

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

## Dear Parents,

This week we welcome back Mrs Byrne, REC, from her pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Italy. I have asked her to feature her reflections.

*My pilgrimage was one of deep faith and extremely spiritually. I was able to visit many places I had only heard about in the New Testament. It was not only amazing being present in these places but they took my breath away. I was extremely fortunate to go on this trip and feel blessed to have been in many places where Jesus had walked. We travelled to Bethlehem and saw the place where He was born and then to Jerusalem. Where I stood in the place where Jesus was crucified. Then I walked into His empty tomb.*

*I was extremely lucky to share this pilgrimage with other new principals, RECs and CEO staff. Our faith was guided and nurtured by Bishop Vincent, who challenged us to not be afraid to be the 'Face of God' and allow Jesus to be with us and work through us like the disciples. Not only did our pilgrimage take us to the sites in the Holy Land, we were also able to see and hear many stories of people who are courageous and put the needs of others before themselves to make a difference. These people reach out daily to those who need assistance and have been outcasts by society. We listened to the struggles different cultures face to make a difference and to move beyond anger and discrimination and to try to find peace. We visited a school where many*

*students had no other school to go to, due to their needs and to see the smiles on their faces when we visited, made the visit worthwhile.*

*This experience not only deepened my faith but it left me with a sense of what servant leadership is and how I can follow in the mission of Jesus and*



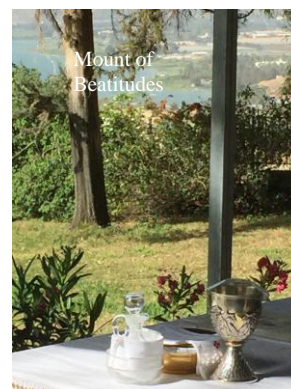
Sea of Galilee

*help others who need to feel God's love.*

*We stood on the Mount of Beatitudes and were asked to be like Jesus who came down off the Mountain to talk to His people. We were encouraged to get down off the mountain and go out and be the face of Christ and spread the Good News.*

*Our final days were spent in Assisi, where we visited St Mary of the Angels Basilica, the name and story behind our own school and parish and the place St Francis and St Claire chose to continue the mission of Christ. Assisi was an extremely beautiful, calm and prayerful place where we were able to reflect on our journey, the places we visited and how we have gained the courage to continue the journey of discipleship on our return. (Katrina Byrne).*

**St Mary of the  
Angels church**



Mount of  
Beatitudes



## Upcoming Dates to Remember

<b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>5.30pm</b> Parent Workshop on <b><i>anxieties of parenting</i></b> Followed by the P&F AGM at 7pm
<b>Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>ICAS 7.55am</b> Digital Computers
<b>Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Ascension Prayer
<b>Tues 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>ICAS 7.55am</b> Science
<b>Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Rug Reading Afternoon
<b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	Staff Development Day – Children DO NOT attend school on this day
<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Athletics Carnival

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Gospel Reflection (Jn 14:1-12)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am now going to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am  
you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too.  
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?  
Do you not believe  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other  
reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,  
whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father.'



### Living the Gospel – The Way, the Truth and the Life

When Thomas asks, 'we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answers by saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' The reader of the gospel has known this truth all along from the opening line of the gospel, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' Our aim, as Christian people, is to be one with God, not only by sharing in the resurrection but also in the way we live. Jesus makes clear that the way to be with God is by following his example. (<http://liturgyhelp.com.au/>. 12-5-2017 © Greg Sunter)

# PARENT WORKSHOP

## ADDRESSING ANXIETY

Wednesday 17th May (in the Yr 3 space)

Time: 5.30pm - 6.40pm

Presenter Joseph Degeling

(Psychologist <https://www.josephdegeling.com.au/>)

An OLA parent's comment:

*"Jo was (my son's) psychologist during his time at OLA. This will be a very worthwhile experience. (My husband) and I have come away from his sessions with a renewed sense of clarity on dealing with anxiety." (name supplied and with permission)*

### Outline:

- (Using parents' own experience) An exploration of anxiety in children and parents - symptoms and signs
- Nature or nurture? a delicate discussion on the factors which maintain anxiety for children and parents
- What's normal - normal Vs clinical anxiety, and when to seek further help
- Effective strategies to help kids manage anxiety
- What about me? managing your own anxieties

This is an excellent opportunity to receive some valuable insight into this increasing concern and to ask 'those questions'.

Joseph will be providing a session to the staff prior to the parent session. In the interest of supporting you and your child, we hope to see many parents there. Please send an email to [ola@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ola@parra.catholic.edu.au) to advise if you are attending.

This session will be followed by the P&F AGM

All note of explanation must be presented for any absenteeism upon return to school.  
Schools are mandated to report 'habitual' absentees or lateness.

**Only 15 days leave per year of sick leave.**

**Exemption Leave needed for over 5 days**

If your child is absent...	That equates to...	Which is...	And over their school life from Kinder to year 12 that is...
1 day per fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks a year	Almost 1 and a half years of school
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks a year	Over 2 and a half years of school
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks a year	Over 5 years of school

### Absenteeism

**Every day matters!** The cumulative effect of absenteeism can have a significant impact on learning, social and emotional wellbeing.

### **IMPORTANT CHANGE**

#### **Application for Extended Leave – Travel for 5 days or more**

The government has amended its criteria for an extended leave application. If your child is going to be away from school for 5 days or more, you are now required to complete an Application for Extended Leave Form. We have attached this form to the newsletter and it is also on the website. You must attach flight details if you are going overseas or flying interstate.



**Mothers are Special!!** Thank you to all those who attended the Mothers Day Liturgy this morning hosted by Year 4. Special thanks to the P&F for providing Morning Tea.

After wards, some mums stayed to share lunchtime with their children and visit the new library.



## Literacy News

### Helping Your Child with Spelling:

**Experience stories.** Let your child write about the things they like. They can illustrate the stories himself or cut pictures from magazines to illustrate them. Let them write the words without assistance unless they asks for help. Misspelled words can then be used in little games you play with your child. A one-line "story" may be all that they can handle. If so, fine.

<https://childdevelopmentinfo.com/learning/tips-for-helping-kids-and-teens-with-homework-and-study-habits/spelling/#.WQsL5omGOgQ>

### Dates for Diaries:

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June**-Families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of '**Rug Reading**' out on the playground with their child at **2:30pm**. Please bring in a rug and a favourite book to read.



As part of the Rug Reading on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June, the staff of OLA will be participating in the **Biggest Morning Tea**, to raise funds for the Cancer Council. We would like to invite all families attending, to bring an afternoon treat to share with your child and a travel mug. We will supply you with a cuppa to enjoy, while you share a book with your children.

The P&F have generously put together some hampers that will be raffled off on the day. Raffle tickets will cost \$1, all monies raised will be donated to the Cancer Council. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Jacqueline Cheadle

### Next week's WOW words are:

**Infants:** moonlit

**Primary:** sombre

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

**Uniform** – The children should all be in their full winter uniform from next Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May. The children are **NOT** to wear the bomber jacket in place of the jumper. They have been advised that the jumper is to be worn in the first instance. Please assist us by reinforcing this with your children. The children will be pulled up by staff members if they are not wearing the correct uniform, ie wearing the bomber jacket instead of the jumper.



### Cooking Club

This term at OLA, we have been taking advantage of our beautiful new kitchens and have been running a cooking club for year 5 students. Each Thursday, during lunch, different groups of students have enjoyed cooking mini ham and cheese pizzas. It has been great fun and we look forward to cooking more delicious food in the future.

Thank you Mrs Micallef !!

# What a Busy Week in 2G!

We have learning news ways to think Multiplicatively!

During number Busting warm ups the children have been looking for groups in the number and finding ways to record and make the number.



## MOTHER'S DAY MORNING TEA

*Thank you to the Year 3 and 4 families who assisted with providing a delicious morning tea this morning for our wonderful mums. A special thank you also to those who helped with set up and pack up. As always, these events would not be possible without your generous and continued support.*

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR MUMS!  
HAVE A LOVELY DAY!**



## P&F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup>: 7pm**

**This meeting is for all parents and friends of our school.**

### AGENDA

- OLA Family BBQ
- Mother's Day Stall/Morning tea
- Athletics Carnival Involvement
- Positions Vacated - Voting
- Pergolas
- SRC/Principal Awards
- Second Hand Uniforms

*There is also time to discuss any general business items which can be added to the agenda by submitting them to [olapfc@gmail.com](mailto:olapfc@gmail.com) no later than Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup>.*

An enormous thank you to the P&F team 2016-17! I'd like to personally acknowledge and thank this extraordinary group who have given so generously to our school community. Thank you for your hard work, commitment and enthusiasm.



Vice President - Kellie Owen

Treasurer - Melissa Strong

Secretary - Lee-Ann Wallis

General Committee: Joanna Gladwell, Elicia Pace, Kelly Cleary, Nicole Brown, Ela Hudson, Kylie Terzo, Kylie Ross, Monique Falzon & Maria Muscat.

*Thank you to our wonderful school staff, parish team and everyone who has supported the numerous events the P&F have been involved in over the past 12 months. With such a dynamic group there has been little time for rest. We have raised a significant amount of money for our school and have had loads of fun!*

*See you at the AGM!*

Kind regards  
**Annemarie Bond**  
President

**SPECIAL TREATS ROSTER – MAY 19:** Kellie Owen, Jaye Blye, Kylie Terzo, Christine Zimmerman, Alison Streater, Claire Holden. Thank you!



*Our Lady of the Angels  
P&F Association*



### **Santa Sophia Catholic College enrolments for 2018 are now open**

Santa Sophia Catholic College is opening for Year 7 and 8 students in 2018. Preparations for the opening of the new school are well progressed and a Principal will be announced in June 2017.

The new learning community will be open to Year 7 and Year 8 students within the grounds of Our Lady of the Angels Primary School in Kellyville.

Once complete, the College will provide excellence in innovative learning and teaching for up to 2000 students from preschool to Year 12 and beyond, at Terry Road, Box Hill.

Applications are now being accepted for Year 7 and 8 students for commencement in 2018. Enrolment forms and further information about the application process can be found on our website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au) or contact Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta on 9840 5620.



Another FIRST AT OLA was the opening of the canteen – just for Special Treats, at this stage. Quotes from the students? “Terrific!” and “Great!!” ☺



### **Uniform Shop Hours**

**Monday  
8.20am – 9.30am**

Otherwise please email or drop off your uniform order to the office. These will be filled on Monday and Wednesday only and sent home with your child through the notebag.



**From the Parish Office...**

**Sacraments of Initiation**

**First Communion** Next Thursday, 18 May at 7.30pm the Parents are to attend the next session (children are not required to attend) in the Church. A reminder to the children, also not to forget to collect the prayer cards from Father at mass on the weekend to add to your Prayer Book.

**We're fundraising with Entertainment**

The 2017 | 2018 Entertainment™ Book and Digital Memberships are here and features over \$20,000 worth of valuable up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers for some of the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and much more **for only \$65**. So take advantage of the great offers available with your new Entertainment™ Membership now! Purchase your Entertainment™ Membership from **Our Lady of the Angels Parish** again to support our fundraising efforts. Contact the Parish office for further information if needed.

**Visiting the Church**

We invite you and your children to come in and visit Our Lord in the church. We ask, however, that you remind the children that this is a place of prayer and adoration and ask that they show reverence and quiet at all times.

**Bingo**

You are invited to come along to our Bingo Night on Saturday, 20 May after the 5.30pm Mass. If you are interested, just email the parish office and we will add your name to the list. Cost is \$10 for 3 books. BYO: nibbles & drink.

**Playgroup**

All Mums and Dads and Bubs are invited to come along to OLA Playgroup on every Thursday morning at 9.30am in the Parish Hall. For further information, please contact the parish office on 8883 4063.

**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

**REMINDER.... Official school hours for supervision start at 8.20am and finish at 3.40pm. Leaving children before this time means they are unsupervised. Many children are being dropped as early as 8am. This is unfair and unsafe. For this reason, I have asked any children at school early to sit quietly and pray in the church and wait until the gates open.**

**Lately I have noticed some of the children gathered and sitting on the sidewalk and kerb outside on Wellgate Ave. I have concerns about their safety here. PLEASE, if you need to drop your child before the gates open, OOSH is available. At the very least, speak to them about the expectation of waiting quietly in the church. Either way, there is no supervision by the school before 8.20am.**

**I thank you for your understanding and cooperation in the interest of your child's safety.**

Term 2 Week 3			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Year 3 B	Joshua Robertson	Alivia Turner	Georgia Reid
Year 3 G	Amity Galea	Jaeden Mensah	Aidan Vilathgamuwa
Year 3 W	Stella Signorelli	Harrison Fiorio	Cohan Sommer
Year 4 B	Roman Bizzanelli	Sarah Cleary	Marc Skoljarev
Year 4 G	Noah Ribeiro	Amelia Novelli	Denzel Chang
Year 4 W	Bowen Cleary	Rachael Perillo	Bailey Knowles
Year 5 B	Jane Whelan	Gemma Gladwell	Natasha Charlesworth
Year 5W	Olivia Lincoln	Ella Owen	Brandee Yeow
Year 6 B	Jessica Bollard	Nadia Gruca	Troy Graham
Year 6 G	Isabella Masters	Sadie O'Neill	Marko Rangan
Year 6 W	Phoebe Strykowski	Trinity Johnston	Charlotte Garcia

*Until next week, God bless, have a lovely weekend and stay safe.*

*Eva La Rocca,  
Principal*