



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.ollowemuplains.catholic.edu.au>



Parent Communication Term 2 Week 4 May 17th, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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](#)

POLICY UPDATES

Updated Policies and Procedures

The following whole school policies and procedures have been updated. Parents/ carers are encouraged to read the updated documents and share any feedback via email with the school.

- [Pastoral Care Policy](#) – [Link](#)
- [Bus Code of Conduct](#) - [Link](#)
- [Guidelines for Managing Student behaviour on Buses](#) - [Link](#)
- [Playground Supervision Procedures](#) - [Link](#)



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TELL THEM FROM ME

In the coming weeks we will be inviting our students and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

From Monday 22nd May to Friday 9th June, we invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community, we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at Our Lady of The Way

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You can access the parent survey (20 different languages available) on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

[*Tell Them From Me Survey Link*](#)

GROWING TOWARDS WHOLENESS

Year 5 and 6 parents/carers were invited to attend a Zoom presentation by Catholic Care on Monday night. This was an opportunity for parents/carers to see the personal development presentation that students in years 5 and 6 will experience later this week.

Catholic Care was engaged by the school to provide a professional presentation to students and parents/carers. They have many years of experience in teaching and talking to students about their personal development.

It was affirming to see approximately fifty parents/carers attend the zoom and receive important information to help them navigate their child's development.

ATTENDANCE CONCERNS

With the cooler weather this term there has been a dramatic increase in the number of children arriving late. Since we have commenced Term 2 there have been over 150 students arriving late. This is concerning for our community as a whole and cannot continue, we all need to work together to protect and value learning for all students each day. Punctuality assists children to settle in the morning and reduces interruptions to a class.

There will be rare occasions when children arrive late due to ongoing medical appointments. But generally, the reasons we have been receiving is that families are simply late. This can be distressing for children walking into a class late and not having received the instructions for the beginning of the day. Your child is considered late if they have not arrived at school and ready for class by 8:45am. Children arriving late need to be accompanied to the office by their parents to be signed in by the office staff and collect a 'late note' to hand to their teacher.

The end of the day is also an important time of day for children and their teachers. Teaching and learning continues until the end of the day at which time teachers give out information regarding work that needs to be completed at home and reminders about events happening the next day. It is important that children do not leave school early unless *absolutely necessary*. If you do need to collect your child during school hours, you will need to come to the office and your child will be signed out and called to the office once you arrive at the office. Children will not be called to the office before parents arrive.



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We understand that at times it is difficult, but ask where possible, that parents make appointments outside of school hours. Each time your child is late or leaves early this is recorded as a partial absence and adds to their attendance rate. In the coming weeks families will be notified where either we identify a pattern of lateness or excessive lateness has occurred. The intention of this notification is to highlight individual student absenteeism to families in the hope that this can be addressed.

THE WELLBEING COUNSELLOR

Our Lady of The Way has a dedicated counsellor, Marita Vecchio, onsite four days a week Monday to Thursday.

Wellbeing counselling services provide 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.

All Wellbeing Counsellors in Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) are either psychologists or social workers with appropriate clinical experience.

There are two main elements of wellbeing that a counsellor supports in their work

1. student wellbeing and
2. 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.

An important note about confidentiality - wellbeing counsellors are bound by law to maintain client confidentiality when collecting, recording, storing, disseminating, and disposing of information. Students and parents will be made aware of the limits of confidentiality before counselling begins.

**** Parent, guardian or caregiver **** CSPD counselling service does not act as the primary clinician for students with serious mental health issues, requiring provision of specialist clinical counselling, involvement in family law matters, discipline of students, counselling outside of school hours or premises.

Requests to see the wellbeing counsellor can be made by a parent, student, or school staff. Students aged 14 years and under will need parental consent.

Regards

Mr Phillip Kapitanow

Principal



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Feast of Mary Help of Christians



Next Wednesday, May 24, our school community will celebrate a whole school Mass for the Feast of Mary Help of Christians, the patron of Australia. This will be a Parish Mass commencing at 9:00am and led by the students of Year 4. You are very welcome to attend and share the feast day that is very important to our school community.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal



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 donate via the QKR app. 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.



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Sunday Parish Mass

At this Sunday's 9:30am Parish Mass, some of the children from Kindergarten to Year 3 will be leading the Gospel Procession, Offertory Procession, Prayers of the Faithful and a liturgical movement.

The students have been preparing to lead the Parish community. A note will be sent home to families this Friday with a reminder of the time they are expected to arrive and where they will need to meet Mrs Day.

Mother's Day Liturgy and Morning Tea

It was wonderful to have so many mothers, grandmothers and those who take on the role of mother, with us last Friday.

The children loved having you join them for the liturgy, morning tea and classroom visit.





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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 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

Mrs Carole Day
Religious Education Coordinator

GENERAL NEWS

CLOTHING POOL

It is run by volunteers on a Friday who pick and pack the orders. Our clothing pool has been in great demand, especially with our students needing to be in their winter uniform.

The process is that our volunteers receive the order; picks and packs it. Administration staff email the families that the order is ready for payment and advise of the cost. The payment can be paid via the QKR app (takes 24 hours to be receipted) and the items are sent to your child's classroom or can be paid by EFTPOS at the front office where you can pay and collect your items.

We cannot guarantee that you will receive all the items. At the moment we have a shortage of larger size items.





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DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY

A massive congratulations to Oliver Casey who came 1st in his age group at the Diocesan Cross Country. A big congratulations to Henry Cairns who came 7th in his. Both boys are headed to the State Carnival. A great day was had by all 46 competitors! You all made us feel very proud!





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WINNERS – MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

- 1st Indian Niblock
- 2nd Laura Willoughby
- 3rd Abigail O'Connor
- 4th Koa Johnston
- 5th Mrs McKeown
- 6th Ivy Hayward
- 7th Wilbert Hu
- 8th Ava Jones
- 9th Joshua Kennedy
- 10th Elle Roney
- 11th Isabel Hallam
- 12th Eva Papandreou





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OUR LADY OF THE WAY CALENDAR

TERM 2

Date	Day	Time	Event	
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 22	Mon	09:30-10:30am	Cyber Safety/Bullying Police Presentation	Year 5 & 6 Students
May 24	Wed	09:00	Feast of Mary Help of Christians	All welcome
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	Leonay Oval
May 27 – June 4			Reconciliation Week	
May 30	Tue	11:25am	Ranger James Tours	Year 5 Incursion
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 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 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