



By The Way



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

8th November 2018

DIARY DATES

Friday 9 November
Farewell Mass and Refreshments
12 noon

Monday 26 November
Swimming Program Begins

Monday 3 December
Christmas Concert Night

Wed 5 December
Primary Swimming Carnival

Wed 12 December
Year 6 Graduation Mass

Thursday 13 December
Thank You Afternoon Tea

Year 6 Fun Day

Friday 14 December
9am Awards Ceremony

7pm Year 6 Social

Monday 17 December
End of Year Mass

Wed 19 December
Last day for students

Thursday 31 January
First day of school for Years 1-6

Kinder begin
9.30am to 12.30pm

Friday 1 February
Kinder attend
8.45am to 12.30pm



Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Each of us is absolutely unique and irreplaceable in the eyes of God. As parents and teachers each and every day we remind our children that they are much loved and unique children of God—one of a kind. God gave each of us special gifts and talents that we are born with to share with the world. Part of celebrating our uniqueness is learning to look for the good in ourselves. This is as important as looking for the good in others. Instead of looking critically at their faults, examining all their blemishes and focusing on all their failings, it is important for us to help our children to see themselves as a beautiful work of God's love. As adults, we can model this for our children by the ways in which we talk about ourselves. We can never underestimate the influence and power of what our children see and hear. When our children play and learn together with their friends and peers they are encouraged to share their ideas and insights which in turn can be enhanced and refined by the contribution of the ideas of others. These circumstances regularly provide opportunities and challenges for children to share their gifts. It takes courage to share our talents and gifts and courage and curiosity to be willing to be open to new ideas and possibilities shared by others.

On Tuesday, we will celebrate **World Kindness Day**. The purpose of World Kindness Day is to look beyond ourselves, the boundaries of our country, our culture, our race, our religion; and realise we are citizens of the world. In the busyness of today's world, simple acts of kindness can be few and far between, or perhaps we are less aware of those around us. We can also be less kind to ourselves, caught up in taking care of others or ticking off the endless list. Below are six simple self-kindness tips ~ to care for others we also need to be kind to ourselves.

1. Carve out time for yourself to do something that feels good – go for a coffee, have a bath, read a good book; do something that brings you joy.
2. Notice your self-talk and cut yourself some slack. Everybody makes mistakes and nobody is perfect. Speak to yourself as you would a friend.
3. Discover JOMO (the Joy of Missing Out) and give social media a miss for a while. Everybody posts their best selves and it can make us feel bad that our lives don't match up. Be kind and have a day free of social comparison.
4. Acknowledge your successes. We're always quick to do that for others, so why not take a few minutes and consider all you've achieved. Well done you!
5. Hang out with your cheerleaders. Spend time with the people who uplift you and support you. The ones that fill your tank.
6. Take your daily 'MEDS' (Mindfulness, Exercise, Diet and Sleep). Looking after your mind and body is a great form of self-kindness.

We are coming towards the busy end of the school year. We begin to look back in gratitude for the year we have shared, the learning that has occurred and the relationships formed and flourished. On Friday, we will gather to give thanks for Mrs Veling and her gift of leadership over that past five years at Our Lady of the Way. All are warmly invited to join the community for mass at 12pm followed by refreshments in the parish hall. I hope that you will be able to join us in this celebration.

Over the coming months, our Kindergarten classroom will be undergoing refurbishment. We are fortunate to have the support of the Catholic Education Office in creating a new and contemporary learning space to enhance the learning opportunities for our students. Part of the building works will also include a new outdoor learning and play space behind the Kindergarten classroom. To assist with the building works, over the coming weeks, there will be some disruptions to the Kinder and Library spaces. Disruptions will be minimal and we thank you and those affected for your understanding.

May God Bless You,
Miss Emma Mizzi
Acting Principal



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

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"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.

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



Jett Edwards, Jackson Gabriel, Summer Clarke, James Lennon, Rohan Sykes, Ella Hirsch, Lola Troitsin, Luka Kuster, Mikayla Blazek, Makenzie Clarke, Archie King, Noah Thompson, Zak Roach, Will Pearson, William Drummond, Zachary Wilkinson, Holly Rech, Mario Della Scala, Lucas Latty, Marcus Skinner, Ariella Stroud, Lily Callaghan, Taj Le Breton, Bailey Houlihan, Erin Downie, Liam Byrne, Isabel Hallam, Noah Sykes, Thomas Walker, Will Dunlop, Max Thompson, Carter Pereira, Emma Lohan, Owen Tait, Jackson O'Brien, Olivia Scott, Thomas Tabor, Abigail Byrne, Kye Chapman, Hamish Rose, Abby Godwin, Ella Reid, Grace Foster, Heath Murray, Breha Pearson, Henry Starr, Millina Storek, Jack Sykes and Toby Witjes.

ATTENDANCE - EVERY LEARNER - EVERY DAY

School Name	School Attendance Level %
Our Lady of The Way Primary Emu Plains	86.9%
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	96.3%
01	87.9%
02	89.7%
03	81.1%
04	92.1%
05	69.8%
06	90.6%

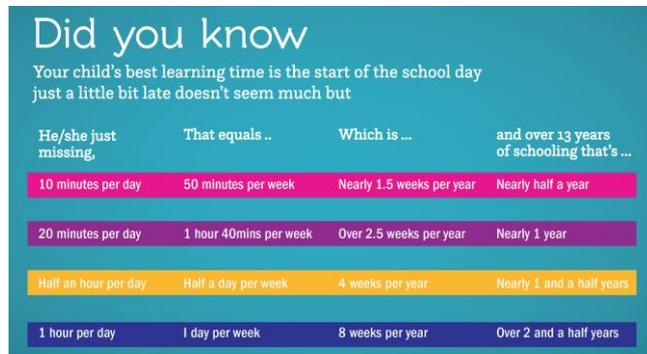
At *Our Lady of the Way*, we continue to promote positive student attendance. Thank you to our parents for the support and value that you place on your child being at school each day. Regular school attendance plays a **critical role** in ensuring that every student has access to the same learning opportunities. 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.



Our school average this week is **86.9%**, which is **below** the CEDP target of 90%. **Congratulations to Kindergarten, Year 4 and Year 6 who continue to display excellent attendance.** We love seeing all our students at school!

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.*

Partial Absences (PA) are recorded for each child every time they are late to school or leave early from school. **Partial Absence** from school does add up to time away from learning, settling into routines of the day or saying goodbye at the end of the day. It is important that all children are at school by 8:45am when our school day starts. A **Partial Absence** is recorded from this time and an explanation is required by parents or a carer when signing children in through the Office.



READING RECOVERY

Congratulations to Chloe Gardiner and Adele Crook from Year 1 who recently graduated from the Reading Recovery Program. This program is an accelerative reading program funded by CEDP. We would also like to acknowledge our wonderful Reading Recovery specialist teachers at OLOW, Ms Glynn and Miss Lamaletie for all the fantastic work they do each day with our students. We are very blessed!

SCHOOL LEAVERS

We are planning for the 2019 school year and to help us with this please let the office know if your family will not be continuing at OLOW in 2019. A reminder to families that a term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing **MUST** be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term and where appropriate notice has been received, a prorata credit will be calculated. Where a term's notice has not been given to the principal, the term's school fees will be charged for your child/children.

SWIMMING PROGRAM: KINDERGARTEN – YEAR 4

Information about our swimming program went home this week. The program is booked for Week 7 - Monday 26th November to Friday 30th November. All students in Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 will attend this five-day (60 minutes each day) intensive program at Nepean Aquatic Centre, Lambridge Place, Penrith. This program is funded by your child's annual activity fee paid via school fees. If your school fees are not up-to-date, please pay for this activity at the office.

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS

School Bus Opal Card School student applications for 2019 open from Monday, 15 October 2018. Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 do not need to re-apply if they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.



Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification. Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition, which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply. Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply. If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>.

Some important dates for your calendar:



School Christmas concert with Andrew Chinn

When: Week 8 Monday December 3rd

Who: All students K-6, family and friends

Where: OLOW school playground

Opening and Blessing of the new Administration Block

Friday 7th December – additional information to come.

Year 6 Graduation Mass

Week 9 Wednesday 12th December @ 7pm

OLOW School Awards Ceremony

Week 9 Friday 14th December @ 9am

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass

Week 10 Monday 17th December @ 9:15am

FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Three weeks ago I was fortunate enough to attend a writing conference in Canberra hosted by the Primary English Teaching Association. The title of the conference was 'Writing the Future'. Many authors and experts presented sessions encouraging teachers to inspire our children and young adults to develop a love of writing.

Louise Park (who also writes under the pseudonym of H.I. Larry, Mac Park & Poppy Rose and has written the Zac Powers, Boy vs Beast, Star Girl and Harriet Clare series) shared with us great strategy for encouraging children to write creatively. If you are looking to support your children with writing at home, why not give this a try.

1. Start by asking your child/ children to close their eyes and be ready for a meditation that you can lead.
2. Ask them to imagine they are sitting at the top of a roller-coaster.
3. Now ask them to reflect on the following questions:

- what do you look like?
- what are you wearing?
- what sort of personality do you have?
- what do you see? Look forward, to the side, behind you.
- what do you hear?
- what do you smell?
- what can you taste?
- what is the seat like?
- what emotions are you feeling?



4. Have the children open their eyes and complete what Louise calls a 'brain dump', where they just brainstorm a list of everything they can remember that they thought about.
5. Now it is time to write. The children write their notes to create a descriptive paragraph detailing what it was like sitting at the top of roller-coaster.

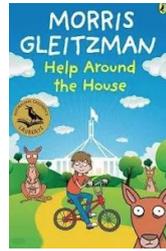
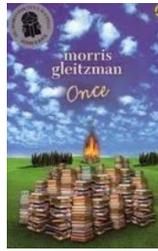
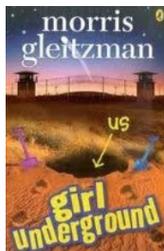
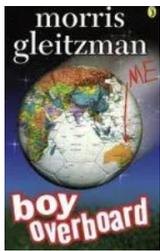
Here's an example of what Lucas in Year 4 created when he, along with the other students, were taken through the process:

Riding up a mountain, the taste of hot chips in my mouth. My heart is racing until I drop. Butterflies in my stomach, hearing loud screams from below. So high up I can barely see. There is hair in my face and my palms are sweating. I'm in my favourite t-shirt on a big drop, holding on tight with a loop-de-loop ahead. As we drop my face turns white and I scream in terror with the lights off...

It took just fifteen minutes to go through the process and create this paragraph. See what your young writer can achieve!

2018 Australian Children's Laureate, Morris Gleitzman also spoke to us. Morris is a talented writer, whose intended audience is children between the ages of eight and twelve. His main characters are children of the same age group who often have to deal with overwhelming problems. Morris told us that his intention is for our children to read his books and learn important lessons:

- if they are faced with problems, who would they ask to help them?
- could they research what is needed?
- what strategies would they use?
- what problem solving skills are needed?
- resilience is an important result!



If your children have not discovered Morris Gleitzman books, you might like to introduce them to Felix in the 'Once' Series, Jamal and Bibi in 'Boy Overboard', Bridget in 'Girl Underground' or Ludo in his latest book 'Help Around the House'. If you would like your children to meet kind, thought provoking, unassuming heroes, have a read!

Carole Day

Acting Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Remembrance Day Prayer:



You are warmly invited to attend our Remembrance Day prayer on Monday 12th November at 10:15am on the school playground.

Our school leaders will lead the ceremony and the names of all who are on our Wall of Remembrance will be read out and acknowledged.

LEARNING NEWS

YEAR 5 CAMP

On Wednesday of Week 2, Year 5 left on their Leadership Camp at the Sport and Recreational Centre in Berry. Here are some of the students' thoughts on their experiences at camp:

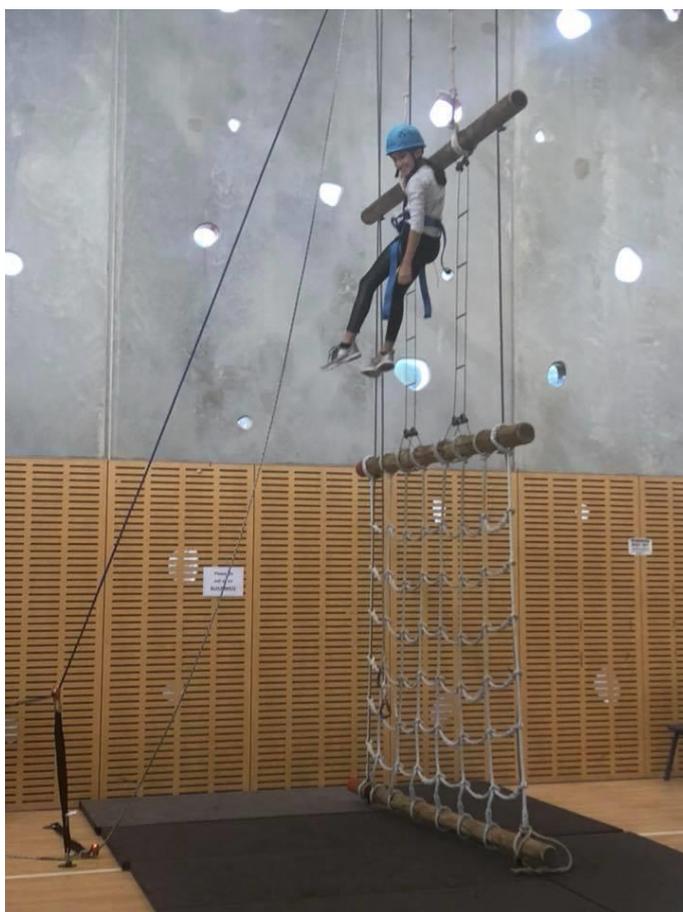
"I have to say camp was an experience of a lifetime you get to have fun with friends and talk to people you don't usually talk to." - Ariella Stroud

"Over camp, we spent time with our classmates that we don't usually play with, but turned out they were a really good leader or we saw them achieve something we didn't know they could do." - Sienna Footman

"Camp is where bad and hateful relationships can get turned into life long relationships." - Lincoln Mayer

"My camp experience was mind blowing. Not a minute was wasted and every second was full of fun, laughter and forever lasting memories." - Scarlett Storr

"At camp we did a lot of fun things like we did the giant swing and I went all the way to the top on it but it was pretty scary to be honest but I still faced my fear of heights." - Tanner Crook



SPORTS NEWS

BASKETBALL GALA DAY

On Monday the 29th of October, children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 represented OLOW at the Basketball Gala Day. They showed great sportsmanship, skill and teamwork on the day. We saw their basketball skills improve each game. We are very proud of all their efforts.

Stage 2	Year 5	Year 6
Chris Elias	Gabrielle Boyd	Kate Roser
Lucas McClenahan	Taylah Cowley	Phoebe Kruzic
Zac Levy	Isabelle Moran	Talisha North
Cooper Sulic	Lucienne Heffernan	Georgia Cashel(a)
Harrison Fisher	Sienna Footman	Abbey Flanagan
Jayden Munce	Sophie Jones	Breanna Palummo
Carter Pereira	Milly Brace	Sarah Budge
Marcus Elias	Grace Foster	Larissa Stewart
Samuel Cashel		Lucie McIntosh(a)
Lucas Latty	Benny Tabor	Harrison Bennett
Noah Downey	Brody Green	Bailey Houlihan
Abigail Andrews	Dominic Vella	Henry Starr
Maya Deacon Chilmaid	Kees Muller	Nick Curry
Hannah Selby	Noah Pascoe	Charlie Thomas
Akeda Deacon Chilmaid	Lincoln Mayer	Bailey Grima
Amity Houlihan	Tanner Crook	Isaac Steele
Jacinta Roser		Jimmy Cremen
Natalie Burke		



LIBRARY NEWS

The Library and Kinder spaces will be moving shortly due to the building works. As a result, borrowing is now finished for the year. Could you please return all library books to school as soon as possible. Thank you.



GENERAL NEWS

PARISH CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE



On the 27th November there will be a Christmas Choir practice held in the Church at 7.00pm. All are welcome to join us. For any enquiries, please call Wendy Thompson on 4735 4538.

MY ACTING

Hi, my name is Sophie Wade. I have wanted to be an actor for my whole life so I tried an audition and made it through to the next round. Yay!!! So on Sunday the 17th of September I performed on a stage for modelling and acting and I have been invited to the AUSCAAS (Australian Convention of Actors & Artists) to perform with people from all across Australia. This is the monologue performed:

Mayor Merryfeather!

I have something very important to tell you. You know the magic gem... just the one that keeps the whole world from exploding!!? well... it's... kind... of... gone... and when I mean gone... I mean stolen. Fortunately, I know exactly who took it... Dr. Evil Stone... now we all know that he's tried this before, but this is the first time he has actually succeeded. But don't worry - I have a plan. I'm going to go undercover as his boss and steal the gem back. I'll be so sneaky he'll never know what happened. and I, detective Sophie, will once again save the world. I have succeeded in lots of cases all of them were run by the one and only Dr Evil Stone and his boss professor Taintedrock. So no need to worry. Got to run. I have a world to save and not much time!

We had to come up with all our words our self. I hope you liked it.

Sophie Wade

COMMUNITY NEWS



*Shop & Save
for Christmas*



Exclusive offer to
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS



**20%^{*} OFF
SCHOOLWEAR
AND EVERYTHING ELSE**

INSTORE & ONLINE - THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

* Excludes gift cards & all suit packages. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only.
Styles and colours may vary from store to store.
No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 5% discount.
Offer ends midnight (AEDT) 15/11/18. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.