

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

14th May 2015

DIARY DATES

Saturday 16 May
Reconciliation Lesson 5.00pm
Sunday 17 May
Reconciliation Lesson 10.30am
Thursday 21 May
Captivate Choir Rehearsal
Sat 23/Sun 24 May
Reconciliation Lesson
Monday 25 May
Feast of Mary Help of Christians Mass
Thursday 28 May
Student Work Samples
Friday 29 May
PUPIL FREE DAY
Sat 30/Sun 31 May
Reconciliation Lesson
Thursday 4 June
Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
Sat 6/Sun 7 June
Reconciliation Lesson
Wednesday 10 June
Celebration of Learning 9.15-10.15am
Confirmation Parent Meeting 7.30pm
Thursday 11 June
K-6 Athletics Carnival Parker Street
Confirmation Parent Meeting 7.30pm (repeat)
Friday 12 June
Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass, 9.15am
Half Yearly Reports Sent Home
Mon 15 to Fri 19 June
Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
Thursday 18 June
Reconciliation, 5.30pm

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Throughout the past month I have been meeting the families who are seeking enrolment for their children for 2016. This is always a time of excitement and for me, one of the highlights of being a principal.



It is indeed an honour to share with families their dreams for their children. Each family has thought a great deal about where their child will begin their educational journey and it is a great privilege that they have entrusted Our Lady of the Way School with this task. This commitment continues the covenant that was made at the time of their child's baptism.

There is great excitement as the children ask questions about 'big school' and as the parents share their dreams for their children. Parents are invited to share why they would like to enrol their children at Our Lady of the Way and what they have heard about our school. These reasons include:

- To educate their children about God in a faith filled community.
- To allow their children every opportunity to be part of quality learning opportunities.
- To continue family traditions of being part of the Our Lady of the Way community.
- To give their children opportunity to be happy and safe at school.

As current parents of our school, I am sure that you find these reasons something to be proud of – our school has a great reputation in our community.

The excitement of the children and their families is contagious, and as principal I eagerly await the day that these little ones and their families become part of our school family. But for now... a BIG congratulations to all in the Our Lady of the Way School community for helping to make our school a family that many more would like to be part of.

God Bless

Mrs. Sue Veling

Principal

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to our Year 4 students who received their First Holy Communion on May 3. It was a beautiful ceremony celebrated by Fr. Mick. The children were just angelic! The parents of these children must be very proud.



PUPIL FREE DAY - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Friday 29 May 2015

Important
DATE!

Important
DATE!

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

49 Forbes Street, Emu Plains 2750 Phone: 4735 1930, Fax: 4735 6221, Email: OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au, Web: www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/

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

A number of mothers and grandmothers have asked me to share the reflection from our Mother's Day Liturgy last Friday

Reflections of a Mother

I gave you life, but cannot live it for you.
I can give you directions, but I cannot be there to lead you.

I can take you to church, but I cannot make you believe.
I can teach you right from wrong, but I cannot always decide for you.

I can buy you beautiful clothes, but I cannot make you beautiful inside.
I can offer you advice, but I cannot accept it for you.

I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you.
I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish.

I can teach you respect, but I cannot force you to show honour.
I can advise you about friends, but cannot choose them for you.

I can tell you about alcohol & drugs, but I can't say "No" for you.
I can help you write your goals, but I can't achieve them for you.

I can teach you about kindness, but I can't force you to be gracious.
I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God.

I can tell you how to live, but I cannot give you eternal life.
**BUT I can love you with unconditional love all of
my life... and I will.**



KINDERGARTEN 2016 – ENROLMENT PERIOD

Enrolments for Kindergarten are open and the first round enrolment period for Kindergarten closes on Friday 29 May. Enrolments after this time will be considered based on availability of places.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR WEEKS 2 & 3



Drae Funnell, Cooper Sulic, Holly Clark, Taylor Latham, Zoe Grech, Taj Be Breton, Emma Jones, Layla Starr, Olivia Boulous, Jessica Daley, Will Elford, Ava Grech, Lewis Edwards, Jason Armstrong, Isabella Clarke, Tahlia Rando, Holly Penny, Mia Eekman, Marcus Skinner, Oscar King, Kate Roser, Patrick Urquhart, Matthew Sekulic, Mikayla Flanagan, Archie King, Erin Budge, Asha Morris, Mason Eekman, Chloe, Riley, Kyan Roach, William Plummer, Aimee Wagner.



THANK YOU

There are many wonderful people at OLOW who volunteer their time and work behind the scenes, year in, year out. I would like to personally recognise **Mrs Julie Woods** (Aimee in Yr2 & Lucas in Yr3) who has coordinated Book Club for the past three years. Without Julie and her band of helpers, this service would fall on the shoulders of the office staff. Three cheers for Julie!!!

OLOW WINTER UNIFORM

All children should be now wearing their full winter uniform. I know some parents have had to order in a few items. Thank you to the parents that have sent in a letter to explain the situation.

The changes for 2015 include:

- Girls wearing black tights with their tunic.
- Boys in Kindergarten to Year 5 wearing long pants and a long sleeved shirt.
- Year 6 boys wearing long pants.

If you have any problems supplying this uniform, please see Mrs. Veling.

PHOTO DAY

Our school photo day is in Term 3, Tuesday 21 July. All children will be photographed in their winter uniform.

MOTHERS' DAY STALL

Thank you to our P&F for organising our Mothers' Day Stall. There were some fantastic gifts available.

MOTHERS' DAY LITURGY & HIGH TEA

On Friday, the Our Lady of the Way community gathered together to pray for and celebrate the gift of mothers. Over one hundred and fifty community members were in attendance, including mothers, grandmothers, aunts and families at the OLOW Mother's Day liturgy. Girls from the Caroline Chisholm College hospitality unit provided service and beautiful food and refreshments at the High Tea. What a wonderful way to spoil our mothers!



"Just a quick note to say thank you for such an amazing celebration of motherhood this morning. The liturgy was absolutely beautiful and moved many mums (myself included) and grandmas to tears. The children were just amazing in their participation in the liturgy and their reverence in the church."

The high tea was indulgent and delightful and made all of us feel spoilt and special. It truly was a beautiful celebration and something we will treasure in our hearts for many years to come."

From an OLOW mum & grandmother

PUPIL FREE DAY - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY for TERM 2

The upcoming staff development day on Friday 29 May will be on Mathematics and furthering our professional development around effective numeracy teaching. We will be focusing on the use of mental strategies in line with our 2015 numeracy goal.

TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all the families who have paid their Term 1 fees. The Term 2 Fee Statements have been issued via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta. Fees for this term are due by Monday, 25 May 2015. Please organise payment by the due date, alternatively, if you are suffering financial difficulty please contact Bernadette Alexander to discuss your options.

For those families on a formal financial arrangement these statements are sent only for your information.

HALF YEARLY REPORTS






At this time of the year the teachers' energy is directed at ensuring that 'we really know your child' so that we are able to clearly describe their ongoing learning. Assessment tasks completed in the first half of this year have been matched to syllabus outcomes.

Teachers regularly meet with their teaching partners to reflect, analyse and compare each student's work with the syllabus standard. This reflection stage allows teachers the opportunity to evaluate the success of teaching strategies as well as setting a clear direction for future planning for the learning of the students in their class. This phase allows for individual needs to be clearly understood and specific programs to be developed.

Your child's Half Yearly Report will be sent home on **Friday 12 June**. This year OLOW will be using the CEDP's new 'FACES' report for Years 1-6 based on the A-E scale. Kindergarten will be receiving a criterion report based on skills/indicators of success.

A-E REPORTING SCALE

The A-E scale used in Years 1-6 is different to the scale used when you were at school. There is no bell curve and 'A' does not mean 100/100. In fact a 'C' means a sound understanding of the stage outcome, and to maintain a 'C' throughout the year is difficult. At OLOW we refer to the A-E scale using the following terms and to put the A-E reporting system into perspective, it helps to look at the analogy below for driving a car.

Kindergarten	Experiencing Difficulty	Working Towards	Achieved	Working Beyond	
Years 1-6	E	D	C	B	A
Formal Terms	Limited achievement	Basic achievement	Sound achievement	High achievement	Outstanding achievement
OLOW Descriptions	Experienced difficulty	Did OK	Celebrate this work	Beyond expectations	Amazing achievement
Looking at this like a driving licence.	<p>A person on their <u>L plates</u> must always be accompanied by an experienced driver.</p> 	<p>A person on their <u>P plates</u> drives independently but is still learning and developing their skills.</p> 	<p>A person who has their full <u>driver's licence</u> is independent to drive on their own without restrictions.</p> 	<p>An <u>advanced driver</u> can navigate through many obstacles and has extra skills.</p> 	<p>A <u>Formula One driver</u> strives for excellence - conquering one challenge and then moving on to the next and even bigger challenge.</p> 

A very good web site for looking at work samples & A-E grading of tasks can be found at <http://arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/go/k-6/> Just click on the stage link for work samples, activities and tasks.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Caritas Fundraiser



Tomorrow the Social Justice Team will be holding their book, toy and DVD stall to raise funds for Caritas. We hope to support the people of Fiji and Nepal with the money raised. Children will be able to purchase items at first and second breaks.



Prices of items are as follows:

- Novels - \$1
- Picture Books – 50c (softcover), \$1 (hardcover)
- DVDs – 50c and \$1
- Soft toys - \$1
- Other toys – range from 50c to \$2 (3 x remote control helicopters - \$3)



We hope that all children will be able to support our fundraiser and that they will find something special for themselves.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Our prayers are with those children who have started to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During Monday Morning Assembly this week the children were offered a blessing. Every day each child will be remembered in the daily prayers of all grades. We wish all the children and those who are preparing and supporting them God's grace and blessing.

Pilgrimage:

For seventeen days I had the privilege to join 33 other Religious Education Coordinators on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Rome and Assisi. It was a truly memorable experience and I feel incredibly grateful for being given the opportunity to walk where Jesus walked and visit places of significance to our Catholic faith.

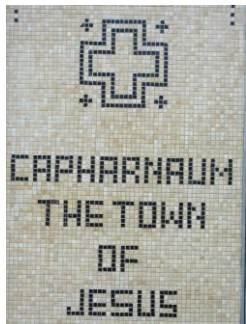
To share all of the experiences would occupy too many pages of this newsletter, so I will share my 'Top 5' experiences, in no particular order...

Mass on the Sea of Galilee

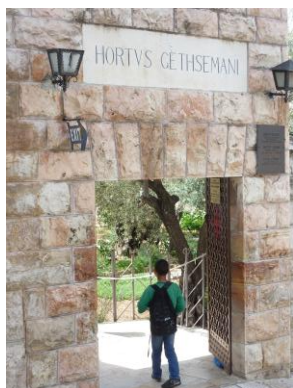
We spent four days in Galilee, a beautiful area. One of the highlights of being in this area for me was celebrating Mass in a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. This was the place where Jesus calmed the storm, where he most likely spent a lot of time with his friends and where he called for the disciples to cast their nets on the other side of the boat after his resurrection.



Capernaum



Capernaum was a town on the shores of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus spent a lot of his time when his ministry began. It was the place where you were able to gain a real sense of the 'human' Jesus. You could imagine him sitting in the synagogue watching the people from many walks of life who visited and lived in the busy port city, considering how he could be of service to them.



Garden of Gethsemane

We had the privilege of spending time in the place where Jesus spent some of the last hours of his life. In amongst the olive trees we sat in silence contemplating the anguish and heartache that Jesus experienced as he waited for Judas and the soldiers to come.



A Blessing from Pope Francis



Every Sunday, when he is in residence, Pope Francis shares a special message and leads the Regina Coeli. Many people, from many countries gathered in St. Peter's Square to catch a glimpse of the Holy Father. It was such a thrill to be part of that gathering, even though we could just see him from the window.



Assisi



Assisi would have to be one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited. It is a medieval city, was home to St. Francis and St. Clare and is a place of peace. It was a wonderful place for our pilgrimage and our amazing journey to end.



Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

QRT

QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS TIP

Avoid criticizing, blaming or complaining!

Teach your child to avoid criticising, blaming or complaining.

Make sure you are a good role model.

SPORTS NEWS

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY – EASTERN CREEK RACEWAY

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the Zone Cross Country on Tuesday, 5th May for their outstanding behaviour and sportsmanship. We recognise their outstanding behaviour, patience and performances on the day with most children achieving their personal bests.

Well done to Georgia Ristevski (Year 6), Milaya Cleary (Year 3) and Sienna Gahagan (Year 3) who have qualified for the Diocesan Cross Country in June.

Thank you to all parents who were able to assist with transport and a big thank you to Mrs Kate Connell (Charlie -Year 5) for assisting with taking groups to the marshalling area.

Thank you
Ms Glynn and Mrs Scott



GENERAL NEWS

CLOTHING POOL NEWS

Thank you to Ms Good (Tiare & Hakopa's mum) who has volunteered to help in the clothing pool one afternoon a week. The clothing pool will open at the following times: **Monday 8.45am and Friday 2.30pm**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

CANTEEN ONLINE ORDERING

The online ordering will now close at **8.30am** each day. If you wish to place an order after this time it will need to be lodged at the canteen.

SCHOOL NOTES

Have you missed a school note? Check for a copy on our website: <http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/>, then click on the Parents tab, then select School Notes.

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



Writing for Success

The following is the process often implemented in the Learning Space and can also be used by you at home when you are writing with your son or daughter. These are the steps a good writer should follow in order to achieve success.

Step 1 – Plan (gather your ideas)

- *Be sure about your audience and purpose for writing*
- *Brainstorm the possibilities*
- *Research for accuracy*
- *Talk to others to gain clarity*

Step 2 – Draft

- *Sort your ideas and write them in sentences or paragraphs*

Step 3 – Proofread (reread and ask questions)

- *Does it make sense? (think about the sentence structure & word order)*
- *Does it sound right? (think about the grammar & word choice)*
- *Does it look right? (think about the spelling and punctuation)*

Step 4 – Revise (reread for feedback)

- *Read to teachers, peers or parents*
- *Ask: What have I done well? What do I need to work on?*

Step 5 – Edit

- *Use the feedback you have received to make changes*

Step 6 – Publish

- *Think of a title*
- *Type or write the final copy (make sure your handwriting is neat and legible)*
- *Add graphics or illustrations*

Step 7 – Share (with your intended audience)

Step 8 – Evaluate (What did I do well? What could I improve for next time?)

- *Reflect on or assess your own writing*
- *Seek feedback from your audience*



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

Michael Mifsud

THE COTTAGE PLAYGROUP

The Cottage Playgroup is held every Tuesday (during the school term) from 9.30am-11.30am in the Our Lady of the Way Parish Hall, Cnr Forbes & Troy Streets, Emu Plains. The playgroup is for babies & children aged 0-5 years and offers a great range of fun toys, arts & craft, story time & singing.

The first 2 visits are free. If you decide to join us, the cost is \$20 per term & an annual membership fee is payable to Playgroup Australia. Please see Linda or Nicola when you arrive for more information.

www.playgroupaustralia.com.au/nsw

"Playgroup is a special time to connect with other parents while having fun with your own child".



McCarthy Catholic College
75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

Trade Training Centre

INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 11, 2016:

Date: Wednesday 3 June 2015

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Start your trade and complete your HSC –
with **no** external examinations

Trades offered:

Automotive	Bricklaying
Electrical	Hairdressing
Childcare	Hospitality
Carpentry	Metal Fabrication

Enrolment Enquiries:
Mrs Katrina Gill - 4735 3211 (Option 1)

*Holy Family Primary School,
Luddenham*

25th Anniversary

Mass & Morning Tea



Friday 12th June

9.15am in the Church

Followed by Morning Tea in the School Hall

RSVP - 22nd May to

Marie, Monica or Despina in the School Office

For further information contact the

School Office on 4773 4485

Email - Luddenham@parra.catholic.edu.au

Support the African Children's Choir

After selling out Blue Mountains shows in 2013, the African Children's Choir (ACC) is coming back with a new group of children to entertain and inspire Australian audiences.

The ACC cares for and educates some of the poorest children in Uganda and other African countries, helping them break the cycle of poverty and become leaders in their communities. See africanchildrenschoir.com.

The details

Drum and Dance Workshop: Lawson Public School hall, Adelaide Street, Lawson. Wednesday, May 20, 7.30pm. Adults \$18, children/concession \$12 families \$48 (two adults & two children).

Blackheath Concert: Phillips Hall, Blackheath Community Centre, Gardener Crescent, Blackheath. Thursday, May 21, 7.30pm. Adults \$25, children/concession \$18, families \$68.

Penrith Concert: Lighthouse Theatre, Penrith Anglican College, 338-356 Wentworth Road, Orchard Hills. Friday, May 22, 7.30pm. Adults \$25, children/concession \$18, families \$68.

Book tickets at kwaya.org. Phone Brendan O'Reilly, 0437 347 657.

Get Active-ated!

BENEFITS OF BEING ACTIVE:

- Boosts confidence.
- Improves fitness.
- Makes bones and muscles stronger.
- Improves posture.
- Helps maintain a healthy weight.
- Lowers the risk of heart disease.
- Reduces stress.
- Improves sleep.
- Improves self confidence.
- Teaches you new skills.
- Develops better motor skills.
- Improves self-esteem and body image.
- Lower risk of disease including heart disease and cancer later in life.

EASY WAYS TO BE ACTIVE DURING THE DAY:

- Walk to the store, the school or the playground instead of using the car.
- Allow time for children to play outdoors.
- Park the car away from the shops.
- Get off the bus one stop earlier.
- Plant a veggie garden.
- Take the stairs instead of escalators or lifts.
- Schedule regular times each week for your family to be physically active together.
- Limit television time to **no more than 2 hours per day** or 14 hour a week!



Remember any exercise is better than no exercise.

Think positive. See it as an opportunity not a chore!

FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILLS (FMS):

There is evidence that children with poor fundamental movement skills such as jumping, skipping, leaping, kicking, throwing and catching are less likely to be active. Give your kids a head start and teach them these skills.



DID YOU KNOW?

A large number of university-based, internationally published research* has found a positive association between children's physical activity participation and academic achievement!

IDEAS TO GET YOUR FAMILY MOVING:

- Go outside and play chasing, ride bikes or throw a ball or Frisbee.
- Encourage children to make their own obstacle course at home. You could use chairs to crawl under or run around the clothes line. For variety ask them to walk backwards, hop or skip through the obstacle course.
- Encourage your child to play outside whenever possible. Play along whenever you can.
- Be a good role model – be active when you're with your children. What gets children moving is what parents do, not what they say.
- Include games and walks in family outings.
- Negotiate a time limit on sedentary activities such as watching TV and playing computer games.
- Walking together is a good time to talk to children about their lives and yours.
- Be prepared, think about activities your family can do in and around your home. Have some plans for wet days.

*Martin, K. (2010). Brain boost: Sport and physical activity enhance children's learning. School of Population Health, The University of Western Australia.

SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2014



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must **NOT STOP your vehicle** at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

Maximum Penalty

\$415

+ 2 Demerit Points



Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

Penalty

\$173

+ 2 Demerit Points



Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

Penalty

\$311

+ 2 Demerit Points



DOUBLE PARKING

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

Penalty

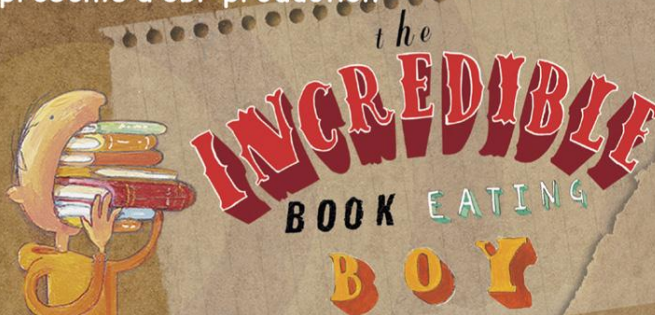
\$311

+ 2 Demerit Points

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: \$311 + 2 Demerit Points, or STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing: \$415 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: \$173 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: \$519

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice. Current to 30 June 2015.
These penalties apply to offences in school zones during posted school hours.

The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre
presents a CDP production



a play by maryam master

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