



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

1 Wellgate Ave Kellyville 2155
Phone: 8814 5989 Fax: 8814 5716
Email: ola@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website www.olarousehill.catholic.edu.au



Week 6 Term 1

3rd March, 2017

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

Dear Parents,

On Wednesday, the community gathered to celebrate the Eucharist for Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent, a time of preparation for Easter, the most important event in the Liturgical calendar.

The students received the ashes on their forehead to the words, '*Repent and believe in the Gospel*'. This is a sign of our commitment during Lent to renew ourselves in some way – primarily through **prayer**, **abstinence** and doing **good works**. It is a time to question how well do we act as ambassadors for Christ? What do others see in the way we act towards each other that says to them, 'This is what it means to be a member of the Catholic Church'. Lent is an opportunity to 'fine tune' that message and make sure that it is a good and loving message to others.



The Proposed Stage 4 School.

In September of 2008, I had the great privilege of being appointed founding principal of the 'the proposed new school, Our Lady of the Angels Primary, serving the parish of Rouse Hill'. The local area was starting to grow rapidly and the provision of a Catholic education for the children of families moving into the area was becoming strained.

Many parents who applied to enrol their child into existing schools this side of Windsor Road were being turned away. As per the enrolment policy, siblings took first priority followed by Catholic families who lived and worshipped in the respective parish. Of those who found themselves with no place for their child, 19 took the great leap of faith and enrolled their children into this proposed new school. As there were no school buildings, throughout 2009, Our Lady of the Rosary at Kellyville generously hosted these nineteen 'Angels kids' on their grounds, as well as the first teacher, Mrs Byrne and the newly appointed principal. Except for one, these kinder students were the eldest child and their parents had no experience of 'big school'. Over the past eight years, I have commended these parents for their courage and faith. They were the pioneers who led the way to where the school is today, which on Tuesday, was described by an executive from CEDP as 'the most impressive school in the diocese'.

The plan to commence Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8) of the 'proposed new school' on this site (2018 and 2019 only) is only a very recent CEDP decision. However, I welcome the opportunity to repay, and pay forward, the accommodation and hospitality shown to us in 2009 by OLOR.

I appreciate that amongst the community, there have been a range of different responses to this news. Please be assured that CEDP, and I, are listening to the concerns that have been raised so far. Hopefully, as more information about what is planned is revealed, those concerns will be addressed. If for a moment I envisaged this as being detrimental to our community, I would have not been so receptive. Many of the concerns, such as extra traffic, shared playground and resources, can be addressed logistically.

CEDP is currently creating a webpage that will be accessible from both the OLA homepage and the CEDP homepage (www.parra.catholic.edu.au). This should be up early next week. It will contain more information, including a 'Frequently Asked Questions' sheet as well as an enrolment expression of interest form.

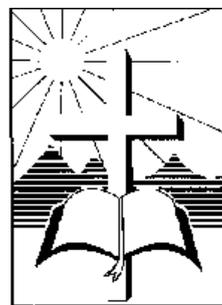
At the heart of the decision to build a new school in the area is ensuring all parents have the opportunity to provide for their children a high-quality Catholic education.

Please feel free to continue to voice any new concerns so that they can be addressed and assist CEDP with their planning to serve all.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Fri 10 th Mar	Primary Assembly 6W
Mon 13 th Mar	Year 5 Bathurst Overnight Excursion
Fri 17 th Mar	OLA Cross Country
	St Patrick's Day – Green Mufti
	Infants Assembly 2W

NEWSLETTER



Sunday, 5th March 2017: First Sunday of Lent (Mt 4:1-11)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

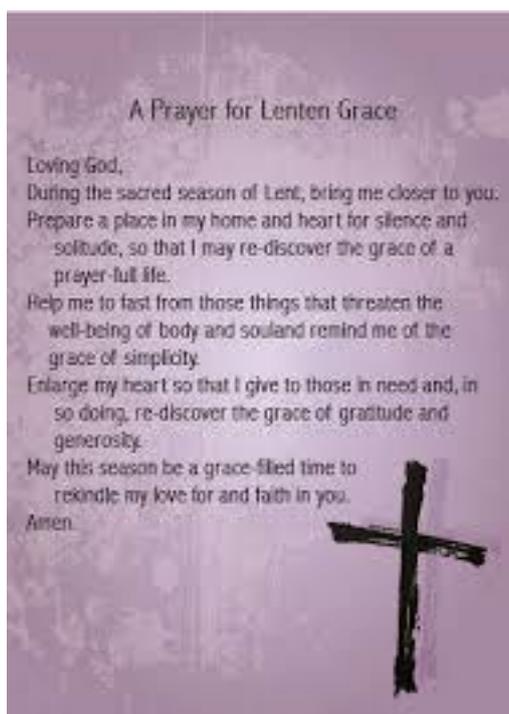
Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Gospel Reflection

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light, Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.

Project Compassion Box

On Ash Wednesday, every family in OLA received a Project Compassion Box. Project Compassion us one way families can make a Lenten promise and display almsgiving to give to those less fortunate than ourselves. Donations can go a long way to helping others to have the basic needs in life.



17th March- ST PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS.



This is the day of OLA Cross Country primarily for students in Years 3-6. It is a gold coin/**green mufti** (casual clothes with a touch of House Colour). This is run first thing on the morning and should be over by noon. The gold coin will go towards Project Compassion. The SRC will be preparing fun activities during recess times.



The school has purchased a large statue of Our Lady for the Marian Reflection Space along with some angels and cherubs. Fr Warren will bless this new statue as part of St Patrick's Day celebrations. Our existing statue of Mary will be relocated to accompany St Francis in the school gardens.

Can you help us make some good from tragedy?

I do not think any of us were not touched by the tragic events that befell our community last December. The support our school community provided throughout that fortnight was astounding – through prayer, food drives and many other ways, small and big.

God gives us the capacity to make good out of such tragedy. In this case, it is the fundraiser to help improve the facilities for the parents of children in ICU at Westmead Hospital, to make them a bit more comfortable and less grim.

"Fleur, Nicky and myself met with Westmead kids to see what we could do to help the hospital. Within the hospital is a parents' hostel where parents can stay whilst their child is in intensive care. The hostel has 29 small motel-like rooms. It was in one of these rooms that Fleur spent her nights trying to rest to gather strength to face the next day.



These rooms have been there for 21 years and are in desperate need of a facelift. The air conditioners leak onto the carpet making the carpet rot, the walls need to be freshened up, bathrooms need replacing.

So there is lots of work and expense needed to make this happen.

Please keep sharing this page, please keep donating if you can and if you have any contacts that maybe can supply something that is needed at minimal cost or even better free please contact me.

The hospital is happy for us to make this happen and will guide in making sure it is done correctly and to standard.

The hospital have said its always on the to do list but never gets done as medical equipment is more important and it is, but if we can join together and make this place where parents of critically ill children go to rest a little bit more liveable that's a good thing." <https://www.gofundme.com/2hachwrw>

Our community is committed to supporting this fundraiser which is sitting at \$35 000 with a target of \$50 000. As part of this drive, we are holding a sausage sizzle fundraiser on **Friday, March 17th, 2017**, for this purpose.

This will be \$5 for a sausage on a roll (Y 4-6)/ slice of bread (K-Y3) + Popper drink.*

The 50c treats will also be available 2nd break as usual and I thank the P&F for their donation of that day's proceeds towards this cause. **Any extra donations are very welcome.**

Further information about ways to order or help on the day will be communicated over the next week. As usual, parent helpers would be appreciated.

*As this day is a solemnity, eating meat on this Friday in Lent is allowed.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS DAY WILL BE PROVIDED NEXT WEEK.

Parent Liaison Person

THANK YOU to those who have volunteered for this role. We are very grateful. Next week we have three new students joining our school. This is a family new to the area and feels very 'alone'. The idea of the PLP is to reach out to such families in welcoming. This could be something like buying a box of chocolate (school pays) and writing a little welcome note with your contact details that can be passed onto them. Unfortunately, two of the three classes have no parent. Please consider putting your name down. 😊

Here is the link...

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14tMZc9K7HhY2s_M62-_a9M-A-Q_0Xf3l0Ywc8My5qJU/edit

Helping Your Child With Mental calculations

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, the numeracy focus for our school in 2017 is around developing multiplicative strategies and reasoning skills. An integral part of this involves students being able to do mental calculations without the need to constantly use pen and paper and written algorithms to solve calculations. When you think about it, most calculations that we carry out each day are done in our head. When we play card games or board games or watch sport on tv, we rely on carrying out lots of mental calculations.

Traveling, sharing a bill, shopping, catching a bus or train, preparing a meal or even driving long distances all require different types of mental calculations. The methods that we use when we work things out in our heads are often not the same methods that we use when we write down a sum.

We should always be asking children to predict, calculate and justify their answers before we offer them a pen and paper to do written algorithms, particularly when the calculation is within their mental capabilities. There has been much research to suggest that an over dependence on writing the written algorithm stifles the ability to solve calculations mentally.

For example: To find the answer to $25 + 89$, children could:

- Make the 89 up to 90, then add ten and then 14.
- Add 20 and 80 to make 100, then add 9 and 5, then add 100 and 14
- Add 10 twice to 89 and then add 5 more.

Neither method is more or less correct than the other. They are just different ways of solving the same problem.

What can you do at home?

- Ask your child how he or she mentally worked out the answer to a question.
- Ask how much change is required when paying a bill.
- How much money each week would need to be saved to buy an item?
- Encourage your child to estimate the cost of two items when shopping.

Encouraging children to develop confidence to 'use their brain' to solve calculations will go along way to develop mental strategies as they progress through school.

God Bless
Mr Cauchi

Literacy News

Helping Your Child with Spelling:

Children can find writing a real challenge. They need encouragement, support and praise for their efforts. You can best support your child by:

- encouraging them to write on every possible occasion, praising their efforts and, importantly, letting them see you writing whenever possible;
- playing word games with them, for example, I spy, Scrabble, Boggle and Find the Word puzzles;
- pointing to interesting or new words as you read to your child (without interrupting the flow of the story);
- composing emails together.

Source: www.dewarenne.org.uk/documents/download/5430

Next week's WOW words are:

Infants: exhausted

Primary: crevice

Dates for Diaries:

Thursday 9th March-Families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of '**Rug Reading**' out on the playground with their child at **2:30pm** during 'Catholic Schools Week'. Please bring in a rug and a favourite book to read.

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

On Friday 24th February, OLA had two students represent our school as well as the Hills Zone at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. I was extremely proud of our school to have two swimmers compete at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. I would like to congratulate Lachlan H for they way he competed on the day and he just missed out going through to the next level. He came 5th in Breaststroke and 6th in Butterfly. This was the first time he has competed at this level. I would like to congratulate Jesse E who swam in 6 races throughout the day. Jesse was awarded the Senior Boys Champion and will now be representing OLA and the Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Team at the NSWCPSS trials. Well done boys!

**Great to see so many parents already take up this excellent opportunity!!
Don't miss out- enquire now and book your two FREE SESSIONS**

SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES TERM TWO

THE SCHOOL AT AIPA WILL BE OFFERING SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES AFTER SCHOOL ON TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT OLA COMMENCING TERM TWO.

MARG HAYNES HAS BEEN TEACHING DRAMA FOR OVER 20 YEARS AND IS A MULTI-AWARD WINNING WRITER & DIRECTOR IN ADDITION TO THE TEACHING. MARG'S QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE BA(HONS), ATCL, LTCL, FTCL (P), ACE, CSCA, CVCA. SHE IS ALSO A JP.

CLASSES WILL COVER DICTION, INTONATION, PERFORMANCE POETRY, IMPROV, DRAMA GAMES AND SCRIPTED WORK. PARENTS WILL BE ISSUED WITH A WRITTEN REPORT AT THE END OF TERMS TWO AND FOUR AND STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPTION OF PERFORMING AT AIPA'S DRAMA WEEKEND IN AUGUST.



THE SCHOOL AT AIPA WILL BE OFFERING A TWO-WEEK OBLIGATION FREE, COST FREE, TRIAL THIS TERM SO THAT CHILDREN CAN ATTEND A CLASS TO SEE WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT.

FREE TRIAL DATES: 7TH & 8TH MARCH & 14TH & 15TH MARCH, 2017. STUDENTS CAN ATTEND ONE WEEK OR BOTH, DEPENDING ON THE DEMAND.



TUESDAY:

3.05PM - 3.45PM: KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS
3.45PM - 4.45PM: YEARS THREE & FOUR

WEDNESDAY:

3.15PM - 3.55PM: YEARS ONE & TWO
3.55PM - 4.55PM: YEARS FIVE AND SIX

TERM FEES ARE \$130.00 FOR THE 40 MIN CLASS (9 WEEKS) AND \$180.00 FOR THE 60 MIN CLASS.

TO BOOK A FREE TRIAL OR ENQUIRE, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL AT AIPA ON 02 9966 5013 OR 02 9966 0353 OR EMAIL PAM@AIPA.COM.AU



*Our Lady
of the Angels
Primary School*

Building strong foundations in faith and learning



2018 ENROLMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

7pm Wednesday 29th March 2017, 1 Wellgate Ave Kellyville



For further information, please phone 8814 5989

2018 Information Night

This night is for **NEW FAMILIES** only. If you have any friends that are wanting to enrol for next year, please let them know about our information night.

From the office.....

Absent Notes – If your child is away for any reason, an absent note must be sent to school on their return. This can be done either in writing to the teacher, by email to ola@parra.catholic.edu.au or by the skoolbag.app. It is a government requirement that the reason must be specific, not just family reasons, or family commitments.

Family Leave – If your child is going to be away for 10 days or more, then you need to complete an Application for Exemption form which needs to be submitted to the office, with a copy of your travel documents (eg flight details) and a Certificate of Exemption will be sent home to you. If it is less than 10 days, then a letter prior to leaving to the office/teacher needs to be sent in with the respective dates. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Withdrawal from School – It is part of the CEDP Policy that a term's notice in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. Please give as much notice as possible to avoid being charged.

Early Collection from School – If you need to collect your child early from school, please **DO NOT** ring the office and ask us to have them here waiting for you. We will only call for the children once you have arrived.

Book Covering – With the new library nearly completed, we have a lot of readers to be covered. If you can assist with this (contact is provided), please call into the office to pick up a bag of books.

Winter Uniform – Just for the new families at school, the students will go into their winter uniform in Term 2, Week 4, Monday 15th May 2017. Winter uniform will be available in the uniform shop towards the end of this term.

Kindergarten Siblings 2018 – If you have a child due to start kindergarten next year, please email the office with your child's name, DOB and the sibling's class and we will arrange for enrolment forms to be sent home to you in the next few weeks.

ICAS Competition – We have attached the ICAS letter to the newsletter again in case you wish to enter your child in any of these competitions. Please make sure you return the letter and payment to the office by 24th March.



GILROY CATHOLIC COLLEGE
17-37 Marie Street CASTLE HILL NSW 2154

Welcomes families to our Annual

"Open Evening for Year 7 2018"

on

Wednesday 8 March 2017

College Tours will be conducted from 5.00pm-6.00pm and re-commence at 7.00pm-7.30pm.

Opening address by the Principal commences at 6.15pm in the Brother Damien Harvey Hall.

Enrolment Packages will be available on the night for children currently in Year 6 2017.

Expression of Interest forms will be available for other families with younger children (e.g. Year 5).

Gilroy Catholic College focuses on quality education within the nurturing environment of a faith community.

Gilroy is a Technology rich learning environment.

We aim to develop competent and confident young people who can think critically and make decisions informed by Catholic values.

Pastoral care is central to the organisation and operation of the College and endeavours to ensure that all students are able to recognise the dignity of their relationship with others.

Applications close: 10 May 2017.

You will be contacted mid Term 2 if you are successful to attend an interview.

For further information visit our website or Phone: 8853-8200 or Email: gilroy@parra.catholic.edu.au

Oakhill College
Year 7, 2018 & Year 7, 2019
Enrolment

Applications for enrolment into Year 7 2018 will close on 17th March and for Year 7 2019 on 18th August.

Parents who wish to apply for enrolment of their son and who have not yet submitted an Application for Enrolment, are requested to contact the Registrar before the closing dates on 9899 2288 or registrar@oakhill.nsw.edu.au

Mount St Benedict College
OPEN DAY Sunday 5 March 10am - 2pm

Prospective Parent Information Evening for Year 7, 2019 Thursday 9 March 7pm

Please note: Families with a daughter in Year 5 should apply now for Year 7, 2019. Registration for Waiting List forms should be lodged by the end of Year 4.

449C Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills
Phone: 9980 0444
www.msb.nsw.edu.au

From the Classroom..... of 5W

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN YEAR 5

On Thursday, Year 5 visited St Marks High School. We got to see different classrooms and teachers for different subjects.

I like seeing the robotics technology class. (Charlotte Zahra)

I like learning a few facts about what High School is really like. (Isabella Iori)

On Friday, Year 4 was our audience for this term's Religion unit about 'Parables of Jesus'. Year 5 shared their power points and iMovies to teach Year 4 about parables and how they teach us a message to help us get to the Kingdom of God.



P&F NEWS



BOX HILL HIGH SCHOOL

During the week the P&F Association have received mixed feedback in regard to the commencement of the new high school for Box Hill on OLA grounds. As we represent the parents and friends of OLA, we have forwarded these concerns in writing to the planning committee. If you have any further concerns or comments please contact the office of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, directly.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Thank you for your generous donations of second hand uniforms this year. There will be a sale before the end of term. We will be sorting and stock taking over the next few weeks. 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.

***** If you are able to help with sorting or washing any items, please contact us via our Facebook page or email. Your help would be most appreciated!**



OLA FAMILY FIESTA – AUGUST 6

Last year the OLA success was an enormous success. The atmosphere was truly something unique to our community!

Again this year, the Parish and school community will work together to organise the Fiesta in AUGUST to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Angels. This will also mean that financially the school will also benefit from half of the funds raised.

We will be seeking a lot of support from families. We are asking that you put your thinking caps on. Perhaps you might like to get together with a few buddies to run a stall, or you are able to contribute through contacts or donations. We are very excited by the opportunity to be able to participate in the organisation of this event but know that it will be a challenge. *If you have any ideas, would like to help or run a stall or can offer a donation please contact us and we can get the ball rolling!*

PARISH BALL

Would you like to dress up and go out for a fun night with friends? Join us at the Parish Ball on Saturday April 29th at Castle Hill RSL. Tickets are \$80. You can join a table of other school parents or book one of your own. With or without a partner... Contact us via FB or email or pop in to the Parish Office. Hope to see you there 😊



SPECIAL TREATS FEBRUARY 24: Lee-Ann Wallis, Joanne Zahorsky, Kelly Cleary, Belinda Connellan, Jaye Blye, Paula Lopez

**If you have any ideas or are interested in helping out in any way for any of the upcoming events please email olapfc@gmail.com Or message via our Facebook page. We look forward to meeting you during the year!*



Our Lady of the Angels P&F Association

**Our Lady of the Angels Parish
10th Anniversary
Parish Ball
29th April 2017
Save the date!!**



Planned Bus Strike on Tuesday 7th March.

We have been notified that a bus strike for buses in western and south-western Sydney is planned for next **Tuesday 7 March**. The strike will take effect from 7.00am-9.00am in the morning and from 2.00pm-4.00pm in the afternoon.

Please be mindful of this and make alternative arrangements if this will affect your child/children.

Hills Spirit Football Club

The club, made up of predominantly of OLA, OLOR and St Angela's students, require another 5 players to make a full team in this year's competition. If you are interested please enquire at the Hills Spirit website.

Congratulations to the following students who received these awards:

Academic for working hard
St Francis for showing the qualities of St Francis
Einstein for celebrating mistakes as an opportunity for learning.

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

Eva La Rocca, Principal

From the Parish Office...

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday night in Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7:00 pm. This is a great way to do that something extra for Lent.

LENTEN REFLECTION

You are invited to join Fr. Warren for prayer & reflection during the 5 weeks of Lent, every Wednesday commencing on 8 March in the Hall at 7:30pm. Those who are interested in participating, kindly put your name on the sign-up sheet at the Church foyer table this weekend.

OLA Playgroup now operates on Thursdays at 9:30am until 11:00am in the OLA Parish Hall. Lesley Kelly is our new Co-ordinator and so lots of fun activities are being organised for the children with a lovely cuppa for the parents/grandparents to enjoy. It is a relaxed environment and a wonderful way to meet new friends from our community. All ages are welcome. You can attend weekly or on a casual basis. For further information contact the Parish office or Lesley directly on 0414 223 231 or lesleykelly133@gmail.com *Regards, Lesley Kelly*

First Communion

For those Children who have completed their Reconciliation in 2016 First Communion will take place in June 2017. You will have received an email from the Parish office with further instructions for the continuation of the preparation of this Sacrament. Please contact the Parish office if you have not.

The first Parent-only session will be held on Thursday, 27 April at 7.30pm.

Bingo

You are invited to come along to our Bingo Night on Saturday, 18 March after the 5.30pm Mass. If you are interested, just email me back and I will add your name to the list. Cost is \$10 for 3 books. BYO: nibbles & drink. Cash Jackpot!! \$550.00

Parish Ball

On Saturday, 29 April, the Parish will be holding a Ball at the Castle Hill RSL Club. Tickets go on sale next weekend \$75-. Please contact the parish office for further information.

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

Term 1 Week 6			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Lily Haynes	Liam O'Connor	Zavier Dabit
Kinder G	Zachary Dixon	Jake Trimboli	Elizabeth McKee
Kinder W	Aaron Phelps	Kyra Heaney	Samuel Ewer
Year 1B	Blaize McDonald	Isaac Rapa	Patrick Pacella
Year 1 G	Luka Kurcubic	Alonso Buda	Leila Swinden
Year 1W	Leah Ocampo	Axel Pace	Joshua Kim
Year 2 B	Grace McMartin	Jelena Talentino	Logan Cleary
Year 2 G	Willow Johnston	Jess Bowen	Harry Niemiec
Year 2 W	Georgia Dolahenty	Thomas Gutwenger	Paige Mitrovich