



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

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

1st May 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 2 May

ANZAC Day Prayer
12.30pm

Saturday 3 May

First Communion Practice
after 6.00pm Mass

Sunday 4 May

First Communion Practice
after 9.30am Mass

Tuesday 6 May

Diocesan Cross Country,
Eastern Creek

Wednesday 7 May

MUFTI DAY
Dress in Blue, Pink, Purple
Penalty: \$2.00 gold coin

Thursday 8 May

Mothers' Day Stall

Mothers' Day Prayer,
2.15pm

Friday 9 May

PUPIL FREE DAY

Saturday 10 May

First Holy Communion
6.00pm Mass

Sunday 11 May

First Holy Communion,
9.30am Mass

Mothers' Day

Monday 12 May

All students to wear
full winter uniform from
today

Tuesday 13 May

NAPLAN
CSIRO Incursion, Yr 4

Wednesday 14 May

NAPLAN

Thursday 15 May

NAPLAN

Friday 16 May

Students bring in
chocolates for Fete

Sunday 1 June

School Fete

Thursday 11 September

Grandparents' Day

Mon/Tues 8 & 9 Sept

Creative Arts Expo

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,



Welcome to Term 2. At Our Lady of the Way school we believe that students construct learning through exploration and experimentation, through questioning and with the experience of appropriate learning tasks, activities and technologies. Term 2 brings another exciting and productive learning time for your children.

During the term break we have celebrated two significant events, the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter and ANZAC Day. Each of these events are filled with the messages of peace, hope and sacrifice.

It is important that as Catholics we ensure that Jesus' sacrifice is given continued life as we live out His message. This message is that through our Baptism we must each continue to live Jesus' example of how we treat others, honour our God and practise our faith.

As Australians, we remember the ANZAC's and that like Jesus, they too laid down their lives for others. They fought for our country, and countries across the Middle East and Europe, so that peace could be the gift for generations to come.

May we take this challenge of living peacefully into our new term. Let us all strive to keep alive the Easter and ANZAC messages so that together we can make our homes, our school, our community and our world better places.

May the Month of Mary

Today we begin the month of May. May is the month dedicated to Mary and indeed all mothers with the celebration of Mothers' Day on Sunday 11th May. When Mary was asked to be the mother of Jesus, it was a great journey of her faith and indeed like all new mothers, one of adventure! Being a mother is the most selfless of gifts.

Jesus was guided by His mother. He became the most significant role model ever known to the world. The influence of Mary on all generations, through her son, is immeasurable. Like all mothers, she may never have dreamt of how her model, guide and advice would live on through the ages. There is always a little bit of our mothers still alive in all of us. May I take this opportunity to pray for God's blessings upon all mothers of the *Our Lady of the Way* community and to give thanks for the beautiful children we have been gifted by God.

God Bless,
Sue Veling
Principal



Pupil Free Day – Term 2

Our Staff development Day for Term 2 will be on Friday 9th May. Staff will spend time aligning our English outcomes, developing a scope and sequence and completing professional development around the new English continuum.

NEXT Friday 9th May will be a pupil free day.



Movie Night & Picnic

Thank you to the Year 1 parents for running the picnic and movie night on the last day of Term 1. The dry weather held out...well almost, and an enthusiastic group of parents and children enjoyed a relaxing evening under the stars. A big thank you to Kevin Houlihan for sharing his theatre equipment and setting up such a lovely big screen.



Mother's Day Stall & Prayer

Our Year 2 parents will have some lovely Mother's Day gifts available for purchase on Thursday 8th May. Prices range from between \$1:00-\$5:00. This will be followed by a special prayer for all Mothers, Carers and Grandmothers at 2:15pm.

Pupil Free Day – Term 2

Our staff development day (SDD) for Term 2 will be on Friday 9th May. Staff will spend time aligning the new English syllabus outcomes, developing a scope and sequence and completing professional development around the new English writing continuum. Friday 9th May is a pupil free day.

Diocesan Cross Country

On Tuesday 6th May, Mrs Scott and Mrs Walsh will take a team of 44 students from Years 3-6 to the Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek. We wish the OLOW team good luck.



First Holy Communion

We continue our prayers for the children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday 10th May at 6pm and Sunday 11th May at 9:30am masses. This is a most beautiful sacrament. We are so proud of these children as they take this important step towards their full initiation into our Catholic faith community.

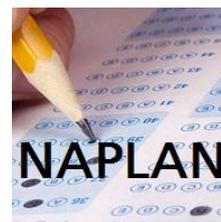
National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN)

NAPLAN testing for students in Years 3 and 5 will be held from 13 – 15 May 2014. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. 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 individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards.

Tuesday 13 May – Language Conventions & Writing

Wednesday 14 May – Reading

Thursday 15 May - Numeracy



Winter School Uniform

Students are required to wear full winter uniforms in Term 2. We are conscious that the weather can be unseasonal so we will allow a grace period until Monday 12th May, when everyone should be wearing their winter uniform.

Girls' winter uniform

Grey/green plaid tunic, white blouse with Peter Pan style collar (short sleeve blouse may be worn on hotter days), bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem, plain white ankle socks (not anklet socks) or black tights, black school shoes and bottle green school hat with school emblem.

Boys' winter uniform

School style grey pants – long or shorts (cargo or corduroy style are not permitted), mint green shirt with school emblem (long or short sleeved), bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem, grey ankle socks (not anklet socks), black school shoes and bottle green school hat with school emblem.

Fete

Our school fete is just 5 weeks away - on Sunday 1st June. The P&F committee have been working extremely hard behind the scenes to get the fete up and running. They are looking for lots of helpers and need your support to make our fete a success. This is the schools' major fund-raiser and we are hoping to raise over \$20,000 to purchase much needed ICT equipment for the classrooms including iPads, laptops, document cameras and a green screen with lights.

Parents may like to start redirecting pocket money (if your child receives this) to becoming the 'fete spending money' fund. Jobs that you can have them to do now, before the fete, can be turned into spending money at the fete. The children will be able to spend their money on eg: show bags, lollies, lucky dips, footy passes, Dunking Booth, books, toys, crazy hair, face painting, nail polish, chocolate wheel and lots of exciting rides. Rides have been discounted if you pre-pay for them. These are available on-line or from the school office.

Semester One Reports

Towards the end of this term, staff will begin to write your child's semester report. At *Our Lady of the Way*, we use the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) report for students from Years 1-6 with the A-E grading. Kindergarten receive a school based report with achievement indicators.

As Term 2 is a short term of only 9 weeks, reports will be sent home on Monday 14th July, the first week of Term 3 with the opportunity for Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences occurring in Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 3 starting Monday 21st July.

On Tuesday 10th June at 9am & again at 7pm a parent session has been organised to discuss - **'What does the A-E reporting grades really mean?'** All parents are invited, but Year 1 parents are strongly encouraged to attend so they have a full understanding of the reporting grades.

Celebrations of Learning and Parent Workshop

In Term 2, we will have our next *Celebrations of Learning* morning on Thursday 26th June from 9:15-10:15am followed by a *Maths Parent Workshop* from 10:15-11:00am. We are hoping for a big turnout at both sessions. If you want to experience first-hand, maths activities that will help your child develop their mathematical understanding...then this hands-on workshop is for you!



Mackay Lane

After the Council meeting held on Monday night, the councillors voted to keep Mackay Lane open as a thoroughfare for pedestrian traffic. As you can imagine, we are very disappointed with this outcome. It is hoped that Penrith City Council will work with school communities to look at the ongoing safety and protection of all school children in the area. At present we are in discussion with the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta for alternate options for the security of our students and staff. We wish to personally thank all parents and friends who attended the meeting in a show of support and for the help received in preparing the submission.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) Appeal:

During the month of May, we will be joining all schools and parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta to help support the Diocesan Works Fund. Over the coming weeks we will learn about some of the ministries and people it supports. Also known as faith@work this fund reaches out to people in our local communities that are not supported by regular parish contributions.

On Friday, May 2, we will send out collection envelopes with a letter to parents about the Appeal.

Bishop Anthony Fisher has written his letter on the back of the Giving Envelope to you and other members of the Catholic community across Western Sydney to ask for everyone's support.

The faith@work appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as one Church family to support ministries and services that no individual parish or school can offer. Of particular interest is Blacktown Neighbour Aid service, which assists the frail, aged, people with a disability and their carers in our community; and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) which trains religious education teachers who give witness to their faith in public schools in Western Sydney.

Your contribution enables services such as Blacktown Neighbour Aid, CCD and Catherine Villa (supporting homeless mothers aged 16-25) to respond to more people in need. Please be generous so these good works can continue.

On Wednesday May 7 we will be holding a mufti-day and are asking all children to bring in a \$2 coin donation. As the logo for faith@work is pink, purple and blue, the children are invited to dress something which contains one of these colours. All proceeds will go to the DWF Appeal. Members of our Social Justice team will share information about the many organisations that the fund aids, prior to the mufti-day. It is hoped the children will gain an understanding of who they will be helping by taking part in the fundraiser.

Mufti day
gold coin donation please



ANZAC Day Prayer Celebration:

We will gather as a school community to remember the ultimate sacrifice made by men and women of our country through an ANZAC Day prayer celebration. It will take place this Friday, May 2, at 12:30pm in the church. Representatives from all grades will be laying a wreath as part of the reflection. You are more than welcome to attend.

Holy Week Celebration:

Thank you to the students of Year 5 and Year 3 for helping us to celebrate a beautiful Holy Week Liturgy of the Word before we went on holidays. Their reading and miming was excellent. Thank you also to Mrs Hensen, Mrs Grima-Starkey and Miss Colyer for contributing to the organisation of the liturgy and the preparation of the children.



Project Compassion:

Thank you for supporting your children with Project Compassion this year. Our '5c Friday' raised \$227 and this total will be added to all the other contributions individual children made during the season of Lent. Mrs Alexander is busily counting the many, many coins that the children have donated. Monies raised will be sent to Caritas.

Mothers' Day Prayer Celebration:

On Thursday May 8 we will celebrate the gift of our mothers. We invite all mothers, grandmothers and carers to attend our very special Mothers' Day prayer celebration at 2:15pm in the church. Our special prayer time is being prepared by the Year 2 teachers Mrs Johnston, Miss Lamaletie and Mrs Eekman and led by the children of Year 2. We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us.

A Mothers' Day Ritual to share:

Ritual:

In whatever way Mother's day is celebrated in your family, take some time to thank and bless your Mother. Perhaps at the end of the day, gather round a meal with your Mother, light a candle or two and each family member name what it is that you value and appreciate about your Mother. Having done so, stand in a circle around your Mother, each placing your hand upon her shoulder or head as you bless her. The blessing that would most deeply touch your Mother would be the blessing that you write as a family. Use the following as a guide.

Blessing:

May you be blessed Mum, with God's loving support as you give yourself to us in all that you do for us.

Mother's Response: Amen

May you be blessed Mum with the wisdom and strength of God's Spirit as you faithfully do what you know to be good and right for us your children.

May you be blessed Mum with joy and laughter, wonder and delight in our family life together.

May you be blessed Mum with our support, understanding and love in those times when you are tired, stressed and in need. May God always bless you, protect you and be gracious to you.

A Prayer for those without their Mothers:

Here is a simple prayer for those families and children whose Mothers are no longer with them, through death, or through alienation and separation.

God of compassion and of tender mercy, we remember today our Mother who is no longer with us (Pause in silent prayer). We ask you to bring comfort and healing to us as we grieve and pain at the loss and separation of our Mother. May time bring us, through your grace, peace and understanding of all that we struggle to accept in our lives. We make this prayer in your name, O God of Love.
Amen.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator



Social Networking & Keeping our Children safe online.

Social networking describes a variety of services like Facebook, YouTube, World of Warcraft, Moshi Monsters and Twitter. All of these services enable direct interaction between individuals. Users can post information about themselves, display photos, tell people what they've been up to, chat and play games. Social networking forms a part of the social identity of many teens.

While social networking offers many benefits, there are risks. Sometimes children can forget who they are communicating with online and who might see the information they post. It can be easier for children and teens to say and do things online that they might not do offline. It can also be easier to talk to strangers online than it is offline, and they may confide too much in people they don't know well.

It is important that children understand the risks associated with disclosing information about themselves online and know how to manage both their privacy and online 'friends'.

Is my child old enough for social networking sites like Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Tumblr, Twitter, Kik etc?

Most high profile social networking sites ask users set up a profile with photos and information about themselves. 13 is the minimum user age required by Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Tumblr and Twitter. Kik recommends that users are 17 years or older.

If your child is 13+ you should still consider the following:

- Is your child able to withstand taunts from others?
- Does your child understand what is safe to put online?
- Does your child know how to report abuse and offensive content?
- Are you worried your child will be left out?
- Are you going to supervise or 'friend' your child on social sites?

Keep them safe online.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nothing replaces parental supervision and education for kids about cybersafety. 2. Set a technology curfew. 3. Remind your child to never give out identifying information such as your home address, school name or telephone number in a public message such as chat or newsgroups. 4. If your child posts photos online, use privacy settings to limit access to people they know well. 5. Remind your child that people don't always tell the truth online, and they can't take anything at face value. 6. Reassure your child that they can tell you anything, without fear of losing the laptop or internet access. 7. If they get a message or email that's threatening or rude, they should 'STOP, BLOCK, TELL'. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. The First step is to tell your child to stop responding to the abuse and then block those people sending threatening or rude messages if they continue. Let your child know that if they are being bullied, or know someone else who is, they should tell a trusted adult. 9. Never click on any links that are contained in emails from people they don't know. As well as sexual content, they could contain a computer virus. 10. If you suspect your child has been contacted by a predator, try to save a copy of the chat log (or whatever form the contact takes) for evidence. Call Crime Stoppers 24-hour line 1800 333 000 to make a formal complaint. 11. Your child will be using computers and the technology for the rest of their lives – you're in the great position of being able to get them off to a safe, positive start. |
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- **At OLOW we promote and believe in the need to respect the rights, beliefs and viewpoints of others.**
- **We encourage all members of our community to follow the same standards of behaviour online as you are expected to follow in real life.**

Taken from www.dec.nsw.gov.au & www.cybersmart.gov.au

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

Michael

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Food Allergy Awareness

Severe allergies are a community health issue. The most severe allergic reaction is called “**Anaphylaxis**” and can be life-threatening. Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It can occur when a susceptible person is exposed to an allergen (such as a food or insect sting). We have children at OLOW who do suffer from severe food allergies and whilst we are not a nut free school we do ask for everyone’s co-operation in minimising the risk to our children. If you could supply your children with food that is nut free we would greatly appreciate it. There are posters up around the school or you can visit the website: www.allergyfacts.org.au for more information.

Have You Changed Your Contact Details Recently?

If you have recently changed any of your contact details, please fill in the relevant areas of the form below, then sign and date it and return to the school office. Thank you.

CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM

(Please complete only those details that have changed)

SURNAME:	CHILD/CHILDREN’S NAME/S:
<u>New</u> Address Details:	
<u>New</u> Home Phone No:	
<u>New</u> Mother’s Mobile No:	
<u>New</u> Mother’s Work No:	
<u>New</u> Father’s Mobile No:	
<u>New</u> Father’s Work No:	

New Emergency Contact Details:

(This is someone that can be called in the event that a parent cannot be contacted)

<u>New</u> Name:	Relationship to Child:
<u>New</u> Home Phone:	<u>New</u> Work Phone:
<u>New</u> Mobile Phone:	
Date:	Signature:

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre Inc. (Corner Hare and Moore Streets, Glenbrook)

Term 2, 2014 starts Monday 5th May (8 weeks). Enrolment Day: Saturday 3rd May 10:00am TO 2:00pm

Enquiries: See our website for enrolment forms and more information: www.bmcac.com or you can enrol online by emailing bmcac.mail@gmail.com or phone Ingrid on 4739 1118.

Fire & Rescue NSW
**FIRE STATION
OPEN DAY**



Sat 17 May
10am - 2pm