

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

Dear Parents,

It was a pleasure to return to work this week starting with the Way of Mercy Liturgy. How fortunate our school community was to share in the presence of Mercy Cross and relics of St Mary MacKillop and St Teresa of Kolkata.



The Gospel reading was where Jesus reminds us that it is no credit to us to show mercy towards and do good needs for those we love. We are called to show mercy towards and be kind to those who are not kind to us. The next line of the Beatitudes tells us this. Our acts of mercy will earn us God's mercy when our time comes.

During the liturgy, we heard from students reflecting on where they have seen the face of God. The face and presence of God is evident all around us. It is glowing in the sea of little faces I have the privilege of witnessing each morning. However, it is especially present in the challenges sent to test us and make our faith stronger. How often do we recognise this as God, present in our lives?

Thank you to Mrs Byrne,

Acting REC, and all others involved in organising this event.

Please refer to the THREE attachments to this Newsletter regarding this special event for the family this Sunday at



Kellyville.

Kindergarten Orientation

Please note that this coming Wednesday morning, we will be welcoming the 2017 Kinder students and their parents. We request that existing parents exit the school grounds and car park area as quickly as possible on this morning, and the following Wednesday morning, to minimise traffic. I thank the P&F in advance for providing morning tea for 2017 Kinder parents.



Dates to Remember

Mon 24 th Oct	Year 6 Maritime Museum Excursion
Wed 26 th Oct	2017 Kindergarten Orientation
Fri 28 th Oct	MUFTI – Samaritan Purse – Gold coin donation; Primary Assembly. Infants Prayer
Tues 1 st Nov	All Saints Day – Whole School Mass
Wed 2 nd Nov	2017 Kindergarten Orientation
Thurs 3 rd Nov	Reading Afternoon – 2.30pm



Mother Teresa's Family Prayer

Heavenly Father,
you have given us the model of life
in the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Help us, O Loving Father,
to make our family another Nazareth
where love, peace and joy reign. May it be deeply
contemplative, intensely Eucharistic,
revived with joy.

Help us to stay together in joy
and sorrow in family prayer.
Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our
families,
especially in their distressing disguise.
May the Eucharistic heart of Jesus
make our hearts humble like his
and help us to carry out our family duties
in a holy way.

May we love one another
as God loves each one of us,
more and more each day,
and forgive each other's faults
as you forgive our sins.
Help us, O Loving Father,
to take whatever you give
and give whatever you take with a big smile.

Immaculate Heart of Mary,
cause of our joy, pray for us.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Holy Guardian Angels,
be always with us,
guide and protect us.

Amen.

Sunday 23rd October 2016: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year C Gospel (Luke 18:9-14)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Gospel Reflection

Some people like just salt on their food and other people like only pepper. Like black and white, salt and pepper seem to be opposites. But some people like them both and use them together, as complements to each other's flavour. The proud Pharisee and the humble sinner seem to be opposites, but they can also be seen as complements as well. The proud Pharisee was able to understand the good things about himself. This gave him confidence to pray in thanksgiving for his blessings. It's good to be thankful for blessings, but Jesus would probably say the proud Pharisee took it a bit too far. Why do you think so? The humble sinner was able to understand the flaws in himself. But still he had the confidence to pray for forgiveness and mercy. It's good to be aware of all your flaws, but a person could take this a bit too far as well. Do you think Jesus wants us to focus only on our sinfulness, and to be obsessed with being an unworthy, 'second-class' citizen? Why or why not? Is it possible to have a healthy pride in your talents, as well as a healthy humility in your place on earth as a servant of God? What would that look like? How would you know when you had achieved such a balance? By the way, which do you like better – salt or pepper? Or do you like them both? Do you see them as opposites or complements? black and white or shades of grey? (© Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart - St Mary's Press)

Help send our Operation Christmas child shoeboxes all over the world.

This year we are participating in 'Operation Christmas Child', to allow our students to experience the gift of giving to those in need. We have been overwhelmed by the support of our OLA community in the way they have supported us with this outreach program. Next Friday 28th October we will be having a mufti day to support the postage of our gifts all over the world. We are asking students to dress in a *'Mish-Mash' style and bring in gold coin or small donation to help us post all of our shoeboxes packed with goodies to send to children all over the world.

*Mish-Mash-Two different styles mixes together.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to all the families who have collected and returned shoeboxes ready to be sent off to Samaritan Purse. We still have shoeboxes available. If you would like to participate in our Christmas outreach program, please contact the office for a shoebox to pack.



Operation Christmas child is all about giving children from poverty or war stricken countries the precious gift of God's unconditional love. We are asking families at OLA to collect a shoebox from the office and fill it with something to wear, something to play with something for school, something to love, something special and something for personal hygiene. The shoebox you pack with your family will very likely be the first gift the child has ever received.

All shoe boxes need to be returned by 4th November 2016 to the office. If you would like to help us with the postage, please include the \$9.00 fee (We have had over 300 boxes go home so there is going to be a lot of postage).

Diocesan Mission Mass

On Friday the 14th of October, we had the opportunity to attend the Diocesan Mission Mass that was held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta. This was a great experience for us because we are part of the Mini Vinnies group that meets every Monday. At Mini Vinnies, we learn all about Mission in our community and internationally. We discuss how we can support others in need and make a difference. Before the Mass, we had the chance to walk around to different stalls set up by schools in the Parramatta Diocese. Then we had a lovely mass that was very eye opening. We were spoken to by a missionary that helps to educate those less fortunate than us in Cambodia. This was an incredible event that we were extremely privileged to participate in. It made us think about how we can help others that are less fortunate than ourselves.

Written by Kaitlin Wagner, Maneesha Gunasekara and Claudia Pacella



NSW PSSA Athletics Championships

Congratulations to Sebastian & Tyler who competed in the NSW PSSA Athletics Championships at Homebush this week. Sebastian placed 17th in the 13yrs 100mtrs and Tyler placed 20th in the 12-13 yrs Discus. Well done boys.



Lunchboxes

Thank you to the parents who have accommodated the request to have the students pack their food into two disposable packages – lunch and afternoon tea- preferably two paper bags.

I understand there is some discontent regarding this and I appreciate those who have voiced their concern. I understand the concern is around 'environmental issues' and it was something that was discussed and taken into consideration. The reality is paper bags are able to break down and be recycled. Every day at school, we throw away numerous hard plastic containers of various sizes. This is in spite of continuous requests to have names on belongings and after waiting days for them to be claimed. You can appreciate that these items do not breakdown as easily as a paper bag. We are hoping that this will be minimised if lunchboxes are limited to being used for bringing lunch to school but not onto the playground. It is also a better arrangement for not having uneaten food sitting outside in the heat as it will remain in the lunch box and in the cool classroom.

That is our reasoning. I hope this provides some clarity around this request.

When the students move into the new spaces, hopefully mid-November, there will be a facility for their lunch boxes inside next to their tote tray. These are limited in size. If you need to purchase a new lunch box for your child, please consider one no bigger than 16cm x 16cm, and as long as you like, to fit into this space below... and, at below right, typically what is on the playground at play time... dangerous and unhealthy.



Punctuality

A reminder that if your child arrives at school after **8.50am**, they must be accompanied by a parent into the office and a late note needs to be signed. These partial absences are recorded and will appear on the end of year reports.

2017

If you know your child will not be returning to OLA in 2017, please notify the office, in writing, as soon as possible.

School Fees

Thank you to all families that have completed paying their school fees for 2016. If you have any fees outstanding, your payment would be appreciated as soon as possible. If you are experiencing any financial difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs La Rocca or Mrs Goldsworthy.

Literacy News

Vocabulary building tips

Perhaps you read nightly to your child or take turns doing so. Of course, this is an excellent way to expand reading and vocabulary skills. However, on occasion, feel free to put the book down and ask your child to create a story to tell you. You may want to provide the setting (a pirate ship, for example) and a problem the characters must face (stranded on a haunted island). Then, let your child take the reigns to wherever his or her imagination leads.

Source: Shawn Greer

Reading is Cool! Reminder!

As part of our drive to raise the image of 'reading is cool', particularly among boys, we are seeking pictures of dads, or any males, reading a book.

This means one picture of dad/grandpa/friend/ etc reading a picture book. If possible, a really good idea is a shot of the person in work dress - ie a policeman in uniform reading.

Words of the Week

Infants- appetite

Primary-stamina

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

Poetry Day – Year 1 Incursion

On Wednesday the 19th of October Year One had a special visit from Cameron Semmens. Cam Semmens is an Australian poet who visits schools and inspires students to write and perform poetry. Throughout the day we learnt how to write and perform different kinds of poems. We had so much fun becoming poets and performing our poems to our friends. The most important thing we have learnt throughout the day was:

“Poetry is the best words in the best order.” Cameron Semmens

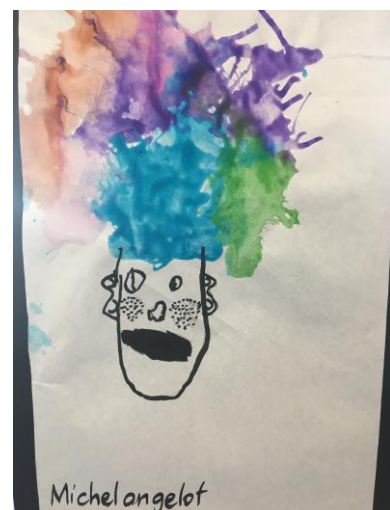
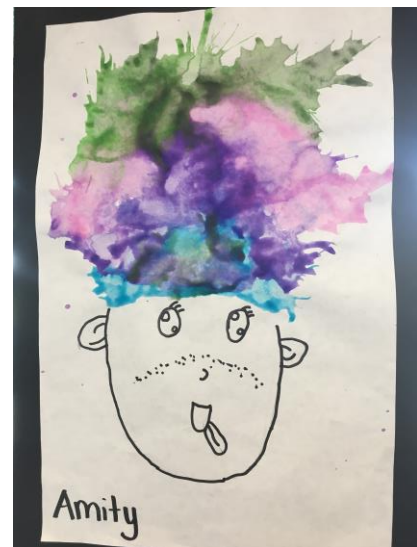


FROM THE CLASSROOM...2B

In Year 2 we have been learning all about push and pull forces. We decided to create artworks using the force of push. The children firstly drew a cartoon face and then they added watered down paint as the hair. To create the blown effect they used straws to push the paint in different directions across the page.



Here are the finished artworks.



SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Thank you for your generous donations of second hand uniforms so far. If you have any items of clothing that you would like to *donate* to the OLA Second Hand Clothing Shop, please send in the *clean* items to the school office in a plastic bag. Items will be on sale later this term.

SPECIAL TREATS ROSTER – Oct 28th : Annemarie Bond, Paula Lopez, Melissa Mileto, Joanne Zahorsky, Prasangi Gunasekara, Melissa Buda. Thank you!



*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*

*** *If you have any ideas or are interested in helping out in any way for any of the upcoming events please email olapfc@gmail.com*

Throughout the year, we have been sending alerts through our Skoolbag app. Some of the different ways we have used this app is to inform of upcoming events or cancellation due to the weather, results from carnivals and gala days, giving updates while students are on excursions and other important information about major events within the school. We have a large portion of the school already using this app.



If you do not have the app it is free to download. To install it, just search for our school name "Our Lady of the Angels Primary Rouse Hill" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store.

There are many benefits to having this app on your device:

- You may select to receive notification for your child's grade only.
- Absentee notes can be completed on this app.
- Access to newsletters and news events linked directly to our school website.
- Instant notification when excursions are postponed, assemblies cancelled due to bad weather, delays during excursions and other important information.

Please ensure that you have updated your settings to receive the correct push notifications. To update this click the "More" button on the bottom right of the app, then "Setup Push Notifications". Turn on the Push categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch. You will receive alerts specific to the selected grade and all alerts sent as a whole school.

From the Parish Office...

Reconciliation - Has your child done their Reconciliation?

Reconciliation for children in Year 2 and older will occur in Term 4. There will be an information night on Thursday, 20 October at 7.30pm.

Bingo!! Saturday, 24th September at 7pm

Get those Bingo markers ready - we have an awesome Bingo Night coming up with a HUGE cash jackpot of \$450.00. Everyone is invited!

R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We are presently inviting any adults who would like to become a Catholic to participate in our formation program leading up to being baptised and received into the Church at Easter.

For more information, contact Shelly on 0421 610 826 or the Parish office at parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

New Altar Servers Training

Beginning Tuesday, 18 October, Fr Warren will be holding a 3 week course for new altar servers at 4pm in the Church. If you have a child who has received their first communion and would be interested, please take a permission slip from the church foyer.

Mass times:

Sat vigil: 5:30pm **Sunday:** 8:30am, 10am & 5.30pm. **Weekdays:** Mon - Sat: 9 am

Confessions:

9:30 am Sat

Baptisms & weddings: By appointment

Parish Priest: Fr Warren Edwards

Assistant Priest: Fr John Rizzo

Parish Secretaries: Geraldine Farrugia and Rose Sultana

Sacrament Co-ordinator: Christine Leahy

Email: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Website: www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Contact information: O.L.A. Parish Office, 1 Wellgate Avenue, Rouse Hill

Ph: 8883 4063 **Fax:** 9629 7603

2017 Team Sport Trials Parramatta Diocese 2017

Information For Parents of current Year 4 and Year 5 students

Please see the attached information on the Sport Trials to take place in 2017. If you wish your child to take part in any of the trials (they must be of representative level), you **MUST** register your expression of interest online. Please ensure that you read all of the instructions as the convenor is very strict about registration etc. Some of the trials will take place this term, so please do not leave it too long.

Congratulations to the Guglielmi family (Aria Yr 5) on the birth of their little girl, Aqua.



*God bless and stay safe.
Eva La Rocca, Principal*

Term 4 Week 2			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Georgia Sourial	Millie MacKereth	Elijah Atkins
Kinder G	Nathan Murphy	Maraya Macario	Addison Del Rosario
Kinder W	Rose Montgomery	Brayden Kingcott	Trinity Oxspring
Year 1 B	Lucas Cleland	Isabella Stein	Julie Bolina
Year 1 W	Georgia Dolahenty	Francesca Topic	Madison Saward
Year 1 G	Charlotte Ives	Hugo Vozzo	Harry Niemiec
Year 2 G	Sienna Jefferies	Jonathan Teo	Amity Oxspring
Year 2 W	Boston Roberts	Ella Dimech	Isobel Clarke
Year 2 B	Amity Galea	Solomon Montgomery	Lily Quinlan