



*Our Lady of the Way*  
Act Justly - Love Tenderly - Walk Humbly

Parent Communication Term 2 Week 6 May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### **PRINCIPAL / PARENT CHAT**

Our first Principal / Parent Chat will be held next Monday 5th of June at 9am in the Parish Hall. Our plan is to have as many members of the Leadership Team present as possible.

The purpose of the meeting is to listen to parents / carers with the hope that these discussions will help to inform future school direction. We hope this will be a constructive meeting as we work towards rebuilding parent involvement at Our Lady of The Way.

In the interest of maintaining a constructive meeting it is important that parents / carers remember that this is not an opportunity to raise individual student concerns or issues.

### **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Last Friday we held our Whole School Athletics Carnival. This was a significant event in the school's calendar and was overwhelmingly a success. Our focus was to provide;

- Provide an opportunity for students to experience athletics events
- Provide an opportunity for students to qualify for diocesan
- Provide an opportunity for our Sports Leaders to lead our student community
- Provide an opportunity for students to have fun
- Provide an opportunity for parents to engage in a school event.

A lot of effort goes into organising a school carnival. Mrs Bunter has worked tirelessly to organise the day, office staff did a lot of work in the background whilst staff were at the oval at 7am to set up equipment. It truly takes a team effort to make these events happen!

A special thanks to the parents who helped on the day. One of our biggest limitations is the number of staff we have to adequately run events. Every parent who helps gives up their time so all students can experience a well-run carnival. Without parent helpers tough decisions would need to be made including limiting the number of students who attend events and or the number of events we can run.

On Friday we were also very conscious of the weather and made the decision to push through events as quickly as possible. Luckily this worked and students left the oval before it rained.

Thank you to all the parents who attended the carnival. I know the students appreciate your presence and support. Thank you for also observing the school's expectations for the day. Next year we would love to see more of you volunteering to be with the students. This is something we will be working on as a school.



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### **NEW / REVISED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

We are continuing to revise the school's policies and procedures. Please take the time to review and forward any comments to the office for consideration.

- [Complaints and Grievances Policy - Link](#)
- [Pastoral Care - Link](#)
- [Safeguarding Procedures – Link](#)
- [Whole School Communication Processes - Link](#)
- [Communication with Staff Procedures - Link](#)
- [Critical Incidents Procedure - Link](#)
- [Infectious Diseases Procedures - Link](#)

### **STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

We are just over the halfway point of the term, and it is time for our termly attendance monitoring and associated communication to parents / carers to occur.

We will be communicating via letter to parents where attendance is a concern. This usually occurs when student attendance is below 90% or a pattern of absence has been identified.

All absences are included. This means all absences that are explained via a note, absences where no reason was supplied and family holidays.

The purpose of the communication is to ensure parents / carers can make informed choices about decisions to keep students home or take leave for holidays.

Where student absence is determined as critical, parents / carers may be required to attend scheduled meetings with school or CSPD staff to improve attendance.



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### **ONLINE LUNCH ORDERS**

Classroom Catering are Our Lady of The Way's new online lunch order provider. Lunch orders can be ordered Monday to Friday. To maintain a five-day week service the provider requires families to place orders on a regular basis across the week.

Classroom Catering is offering a fantastic menu. Feedback from the students has been extremely positive. Orders need to be placed by 8.30am.

*Parents set up an online account on Spriggy online following the steps below.*



Our Lady of the Way Emu Plains menu - [Link](#)

**Regards**  
**Mr Phillip Kapitanow**  
**Principal**



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## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

### **TELL THEM FROM ME - TTFM SURVEY**

Your feedback is important to us. The Tell Them From Me survey is an important opportunity for you to provide feedback and help improve schooling experience for students and families. Have your say now - [Link](#)

### **ANIMALS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

To ensure the safety of students, visitors and staff we ask families not to bring any animals onto the school site. Arrival and dismissal times are very busy times. It is simply not safe to have animals at school at this time. These guidelines are for the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community.

### **DISMISSAL PROCEDURES AND PICK UP**

Afternoon dismissal procedures at OLOW require students to know how they are getting home. Each afternoon students line up in their respective lines under the COLA and move off at the 2:55pm bell to their designated areas, e.g. Drive Thru, Bus, Walkers & Riders or remain under the COLA to be picked up by their parents / carers. It is important that you have clearly communicated to your child/ren in the morning, how they are getting home. We understand that sometimes plans may need to change during the day. If this is the case, you will need to inform the school office of the change so we can ensure the safety of your child/ren in the afternoon and to avoid any unnecessary confusion. If you have an arrangement where an alternate family member collects your child/ren in the afternoon, and your child is absent, could you please ensure you notify the person/s so to avoid any confusion. Lastly, if you collect your child/ren using Drive Thru, could you please ensure you display your A4 size Name Card for easy identification as we call the children out, to ensure a smooth process each afternoon.

## RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023 BE A VOICE FOR GENERATIONS

National Reconciliation Week – 27 May to 3 June – is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. At OLOW this week students will be participating in some Reconciliation Week activities in classes and during lunchtimes. On Friday everyone is invited to wear something yellow to help brighten our day and to show our support for the First Nations Children.



**Regards**  
**Ms Catherine Ruff**  
**Assistant Principal**



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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR COORDINATOR MESSAGE

### Feast of Mary Help of Christians

Along with the celebration of the Mary Help of Christians Mass last week, grades acknowledged the feast day by focusing on an aspect of Mary. Please take a look at the noticeboard when you are next in the school.





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## **St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal**

**HELP END THE  
HOMELESSNESS  
CRISIS DEVASTATING  
OLDER WOMEN.**



In Week 9, Friday June 23, we will be holding a Beanie and Scarf Day to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Students can wear mufti and a beanie/ and or scarf and make a donation. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. Please place this date in your diary.

Money raised will help with homelessness - the focus for the Winter Appeal this year

## **Grades attending Parish Mass**

Please place the following dates in your diary if you would like to attend your child(ren)'s Grade Parish Mass:

Kindergarten and Year 5 - Friday June 2 @ 9:00am

Year 3 - Friday June 9 @ 9:00am

Year 1 and Year 6 - Friday June 16 @ 9:00am

**Mrs Carole Day**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**



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## WELLBEING COUNSELLOR MESSAGE

The NSW School-Link Initiative has been addressing mental health in schools since 1999. Together, with Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN) and Children's Hospital at Westmead (CHW) have recognised the potential to further develop the existing School-Link Initiative by focusing on students with an intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder. School-Link have provided accessible and up to date information on mental health topics for carers (staff and parents) of children and adolescents with an intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Tip sheets for parents on behaviour and intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder include topics on anxiety, managing aggression, navigating adolescence, sensory processing difficulties, and self-injurious behaviour. Each topic, within the context of intellectual disability and/or autism, outlines what the behaviour of concern is, possible treatments, where to go for help, and links to more information and resources. The development of each tip sheet was made in collaboration with feedback from carers, school and health professionals, and other stakeholders.

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/behaviour-information-sheets/>

### **Behaviour tip sheets:**

#### **Why is my child anxious:**

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/anxiety/>

#### **Aggression:**

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/aggression/>

#### **How can I help my child navigate adolescence:**

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/adolescence/>

#### **Self-injurious behaviour:**

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/self-injury/>

#### **Sensory Processing:**

<http://www.schoollink.chw.edu.au/sensory-processing/>

**Regards**

**Mrs Marita Vecchio**

**Wellbeing Counsellor**



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## Year One

### news

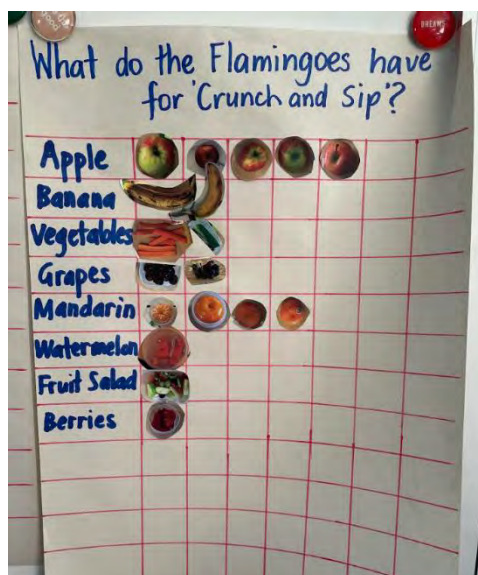
In Year One Term Two

## Maths:

Last week we had lots of fun exploring data during Maths lessons.

We gathered information in lots of different ways. We took photos of our 'crunch and sip' and then used them to find out what the most popular food was. We compared within our groups and then came together to compare each group.

Individually we tried to represent the information using unifix cubes.



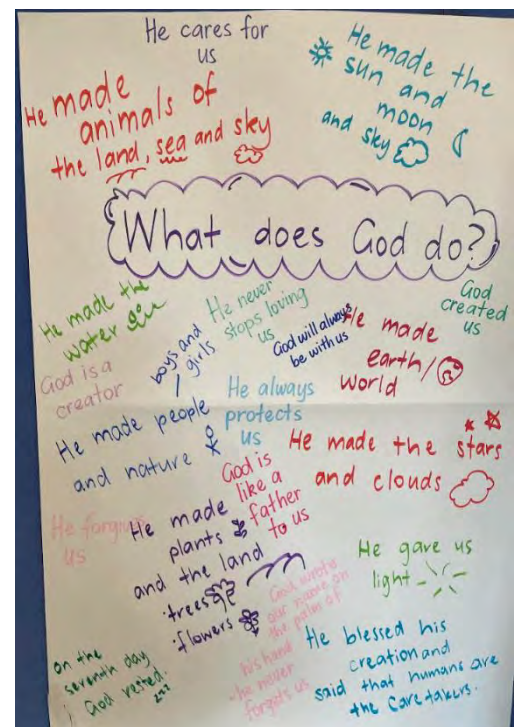


In Religious Education this term we have been exploring the Overarching Question:

So far, to explore this big question, we have looked at two inquiry questions:

A circular collage representing Earth, featuring various cutouts of animals, plants, and people on a blue background, surrounded by a green border with a yellow sun and a white moon.

After discussing and analysing both pieces of Scripture through storytelling, we came up with many ideas - God is a Creator and God is our Father.

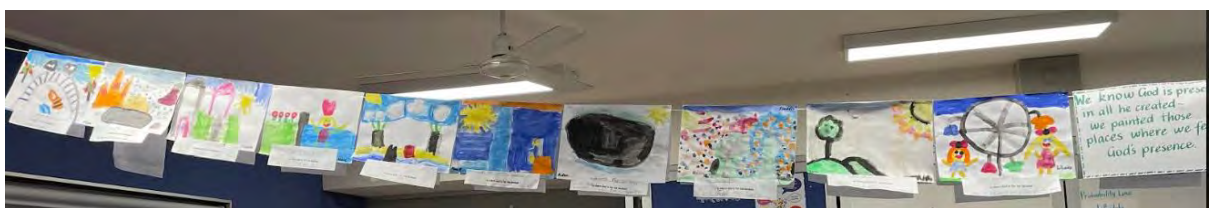
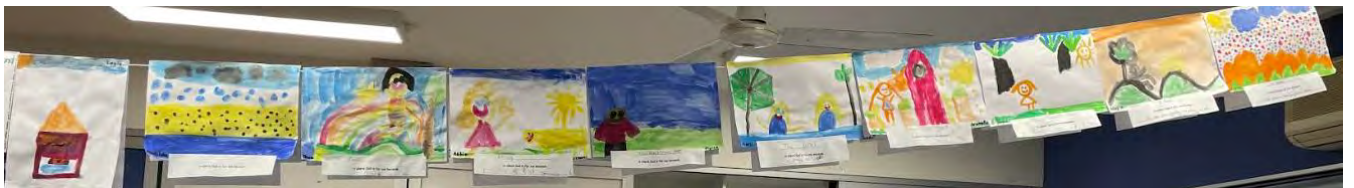




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## Where is God?

We have been exploring that God is present in all that he has created. We thought about the places where we feel closest to God and why we like to be there.





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## English:

In Shared Reading this week we are looking at the features of an information text. We have incorporated this into our play pods where the children are using factual information. The play pod includes classifying natural and human-made places, a recycling centre to show how we care for the beach and other environments and a station to enhance fine motor skills. During writing this term, the students will choose a place of interest in Australia and will collect information about that place. They will then use their learned knowledge and skills to produce an information report on that place.





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We continue to challenge ourselves in Spelling. This term we have looked at nine different consonant digraphs. Year 1 can let you know that a digraph is a new sound that is made by two letters.

We start by doing a dictation and then have a look at the graphemes (what the letters look like) in different ways:

- we read a picture book and look for the words with the graphemes
- we look for words in the environment and in books
- we look at how we can remember to spell the words
- we play some games
- we do the dictation again and see if we have improved.

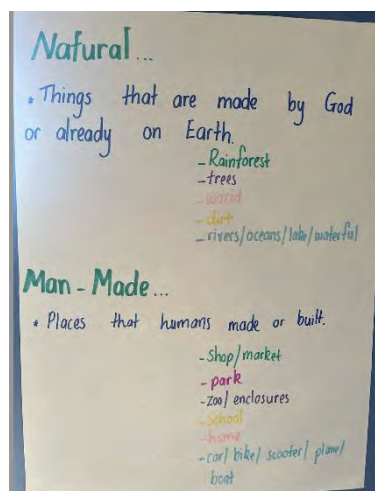
Consonant Digraphs				
ph	wh	sh	ch	th
Joseph elephant	when where white which what why	she shimmering shiny ambush shaking show shop	chasing Chase beach chair Charli chocolate Christmas chicken	the with then they other thunder them thinks Seth
ng	ck	wr	kn	
swing dancing strong long munching wrong walking clearing song swaying playing everything swing	truck sock neck buckled cricket picked stuck rocks quack back lock	wrap write wrong wrist	knee know knees knife knew	



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## Geography:

This term we have been learning about the Features of Places, the connections people have with places and how they can be cared for. Through shared reading we have been exploring a text called "Are We There Yet" written by Alison Leister which links back to our unit. The book follows a family of five as they travel from their hometown in rural Victoria around the whole coastline of Australia. They visit the top landmarks both natural and human-made that Australia has to offer. We have all been able to make connections and contribute to exciting discussions on the features of particular places.



We look forward to continuing our exciting journey of learning together in Year One in Term Three!

Have a great week!

**From The Year One Team**

**Mrs Carole Day, Miss Jessica Prior and Mrs Megan Mann**



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## ATHLETIC CARNIVAL ROUNDUP

Students of Our Lady of the Way had a fantastic day of competition last Friday at our annual Athletics Carnival. It was a competition between the four House Colours, Bede (Blue), Benjamin (Red), Manning (Green) and Clark (Gold). Students gained points for their house by placing in events, both competitive and novelty and by showing great sportsmanship and following the school's expected behaviours on the day.

Our Year 6 Sport Leaders thoroughly enjoyed leading their house with their encouraging chants. Chants that they had meticulously prepared prior to the day. They showed great sportsmanship and leadership. Their energy and enthusiasm were palpable.

Of course, the day would not have been possible without the selfless help of many of our parents. The day ran smoothly thanks to their commitment to the whole school community. Thank you very much.

The winning house will be announced at this Friday's assembly and students will be informed of results regarding attendance to the Zone Athletics Carnival in due course.

The CSPD Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival will be held on 9th August, 2023.





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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARENTS & FRIENDS TERM 2 MEETING

Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm  
Hope to see you there!



### REMINDER

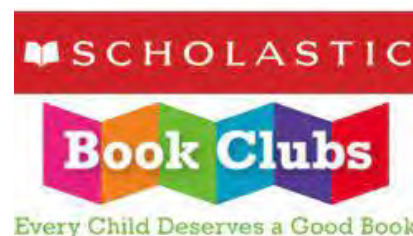
This Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June everyone is invited to wear something yellow to help brighten our day and to show our support for the First Nations Children.

**WEAR  
YELLOW  
DAY**

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB BROCHURES

Scholastic Book Club brochures are being distributed to students today.

*Closing date for Issue 4 2023 is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June.*





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## OUR LADY OF THE WAY CALENDAR

### TERM 2

Date	Day	Time	Event	
May 27 – June 4			Reconciliation Week	
May 31	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Preparation Session 3	
Jun 2	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 2	Fri	09:00-09:30am	Year Kindergarten and Year 5 Parish Mass	Our Lady of the Way Church
Jun 2	Fri	All Day	Reconciliation Celebration	Mufti Day – Wear Yellow
Jun 5	Mon	09:00-09:45am	Principal/Parent Chat	Our Lady of the Way Hall
Jun 7	Wed		Scholastic Book Club	Closing date for orders
Jun 7	Wed		Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day	
Jun 7	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Preparation Session 4	
Jun 9	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 9	Fri	09:00-09:30am	Year 3 Parish Mass	Our Lady of the Way Church
Jun 13	Tue	10:00-10:45am	Reconciliation for Eucharist children	
Jun 14	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Rehearsal	
Jun 16	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 16	Fri	09:00-09:30am	Year 1 and Year 6 Parish Mass	Our Lady of the Way Church
Jun 17	Sat	03:30-04:30pm	Sacrament of First Holy Communion	Our Lady of the Way Church
Jun 18	Sun	08:00-09:00am 09:30-10:30am	Sacrament of First Holy Communion	Our Lady of the Way Church
Jun 21	Wed	06:30pm	Term 2 Parents & Friends Meeting	All Welcome
Jun 23	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 23	Fri		St Vincent DePaul Mufti Day	Mufti with Beanie and or Scarf Donation via QKR
Jun 27	Tue	All Day	Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer Gala	
Jun 30	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 30			Last Day of Term 2	

### TERM 3

Date	Day	Time	Event	
July 2-July 10		All Week	NAIDOC Week	
July 17	Mon		Staff Development Day	
July 26	Wed	All Day	Year 2 Excursion Sydney Zoo	Year 2
July 27	Thu	Afternoon	Anti Bullying Positive Behaviour	Kinder – Year 6 Hall
July 28	Fri		Stage 3 Boys/Girls Touch Footy	
Aug 9	Wed		CSPD Nepean Zone Athletics	

### TERM 4

Date	Day	Time	Event	
Oct 9	Mon		Staff Development Day	
Oct 10	Tue		Staff Development Day	