



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

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

31st July 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 1 August
Impact of Graffiti Workshop
Years 5 and 6

Sat/Sun 2/3 August
Weekly Sacramental Parish
based lessons

Tuesday 5 August
Year 2 Excursion to
Powerhouse Museum

Wednesday 6 August
Kinder Farm Excursion

Friday 8 August
Feast of Mary of the Cross
MacKillop
Nepean Zone Athletics

Bingo Night
Parents and Friends,
18 years and older

Sat/Sun 9/10 August
Weekly Sacramental Parish
based lessons

Friday 15 August
Feast of the Assumption
Mass, 9.15am

Sat/Sun 16/17 August
Weekly Sacramental Parish
based lessons

Tuesday 19 August
St Nic's Netball Gala Day

Wednesday 20 August
Expo Choir Rehearsal
(Note change of date)

Friday 22 August
Diocesan Athletics

Thursday 28 August
Chess Challenge at OLOW

Friday 29 August
PUPIL FREE DAY

Wednesday 3 September
Fathers' Day Breakfast
Fathers' Day Liturgy
Fathers' Day Stall

Mon/Tues 8 & 9 Sept
Creative Arts Expo

Thursday 11 September
Grandparents' Day

Friday 12 September
7:30pm Confirmation with
Most Rev. Kevin Manning

Friday 19 September
Footy Fever & Hot Dog Day

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,

Our Parent/Teacher & Student led conferences have been running over the past two weeks. What joy on the faces of parents as they heard their children succinctly evaluate their goals, present evidence and set new goals for the rest of the year. We must have high expectations for all our children. Research clearly shows that when students feel a sense of ownership of their learning, they want to engage in academic tasks and persist in learning.

If you have missed out on this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher, please phone the office for an appointment. These conferences can play an integral role in a child's education particularly in developing open communication between parents and teachers. Teachers are particularly thanked as they have very generously been at school after hours to conduct these interviews on top of their already very busy teaching days.

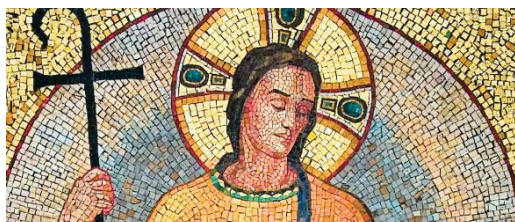
Next week across our Australian church we celebrate National Vocations Awareness Week. At first you may think this does not really apply to yourself because you haven't got a religious vocation. However, by the nature of our baptism in Christ we each have a vocation. We have been called to live the life of Jesus, to give example to His message, proclaiming the Gospel in our world. This vocation may come in many forms.

- ★ As husbands and wives we have accepted the vocation of marriage, to work together to raise a family. In the experiences that we aim to give together to our families we are sharing the love and care of God's family.
- ★ As parents and grandparents we are the first educators of our children in the messages of the Gospel. We bring our children to their baptism, promising to guide them in our faith. Children learn the foundations of faith in their homes – in the way they are taught to treat others, to share in family prayer, to attend Mass, to be part of God's family.
- ★ As extended family – brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles, step relatives – let us be mindful of the love and example we give to all those around us. We each have a vocation to make a difference in our families, showing our children the importance of relationships throughout our lives.
- ★ As teachers we have accepted a special vocation to work with children and families in sharing our faith, our gifts, our skills. This is indeed a special vocation for through our work in partnership with parents, we aim to guide the world's future – brought alive through the children.

Therefore, during National Vocations Week lets us celebrate what we have been called to do in our world. We each have something to give on behalf of our God – let us embrace and celebrate this.

Have a great week,
God Bless

Sue Veling
Principal



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.ollow.parra.catholic.edu.au

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

Thank you

A special thank you to Mr Borland (father of James in Year 5) for using his brick laying skills to fix some of our cracked brickwork. We thank him for his generosity of spirit and attention to detail.

Thank you



Maths Parent Workshop

Thank you to Mrs Kakoschke and Mrs Flanagan for organising and running our second parent Mathematics workshop on Tuesday night. Congratulations to the twelve parents that joined us to learn how to extend their child's mathematical understanding.

Student Safety

We have had a phone call from the Troy Street apartments, informing us that four boys dressed in our uniform have been racing their scooters around the small carpark in this unit block. The occupants are very concerned that the boys could be injured or hit by incoming traffic. Please ensure your children, particularly when they are wearing our school uniform, are being safe and courteous at all times.

Safety Fence Around the School

After the failure of our application to council to close the Mackay Laneway, the Catholic Education Office has approved the replacement of our existing school fences with safety fences (2.1m high). This will also include a video intercom and electric entry system to the school during school hours via the gate off Mackay Lane (near Year 1). We would like to thank the Catholic Education Office who will pay for this installation that totals over \$71,000. The work to install these fences should start later this term.

Celebrating 35 Years of Catholic Education Photo

Our 35th Anniversary photo has arrived at school and is being displayed in the office window. If you wish to purchase a copy for your family, please place your order through the office by Friday 15 August. The cost is \$20.



Did You Know That What You Do At Home Can Help Your Kids Do Better At School?

When parents are engaged in their children's education — take interest in what they do at school and share the importance of learning with them — students tend to do better. Coupled with quality teaching, parental engagement is a key ingredient in helping students succeed.

Some ideas for getting engaged with your child's education are:

- *Sharing the value of education with your children.*
- *Encouraging and supporting your children to do and learn about what they are interested in.*
- *Discuss with your children what they are learning at school and what happens in their day.*
- *Helping your children take responsibility for their study and learning.*
- *Encourage and set up good study habits, problem solving and research skills.*
- *Reading with your children – talk about books and stories to help children develop language skills.*
- *Spending quality time together and talking about a range of topics.*
- *Challenging your children to relate these topics to what they learn at school.*
- *Encouraging a range of interests, friendships, a healthy diet and good sleep patterns.*
- *Praising your children for all their achievements whether they are big or small.*

It is important to remember that parents don't need to have all the answers about school work. Parents can, however, have hopes for their children's future, and these hopes can assist in creating the right environment for their children to have a positive school experience.



St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal/ Pyjama Day:



The theme for the St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal was:

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

A huge thank you is extended to all of you who did 'do something' to help those who struggle during the winter months in our community. Good on you for dressing in your pyjamas and making a donation to the St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Due to the generosity of our wonderful families we were able to raise \$500!!

Thank you to the Social Justice Team, Mrs. Grima-Starkey and Miss Colyer for helping to promote our fundraiser this year.

Scripture around the Classrooms:

Our prayers are with those children who are beginning the journey of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. As most of the children are in Year 5, this is the focus of learning in Religious Education at present. The children are reflecting on the presence of the Holy Spirit and through the story-telling of Scripture, making connections with the early Christian Church and our Christian community today. The following story was shared:

Our story today is from the New Testament section of the Bible and is recorded in a book called the Acts of the Apostles. It tells us about the early Christians and the early Church. It is thought that Luke is the author of the Acts of the Apostles.

The early Christians devoted themselves to the apostles teaching...

and fellowship,

To the breaking of bread,

and the prayers.

The believers were together and shared all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods

and distribute the proceeds to all who had need.

Day by day they spent much time together in the temple.

They broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,

praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.

And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

They were asked the question:

I wonder how our community is like the early Church?

Here are some of the responses:

- ❖ People go to Church and pray
- ❖ People believe in Jesus and the Holy Spirit
- ❖ We receive Communion
- ❖ Our Christian community is thankful and forgiving
- ❖ We donate money to the poor
- ❖ People who work give money to those who don't work
- ❖ You get power and strength if you believe in the Holy Spirit
- ❖ We live our faith
- ❖ People teach and share the Word of God
- ❖ Many organisations give to people in need



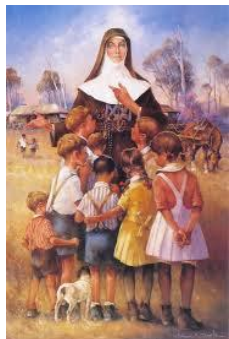
Religious Literacy Assessment:

During this week and next week the students of Year 4 and Year 6 will be taking part in a trial for the Religious Literacy Assessment.

Feast of Mary MacKillop:

Next week, 8th August we celebrate the Feast of Mary MacKillop. Thank you to Mrs. Flanagan and the Year 1 team for preparing a beautiful prayer for our grades to share during Morning Prayer on this day. You might like to share this with your families.

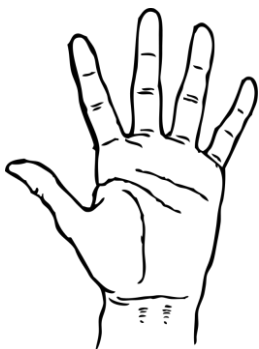
The Hand Prayer



Mary MacKillop was a woman of prayer. She turned to God in times of need, but also to praise and thank God.

I wonder if Mary MacKillop noticed that her hands could be a guide for prayer - just like the well-known "Hand Prayer"?

As you pray, and ask God for help, remember to praise and thank God too!



My **thumb** is closest to my heart – pray for my family.

Mary MacKillop's family was very poor.
There were eight children and Mary was the eldest.

My **index finger** points out things we don't always see;
it instructs me – pray for teachers.

Mary's vision when she started the Sisters of St Joseph, was that many children in poor rural areas could get an education. She founded schools, and thousands of people have been taught by the Sisters of St Joseph. Many teachers now, who are both married and single, continue Mary's legacy through their important vocation.



My **middle finger** stands taller than the rest
– remember to pray for the leaders around the world.

Mary MacKillop was a great leader, guiding the Sisters of St Joseph and challenging other leaders to respond to the needs of the poor.

My **ring finger** is weak and cannot stand alone well
– pray for the weak and the sick.

Mary MacKillop responded to many needs around Australia and New Zealand. The Mary MacKillop Foundation, like many other groups founded by the Sisters of St Joseph continue this legacy of caring for the poor and weak.

My **little finger** is the smallest – remember to pray for myself.

Humility was one of Mary MacKillop's qualities. She also asked for prayers for herself and she would still be praying for all of us.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING NEWS

The Creative Arts Expo performance group have been working very hard during their break times with Mrs Blazek and Miss Colyer. They are rehearsing for the combined schools Creative Arts Expo, which will be held at the Joan Sutherland Centre in week 9.

Congratulations to all of the children on their enthusiasm and dedication. We look forward to a great performance.



ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (**PDHPE**) develops the knowledge, skills and attitudes students need to lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives. Students learn about the importance of good food and regular exercise. They learn how bodies grow and change over time. They learn skills to play individual and team sports, and the values of sportsmanship and teamwork.

Did You Know?

Children and teenagers should be physically active every day. A minimum requirement of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity per day is recommended to provide health benefits. A further benefit is achieved if children engage in three relatively vigorous sessions of activity per week of at least 20 minutes. Parents role-modelling the importance of physical activity in their daily life provides a powerful influence on children as they develop values and attitudes towards being active.

There are plenty of ways to be active - Here are some ideas to get your children started.

Be active together. Quality time isn't time in front of the TV, or eating takeaway food in the car. Plan some trips. Picnics are great at the park or the beach. Being active together will improve personal relationships and get your family communicating better.

Encourage both moderate and vigorous activities every day. As a family, aim to do a range of different activities that help children develop healthy bones, muscles and joints. Do more moderate exercise like brisk walking and vigorous activities that make everyone 'huff and puff'. A game of footy in the backyard will get the blood flowing!

Get active any way you can. Children love it when mum and dad join in their games. Throw a frisbee or ball together. Stay active by walking the children to school or riding your bike with them.

Become a team player. Team games are great fun. Play football, basketball, netball, tennis or soccer by joining a club, or just play team games with friends in the neighbourhood.

Take up active recreation at every opportunity. Enrol kids in dance classes. Or, for that matter, enrol yourself. Take up swimming, go for a gentle run or a good walk.

Get into physical education. The importance of physical education for children shouldn't be underestimated. All children deserve the opportunity to learn new skills to **be active** for life. Try a range of activities that call for different skills, like catching, throwing, balance and coordination.

Reduce inactive leisure time. Limit television viewing, cut down on video games and reduce time surfing the net.

Get the family involved in local activities. Encourage more social involvement by joining after school clubs and taking part in community events.

Be a good role model for your kids. If an active lifestyle is part of your life, you're much more likely to pass similar good habits to your children.

Explore ways to be an active family. Explore a national park, go bushwalking, hike and camp in the hills, take a walking tour of the city, bike ride together and play with your kids.

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Voice of Youth is a public speaking competition for Year 6 students. This term Year Six students have been working on their Voice of Youth speeches. We would like congratulate all the year six students for all their hard work and continuous effort. Last Thursday, ten students had the opportunity to deliver their speech at the school final in front of Years 3-6.

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent OLOW at the Plains Cluster final on Thursday 31st July at Holy Family, Luddenham.

Harrison McDonald	- "The Good Old Days"
Keisha Chilmaid	- "Coke-Cola"
Alanah Eisenhuth	- "Why Netball Should Be An Olympic Sport"
Jasmine Ridding (Reserve)	- "Cyber Bullying"



We all wish you the best of luck!

Year Six Teachers

School Fees

School fees have now been issued and are due by the 19th August 2014.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact the office to arrange an appointment with Mrs Veling.

Clothing Pool

There are many items in the lost property box outside of the clothing pool. Please encourage your child to check this box if they have lost clothing, drink bottles or lunch boxes. All personal property should be labelled with your child's name. The clothing pool currently has a large quantity of donated jumpers and jackets. These will now be on sale at reduced prices. The clothing pool is open on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

CANTEEN NEWS

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deals \$ 4.50

Available until Friday 8th August

Meal Deal 1

Egg and Lettuce Sandwich, Small Water and Zooper Dooper

Meal Deal 2

Chicken Tender Roll, Juice Pop Top and Zooper Dooper

COMMUNITY NEWS

Seasons For Growth – Bereavement Support Program

CCSS Solo Parent Ministry is running the **Seasons for Growth** Program for adults commencing on **Tuesday 5th August 2014**. This small group Program runs for five consecutive Tuesdays and is open to anyone grieving the death of their spouse or partner. See Notice Board for Flyer. **Venue:** CCSS Centre 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. **Date/Time:** 5 Tuesdays from 05th August -10.00am – 1.00pm. **Cost:** \$80.00. Information and Registration- Ph. 9933 0205 or email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au

Stepping Beyond: Support For Those Separated Or Divorced

Come along to STEPPING BEYOND on the last Tuesday of each month at CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, at 7.30pm. **Venue:** CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. **Cost:** \$5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

Seminar - Managing Family Finances

CCSS Solo Parent Ministry is holding a Seminar for anyone interested in gaining greater understanding on how to manage on reduced finances. This Seminar will cover topics on tracking your spending; prioritise your finances, Money Plans and how to make your money work for you. The night is held on Tuesday 12th August, 7.30pm-9.30pm at CCSS Centre 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. Guest Speaker: Trish Nowland (CCSS Financial Counsellor). Further details and Registration PH: 9933 0205
Email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au



Buddies Mentoring



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works



Theatre Extraordinaire Sat 23 Aug

Your child is invited to join St Vincent de Paul's Buddies Day.

On Saturday, 23rd August 2014 at the Joan Sutherland Theatre. The children will watch a performance called 'The Girl Who Forgot to Sing Badly' as well as take a backstage tour.

This production has been hailed as one of the world's best performances for children, and is direct from Ireland.

10am – 2.00pm

The Buddies Day will be
at **Joan Sutherland
Performing Arts Centre**
597 High Street, Penrith

You can find out more on
<http://jspac.com.au/schools/thegirlwhoforgottosingbadly14.php>

FREE FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-12 YEARS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Places are limited so please RSVP early to ensure a spot.

RSVP by Weds 13 August

Contact Altheah on 0439 487 911 or
altheah.sheldon@vinnies.org.au



CATHOLIC CARE SOCIAL SERVICES
DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA



Faith in Marriage

A Conference about Marriage for Couples

Sunday 24th August 2014 • 9:30am – 4:30pm

The gifts and graces of marriage give us great hope and strength for ourselves and our society. Speakers share their insights, observations and experiences for building and enriching marriages.

Theme: Marriage – A Vocation to Love

Incorporating the Ray Reid Memorial Lecture about the blessing and graces of marriage. This conference is aimed at married couples, engaged couples and any individual interested in marriage.



Opening Address and Blessing
**Most Reverend
Anthony Fisher OP,**
Bishop of Parramatta



Ray Reid Memorial Lecture
Dr Ryan Messmore
President of
Campion College



Keynote Address
Professor Neil Ormerod
Professor of Theology at
Australian Catholic University



Keynote Address
Ms Jo Lamble
Psychologist, Marriage and
Family Counsellor, Author
and TV Commentator

Date: Sunday 24th August 2014 **Time:** 9:30am – 4:30pm

Venue: Edith Angel Hall at Our Lady of Mercy College, Ross Street, Parramatta

Cost: \$25 per person (\$50 per couple) which includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea and is payable prior to the Conference. Mass will be celebrated for the Conference participants at 12 midday.

To register for the Conference ring on 9933 0222 or email marriage@ccss.org.au

Child minding on site will be available for the children of Conference participants at \$30 per family. Bookings and payment prior to the Conference are essential. To book for child minding please phone or email as above.

www.ccss.org.au





**bledisloe
cup festival**
BUSH2BLEDISLOE



MEET THE QANTAS WALLABIES IN PENRITH

FRIDAY 8th AUGUST, 2014

- Meet the team
- Get up close to the iconic Bledisloe Cup trophy
- Chance to win great prizes

3.00pm – 4.30pm The Mondo – Penrith

(Between Westfield Penrith and the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre)

Plus don't miss Bledisloe Bay in Sydney on Thursday 14th August – First Fleet Park, Circular Quay.



#Bush2Bledisloe



Facebook.com/Wallabies

QANTAS WALLABIES v ALL BLACKS

BLEDISLOE CUP, SYDNEY TEST

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST, 2014

ANZ STADIUM

ON SALE NOW – TICKETEK.COM.AU

Book travel packages at: www.sydney.com



CREATE YOUR OWN CRICKET MOMENT



PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU