



# By The Way



Term 1 Week 3 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

### 2022 Focus Areas and Goals for Our Lady of the Way, Emu Plains

Welcome to a new academic year. I trust that you and your family have established routines for the year and have had an enjoyable start to the school year.

We particularly extend a warm welcome to our new kindergarten children and families new to our community. We also welcome our new staff members: Mrs Jessica Love (Year 1) and Mr Jacob Jenkins (Year 5), We are a "can do" community and I'm sure all will experience the spirit of inclusion and love of learning that the Our Lady of the Way provides.

On the last day of school in 2021, Linda Flanagan was successful in being appointed to the position of Teaching Educator - Extending Mathematical Understanding Professional Learning Leader. This is exciting work that will further support the mathematical development of our students across the Diocese.

Due to the late appointment and to support OLOW Primary School, CEDP has worked in partnership to provide a transition time over the first half of the year before Linda moves full-time into her role. This will mean that Linda will mostly be based at OLOW to ensure a smooth handover is completed with staff, students, and our parent community during Term 1 and part of Term 2. Another part of Linda's new role in maintaining her accreditation as a Specialist EMU teacher is the facilitation of an EMU intervention group. This will be run daily at OLOW.

Linda is most appreciative of the relationships that she has developed with the OLOW community and cherishes the beautiful students and staff that she has worked with over time.

### 2022 Focus Areas and Goals

I would like to share with everyone our focus areas for 2022. Some, you may notice, begin to happen very early this term, others will become more evident as the year progresses.

Our overarching theme is for all learners to experience the "Will, Thrill and Skill" of learning. Student engagement is an essential component of the learning cycle. We need to find "the hook" for each student. We will continue to focus considerable teacher training in the area of social and emotional wellbeing and ensure that this is a significant focus when covering the PDHPE syllabus and using our PBS4L Framework.

During the first few weeks of this term we have focused, in all classes, on our school agreements and expectations.

We have reflected on the feedback from our recent “Tell them from me” survey and have introduced a school wide process of sharing work samples with you from all Key Learning Areas. The work sample will show the task, the learning intention and success criteria for the lesson. Your child will reflect on their learning experience and there will also be an opportunity for you to give feedback on the task. The schedule for Semester 1 will be as follows:

**Term 1**

Week 4 - Religious Education

Week 7 - Mathematics

Week 10 - English



**Term 2**

Week 3 - Other KLA (Science, PDHPE, History, Geography, Creative Arts)

Week 6 - Other KLA (Science, PDHPE, History, Geography, Creative Arts)

Week 9 - Semester Report / Parent/ Student/Teacher Learning Conference

This cycle will repeat in Semester 2. In addition to these work samples, we encourage all families to visit our Facebook Page. This page is regularly updated and celebrates the learning that takes place on a daily basis.

There is also going to be an opportunity to talk with your child’s class teacher about your goals for your child and for you to share information that you feel that is important for the teaching team to know. This is a listening conference for the teacher. They will keep a record of your feedback so that they can adapt the curriculum to meet your child’s specific needs as a learner. There will be further communication coming home via Compass. In addition to this, the regular Semester 1 and Semester 2 reports will also be shared.

Our Lady of the Way plans to continue our focus on improving writing K-6. It is our intention to explicitly teach the writing processes (planning, drafting, editing, proofreading, publishing) to improve their authorial and secretarial skills. There will be an explicit focus on spelling.

There will be a focus on the pedagogy of teaching Mathematic via the use of an instructional model of student-centred structured inquiry learning experiences. Lessons are developed using the structure of Launch, Explore, Summarise/Review. These lessons take 60 minutes and the cycle could be completed twice in a given lesson or there could be a follow up lesson following the same model.

The focus of our professional learning agenda for staff reflects the goals presented above. Professional development can take many forms. We gather each week on a Wednesday afternoon. We release staff to attend cohort specific small group workshops. Teachers may also complete online learning courses or attend conferences. We are fortunate to have Lead Teachers and Teacher Educators from the diocese that meet with us regularly to be a critical friend and help us reflect on our programs and make changes in order to improve the learning opportunities of our students. We also are part of research projects that enable us to work with both national and international universities and experts in the field. Currently we are involved with Monash University via the EMC3 Mathematics Project.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year as together we ignite the flame for each child. We want each learner in our community to experience the “Will, Thrill and Skill” of learning.



## PBS4L NEWS

The school wide agreements at Our Lady of the Way are:

- **Live respectfully**
- **Act responsibly**
- **Learn together**



As part of these agreements, we use a matrix, with a clearly defined set of expected behaviours.

Matrix...

<b>AGREEMENTS</b>		
We <b>LIVE</b> respectfully	We <b>ACT</b> responsibly	We <b>LEARN</b> together
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We listen attentively</li><li>• We are inclusive and value others</li><li>• We use kind words and kind actions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are in charge of our actions</li><li>• We are in the right place at the right time</li><li>• We take care of all property and the environment</li><li>• We keep our hands feet to ourselves</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are active participants</li><li>• We are striving to do our personal best</li><li>• We are resilient and have a growth mindset</li><li>• We are collaborative with our peers</li></ul>

**EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR**

During the first few weeks of each year, students are actively engaged in lessons and activities that define our school agreements and encourage expected behaviours. Teachers will offer tokens when they see expected behaviours. Tokens are then added to the class token container, leading towards a whole class reward.

We encourage you to ask your children, "Did you receive a token today?" and finding out what it was for. This dialogue will help reinforce the expected behaviours and develop the intrinsic motivation for your children to continue showing these behaviours.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival - 24th February 2022

Congratulations to the students who will be representing OLOW at the Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival. We wish you the best of luck!

Year 2 - Theo Cross.

Year 3 - Ella Dwyer, Cohen Dyrka, Maddison McGrath, Eli Mills, Heath Mills, Matilda Renny, Max Roney, Zachary Trigg.

Year 4 - Aisling Cremen.

Year 5 - Remy Cross, Audrey Edwards, Sarah Fenning, Ella Hirsch, Patrick Moran, Max Thompson.

Year 6 - Mason Benitez, Mikayla Blazek, Chase Bryan, Kye Chapman, Lara Dwyer, Aiden Dyrka, Mia McGrath, Ruby Murphy, Lola Troitsin.

## CURRICULUM NEWS

### Maths Assessment Interviews - MAIs

Thank you to our families who supported our school community in arranging for their child/ren to participate in the Maths Assessment Interviews. We are most grateful for the opportunity to spend time building relationships with our students, talking maths and gaining information that will inform our 'where to' in our planning. As a staff we are now working with the data in planning challenging, connected and cumulative learning sequences.

Kind regards

**Linda Flanagan**

## Religious Education

This year our grade curriculums will support the Parish Sacramental Programs in Terms 1, 2 and 3.

Term 1 - Sacrament of Reconciliation in Year 4

Term 2 - Sacrament of Eucharist in Year 4

Term 3 - Sacrament of Confirmation in Year 6

Due to COVID-19 restrictions our sacramental programs needed to be postponed, therefore there has been a change to some of the grades celebrating sacraments.

### A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



Date	Event
Wednesday 16 February	Reconciliation Preparation Session 7pm
Wednesday 23 February	Stage 3 visit from St Dominic's and Caroline Chisholm
Thursday 24 February	Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 1 March	Year 3 Excursion to Sydney Zoo Reconciliation Preparation Session 7pm
Thursday 3 March	Yr 6 Overnight Canberra Excursion Day 1
Friday 4 March	Yr 6 Overnight Canberra Excursion Day 2
Friday 11 March	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 15 March	School Cross Country
Wednesday 4 April	Diocesan Cross Country
Friday 8 April	Last day of Term 1

## TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Safer Internet Day was held on **Tuesday 8 February 2022**. The eSafety Commissioner has launched the *Safer Internet Day 2022* campaign and we encourage all parents and students to get involved.

This Safer Internet Day, we are calling on everyone to play it safe and fair online.

Join the global initiative that brings families, schools, organisations and governments from 170 countries together to raise awareness about online safety.

There is no place for online abuse. We can all help to make life online enjoyable by being kind and respectful to each other.



Explore eSafety's range of resources to find out how you and your community can get involved in the 2022 campaign.

If you would like to access free webinars to learn more about helping your children thrive online, then please go to <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Back to School Snack Solutions from The Cancer Council**

To make things a little easier, Cancer Council's [Healthy Lunch Box website](#) team have some great new resources for you.

On average children eat 2-3 snacks every day so it's important to make them as healthy as possible. Download our [Back to School Snack Solutions Guide](#) for snacks that will power kids brains and fuel their muscles throughout the day.

[Spanish chicken rice](#): This one pan chicken and rice dish is full of flavour. Have leftovers for lunch the next day.

[Taco egg muffin cup](#): So quick to prepare. Keep in the freezer for a quick lunch or snack.

[Noodle cakes](#): Our noodle cake recipe will be a hit with the kids! Add them to the lunch box or as a tasty afternoon snack, they are a great alternative to unhealthy snacks.

[Pear and yoghurt slice](#): The kids will love this delicious and healthy pear and yoghurt slice packed in their lunch box for a tasty treat.

[Vegetarian kofta](#): Our simple kofta recipe is an easy family meal. Packed with flavour, leftovers are perfect for the lunch box.

