

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

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

It is not uncommon for parents ask if a school offers a 'Gifted and Talented Program'. In my previous role as Assistant Principal and many other hats including Yr 6 teacher, I was fortunate to be chosen among 45 schools in the inner west region of Sydney to trial Lego Robotics to support learning. I needed to make a decision around which students would be targeted to implement this trial. I decided not to be selective but rather include all students in my class. Interestingly, half the students identified as 'gifted' showed little interest or flair. More importantly, among the students that would have been excluded were those that embraced and extended the program the most. Lesson? We know God has blessed us all with our own talents. All children need to be exposed to a wide range of learning experiences allowing them the opportunity to discover where their strengths lie, for this gift to develop into a talent. At OLA, these opportunities present in the Early Learning in Kinder, Discovery Time in the infants grades and PBL in the older grades. These present opportunities to take their learning further through questioning, collaboration, critical thinking, cooperation and tapping into their creativity to present their findings.

Spelling Bee.

This week we held the inaugural OLA Spelling Bee. When this idea was raised early in the year, I never imagined it would create such a buzz (pardon the pun) with teachers and students embracing it with great enthusiasm. It was certainly an exhibition of the talent in this area that exists among our students. Congratulations to all the students on their participation, to the 12 finalists, but especially our school champion, James Apap (Y3), 2nd Place winner Julia Zammit (Yr3) and 3rd place Matthew Diesto (Y5). It was a long and very close competition, testament to the spelling skills of these students. Special thanks to Mrs Hurst who organised and drove the event and to all the teachers who assisted.

End of Year Christmas Event.

Those of you who have been at OLA for some years will be familiar with the social gathering before the Christmas Concert. This was a casual gathering with 'bring your own snacks and drink' that ran approximately from 5.30pm to 6.15pm. It was during this time that we saw Santa arrive in various means including a helicopter (4 times and once in two choppers) and an Army vehicle. Last year we were spoiled with the P&F providing a sausage sizzle with a visit from Santa following the Carols.



The most significant part of this evening is, of course, the retelling of the Christmas story and the community singing of Carols. With numbers growing, and appreciating the difficulty to get to school early, the Christmas Nativity and Carols will be the main event commencing at 6.30pm. Students will need to be at school by 6.20pm in their designated attire. (Their respective teachers will provide this information). We are hopeful Santa will be able to make a visit as some stage if he can find time in his schedule which is very busy at this time of year. We look forward to seeing many of there to celebrate this special season, the birthday of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

Next Friday, the end of term whole school assembly will be held starting at 2.30pm. This will include the a3 performance by our Year 5/6 stents and the presentation of Principal's Awards.

Dates to Remember		
Week 8:	Mon 27 th Nov	Swim Program Commences for K & Yr 4
	Wed 29 th Nov	Yr 5/6 Sun Surf Program Dee Why - Day 1
	Fri 1 st Dec	Yr 5/6 Sun surf Program Dee Why - Day 2
Week 9:	Mon 4 th Dec	Whole School Assembly, Principal's Award Presentation
	Wed 6 th Dec	Advent Liturgy
	Thurs 7 th Dec	Year 6 Graduation Mass 6.00pm
Week 10:	Mon 11 th Dec	Year 6 Wet-n-Wild
	Wed 13 th Dec	Meet the Teacher for 2018
		Christmas Carols 6.30pm

SUNDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2017: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

GOSPEL REFLECTION

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, and then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'



Gospel Reflection

The eternal destiny of every human being of a certain maturity is determined by decisions made in relation to food and drink for the famished, clothing and housing for those without decent clothing or shelter, visiting those in circumstances which cut them off from life-giving contact with others (the sick and prisoners). Those who provide such assistance, in the words of Pope Francis, touch the wounds of Christ! A Christian can be fully conscious of this, but for non-Christians it is possible to do so without any of our awareness or belief. Christ is *completely* incognito to them: 'When did we ever see you hungry and feed you ...'. We know the doctrine of the Real Presence in the poor and marginalised. Woe betides those of us who ignore this fact of faith. We are on the way to a Hellish state of existence. That is equally possible for those who do not share our faith, but who ignore the plight of the marginalised and continue in a self-absorbed way. We could pause for a moment to pray that we, and many billions of non-Christians, may hear the invitation: 'Come you blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

Literacy News

Literacy News

Words of the Week:

Infants: compile

Primary: imperative

Root Word of the Week: bio- life

Spelling Bee Final

This week we had our first OLA **Spelling Bee Final**. It was an amazing competition where all finalists did themselves proud. Our 2017 'Spelling Bee Champion' was James Apap, second place, Julia Zammit and third, Matthew Diesto.

Congratulations to our Infants' finalists: Lily Haynes, Leah Ocampo and Aidan Attard.

Congratulations to our other Primary finalists: Jamiya De La Cruz, Eva Sultana, Natalie Holopikian, Charli Molloy, Bella Masters, Karl Fischer and Anthony Kamber. We are very proud of your achievements.

We will conduct Spelling Bees again next year as we continue to promote effective strategies to use when spelling unknown words.

A BIG thank you goes to the staff, parents and of course our students who worked hard in learning a variety of words.



Rug Reading

We held our last 'Rug Reading' for the term. Thank you parents for attending these great, school events. We will continue to have these events once a term next year.



Mrs Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

PBS4L

Congratulations to the following students who have received their archangel award this week:-

Tatum Crook, Jayden Ormsby, Kenny King, Georgia Nemitsas, Jade Richardson, Jack Bowden, Abbey Buxton, Max Luther, Lachlan Heaney, Alexandra Tirador, Milla Price, Cohan Sommer and Charlotte Muscat.

PBS4L Archangel Recipients Pizza Lunch!!!

An extra bonus of receiving an Archangel Award is to be invited to a pizza lunch with the principal.

Those students who have received an **Archangel Award** this year will be invited to share a pizza lunch with Mrs Rocca next Thursday!!

There are 175 students who will receive an invitation on Monday!!



Mindfulness at OLA

Mindfulness is based in awareness, but that's not always easy, for kids and adults alike. Being aware of thoughts and feelings takes practise.

IMPORTANT - Change of Details

If you have changed any of your details, particularly your telephone numbers, can you please inform the office. We have found a number of times recently, that we have been unable to contact a parent as we do not have their current phone number.

THOUGHTS are **NOT** FACTS PRACTICE

mindful
mindful.org

When you put some space between you and your reaction, it changes your relationship to your thoughts—you can watch them come and go instead of treating them as matter of fact.

If you're stuck on a negative thought, ask yourself:

1

Is it true?

Often the answer is, "Well, yes." This is the brain initially reacting—the autopilot you live with and believe is you.

2

Is it **absolutely** true?

Is this thought 100% accurate? Can you see the thought in a different way?

3

How does **this thought** make me feel?

Notice any storylines you're holding onto, and name your feelings: *sad, angry, jealous, hurt.*

4

What would things be like if **I didn't hold this belief?**

Imagine possible benefits to your relationships, energy levels, and motivation.

Excerpt from *Uncovering Happiness* by Elisha Goldstein, adapted from *Love What Is* by Byron Katie.



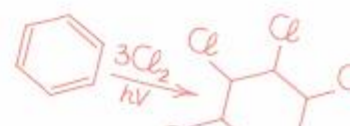
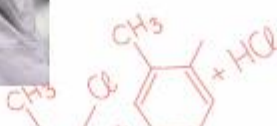
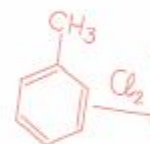
Junior
SCIENCE ACADEMY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY - mq.edu.au/about/holidays

- Children are introduced to science concepts and skills in a safe and supervised environment.
- Courses teach the concepts through experiments, art, drama, physical activity, craft and other hands-on activities.
- Students are provided with experiences and activities that help them to understand a concept or gain knowledge in an active way.
- Courses are added and rotated each school holidays, and drop off and pick-up times are designed for the working parent.
- The Junior Science Academy is for children in Years K-6 in primary school.



Drop off	8.30am – 9.30am
Activities	9.30am – 4.30pm
Pick-up	4.30pm – 5.30pm
Cost	\$122





P&F NEWS

P&F GENERAL MEETING



Thank you to those who joined us at the meeting on Wednesday night. It was quite an informative and productive meeting. To keep 'in the loop' with what is happening or to 'have your say', please consider attending the General Meetings. They are held once per term and last no longer than an hour. We look forward to seeing you in Term 1, 2018 for the next ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.



HELLPPPP.....HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO SANTA YET ?????

We have been trying to contact Santa but can't seem to reach him. We would like him to visit us after the 'School Christmas Carols' on Wednesday December 13th at about 7.30pm for 20 minutes. If you think you can help please contact us ASAP via our FB page on email olapfc@gmail.com

Thank you ☺

SPECIAL TREATS DEC 1st : Jo Gladwell, Christine Zimmermann, Belinda Connellan, Kylie Burt, Mariana Cutuk, Kelly Cleary. *Thank you ☺*

Thank you for your help and support in our school parent community. We can be contacted via email olapfc@gmail.com or via our Facebook page.

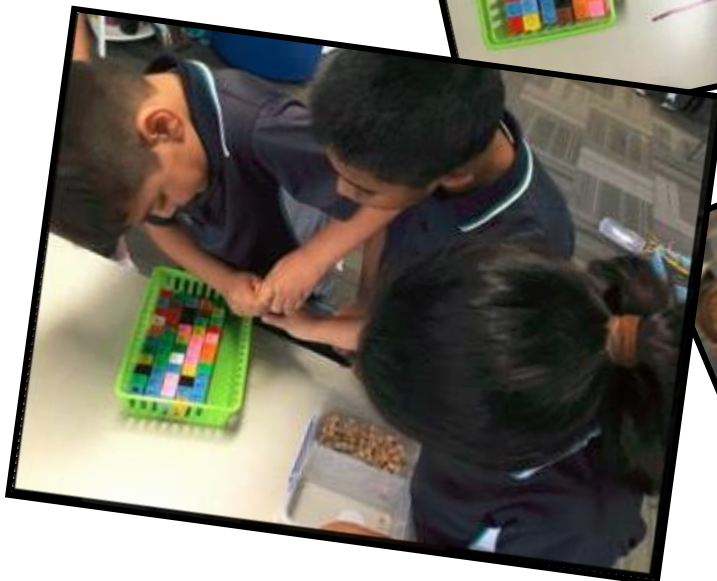
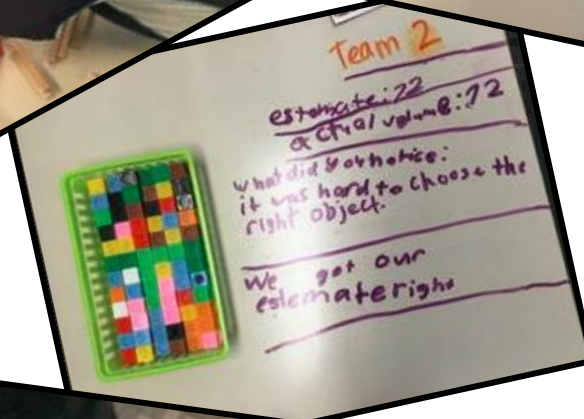
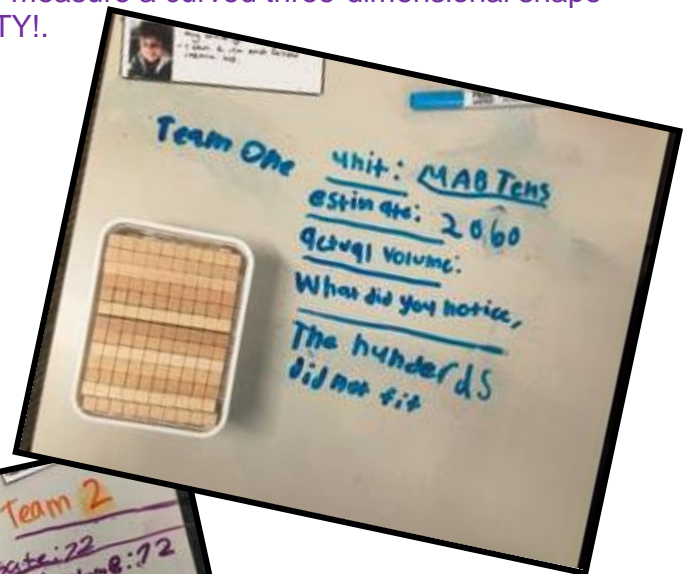
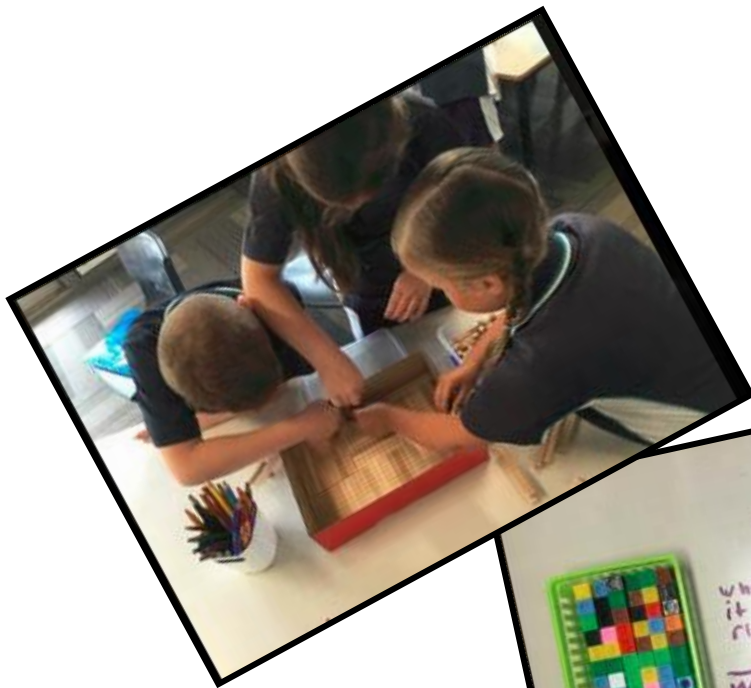


*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*

From the Classroom of 1G

In 1G this week we have been learning about Volume and Capacity in Mathematics. The students were set the challenge to measure the volume of three-dimensional shapes in teams. They had to choose which unit of measurement to use from the mathematics resources and ensure that they measured the inside space otherwise known as the volume of the shape together. They knew from their prior knowledge that to measure accurately there needed to be no gaps and no overlaps when measuring with the informal units.

Some students chose unifix cubes and other students chose MAB ones to measure their shapes. One of the groups received a tea cup shape to measure the volume of. The students realised through trial and error that a curved three-dimensional shape cannot be measure with the same units as the other rectangular prisms could. This was because when using the units chosen there WERE gaps and overlaps. We discovered in order to measure a curved three-dimensional shape accurately we would need another method, CAPACITY!.



From the Parish Office...

Parish Christmas Party - Keep free Sunday, 17 December for our Parish Christmas Party. Santa will be visiting. Please let him know if you are attending so that he can remember to bring your child (ages 0-12) a little gift. Food and drinks for sale.

Reconciliation - Year 2

Congratulations to all the children who are currently doing their First Reconciliation.

Gingerbread House Making

Please contact the office if you are interested in attending this night. Friday, 8 December at 7.00pm. Various shapes Houses, Nativity Scenes, Star Trees etc. Contact the Parish Office for the prices and bookings.

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

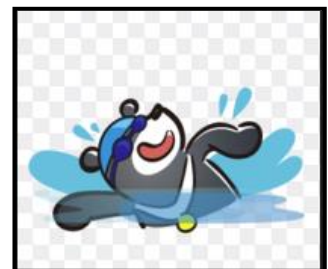
Ph: 8883 4063 **Fax:** 9629 7603

*Until next week
Mrs Eva La Rocca
Principal*

Swim Program starts next week for Kindergarten & Year 4

A few points to remember about our swim program which will start next week:-

- Swimming will be on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- It is a two week program.
- Students can wear their sport clothes on the days they go swimming for ease of getting changed.
- They are to wear their swimmers underneath their sport clothes.
- It is advisable for the girls to wear a one-piece swim suit.
- They need to bring:-
 - Thongs/sandals to wear to and from the pool
 - Towel
 - Change of underwear
 - T-shirt/jacket to wear to and from the pool
 - Rash vests are NOT to be worn as it is an indoor pool.
 - NO parents are to attend the swimming centre during the swim program.



Please make sure that everything is labelled and that your child recognises what he/she is bringing to school. Please understand that it is the children's responsibility to look after their own belongings.