



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 3 Term 1

12th February, 2016

"Blessed are the merciful, for mercy they will find".

Dear Parents,

What an eventful week this has been! Most significantly was Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. The reading from St Paul began with, *"We are all Christ's ambassadors."* Everyone, even new born, came to receive the ashes on their forehead to the words, 'Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel'. I wonder how many went about their day without removing the tell-tale mark. My daughter, who lives and works in NYC commented that she had never noticed so many people in the city with the cross of ash on their foreheads. This is one small sign of ambassadorship. Most importantly is the way we encounter Christ in all we meet. During my last study, I was fortunate to have Bishop Anthony Fisher as a lecturer for one unit and he noted that the thing that sustained the Christian people for over two thousand years was their kindness. As the song goes, *'They will know we are Christians by our love...'* true ambassadors for Christ. What better time is there for actioning this than Lent? Today we celebrated the Opening School Year Mass. This was followed by the SRC Commissioning Ceremony. Congratulations to all these students pictured below. Thank you to Fr Warren, Mrs Byrne for her organisation, for all readers, servers, Geraldine Farrugia on the organ and Mrs Reid and the choir, to all the students, families and friends for sharing in our celebration through prayer and song. How nice is it for the whole school to be able to attend Mass together in the church for these occasions – another first in our history. I share with you the comment I received from a young father as he was leaving the church after Mass, who said, "The students at this school are very well behaved." So very nice to hear! I might add that his two toddlers were also very well behaved and respectful in the church. This is a reminder to everyone that attending Mass and other liturgies, especially in the church, are times of respect and showing reverence. It is not an exhibition of your child and is not appropriate to be waving and calling them. I thank you for modelling the appropriate behaviour to them.



NOTE:

Please be aware there is a very big focus by the Department of Education, and therefore the CEDP, on student absence and late arrival/early departure relating to school hours. Already we have processed over 100 such notes. These are recorded and reflected in your child's school report. Please make sure your child is at school by 8.45am. If you are finding this a challenge, please call the school as we are happy to discuss ways to assist. The first step is to NOT have the TV on in the morning. Also, please avoid taking holidays during the school term as application for Extended Leave may soon be refused. Thank you.

Dates to Remember

TONIGHT!! 6.30pm: Students' disco (in the hall/old church) and parent 'get to know social';
Week 4: Parent Book Talk on Wed 4-5 pm in Yr 3 space.
Week 5: Monday =Hills Zone Swimming; Friday= Dio Swimming carnival
Week 7: MONDAY SCHOOL PHOTOS

PUPIL FREE DAY ON 4TH MARCH - FRIDAY WEEK 6;
THERE IS NO SUPERVISION FOR STUDENTS ON THIS DAY.

This Sunday's Gospel

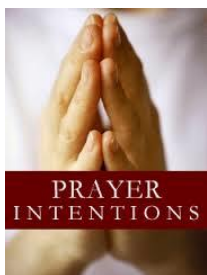
Gospel, *Luke 4:1-13*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert, for forty days being put to the test by the devil. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Human beings live not on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and their splendour, for it has been handed over to me, for me to give it to anyone I choose. Do homage, then, to me, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must do homage to the Lord your God, him alone you must serve.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and set him on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are Son of God,' he said to him, 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He has given his angels orders about you, to guard you, and again: They will carry you in their arms in case you trip over a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted every way of putting him to the test, the devil left him, until the opportune moment.



Reflection: This Sunday's Gospel presents Satan, the great tempter the enemy of God, who is constantly at warfare with God and His people. While Jesus was in the desert, Satan continued to taunt and try and trick Jesus. After forty days of fasting and prayer, Jesus was weak in body, but filled with the Holy Spirit was strong in spirit. Jesus spent His time in the desert with the Holy Scriptures to destroy Satan's scheming and emerge victorious. Today's Gospel clears our doubts about the existence of Satan and his power. Through believing in the name of Jesus, we do not need to fear Jesus, however we still need to remain vigilant through prayer and building our lives through the Word of God. It is our faith and God's love that will help us win the battle against Satan. There is victory in the name of Jesus.



Community Prayer Book

Every morning a red letterbox will be placed outside Kindergarten for our OLA community to post any special prayer intentions for the week. The letterbox will be emptied each morning and intentions will be placed in our community prayer book. The following Monday at the morning assembly, we will pray for those in our OLA community who need our prayers. We ask that you place intentions in an envelope and post in the letterbox. The letterbox will be emptied each morning and intentions will be placed in our community prayer book.

rs Byrne, Acting REC

Please refer to the notices for Parish functions attached with this Newsletter email ...

- **Parish Ball, April 2nd**
- **Road from Rome to Krakow for WYD 2016 (for all ages)**



Project Compassion Boxes

On Wednesday, each family received a Project Compassion box. This is one way you can contribute and help others suffering from poverty during the Lent season. Please return all boxes by the Holy Thursday on the 24th March.

Hail Holy Queen prayer cards

During the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has asked for everyone to reserve a special place of honour for Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Pope Francis has asked Christians to take time each day to prayer the *Salve Regina*, or Hail Holy Queen, as it is commonly known when praying the Rosary. Each family received a Hail Holy Queen prayer card on Wednesday. Throughout Lent, spend some time with Our Lady and ask for her love and guidance through this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Morning Drop-Off

When you are dropping your children off in the morning, could you please vacate the carpark as quickly as possible to allow for parishioners to park for morning mass. Thank you.

WRAPPED WITH LOVE

A few years ago, OLA participated in the Outreach program 'Wrapped with love'. Wrapped with love organises blankets to be distributed to the poor and homeless. As a community, we would like to be able to contribute to 'Wrapped with love' by creating blankets made with love.

How you can help:

- *Knit a square/s
- *Donate knitting needles
- *Donate 8 ply wool
- * Sew the squares together to make the blankets.



If you would like more information or patterns on the blankets, please go to:-

<http://www.wrapwithlove.org/knitting-patterns/>

This term there will be a lunch time knitting club where our senior students will be learning how to knit and creating squares. The more squares we get, the more blankets we can make and contribute to the foundation.

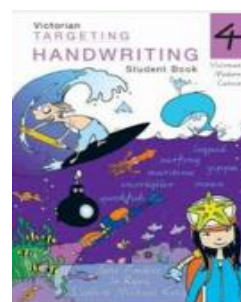
If any parent or grandparent is available on Tuesday lunchtime to help teach the students to knit, we would love to hear from you.

Mrs Byrne

Literacy News

Handwriting Textbook

This year the students will receive a handwriting textbook. Students will have weekly handwriting lessons to assist in developing writing fluency and correct letter formation.



Word of the Week

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Word: splendid | Picture: | |
| Letters: | Vowels: | Consonants: |
| Sentence: | | |
| Syllables: | Rhymes with: | |
| Grade: | | |

Word of the Week

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Word: banish | Picture: |
| Definition: | |
| Sentence: | |
| Origin of the word: | Grade: |

Word of the Week Initiative

This year our school's literacy goal is for all students to use richer vocabulary both orally and in the written form. Each week students will have a rich word introduced to them. There will be an infants and primary word. The word will be studied and used consistently throughout the week. Outside each space, posters will be displayed for all to see.

Parent Information Session-Wednesday 17th February (4-5pm)

All parents are invited to this event. Paul Macdonald, the owner of The Children's Bookshop, is a passionate presenter. He will share with us how to encourage reading for pleasure and great literature to ignite the love of reading. An invitation was emailed to all families this week. Please return to the school office if you are able to join us.

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

Parking Around Schools

Council has a program of parking enforcement which includes all schools in the Hills Shire. Their Compliance Officers are programmed to attend schools in the Shire before and after school to enforce illegal parking to improve the safety around our schools.

All school zone parking offences carry fines and demerit points.

We have attached to this newsletter information about these fines and demerit points, as well as what the common parking signs mean for you.

New Receipts

Any receipts from the new system are now emailed to parents. If you receive an email from t1sys@parra.catholic.edu.au it is a receipt, not a spam email.



P&F NEWS

P&F GENERAL MEETING

All parents welcome

WEDNESDAY February 17th: 7pm - School grounds

No need to RSVP or even speak on the night. We will hear what the P&F (as part of the parent body) have been up to and what is planned for the year. It is also an opportunity to hear from Mrs La Rocca all the wonderful things that will be happening with our children and school. There is also time to discuss any general business items which can be added to the agenda by submitting them to olapfc@gmail.com no later than Tuesday February 15th.

AGENDA

- Positive Behaviours for Learning - Presented by Mrs Jan Schroder
- Report on P&F events since DECEMBER 2015
- Grade contact people
- Mothers' Day Events
- Fundraising
- P&F Event Calendar 2016
- School Jumper / Uniform - Melissa Buda

SPECIAL TREATS

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with Special Treats today.

The roster for next week... Kylie Burt, Mariana Cutuk, Trish Ormsby, Simone Tickell, Rebecca Naidu & Melissa Mileto. Thank you!

** 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 or message via our Facebook page. We look forward to meeting you during the year!



*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*

PARENT HELPERS???

Have you completed your Child Protection for Volunteers Training??

It has been heartening to see how many of our parents, grandparents, etc, have completed the Child Protection Training in anticipation of helping out at school. Whenever this is done, the school is notified by email and the names added go on a register to which we refer when someone wants to come into the school. The list is growing, thank you.

To avoid disappointment, please make sure you have completed this. The URL is:

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/child-protection-training>

This includes helping at school in areas such as gross motor, lunches, reading groups, etc.



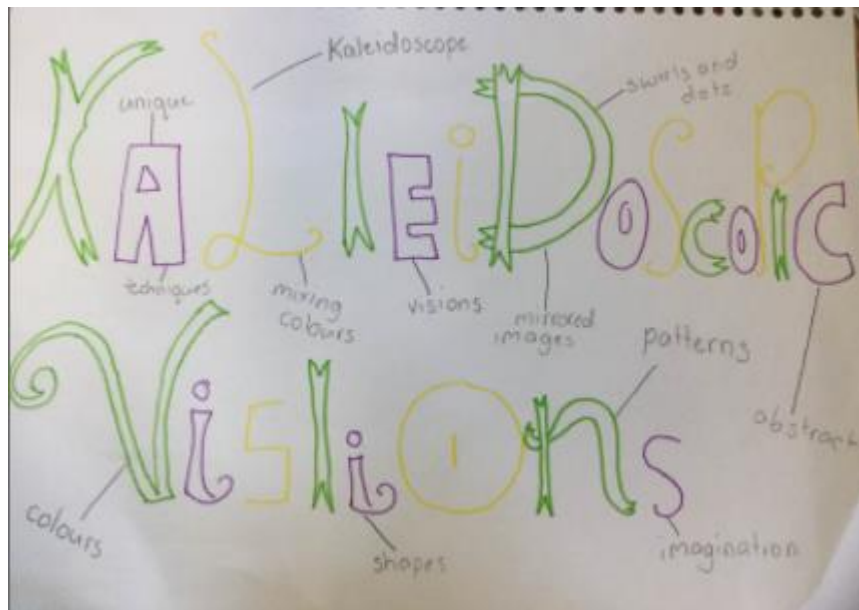
OLA Skoolbag App

We are asking parents to install our Skoolbag School App on to your phone. 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. This is a great way for us to communicate quickly to you, particularly for excursions or assembly cancellations.

The following link <http://www.skoolbag.com.au/app/admin/parentinstructions.pdf> will provide you with information on how to install Skoolbag on your smartphone or Android devices.

FROM THE CLASSROOM 6B

Year Six has been busy taking photographs of different areas of our school for our Visual Arts unit. We are going to be creating a 'Kaleidoscopic Vision' of our school with watercolour pencils. We will investigate various techniques and create our artworks in contrasting colours. We will have a striking display in our classroom by the end of this term.



From the Parish Office...

Sacraments of Initiation

Reconciliation: For Children in Year 2 or older, this Sacrament will take place in Term 4 of 2016. **Information will be sent out to the children in Year 2 at that time.** If you have a child in an older class and you would like them to do their Reconciliation, please collect a form. Notification will be in both the school and Parish newsletters.

First Communion For those Children who have completed their Reconciliation, in 2016 this will take place in June 2016. For those children who were enrolled in the 2015 program of Reconciliation you will receive an email with all the dates of sessions. If you are new to the Parish, please contact Geraldine if you wish to join the 2016 group and have already done Reconciliation.

Confirmation: For children in Year 6 who have completed and received Reconciliation and First Communion, Confirmations will take place in Term 3. **Information will be sent out to the children in Year 6 at that time.**

For any enquiries, please contact Christine Leahy, OLA Sacramental Co-Ordinator at parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday in the Church at 7.00pm.

Lenten Reflection

As Lent is approaching soon, Fr Warren will be presenting a Lenten Reflection every Wednesday night throughout Lent beginning February 17 at 7.30pm. Please advise the Parish office if you would like to join in.

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

Congratulations

to:

Mrs Rizk and her family on the arrival of baby Brendan. We cannot wait to meet him. 😊



What people say about our wonderful school...

"We feel that the teachers and the learning environment that (daughter) has had access to since she started at OLA approx. 12months ago have had a significant influence over the way that she conducts herself outside of school, and that this was a contributing factor to the success that she is seeing. We can't thank the teachers, staff, students and parents of OLA enough for the positive influence that they have on the young lady that (daughter) is turning into." (name provided)

Literacy / Numeracy Hint

Banking and interest rates could be discussed; how budgets work at home and in the workplace.

| Term 1 Week 2 | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Student | Academic Merit Award | St Francis Award | Einstein Award |
| Kinder B | Leah Ocampo | Jack Finch | Isaac Rapa |
| Kinder G | Isaac Meighan | Ashlee Charlton | Blaize McDonald |
| Kinder W | Sybellah Arora | Alonso Buda | Axel Pace |
| Year 1B | Seth Orton | Grace Kim | Nate Clements |
| Year 1G | Zoey Chown | Nicholas Achis | Jett Fiorio |
| Year 1W | Yena Park | Keira Mooney | Pippa Rosano |
| Year 2B | Ben Roffman | Matilda Wallis | Thomas Cutuk |
| Year 2G | Ethan Phelps | Sahara Knipler | Ava Camilleri |
| Year 2W | Emily Lenane | Boston Roberts | Georgia Falzon |
| | | | |

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