

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

3rd November 2016

DIARY DATES

Thursday 3 November

123 Magic
Parent Session 3
6.00-8.00pm

Wednesday 9 November

First Reconciliation Liturgy,
7.30pm

Friday 11 November

Remembrance Day
Ceremony, 10.30am

Mon-Fri 14-18 Nov

Swim School

Wed 23 November

Year 2 Incursion

P & F AGM, 7.00pm

Wed 30 November

Primary Swimming Carnival

Monday 5 December

Christmas Carols Evening
with Andrew Chinn

Wednesday 7 December

Year 6 Farewell Mass 7.00pm

Reports Sent Home

Friday 9 December

9.00am OLOW Award
Ceremony

6.00pm Year 6 Social Disco

Monday 12 December

End of Year Thanksgiving
Mass and Thank You Morning
Tea

Friday 16 December

Last Day of School

Fri/Mon 27/30 January

MAI Interviews
Years 1-6

Monday 30 January

COSHC Open All Day

Fri 27/Tues 31 January

Kinder Literacy and
Numeracy Testing

Tuesday 31 January

School Resumes for Years 1-
6

Wednesday 1 February

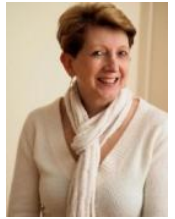
Kinder Students begin, half
days

Monday 6 February

Kinder begin full days

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

My family enjoys nothing more than a get-together to share a meal. Even though all the members of the family are now young adults, it is rare for anyone to miss these opportunities to be with each other and thanks to Facebook and Skype, even those who are overseas get to join in at some point of the gathering, and they too are keen not to miss out.



These family meals are more than just a feed. These are times when we, as family members of whatever age or stage of life, deepen our love for each other. We eat together not just to nourish our bodies, but to nourish our relationship as a family. We 'feed' each other by spending time together, listening to one another, and recalling fond memories. A family meal doesn't have to be elaborate. It doesn't have to be perfect or done a certain way. It just has to be a sincere attempt to say: I love you, we belong, we believe.



Above all, family meals need to be a priority. Not just for families with young children, but for all of us. And not just on special occasions, but on the ordinary days as well. Without prioritising, planning and effort, this precious part of our family life can easily be overrun by sports, work, hobbies, study, household chores, T.V. or computer games.

Research studies show that family meals deliver a host of benefits to both children and parents:

- * Improves vocabulary and reading - conversation around the family table teaches children more vocabulary and this advances reading.
- * Improves family relationships - children who have frequent family meals report better family communication, stronger family ties and a greater sense of identity and belonging. Many families use this time to catch up on each other's lives.
- * Improves diet - family meals are associated with a lower intake of soft-drinks and snack foods and improved intakes of fruits, vegetables, grains, calcium-rich foods, proteins, iron, fibre and Vitamins A, C, E, B6 and folate. Girls in these families exhibited fewer eating disorders or extreme diet behaviours. Consistent meals discourage snacking and model healthy eating habits.

This week we celebrated All Saints and All Soul's day. Pope Francis calls us all to be saints that are committed to our faith and beliefs but live in the 21st century with a spirituality appropriate to our times. He challenges us all to be saints that advocate for social changes that make our communities fairer and more accepting of others.



We also keep in our prayers all those who have gone before us who are now at eternal rest with Christ by their side.



On Tuesday, we celebrated World Teachers' Day. Every day teachers touch the lives of others in the most profound ways. Teachers' plant and nurture understandings and values that will endure for a lifetime. They create lasting memories. Christ himself was the great teacher and he began his ministry of teaching with those wonderful words at the beginning of the Gospel of St John, 'come and see'. This is the teacher on whom we, as teachers in Catholic schools, are called to imitate, to model our ministry on. Christ the Teacher is the light that illuminates our path and guides the work we follow as teachers. How blessed we are to have teachers at Our Lady of the Way, so committed to the children in their care and who show the face of Jesus each day. In partnership let us continue to work to develop in the children strong minds and gentle hearts.

Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

*God Bless,
Mrs. Sue Veling
Principal*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 4 WEEKS 2 & 3



Iven So, Avalon Smith, Lucas Latty, Ellabeth Fischer, Marshall Pereira, Samuel Bray, Alyssa Eekman, Abigail Byrne, Jai Noronha, Jacob Thompson, Ellie Moore, Henry Starr, Mia Urquhart, Jessica Dray, Cruz Vilar, Cooper Hartstonge, Taj Le Breton, Ethan Still, Jason Armstrong, Joshua Vanegas, Nikayla Pusko, Kallum Jackson-Logan, Holly Hartstonge, Jack Brown, Abbey Flanagan, Jack Prendergast, Ethan Dempsey, Savannah O'Brien, Addison Riley, Abigail Andrews, Lily Fowler, Lachlan Stewart, Christopher Elias, Mason Eekman, Dieter Erdmann, Emma Jones, Montana Clifford, Dominic Vella, Alex Godwin.

NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR OLOW

The Catholic Education Office has begun the process to appointment a new Assistant Principal for *Our Lady of the Way School*. Short listing took is taking place today with interviews due to begin next week.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2017

We understand that family circumstances alter and that children sometimes need to change schools. If you know that you will not be attending *Our Lady of the Way* in 2017 please advise Mrs Veling and complete a notification of leaving form that is available from the school office. You are reminded that concerns regarding financial difficulties is not a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and *Our Lady of the Way* can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise.

We have healthy enrolments for most classes in 2017, with some children on waiting lists, so in fairness to these families we ask you to let us know if you are changing schools. If you know of anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child at OLOW from 2017, in any grade, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible to assist us with our planning.

PARENT & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE POSITIONS - WEDNESDAY 23rd November 7pm

The next Parent & Friends Meeting will be the AGM where the community elects the executive positions for 2017. A nomination form will go home tomorrow. The school heavily relies on the P&F for support throughout the year. Please consider joining this great organisation.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Last Thursday we commenced our Kindergarten 2017 Transition-to-School Program. We began our morning by welcoming our excited new children and their parents. They were introduced to our current Kindergarten children who shared a beautiful prayer with the gathering. Our 2017 children were escorted to their learning space where the teachers welcomed them to the wonderful world of learning at OLOW.

The new parents were then led through a most informative morning led by Mrs Flanagan and Mr Mifsud including time for group discussion and a feedback session, concluding with a delicious morning tea provided by our Parents and Friends committee.

Mr Mifsud

2017 MATHEMATICS TESTING JANUARY: YEARS 1-6

As in previous years, all students in Years 1-6 will be assessed using the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) on Friday 27th and Monday 30th January 2017. 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. More details and an interview on-line booking schedule will be organised for later this term.

Our COSHC will be providing full day-care on Monday 30th 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 Tuesday 31st January 2017.

2017 LITERACY & MATHEMATICS TESTING JANUARY: KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students will have a separate testing schedule for literacy and numeracy and this will take place from Friday 27th January to Tuesday 31st January 2017. Kindergarten will begin school on Wednesday 1st February (8:45-12:00); then full days from Monday 6th February (8:45-2:55).

TERM 4 SWIMMING PROGRAM

The 2016 compulsory swimming program for Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 will be conducted at Nepean Aquatic Centre. (Buses will transport students to the venue). The cost of the program is covered in your annual activity fee.

Last week the enrolment questionnaire and a permission note were sent home. This needs to be completed by the student's parent/carer prior to the program commencing and returned to school by Friday 4th November. All students will receive a certificate of their accomplishments at the end of the program. The five-day program will begin on Monday 14th November through to Friday 18th November.

Session times are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Group One Kindergarten | 9:45am – 10:45am |
| Group Two Years 1 & 2 | 10:50am – 11:50am |
| Group Three Years 3 & 4 | 11:55am – 12:55am |

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Curry.



OLOW BUILDING PROJECT

The administration building is certainly taking shape. FAL have almost finished laying the bricks. All wall linings, electrical and window frames are now installed. We have been lucky with the weather, so it is hoped that the building will be completed over the Christmas break.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to those staff members who received acknowledgment on Tuesday from the Diocese for their significant contribution to Catholic Education.

Years of Teaching:

35 Years - Mrs Ces Johnstone; Mrs Sue Veling; Mrs Mandy Marshall

30 Years - Mrs Carole Day; Mr Michael Mifsud

20 Years - Mrs Julie Irvine; Mrs Sarah Zarlenga

15 Years - Mrs Rebecca Blazek; Dianne Khalifeh

5 Years - Mrs Dolores Grima-Starkey;



SOME GOOD ADVICE FROM A 90-YEAR-OLD - Regina Brett

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August. To celebrate growing older, I wrote the 40 lessons life taught me.

- Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
- When in doubt, just take the next small step.
- Life is too short to spend time hating anyone.
- Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
- Pay off your credit cards every month.
- You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
- Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
- It's okay. to get angry with God. He can take it!
- Start saving for retirement with your first pay cheque.
- When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
- Make peace with your past, so it won't spoil the present.
- It's okay. for your children to see your cry.
- Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
- Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
- Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
- Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
- Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
- It's never too late to have a happy childhood – But the second one is up to you and no one else.
- When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
- Be over prepared, and then go with the flow!
- Be eccentric now! Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
- No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
- Frame every so-called disaster with these words '*Always choose life*'.
- Forgive everyone and everything.
- What other people think of you is none of your business.
- Time heals almost everything. Give it time.
- However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
- Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
- Believe in miracles.
- God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
- Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
- Growing old beats the alternative - dying young.
- All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
- Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
- If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back!
- Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
- The best is yet to come.
- No matter how you feel, get up, get dressed and show up.
- Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.



LIFE
Lessons

BISHOP OF PARRAMATTA AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Each year, one Year 12 student in every Catholic secondary school in the Diocese of Parramatta is awarded the Bishop of Parramatta Award for Student Excellence.



We acknowledge and congratulate two former OLOW students, Olivia Armstrong - McCarthy College, Emu Plains and Rebecca Castor - Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta who were recipients of the award this year.

CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 12 2016

The *Our Lady of the Way* community wish to congratulate our Year 6 2010 students who have recently graduated from their respective high schools. With proud hearts you are wished sincere congratulations on your graduation. May you always keep learning, growing, and realising the very best in yourself.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sacrament of Reconciliation:



Please keep in your prayers the following children who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation:

Luca Bartolo
Ashlee Beard
Cameron Beard
Brayden Beecroft
Isabella Beecroft
Keira Blazek
Gabrielle Boyd
Isabella Bradley – Labra
Milayna Brace
Emily Brett
Holly Clark
Taylah Cowley
Finbar Cullen
Ryan Donohoe
Ava Eekman
Scarlet O'Shea
Noah Pascoe
Breha Pearson

Mason Eekman
Lewis Edwards
Jade Elford
Grace Foster
Lucas Harper
Cooper Hartstonge
Lucienne Heffernan
Sophie Jones
Ella Keigan
Mia Kuster
AnnaBella Kuzmanouski
Taylor Latham
Jordan McCann
Brianna Mangan
Lincoln Mayer
Mikayla Mercieca
Adrienne Moffit Bourke
Ellie Moore

Harrison Phillips
Archie Prendergast
Thomas Renny
Isabelle Roots
Marcus Skinner
Cara Smith
Finley Snedden
Aled Stephens
Samuel Thompson
Ariella Stroud
Scarlett Storr
Benny Tabor
Thomas Toby
Sophia Torresan
Felix Yeo
Isabelle Moran
Asha Morris
Kees Muller

Forgiving Father,

We ask you to be with these children as they begin their journey to know and understand your forgiveness.

Open their ears, minds, and hearts to the teaching of your Son.

Fill them with the Spirit of love, peace, joy, and kindness.

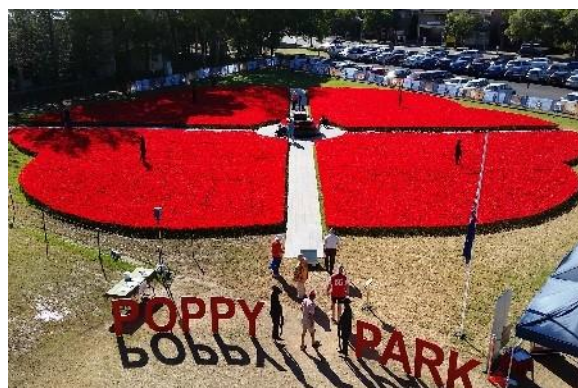
Be with their parents and those who are leading their learning and bringing them closer to you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Remembrance Day:

Next Friday, November 11, is Remembrance Day. We will once again gather as a school community to acknowledge the day that the First World War ended and we remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

During our prayer ceremony we will name those who are on our Wall of Remembrance and family members will be invited to place a poppy on the wall. Earlier in the year those who organised the Poppy Park for the ANZAC Day centenary sent our school some of the poppies that were placed in the park. It is hoped that on Remembrance Day the names of all those who were represented with a poppy will be read out and remembered.



You are very welcome to attend our prayer ceremony which will commence at 10:30am on the Infants Playground.



Christmas Concert with Andrew Chinn

Please mark 5th December 2016 in your diary: Andrew will be working with the children throughout the day to present for you an enjoyable way to celebrate the Christmas season. Children should arrive at school by 5.45pm and the concert will commence at 6.00pm.



Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator



Stage 2 & Stage 3 Basketball Gala Day

On Wednesday 26th October 6 teams represented Our Lady of the Way at Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre, Cambridge Park.

We had a wonderful day competing against other local schools in the Parramatta Diocese. Our students displayed amazing sportsmanship with great team and school spirit as we cheered our team and, when possible, other teams along.

We must thank all the parents who volunteered to be our team coaches and team managers, as these days cannot be run without parents giving up their valuable time to help. Your words of encouragement and guidance led all our teams to have success during the day.

All teams played up to 7 games, with all teams winning at least 1 game.

Year 6 Girls Team: Claire Roser, Jessica Dray, Tully Brown, Tahlia Robinson, Olivia Boulous, Taylor Carroll, Layla Woods, Isabella Toth
Coach: Jeff Boulous **Manager:** Melissa Brown



Year 6 Boys Team: Noah Clifford, William Plummer, Matthew Sekulic, Brandon Kruzic, Keegan Smith, Ethan Still, Ethan Dempsey, Sam Reidy, Boyd Boormakin
Coach: Mr De Celis **Manager:** Mrs Khalifeh



Year 5 Girls Team: Emilia Di Prinzie, Mia Urquhart, Jessie Whiteley, Clarice Sagun, Brooke Bentley, Brianna Mangan, Tailyn Tupaea, Charlize Risse, Sophie Procter
Coach: Claudette Sagun **Manager:** Roland Mangan



Year 5 Boys Team: Patrick Urquhart, Riley Bahlmann, Jayden Roots, Blake Skinner, Kennedy Storr, Mack Boormakin, Logan Sultana, Jack Prendergast
Coach: Michael Urquhart **Manager:** Maria Roots



Stage 2 teams

Year 3 / 4 Boys Team: Jason Armstrong, Seth Fulham, Bailey Grima, Cooper Hartstonge, Ethan Houlihan, Cody Luczak, Lincoln Mayer, Thomas Renny, Henry Starr, Benny Tabor
Coach: Kelly Tabor **Manager:** Mr Bahlmann and Markos Mayer



Year 3 / 4 Girls Team: Milly Brace, Gabrielle Boyd, Mia Kuster, Isabelle Moran, Kate Roser, Sophia Torresan, Talisha North

Coach: Sinead Roser

Manager: Kristen Brace



Thank you also to Mrs Kuipers, Mrs Flanagan ,Mr De Celis, Mrs Blazek, and Mrs Khalifeh for helping to train the teams during break times and helping to organise the day.

A big thank you to Miss Reynolds who helps behind the scenes to coordinate these special events.

GENERAL NEWS

**15%
OFF**

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Do you need to purchase new uniform items from Lowes? Call in to the Office and we will give you a 15% off voucher that can be used on all schoolwear purchases up until 31st December. To use online, please enter the code: **15SCHODS** at the checkout to receive the discount.

**15%
OFF**