



# By The Way



**Term 1 Week 8, 2021**

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Our Lady of the Way Parish Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 8am and 9:30am.  
Weekday Mass times: Wednesday 9:15am, Thursday 8:15am, Friday 7:15am  
All welcome!

**Celebrating 200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia**

## Principal's Message

## AROUND THE Grounds @ OLOW

Dear Our Lady of the Way Community

In addition to our Open Classrooms for existing families last week, we also hosted school tours of our school to new families seeking enrolment for 2022. This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase all that is on offer at Our Lady of the Way and reflect on our point of difference from other schools in the area.



When I asked new visitors to the site about their impressions of the school, I was told that the feeling that they got backed up what they were hearing about OLOW out in the community. In addition to the many learning opportunities provided, they reported that the school had a "nice feel". This "feel" is something that doesn't just happen overnight or something that can just be manufactured. It takes significant effort from all stakeholders. It is reflected in how we all speak to each other, respect each other and value each other. This only occurs when the values of the school are supported by the same values as home.

Interestingly last week I had to visit a medical centre and while in the waiting room I noticed a sign that reminded patients that aggressive behaviour and abuse of any type was not acceptable. I did think at the time that this was very sad and wondered when did we arrive at this point as a society, where a warning of this unacceptable behaviour had to be highlighted by NSW Health. It is also sad that this same unacceptable behaviour is becoming part of the norm in all areas of life.

As a Catholic school we firmly believe that every individual is made in the likeness of God and requires respect and nurturing. It is not acceptable to single out individuals as targets for bullying. It is not acceptable to use aggressive and disrespectful behaviour or intimidate others. It is not acceptable to transfer blame onto others as a result of our own actions. It is not acceptable to only look at a situation from our own perspective.

I am proud that we have a community of students from a variety of cultural backgrounds. I am proud that we cater for the needs of all individuals and are inclusive of all. Are we perfect? Certainly not. We are a community that just like a family, is made up by individuals with their own unique personalities and talents. We are a community that is made up of children from the ages of 4 to 12 years of age

who are on a learning journey that will have its challenges but equally many celebrations. Just like in the family situation, we need to support each other when things don't go to plan and provide a model of what is acceptable behaviour and work together to solve the concern.

Thank you to everyone who has and continues to support the great "feel". Together we can and do achieve so much.

## NAPLAN 2021



Due to Covid-19, NAPLAN was not offered to students in Years Five and Three last year. In 2021, NAPLAN returns. If you would like to find some insights into NAPLAN please use the link below for information about NAPLAN and your child's participation. It is important to note that we make special consideration for students with particular learning needs, and further information will be available for parents of these students in the near future. [NAPLAN Package](#)

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AT OUR LADY OF THE WAY

All staff at Our Lady of the Way value learning and are constantly updating their learning by attending professional learning opportunities. Please see below the courses and times that staff will be attending professional learning.

| Date                                 | Course  | Teacher(s)   |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Every Tuesday in 2021                | EMC3 - Numeracy Project<br>A Teacher Educator works with teachers in the classroom to enhance the learning for all students in Mathematics. | K to 2 Teachers/ Leadership Team                     |
| Alternate Thursdays throughout 2021  | Reading Recovery  | Lisa Powderly  |
| Throughout 2021- selected Thursdays  | EMU<br>EMU Opal Days  | Bernadette Curry<br>Rebecca Blazek<br>Linda Flanagan |
| Even Weeks on a Friday Before School | Positive Behaviour Support 4 for Learning   | PBS4L Team   |
| Every Wednesday After School         | Professional Learning Meeting   | All Staff  |
| Every Thursday Before School         | Staff Briefing Meeting  | All Staff  |
| Every Monday After School            | Leadership Meeting  | Leadership Team Members                              |
| 19th March                           | PBS4L Meeting   | PBS4L Team   |



## SPORTS NEWS

A big congratulations to our children who competed at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Tuesday the 9th of March. We are very proud of their efforts, behaviour and sportsmanship.

Yr 2 - Maddison McGrath, Cohen Dyrka, Ella Dwyer

Yr 3 - Aisling Cremen

Yr 4 - Thomas Sheen, Audrey Edwards, Max Thompson, Sarah Fenning, Remy Cross

Yr 5 - Lola Troitsin, Lara Dwyer, Mikayla Blazek, Mason Benitez, Kye Chapman, Aiden Dyrka, Mia McGrath

Yr 6 - Holly Penny, Akeda Deacon-Chilmaid, Jacinta Roser, Thomas Reeks, Jake Thompson, Archie King, Nicholas Heffernan, Carter Pereira



We have a large group of swimmers competing at the next carnival, the NSWPCS Swimming Trials at Homebush on March 22nd. This is a huge achievement and we wish our students the best of luck. Congratulations!!!

Yr 2 - Maddison McGrath

Yr 4 - Thomas Sheen, Audrey Edwards, Max Thompson, Sarah Fenning, Remy Cross

Yr 5 - Lola Troitsin, Lara Dwyer, Mikayla Blazek, Mason Benitez, Kye Chapman, Mia McGrath

Yr 6 - Akeda Deacon-Chilmaid, Jacinta Roser, Thomas Reeks, Jake Thompson, Archie King

## GENERAL NEWS

### Consent

If you wish to change consent for raffle tickets to be sent home or for the use of students' image and/or works, please notify the school in writing or request a new consent form.

Please note that children who do not have consent for photos will not be in any photos at OLOW, so there will be no photographic record of their time at OLOW.



| Date              | Event                        |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 19th March        | Primary Cross Country        |
| 23 - 27 March     | NAPLAN Practise Test         |
| 1st April         | Last day of Term 1           |
| 22nd – 23rd April | Year 6 Excursion to Canberra |
| 19th April        | 1st day of Term 2            |
| 27th & 29th April | Year 4 Excursion to Cares    |
| 7th June          | Athletics Carnival           |

## SkoolBag

Don't forget to download our school's SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

- \* School newsletters
- \* Notices
- \* Events
- \* Cancellations
- \* Reminders
- \* ...and more!

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS** Just download the "SkoolBag" app on your phone, open the app and add our school!

### Not Receiving Skoolbag Notifications???

If you are having issues with receiving notifications on the Skoolbag app it may help to uninstall and then reinstall the app. If that doesn't help, please see this link for some suggestions on how to fix the issue:

<http://help.coralcommunities.com/en/articles/4790684-how-to-ensure-you-receive-notifications-from-the-skoolbag-app>





# YEAR 7 2022 COLLEGE TOUR

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021



### WEBSITE BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

College tours will begin at 4.00pm and 5.00pm **sharp** to enable guests to view all the Campus facilities in small group tours led by Student Leaders.

On arrival please have your booking confirmed with our staff and complete the electronic attendance register. Tours commence in the College quadrangle.

### TOUR 1

**4.00pm:** Welcome address by the College Principal, Mr Paul Ryan

**4.15pm - 5.00pm:**  
Tour of facilities

### TOUR 2

**5.00pm:** Welcome address by the College Principal, Mr Paul Ryan

**5.15pm - 6.00pm:**  
Tour of facilities

Please leave the College site at the conclusion of the tour to comply with COVID safety.

Our prospectus and enrolment application will be available on the night.

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

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e: [stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au)

w: [stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au)

## ST NICHOLAS NETBALL CLUB

- We have vacancies for girls turning 8 or 9 this year to play in our 9 year old Netball Team.
- Girls will play and train at Jamison Park Netball Courts
- They will play 10 am every Saturday
- If your daughter would like to play please text Kathy 0414 605 596 or email [stnicholasnetball@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnetball@gmail.com)
- Information sheet available on our website
- <http://stnicholasnc.nsw.netball.com.au/>





**Do have your own little wildlife warrior at home?**

**For one special day the Museum of Fire is offering this FREE environmental program!**

**When:** Friday 16 April 2021  
(school holidays)

**Where:** Museum of Fire,  
1 Museum Drive Penrith

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

**Who:** Children Aged 5-10

**What:** All participating students will receive a hands on experience. Children will learn about the local environment and help to plant a garden in the Museum grounds. They will receive a special plant that they can take home to care for themselves.

Children who take part in this program will be invited to participate in future junior caretaker activities.

For more information as well as terms and conditions please visit [www.museumoffire.net](http://www.museumoffire.net)

# MUSEUM OF FIRE

## JUNIOR CARETAKER'S DAY

FRIDAY 16TH APRIL 2021



Supported by the Jane  
Goodall Institute Australia  
and Roots and Shoots

