

DIARY DATES

Friday 21 February
Family Fun Night

Tuesday 25 February
Brainstorm Show

Sunday 1 March
Family Mass
Catholic Schools
Week
9.30am

Open Morning for
Prospective
Families
(after Mass)
10.30am

Monday 2 March
Catholic Schools
Week Prayer
8.45am

Tuesday 3 March
Year 6 Grip
Leadership Day

Wed 4 March
Open Morning for
Prospective
Families
10am

Wed 18 March
Munch & Crunch
Kinder Fundraiser

Wed 1 April
Sacrament of
Reconciliation
7.30pm

Friday 3 April
School Photo Day

Monday 27 April
**Staff Development
Day
(Pupil Free)**

Tuesday 28 April
1st day of Term 2 for
students

Tues 12- Fri 22 May
NAPLAN

Friday 3 July
Last day of Term 2

Dear OLOW Community

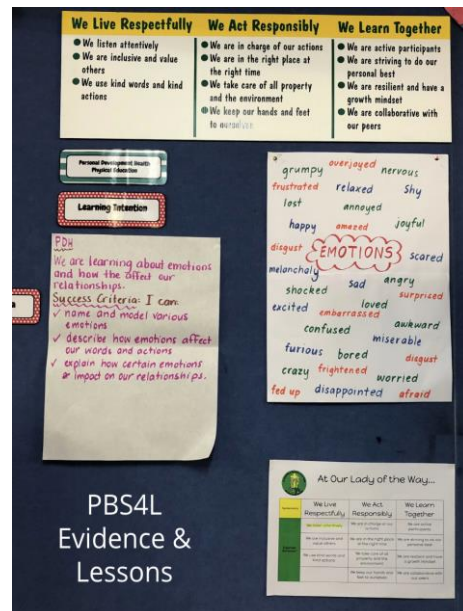
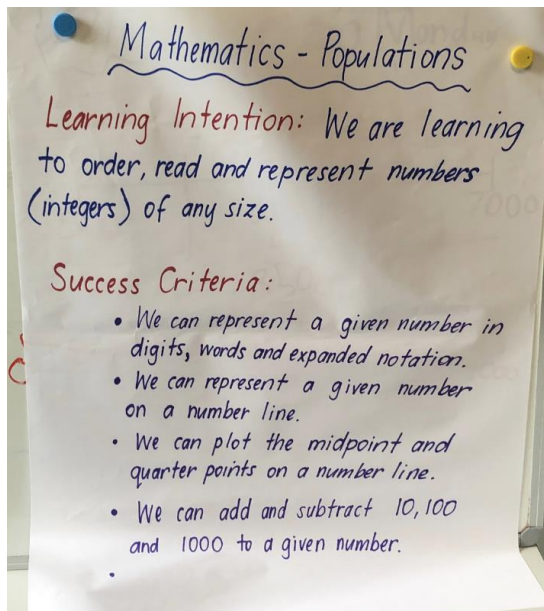
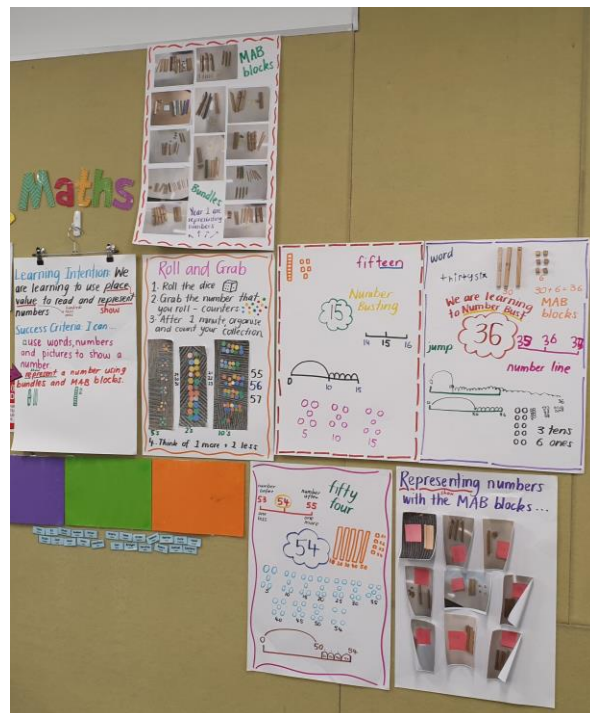
On Monday, the Leadership Team along with our Learning Leader from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) and our Literacy and Religious Education Teacher Educators, also from CEDP, went on a learning walk around the learning spaces at OLOW. The positive feedback we received from this visit was wonderful. All children were engaged in purposeful work that met syllabus outcomes appropriate to their specific learning needs. The learning was supported by what we call "anchor charts". The other feature that was commented on was our use of learning intentions and success criteria.

WHAT IS AN ANCHOR CHART?

An anchor chart is a tool that is used to support instruction (i.e. "anchor" the learning for students). As you teach a lesson, you create a chart, together with your students, that captures the most important content and relevant strategies. Anchor charts build a culture of literacy in the classroom by making thinking—both the teacher's and students'—visible.

WHAT ARE LEARNING INTENTIONS AND SUCCESS CRITERIA?

Learning Intentions are descriptions of what learners should know, understand and be able to do by the end of a learning period or unit. Learning intentions are the basis for tracking student progress, providing feedback and assessing achievement. In addition to learning intentions, students may also have individual learning goals that they address in their learning. Success criteria are the measures used to determine whether, and how well, learners have met the learning intentions.



LIFE AND LEARNING AT OLOW - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

We will be exploring our whole school goals and strategies for achieving these goals during Week 6 - Catholic Schools Week. On **Wednesday 4 March 2020 from 6.30pm to 7.30pm**, you will be invited to see and experience what life and learning at OLOW in 2020 looks like. Please save the date. We hope you can join us for this session.

ASH WEDNESDAY - WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

Years 3 to 6 will attend the 9.15am Parish Mass on Ash Wednesday and K to 2 will attend a Liturgy of the word at 11.30am. You are more than welcome to join us at this time.

Yours in Christ
Donna McFadzean
Principal Leader



EMAILS OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS

Our Lady of the Way recognises that email is a fast and convenient way to communicate with your child's teacher.

We wish to remind you that teachers read their emails at various times throughout the school day. Further, teachers are generally not expected to respond to emails from parents and students outside of normal working hours. In the case of a genuine emergency please contact the school office during business hours on olow@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone 4777 7200.

If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please continue to direct your emails to olow@parra.catholic.edu.au which will then be triaged, as per usual practice.

We appreciate your assistance and understanding.

If you have any questions about the above please feel free to contact Mrs Donna McFadzean on 4777 7200.

Fact Sheet for Parents and Caregivers - Explanation of Absences

CEDP promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education.

If your child is sick or absent you are required to notify their school on the first day of absence if at all possible. All explanations to the school must be provided within **7 days** from the first day of any period of absence.

Absences can be explained using one of the following methods:

1. SMS: respond with reason to school notification of absence
2. Online: log the absence directly using *[Skool Bag App / Parent Portal]*
3. Email: the school at *[email address]*
4. Telephone: the school office *[school number and line to contact]*
5. Note sent with your child

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe or the explanation has not been accepted, the school will record the absence as unexplained or unjustified on the student's record. The school will not be able to accept explanations which are not received within the 7 day timeframe.

Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Parents of children aged 6 to 17 years are legally required to ensure their children attend school every day or provide an explanation if they are absent. Notifying the school and providing an explanation for your child's absence will fulfil this legal responsibility.

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for schools. Parents need to know if their child isn't at school, and schools need to know when and why a child is absent. Notifying the school of your child's absence helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in school.

What is your responsibility?

- Ensure your child attends school every day
- Notify the school immediately if your child is absent
- Provide an explanation for any absences within 7 days
- Make sure the school has your correct contact details so that you can receive attendance information about your child

OUR LADY OF THE WAY MISSION STATEMENT

At Our Lady of the Way we are a Catholic community setting the foundations for lifelong learning. We aim to provide students with a positive learning environment allowing them to develop the knowledge, skills and values to contribute positively to the world beyond school by *living respectfully, acting responsibly and learning together.*

AWARDS

Term 1, Week 2



Term 1, Week 3



GENERAL NEWS



We are looking for parents to help with the opening of the school Clothing Pool.

environment.

The parent helper would be responsible for opening the shop (on a morning or afternoon of your choice), taking orders and cash payments during that time, and maintaining a tidy

The Clothing Pool is a valued resource in our school community. It provides many of our families with quality second hand uniforms at affordable prices. Without parent helpers, we struggle to continually provide this service.

Please contact the office on 4777 7200, or email olow@parra.catholic.edu.au if you would like to help.

SCHOOL FEES

The First Instalment invoices have been posted out, if you have not received your invoice, please contact me on 4777 7200 to arrange for a copy to be sent home. Fees will be due on or before 18 March 2020.

Families will be offered the Flexible Payment Plan again this year. Please complete the forms attached to your statements and return them to the Catholic Education Office at your earliest convenience. Alternatively, if you wish to put in an arrangement outside of the Flexible Payment Plan, you will need to contact me by phone, or email olow-emupfees@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made regarding the payment of your school fees account it will be assumed that full payment will be made by the due date.

Pascale Vion
Senior Finance Officer

2020 GUITAR CLASS

Mrs McGregor's guitar classes had a very popular start to the year. It was great to see so many students with an interest in guitar.



THANK YOU FROM ST VINCENT de PAUL

Dear Staff and Students of Our Lady of the Way, the Emu Plains St Vincent de Paul Conference extends its thanks to the Our Lady of the Way school community for its generous contributions to the 2019 Christmas hampers appeal.

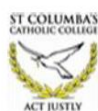
There was a great assortment of goods and toys that we were able to distribute to about forty individuals and friends.

You all helped to brighten up Christmas for many people.

In appreciation,
Vinnies Members

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE – YEAR 7, 2021 INFORMATION EVENING



Tuesday 25th February 2020

Bookings are not required, upon arrival please register at the College Library

Session 1:

- 3.15pm - Register for tour
- 3.30pm – 4.00pm: Address by the College Principal
- 4.00pm - 5.00pm - Tour of facilities

Session 2:

- 5.15pm - Register for Tour
- 5.30pm – 6.00pm: Address by the College Principal
- 6.00pm - 7.00pm - Tour of facilities

Tours will begin at 4.00pm and 6.00pm *sharp* to enable visitors to view all the College facilities.

Prospectus and enrolment applications will be available on the night.

Inquiries: Mrs Sandra O'Brien (Enrolment Secretary) 4754 8907

St Columba's Catholic College - 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777

Phone: (02) 4754 8900 Email: stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au

Enrolling now for all year groups 2021

Open Evening Tuesday 10 March 2020

5.00pm to 8.00pm

- ◇ Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders
- ◇ Tours of the College facilities
- ◇ Enrolment packages available
- ◇ Principal Presentations

Enquiries: 4728 8100

Website: www.penolaemuplains.catholic.edu.au

Like us on Facebook: @PenolaEmuPlains

Follow us on Twitter: @PenolaEmuPlains



CORPUS CHRISTI
netball club

JOIN OUR NETBALL CLUB
2020 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

REGISTRATION DATES

THURSDAY 6TH FEB 2020 5PM - 8PM

TUESDAY 11TH FEB 2020 5PM - 8PM

PEACHTREE MCDONALDS

REGISTRATION FOR RETURNING PLAYERS CAN BE DONE ONLINE AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. THE DEADLINE FOR ONLINE REGISTRATIONS IS 14TH FEB 2020. LINKS & INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

YOU ONLY NEED TO ATTEND OUR REGISTRATION SESSIONS IF YOU ARE NEW PLAYER OR HAVING TROUBLE WITH REGISTERING ONLINE.



ACTIVE KIDS REBATE

IF YOU ARE REGISTERING FOR YOUR CHILD AND WISH TO APPLY THE ACTIVE KIDS REBATE – APPLY FOR THE REBATE BEFORE REGISTERING BY USING THE BELOW LINK. WE CANNOT APPLY THE REBATE IF YOU APPLY AFTER YOU HAVE REGISTERED FOR NETBALL.

[HTTPS://SPORT.NSW.GOV.AU/SECTOR/DEVELOPMENT/ACTIVEKIDS](https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sector/development/activekids)

AFTER APPLYING, YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A VOUCHER CODE TO BE USED WHEN REGISTERING.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

COURTNEY MCGRATH M: 0438 303 497

MICHELLE MULLAMPY M: 0438 885 573

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS [HTTP://WWW.CORPUSCHRISTINC.NSW.NETBALL.COM.AU](http://WWW.CORPUSCHRISTINC.NSW.NETBALL.COM.AU) OR JOIN US ON FACEBOOK - [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/314707522059649/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/314707522059649/)