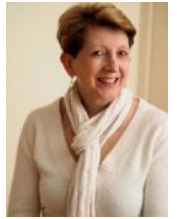


DIARY DATES

Sat/Sun 20/21 May Eucharist Enrolment at Mass
Wednesday 24 May Feast of Mary Help of Christians Prayer, 9.15am
Saturday 27 May Parish Trivia Night, 7.00pm
Thursday 1 June Cookie Dough Delivered
Tuesday 6 June Celebrations of Learning 9.15am
Wednesday 7 June Fete and P & F Meeting, 7pm
Monday 12 June Queen's Birthday
Tuesday 13 June Reports Sent Home
Wednesday 14 June Eucharist Rehearsal, Group 1
Thursday 15 June Athletics Carnival
Sunday 18 June First Eucharist, Group 1
Wednesday 21 June Eucharist Rehearsal, Group 2
Friday 23 June Feast of Sacred Heart Mass, 9.15am
Sunday 25 June First Eucharist, Group 2
Tuesday 27 June Pyjama Day
Mon/Tues 24/25 July Year 4 CARES Visit
Wed/Thurs 26/27 July Confirmation Parent Information Evening, 7.30pm
Tuesday 8 August Feast of Mary MacKillop Mass, 9.15am
Sat/Sun 12/13 August Eucharist Enrolment Masses
Thursday 17 August Swinging Summertime Rehearsal & Performance
Friday 18 August PUPIL FREE DAY
Thursday 31 August Fathers' Day Stall
Friday 1 September Fathers' Day Breakfast and Prayer, from 7.00am
Friday 8 September P & F Film Night
Wednesday 13 September Confirmation Mass, 7pm
Monday 18 September Footy Fever Day
Thursday 21 September Grandparents' Day
Sunday 22 October LOW SCHOOL FETE

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

In reflecting on Mothers' Day, we acknowledge and celebrate mothers and mothering. I make that distinction because I know that many people – aunts, stepparents, close family friends, dads – fulfil the chief mothering role in families.



We also reflect as a Catholic community to pray for mothers everywhere. We think about how the Nigerian mothers of the abducted schoolgirls are feeling or how the South Korean mothers who lost their sons and daughters in the ferry disaster are feeling. We think about how children and mothers who have been forcibly separated through government policy, war, or natural disaster are feeling. We think about how women and children affected by domestic violence are feeling.

But hopefully we do more than think. We pray, we speak out and up for mothers everywhere. We are inspired by no less than Mary. In The Magnificat, (a song so subversive that during the 1980s the government of Guatemala banned its public recitation), Mary imagines a world that reflects the face of God's love and compassion, where all are fed and every hurt is removed, and where a strong light is thrown on the face of human degradation and suffering. This is a different image of Mary from the often romanticised view of her as forever patient and suffering. It is a cry for justice.

I think mothers can relate to the idea of the messiness of being a mother – indeed mothering is an act of faith. There are no guarantees of the outcome, there can be great pain as well as joy, tears as well as laughter. There's no room for ego, but there's always plenty of people ready to judge and label you.

I invite all mothers to place justice for self at the core of their thoughts and actions. If we are ever to show love, compassion and justice to others, we need to show ourselves that same respect.

Thank you to everyone that asked about my recent trip to the USA. I had a wonderful time in Texas with colleagues from other CEDP schools. The Project Based Learning models used in the three high schools visited (Manor New Technology High School, Cedars International Next Generation High School and Memorial Early College High School) complement the system model that is being implemented throughout the diocese. I want to congratulate our Stage 3 teachers - Miss Reynolds, Mrs Scott and Miss Vella - on the wonderful work they are doing this year as they introduce each new PBL task.

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.

SIBLING ENROLMENT FOR KINDERGARTEN 2018

KINDERGARTEN 2018 INTERVIEWS HAVE BEGUN

Enrolment packs are available to those families who intend to enrol any sibling/s of students already at Our Lady of the Way for Kindergarten in 2018. Please collect these packs from the office and return as soon as possible as this information will assist us in preparing for next year's intake of students. We already have a large group of new families wishing to enrol in 2018.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 2 WEEKS 2 & 3



Trinity Callaghan, Kosta Bouletos, Tyler Gahagan, Nicholas Babbage, Edward Lennon, Remi Fischer, Marlie Robertson, Mia Eekman, Lucas Latty, Riley Brown, Sophia Torresan, Nick Curry, Alex Godwin, Phoebe Kruzic, Seth Fullam, Mack Boormakin, Liam Darke, Jetta Grady, George Bouletas, Sarah Fenning, Flynn Weber, Aiden Dyrka, Grace Carey, Chase Hirsch, Akeda Deacon-Chilmaid, Amity Houlihan, Erin Budge, Finbar Cullen, Cooper Hartstonge, Sarah Budge, Riley Burton, Cohen Borg, Harrison Armour, Daniel Prendergast, Tailyn Tupaea.

LEARNING AT OLOW

At *Our Lady of the Way*, every class has a focused 160 mins a day dedicated explicitly to the teaching of English and Mathematics.

What does 100 minutes of English Instruction include? All students experience a balanced and coherent program of literacy instruction for a minimum of 100 minutes daily, incorporating each of the elements of a balanced literacy block - Purposeful Talk, Daily Reading Aloud to Students, Daily Shared Reading, Small Group Reading, Daily Independent Reading of familiar texts, Daily Modelled Writing or Shared Writing, Guided writing, Daily Independent Writing and multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning which meets the achievement standards as defined by the New NSW English syllabus.

What does 60 minutes of Mathematics include? All students engage in a balanced and coherent program of Mathematics instruction for 60 minutes per day. Every day the students participate in - a number warm up and rich tasks which require them to represent number concepts through the relationships of the Number Triad - word, symbol and collection. Students are required to articulate, demonstrate and reflect on their thinking and strategies as well as demonstrate learning which meets the achievement standards as defined by the NSW Mathematics Syllabus.

Our Teachers are very happy to discuss and explain to every parent aspects of the teaching of English and Mathematics relevant to their child whenever they have a question. Discussions of this nature help to make connections to what you already know about your child as a learner and how your child is developing towards the standards of the syllabus.

REMEMBRANCE WALL PLAQUES

You can be part of our ANZAC Remembrance Wall. Plaques can be purchased and inscribed for \$50. 150 bricks are available in total. Please contact Julie at the office for more information.

ATTENDANCE

At *Our Lady of the Way*, we continue to promote student attendance – **EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY**. Student time on task is important to learning. Every day your child is out of school, for whatever reason, their learning achievement suffers.

(To 17 May) OLOW Attendance Level was: 91.6%

At OLOW, we are focusing closely on regular [daily] and timely [arrival on time] attendance of all students. Our challenge is to meet a minimum target of 90% attendance every day. However, 100% is the ideal. It is great to know that we have so many families who try to ensure their children attend school every day.

Congratulations to Year 6 – who have achieved 97.1% attendance and to Year 1 - 94.5%, Kindergarten - 94.3% and Year 3 - 91.9% who also achieved above the 90% attendance target! We know all grades can achieve this target and everyone's learning improves when there is regular and timely attendance.

Absence Explanation Note: If your child is away from school, a note explaining their absence is required within 7 days of returning to school. If no note is received the absence is recorded as 'unexplained'. Parents can use the Skoolbag app to email an absence note to school.

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

At the end of this term (19-30 June) we will be inviting all parents and their children to meet with their teachers for our STUDENT LED CONFERENCES. This is a significant event!

We regularly talk with the children about the need to work and learn as much as they can each day and never settling for anything less than their best. A great saying is to 'Raise the Bar' – in other words, once we achieve something we need to set a new goal that raises the bar just a little – improving each time we attempt something, challenge ourselves to do better and not to become complacent.

Do you challenge your children from time to time to extend themselves? Do you make your children feel a little uncomfortable because the demands on them are more than they are used to? Every child needs to be challenged if they are to learn the extent of their abilities.

As parents we are protectors, supporters and teachers for our kids...but we also need to be challengers so they can see for themselves their real capabilities.

This term let us all take on the challenge to raise the bar of our children's learning so that the successes shared at the student led conferences will be a celebration of some great achievements.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Last Friday, we were blessed to have so many of our mothers, grandmothers and other important women in our lives with us and to celebrate the love and care that they share with us. The children warmed our hearts as they led us in movement and prayer at our liturgy, beautifully prepared and led by Kindergarten. They then gave us goosebumps and a little tear as we watched our musicians and choirs sharing their talents as they entertained at the devonshire tea.

Creative Arts are so important in the holistic education of our children. They enable students to develop their creativity, to think in different ways, to develop higher order thinking skills and to express themselves and their learning in ways outside of the written. We at OLOW, are so blessed to have an outstanding Arts program including a specialist music teacher and many other teachers who are passionate and gifted in the Arts. We are equally blessed to have so many talented students.

This week, we start our preparations for our school musical *A Swinging Summertime*, to be performed by the whole school at the Joan Sutherland Centre on Thursday 17th August at 7pm. The auditions have begun for our lead roles and all the classes are beginning to learn their class songs.

Emma Mizzi

Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Parish Sacramental Program:

Information for families and children who are taking part in the Eucharist Sacramental Program

Eucharist Program

Parent Information Evenings	Wednesday Thursday	May 3 May 4	7:30pm 7:30pm
Enrolment Mass	Saturday Sunday	May 20 May 21	6:00pm 8:00am & 9:30am
Lessons	Week 1 - Monday Week 2 - Monday Week 3 - Monday	May 22 May 29 June 5	
Rehearsal - Group 1 Rehearsal - Group 2	Wednesday Wednesday	June 14 June 21	7:30pm 7:30pm
First Eucharist Mass	Sunday Sunday	June 18 June 25	11:30am 11:30am



Mothers' Day Liturgy:

Thank you so much to the Kindergarten team and students who led our Mothers' Day liturgy last Friday. It was wonderful to see so many of you receiving a special blessing from the children of Year 2. Our largest gathering yet, by far! Thank you for being with us.

Term 2 Reconciliations and Masses:

Dates for grade Reconciliation and Parish Masses and Whole School celebrations are below. Please note that there has been a change to the Year 4 and Year 5 Reconciliation dates.

Week 3	Mothers' Day Liturgy	Friday May 12	10:00am
Week 5	Feast of Mary Help of Christians Mass	Wednesday May 24	9:15am
Week 6	Year 3 Reconciliation	Wednesday May 31	10:00am
	Kindergarten and Year 5 Parish Mass	Thursday June 1	9:00am
	Year 6 Reconciliation	Thursday June 1	10:00am
Week 7	Year 1 and Year 6 Parish Mass	Friday June 9	9:00am
Week 8	Year 2, 3 and Year 4 Parish Mass	Friday June 16	9:00am
Week 9	Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass	Friday June 23	9:15am
Week 10	Year 5 Reconciliation	Wednesday June 28	10:00am
	Year 4 Reconciliation	Friday June 30	10:00am

Feast of Mary Help of Christians:

Next Wednesday, on May 24, we will be celebrating the Feast of Mary Help of Christians. This feast day celebrates Mary as the patron of our country and our school community acknowledges this day as our school's feast day. We invite you to join us for Mass at 9:15am.

Scripture Bags:

We have decided to launch our Scripture Bags at our school's feast day Mass – the Feast of Mary Help of Christians. We will be inviting Fr. Mick to bless the bags with the hope that they will be an important means of bringing families together in prayer.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator



GENERAL NEWS

PRIMARY SCHOOL LEADERS CIVIC RECEPTION

On Wednesday our Year 6 school leaders, Daniel, Benjamin, Layla and Jorja attended the Primary School Leaders Civic Reception, where they were recognised by Penrith Mayor, Councillor John Thain. The Mayor congratulated them on their achievements as young leaders within the Penrith Local Government Area and wished them well in their future endeavours. The students were accompanied by Mrs Veling and their families.



SAVE THIS DATE

OLOW students will perform the musical ***A Swinging Summertime*** on Thursday 17th August at The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre at 7pm. All students will be involved. The Joan has a capacity of 580 seats, so only two tickets per family can be allocated. These tickets will go on sale early in Term 3. For those that miss out, the students will present a modified version of the musical on Grandparents Day – Thursday 21st

**Our Lady of the Way
Presents**

Amanda Stone Productions

**A Swinging
Summertime**

Written by Deborah Martin

**Thursday 17th August 2017
7pm
The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, Penrith**

COMMUNITY NEWS

A reminder that enrolment applications for Year 7, 2018 at St Columba's Catholic College are now due. For further information contact the Enrolment Secretary on 4754 8900.



School holiday workshops
for Year 4 - 8 students
(Robotics, Forensics, STEM,
Creativity, Music and MORE)

Bright Futures is a unique and exciting **school holiday program** at the University of Technology Sydney. 2017 program is now open for registrations for July and October school holidays.

FULL PROGRAM:
WWW.BIT.DO/BRIGHTFUTURES17

McCarthy Catholic College
75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains



Trade Training Centre

INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 11, 2018:

Date: Wednesday 24 May 2017

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

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

Trades offered:

Automotive Bricklaying Carpentry Childcare Electrotechnology
Hairdressing Hospitality Plumbing Metal Fabrication

Enrolment Enquiries:

Mrs Katrina Gill: 02 4728 8129

mccarthycttc@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.mccarthycttc.catholic.edu.au

DR JUSTIN COULSON

RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN



WHEN: Monday, 29 May 2017 (Doors open 6.30pm for 7:00pm start)

WHERE: Catholic Learning Communities of St John XXIII – St Mark's College,
Meeting will be held in the staff room – entry via main school foyer.
160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens (parking available)

The PRC General Meeting will be held prior to our seminar.

What others have to say:

"...an engaging and dynamic presenter..."

"...are we getting him back next year? He's fantastic!.."

FREE PARENT/CARER SEMINAR!

Registrations are open – visit:

www.prc.catholic.edu.au/news-events



One of the most frequent questions Kidspot parenting expert Dr Justin Coulson is asked is 'How can I help my child become resilient?' Friendship problems, bullying, physical changes and parenting styles are just some of the issues that can affect our children's ability to bounce back from difficulty and adapt to challenging situations.

Helping our children develop resilience can have lifelong effects.

www.prc.catholic.edu.au

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WHILE YOU FINISH YOUR HSC**

**McCarthy Catholic
Trade Training Centre**



ENROLLING NOW

Combining learning and work

MCCARTHY CATHOLIC TRADE TRAINING CENTRE offers a flexible schooling experience for Year 11 and 12 students wanting to pursue a career in a vocational field. Get a head start as a Hairdresser, Chef, Electrician, Mechanic, Carpenter, Bricklayer, Metal Fabricator or Early Childhood Educator combined with essential Business and Financial Services training. Contact the college for other opportunities.

There is an opportunity to accelerate your qualifications and be paid as a School Based Apprentice or Trainee as you complete your HSC.

DON'T MISS OUR INFORMATION NIGHT

When: Wednesday 24 May from 6.00pm - 7.30pm.

Where: McCarthy Catholic College, 75 MacKellar Street Emu Plains

ATTEND OUR INFORMATION NIGHT TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT TRADE FOR YOU.

Talk to our experienced trade teachers and see our state-of-the-art facilities.

Call 4728 8129 email mccarthycttc@parra.catholic.edu.au

or visit www.mccarthycttc.catholic.edu.au

