

Dear Parents,

This Newsletter is the last for the year. Words cannot express my thanks for the support of so many – students, staff and families- that have made this, again, a tremendously busy and successful year.

On the next page is a complete 2019 staff list. On Monday morning, your child will 'meet the teacher' as well as their peers, in particular, any new students and staff members joining OLA in 2019. I know they will welcome them in true OLA style.

For those leaving OLA, we wish you all the very best success and happiness and thank you for your contribution to our terrific school.

Congratulations

To our Year 6 students on the occasion of their graduation on Wednesday night.

Congratulations to their parents on doing a good job in raising these fine young people. Thank you to Fr Warren, their teachers and all the other staff members who attended, especially Mrs Cheadle and the choir, and all who helped in providing the supper afterwards. I thank them for their gift of a new angel statue for our Marian prayer space. We wish these boys and girls all the best as they move on to their respective high schools.



Congratulations again to this term's recipients of the Principal's Award. These are:

Emily Prnjak	Caleb Xuereb	Julie Bolina	Sarah Cleary
Sienna Galea	Steve Wang	Malachi Rangan	Parker Galvin
Ava Phelps	Alexandra Terzo	Emma Quijano	Brendan Ewer
Ella Ciantar	Jordan Holden	Ben Roffmann	Ella Owen
Amelia Gutwenger	Isabella Smith	Georgia McQuaid	Olivia Lincoln



It was a pleasure to share morning tea with them and have a chat about why they thought they deserved the award and their plans for the holidays.

Dates to Remember

Mon 17 th Dec	Meet the 2019 Teacher (not the 10 th as in the calendar)
Tues 18 th Dec	End of Year Mass 9.00am Andrew Chinn 6.00pm Students are to wear their <u>full summer uniform</u>
Wed 19 th Dec	Last Day of School for Students – MOTIV8 Fun Day 2019
TUES 29 th and	Wed 30 th Jan : MAIs – <u>appointment is mandatory.</u>
Thursday 31 st :	Ist day of school for Years 1-6
Friday Feb 1 st :	Kinder first day of school. Tea and tissues.

**IN 2019, THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED
EVEN WEEKS ONLY.**

Wishing everyone in OLA community a Happy, Holy Christmas and may the peace of the Christ Child be yours throughout 2019. Have a restful holiday and stay safe.



2019 OLA Staff

Principal:	Mrs Eva La Rocca
Assistant Principal:	Mr Stephen Cauchi
Religious Education Co-ordinator:	Mrs Katrina Byrne
Literacy Coordinator:	Mrs Lisa Hurst
Primary LTST Co-Ordinator:	Ms Pina Grima
Learning Support	Mrs Jan Schroder

2018 Class Teachers

Clare Sullivan	Kinder B
Nicole Arayon	Kinder G
Nibal Younes	Kinder W
Clare Crozier	Yr 1B/Reading Recovery
Leanne Vella	Yr 1G / EMU Specialist
Carmen Savoia	Yr 1W
Lisa Hurst /R. Moulton (Thurs)	Yr 2W Literacy Coordinator
Kimberley Marchant	Yr 2G
Nicole Hodgess	Yr 2B
Sarah McBrien/ L Hanrahan (Fri)	Yr 3B
Jacqueline Cheadle	Yr 3G
Cherie Lopresti	Yr 3W
Samantha Pepin	Yr 4B
Rita Borg	Yr 4G
Samantha Vella/ Sarah Lenane	Yr 4W
Vesna Jurcevic	Yr 5B
Luke Campbell	Yr 5G
Pina Grima /R Moulton (Fri)	Yr 5W Learning Technology Support Teacher
Katrina Byrne/L Rizk (Thurs)	Yr 6B Religious Education Coordinator
Emily Digwood	Yr 6G
Joshua Lee	Yr 6W
Jan Schroder	Learning Support / EMU Specialist
Terina Macare	RR EMU/release 0.8
Frances Eisenhuth	RR +R2 + R3 0.9
Kyra Giglio	Music RFF
Micheline Micallef	RFF Italian RFF
Sherree Lopez	PDH RFF
Kylie Leach	Special Thursday/Friday
Lauren Hanrahan Tues/Wed	Literacy Support
Sara Wagner	Library Admin / Student Support
Jacinta Aspinall	Student Support
Catherine Paul	Student Support
Counsellor	Lynne Wainwright (Two days a week)
Helen Goldsworthy	Office Administrator
Tracy Hunt	Office Support
Leanne Eisenhuth	Office Support/Uniform
Meinardo Benitez	Groundsman

2019 School Year

The school year consists of four terms that run over two semesters.

- Term 1 MAI Appointments – Mandatory - Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th January 2019
 Year 1-6 students return Thursday, 31st January 2019
Kinder students start school on Friday, 1st February 2019.
 Term ends Friday, 12th April 2019
- Term 2 Students return to school Monday 29th April 2019
 Term ends Friday, 5th July 2019
- Term 3 Students return to school Monday, 22nd July 2019
 Term ends Friday, 27th September 2019
- Term 4 Students return to school Monday, 14th October 2019
 Term ends for students on Wednesday 18th December 2019

PLEASE NOTE students are to wear their **FULL SUMMER UNIFORM** on **TUESDAY 18TH DECEMBER** for the end of year mass.

GOSPEL REFLECTION-SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT-YEAR C

LK 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness. Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy. We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

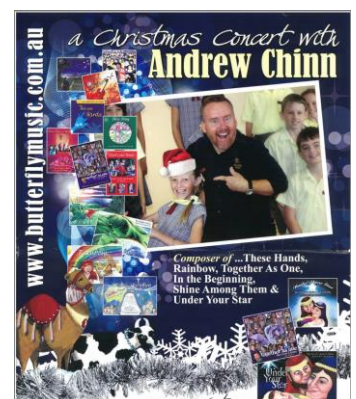
Living the Gospel – Generosity of spirit

John's words to the crowd, the tax collectors and the soldiers are about adopting a spirit of generosity and a generosity of spirit. A generosity of spirit can be expressed simply in the attitude with which we approach other people: a positive, hope-filled and generous attitude will often turn around a potentially negative situation. As we approach the Christmas season, there is a need for practical actions of generosity as well. Those in need can approach Christmas with dread rather than joyful expectation. It can be the hardest time of year for struggling families. Acts of generosity can make all the difference.
(LiturgyHelp. Com, Fr. Tate)



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Tuesday 18th December, students will be working with Andrew Chinn throughout the day to prepare for the Christmas concert that night. The Christmas concert will be held in the church and will start at 6pm. Students need to be in the church at **5.45pm** and will be sitting in their grade groups in the church. They will be then called up to sing their songs.



Below are the costume ideas for each grade.

Kindergarten-Christmas shirts

Year 1 Christmas shirts

Year 2 Nativity-Mary (blue or white dress) and Joseph(dressing gown, rope to tie dressing gown and tea towel for head) outfits

Year 3 Black pants/tights and red or green top (No Christmas motif) Optional Akubra or wide brimmed hat

Year 4 Christmas shirts

Year 5 Black pants/tights/jeans and plain green shirt

Year 6 Jeans/tights, red, white or green shirt.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Each year, we select students to present the Nativity story before the 5.30 Christmas Eve Mass. If you know you are attending this Mass can you please email the office with Attention Mrs Byrne-Christmas Eve Mass, to let me know your children will be available for selection of characters in the short play. Students selected will be notified and receive a note. If you are available to assist on the day, can you please add this in your Email.

Katrina Byrne, REC

Literacy News



The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is back on for 2018!
Students throughout the Diocese of Parramatta have the chance to win one of four iPad Mini's!

The Summer Reading Challenge is all about discovery and new ideas - whether it's a new book, character or genre that you enjoy, we want to hear about your love for reading. This year, we're hoping to see more entries than ever before!

HOW DO I ENTER?


All you need to do is read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them in **50 words or less**, and you could win one of four iPad minis!

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win! Submit your entry by clicking on the button below and completing the form.


Enter Now

MORE INFORMATION

The competition opens on 3 December 2018. You can enter as many times as you like BUT you must describe why you liked a different book, e-book, animated novel, comic, play or piece of poetry each entry. The more you enter, the more chances you have to win. You can read anything you enjoy to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or animated novel. For more information, please contact Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta by emailing competitions@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Entries close at 5pm on 4 February 2019.  [Terms and Conditions](#) apply.

Don't forget, students can access our online library (e-library) to borrow books. This is a great way to keep up your reading throughout the school holidays!

For instructions on how to access e-library,  [click here](#).

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:
 - *Morning:* The newspaper — even if it is just the comics or today's weather.
 - *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.
 - *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>

Words of the Week:

Infants: voyage

Primary: convoy

Root Word of the Week: voy- way

Mrs Hurst

Acceptable Hair Styles for Boys.

There are some secondary schools that employ a hairdresser on the first day of the school year to 'correct' the hair styles of some boys' who the school deems as inappropriate. We would not consider any such action as we believe we have a relationship of mutual respect and a parent body that, on the whole, observes the rules of the school. This is a condition of the enrolment process. The following is a passage in the parent handbook that refers to this...

"Hair is to be neat and tidy, off the collar, of consistent natural colour, of gradual even grade 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."

Sadly, much of this has been ignored among some parents. This includes boys' long hair in pony tails. Please take this into consideration in the count down to the start of the new school year in 2019.



Uniform Shop

NO ORDERS WILL BE FILLED NEXT WEEK.

We will be closed for stocktake and end of year procedures and nothing can be processed until we are advised by CEDP at the end of January.

We will be open on Tuesday 29th January between 10-12pm. Email orders will be filled on Tuesday and Wednesday and can be collected from the office.

SCHOOL SHOES

As you prepare to purchase shoes for your children for next year, please note the correct shoes that need to be worn. Black leather upper school shoes and predominantly white joggers (no fluoro/solid colours). Your support in helping your children be respectful of school rules is appreciated.



The Rotary Club of The Hills – Kellyville has been a strong supporter of local School Communities as well as the broader community for many years. We have a number of activities over the Christmas – Summer break which we thought may be of interest to your students and families. We are seeking support for activities ranging from the purchase of a fresh Christmas Tree, to getting gifts wrapped for Winston Hills Mall Shoppers for a gold coin donation, to gifting the needy via the Wish Tree at Stockland Mall, to celebrating Australia Day at Third Settlement Reserve at Winston Hills.



From the P&F...

Christmas Carols – Tuesday 18th December



A very big thank you to our volunteer, who will be there to provide a little Christmas cheer at the end of the Christmas concert.

Tea and Tissues – Friday, 1st February, 2019

I know you can relate, it is the first day of Kindy for your little one. I am sure you can recall it, whether your child was happy and said goodbye, held your hand tightly or shed a tear.

We will be hosting Tea and Tissues for the new Kindy parents on Friday, 1st February. As is tradition, we ask that those with children in Year One in 2019 pay it forward and welcome the new families and share their experiences over a cuppa. We ask for volunteers from the Year One families to help prepare the morning tea, hand out tissues to the parents and just be there as a friendly face.

If you aren't able to help on the day, you may be able to provide a plate of food for the parents to enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make 2018 the great year it has been.



Thank you to every single person who has volunteered their time, whether it be special treats, Mother's / Father's Day, Grandparents Day, Sports Carnivals, Second Hand Uniforms, Fiesta, Melbourne Cup Raffle, Movie Nights, Kindy Orientation Days or any other P&F event, we THANK YOU! Without your help, these events would not have been the success they were.

Thank you also to Eva, Steve, Helen, Tracy and all the teachers for their support. It has made all the above possible.

We hope you enjoy the Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in 2019



<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyoftheangelspf/olapfc@gmail.com>

Our Lady of the Angels P&F Association

From the Parish Office...

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

5.30pm Children's Mass.

Christmas Day

12.00am Midnight Mass with Christmas Carols from 11.30pm

8.30am & 10.00am ****NOTE:** There will be **NO** 5.30pm mass on Christmas Day**

Parish Christmas Party

All families are invited to come along to our Parish Christmas Party on Sunday, 16 December at 11am.

Food and drinks for sale.

Graduating Class of 2018

Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2019. May God Bless all these students in their next step in life.

Reconciliation - Year 2

Congratulations to all the children who recently completed their First Reconciliation. These children will receive their First Communion in May/June 2019.

All enquiries: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

House Blessing As we begin this new Liturgical Year, in this season of Advent, you are invited to think about having your house blessed. Fr Warren is available to attend to your family home and bless it. For all appointments contact Fr Warren on 8883 4063.

*From Fr Warren Edwards and the Parish Office Staff,
We take this opportunity of wishing you all the blessings of the Christmas season.*



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