



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 8 Term 4

1st December, 2017

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

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! New Liturgical year, that is.

This Sunday marks the start of the new church year, with the season of Advent. The definition of advent is 'the arrival of a notable person or thing'. There has never been a more special person than, Jesus, our Saviour. Advent is a period of four weeks in which we prepare to celebrate Christmas, Jesus' birthday.

Jesus came into the world to bring hope of eternal life to all people. The purpose of Advent is to awaken all our memories of goodness and open the doors of hope. Just like the Magi, as members of this community, we experience the travelling together, following the light of Christ, symbolised in the Christmas star. Together we share in the experience of Advent as the time of waiting and longing for the dream of God to be fulfilled. Our whole life is spent this way, working to build God's Kingdom of love and justice.



Congratulations to this term's Principal Award recipients.

These students have been recognised as outstanding on a number of levels. I look forward to spending time with them at the Principal's Morning Tea next Wednesday. (There are two recipients for Y4B due to an oversight last term)

Olivia Medjumurac, Elizabeth McKee, Kyra Heaney, Milana Buda, Isaak Blye, William Harvey, Logan Cleary, Olivia Cutajar, Alexandra Tirador, Mitchell Ross, Celina Wassef, Emma Cleary, Andre Dabit, Anneliese Gutwenger, Amelia Novelli, Jericho Cirera, Ashton Galea, Brandee Yeow, Nicholas Zahorsky, Sadie O'Neill and George Kausei.



NEWSLETTER

Week 9: Mon 4th Dec
Wed 6th Dec
Thurs 7th Dec
Week 10: Mon 11th Dec

Wed 13th Dec
Thurs 14th Dec
Fri 15th Dec

Dates to Remember

Advent Liturgy
Year 6 Graduation Mass 6.00pm
Year 6 Wet-n-Wild
Meet the Teacher for 2018
Last day of trading for Uniform Shop (please see note
Further in the newsletter)
Christmas Carols 6.30pm
End of Year Mass 9.00am
Motiv8 Fun Day for all students
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2017

Gospel Reflection Term 4 Week 9-First Sunday of Advent-Year B

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:33-37)

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



Reflection

By the time the Church begins to celebrate Advent as a period of preparation towards Christmas, the stores have been filling with Christmas paraphernalia for weeks. It starts out small with a few decorations and wrapping paper and eventually takes over every retail outlet. In the midst of this excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. It is important to stay awake, as we are cautioned in this week's Gospel. Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us. (Liturgyhelp.com Greg Sunter 1/12/2017)

What's happening in RE @ OLA

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please keep in your prayers our OLA Year 2 students who have been preparing for their Sacrament of Reconciliation. They will be receiving their First Reconciliation over the next couple of weeks.

CHRISTMAS @ OLA



This year, OLA will be presenting the Nativity Story and Christmas Carols at our annual Christmas Celebration. The Christmas Story will be presented in the Church starting at 6pm. Children attending will be sitting with their class, so they are able to perform their Christmas Carol. Your child will be notified next week, if they have a specific role in the Nativity play. Students who have a main part in the Nativity story will be supplied with most of their costume for the night.

Blessing for the children

Forgiving Father,

You are with these children as they begin their journey to your forgiveness. Open their ears, minds, and hearts to the teaching of your Son. Fill them with the Spirit of love, peace, joy, and kindness.

Amen



Literacy News

Words of the Week:

Infants: partially

Root Word of the Week: **cardio-** heart

Primary: residue

Holiday Tips for Parents-Avoiding the Summer Slide in Reading

Many children, especially struggling readers, forget some of what they've learned or slip out of practice during the summer months. Try these strategies to help your reader improve her reading during the summer and beyond:

1. **Six books to summer success:** Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right — not too hard and not too easy. Take advantage of your **local library**. Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. Libraries often run summer reading programs that motivate kids to read, so find out what's available in your area. Also check our **book lists** for recommendations.
2. **Read something every day:** Encourage your child to take advantage of every **opportunity** to read. Find them throughout the day:
 1. *Morning:* The newspaper — even if it is just the comics or today's weather.
 2. *Daytime:* Schedules, TV guides, magazines, online resources, etc. For example, if your daughter likes the food channel, help her look for a recipe on the network's Web site — then cook it together for more reading practice.
 3. *Evening:* End the day by having your child read to you from the book he is currently reading (one of the six books, above). Have him rehearse a paragraph, page, or chapter before reading to you. Rereading will help him be more fluent — able to read at an appropriate speed, correctly, and with nice expression.
3. **Keep reading aloud:** Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so she will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase her knowledge and expand her experience with text, so that she will do better when she reads on her own.

It's hard to keep up a reading routine in a season packed with distractions and diversions. These suggestions will fit into a busy schedule and make reading fun!

Source:

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/developing-reading-skills/three-ways-to-prevent-summer-slide>

Mrs Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

PBS4L

Congratulations to the following students who received an Archangel award this week:- Raymon Chayban, Denison Cu, Ethan Tierney, Akeesha Gunasekara, Cameron Muscat, Ileesha Gunasekara, Charlie Mileto, Georgia Dolahenty, Blaize McDonald, Brendan Ewer, Logan Hayden, Jayden Thornton, Mikalya Edwards, Isaac Castellan, Lily Trimboli and Grace Kim.

Yesterday we had our pizza lunch for all of our Archangel recipients for the year. WOW!! What a crowd - pizza for 176 students.

We are continuing to focus on lining up quickly and quietly. There has been a massive improvement this week which means students are getting into class quickly. :)



SURF'S UP!

This week, Year 5 and 6 had the opportunity to participate in two surf education days at Dee Why Beach. After braving the cooler conditions of Monday, the children were rewarded with sunshine and warmer waters on Wednesday. Across both days, the children participated in a variety of surf activities including; board paddling skills, board rescue and safe swimming at both the rock pool and in the surf.

For many students, it was their first time experiencing these types of activities and they did so with courage and enthusiasm, under the expertise of a team of trained life guards.

Congratulations to all of the student for their eager participation and excellent behaviour. A big THANK YOU to the wonderful mums who drove to Dee Why on both days to feed our hungry troupe of surf kids!



Gymnastics Competition

Last Thursday 12 students attended the 2017 Gymnastics competition. There were over 150 students competing from schools within the Parramatta Diocese. The girls had a fantastic day and showed great sportsmanship. Congratulations to all the girls on their wonderful performance! Their combined scores resulted in OLA finishing second in the small team division. A special congratulations to Jasmyn Robertson and Sadie O'Neill who finished 2nd and 3rd in the individual all-round event.

I would like to thank all the students who trained for the competition. Although not all students were able to attend on the day, OLA appreciates your hard work and dedication.
Miss Marchant

Ooh nice jump!

On the 23rd of November around 9 kids from our school represented Our Lady of the Angels in the Gymnastics Competition at SGAC Rooty Hill Gymnastics Complex. 17 schools participated and they all did amazing and we can't wait for next year. We were lucky to have Jasmyn Robertson come 2nd overall and Sadie O'Neill come 3rd overall. We would like to thank Miss Marchant for coaching and supporting us through our ups and downs. We would also like to thank Dance Fever for letting us use their equipment to practise each week and get ready for the competition.

We had an amazing day and can't wait for next year!

By Eva, Marissa, Sienna M in Year 4

Last Thursday we went to the gymnastics center at Rooty Hill to take part in the gymnastics gala day. Our Lady of the Angels was on the blue side of the gym and started with the static routine.

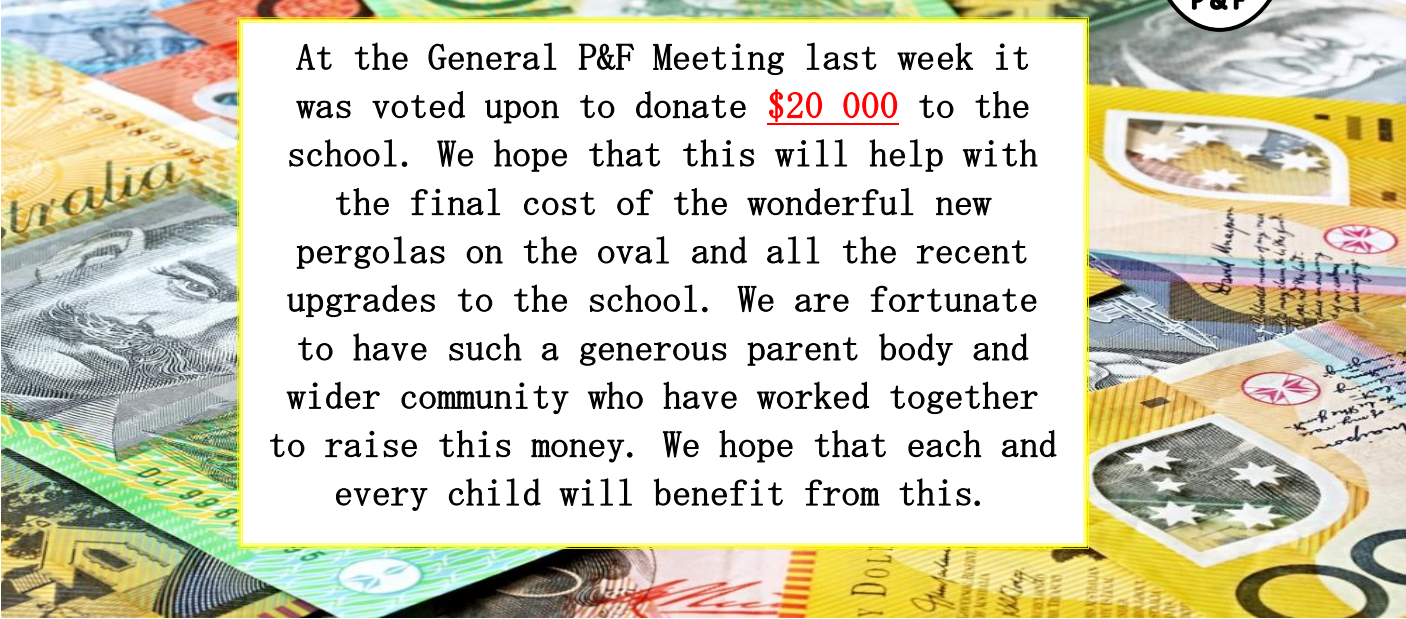
First of all we would like to say a big thank you to Miss Marchant for giving up her time and lunch breaks to prepare us for a day of gymnastics fun. With her, we worked really hard to earn the chance to go and participate in the competition and represent our school. We were proud of the way that everyone behaved and performed on the day.

We would like to congratulate Sadie O'Neill for coming 6th, 5th and overall 3rd, and Jasmyn Robertson who came 2nd, 1st and overall 2nd.

Once again congratulations to all of the girls who participated in the 2017 Gymnastics Gala Day.

By Antonia Manago and Chiara Fallone 6G





At the General P&F Meeting last week it was voted upon to donate **\$20 000** to the school. We hope that this will help with the final cost of the wonderful new pergolas on the oval and all the recent upgrades to the school. We are fortunate to have such a generous parent body and wider community who have worked together to raise this money. We hope that each and every child will benefit from this.



HEELLPPPP.....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

Please be aware that next week will be the final week of Special Treats for the year. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given up their time to come and help out. We have had over 60 keen ladies on the roster this year and in particular we extend a thank you to those who will be leaving us with their Year 6 children. Thank you again and we look forward to Special Treats returning in Term 1 of 2018.

Last weekend we had the first round of 'Mini Family Photo Sessions'. If you follow the P&F Facebook page you would have been WOWED by the amazing shots taken of our families. There has been so much new interest from families who have contacted us to squeeze in a shoot after seeing the sneak peeks. Photos will be ready for collection within the next few weeks! We are thrilled with the feedback so far and once again thank Taryn McGrath and Mel Hayes for their hard work to make this event possible. We hope that this weekend will be just as wonderful!



2017 KINDER PARENTS.... Please keep your eye on your email next week.



We are asking that the 2017 Kinder families host the 'Tea and Tissues Morning Tea' with the P&F on Thursday Feb 1st from 8.45-10am. Please bring a plate and stay for a cuppa to welcome our new Kinder families on their first day.

SPECIAL TREATS DEC 9th : Kellie Owen, Melissa Mileto, Kylie Terzo, Taryn McGrath, Alison Streater, Kylie Ross & Sarah 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.



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.

Banking

Next week will be the last week of banking for 2017.

School Uniform

As the school year is drawing to a close and new uniform will be purchased for next year, please be mindful of the following:-

- **Predominantly WHITE sport shoes should be purchased**, NOT fluoro colours, nor fluoro coloured laces. Please advise your child that this is the school uniform policy.
- Ankle socks are NOT to be worn on sport days. White sport socks that cover the ankle are required.
- Hair is to be neat and tidy, off the collar, of consistent natural colour, of gradual even grade4 and extremes of fashion are to be avoided. Some examples of the styles that are unacceptable include: ridges, undercuts, steps, any excessive shaping with products, and any shaving cuts. Girls' hair that is longer than shoulder length is to be tied back from the face and eyes. Ribbons, hair clips etc should be school colours (Taken from the OLA Parent Handbook).

Uniform Shop – NEXT WEEK ONLY

Next week the uniform shop will be open on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8.20am – 9.30am to assist with the purchase of any uniform items for next year. Orders can still be sent through email and they will be sent home with your child.

The **LAST DAY OF TRADING** for 2017 will be Monday 11th December. **NO ORDERS WILL BE FILLED AFTER THIS DAY** as our stocktake will be held on 12th December.

First day of trading for 2018 is Monday 29th January from 10.00am – 2.00pm. Please note this date in your diary in case you need to purchase anything before school commences.

From the Classroom of Kindergarten

This week Kindergarten have loved swimming lessons. They have learnt about water safety and have enjoyed practising their skills. The bus trip each day has been lots of fun too! We can't wait to go next week again!



Dates for Term 1 2018

Monday 29 th January	Staff return to school Uniform shop will be open from 10.00am – 2.00pm
Tuesday 30 th January	Students Years 1 – 6 return to school
Thursday 1 st February	Kindergarten commence school
Friday 30 th March	Good Friday
Monday 2 nd April	Easter Monday
Monday 9 th April	School Photos
Friday 13 th April	End of Term 1

*Until next week
Mrs Eva La Rocca
Principal*

Term 4 Week 8			
Whole school			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Ella Ciantar	Felicity Gresser	Lucas Richardson
Kinder G	Yianni Tassios	Maddison Kuea Vilila	Riley Niemiec
Kinder W	Sean McKeever	Chloe Bassili	Brandon Ciantar
Year 1B	Abbey Buxton	Luka Vaughan	Jack Austin
Year 1 G	Anna Lee	Raylin Chetty	Chelsea Strong
Year 1W	Christian Medjumurac	Leah Ocampo	Saoirse O'Neill
Year 2 B	Jake Brown	Cameron Muscat	Zoey Chown
Year 2 G	Max Luther	Keira Mooney	Lucas Cleeland
Year 2 W	Paige Mitrovich	Ebony Lynch	Charlie Mileto
Year 3 B	Aidan Vilathgamuwa	Marcus Mileto	Peyton Oblea
Year 3 G	Tyrone Lee	Harriet Preston	Sarah McKeever
Year 3 W	Jericho Cruz	Olivia Sims	Amelia Bond
Year 4 B	Akeesha Guneseekara	Caitlyn Palmer-Burton	Drew Sammut
Year 4G	Joshua Streater	Christian Attard	Lachlan Hollier
Year 4 W	Leila Balangon	Grace Bennison	Mia-Bella Trifiro
Year 5 B	Gemma Gladwell	Kenneth Tjhin	Eoin Trainor
Year 5W	Georgia Domars	Alisa Adhihetty	Anton Blazevec
Year 6 B	Karl Fischer	Kylan Ewer	Rebecca Kausei
Year 6 G	Carys Fitzgerald	Mikayla Muscat	Max Kelly
Year 6 W	Beatrice Espejo	Nicola Topic	Sophia Tapley

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 - Please let us know by Sunday, 3rd December.

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.

Schedule of Masses for the week of Christmas

4th Sunday: Saturday, 23rd December at **5.30pm**
of Advent: Sunday, 24th December at **8.30am and 10am**
*** no 5.30pm Mass ***

Christmas Masses: Sunday, 24th December at **5.30pm ~ Children's Mass**
Sunday, 24th December at **12.00am ~ Midnight Mass**
(Carols commencing at 11.30pm)
Monday, 25th December at **8.30am, 10am ~ Christmas Day**
(Please note there will be no afternoon Mass on Christmas Day)

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

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