

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

7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## DIARY DATES

**Friday 8 September**  
Yellow Day, Westmead  
Hospital Cancer  
Fundraiser

6pm P & F Movie Night

**Monday 11 September**  
Confirmation Rehearsal

**Wed 13 September**  
Voice of Youth  
Semi Final

Confirmation Mass,  
7.30pm

**Monday 18 September**  
Footy Fever Day

**Wed 20 September**  
P & F Meeting &  
Fete Meeting 7.00pm

**Thursday 21 September**  
Grandparents' Day

**Friday 22 September**  
Last Day of Term 3

**Monday 9 October**  
Term 4 Begins

**Wednesday 18 October**  
Kinder Orientation  
Morning

**Wed-Fri 18-20 October**  
Year 5 Camp to Berry

**Sunday 22 October**  
**OLOW SCHOOL FETE**

**13 - 17 November**  
Swimming Lessons for  
Kinder to Year 4

**Monday 27 November**  
Christmas Concert

**Thursday 30 November**  
Swimming Carnival

**Wed 6 December**  
Year 6 Graduation Mass

**Thursday 7 December**  
Thank You Afternoon Tea

**Friday 8 December**  
Awards Ceremony  
Year 6 Social

**Monday 11 December**  
Thanksgiving Mass,  
9.15am

**Friday 15 December**  
Last Day of School

**Wed 31 January 2018**  
First day of Term 1 for  
Years 1-6

**Thurs 1 February 2018**  
Kinder begin  
8.45am-12.00pm

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Being a parent in the 21st Century is demanding - pressing work commitments and busy family schedules, and the availability of and accessibility to electronic media and the mixed messages it conveys to our children, are just some of these.

More often than not, we find ourselves feeling torn and worried about our children - questioning the time we spend with them, striving to ensure that they develop resilience and wondering how to best nurture their development and growth into faith filled young people confident of their ability to make a difference in their world.

There is no such thing as the perfect parent or the perfect family. It is not so much the amount of time that we have to spend with our children but what we do with that time. Nor is it the material possessions or opportunities that we can offer our children that determine how successful we are as parents. It is rather the relationship that we build with our children throughout their lives that will have the most significant impact on their development.

If our children grow up in an environment of encouragement, tolerance, acceptance, and recognition they will be confident young people of peace and hope.

What greater contribution to society can there be than this?

Last Friday, we joined as a community to celebrate Fathers' Day with our breakfast and prayer. This successful event was patronised by hundreds of dad, granddads and father figures as they ate breakfast with their children, shared stories, played and prayed together.

We pray for the fathers and father figures in our school and community and for those fathers who are no longer with us and we thank God for the guidance and love that they give their children.

Tomorrow we celebrate two community events. Firstly, we have 'Yellow Day' in support of the oncology unit at Westmead Hospital. Many of our parents have, or are at present utilising this unit. We ask that our students wear something yellow (clothing, hat, shoes, ribbon etc) to show support for the cancer unit and by donating a \$2 gold coin. The Miles family will also be providing cakes and merchandise for sale.

On Friday evening from 6pm, the P&F are holding a movie night. Kevin Houlihan will be setting up his wonderful big screen. There will be freshly made popcorn, drinks and lollies for sale as well as the Cafe2U cart, which will be donating 10% of the takings to the school. Come and join us for a great community-building evening.

Go gently,

*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.***

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 3 WEEKS 6 & 7



Oliver Casey, Frasier Tait, Jacinta Roser, Ava Grech, Bailey Grima, Tailyn Tupaea, Rowan Astridge, Jake Callaghan, Addison Riley, Cooper Sulic, Ben Garrahy, Kye Lloyd, Katelyn King, Iven So, Christopher Elias, Kate Roser, Mia McGrath, Roman Belcastro, Mya Kelty, Aiden Cremen, Samuel Cashel, Mia Kuster, Jason Andrews, Sophie Procter, Makaela Jarrett, Max Selby, Ivy Hooke, Maya Deacon-Chilmaid, Ellie Gillett-Moore, Emily Sekulic, Mackenzie Degnan, Charlotte Ahern, Ayden Pusko, Daisy Andersen, Ben Robinson, Mikayla Blazek, Noah Pascoe, Marshall Pereira.

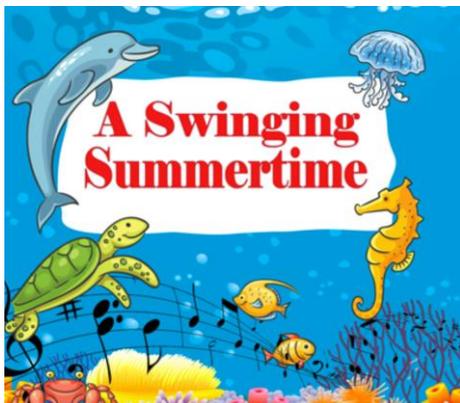
### **KINDERGARTEN 2018 ENROLMENTS**

Please inform family and friends, that offers for Kindergarten 2018 are being finalised. Enrolment places in Years 1-6 are also being processed. Enrolment packs are available by contacting the school office on 4777-7200 or by emailing an enquiry to [olow@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olow@parra.catholic.edu.au). Please return enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2018 as soon as possible.

### **ARE YOU MOVING?**

To estimate enrolments for 2018, it would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing of any children who may be leaving *Our Lady of the Way* at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6.

You are reminded that CEDP policy is that families need to give the school one full term's notice in writing in these circumstances. Thank you for your cooperation.



### **A SWINGING SUMMERTIME**

Order forms for the DVD were sent home last week. The last day for DVD orders is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September @ \$18. The photos (\$2.50 each or 3 for \$6) can be previewed and ordered outside the office and the library.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

At Our Lady of the Way, we continue to promote student attendance

### - EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY -

Regular school attendance plays a critical role in ensuring that every student has access to the same learning opportunities. When students are not at school, are late to school or leave school early, they are missing out on so much that can impact on their future learning.

To 6<sup>th</sup> September, *Our Lady of the Way* Attendance Level was 85.3%.

School Name	School Attendance Level %
Our Lady of The Way Primary Emu Plains	85.3%
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	82.6%
01	90.7%
02	88.4%
03	85.3%
04	81.5%
05	84.1%
06	84.8%

Congratulations to **Year 1** who has reached the Diocesan target of 90%.

Once again parents are reminded to keep your child at home if they have a fever, are coughing up phlegm or have an infection. This way we can stop the cycle of reinfecting each other.

**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.

## SUMMER UNIFORM SWAP OVER

Change over into our summer uniform will begin in the last two weeks of this term from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. By the first day back in Term 4, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, all OLOW students will be wearing their full summer uniform.

## OLOW CONFIRMATION

Many of our students and children from the OLOW Parish are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm. The Very Rev Peter Williams will be conferring this sacrament. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers

## PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN ATHLETICS TEAM 2017

Congratulations to the following students who have made it through to the Diocesan Athletics Squad competing on 18<sup>th</sup> September: Sienna Gahagan, Jade Elford, Declan Casey, Milaya Cleary and our female 4X100 junior relay team comprising Sienna Gahagan, Jade Elford, Breha Pearson and Holly Clark.

Congratulations also to Jade and Sienna who again were Junior Girls Age Champion and Runner-up.

**Junior Girls Age Champion**

Jade Elford

OLOW, Emu Plains

**Junior Girls Runner-up**

Sienna Gahagan

OLOW, Emu Plains

## GRANDPARENTS' DAY AND BOOK FAIR

Our annual Grandparents' Day Celebration will be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September commencing with a liturgy at 9:15am. This will be followed by morning tea for parents and grandparents, a special performance from our students, followed by open classrooms. At around 1pm there will be a picnic lunch and sausage sizzle.

We will also be having a Book Fair, where we encourage Grandparents to purchase a book for their grandchildren.

Students may go home from 1pm if they are signed out at the office and are accompanied by their parent or grandparent.

## PARENTING STYLES – WHAT STYLE ARE YOU?

There are many ideas about how to rear children. Some parents adopt the ideas their own parents used. Others get advice from friends. Some read books about parenting, while others take classes. No one has all the answers. However, psychologists and other social scientists now know what parenting practices are most effective and are more likely to lead to positive outcomes for children.

A parenting script has two main components: how responsive parents are, and how demanding. Being responsive means being attuned, supportive and attentive to the needs of your child while the demanding component refers to the amount of control we exert over our children. With this in mind, four parenting styles have been identified - permissive, authoritarian, authoritative, and uninvolved.

### **Authoritarian**

Authoritarian parents always try to be in control and exert their control on the children. These parents set strict rules to try to keep order, and they usually do this without much expression of warmth and affection. They attempt to set strict standards of conduct and are usually very critical of children for not meeting those standards. They tell children what to do, they try to make them obey and they usually do not provide children with choices or options. Authoritarian parents don't explain why they want their children to do things. If a child questions a rule or command, the parent might answer, „Because I said so.“ Parents tend to focus on bad behaviour, rather than positive behaviour, and children are scolded or punished for not following the rules. These parents are demanding but are not responsive. Authoritarian parenting styles generally lead to children who are obedient and proficient, but they rank lower in happiness, social competence and self-esteem.

### **Permissive**

Permissive or indulgent parents are more responsive than demanding. They make few, if any, rules, and the rules that they make are usually not consistently enforced. They don't want to be tied down to routines. They want their children to feel free. They do not set clear boundaries or expectations for their children's behaviour and tend to accept in a warm and loving way, however the child behaves. Permissive parents give children as many choices as possible, even when the child is not capable of making good choices. They tend to accept a child's behaviour, good or bad, and make no comment about whether it is beneficial or not. Permissive parents are generally nurturing and communicative with their children, often taking on the status of a friend more than that of a parent. Permissive parenting often results in children who rank low in happiness and self-regulation. These children are more likely to experience problems with authority and tend to perform poorly in school.

### **Authoritative**

Authoritative parents are both demanding and responsive. They are firm, but not intrusive or restrictive and their disciplinary methods are supportive rather than punitive. They help children learn to be responsible for themselves and to think about the consequences of their behaviour by providing clear, reasonable expectations for their children and explanations for why they expect their children to behave in a particular manner. They monitor their children's behaviour to make sure that they follow through on rules and expectations. They do this in a warm and loving manner. They often, „try to catch their children being good“ and reinforce the good behaviour, rather than focusing on the bad. Parents who have an authoritative style give choices based on a child's ability. They also guide children's behaviour by teaching, not punishing, “You threw your truck at Molly. That hurt her. We're putting your truck away until you can play with it safely.”

### **Uninvolved**

An uninvolved parenting style is characterised by few demands, low responsiveness and little communication. While these parents fulfil the child's basic needs, they are generally detached from their child's life. In extreme cases, these parents may even reject or neglect the needs of their children. These children tend to lack self-control, have low self-esteem and are less competent than their peers.

### **Which style is best?**

It is generally accepted that an authoritative style is the most successful approach and results in happy, capable and successful young people. So, you may wonder why all parents simply don't utilise an authoritative parenting style. We need to realise however, that we may be somewhere in between and that our parenting style is influenced by culture, personality, family size, parental background, socioeconomic status, educational level and religion. Additionally, the parenting styles of individual parents also combine to create a unique blend in each and every family. In order to create a cohesive approach to parenting, it is essential that parents learn to cooperate as they combine various elements of their unique parenting styles. Importantly, no parenting style will work unless you build a loving bond with your child.

### An authoritative parent:

- Says 'No' when it's appropriate, even though saying yes would be much easier
- Recognises that parents have rights
- Is non-manipulative
- Offers empathy rather than just sympathy
- Encourages strength not weakness
- Encourages free choice and the learning that comes from making mistakes
- Uses consequential learning (which says, 'if you eat toast in bed, you must sleep in the crumbs')
- Demands responsible behaviour.



### WOOLWORTH'S EARN & LEARN 26th July – 19th September

Spend \$10 and get a sticker. Have your family and friends collect stickers for you. Send the stickers to school. We then collect fabulous new learning resources.

### TENNIS CHAMPION

Congratulations to Mia Kuster in Year 4 who travelled to Bathurst last week to compete in the JDS Central West Tennis Champion of Champions Grand Final Tournament.

Mia played against 7 of the top 8, ten year old and under girls from the central west region. Mia finished runner-up champion on the day.



### **LOW SCHOOL FETE – SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER**

*Planning for our school fete is well underway. Tara Cremen, Kiery Pascoe and Julie Irvine have been doing lots of 'behind the scene' work. It is going to be a great community event!*

***Our next Fete meeting will be on  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Staffroom  
PLEASE JOIN US***

### **IT IS SPRING SO START THAT CLEAN UP**

*Dig out all those pre-loved (in good condition) **BOOKS**, **DVD's**, **CD's** and **TOYS** that you would like to donate to the fete. These can be brought to the school office at any time. Please ask your relatives and friends – I'm sure they will be able to help out as well.*

### **PLANT STALL**

*If you have a **green** finger, why not start potting plants or planting seedlings for our plant stall*

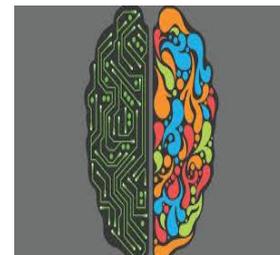
*- always a winner at every fete –*



## What is **Coding** ?

In today's digital world, coding is a fundamental skill alongside maths and reading.

According to *Tynker - Coding for Kids*, there are a number of reasons why coding is important for children. These include:



- 🌐 **Coding drives innovation.** From self-driving cars to robot-assisted surgery to social media, computer science is revolutionizing every aspect of our lives. Coding is a fundamental skill that children need to learn so they can lead this movement.
- 🌐 **Coding allows kids to be creative.** They can create projects that do really amazing things.
- 🌐 **Coding builds confidence.** It is incredibly empowering for children to be able to create projects and show them off to family and friends.
- 🌐 **Coding is best learned early.** Learning to code is similar to learning a second language. The earlier that children are exposed to fundamental topics like sequencing, loops, and conditionals, the more deeply they absorb these concepts.
- 🌐 **Coding translates to success in other areas.** Learning to program supports learning in other areas, like math, reading, and science.

<https://www.tynker.com/content/why-coding>

This week, Year 3 had their first coding experience at the Apple Store Penrith. It was amazing to see how quickly they picked up the skills required including problem solving, critical thinking and mathematical understandings required to write the code and make corrections as they went. This enabled their 'sphero' to travel the course set for them. Take a look at our school Facebook page for some photos and videos.



The Apple Store runs different workshops throughout the week and on the weekend, including coding that are free and open to the public. Jump on their website or give them a call if this is of interest.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## Parish Sacramental Program - Confirmation:

*Please keep the following children in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday September 13.*



Jason Andrews  
Harrison Armour  
Jason Armstrong  
Justin Bailie  
Harrison Bennett  
Cohen Borg  
Sarah Budge  
Georgia Cashel  
Jude Godfrey  
Alex Godwin  
Zoe Grech  
Maya Grieve  
Chloe Riley  
Kate Roser  
Emily Sekulic  
Kieran Smith  
Charlie Thomas

Milaya Cleary  
Tyler Clifford  
Declan Cremen  
James Cremen  
Erin Downie  
Dieter Erdmann  
Abbey Flanagan  
Sienna Gahagan  
Ben Garrahy  
Bailey Grima  
Alexander Hawkes  
Paige Hawkes  
Jack Sykes  
Lucas Woods  
Tiare Raukawa  
Madeline Wade  
Toby Witjes

Sebastian Hayward  
Bailey Houlihan  
Ethan Houlihan  
Katelyn King  
Oscar King  
Phoebe Kruzic  
Harry Lewandowski  
Connor Lohan  
Cody Luczak  
Lucie McIntosh  
Rory Muller  
Isaac Steele  
Larissa Stewart  
Millina Storek  
Marshall Pereira  
Zachary Phillip

## Grandparents' Day Mass:

We are very much looking forward to celebrating our wonderful Grandparents on Thursday, September 21. Please join us for a Liturgical Celebration at 9:15am in the Church.

### **Carole Day**

Religious Education Coordinator

# LEARNING NEWS

## Year 3 Excursion



“On Tuesday we went to the Apple Store to learn how to code. Coding is where you program a robot. We programmed a little sphere named ‘Sphero’ and we had to program the ball with an iPad.”

*Evan*

On Tuesday Year 3 went on the best excursion ever. We were learning how to code. It was the best. I hope we get to do it again.”

*Zac*

On the 5th of September my class and I went on an excursion. On the excursion we did a coding lesson at the Apple Store. The coding lesson was about moving a robot ball through a maze. The robots were called 'spheros'. We used an iPad to make the 'spheros' move."

*Mia*

"I was having so much fun calculating these mini robot spheres. I even found a way to change the colour! I changed the colour from blue to orange."

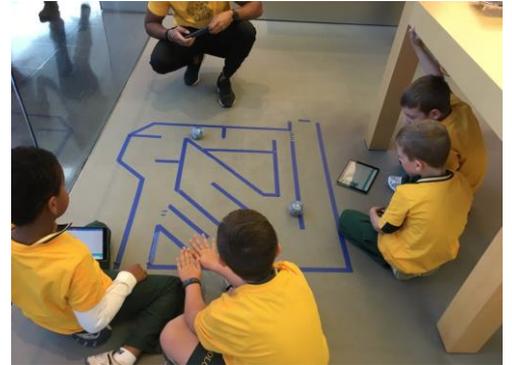
*Cassidy*

"On the iPad we made the 'sphero' roll through a maze by setting the speed, the time for it to roll and the angle. It was amazing. A 'sphero' will be the first thing on my Christmas list!"

*Miah*

"We had to make a robot ball go through a maze. It was a bit hard, but it was really fun. We got through it and that was the good bit."

*Eden*



On Tuesday we went to the Apple Store. We learnt how to code and it was really fun. I enjoyed when we got free wristbands and T-shirts..."

*Darby*

"I enjoyed coding. We went on an App and got to give 'sphero' commands. We had to try and make it go through a maze. Now I love coding."

*Lucia*



"At the library we went on a treasure hunt to try to find books that we had on a list. They had this computer which showed you books you might want to read and my partner and I used it for some books."

*Jayden*



"We got to have a tour of Woolies. We started at the meeting room and that was really fun. After that we went to the bakery. We went to the butcher and he cut some meat up. We went to the loading zone and there was a big ramp."

*Jacob B.*



“One of things we did at the Plaza was going to Woolworths. We had to wear a hairnet...”

*Cruz*

“I love how we got to see behind the scenes in Woolworths and how we saw the bakery and the -5 degrees freezer. It was absolutely freezing! It was so much fun. It was the best day ever!”

*Amity*

“Yesterday felt like the best day of my life! We went to the library, Woolworths and coding. It was an amazing day!”

*Sophie*

## GENERAL NEWS

### SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

Thank you to the families who have finalised their school fees for 2017. These fees were due on Monday 21 August 2017.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Principal or myself, fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states “all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued.”

If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, I encourage you to contact me on 4777 7200 or [pvion@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pvion@parra.catholic.edu.au) to discuss payment options. The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. Please be assured of complete confidentiality when discussing financial issues.

The school fee collection process has commenced on overdue accounts that have not been addressed as above.

School fees can be paid by Bpay, Postbillpay, Direct Debit, cash, EFTPOS Credit Card or cheque.

***Ms Pascale Vion***

Senior Finance Officer



### WANTED – SECOND HAND UNIFORM DONATIONS

With the changeover to summer uniform, we would appreciate any donations of used uniforms to the Clothing Pool. In particular, we are after boy's long sleeved shirts, long pants and microfibre jackets.

Donations can be made at the school office.

# Our Lady Of The Way Spring Fete

OUR LADY OF THE WAY  
EMU PLAINS

Sunday  
22nd October  
10:30am -  
4:30pm

SPIN THE  
WHEEL



## \* RIDES

\* JUMPING CASTLE

\* CAKE STALL

\* GIFT BASKETS

\* WATER DUNK TANK

\* BBQ, HOT DOGS & TREATS

\* DEVONSHIRE TEA



Family Fun  
for everyone!



# catholic out of school hours care

## **CHRISTMAS 2017 AND JANUARY 2018: COSHC OPERATION DATES**

To assist COSHC families in planning their education and care needs over the Christmas closure period and to plan bookings for Vacation Care in January 2018, a calendar of Closure Dates and Operational Dates has been issued to all families enrolled with COSHC.

### **COSHC WILL BE CLOSED ON:**

- Monday, 18 December 2017 and Tuesday, 19 December, 2017. COSHC staff will be participating in professional development in line with teachers and school staff.
- The Early Learning and Care team will be on annual leave from 22 December, 2017 to 5 January 2018. COSHC will not be operating during these days.
- COSHC will be closed on Australia Day, 26 January, 2018
- COSHC will be closed on Monday, 29 January 2018 for professional development of staff.

### **FAMILIES, PLEASE NOTE:**

#### **1. Christmas Closure**

The **last day of operation** of COSHC services will be Friday, 15 December 2017.

#### **2. January Vacation Care**

The COSHC Summer Vacation Care Program commences on Monday, 8 January, 2018 to Thursday 25 January 2018.

#### **3. 2018 Commencement of COSHC operations for Before- and After-School programs**

COSHC will re-open on Tuesday, 30 January, 2018.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest

# **OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS**

## **3 - 6 October 2017**

### **HOW TO BOOK:**

Phone 4735 1100 | [gallery@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gallery@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au)

86 River Road, Emu Plains

[www.penrithregionalgallery.org](http://www.penrithregionalgallery.org)

# BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL FAMILY IN 2018!

Hosting overseas students promotes an exchange of cultures, languages and traditions and will enrich your family's lifestyle. Students, aged 15-18, are wonderful role models for Australia's future generation.

Become a volunteer host family with WEP!



**1,463 x Aussie families hosting  
10,000 x Tim Tams consumed  
Countless memories made**

*"Our daughter has a big sister now, someone to talk to other than mum or dad! If you're thinking about hosting, do it! It's the most rewarding experience for your family!"*

Nicole, three-time host mum.

**REQUEST YOUR FREE  
INFO PACK TODAY!**

**WEP.ORG.AU**

**INFO@WEP.ORG.AU**

**1300 884 733**

