



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 8 Term 1

18th March, 2016

"Blessed are the merciful, for mercy they will find".

Dear Parents,

How quickly the term is passing. This Sunday is Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week which, of course, finishes with Easter/Resurrection Sunday, the most important day of the Liturgical Year.

Easter is early this year. It is a moveable feast, the reason for is not very commonly known.

This is my understanding... After many years as slaves to the Egyptians, the Pharaoh agreed to allow Moses to lead God's people out of Egypt and back to freedom. Because they were fleeing in haste and silence, they chose the middle of the night, logically under the light of a full moon. In anticipation of a long journey ahead, they chose the first full moon of the Equinox when the days would begin to get longer and warmer. In the Northern Hemisphere, this is the 23rd of March. To this day, Jewish people observe and celebrate this event as the feast of the Passover.

Two thousand years ago, a Jewish man, Jesus of Nazareth, set off to go into the desert to fast and pray with the promise to His mother and His disciple that he would return to celebrate the Passover with them, as a good Jewish person would. This is similar to the way we know loved ones gather for Christmas and birthdays.

After 40 days in the desert (Lent), Jesus returned to Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) and was welcomed to people waving palms and to the cries of 'Hosanna, hosanna'. Clearly, He was missed.

The following Thursday, He gathered with His disciples to celebrate the Passover meal. (Holy Thursday)

That night, He was taken by the soldiers, tried, tortured and crucified over the following 36 hours until His death on the cross (Good Friday)

Three days later, He rose from the dead – proof of His humanity and divinity. (Easter Sunday)

Although the Passover is celebrated between the 15-22 April, Easter is still celebrated on the first full moon after the March equinox.

Please join us next Thursday for our Holy Week Liturgy commencing at **10.30am**. The school community is invited to gather again at noon to pray the Angelus and then the annual Easter Hat Parade, and a visit from Easter Bunny.



NEWSLETTER

Dates to Remember

Week 9: Tues 22nd March – Big Bootcamp 8.00am – WYD Fundraiser

Wed 23rd March – Dance Fever Interschool Challenge – Yrs 3-6

Thurs 24th March – Holy Week Liturgy – 10.30am on Basketball Court

12.00pm Angelus followed by the Easter Hat Parade

Week 10: Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Wed 30th March – Kindy 2017 Information Night 7.00pm NEW FAMILIES ONLY

Week 11: Tues 5th April – Principal's Morning Tea

Fri 8th April – Last Day of Term 1

Tues 26th April – First day of Term 2

Gospel Reflection

Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday

Gospel, Luke 22:14-23:56

In Luke's Gospel, we hear of the crowds cheering and laying out palms and coats for Jesus riding into town on a donkey. The people are calling out 'Hosanna, Hosanna!' as Jesus walked by. They adored Jesus and expressed their joy as He processed into Jerusalem. How things changed within one week. Many of those cheering for Jesus with love, a week later were cheering for Him with hatred and calling out for Him to be crucified.



This Sunday is Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday and is the first day of Holy week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum. On Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday Jesus triumphantly processes into Jerusalem after 40 days and 40 nights in the desert. He enters the town with a red carpet reception. It is Jesus' reception into Jerusalem that has the Pharisees angered and fearful of His popularity. Jesus' response to them, tells of God's divine plan and the Kingdom of God.

It is within Luke's Gospel that we hear the story of Jesus' betrayal, passion and death. Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem is at the time of the Feast of the Jewish Passover. He asks His disciples to share in a Passover meal with Him. Little did the disciples know that this would be the last meal that they would share with Jesus until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled. It is at this meal, where Jesus breaks the bread and takes a cup of wine and then shares the meal with His apostles. "Take this all of you and eat it, for this is My Body, that I have given up for you." He then takes the cup of wine and shares it with His disciples. "Take this all of you and drink it, for this is My Blood, that I have given up for you." The disciples seem confused at Jesus words, especially when He tells them that one of them will betray them. Jesus uses this opportunity to tell His disciples that they will be faced with dark and difficulty times and they will need to prepare themselves. After the meal, Jesus heads to the Mount of Olives to have some time alone with His Father. It is here He is betrayed by a friend and then arrested by the soldiers to face Pontius Pilate. Eventually Jesus is sentenced to death. He is tortured by the soldiers and ridiculed by many that celebrated His entrance into Jerusalem. Jesus is then crucified on the cross.

The Passion of Jesus is the supreme sign of love and mercy of the Father. In the story of the Passion the divinity of Jesus remains hidden; instead, the suffering servant is manifested in all his pain and misery. The life and death of Christ have not only benefited people's lives on earth, but also changed the purpose of our existence. Our relationship with God has changed and He has opened for us the gates of heaven. (*God's Word 2015 and 2016- Daily reflection.*)

A few weeks ago, each OLA family received a Project Compassion box' to contribute and help those less fortunate than ourselves. I would like to thank our families for their generous donations and support for the Project Compassion appeal. All Project Compassion boxes need to be returned by **Wednesday 23rd March**, so we can send all donations to the Caritas charity.



"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:36)

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Attached to the newsletter is the parish letter about enrolling your child in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you wish for your child (Yrs 3-6) to participate in this Sacrament this year, please complete the form and return it to the parish office by **18th May 2016**.

Change of Time: Please note the Easter Liturgy will be at **10.30am next Thursday**, not 9.00am as mentioned last week. This will ease congestion in the carpark in the morning.

Mrs Katrina Byrne
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

PLEASE REFER TO THE NOTICES FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER.

Literacy News

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. When you help your child learn to read, you are opening the door to a world of books and learning.

Reading aloud to children is the best way to get them interested in reading. Before long he/she will grow to love stories and books. Eventually he/she will want to read on their own.

With the help of parents, children can learn how to read and can practise reading until he/she can read for their own enjoyment. Then he/she will have a whole world of information and knowledge at their fingertips!

Reading can be a family activity. Spending time with word games, stories, and books will help your child to:

- gather information and learn about the world
- learn how stories and books work – that they have beginnings, endings, characters, and themes
- build a rich vocabulary by reading and talking about new words
- learn how to listen and how to think
- learn the sounds of language and language patterns
- fall in love with books

Reading is Cool!

As part of our drive to raise the image of 'reading is cool', particularly among boys, we are seeking pictures of dads, or any males, reading a book.

This means one picture of dad/granddad/friend/ etc reading a picture book. If possible, a really good idea is a shot of the person in work dress - ie a policeman in uniform reading.

Thank you to these great role models!



Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

Sibling Kindergarten Enrolments 2017

Yes, it's that time of year again. If you have a sibling that is due to start kindergarten next year, could you please email ola@parra.catholic.edu.au and advise us of your child's name, DOB and the sibling + class. We will then arrange to send home enrolment forms over the coming weeks. Thanks

School Photo Make-up Day

For those children that were away from school on photo day, the makeup date is Friday 1st April. A separate email will be forwarded to these students advising that they will be having their photo taken on that day.

PBS4L: Design an Angel Stamp

You are invited to participate in a competition for our PBS4L rewards program. We are in need of a design for an 'Angel Stamp' that will be used by all teachers at OLA. If possible, we would like the design to be a *cherub*. The stamp will track positive behaviour of students.

Criteria of image:

- must fit in the template provided
- black and white outline - not coloured in
- hand drawn design by student
- image only - no text

We will accept designs from all students until Thursday, March 24 (Holy Thursday). Following this, one design will be chosen and stamps made for teachers to use. The *prize* is that the design will be used as the OLA Angel stamp.



Examples of stamps/size the design will be shrunk.

Gold Panning

Yesterday, Year 5 were very excited to have Mr. Kelly (Max Kelly's Dad) come in and give a presentation to us about gold. He taught us all about the different ways to mine for gold and how to gold pan. The tools and equipment he brought in were fascinating to see, not to mention the real gold nuggets and rubies!

We really appreciate the time and effort you took to prepare your talk. It really helped us to consolidate all we had learnt on our recent trip to Bathurst.

Thank you Mr. Kelly!





P&F NEWS

PARISH BALL



We have 2 tickets left on a school parent table. Would you like to come?

Saturday April 2nd, Castle Hill RSL - Tickets \$75.

Please contact us via FB or email asap. Hope to see you there 😊

What's On? 2016 At A Glance

The P&F are involved in many events during the year. 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.

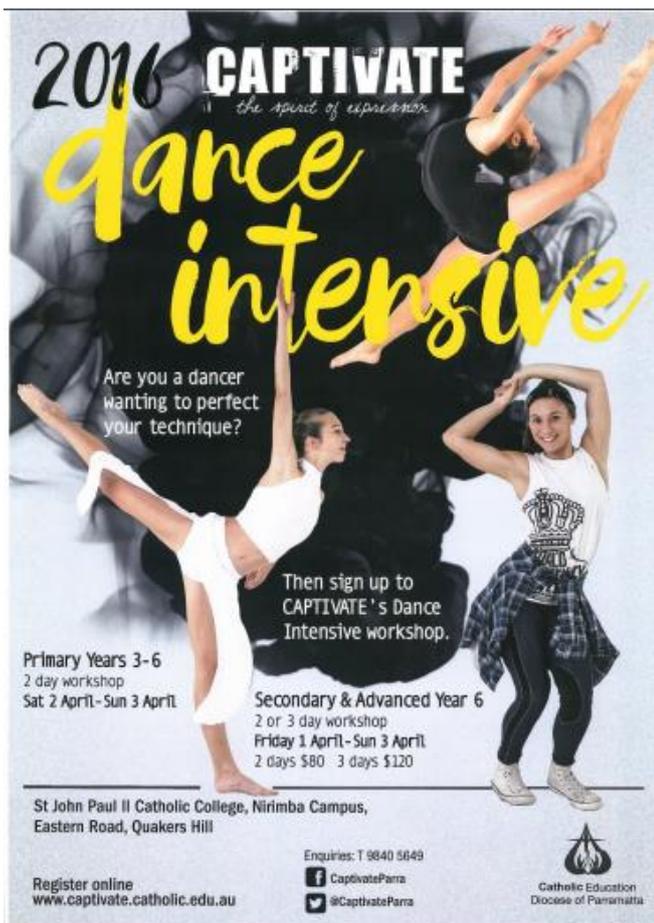
Term	Event
Term 1 (Jan 28, Feb, March, April 8)	Swimming carnival refreshments Social Disco Decorations P&F General Meeting Friday Treats
Term 2 (26 April, May, June, 1 July)	Friday Treats Mother's Day Stall Mother's Day Morning Tea P&F Annual General Meeting Athletics Morning Tea
Term 3 (18 July, August, 23 Sept)	Friday Treats P&F General Meeting Grandparents' Day OLA Family Fiesta Fathers' Day Stall Fathers' Day Breakfast
Term 4 (10 Oct, Nov, 20 Dec)	Friday Treats Outlet Shopping Bus Trip P&F General Meeting Kinder Orientation Morning Teas Santa and Christmas Treat

SPECIAL TREATS ROSTER – Friday 1st April

The roster for next fortnight- Rebecca Galea, Lee-Ann Wallis, Jaye Blye, Vanena Flores, Jennifer Billyard.
Thank you!



*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*



Parent/Teacher Conferences - Week 10

On Wednesday, parents were notified of the parent/teacher conferences to be held in week 10. Please ensure that you login and select your interview time on www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

School Event Code
9gp8f

School Fees

All families should have received a new Bpay reference this week. Please use this in place of the reference that is on your fees. If you need to discuss any aspect of your fees, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you to everyone who have paid their term 1 school fees. For those that are not taking up the flexible payment plan option, the fees were due today. Please attend to the payment of same as soon as possible.

Mrs Goldsworthy

St Patrick's Day

The students at OLA dressed up in green mufti to remember St Patrick and celebrate his feast day. We started the morning with a prayer and learning all about St Patrick and his faith. Thank you to our year 6 students and teachers for preparing the prayer. Then the fun began at first break, where our school captains and SRC representative had organised activities for students to celebrate St Patrick. Thank you to Bella M, Alanah L and Saoirse O for teaching students how to do Irish dancing. All the students had a wonderful morning for a great cause. Thank you for your generous donations to Caritas and Project Compassion. We raised \$633.00.



OLA Boot Camp Challenge! - 22nd March

All welcome



In the next few terms, we would like to give the whole school the opportunity to participate in Boot Camp.

Imagine if we could fill the grass area with students and adults, everyone participating in a short fitness session!

This is an invitation to all students and their parents to join in a 'one off' Boot Camp session this term on **Tuesday the 22nd March, at 8am**. (Due to the anticipated numbers on the day, there will be no breakfast provided for the students and they will need to pack an extra piece of fruit/popper and water for the morning.)



We are hoping this will build community spirit, as well as a fun fitness activity. We will also use this opportunity to raise money for WYD 2016. If you are willing and able to join us on the 22nd please bring a gold coin donation to support the WYD pilgrimage. We hope to invite the newspapers, so a great number of participants would make the grass a fantastic fitness display!

Miss Grima will act as the 'personal trainer' and promises to show mercy – after all, it is the Year of Mercy' ;-)

OLA 2016 Cross Country

Yesterday, Years two to six ran in a cross country it was a very hot and tiring day for all the participants. Today, we had a few students qualify for Zone Cross Country.

We had a lot of enthusiastic and strong runners this year and everyone tried their hardest to win. Well done all the students who gave their all to complete the course!

We had mums and dads cheering us on and guiding us through the track. All of the students cheered each other on during the cross country. We would like to thank all OLA students for helping cheer students on throughout the day. We would also like to thank all the mums and dads for helping us today.

Ashton and Rebecca (Red House Captains)

Thank you to Ms Pepin who organised this year's Cross Country event assisted by Mrs Byrne and Ms Grima. and to all our teachers and parent helpers that made the day a success.

Stretches to get ready...



Off we go!



Phew! We did it!



A BIG thank you to all the parents who gave up time in their day to help with yesterday's Cross Country. Without your help it would not have been a great success! A note has been sent home today to all the children who have successfully made it to zone. Training for Cross Country will commence on Holy Thursday Morning, the 24th of March at 8am with Miss Grima, Mrs Byrne and myself. If any parents can come to help that would be great =D
-Miss Pepin

FROM THE CLASSROOM...4B

Over the last two weeks, we have been learning how to use a variety of apps and programs to help us share our work. A small group of us have been experimenting with a teleprompter program which we will use during our PBL project. In writing, we used an app called Popplet to create mind maps about our convict. We had fun learning how to use this app. Below are some examples of the mind maps we created on Popplet. Lastly, we have been shown how to log in to our Google Drive and have been creating and sharing documents we our teacher.



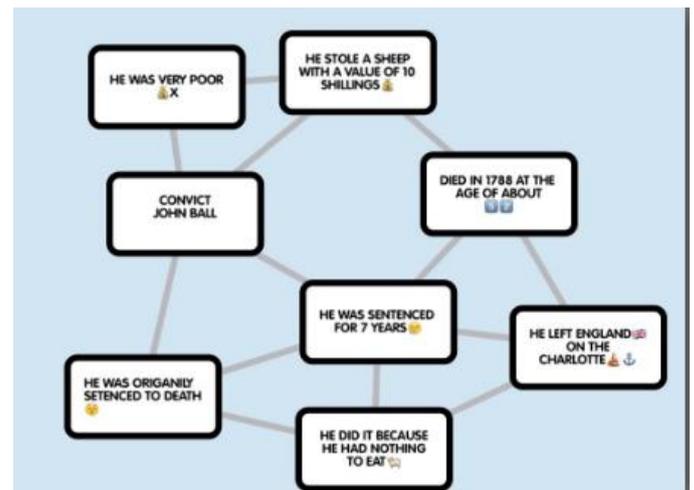
David and Kalan using the teleprompter program



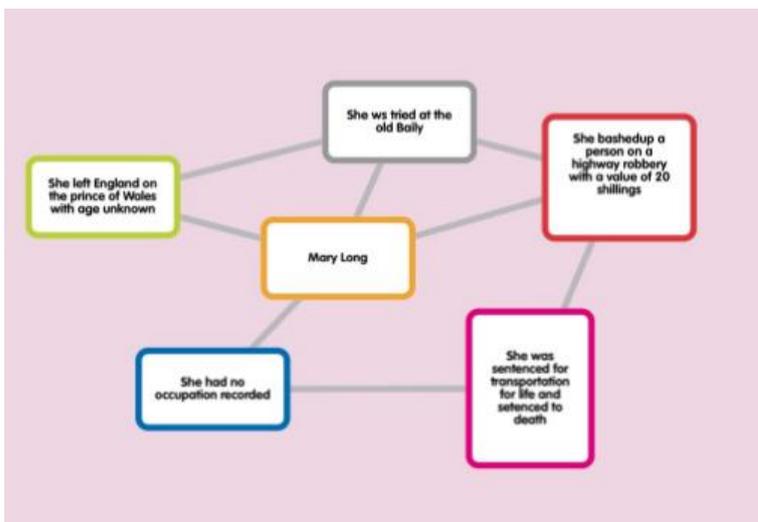
Charli and Olivia using Popplet



Lara and Ashton using Popplet



Two Popplets created by Austin T and Zac L and Sofia S and Nathan C.



From the Parish Office...

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday: normal mass times
Solemn entrance at the 10am Mass

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Last Supper 7.30pm
Adoration will be available till night prayer at 10pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10am
Confessions available after the stations
The Passion Liturgy 3pm

Easter Vigil: Saturday evening 7pm

Easter Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and 5.30pm
After Mass, there will be a special morning tea and Easter eggs from the Easter Bunny!
Please bring a plate to share for morning tea!!
Wishing all our Parish School families a very Happy and Holy Easter.
We look forward to seeing you over Holy Week.

Parish Ball
On Saturday, 2 April, the Parish will be holding a Ball at the Castle Hill RSL Club. Tickets are now on sale for \$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

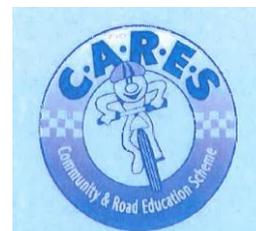
Baptisms & weddings: By appointment
Parish Priest: Fr Warren Edwards
Assistant Priest: Fr John Rizzo
Parish Secretaries: Geraldine Farrugia and Rose Sultana
Sacrament Co-ordinator: Christine Leahy
Email: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au
Website: www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au
Contact information: O.L.A. Parish Office, 1 Wellgate Avenue, Rouse Hill
Ph: 8883 4063 Fax: 9629 7603



What people say about our wonderful school... *I'm sure that outside of our family, there are many other parents and students who experience the same positive impacts from the OLA school environment as we do. Thank you so much for helping to grow our children into confident, positive, bright young adults who are keen to learn in so many different ways. (name provided)*

Dance Fever Parking
Please remember that the Easter Show will also be on at Homebush when Dance Fever Interscholar Challenge is on 23rd March. Therefore, if you are driving to the venue, it would be a good idea to pre-pay your parking. The best places to park are the P3 and P4 parking stations.

Please refer to the CARES Flyer attached to this Newsletter.



Encourage estimating skills, such as predicting how long a journey will take; how long it takes to set the table; how long it takes to walk the length of your street.

Term 1 Week 8	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Paityn Ng	Heidi Nicholls	Alexandra Terzo
Kinder G	Maraya Macaro	Ethan Tierney	Milana Buda
Kinder W	Ryan Knipler	Sofia Costa	Chelsea Strong
Year 1B	Logan Cleary	Mya Bassili	Tahniah Arora
Year 1 G	Lucious Cappello	Ileesha Gunasekara	Isla Ovrachim
Year 1W	Jelena Tolentino	Lachlan Heaney	Grace Labbad
Year 2 B	Michelangelot La	Georgia McQuaid	James Apap
Year 2 G	Lauren Caraos	Amelia Bond	Jonathan Teo
Year 2 W	Logan Hayden	Stella Signorelli	Raymon Chayban

*Until next week, God bless and stay safe.
Eva La Rocca,*