



By The Way



Term 3 Week 10, 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: Tuesday 6.00pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00am,
All welcome!

Principal's Message

AROUND THE Grounds @ OLOW

Dear Our Lady of the Way Community

We are almost there! I'm sure we can all agree that this term has felt longer than ten weeks. On behalf of the staff, we want to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers who have continued to support our students to learn from home. At the end of this week, we will take a well-earned break for a fortnight's holiday, returning to Learning from Home on Tuesday 5th October. Although it is unlikely that we will be able to take a trip away from our homes, it is still important that our families can refresh and recharge ready for Term 4. You may choose to change the routines of the last ten weeks. It might be a time when you may reduce screen time. We hope that family time can be seen as the big winner with this lockdown.

STAFFING NEWS

Pascale Vion and Kate Easthope are starting their maternity leave at the end of this week. We wish them all the very best as they prepare for the arrival of their babies. Deanne Hearnden will be replacing Pascale while she is on maternity leave.



NAPLAN

NAPLAN results for 2021 have been released this week and are available at the front office if your child was involved in this assessment. We have only had the opportunity to have a quick analysis of the results and we are extremely pleased with the performance of our students, particularly in the area of reading, which has been a major focus over the last two years.

ROAD MAP TO RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Staggered return

Priority cohorts will begin face-to-face learning on Monday, 25 October 2021, as long as community transmission and vaccination rate requirements have been met.

The start of the staggered return of students to face-to-face learning depends upon at least 70 percent of the state's eligible adult population being vaccinated. Current NSW Health projections indicate this will be before mid-October – which is why NSW Health and Education have confidence in the start date for the staged return being 25 October.



Roadmap to return to face-to-face learning (Updated 12:30 pm 27 August 2021) from:

- 25 October – Kindergarten and Year 1
- from 1 November – Years 2, 6 and 11
- from 8 November – Years 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Students in Year 12 and those completing their HSC are already able to return in a limited way and this will continue for the remainder of Term 3. From 25 October, these students will have full-time access to school campuses and their teachers.

Low community transmission in LGA*

Students can only return to face-to-face learning in LGAs where community transmission cases are 50 or less per 100,000 people, based on health advice. For most LGAs in NSW this is already occurring. If cases exceed 50 per 100,000 in any LGA, learning from home will resume for that LGA until case numbers drop. This means about 64% of students in Greater Sydney wouldn't be able to return to school, totalling 554,861 students.

*The NSW Government has advised that this is subject to possible change.

We will keep you updated on the plan as we approach the return date. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the school at any time.

Thank you again for all that you are doing during this challenging time.

Flexible Learning Hub Website

We hope that the Flexible Learning Hub website continues to be of support for you and your child's learning.

As we continue with online learning for the beginning of Term 4, Week 1 learning plans will be made available from Saturday 2 October to help support families to prepare for the week.

Final Friday Fun Day Zoom

This Friday 17 September we will have our last Friday Fun Day zoom for the term. This week we will have a short assembly followed by our Grandparent's Day Liturgy.

The zoom will begin at 10am. We hope to see you all on the zoom to finish the term and don't forget to invite your grandparents to join us for this celebration.



The link to join the zoom is below.

<https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/68173066438?pwd=VHQxTXNJWm4wb0lpcEpicVVBbmRFQT09>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Recently we received this certificate of gratitude from Roydon Ng, the Metropolitan Schools Engagement Officer (St Vincent de Paul Society).

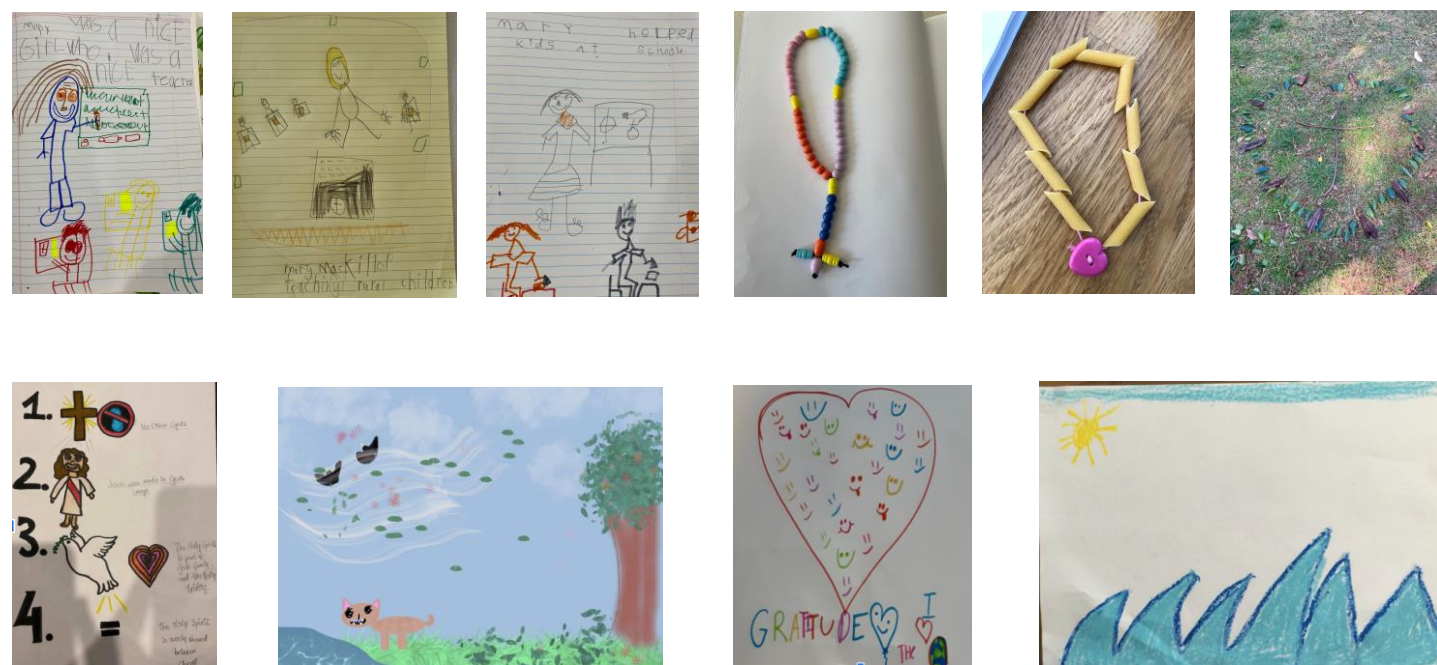
Thank you once again to those who helped to raise \$853 on our Pyjama Day. This money would have helped to change the lives of people in need.

Religious Education Curriculum

As shared with you in previous correspondence, Bishop Vincent Long asked Executive Director, Greg Whitby, to pause the engagement and implementation of the draft new curriculum for Religious Education, *Living Life to the Full* on July 23.



Over the last few weeks since then teachers have offered wonderful prayer and formation opportunities to support the students during this time of remote learning. Students have shown engagement and thoughtful responses to learning experiences with a focus on St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Mary our Mother (Feast of the Assumption), Catholic Social Teaching, 200 Years of Catholic Education and Grandparents' Week.



Next term our community will begin to make connections with a previous curriculum, Sharing Our Story, offering "Experiential Learning through Inquiry, based on sound theological content in light of Scripture and the rich living Tradition that is the Catholic faith." (CEDP Mission Team)

LEARNING NEWS

Holiday Craft Fun: In keeping with our Grandparents Week focus; students can continue to access the following links to stay entertained during the continued lockdown period.

[OLOW Grandparents Week Matrix](#)

[Grandparents week Bundle](#)

Keeping Reading Alive in the Holidays - Experience some awesome factual reading with your child(ren):

Does your child love animals? Want to learn more about them? Get to know our wildlife, check out:

[National Geographic Explorer Magazine](#). 'Encourage passion and wonder while reading digital Explorer magazine content! We are no longer available in print and have transitioned to a free all-digital format that can be accessed in the archive below. Levelled in six editions for grades K-5, our non-fiction content supports national reading and science standards. For more nonfiction articles, videos, photographs, maps, infographics, and assessments, explore our free Resource Library.' [National Geographic Kids Videos](#)

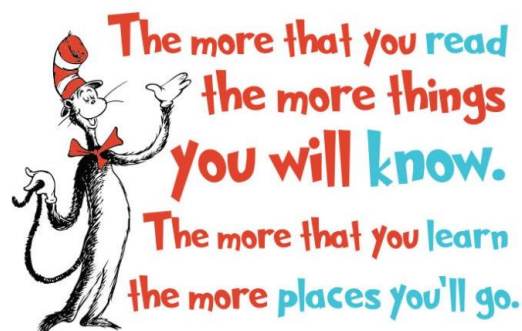
[Wildlife Stories](#)

[Australia's Endangered Animals](#)

[Ten weird and wonderful wildlife of Australia](#)

[Five ways to make a wildlife friendly garden](#)

[How humans have impacted Australia's nature overtime](#)



Happy Reading,
Mrs Curry

SPORTS NEWS



Due to Covid-19 restrictions, all Gala days have unfortunately been cancelled for the remainder of 2021.

We are looking into options for our Swimming Carnival and are waiting for more information as to whether or not it can go ahead in late Term 4 or if it will need to be postponed until 2022. Only competitive swimmers will be attending our carnival at this stage. We will continue to keep you informed.

Thank you
Miss Vella

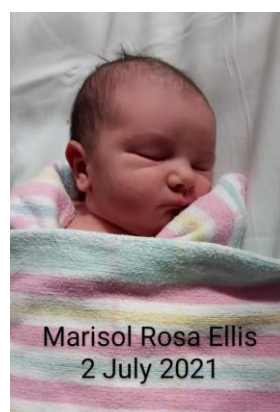


****Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on Covid Restrictions at the time****

Date	Event
17 Sept	Last day of Term 3 Grandparents' Day Liturgy Zoom, 10.00am
5 October	First day of Term 4
11 October	Remembrance Day
10th December	Year 6 Farewell and Thanksgiving Mass, 11.30am Year 6 Social, 6.30pm – 8.30pm
15th December	Last day of school for 2021

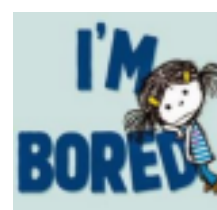
BABY NEWS

Congratulations to the Clarke and Ellis families on the arrival of their gorgeous babies. Jonah (Year 2) and Tea (Kindergarten) welcomed baby Marisol on the same day that Isla's (Year 2) brother Artie was born. May these beautiful babies fill their hearts with love and happiness.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Each newsletter we have been sharing some 'boredom buster' ideas for families to try. This is the last of the activities for the term. These were developed by Charlotte Watt, Jessica Austin (CEDP Wellbeing Counsellors) and Shannon Herps (Visual Arts Teacher CEDP) for current social isolation limitations. We have selected a few ideas to share to counter the words...



IT'S SHOWTIME!

Time for the budding actors in your household to have their moment in the spotlight by putting together a play for the family!

You can film it to share with your family/friends, or video call someone to enjoy the live performance.



You can write your own, or if you're looking for inspiration perhaps act out a scene or two from your favourite books or movies. Why not change the ending?!



JUST LIKE MAGIC...

There's lots of easy to learn sleight of hand tricks out there for kids & parents to learn and entertain themselves, and the family for hours!

Try this [Youtube Video](#) and this [Website](#) to give you some ideas.



Practice the tricks, turn it into a show, and once you've perfected it, present your Magic Show to the rest of the family or film it to show your friends!

THINGS WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO...

During the holidays it's normal that we think of things we wish we could do, or we usually would do, but because of the safety rules we can't at the moment.

Everytime you think of something, make sure you write it down so that you have a great collection of ideas to look forward to when things are going back to normal.



You could write it on a piece of paper and add it to a jar, and then pull one out each weekend.
Or you can write it as a list, and work through the list one by one.



MAKE A MANDALA

A mandala is a shape that is symmetrical. It is usually based on a circle shape and is made up of geometrical shapes.



You can make your own mandala with items found inside your house or even leaves, pebbles, flowers and sticks from your yard.

You could go on a **nature walk** with your family to search for the perfect items to use for your next mandala creation!



HANDBALL COMPETITION



If you've got some chalk, draw out a handball court on your driveway!

Challenge family members to a game!

Remember the positions of Ace, King, Queen & Duncie.

See if family members have different rules that they use.



WRITE LOVE NOTES <3

Write little notes or draw pictures for family members telling them how much you love and appreciate them, or something you like about them especially!

Then you can hide them around the house so they will find them over the next few days.

You can tuck them into drawers, cupboards, in the kitchen, inside the fridge, on a dining chair, on a pillow or anywhere else you can think of!



MAKE A COMIC BOOK OR A FLIP BOOK



Get some paper, pencils or
textas and get started on
an epic comic book
adventure!

Here are some [printable comic strip templates](#).

OR

Cut some paper to size, grab a clip and
make yourself a mini flip book!

You can find some ideas to start you off [HERE](#).



ROCK PAINTING

Collect some rocks and let your creativity
show through painting some cool designs
on them!

Acrylic paints work
best, but Sharpies
work as well if you
don't own paints.



If you want, next time
you go for a walk, put
them in places around your neighbourhood to bring a
smile to your neighbours' faces.



If you want to get more
advanced check out [this site](#) for
tips, or ask your parents if they
can join the [NSW Rocks group
on Facebook](#) so you can let
people know where you're
dropping off your beautiful
designs.