:15am Celebration of Learning in all grades
- ➔ Thursday 9th March 10:30-11:30am Maths & Coffee Workshop for Parents - *Come and find out how Maths is taught at OLOW and how you can help your child.*

OLOW ART EXHIBITION

From 2pm on Monday 6th March until Thursday 9th March at 3:15pm all parents, carers and friends are invited to visit the OLOW ART EXHIBITION (in the parish hall) of beautiful portraits, landscapes and artistic designs created by our students based on a variety of famous artists, sculptures and designers.

If you wish to purchase any art work, they will be on sale for \$5 each or a note donation. All proceeds will go the building of our new COLA – Covered Outdoor Learning Area.

AT OLOW WE HAVE LOTS TO CELEBRATE!

BYOD – BRING YOUR OWN DEVICES TO SCHOOL

At OLOW we have a policy that students in Years 3-6 *may* bring their own devices to school (tablets or computer). **This is OPTIONAL.** OLOW, with thanks to our wonderful P&F, have purchased enough devices (iPads, Mac's, Chromebooks) to cover each grade throughout the school. There is no need for students to bring in their own devices unless parents want them to. Please don't feel pressured to go out and buy a device for your child.

DIOCESAN SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Last Friday the following students swam at Blacktown Aquatic Centre against the best primary school aged swimmers from all Catholic schools in the Parramatta Diocese.

Declan Cremen, Akeda Deacon - Chilmaid, Jade Elford, Lucienne Heffernan, Oliver Herps, Milly Brace, Erin Downie, Taylor Latham, Marshall Pereira, Thomas Renny, Hakopa Raukawa, Jayden Roots, Sophie Procter, Tiare Raukawa, Amelia Renny, Benjamin Robinson and James Cremen,

The following students are heading off to the next stage – the NSW Catholic Schools Trials at Homebush on Wednesday 22nd March. We wish them well

Heffernan, Lucienne — 9 Years (OLOW) 50m Freestyle 50m Butterfly	OLOW, Female Jnr Girls Relay Jade Elford Erin Downie Milly Brace Lucienne Heffernan
Robinson, Benjamin — 12 Years (OLOW) 100m Freestyle(4) 50m Freestyle(4)	OLOW, Male — Snr Boys relay Benjamin Robinson Declan Cremen James Cremen Jayden Roots

NEPEAN ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL



A big congratulations to all our OLOW Zone Representatives, it was a great day and as always your behaviour, sportsmanship and positive attitudes were outstanding! You should all be very proud of yourselves, as we are very proud of you all!

A special mention to our parent helpers Mr Dowdell and Mrs Procter, and Mrs Nixon and all the cheerleaders who came along and supported the students.

Congratulations to Lucienne who was Jnr Girls age champion and Jade who was runner up Jnr Girls age champion. Tiare who was tied 11 years age champion. Ben who was runner up Senior Boys age champion.



Well done to our Jnr Boys, Jnr Girls and Senior Boys relay teams!



DO NOT PARK IN THE TROY STREET STAFF & PARISH CARPARK

This carpark is set aside for staff, the parish and disabled students. We still have a number of parents parking in this carpark before and after school.

This has become very frustrating and dangerous particularly for our disabled students and their parents, and elderly parish members who are working with Fr Mick, when no spots can be found.

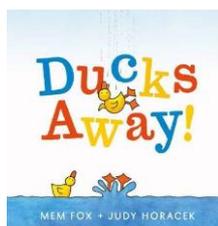
Some parents are even leaving children in the car with the motor running as they rush inside to collect their children.

The actions of these parents are of serious concern, as it displays complete disregard for the safety of their own children let alone those of our students who are walking through the carpark to reach Troy Street.

It is disappointing that again we will have to reinstate the chain and no entry sign at the entrance to the carpark.

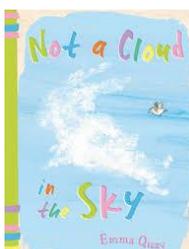
Mrs Sue Veling

LIBRARY NEWS



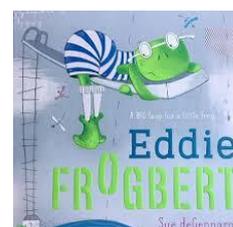
Kindergarten

How many ducks fell in the water?



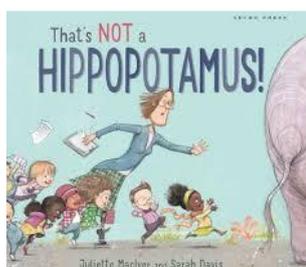
Year 1

What did you see in the clouds today?



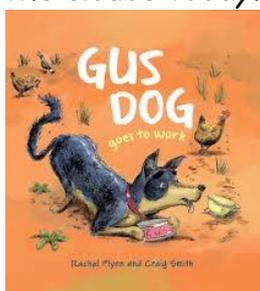
Kinder & Year 4

Did Eddie make it to the diving competition?



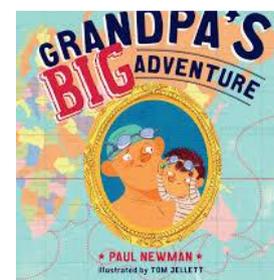
Year 1

Let's find the hippo?



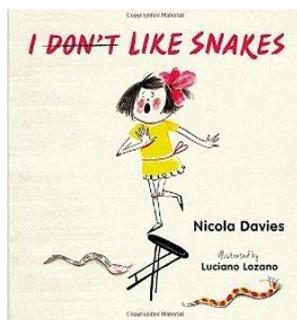
Year 2 to Year 5

A working farm dog and his adventures?



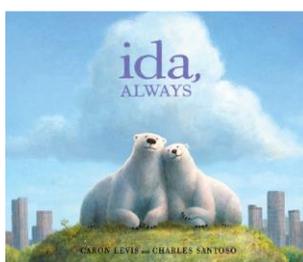
Year 2 to Year 5

Grandpas' tell the funniest stories!



Year 3

Do you like snakes?



Year 5 & Year 6

Losing a best friend....



Year 6

A story shared on Valentines Day.....

The children visit the Library each week. During this lovely time the children are introduced to the Library, instructed on how to borrow a book, what's new to the Library and the best part of all we share and read a book! Some of these books are shown above. Take some time and chat to your child about what book they listened to today. Please make sure your child has a plastic bag to be able to borrow – this is to protect their books. **Year's 5 & 4 visit Monday, Year's 1, 2, 6 & Kinder visit Tuesdays.** Thank you – Mrs Masters –Library Assistant



From the sidelines

Welcome to our first newsletter from the 2017 P&F Committee.

We are preparing for a very busy and exciting year in 2017. We have many fun activities and social events planned throughout the year and we are looking forward to bringing our community together to help raise funds for our school's new COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area).

The P&F is still looking for a Fundraising Coordinator to join our team; it is a valued and rewarding role. You will have the full support of the P&F as well as the two fundraising assistants. All events have already been planned and allocated to grades. If you are interested in this role, or if you have any questions please contact someone from the Committee to discuss further. This can be done through the office.

Our major event for this year is our Fete and the Fete Co-ordinators are already working hard so it will be bigger and better than ever. We are looking forward to working with our school families and the wider community to raise funds for our wonderful school and most of all, the chance to bring the *Our Lady of the Way* school community together. If you would like to assist in any way or would like to contribute ideas, resources or even a sponsorship, please contact the Committee through the office.

The OLOW Fundraising Schedule has been sent home this week with an attached nomination form. For ease of organisation, we have allocated events to specific grades; however, families are welcome to participate in events beyond those allocated. Your help and support is gratefully appreciated at each event and we encourage your assistance in any way you are able to.

A note from the President

A short introduction...My name is Kiery. I have Noah in Year 4 and Layla in Year 2 and this is my fourth year on the Committee. I initially joined the P&F to become involved with my children's education and to make some new friends. What I found was that I really enjoy being able to support the great team of staff at *Our Lady of the Way* in our common goal of enhancing the school's environment.

I would like to say thank you to Kelly Tabor, for her time on the P&F Committee; it is greatly appreciated by all.

I look forward to working with you all this year and hope to see some more new faces at our meetings. Our meetings are informative, entertaining and they are a great way to meet fellow school parents. There is a positive, collaborative nature to our meetings and the achievements we do together.

If you have any questions or would like to assist in any way, please feel free to contact myself or any of the committee members. My email address: kieryandbrett@gmail.com and I look forward to working with you throughout year.

**The next P&F meeting will be held at 7pm
on Wednesday 26th April 2017 in the Staff Room.**

President – Kiery Pascoe, **Vice President** – Kate Andrews, **Secretary** – Rochelle Bahlmann,
Treasurer – Jane Cashel, **Fundraising Co-ordinator** VACANT, **Fundraising Assistant** – Vanessa Garrahy, Sarah Pereira
Social Media – Julie Woods, **Fete Coordinator** – Ben and Tara Cremmin
Committee members – Kevin Houlihan, Regina Hawkes, Melissa McGrath

Important dates

P&F Meeting

Wednesday 26th April, 7pm

Munch 'n' Crunch run by
Kindergarten parents

Thursday 16th March during
1st break

School Disco-

Friday 31st March –

Infants: 5:30pm-6:30pm

Primary: 7pm-8:30pm



COMMUNITY NEWS

McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

Enrolling now for 2018

Open Evening: Wednesday 8 March 2017

Time: 4.00pm to 7.00pm

- Meet the Principal, staff and students leaders
 - Tours of the College facilities
 - Trade Training Centre information
 - Enrolment packages available
- Presentations at 4.15pm 5.15pm and 6.15pm

Enquiries: 4735 3211

Website: www.mccarthyemuplains.catholic.edu.au



St Dominic's College 2017 OPEN DAY Sunday the 5th of March

You are invited to join us for our Annual Open Day at the College from 10am 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
Dominus Lux Mea
THE LORD IS MY LIGHT



Caroline Chisholm
COLLEGE

2018 ENROLMENTS
FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open night: Monday 6th March 2017 (6 - 8:30pm)

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

6:30 to 7pm - 7:30 to 8pm
Tours of College Facilities

Further information can be obtained on our website 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

FINAL TOUR DATES

SPIRIT OF ANZAC
CENTENARY EXPERIENCE

A free travelling exhibition that tells the story of Australia's involvement in the First World War, featuring artefacts from the Australian War Memorial.

BOOK FREE TICKETS NOW AT
WWW.SPIRITOFANZAC.GOV.AU

We will be hosting free children's activities at the Experience from 17 - 21 April. Find out more and register your interest at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/sydney/activities

International Convention Centre Sydney
15 - 27 APR 2017

PRESENTED BY

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Have you tried **PHYSIE** yet?

FIRST 2 LESSONS FREE!!

Why not join us in 2017?

Physie is a great dance sport for girls and ladies including:

- * Ballet * Jazz * Contemporary
- * Pilates * Aerobic dance

For girls aged 3 years to Ladies. Your daughter can have fun, make friends and learn to dance...and so can you!

GLENBROOK PHYSIE is associated with the BJP School of Physical Culture

**** CLASSES HELD AT MT RIVERVIEW PS**

Tel: 0402139613 /47394214

Glenbrook Physie

New members welcome