



Our Lady of the Way Primary School

17 Troy Street, Emu Plains NSW 2750

Phone: (02) 4735 1930

Email: OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au

Web: <http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au>



Parent Communication Term 2 Week 2 May 3rd 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We have had a fantastic start to Term 2! The students have returned well rested and ready to learn.

It's been affirming to see a lot of the hard work done in Term 1 starting to make a real difference at Our Lady of The Way. The staff are getting used to one of my favourite statements, "There's no choose your own adventure". We are working hard to create consistency across the school in everything that we do. We have a lot more work to do in many areas of the school, but we are seeing a difference.

One of the most visible changes this term has been made to our student management framework, Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L). As staff, we are ensuring a positive school culture, that is built on the understanding that we have behaviour expectations for all and when these expectations are not met, students will be accountable for their choices.

For the vast majority of our students, it is business as usual with the added bonus of increased personalised recognition for following the school's expectations. Our Reflection Room is a significant change for students; providing students with the opportunity to own their behaviour choices and make steps to change how they behave at school. For parents and carers, the immediate flow of information home regarding their child's inappropriate choices and associated reflections is done to:

- A. Inform parents of their child's actions at school and the impact on others.
- B. Provide parents and carers with an opportunity to discuss their child's behaviour choices and their personal expectations with their child.
- C. The opportunity for families to apply consequences at home that support the school.

We know that great learning occurs when students are accountable for their behaviour. Central to this is our goal to create a positive school environment for all students.

Communication with Staff

Having clear well-defined channels of communication are important. Part of this is defining how and when parents and carers can communicate with staff. These boundaries are highly valued by staff and mean requests can be managed as efficiently as possible. We have a responsibility to be available to parents to support the education of their children, but this should occur within set boundaries.

My expectations to staff are that they must be available to meet parents' requests in a timely manner. This means that timeframes are flexible depending on the nature of the enquiry. Teachers have many conflicting things to do, meaning that time is limited. Their primary role is to educate students, and this takes a lot of time outside of the regular school time. For example, I don't know any teacher who stops working at 3pm.



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To support this expectation parents are asked to follow these guidelines.

1. Meeting with Teachers

Meeting with teachers should be planned. This means that they are booked ahead of time. Showing up on a morning and expecting a meeting is not fair given teachers need to organise learning for the whole class and often have other meetings to attend. Additionally, talking to staff whilst they are supervising students is unfair and unsafe given that the staff members are then distracted from their primary supervising responsibility. All requests for a meeting should go through the school office via a phone call or email with a short explanation as to what the meeting is for.

2. Meeting with School Leadership

Leadership Team members are available to meet with parents, but only after the class teacher has been given the opportunity to attend to the issue at hand. This process eliminates the need to double hand requests.

3. Phone Calls to staff

Phone calls to staff should be directed through the school office. Staff will endeavour to call back as soon as possible. All messages should include a short explanation as to what the meeting is for.

4. Emails to Staff

We are in the process of turning the class specific emails off. This means they are not being monitored daily. Parents and carers are advised that all emails should be directed to the school email address olow@parra.catholic.edu.au where they will be passed on to the most relevant staff member.

Staff are not available to answer parent requests outside of regular school hours. This is an invasion of their family time and protected under the current Enterprise Agreement. All student specific communication should occur with one of the class teachers. Teacher's Aids are available to answer organisational questions, but they are not responsible for the education of students. Their role is to take direction from teachers to support their work.

Communication Flow Chart

We have established a new Leadership Team structure at Our Lady of The Way. This was communicated to the community last week. Parents are advised that if your enquiry needs to go further than the class teacher you should follow this flowchart.

1. Initial conversation with the class teacher
2. Further clarification required; contact the appropriate Instructional Leader.
Infants - Mrs Curry
Primary - Mrs Hamilton
3. Issue not resolved contact the Assistant Principal, Ms Ruff.
4. Further clarification required contact the Principal, Mr Kapitanow.



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Any enquiries related to **Religious Education** can be directed to Mrs Day where this does not relate to normal class teaching.

Any **Sport** related enquiries can be directed to Mrs Bunter where this does not relate to normal class teaching.

Staff Professional Development

Staff are currently completing mandatory training set by CSPD. Last week staff completed Safeguarding Professional Training. This training equips staff with the knowledge necessary to ensure students are safe and having the knowledge necessary to when matters of harm need to be reported to the Principal or various government departments including Family and Community Services and the Police.

Staff are also completing mandatory First Aid training. This is a basic First Aid course designed to ensure staff can manage incidents where students may be injured.

Desk Audit

We received our four-week notification informing the school that we have been selected for our annual Desk Audit. Desk audit is the compliance mechanism used by CSPD to ensure we comply with NESA expectations. In two weeks, we will be informed of which grades documentation will be fully audited for a number of Key Learning Areas. Additionally, we are required to supply whole school documentation including timetables, policies, and various additional data sets.

Regards
Mr Phillip Kapitanow
Principal



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Mother's Day Liturgy and Morning Tea

On Friday May 12, we invite all our mothers, grandmothers and those who are like mothers to us, to join us for a Mother's Day Liturgy followed by a morning tea picnic.

The Liturgy will begin at 10:15am. Afterwards you will have the opportunity to share a picnic with your child(ren) and other family members.

The teachers and students of Kindergarten will be leading the Mother's Day Liturgy. We are very much looking forward to you joining us for this celebration.

ANZAC Day Liturgy

Last Wednesday, our school community paused to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of their country during an ANZAC Day Liturgy. Many of our Student Representative Councillors helped to lead the liturgy. Lest we forget.





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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:

Year 4 - Friday May 5 @ 9:00am

Year 2 - Friday May 19 @ 9:00am

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

Sunday Parish Mass

A note was sent home last week with students who are interested in leading various aspects of the 9:30am Sunday Parish Mass.

The 2 dates for Mass are:

May 21 - Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 students are invited.

June 25 - Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 students are invited.

If your child brought home a note and you are happy to support them in attending either of these masses, could you please return the note for your child to place in their classroom office bag by tomorrow, Thursday May 4.

Mrs Carole Day
Religious Education Coordinator



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NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten has had a great start to term 2. We have come back refreshed and ready to learn.

We started week 1 showing our OLOW expected behaviours and because of this we received a **WHOLE CLASS Merit award** from Mrs. Curry. We were so excited! Our teachers are very proud of the way we have been following instructions and showing our 5 L's of listening. We have also been trying our absolute best to collect emu tokens and trade them in for a personal or class reward. We have collected so many that we ran out of tokens on Tuesday morning.





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GENERAL NEWS



Please read the following links from Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese

- Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd – Bullying of Students – Prevention and Response Procedure [link](#)
- Standard 1 – Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture. AIM – Organisations prioritise child safety in what they say and do [link](#)



Scholastic Book Order Forms went home this week. The closing date for this edition will be Wednesday May 10th.



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Our Lady of the Way Primary School Emu Plains Kindergarten Enrolments 2024

Last term we commenced our interviews for Kindergarten 2024 enrolments and the first round of acceptances have been sent out. We will continue our interviews over the next two weeks and will be sending out our second round of acceptances once these are completed.

This year there has been a very keen interest in enrolments for Kindergarten 2024 and we encourage family and friends wishing to enrol their child to submit their enrolment forms as soon as possible to secure their child's place for 2024.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au> or picked up from the school office. Once you have completed the forms and returned them to the school office with the required documentation, we will arrange an interview for you and your child.

If you would like any further information, please feel free to contact the school office on 4777 7200.



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BLUE MOUNTAINS MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

THE NEXT GENERATION
SCHOOL of ROCK
THE MUSICAL

Based on the Paramount movie written by Mike White
Book by Julian Fellowes | Lyrics by Glenn Slater | Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

20TH MAY - 4TH JUNE 2023
BLUE MOUNTAINS THEATRE



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BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN THEATRICAL ON BEHALF OF THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP LIMITED



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PARENT AND FRIENDS UPDATE



Mother's Day

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mother's Day is just over a week away and the Our Lady of the Way P&F will be holding our annual Mother's Day stall.

This year the **Mother's Day Stall will be held on Wednesday the 10th March.**

The stall will run very much the same as every year, each grade invited to the hall throughout the morning to select gifts for the special women in their lives. It will once again be a cashless stall.

So what does this mean for you and your child?

1. On **Tuesday the 9th May** each child will come home with a note that will allow parents/carers to nominate a maximum amount their child is to spend.
2. This note is to return to the school with their child on **Wednesday the 10th May (Stall Day).**
3. The children will attend the stall to select their gift/s.
4. The children will be able to take their gift/s home, along with the form indicating how much your child spent.
5. Parent/carers are then asked to use **the QKR app** to pay.

The OLOW P&F are very excited to be able to hold this special event for our children. It is a very exciting day for them!

To help the stall run smoothly we will be asking for volunteers, please keep an eye on the OLOW P&F Facebook pages and year groups for the form.

These special days for the children can only happen with your help! Thank you in advance!

Our Lady of the Way Parents and Friends Committee



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Spoil mum this Mother's Day!

Our Mother's Day raffle is now available on Qkr! under fundraiser.

All funds raised will be going back into the school.

3 x Beauty Baskets with over \$400 worth of products in each
A voucher for a leather handbag made in Italy with Mix and Match straps kindly
donated by Roodle.

4 x \$50 Vouchers to Lewers Cafe kindly donated
30min massage gift voucher valued at \$60 donated by soothing Care Massage
1x quirky planters all planted up donated by Emu Florist
1x flower arrangement both donated by Emu Florist

The raffle will be drawn at the Mother's Day Liturgy on **Friday morning** so make sure
you get your tickets through QKR by the end of the day **Thursday the 11th May!**

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.



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OUR LADY OF THE WAY CALENDAR

TERM 2

Date	Day	Time	Event	
May 5	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
May 5	Fri	09:00-09:30am	Year 4 Parish Mass	Our Lady of the Way Church
May 8	Mon		Full Winter Uniform	
May 9	Tue		Mother's Day Stall	Note from P&F to nominate maximum amount to spend
May 10	Wed		Diocesan Cross Country	
May 10	Wed	07:30-08:30pm	Eucharist Information Night	Parents Only – more info to come
May 10	Wed		Mother's Day Stall	Remember to bring your note to the stall
May 11	Thu		Mother's Day Raffle	Last day to pay for raffle tickets
May 12	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
May 12	Fri	10:15am	Mother's Day Liturgy	Followed by BYO morning tea picnic under the Cola
		11:30am-12:00pm	Mother's Day Activity	In your child's classroom
May 12	Fri		Mother's Day Raffle	Will be drawn
May 13	Sat	06:00-07:00pm	Eucharist Blessing	Our Lady of the Way Church
May 14	Sun	08:00-09:00am & 09:30-10:30am	Eucharist Blessing	Our Lady of the Way Church
May 14	Sun		Mother's Day	
May 15	Mon	06:30-07:30pm	Growing Towards Wholeness Program	Years 5 and 6 Parent Session via Zoom – refer Compass Note 21.03.23
May 17	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Preparation Session 1	More info to come
May 18	Thu	08:45-10:45am	Growing Towards Wholeness Program	Year 5 girls
May 18	Thu	11:25-01:25pm	Growing Towards Wholeness Program	Year 5 boys
May 19	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
May 19	Fri		National Walk to School Day	
May 19	Fri	09:00-09:30am	Year 2 Parish Mass	Our Lady of the Way Church
May 24	Wed		Feast of Mary Help of Christians	
May 24	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Preparation Session 2	More info to come
May 25	Thu	08:45-10:45am	Growing Towards Wholeness Program	Year 6 girls
May 25	Thu	11:25-01:25pm	Growing Towards Wholeness Program	Year 6 boys
May 26	Fri	All Day	OLOW Athletics Carnival	
May 28	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
May 30	Tue	11:25am	Ranger James Tours	Year 5 Incursion
May 31	Wed	07:00-08:00pm	Eucharist Preparation Session 3	More info to come
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 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



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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 23	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome
Jun 30	Fri	08:50-09:10am	School Assembly	Cola – All Welcome