



By The Way



Term 1 Week 10, 2022

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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

Last week you would have received correspondence about our upcoming Staff Development Day next term.

What: Staff Development Day

When: Friday 6 May 2022

This is a Pupil Free Day

Professional Learning Topic: Spelling

Throughout the day, we will be focusing on the following:

Introduction to Spelling -

The staff will explore four types of spelling knowledge: orthographic knowledge, morphological knowledge, phonological knowledge and etymological knowledge as well as the checking strategies (proofreading and editing)

Staff will be exploring data from across the school -

NAPLAN, Early Years Assessment, PATR and survey forms from students, parents and teachers.

Syllabus -

We will be checking alignment of skills and content knowledge with the syllabus and exploring the new K-2 English Syllabus. This will inform us, whilst devising an updated OLOW spelling scope and sequence based on Stage Outcomes, skills and content knowledge.

Spelling learning inquiry -

Each grade will pre-assess students, plan targeted teaching (using results), post-assess and feedback to students and as a team in order to improve and track student growth.

On-going follow up -

Staff will follow up with PLM's (staff meetings) focused on Spelling and the OLOW Spelling Committee will continue to plan professional learning for staff.

Each Friday afternoon we gather as a school to reflect on the Sunday Gospel, pray as a community, celebrate birthdays, listen to an address from the Principal, general business and most importantly we celebrate learning by giving out our awards. This is an important time of the week and we ask that children are not picked up early on a Friday afternoon. If you have a regular appointment at this time, we ask that you contact the office via email regarding these appointments. It is disappointing for your child if they are not present to receive their certificate. Thank you for following this request.

We have had a wonderful and productive start to the year. As a school we have been able to be involved in a number of **extra-curricular activities** such as:

- Motiv8 sport
- Dance Fever
- STEM Incursions
- Swimming carnivals
- Cross Country
- Reconciliation
- Zoo excursion
- Listening conferences
- Work samples sent home in Religion, Mathematics and English
- Ash Wednesday Mass
- Student Leadership commissioning
- 2023 School tours and enrolment interviews
- Silly sock day
- Fundraising for flood victims
- NAPLAN preparation
- Year 6 Canberra overnight trip
- Easter hat parade and raffle
- Weekly assembly

Our staff have had a number of professional learning experiences:

- New K to 2 syllabus
- EMC3
- Spelling
- PBS4L data analysis
- MAI protocol training
- TRI3
- Personalised Plans Protocols
- Principal 360 Framework Process

On 6 April 2022 I will be involved in a Principal 360 Framework Process otherwise known as multi-source feedback. This feedback is a comprehensive and structured methodology for obtaining feedback from different sources, such as self, staff, leadership teams, students, peers and other stakeholders. Feedback is one of the most powerful motivational tools at our disposal.

The 360° Reflection Tool was developed to support Principals and other school leaders to reflect, and gather feedback, on the leadership behaviours they exhibit in their daily practice, aligned to 15 attributes that interconnect the Leadership Requirements and Professional Practices set out in the Australian Professional Standard for Principals.

Thank you to all members of OLOW for your support during this first term. I will be on long service leave for the first week of the term. I wish you all a very safe Easter and look forward to **everyone returning after the holiday break on Tuesday 26 April 2023** in their **Winter uniform**.

Yours sincerely

[Donna McFadzean](#)

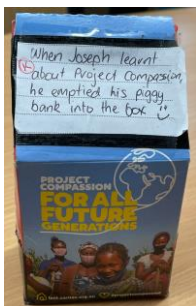
Principal Leader

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Project Compassion - Silly Sock Day

Sincere gratitude is extended to the Our Lady of the Way community for your tremendous support of those who are in need.

A Silly Sock Day was held on March 18 to raise money for Project Compassion and the organisation Caritas. It was wonderful to see the children go all out to be involved in this day. Thank you for your generous donations of \$636.00.



It has been wonderful to see so many children taking up the challenge of filling Project Compassion boxes and bringing them in. Whilst we are a 'cashless school' we still wanted the children to have the opportunity to do something individually for those who need our help. On Friday our boxes will be handed over to Fr Michael so that our contributions can be added to the contributions raised from Our Lady of the Way Parish and then sent to Project Compassion. If you still have boxes at home, could they please be brought in tomorrow.

Vinnies Flood Appeal - Harmony Day

We all watched on feeling totally helpless as the images of the devastation caused by the floods filled our television screens. In a response to be able to 'do something', all schools in the Diocese of Parramatta were invited to join in solidarity with those affected and raise money.

Our school decided to combine Harmony Day with a mufti day to raise money for the Vinnies Flood Appeal. What an amazing day it was and what incredible generosity followed from our families. Over \$1 200 was raised for the appeal. A further project was undertaken to support Our Lady Help of Christians in South Lismore, by donating money to pay for Children's Bibles. We are able to send a set of 30 Children's Bibles from the money raised. Such amazing generosity! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Below are some photos of the fun we had on Harmony Day.



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR EASTER

OLW Church will be holding the 2nd rite of reconciliation for Easter on **Thursday 7th April at 7pm.** This sacrament is a beautiful way for us to prepare spiritually for Easter, as we reflect on the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Everyone is welcome to attend – come and be healed, forgiven and set free.

Carole Day

REC

GENERAL NEWS

Year 6 Canberra Excursion

This week our Year 6 students undertook an educational tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributes funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards these costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Some of students have shared their experiences below with some photos of the group at Parliament House and the Australian Institute of Sport.

Year 6 would like to tell you about the things we did in Canberra. The first thing we did was we went to the War Memorial and learnt about World War 1, World War 2 and more. Then we went to Old Parliament House where we got to go into the green room and sit in the chairs that people in the government sat in. Then in Old Parliament House, we learnt how to vote and we watched a video that had holograms. We drove up to Mt Ainslie and saw the whole layout of Canberra. Then we drove to the motel that had an inside garden that was beautiful and the motel rooms were amazing. When we went down for breakfast and dinner it was so cool and delicious. We went to Questacon at night where we got to go to the shop and there were lots of cool things. The rooms we went to in Questacon were amazing.

On day two, we went to a really cool sports place called the A.I.S. In New Parliament House we got to see the green and red rooms, the House of Representatives and the Senate. Then we did a role-play of the green room. We watched movies on the bus and went to McDonald's. We watched Paddington 2 and The Greatest Showman.

Nina and Tiana

The places we went to were really fun and the tour guides were amazing through all the places. The motel we stayed at was great. They served us fantastic food and took really good care of us. The AIS Sportex was great fun, we all had a wondrous time. Questacon was amazing. Everybody learnt so much, it was so good. During our Year 6 trip to Canberra, we were fed chicken 'schniti' and chips and for breakfast, we had bacon, eggs, toast, beans and hash browns.

Oliver and Jeff

Canberra was a great experience for all of us and here are some of the amazing highlights! The Electoral Commission - because it was an interactive venue and we even learned to vote!! Everyone enjoyed the A.I.S because we got to play video game sports, but they were Olympic sports! It was really cool and even the teachers enjoyed it. After all the venues, we went to the motel and we loved it because of the yummy food and the beds were really comfy.

Abby H, Mya, Lara and Vera

Canberra was great. We went to a motel, Questacon, Old Parliament House, Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, A.I.S and the National Capital Exhibition. Questacon was amazing. We did all these amazing technology activities. The motel was really fun because dinner and breakfast were amazing and the rooms were epic. At Parliament House, one group got to see Scott Morrison. At Mount Ainslie, there was an amazing view. Canberra was a great experience for year 6 2022.

Fraser, Daniel, Dylan and Jye



2022 SCHOOL PHOTOS

TUESDAY APRIL 5TH

- Each student **MUST** return their own school photo envelope to the school photographer **ON** the day of the photo shoot – regardless of whether you are purchasing photos or having family sibling photos taken.
- Photos can be purchased by pre-ordering online **prior** to the photo shoot.
- Photos can be purchased by using the photo envelope and enclosing the **correct** money or money order made payable to "The School Photographer".
- Family Sibling envelopes are available for pick up from the school administration office. The family sibling envelopes need to be given directly to the photographers on the photo shoot day.

**No envelopes will be accepted at Our Lady of the Way.
They must be given directly to the photographers.**

All students need to be in **FULL SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM**
which include black school shoes.

All students need to be at school on time as photos
commence at 8:45am



Details of the Photographers:


The School Photographers
Email: enquiries@theschoolphotographer.com.au

Telephone: 02 9674 9824

Important Dates



Date	Event
5 April	School Photo Day - Summer School Uniform
6 April	360 Review Principal Framework
7 April	Easter Hat Parade and Picnic Lunch - Start arriving at 12.30pm
8 April	Last day for students for Term 1
26 April	All students return in their WINTER UNIFORM
6 May	Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day
16 December	Last day of term for students



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!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Enrolment Applications for St Columba's Catholic College

A reminder that enrolment applications for Year 7, 2023 for St Columba's Catholic College are due on Thursday 31st March. Please contact the Enrolment Secretary on 02 4754 8900 if you require further information.

Social Media & Your School

Be a positive role model by demonstrating respectful and responsible behaviours when communicating with and about your child's school online.

Times have changed

A few years ago parents discussed concerns or issues with friends at the school gate. Today, with the internet, mobile phones and social media, discussions between you and your friends can reach a far wider audience than ever before.

Social media can provide an enjoyable way to socialise online and keep you connected with what is going on in your school community.

While these technologies can be great for sharing ideas and keeping in touch, don't forget that comments about your school community can have greater impact than expected and can have very real consequences for the reputations of individuals including teachers, principals, other parents, students and yourself.

As a parent and carer, you are your child's first role model when it comes to online behaviour. Make sure your online conduct demonstrates how they can use social media respectfully and safely.



There are also legal implications around what people are able to post and share about others. The idea of privacy in the online world can be confusing but essentially posting or sharing personal information about another person online requires consent.

Top tips for positive and respectful online communication with your school community

Avoid posting negative comments that identify your school or individuals.

Feedback from the school community is important for schools and the department. Each Victorian Government school has a complaints process for raising concerns. If you have a concern, rather than go online, speak directly to your child's teacher, Assistant Principal or Principal.

If after having this conversation you feel that your concerns have not been resolved, you can contact the **Community Liaison Officer** at your closest Department of Education and Training Regional Office, who will assist you and the school to find a solution. For more information on raising a concern or issue with your child's school see:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/complainschool.aspx>

Remember: serious instances of inappropriate online behavior may constitute a criminal offence and become a police matter. School staff may obtain personal legal advice if they feel that online content seriously impacts their reputation.



Social Media & Your School

Try not to be emotive or hasty.
Keep comments calm and polite.

Before you post something online about your child's school ask yourself:

- Am I being a good role model for my child?
- Will this information reflect badly on me?
- Does the school community or individual really need to know this information?
- Is this information relevant, helpful and positive?
- Will this information upset or embarrass the school community or an individual?
- Am I making situation worse?

If things do get heated online consider logging out and taking time to relax.



Be aware of what you are sharing
and with whom.

Remember that the legal implications around sharing personal information applies to images and video presented online.

As the parent/carer of your child, you have the right to choose who sees your child's personal information, including their image online. You also have a responsibility to **not share** the personal details of other children.

If you upload photos on social media of school events, be aware of who is in the background. Some parents and caregivers do not want themselves or their children on social media. It is recommended that you never tag a child's image with any personal information.

If your child's personal information or image has been shared on social media without your consent you can request its removal by the social network hosting it.

All Victorian Government schools have a policy on if and when it is appropriate to use cameras for filming or photographing school events. You can contact your child's school for more information.

If you share pictures of your children publicly through online photo-sharing sites and hashtags, remember that once it is shared, you have no control over how it is used or by whom. To avoid these photos being shared by others or used for purposes without your consent, make sure you set up your account security settings to share images only with close family and friends.



Social Media & Your School

Get to know social media.

It may be helpful to research online networks and mobile applications. In particular look at:

- Terms of Use
- Policies and procedures for the removal of content
- Privacy settings

Be proactive.

If you see something you feel should be removed, flag it. Some sites will allow you to do this anonymously.

Address inappropriate content.

If you encounter inappropriate content online, there are a number of steps you can take:

- Refrain from responding.
- Take a screen capture or print a copy of the concerning online content.
- If you think the content is explicit, pornographic or exploitative of minors, contact the eSafety Commission <https://esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting>
- Block the offending user.
- If the inappropriate or negative comments are in regards to your child's school or members of the school community you should also contact the school Principal.
- Report the content to the social media provider (e.g. Facebook). Providers can remove content that contravenes their Terms of Use.



How do I report inappropriate content?

Most website have a '**report/block this person**' or '**report/block this content**' function. Links to report or block users can be found below:

Facebook

www.facebook.com/safety

Instagram

help.instagram.com

Google (including YouTube)

google.com/support/go/legal

Tumblr

www.tumblr.com/help

Twitter

support.twitter.com

eSafety Commissioner

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting>

Further information

eSafety Commissioner

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

Bully Stoppers

www.education.vic.gov.au/bullystoppers

Gateway Family Services

Term 2, 2022

Parenting Programs Summary



Program	Date & Time	Location	To Register
Bringing Up Great Kids In the First 1,000 Days <i>Learn more about how babies' brain development influences their thoughts, feelings and tune in to your baby's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development.</i> <i>Suitable for parents of 0 –2 year olds.</i>	Every Monday 2nd May - 6th June 7:00pm - 9:00pm <i>* NO Childcare</i>	Blaxland Uniting Church (rear Hall) 70-76 Old Bathurst Road, BLAXLAND	Phone Gateway- 0490 662 498 or email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Circle of Security <i>Learn how to be a strong, wiser & kinder parent with your kids.</i> <i>Suitable for parents of 0 -12 year olds.</i>	Every Wednesday 4th May - 15th June 9:30am - 11:30am <i>* NO Childcare</i>	Katoomba Public School Merriwa Street, KATOOMBA	Phone Gateway- 0490 662 498 or email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching <i>Learn how to understand & manage your child's difficult behaviour.</i> <i>Suitable for parents of 2 -12 year olds.</i>	Every Thursday 5th May - 19th May & 9th June 10:00am - 12:00pm <i>* Childcare is available</i>	Gateway Family Services - Penrith Office Cnr Station & Henry Sts, PENRITH	Phone Gateway- 0490 662 498 or email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
No Scaredy Cats <i>Strategies to help your child reduce anxiety & build resilience.</i> <i>This group will assist you to understand how anxiety develops and how to offset its progress whilst providing some strategies for its management.</i> <i>Suitable for parents of 2-12 year olds.</i>	Every Tuesday 24th May - 7th June 9:30am - 11:30am <i>* NO Childcare</i>	WinCAMP 56 White Cross Road, WINMALEE	Phone Gateway- 0490 662 498 or email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au
Bringing Up Great Kids: PARENTING ADOLESCENTS <i>Learn about brain development in adolescents and what influences their thoughts, feelings & behaviour whilst identifying important messages and how to convey to your adolescent.</i> <i>Suitable for parents of 10-19 yr olds.</i>	Every Saturday 30th Apr - 4th June 10:00am - 12noon <i>* NO Childcare</i>	Gateway Family Services - Penrith Office Cnr Station & Henry Sts, PENRITH	Phone Gateway- 0490 662 498 or email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

For more information and Individual Flyers go to:

www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au or www.facebook.com/GatewayFS

Gateway Family Services parenting programs are funded by DSS and DCJ.

Gateway works collaboratively with community partners to bring parenting programs to communities from St Marys to Blackheath.

Gateway encourages, supports & respects diversity in families & communities. Our Groups are open to everyone.





April Holiday Clinics

Our clinics cater for 5 - 16 year old kids with Junior, Intermediate and Advanced options that challenge participants based on their playing experience. Our clinics are led by our Wanderers Academy coaches with programs designed to improve your child's skills in a fun and social environment.