



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 3 Term 4

27th October, 2017

"There where you are, God is". St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Dear Parents,

This afternoon we have had the wonderful celebration of the Opening & Blessing of the final stage of our school buildings. Please find below my speech which I would like to share with you all:-

"Bishop Vincent,
Mr Greg Whitby
Father Warren Edwards
Mr Ray Williams
Stacey Dellow- representative of Aboriginal people
Christine Howe and other executive members of CEDP,
Principal colleagues, present and past OLA staff members, parents and other family members viewing this via the live stream and especially the girls and boys that make up the OLA student body, welcome again.

I have great faith in the intervention of the Holy Spirit and I know that the Spirit was at hand when, at the end of 2008, I 'stumbled across' my appointment as foundation principal of this new school. An unbelievable privilege.

In early 2009 with a staff of one, Mrs Katrina Byrne who is now our current REC, and 19 little angels, we took our place at OLOR Kellyville for the year as 'prospective students of the proposed new school'. Again, I'd like to acknowledge the parents of this small group, many of whom are here today. They took a leap of faith into the unknown with only promises and an empty block of land to fuel their hopes for a new school for their children. I believe they will always be the true pioneers of our story.

It was with great delight that we saw our new school open its gates on the 1st of February, 2010. OLA was a lovely new school set amongst burgeoning housing development on one side and rolling green hills with the near distant Blue Mountains to the other. These have slowly disappeared to make way for more housing, high-density housing on our fence line. Enrolments have grown from 19 to over 500, staff from 3 to 37. Over the next six years, we watched the steady progress and completion of the rest of the building project. It was throughout this time and up until recently that the school community shared in many firsts. As a Catholic school, the education of our students is centred on Gospel values and the celebration of our faith. In partnership with our parish priest, Fr Warren, and the extended parish community we shared many such celebrations and liturgies, the most significant being the opening of our beautiful new Church.

Amongst all these wonderful times were the challenges- the pesky plovers, menacing magpies (requiring a couple of early morning magpie shoots), the occasional bush rat and even red bellied black snake on the oval and even in the staff room. These, coupled with other interesting times such as sinking knee deep into mud and wading ankle deep through rising waters, contribute to the colourful tapestry of memories that make up our story so far.

Today we celebrate the official Opening and Blessing of the last of the school buildings. This was only possible as a result of the generous financial support provided by the Catholic Education Parramatta Diocese under the leadership of the Executive Director, Mr Greg Whitby, who solely financed this final stage of the building project. Thank you for making a Catholic Education more accessible for boys and girls from Catholic families in this area.

My congratulations go to Brett Anderson and the team of architects from DeAngeles Taylor. We acknowledge and appreciate you working with and listening to us and your design of our learning spaces is truly conducive to 21st century pedagogy.

My thanks go to the builders, FAL – specifically Anthony Falcone, Michael Siciliano and Anthony Dominello, I would like to acknowledge the on-site foreman, Nick Szaszow. whose first introduction to me was announcing that 'he had to report to the principal each week'. He was a thrilled with that as I was but we soon had that sorted. With the arrival of a second Nick, they took their place as Big Nick and Little Nick respectively. I thank you for your diligence and hard work in getting the job done.

NEWSLETTER

To Mr Mark Desylva, Facilities Officer. Your calm and steady demeanour has helped us through this time of construction. I am particularly grateful for your knack of getting the most 'bang for your buck' and for your sense of humour.

I think you will all agree that we have a beautiful school but none of this bears any significance compared with that which is most precious and most important and that is the people that make up our school community. These are –

the office staff -- in particular Helen Goldsworthy, who has been part of this story from the beginning- there were many early mornings that we could be found at Greys picking up our latest bargains,

-the teaching and support staff- this fabulous group of professional people whose dedication and passion for their work is evidenced in the students' enthusiasm towards their schooling; whose willingness to go to the nth degree if necessary while maintaining a sense of humour is deeply appreciated by all stake holders in this learning community;

- Members of the Leadership Team who over the years have been immensely supportive and without whose help the good work would not have been possible.

-the members of OLA P&F and all the parents whose support and generosity of self and time continues to astound, a true expression of what is legendary about the people of the 'Hills';

-and of course, the students past, present and future– They say 'build the school and the children will come' and they have come, these delightful miniature reflections of God whose growth and development over the year has been a joy in itself to witness. How lucky are we to be enriched by all these members of our community!

Last but not least – Fr Warren – the community you have gathered to become members of this parish since its foundation is truly a credit to you. I know how important it is to you that the school is one with parish so for allowing me to come into the fold and lead this very important component of your parish, I extend a heartfelt 'thank you'. This school community is, indeed, blessed to have our pastor on hand and actively involved in the formation of us all.

I have great faith in the intervention of the Holy Spirit and I know that the Spirit was at hand when, at the end of 2008, I 'stumbled across' my appointment as foundation principal of this new school.

The privileges and pleasures the role has brought surpassed all expectation. I am, indeed, blessed and humbly thank God each day for being part of His plan in this special way. I pray that members of this school community look forward to many more such years ahead as we, people of faith, continue together to seek understanding of His plan for us.

Thank you"



Dates to Remember

Mon 30 th Oct	World Teachers' Day
Thurs 2 nd Nov	Kindy 2018 Orientation 9.15am – 11.00am
Fri 3 rd Nov	Operation Christmas Boxes to be Returned
Mon 6 th Nov	Japanese Students Visiting
Thurs 9 th Nov	Year 4 Market Day
Fri 10 th Nov	Remembrance Day

Gospel Reflection 29th October, 2017 (Mt 22:34-40)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Gospel Reflection

At the same time that young people want more freedom, more rules apply. More freedom just means fewer outside rules. That's because more freedom means more responsibility, and more responsibility means more inside rules – rules that we make for ourselves. For example, the Ten Commandments are outside rules – they tell us exactly what to do. Jesus' two commandments of love are inside rules – they tell us to make rules for ourselves that are motivated by love. Actually, if we make rules for ourselves that are motivated by love, our actions will follow the Ten Commandments, even if we have never heard of the Ten Commandments.

What are some of your school rules and home rules? Are they outside rules or inside rules? If they are outside rules, summarise them with one inside rule. If any of them are inside rules, then give an outside example of how you might follow them.

Would a society work if its only laws were inside rules? Why or why not? How would that affect this country? How would it affect your state, region, town or city?

Saint Augustine is famous for saying, 'Love, and then do what you will.'

How is this quote similar to what Jesus told the lawyer?

What does love of self look like? What does love of God look like? How are those types of love related to love of neighbour?

Do you think that when Jesus said, 'Love your neighbour', he meant just the people on your street, or all people – including strangers, people in faraway countries, and even people at school that you don't get along with? How does that sit with you?

(Liturgyhelp.com © Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart – St Mary's Press)

What's happening in RE @ OLA

Sacrament of Reconciliation

There is no lesson on the 2nd November. The next lesson is on the;

-9th November Lesson 2 for parents and children (Held in classrooms)

-Sacrament of Reconciliation dates (18th, 25th November and 2nd December)

MARKET WEEK –Work for a day for Catholic Mission

To support Catholic Mission, students in each grade will cook or make an item, then set up a display one day during week 5. Students will sell item during both breaks and pack up their shop at the end of the day. Items will cost 20c or 50c. Please check the upcoming newsletters for more information about Market Week.

Operation Christmas Child

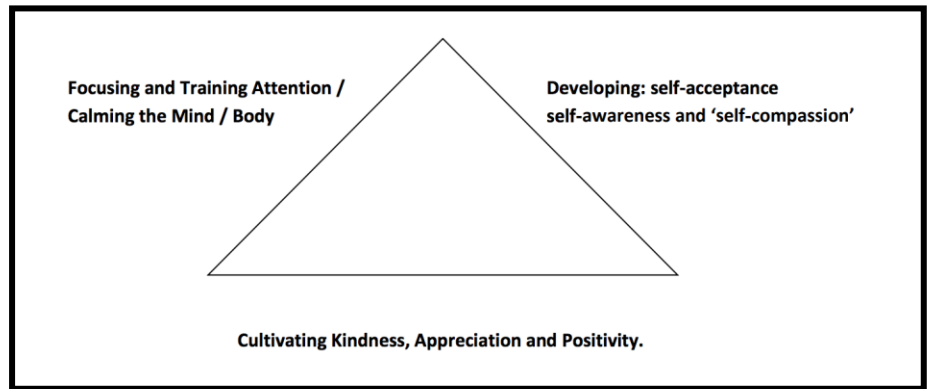
Operation Christmas boxes need to be sent back by the 3rd November.

Please identify if postage has been paid online or add an envelope on the outside with payment for postage.



Mindfulness at OLA

Just as the skill of paying attention and noticing the present moment can be developed, so can an attitude of gratitude. Students can be encouraged to seek ways to be grateful for small everyday acts of kindness, for what's already around them, such as being loved and provided for. As students notice more simple pleasures and surprises in life, the habit of gratitude becomes a benefit of mindfulness practice. As students begin to prepare for their mission project in Religious Education and focus on helping others in need, an appreciation for what they have is naturally developed. What else can we do in day to day activities to develop gratefulness?



Terina Macare

Italian

This term in Italian Year 6 will mark the end of their Italian lessons in primary school by participating in a cooking lesson. This week 6W helped make and eat fresh tagliatelle.

Buon appetito!!



Library Books

We have a lot of library books in need of covering. If you can assist, please contact the office and we will send books and contact home.

PBS4L

Congratulations to the **16** students who received an Archangel award this week!

Sahara, Amelia, Marcus F, Sophia, Roxie, Cody, Paige, Trinity, Caitlyn, Isabella M, Breanna, Beatrice, Isabella S, Marcus B, Nicholas and Max!

Next week, our fortnightly focus for PBS4L changes to waiting quietly in lines. Students are showing respect for themselves and others when they settle quickly and quietly.



From the Parish Office...

All Souls Day Mass

A special mass will be held on All Souls Day, Thursday, 2 November at 7.30pm. If anyone has had a relative recently deceased and would like to be included in the All Souls Day mass offering, please give the details of the deceased (date of birth and death) to Fr Warren by Mon 30 October and we will have a special candle lit for that soul during the mass.

Baptism Seminar

For those members of our Parish who would like to have a child Baptised, there will be a Baptism Seminar this Sunday in the Parish Hall at 11am.

Youth Evening

Inviting all Year 6 students to come along to our Huge Games Night tonight at 7pm. The Youth will be holding some awesome activities. BYO some nibblies. Finishing at 9pm.

First Friday Mass and Adoration

You are invited to come along to Mass and Adoration on Friday, 3rd November at 7pm. There will be a light supper afterwards.

Bingo - will be held in the Hall on Saturday, 18 November from 7pm. Please advise if the office if you are attending.

Parish Christmas Party - Keep free Sunday, 17 December for our Parish Christmas Party. Santa will be visiting.

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

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



P&F NEWS

Thank you for your generous donations of second hand uniforms this year. The uniforms have been sorted and washed. At this stage we have very few sizes 8-12 in stock. 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 as soon as possible.

**SECOND HAND
UNIFORMS
SALE
NEXT
THURSDAY 8.30-
9.30AM**



Thank you to... the ladies who helped with the 2018 Kinder Orientation Morning Tea. It was a lovely morning meeting the new families, chatting over a cuppa! Thank you for giving up your time to welcome the newest members of our OLA community.



NEXT WEDNESDAY..... LAST DAY TO BOOK A SESSION!



*Mel Hayes has offered to extend the time until 6.30pm for Saturday 18th, Sunday 19th, Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th November. This time slot will produce some stunning photos, as the sky provides a **dusty orange** & **pink** background. If you would like the 5.30pm, 6pm or 6.30pm 30-minute session, please send back the form to OLA office with the \$25 booking fee ASAP. You will receive a beautifully presented*

framed image of your family before Christmas. Mel Hayes Photography website:

<http://melhayesphotography.com.au> If you have extended family or friends who would like to take up the offer, please get them to email us at olapfc@gmail.com



**FINAL P&F MEETING FOR 2017
Wednesday November 22nd
at 7pm**

SPECIAL TREATS NOV 3RD: Lee-Ann Wallis, Melanie McKee, Claire Holden, Katrina Mazza, Kylie Ross & Sarah Cleary.



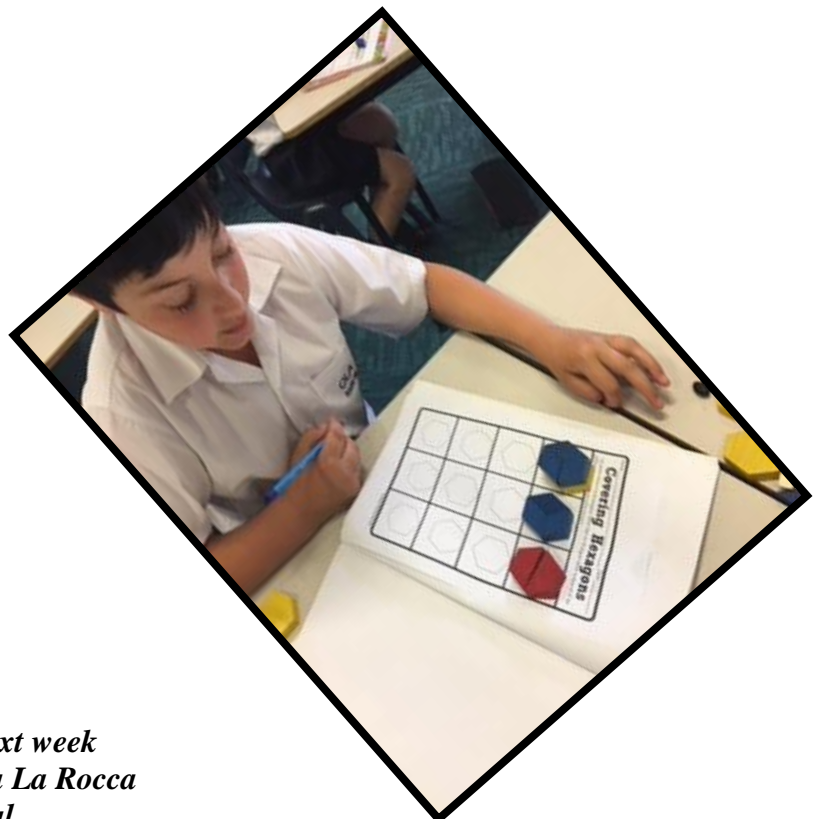
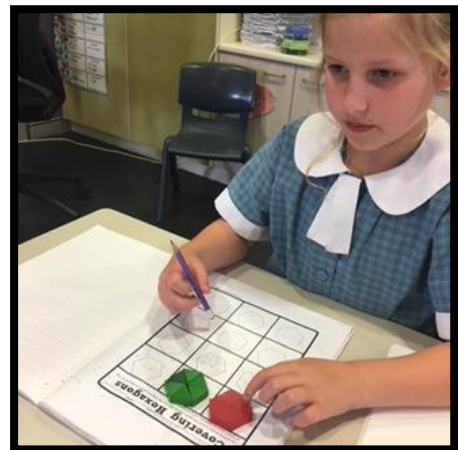
*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*

From the Classroom Of 2G



We have had a
very busy week
in Year 2G
learning about
Fractions!

We have learned how to build
equivalent fractions and identify
the larger of two fractions. We
have also become very clever at
putting fractions on a fraction
number line!



*Until next week
Mrs Eva La Rocca
Principal*



Are you going 'Trick or Treating' for Halloween on Tuesday 31st October, 2017?

NSW Police recommend you do not participate in this activity. However, if you choose to participate, here are some things you should consider:

- Is it safe to take sweets or lollies from strangers?
- Do I know the person whose door I am knocking on?
- Will I get into trouble from police if I play a 'prank' or damage property?
- What if a stranger talks to me?



Remember your safety tips from the NSW Police 'Keeping Me Safe' initiative:

- Safety in numbers! Walk in a group. Never walk alone. Ensure you have adult supervision.
- Hold hands and cross roads at safe locations such as marked crossings and/or traffic light intersections. Don't forget to 'Stop, Look, Listen and Think.'
- Do not take candy, lollies, chocolate from strangers.
- Do not talk to strangers other than the people nominated as 'Safe people' from 'Safe places'
- If you feel unsafe or unsure remember to tell a stranger 'No' 'Stop' and/or 'Go away'

If you would still like to celebrate the occasion, perhaps you could consider celebrating at home.

Police will not tolerate poor behaviour, particularly in public so remember your manners just like every other day of the year.

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Constable Rob Paterson, Youth Liaison Officer from Castle Hill Police. Call 000 if you require immediate assistance or 9680 5399 for Castle Hill Police.

