



# By The Way



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

14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

## DIARY DATES

**Friday 15 December**  
Last Day of School  
for students

**Monday 29 January 2018**  
**Tuesday 30 January 2018**

MAI (Maths) Testing  
for students in  
Years 1-6

**Monday 29 January –  
Wednesday 31  
January 2018**

Kindergarten  
Numeracy &  
Literacy  
Testing

**Tuesday 30 January 2018**  
**COSHC**  
**OPEN ALL DAY**

**Wednesday 31 January 2018**

First day of Term 1  
for Years 1-6

**Thursday 1 February 2018**

Kinder begin  
8.45am-12.00pm

**Monday 5 February 2018**

Kindergarten begin  
full days



Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

This is our final Newsletter for 2017. As we come to the end of year, we have much to be thankful for at Our Lady of the Way.



Thank you to our wonderful **children**. Each day the children at Our Lady of the Way bring great joy to one another and to their teachers. It is a privilege to work with children who are so enthusiastic about their learning, caring for one another and eager to give their very best.

Thank you to the **staff**. Here at Our Lady of the Way, we are blessed to have a great team of teachers, assistants and support staff. I wish parents were lucky enough to see 'behind the scenes' work that takes place each and every day – This group of people go above and beyond their duty and your children are lucky to be in the care of this special team. I would like to acknowledge Mr De Celis who will be leaving our school. We thank him for his contribution to our school and we ask God to continue to guide him as he moves to new ways of serving Him.

Thank you to Father Mick and the OLOW **Parish**. The constant care, guidance and support we receive is a great source of encouragement for all the staff in what we do. Our school exists solely to support the parish in its mission of bringing Christ to His children.

Thank you to our **Families** – It is a great privilege to join with families in continuing their children's education here at Our Lady of the Way during their school years. We celebrate parents as the first educators of their children, and we thank you for entrusting your children's educational care to us. In a special way, I acknowledge those families who are leaving us this year. Thank you for the support you have given us.

On behalf of all the staff, may I wish each family a peace filled Christmas and a safe holiday break. May the joy of the newborn Jesus bring you much

*God Bless,  
Mrs. Sue Veling  
Principal*

### SCHOOL ZONES

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the Christmas holiday break at the end of Term 4 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families. School zones operate on all gazetted schools days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

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

17 Troy Street, Emu Plains 2750 Phone: 4777 7200, Email: [OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au), Web: [www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/](http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/)

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

## 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.*

## Our Lady of the Way Church Christmas Mass Times

We encourage you all to come along and join the wider Parish community for the Christmas liturgies being held at this special time of year!



**Monday 18th December**  
2nd Rite of Reconciliation, 7.30pm

**Sunday 24th December**  
6pm Vigil and Midnight Mass  
(Carols commence at 5.30pm and 11.30pm)

**Monday 25th December**  
8.00am and 9.30am Christmas morning  
(No evening Mass)



Children attending the Vigil Mass (6.00pm) on Christmas Eve are encouraged to 'dress up' for the celebration. Please come as angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary or Joseph.

***We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas.***

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 4 WEEK 8**



*Max Tuisovivi, Summer Stansfield, Elara Layton, Max Thompson, Abigail Byrne, Edward Lennon, Luka Kuster, Tanner Clarke, Jake Callaghan, Cooper Jones, Savannah O'Brien, Vera Sen, Kaliyah Kessell, Jake Thompson, Jessica Still, Zac Levy, Amity Houlihan, Ashton Bartlett, Chloe Luczak, Lucas Latty, Brodie Miles, Holly Hartstonge, Kiera Blazek, Lachlan Stonehouse, Ellie Gillett-Moore, Luke Durham, Taj Le Breton, Josh Robinson, Daisy Andersen, Kate Roser, Thomas Venegas, Blake Skinner, Brooke Bentley.*

## **READING RECOVERY GRADUATES & EMU GRADUATES**

*Congratulations to Ms Glynn who graduated as a two-year trained Reading Recovery specialist teacher. We are so proud of her and very lucky to have Ms Glynn at our school.*

*Congratulations also to our Year 1 students, Dylan McDonald, Savannah O'Brien, Max Selby, Wayde Race, Ruby Johnson, Hannah Fullam and Nina McKeown, who graduated from the Reading Recovery program guided by Mrs Hensen and Ms Glynn.*

*Also congratulations to our Year 4 students Noah Pascoe, Ava Eekman and Tianna Stansfield who successfully completed the Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) specialist program guided by Mrs Flanagan. What a great achievement!*



## **SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

*Our swimming carnival at Glenbrook Pool was a great day of healthy competition and, most importantly, participation. The day saw green (Manning) led by Liam and Brianna, take out the overall trophy. Congratulations to all the colour houses. Our appreciation and thanks to Miss Reynolds for coordinating our carnival for all the students. Her attention to detail, as always, was outstanding and ensured the day ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all. Thank you also to the amazing team of teachers and many thanks to the multitude of parents who assisted on the day.*

## **PREPARING FOR 2018**

*Remember the following as you prepare for the new school year.*

*ALL students are expected to wear the Our Lady of the Way uniform with pride throughout the school year. This includes wearing the correct hat, socks and shoes. This helps to keep students focused on their learning whilst also keeping a consistent atmosphere across the school.*

*Please note the following uniform expectations from Kindergarten to Year 6: White sports socks are plain white ankle socks with school emblem on cuff. School shoes are black leather lace ups/velcro/buckle. Sports shoes that are predominantly white are to be worn for sport with WHITE laces - no slip on 'Raben' type shoes or coloured joggers, runners or basketball boots are to be worn.*

*Boy's hairstyles have been of particular concern in 2017. Parents are asked to keep extreme styles for the holidays. Unusual or extreme hairstyles will not be tolerated at school.*

*Some of the older students are wearing school hats that are faded and torn. Please make sure that school hats are of good quality so they can protect students from the dangers of ultra violet rays. New hats are available from the office at any time.*

## **HELPERS - THANK YOU**

The staff of OLOW would like to thank all parents, grandparents and friends who generously give their time to support the school, in so many ways, throughout the year. As a way of recognising this huge contribution, parents and friends who have supported the school in any capacity, were invited to a thankyou afternoon tea last Thursday. Over 20 people were able to be present and they were serenaded by our string ensemble led by Mrs McGregor.

## **SECOND HAND UNIFORMS**

We always welcome donations of second hand uniforms in good condition. Items can be sent in with your child or dropped into the office.

## **YEAR 6 GRADUATION**

On Wednesday evening, we celebrated our Year 6 Farewell Mass and presentation evening. It was a great evening where our graduating students celebrated seven years of schooling at Our Lady of the Way. It was an opportunity to reflect over this cohort's time at school celebrating their success across all domains of their primary education as well as reminisce about the times they have shared together.

It was wonderful to see all these children take an active role in the mass and presentations. A special thanks to our Year 6 teachers Miss Reynolds and Mrs Walsh for coordinating the night's Mass and presentations. A special thank you to the Year 5 & Year 4 students who attended as part of the choir and to Emily Sekulic and Kate Roser for altar serving.



Congratulations to Layla Starr who received the Lions Club Citizenship Award, Kennedy Storr who received the Stuart Ayres All Rounder Award and Jack Prendergast who received the Lindsay Award for Service to the Community.

## **OLOW Choir**

*The OLOW Choir has had a great 2017. Our numbers have grown throughout the year and we have been able to perform at a number of our school events. These included Mother's Day and the school fete. On Tuesday we visited Edinglassie Nursing Home to spread some Christmas cheer. During this Advent Season, it was lovely to be able to give to the community and put smiles on the faces of others. We look forward to maintaining a connection with the Edinglassie community in the future. We are very proud of the choir; for their dedication, friendships formed and for the growth they have shown throughout the year. We can't wait to see what 2018 holds for us.*



## **Miss Mizzi, Miss Vella and Mrs Thomas**

### **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

*Have you entered the Summer Reading Challenge yet? Haven't heard about it yet? Well it's on now and at OLOW we are going to see just how many of our students can register! Entry is easy.*

*Go to [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au) to find out how you could win a mini iPad.*

*Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or graphic novel. Students then need to write in 50 words or less, why they loved it.*

*This year they have made the challenge easier to enter by removing the minimum number of books to read and providing students with more chances of winning a prize. The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis.*

*You have all summer to enter and the more times you enter the more chances you have to win. Entries open on 4 December 2017 and close at 5pm on 5 February 2018.*

***Remember we want all children to keep working on their reading skills over the long holiday break.***

### **TEACHERS FOR 2018**

Our grade teachers and diversity support staff for 2018 include:

Kindergarten – Mrs Blazek, Mrs Thomas

Year 1 – Mrs Kuipers; Mrs Hensen

Year 2 – Mrs Curry; Mrs Walsh and Mrs Taylor

Year 3 – Mrs Cremen (Term 1); Mrs McKeon and Mrs Rix (Terms 1 & 2) Mrs Kakoschke (Terms 3 & 4)

Year 4 – Mrs Day; Mrs Scott and Miss Mizzi

Year 5 – Miss Coutinho; Miss Vella

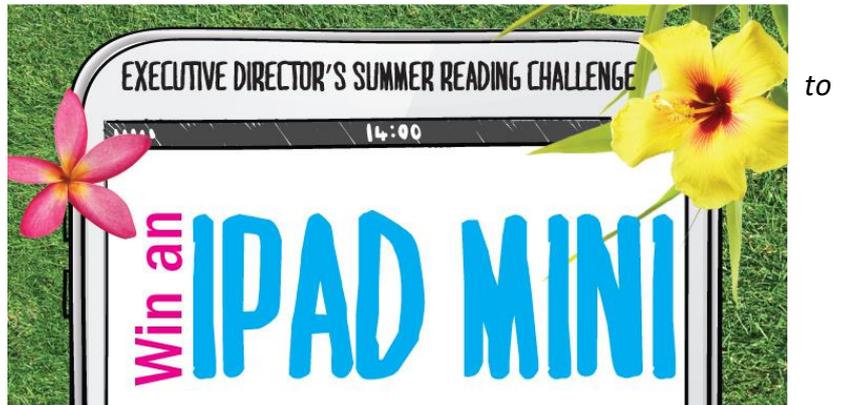
Year 6 – Miss Reynolds; Mr Chapman

Japanese Specialist– Mrs Filan

Music Specialist – Mrs McGregor

Diversity Support Team: Miss Mizzi, Mrs Flanagan, Mrs Khalifeh, Ms Glynn and Miss Lamaletie

***Please keep Mrs Johnston in your prayers as she is very sick in hospital.***



# JANUARY 2018 MATHEMATICS TESTING: YEARS 1-6

## ONLINE BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

As in previous years, all students in Years 1-6 will be assessed using the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Our Lady of the Way staff will be taking two Staff Development Days to assess the students. This is a one-on-one interview style assessment directed by a teacher. Each assessment takes a minimum of 30 minutes.

Our COSHC will be providing full day-care on 30<sup>th</sup> January. Arrangements can be made for children attending COSHC to be tested during the day.

**School will resume for students in Years 1-6 on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

## 2018 LITERACY & MATHEMATICS TESTING JANUARY: KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students will have a separate testing schedule for literacy and numeracy and this will take place from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

**Kindergarten will begin school on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February (8:45- 12:00); then full days from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February (8:45-2:55).**

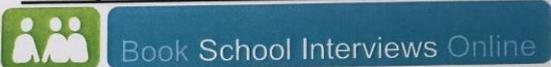
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Tuesday 5 December, 2017

### 2018 Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI)

**Monday 29 January & Tuesday 30 January 2018**



Dear Parents and Carers

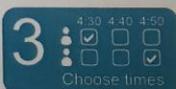
Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI) will be held on Monday 29 January & Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. It is an expectation that all children participate in the MAI on these days. These Interviews will take approximately 30 minutes to administer. Please choose your timeslot for the MAI based on your child's grade for 2018. As we have allocated several teachers across each grade you only need to select A, B or C for the time that suits you.

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

Bookings will open on Wednesday 6 December at 3.00pm and will close on Friday 19 January 2018 at 12.00pm.

**School event code**  
dh8r4

Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

-  Enter your details
-  Choose teachers
-  Choose times

 When you click **finish**, your MAI timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

The Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) is an opportunity for teachers to develop an understanding of your child and his/her development in Number over time. If you require more information about the MAI please contact the school office.

Parents can change their MAI booking at any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking.

Parents wishing to change their conference times after the closing date are asked to contact the school directly.

## END OF PIANO LESSONS AFTER SCHOOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES

The school has received advice from the Catholic Education Office that under the guidelines for use of school premises we cannot provide space for Piano Lessons after school in 2018. This is both an insurance and WHS issue. We thank Mrs Higuchi for providing this service to many of our students over the past few years. I'm sure Rita will make other arrangements so this service can continue at another venue in 2018.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Sophia Torresan, Milayna Brace and Archie Prendergast were chosen to represent Penrith Panthers in Representative Basketball U12's division. We are very proud of you!

# OLW SCHOOL FEES SUMMARY 2018

	Year Group	Diocesan Fee	School Resource Fee	Diocesan Building Levy	School Cleaning Fee	School Activities Fee	TOTAL
First Child	Kinder	\$1173	\$150	\$783	\$102	\$282	<b>\$2490</b>
Second Child		\$879	\$150			\$282	<b>\$1311</b>
Third Child		\$588	\$150			\$282	<b>\$1020</b>
First Child	Years 1 & 2	\$1515	\$150	\$783	\$102	\$282	<b>\$2832</b>
Second Child		\$1137	\$150			\$282	<b>\$1569</b>
Third Child		\$759	\$150			\$282	<b>\$1191</b>
First Child	Years 3 & 4	\$1515	\$150	\$783	\$102	\$291	<b>\$2832</b>
Second Child		\$1137	\$150			\$291	<b>\$1569</b>
Third Child		\$759	\$150			\$291	<b>\$1191</b>
First Child	Years 5 & 6	\$1515	\$150	\$783	\$102	\$177	<b>\$2832</b>
Second Child		\$1137	\$150			\$177	<b>\$1569</b>
Third Child		\$759	\$150			\$177	<b>\$1191</b>

TYPE OF FEE	CHARGING BASIS	COMMENT
Diocesan Fee	Per child per year	Amount determined annually by CEDP – 3 instalments – Term 1, Term 2, Term 3
School Resource Fee	Per child per year	Covers the cost of learning resources used during the year
Building Levy	Per family per year	Amount determined annually by CEDP – 3 instalments – Term 1, Term 2, Term 3
School Cleaning Fee	Per family per year	3 instalments – Term 1, Term 2, Term 3
School Activities Fee	Per child per year	Covers the cost of most incursion & excursion during the year - 3 instalments – Term 1, Term 2, Term 3 (excludes Yr 5 & Yr 6 overnight camps)
Year 5 Overnight Camp 24 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> October	\$297 per child	3 instalments – Term 1, Term 2, Term 3
Year 6 Canberra Trip 10 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> May	\$240 per child	Charged in Term 1

## GENERAL NEWS

### LOWES VOUCHERS

We have some vouchers to use at Lowes. The first is a 15% off school wear (in store and online) voucher. If you would like to take advantage of this online, go to [www.lowesschoolwear.com.au](http://www.lowesschoolwear.com.au) and enter the code 15SCHODS at the checkout to receive your discount.

The second voucher is for \$10 off Bata School Shoe voucher (selected styles only, in store only at selected stores).

Both vouchers are valid until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. If you would like one, please call into the office.

# Kids Can Act - Holiday Workshops

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan
SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH
9.00-3.00pm <b>Very Fairy Princess</b>	9.30-2.30 pm <b>No Such Thing As Dragons</b>	9.00-2.00pm <b>Suitcase of Memories</b>	9.30-2.30pm <b>On Trial: - Fairy Tale Characters</b>	9.00-3.00pm <b>The Magic Paintbrush</b>
	2.30-5.30 pm <b>Scenarios &amp; Drama Games</b>	2.00-6.00pm <b>The Rumour</b>		
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	VENUES
SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SOUTH PENRITH	SPRINGWOOD	SPRINGWOOD: - 133 Macquarie Rd (next to Domino's Pizza)
9.30-2.30 pm <b>No Such Thing As Dragons</b>	9.00-3.00pm <b>The Magic Paintbrush</b>	9.00-3.00pm <b>Very Fairy Princess</b>	9.00-2.00pm <b>Suitcase of Memories</b>	SOUTH PENRITH: - Neighbourhood Centre 3 Trent St. (Behind Southlands )
2.30-5.30 pm <b>Scenarios &amp; Drama Games</b>			2.00-6.00pm <b>The Rumour</b>	

All prices and workshop descriptions can be found at [www.kidscanact.com.au](http://www.kidscanact.com.au)

**Don't miss the EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!**