



# By The Way



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

5<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## DIARY DATES

### Friday 6 May

Mothers' Day Prayer,  
9.45am

High Tea, 10.15am

### Tuesday 10 May

NAPLAN

### Wednesday 11 May

NAPLAN

P & F Meeting, 7.30pm

### Thursday 12 May

NAPLAN

### Friday 13 May

Religion Work Samples  
Sent Home

### Thursday 19 May

Year 2 Excursion to Arms  
of Australia Inn Museum

### Tuesday 24 May

Captivate Choir Rehearsal

Feast of Mary Help of  
Christians Prayer  
Celebration  
9.15am

### Thursday 2 June

Feast of the Sacred Heart  
Mass, 9.15am

### Friday 3 June

Year 4 Excursion  
"The Big Dig" at The  
Rocks

### Friday 10 June

Dance-athon

### Tuesday 21 June

Captivate Choir Rehearsal  
and Performance

### Saturday 2 July

OLOW P & F Trivia Night

### Sat/Sun 13/14 August

Confirmation Enrolment at  
Masses

### Monday 15 August

Confirmation Lessons  
Begin

### Friday 19 August

PUPIL FREE DAY

### Thursday 1 September

Fathers' Day Stall

### Friday 2 September

Fathers' Day Breakfast  
7.30am,  
Fathers' Day Prayer  
9.00am

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends of OLOW,

Welcome back everyone. I hope you have all managed some downtime over the break. I know I did, having enjoyed a fantastic road trip with my family to Dubbo and back. I have also heard about some great holiday adventures from the students and staff. Holidays are great and a very necessary part of our lives to rest and recharge.

We have a very busy term ahead so please check the school dates in this Newsletter and on our website Calendar so that you don't miss out.

Last week members of our school community attended the Emu Plains Community 36<sup>th</sup> Annual ANZAC Day Service. I want to thank them for representing our school so reverently and respectfully. Occasions such as these reinforce our acknowledgment of the commitment our service people have made to our wonderful country.

Yesterday our Kindergarten team led an excellent session about Reading called 'What do good readers do? It highlighted the importance of the home school partnership in assisting our children to be the best they can be. Many thanks to Therese Coutinho, Dolores Grima-Starkey, Dianne Khalifeh and Linda Flanagan for their expertise and professionalism in preparing and presenting this session to parents and carers who have children in Kindergarten, Year 1 & Year 2.

Out of respect for all concerned, if you need to discuss an issue relating to your son or daughter's learning and/or wellbeing please contact one of the grade teachers to arrange a meeting. The Principal and Assistant Principal are available following your meeting with the grade teachers if you wish to discuss the matter further.

Our Mothers' Day Liturgy and High Tea will be held tomorrow morning. Thank you to Mrs Thomas, Mrs Kuipers, Mrs Eekman, Mrs Blazed, Mrs Day and Mrs Irvine for all they have done in preparation for this celebration of our Mothers and Mother figures in our lives.

Students in Years 3 and Year 5 will participate in NAPLAN next week from Tuesday 10 May. The results from NAPLAN provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide the schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement. NAPLAN is one aspect of our school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance. Our children are well prepared for NAPLAN because of the excellent teaching and learning that happens every day at OLOW.

As you all know Mrs Veling is on leave in Europe and sends her love and best wishes to everyone at Our Lady of the Way.

Finally, I would like to wish every one of the Mothers and mother figures in our community a wonderful Mothers' Day.

**'A mother holds her children's hands for a while,  
but their hearts forever' - Author Unknown**

Take Care

**Michael Mifsud**  
Acting Principal



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

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

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 1 WEEKS 10, 11 & TERM 2 WEEK 1



### Term 1 – Week 10

Abby Calleja, Ivy Hooke, Ava Palombo, Finbar Cullen, Bailey Grima, Liam Darke, Matthew Sekulic, Nicholas Babbage, Pierce Lucas, Taylor Latham, Abbey Flanagan, Tahlia Robinson, Byron Nas, Katelyn King, Scarlett Storr, Mack Boormakin, Milaya Cleary & Marcus Skinner.

### Term 1 – Week 11

Jake Callaghan, Amara Frank, Jessica Crambrook, Charlotte Ahern, Maya Deacon-Chilmaid, Alyssa McDonald, Owen Tait, Heath Murray, Kees Muller, Asha Morris, Dominic Vella, Ben Garrahy, Milli Storek, Justin Bailie, Mark Gardner, Patrick Urquhart & Ben Robinson.

### Term 2 – Week 1

Ronan Cullen, Eli Hernandez-Milsom, Drae Funnell, Jessica Still, Michael Gardiner, Jack Brown, Jade Elford, Mikayla Mercieca, Alexander Hawkes, Sarah Budge, Lucie McIntosh, Josh Robinson, Emilia Di Prinzio, Logan Sultana, Tailyn Tupaea, Layla Woods, Joshua Phillips, Noah Clifford & Emma Fowler.

## WINTER UNIFORM

All children are asked to wear their winter uniform by next Monday, 9 May. The correct uniform should be worn at all times in order to maintain expectations. If, for any reason, a child is unable to wear any part of the correct uniform, a note should be sent to the child's teacher.

The school hat is an essential item of school uniform. The wearing of the school hat is compulsory throughout the year. For a full list of school uniform requirements, please refer to our School Website.



## ENROLMENTS FOR OLOW 2017

The enrolment period is now open for Kindergarten 2017. Enrolment packages can be collected from the school office or they can be downloaded from our website. <http://www.ollowemuplains.catholic.edu.au>



Our next  
**PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING**  
will be held on  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May @ 7:30pm**

## NAPLAN TESTING 2016

National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing will be conducted at *Our Lady of the Way* from 10 - 13 May 2016 for all students in Years 3 & 5.

	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Year 3</b>	* Language Conventions (40 minutes) * Writing (40 minutes)	* Reading (45 minutes)	* Numeracy (45 minutes)
<b>Year 5</b>	* Language Conventions (40 minutes) * Writing (40 minutes)	* Reading (50 minutes)	* Numeracy (50 minutes)

For more information visit the website: <http://www.nap.edu.au/>

On this website you will find more information about [NAPLAN](#) and [NAP](#) sample assessments. There is also information on the future delivery of [NAPLAN online](#).

## Project Compassion:



Mrs Alexander had her work cut out for her, with the huge task of counting the many, many coins that had been donated and collected on behalf of Caritas. We thank her for her efforts!

The Silly Sock Day raised \$332, Harmony Day raised \$322 and the Easter Egg Raffle and donations from Project Compassion boxes raised \$662.85 – bringing our grand total to \$1, 316.85.

Thank you so much for encouraging your children to be so generous. It is wonderful that the children were able to raise well over the \$700 target that was set for them by the Outreach Team.

## ANZAC Day:

It was fantastic that so many parents and friends were able to join us for our ANZAC Day Liturgy on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. Thank you to our School Leaders and Student Representative Councillors who helped to lead our prayer celebration so confidently and reverently.

In commemoration of our country's special national day, the students in Year 5 considered what it might have been like to be a soldier, a parent or a nursing sister during the time of war. Please enjoy a sample of the wonderful thoughts and emotions expressed by the students.

### I Am a Parent

I am worried and scared.  
I wonder how my son is going in this dangerous place.  
I hear my heart pounding as I think about my son.  
I see all the signs that ask for people to go to war.  
I want him to come back from war.  
I am worried and scared.

I pretend that I'm okay about my son going to war but I'm not.  
I feel like someone is trying to take my son away from me.  
I touch the things he loved.  
I worry that he won't come back.  
I cry that I'll never see him again.  
I am worried and scared.

I understand why he wanted to do this.  
I say that he'll be okay.  
I dream that he'll be home tomorrow.  
I try to believe everything is okay.  
I hope to see him again.  
I am worried and scared.

By Jorja Tabor

### I Am an ANZAC

I am in Gallipoli and I am fighting for my life.  
I wonder if I will survive war.  
I hear bullets firing from the guns of my enemies.  
I see my mates die in front of me.  
I want to have perfect health after the war.  
I am in Gallipoli and I am fighting for life.

I pretend to have courage when I don't.  
I feel pain when I see someone fall.  
I touch the blood from my mate's chest.  
I worry about if I will die in battle.  
I cry when I get out of the trenches.  
I am in Gallipoli and I am fighting for my life.

I understand that if I die I will be remembered.  
I say a prayer every night.  
I dream about winning the war.  
I try to stay in the battle.  
I hope that I will make it alive.  
I am in Gallipoli and I am fighting for my life.

By Logan Sultana





### I Am A Soldier

I am very nervous about this war and afraid of it too.  
I wonder what is going to happen.  
I hear people crying and getting worried.  
I see darkness but a little peak of light.  
I want this day to be over.  
I am very nervous about this war and afraid of it too.

I pretend that the gunfire is my parents speaking to me.  
I feel worried about this war and what is going to happen.  
I reach out to my family.  
I worry about the future.  
I cry about the terrible things that are going on around me.  
I am going to sacrifice my life for this war.

I understand what this war means.  
I say nothing because this is a dangerous time.  
I dream that none of this happened.  
I try not to think about this time.  
I hope I don't die.  
I am going to sacrifice my life for this war.

By Riley Bahlmann

### I Am a Nursing Sister

I am a fighter and a helper  
I wonder what my family feel  
I hear cries of families that are scared  
I see my mates on stretchers  
I want my friends and family to know I'm okay  
I am a friend and a nurse

I pretend I can't see the wounds of my friends  
I feel the others do  
I touch the wounds that my friends have been given  
I worry about the innocent people  
I cry every night about my friends, dad and my uncles  
I am part of a family

I understand why I need to do this  
I say what I feel  
I dream what my life will be after this war  
I try to not cry  
I hope my future will be better  
I am part of a war

By Emma Jones



### I Am a Soldier

I am worried and lonely.  
I wonder if my parents are thinking about me.  
I hear all the bombs and bullets.  
I see all the other wounded soldiers.  
I want to go home to my family.  
I am praying and scared.

I pretend I am at home with my family.  
I feel my heart racing.  
I touch the dust and dirt.  
I worry I'm going to die.  
I cry my tears.  
I am feeling lost.

I understand that it has to happen.  
I say this is painful.  
I dream about everyone I know.  
I try not to think about it.  
I hope I survive.  
I am worried about my friends who are wounded.

By Madeline Renny



### We Were ANZACs

We don't grow old and please don't forget us.  
We wondered what would happen to us.  
We heard the cries of the fallen.  
We saw the terrors.  
We wanted to leave.  
We don't grow old and please don't forget us.

We pretended there was world peace.  
We felt condemned to death.  
We touched the faces of the innocent.  
We worried there would be nothing left.  
We cried, "No more please, no more."  
We don't grow old and please don't forget us.

We understood the punishments.  
We said, "I will not forget you."  
We dreamed we were with our families.  
We tried to be safe.  
We hoped this would end.  
We don't grow old and please don't forget us.

By Kennedy Storr

### Mothers' Day Liturgy:



We look forward to seeing our wonderful mothers, grandmothers and carers at our Mothers' Day Liturgy on Friday May 6 at 9:45am in the church. The Year 1 teaching team, children from Years 1 & 2 and our school leaders have prepared a beautiful celebration for us.

### Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

## **AN OPEN LETTER TO YEAR 3 & YEAR 5 STUDENTS AT OLOW**

(Please read to your children)

*Dear Students*

*You will soon sit the NAPLAN test. Before you take this test there is something very important that you need to know:*

*This test does not assess all of the things that make you exceptional and unique.*

*The people who score these tests do not know that some of you love to sing, play an instrument, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use an App. They have not seen that some of you can dance elegantly or speak confidently about many topics to a large group of people. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you participate in sports and that when you smile you make everyone around you feel happy. They do not know that you help your Mum & Dad and that you play with your brother, sister or cousins. They do not know that you are caring, thoughtful and that every day you do your best. These attributes cannot be tested.*

*The scores you get from this test will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can't tell you that you have improved on something you once found difficult. They can't tell you that you brighten up your teacher's day. They can't tell you how amazingly special you are.*

*So come to school ready to do your best for the NAPLAN test and remember there is no one way to test all of the wonderful things that make you, YOU!*

*Love from all of the Staff at Our Lady of the Way*

# GENERAL NEWS

## **CLOTHING POOL NEWS**

We currently have a large supply of fleece jumpers/jackets. These will be on sale for a **gold coin** donation during the month of May.

If you have any uniforms that your child no longer needs, could you please send them in to the school office. We are mainly in need of long sleeved shirts and winter tunics.

Due to ongoing supplier costs, the following items have had a small price increase:

Hats \$12.00

Backpacks \$43.00

Socks \$6.50

## **CHANGE OF DETAILS**

It is essential that you notify the school, in writing, if you have a change of address or phone number. If your child is ill, it is most upsetting for them if the school is unable to contact parents because our records show an incorrect telephone number or emergency contact number.

It is very important that your child's teacher and the office staff are informed immediately in order that you may be contacted in the event of an emergency.

## **SICK CHILDREN**

Parents are asked not to send their child to school when they are not well. Children become very distressed when they are sick and they also run the risk of infecting other children.

If your child is absent for more than two consecutive school days, please contact us. A signed and dated note for any day a child is absent, explaining the reason for absence, must be provided when the child returns even when a phone call has already been made. These notes are required for our school records and should be given to the class teacher. The Principal may request medical certificates, or other documentation, when absences due to sickness are frequent or prolonged.



## **ENROLMENTS**

### **KINDERGARTEN 2017 – ENROLMENT PERIOD**

Enrolments for Kindergarten are now open – please advise family and friends of this fact. The first round enrolment period for Kindergarten closes on Friday 27 May. Enrolments after this time will be considered based on availability of places. Interviews for Kinder 2017 will commence next week.



## **LOW BUILDING PROJECT**

*The tenders for our new administration block will go out in the next few weeks. All going according to plan, it is anticipated that construction will commence early in term 3.*



## Important Dates

**P&F Meeting**  
**Wednesday**  
**11<sup>th</sup> May**  
**7:30pm**

**Dance-athon**  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

## From the sidelines .....

Welcome to term 2! Thank you to all our wonderful Mums who helped with the mothers' day stall this morning. There were some wonderful gifts which I am sure Mum's and Grandmothers will cherish on Sunday.

Term 1 had the bush dance, munch n crunch and hot cross bun fundraisers, thank you to all that were able to help with these events.

Thank you to all the parents who have sent their notes in advising when and where they can help with P&F fundraising activities. We have had a great response and we will be in touch in due course.

Preparations are in full swing for the school Dance a thon and Trivia night. If you have any prizes that you would like to donate to either event they would be warmly received. Please contact Keiry Pascoe for more details.

There will be no school fete this year due to the building going on, we will be having a fete in 2017. If you would like to be involved in the 2017 school fete we are forming a fete committee now. The fete committee is instrumental in the success of our fete; we need a team of dedicated parents to form the committee so if you would like to join please get in touch with a member of the P&F. The fete committee is separate to the P&F committee so we really need volunteers.

Mrs Veling advised us at our last meeting that the school will be using a different school photography company for next year's school photos; they are in the process of looking at what different companies have to offer.

What is the P&F fundraising for? Our fundraising efforts this year will go towards a new shade cover for the playground in the centre of the school. We will update you on funds raised so far this year after we tally up the mothers' day stall.

## A note from the president

What a wonderful community we have at Our Lady of the Way. The P&F was approached a few weeks ago regarding a family at our school with a parent in hospital for a long period of time and asked if we could help. The P&F has helped to coordinate lunches to be made for the two children at OLOW each day and dinner to be dropped to the family each weeknight by one of our dinner fairies. The instant response from parents when we put the call out via social media was amazing, I am so proud to be a part of a school community that is so caring and giving to one and other. This has certainly been a huge help to the family during a difficult time and they can't thank all of you enough.

Warm Regards  
Kelly



**Trivia Night**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July**  
**2016**



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## **Western Sydney Observatory – Astronomy Night - Saturday 14 May, 7.00-9.00pm**

Dr Jill Rathborne is a research scientist with the CSIRO, and is part of the international group that is setting up the Australian part of the most powerful telescope in history in outback Western Australia, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). The evening will include a presentation from our guest speaker Dr Jill Rathborne, a 3D astronomy movie, a tour of the dome area and an opportunity to view the night sky through the observatory's telescopes. \$18.00 Adult, \$12.00 Child/Concession, \$50.00 Family (2 adults + 2 children), Children under 3 years of age free.



If you have a question about our programs, please call (02) 4736 0135 (Mon, Wed or Thurs) or email [penrithobservatory@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:penrithobservatory@westernsydney.edu.au)

## **TRIVIA NIGHT**

Springwood East Timor Support Group is holding its annual TRIVIA NIGHT on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> at Springwood Sports Club, Macquarie Road from 7:00pm. Cost \$20 per head with tables of eight or ten available. For bookings contact Pam Gorman 4754 1160. Always a great night out!. All proceeds go to support educational and health initiatives in Timor Leste

† **May 7<sup>th</sup> Reflection Day for Women - Presented by Sr. M. Isabell Naumann.** The topic is: "Give me a Drink (Jn.4:7) – Charity and Mercy". All women are invited to attend this day where we will reflect on the gifts of God's merciful love and charity. Cost: \$25, BYO Lunch (Morning/ afternoon tea provided). The day will include Holy Mass and the opportunity for reconciliation.

Info at: E: [movtooffice@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:movtooffice@schoenstatt.org.au) or Ph: 4773 8338 – Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa

† **May 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Discover – Self-discovery weekend for Young Women (18-35)** A self-knowledge weekend on identity and personality, dignity, womanhood, personal ideal, vocation and mission. Early Bird offer open until 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Contact Sr Julie via email: [juliebrcar@gmail.com](mailto:juliebrcar@gmail.com) or call 0408 7380334 - Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa

† **May 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Marian Pilgrimage** - Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa  
Commencing at 10 am with Mass at 10.30 am all are welcome. 2.00 pm Eucharistic Procession from the Valley and Final Benediction at the Shrine. Alternative Program with the Anointing of the Sick and Elderly at the Shrine. **This is a special year for pilgrimage with our "Holy Door of Mercy"**. Bring you picnic lunch, chairs and rug. Hot food, tea and coffee are available.

Details available on FB Events: "Mt Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Centre" and at our website: [www.schoenstatt.org.au](http://www.schoenstatt.org.au) or call the office on 4773 8338



## **Gala Night & Free BBQ**

**Come down to Dukes oval for kick and a free BBQ**

Our coaches will be running a training session for all players and friends

on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May @ Dukes Oval

Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

All ages from 5 to 15, boys & girls welcome



**Registering for all ages from 5 to 17, boys & girls**

Great OFFERS On Junior registration available on the night

Auskick \$80 per player

2016 Registration includes:

**\*\* FREE Yellow Sherrin Training Ball \*\* (Valued at RRP \$49.99)**

Insurance and player fees, Trophy, Year book, Team photo, Presentation day

**AMART SPORTS LIONS DAYS - Sat 14<sup>th</sup> & Sun 15<sup>th</sup> May and all Lions players get 20% off in store**



## Free one day workshop for parents and carers

**Workshop:** 15-16NSWPC3

**Location:** Blacktown NSW

Like all school-aged students, young people on the autism spectrum benefit from strong, positive relationships between the home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers.

This workshop is suitable for parents, full time carers and grandparents.

### What will you gain?

The Positive Partnerships parent/carer workshop intends to:

- Increase understanding of the impact of autism on learning
- Introduce a planning tool that can be used to share an understanding of your young person
- Explore ways to work in partnership with your school
- Share information about how to access support both inside and outside of school
- Provide an opportunity to network and share strategies with other parents/carers

### Workshop details

**Venue:** Blacktown Workers Club  
55 Campbell Street  
Blacktown NSW 2148

**When:** One day workshop – Wednesday 25 May 2016  
9.15 am – 3.00 pm (Registration from 8.30 am)

Online registrations open on Wednesday 13 April 2016 and closes two days prior.

If you have an email address and access to a computer please register directly through our secure website [www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au)

*You will receive a confirmation email of your registration.*

If you have any enquiries phone the Positive Partnerships Infoline 1300 881 971 or email [parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au](mailto:parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au)



## Ubuntu: the African Children's Choir high school graduate tour

The African Children's Choir (ACC) is coming back to the Blue Mountains and Penrith in May — this time with Ubuntu, a troupe of gifted high school graduates, presented by the charity Kwaya Australia.

The ACC educates some of the poorest children in Africa to university level, helping them break the cycle of poverty and become leaders in their communities. See [africanchildrenschoir.com](http://africanchildrenschoir.com).

**Drum and dance workshop:** Lawson Public School hall, Adelaide Street, Lawson. **Wednesday, May 18**, 7.30pm. Adult \$18, child under 16/concession \$12, family (two adults and two children) \$48.

**Katoomba concert:** Katoomba High School hall, Martin Street, Katoomba. **Thursday, May 19**, 7.30pm.

**Springwood district concert:** Springwood High School hall, Grose Road, Faulconbridge. **Friday, May 20**, 7.30pm.

**Penrith district concert:** Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School hall, 115 Great Western Highway, Emu Plains. **Saturday, May 21**, 7.30pm.

**Concert tickets:** Adult \$20, concession \$15, child under 16, \$12, family \$50.

Book at [www.kwaya.org](http://www.kwaya.org).  
Inquiries: Brendan O'Reilly, ph 0437 347 657.

Scan with your  
smartphone or  
tablet to go to the  
OLOW website.

