



By The Way



Term 4 Week 2, 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

It is wonderful to be back at OLOW after my extended leave. Term 4 is a very busy term with lots of events planned. Term 4 is also the term where you will receive another progress report on your child's growth.

At OLOW we believe that each of us is absolutely unique and irreplaceable in the eyes of God. As parents and teachers each and every day we remind our children that they are much loved and unique children of God—one of a kind. God gave each of us special gifts and talents that we are born with to share with the world. Part of celebrating our uniqueness is learning to look for the good in ourselves. This is as important as looking for the good in others. Instead of looking critically at their faults, examining all their blemishes and focusing on all their failings, it is important for us to help our children to see themselves as a beautiful work of God's love. As adults, we can model this for our children by the ways in which we talk about ourselves. We can never underestimate the influence and power of what our children see and hear. When our children play and learn together with their friends and peers, they are encouraged to share their ideas and insights which in turn can be enhanced and refined by the contribution of the ideas of others. These circumstances regularly provide opportunities and challenges for children to share their gifts. It takes courage to share our talents and gifts and courage and curiosity to be willing to be open to new ideas and possibilities shared by others.

With this in mind, it is fitting that I share CEDP and school policies and procedures. I would like to share with you a document that has been recently updated. The policy is the Bullying Prevention and Response Procedures. Bullying is an area that is often highlighted in social media, and it is important for you to know that we take this seriously.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

- Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm.
- It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.
- Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).
- Bullying behaviour can be verbal, non-verbal, physical, sexualised, discriminatory, inappropriate communication using technology and exclusionary.
- Bullying behaviour is repeated over a period of time, however, Conflicts or fights between students and single incidents are not defined as bullying.

BULLYING BEHAVIOUR IS NOT:

- children not getting along well;
- a breakdown of a friendship;
- a situation of mutual conflict (e.g. disagreements);
- single episodes of nastiness;
- random acts of aggression, cruelty or intimidation;
- isolated incidents of conflict separated by many months or years does not constitute a pattern of bullying behaviour.

Whilst the behaviours above do not meet the definition of bullying, any poor or anti-social behaviour is unacceptable and will be responded to appropriately.

The full policy and procedures can be found by clicking on this link [Bullying Prevention and Response Procedures](#)

CEDP Wellbeing Counsellors

Did you know that at OLOW we have a Wellbeing Counsellor five days per fortnight? Our school counsellor is Marita Vecchio.

The Wellbeing counsellor provides support and resources to students, their families and educators. These services are intended to facilitate the educational, social and emotional wellbeing of students in schools and the community.



The Wellbeing Counsellor Role

All Wellbeing Counsellors in Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP) are either psychologists or social workers with appropriate clinical experience. Counsellors have ethical obligations to their profession as well as their employer.

There are two main elements of wellbeing that a counsellor supports in their work; student wellbeing and a school wide wellbeing culture. Examples of this include:

Collaborating with schools and other professionals to promote school wide mental health and wellbeing initiatives:

- Engaging families to support their child and strengthen home-school partnerships
- Providing individual and group counselling services to students
- Liaising with external agencies and professionals to enhance student support
- Supporting leaders and staff to respond effectively to student wellbeing
- Provide consultation to support Diversity teams in their development of personalised plans for students where a wellbeing concern exists.

Yours in Christ
Donna McFadzean
Principal Leader

LEARNING NEWS

New English and Mathematics Syllabus K-2

The English and Mathematics K–2 syllabuses are the first new syllabuses of the K–12 NSW Curriculum Reform. They are essential to establish foundations for future learning success, particularly the development of oral language, reading and writing skills, and mathematical knowledge and skills.

This year our staff have been engaging in professional learning in preparation for the implementation of both the new English and Mathematics Syllabuses in 2023.

During 2023 staff will engage in further professional learning in preparation for the implementation of the new English and Mathematics 3-6 syllabuses in 2024.

Pupil Free Day/Staff Development Day

On Friday 4 November our staff will engage in professional learning to support the implementation of the Mathematics syllabus. Staff will work in collaborative teams to complete a sequence of learning to trial in our K-2 classes.

During weeks 4 and 6 teachers will be released to participate in professional learning to support the implementation of the English syllabus. Staff will work in collaborative teams to complete a sequence of learning to trial in our K-2 classes.

SPORTS NEWS

Edward Lennon of Year 6 has shown outstanding sportsmanship of late, He has done OLOW extremely proud. He represented the Parramatta Diocese in the Mackillop Carnival in which he came 2nd in the 100m race, 1st in the 800m, 3rd in the 200m, 1st in Long Jump and Shot Put and 3rd in Discus. Eddie then went on to represent Mackillop in the NSW PSSA Athletics Carnival, where he came 2nd in discus, 1st in the 800m race and 3rd in Shot Put. Impressively he will go on to represent NSW at the **Nationals!** We congratulate Eddie on his huge success and look forward to hearing the results of that carnival!



Sunny Savage of Year 4 has also shown outstanding athletic ability. After coming 2nd in the Mackillop Carnival for long jump where he represented the Parramatta Diocese, he then went on to represent Mackillop at the NSW PSSA Athletics Carnival, which he came 9th in the state for Long Jump. Congratulations to Sunny also!

Upcoming Sporting Events

25th October, Basketball Gala Day (Stage 2 team attending only)

28th October, Touch Football Gala Day (Stage 2 and Stage 3 teams attending)

7 November through to 11th November, Swimming Program (K-4 attending)

30th November, Swimming Carnival (Competitive Swimmers Only - a note will go out on Compass)

23rd November, Surf Awareness Program (Year 5 and 6 attending)

GENERAL NEWS

2023 school travel applications are now open



Applications for student travel in 2023 opened from **Monday 10 October 2022**.

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2023 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2023.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home.

Note: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Travel from Term 1 2023

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for 2023 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel open at the start of Term 4 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a busy period for local transport operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Students using School Opal cards are also reminded that they must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct and Opal terms of use](#).

Important Dates



| Date | Event |
|----------|---|
| 24/10 | 2023 Kinder Orientation (small group) |
| 25/10 | 2023 Kinder Orientation (small group) |
| 25/10 | Stage 2 Basketball Gala Day |
| 25/10 | St Dominic's Yr 7 Orientation |
| 28/10 | Stage 2 & 3 Touch Football Gala Day |
| 28/10 | Yr 1 & 6 attending Parish Mass 9am |
| 31/10 | 2023 Kinder orientation/Parent session |
| 1/11 | Yr 4 RAW Art Incursion |
| 4/11 | Pupil Free Day/Staff Development Day |
| 7-11/11 | K-4 Swimming Program |
| 9-10/11 | Yr 5 Leadership Days |
| 11/11 | Remembrance Day Prayer 2.15pm |
| 14/11 | Penola Yr 7 Orientation |
| 15/11 | Caroline Chisholm Yr 7 Orientation |
| 16-17/11 | Yr 5 Overnight Camp |
| 18/11 | St Columbas Yr 7 Orientation |
| 18/11 | Yr 2 attending Parish Mass 9am |
| 18/11 | Assembly 2pm |
| 21/11 | Yr 4 Environmentors Incursion |
| 23/11 | Stage 3 Surf Day |
| 25/11 | Yr 3 attending Parish Mass 9am |
| 25/11 | Assembly 2pm |
| 30/11 | Swimming Carnival |
| 2/12 | Kinder & Yr 5 attending Parish Mass 9am |
| 2/12 | Assembly 2pm |
| 9/12 | Yr 6 Social |
| 9/12 | Assembly 2pm |
| 13/12 | End of Year Thanksgiving & Yr 6 Farewell Mass |
| 14/12 | Yr 6 Fun Day |
| 16/12 | Last day of school for students |



FREE 2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers Location: Parramatta, NSW

Join other local families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school



During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Understanding sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Working together with your child's school

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



1st & 2nd November 2022
9.30am - 2.30pm



Rydges Parramatta
116-118 James Ruse Dr
Rosehill NSW 2142

SCAN TO REGISTER



Interpreters available upon request

For more information or to register visit
www.positivepartnerships.com.au or contact
Trish Nicoll tnicoll@positivepartnerships.com.au



For help, call:
1300 881 971