

# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 3 Term 1

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

#### Dear Parents,

At Ash Wednesday Mass, we all received the ashes on our forehead with words '*Remember you are dust and to dust you will return*'. This is a reminder that our earthly lives are finite and we have an obligation to our commitment during Lent to renew ourselves in some way. It is our soul that we must be intent on nourishing in order to achieve eternal life in heaven. We do this through prayer, abstinence and good deeds.

Learning spaces were presented with a purple (the Church's colour for Lent and Advent) cloth and candle for the sacred space. Each family was given a Project Compassion box to take home. You are encouraged to ask your child about these, and have some discussion about the season of Lent, what it means to them and you. Project Compassion boxes are due back at the end of term. St Patrick's Day Gold Coin Fun Day on (March 16) is the **Social Justice** focus for this term and money raised will go to Project Compassion to support the good work of Caritas helping the many needy in our world.

### **OLA Parents and Friends Association**

On Wednesday, the AGM was held with a new committee appointed. I would like to acknowledge the outstanding commitment of the outgoing committee, in particular Annemarie and Kellie. The achievements and the funds raised over the almost three year period is impressive and a testament to their dedication and hard work. <u>Thank</u> <u>you</u> on behalf of all members of our school community.



The new OLA P&F Committee members are: **President-** Alison Streater **Vice President -** Taryn McGrath **Secretary -** Anna Ribiero **Treasurer -** Anna Farrugia

Thank you to Kara Holbi who has offered to be our PRC representative and to Kylie Terzo, Katie Mandarano, Sarah Burgess, LeeAnn Wallis, Mrs Fava and Melissa Strong who have offered to be general committee members.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and put their name forward – successfully or otherwise. This is an indication of your generosity, to offer your time in your already very busy lives.

None of the achievements of the past would have been possible without the support of the parent body in general. I look forward to working with you and the new committee in the interest of building community and 'fun-raising' more than fund raising.

Lastly, thank you to Mr Cauchi and Mrs Byrne who attended the meeting in my absence while on sick leave. I am grateful to you.

#### **Dates to Remember**

Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Infants Assembly 2G			
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Rug Reading 2.15pm; Primary Assembly 5B			
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 5 Bathurst Overnight Excursion			
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	St Patrick's Day; Infants Assembly 2W			
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	OLA Cross Country – Centenary Oval			
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	2019 Kindergarten Information Night – NEW FAMILIES ONLY			
Changes to the calendar: -Cross Country NOW Monday 19th March				
	- 2019 Kinder Enrolment Information Night is now on Wednesday 21st March			
	-Parent/teachers/student conferences are in Week 9			
	- Dance Fever Interschool Challenge- 4 <sup>th</sup> April			

#### Gospel Reflection Sunday 25th February (Second Sunday of Lent)

# Gospel (Mk 9:2-10)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

# Reflection

Have you ever experienced a place or situation that was breathtaking, incredible, glorious and awesome? something that filled you with joy and life and zeal? What was it like? Where was it? What made it so special? Were you alone or with others? Were you able to explain it to someone who was not there? Why or why not?

Why do you think Jesus wanted Peter, James and John to experience him as a glistening, dazzling, transfigured vision? How do you think that affected their faith? How would it have affected your faith? How does it affect your faith just reading about it? Peter did not want to leave that mountaintop experience. He wanted to build some booths and just 'camp out' there for a while. Why was it better for Jesus and Peter and the others to come down from the mountain? Why is it important for us to enjoy and remember our 'peak' experiences, but leave them behind and come back to our everyday life?

(Liturgyhelp.com. Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart, 22-2-2017)

This Lent .....

# PRAYER



Give up something you enjoy!

FAST



GIVE

#### <u>RE @ OLA</u>

16<sup>th</sup> March-St Patrick's Day Prayer/Gold Coin Donation Activities (Run by SRC for the students)

#### HOLY WEEK

26<sup>th</sup> March- Palm Sunday prayer 28<sup>th</sup> March-Grade visits to the Shrine in Kellyville. 29<sup>th</sup> March- Holy Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March- Good Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March- Easter Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April-Easter Sunday Please see Parish Bulletin for all Holy Week/Easter services)

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If your child/ren have received their sacrament of Reconciliation, please contact parish office if you have not received information about First Holy Communion information sessions and dates.



# Mindfulness at OLA in 2018



### Mindful Morning Routine in Year One

The following photographs demonstrate mindfulness in action every morning in Year One. Students unpack their school bag, place drink bottle and lunch box in their trays, put their reading folder into the reading group tub and then come to the gathering space and begin mindful breathing. The five finger breathing exercise is a favourite. Year One is then ready for learning once everyone is organised. When breathing is practised the class plant is watered. Terina Macare



# 2018 Hill; Zone Swimming Carnival

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, the top two swimmers from 13 different schools in the Hills Zone, came together to compete in the 2018 Hills Zone Swimming Carnival. There was some stiff competition, but OLA still had great success throughout the day. OLA showed great sportsmanship throughout the day by cheering for their teammates and congratulating competitors. Some of our students were selected to represent the Hills District in the Parramatta Diocesan Carnival on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. We wish all of our competitors good luck and hope that they continue to show great OLA sportsmanship.

Thomas and Eoin

https://www.maggiedent.com/raising-children-who-shine/



#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE - SCHOOL FEES**

There has been an issue with CEDP sending out the school fee accounts and we expect that families should receive these in the mail next week.

The date for the return of the FPP documentation is now 9<sup>th</sup> March.

# PBS4L

Congratulations to our Archangel recipients this week: Acacia Sales, Peter Giovas, Ella Dimech, Felicity Gresser, Jonathan Teo, Jared Cleland and Olivia Cutajar.



**2019 Kindergarten Siblings** If you have a sibling due to start kindergarten next year, can you please send an email to the office with their name, date of birth and the class of your older child. We will send home enrolment forms the week of 19<sup>th</sup> March

# Helping my child to Add and Subtract.....

In recent newsletters, I have discussed the importance and pivotal role that counting plays in helping children understand number and quantities particularly in the early years. However, when adding and subtracting, it is critical that we expose children to other 'more efficient' methods than counting on by ones to find the sum of two quantities.

The Addition and subtraction Growth Point framework sets out a map of strategies that students use as they become more accomplished mathematicians. More efficient addition and subtraction strategies include knowing doubles, (6 + 6), near doubles, (6 + 5 – "that's the same as 6 and 6 take away 1"), Friends to Ten/Twenty (knowing number combinations that add to 10/20, eg 2 and 8, 3 and 7, 4 and 6, therefore, 12 and 8 make 20, 13 and 7 make 20, 16 and 4 make 20). Also knowing numbers that build to the next ten, hundred, compensation, (eg "20 – 9 is the same as 20 take away 10 plus 1") are all important strategies that children have in their repertoire in order to solve addition and subtraction problems.

In the middle years you may hear children referring to the '*split strategy*' where the tens and the ones are segregated and calculated as' tens and ones' Eg. (27 + 43) is the same as 20 + 40 and 7 + 3 therefore the answer is 70"). Alternatively children may refer to the '*jump strategy*" where some of the ones are added to the tens with some left over, (eg 36 + 22 is the same as 36 + 20 + 2).

Knowing what strategies the children are mostly using, and exposing them to new 'more efficient strategies' is crucial to number development. Knowing that one strategy may be better than another, depending on the numbers involved is an intuitive skill that accomplished mathematicians have. Unfortunately, even in the middle years, some children tend to depend on 'counting all', or 'counting on', by ones in order to solve an addition problem.

Please refer to the article, "parents count too' attached with this newsletter for ideas as to how you can help children at home developing early counting strategies.

God Bless Mr Steve Cauchi

# **Literacy News**

### Helping Your Child with Spelling:

- Using mnemonics to help memorise tricky words. For example, "There is a cess pit in necessary."
- Finding words within words. For example, "There is a rat in separate."
- Making links between the meanings of words and their spelling. For example, sign, signal, and signature.
- Using a dictionary as soon as they know how to.
- Encourage your child to have a go at spelling words they are unsure of. This will give them the opportunity to try out spelling strategies and to identify those that they find useful. You can help them to use the strategies outlined above and praise their efforts.

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

Root Word of the Week: ex- out

# Words of the Week:

Infants: exit

Primary: exhale

## Date for Diaries:

Friday 9th March-Families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of **'Rug Reading'** out on the playground with their child at **2:15pm** during 'Catholic Schools Week'. Please bring in a rug and a favourite book to read.

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

# Technology @ OLA

On Wednesday, Years 4-6 had a visit from Snr Constable Paterson from the Castle Police Station to talk to the students about Cyber Safety. That evening, he presented to a group of parents about Digital Safety. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the session.

# Review by Georgia N and Mia-Bella T in Year 5

This week, we had a visit from Senior Constable Paterson.

He talked to us about cyber safety and how to keep safe online. During his talk, he spoke about the dangers of social media such as Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and Musically; online games and websites we should keep away from and how to use technology properly and safely. We also learnt not to trust people we don't know and not to go on social media unless you are over 13. Also, he told us that the police can investigate us and our social media account even if we delete things.

Here are some of the important messages we want to share with you:

- If you are being Cyber Bullied always tell a parent/guardian and then block that person.
- Make sure you Never give out your personal details or make any fake profiles.
- If you were to have a social media account, always keep your account on private and never accept anyone you don't know.

• When having a social media account always make sure your parents know you have the app. Thank you so much Constable Paterson for coming and spending his time to teach us about how to stay safe when online.



Thank you Constable Rob for attending OLA to speak with our parents about CyberSafety. We are extremely grateful that you take time out of your busy schedule to share your knowledge.

Please see the parent feedback below - it's just such a shame that more parents did not attend.

> I thought the presentation was great and very informative. He gave some great advice and had some really good suggestions around protecting the kids from cyber bullying and predators.

I also really liked that he had spoken to the kids earlier in the day and he referred back to that as well. (child) also thought he was great. The information night was great, however, I was disappointed to see that very few parents were in attendance. I went to the talk last year as well, and I'm sure there was about 5 times the number of parents. Constable Rob's presentation was entertaining, as usual, and I got some great website, and app information that I'll look into.

Unfortunately, I had to leave early, as I had a parent information evening at Santa Sophia. As a result, I missed the end of the talk and was unable to thank Constable Rob personally.

I really hope that we continue to have these information evenings, particularly regarding the internet, as it's so hard to keep up with what is trending at any given time with a particular age demographic.

Perhaps the most important thing that I took away from the night, is that with more open communication between parents and children, fewer situations will occur, and our children will be safer on the internet.

A great talk. Thanks again Constable Rob.

I attended last night with Constable Rob.

To be honest I was surprised that there weren't more parents there to take advantage of this great free resource and education.

I found it absolutely very informative and educational.

There is certainly a lot to take in, and I thought I was pretty tech savvy and up with a lot of the current ways of the world, however it was certainly an eye opener. And something that, whilst my child doesn't do a lot of at the moment, I can see it is something that kids will be more engaged with these social technology apps in the future – and as a parent I want to stay up to date with this growing trend and also keep that two-way communication open with my child. He reinforces this very well and was fantastic with providing strategies on how to do this. So whilst I thought I knew a lot, Constable Rob reinforces this plus more!

I really thought the resources (websites, governing bodies, handouts etc) and where to find information was great. This is probably the most useful part I got out of it – where to find info on certain things should (and when) I need to. Even simple things like – what age group is this app appropriate for?

I would definitely recommend it to any parent, of any school age. This stuff is coming to our kids whether we like it or not, and I agree with Constable Rob that the education of our kids on proper use of these tools and transparency with parents (and teachers) is the best way to ensure the safety for them and our community. I hope that the school continues to get him to talk to the children and parents, as it has made a difference in our household. Even Gemma has come home after the talk and has changed some of her mindset on the ipad apps she has, and now has asked for me to look at her activities regularly.

Constable Rob's presentation was very informative, just as it was last year. Of particular interest is to learn what the current trends are in cyberspace and what is no longer "cool". A lot changes in a year. Constable Rob's approach is always very calm and informative. He is not alarmist, he is a realist, and I think that is the most valuable part of his presentation. His message is always clear: the internet and social media are here to stay and the best form of power you have over this beast is knowledge! As a parent, get vourself informed.

I look forward to what Constable Rob comes up with next year!

Constable Rob was great in my opinion!

# Makerspace

What is makerspace?

Makerspace is place where people can come together to use and learn to use materials as well as develop creative projects. Makerspace at OLA aims to promote learning through play, collaboration and exploration.

Over the last two weeks, this new space has been opened to our primary students during first break and infants at second break. Years 1, 2, 5 and 6 have all had the opportunity to come in and be creative through play, designing and making individual or group projects and challenged by working with our Lego robotic kits.

Just this week, we had thirty-eight excited and eager Year 1 students engaged in the space building, playing and making.

Below are some quotes from the students who have been to Makerspace...

Makerspace is a fun enjoyable club. I love Makerspace because you have your own space to do loads of things like craft, challenges and <u>even</u> LEGO robotics. There's so many things you can do. I love that you can just let your imagination go wild with arts and crafts, and everyone can make a space for each other to do what they like by Olivia H

It is a space that allows you to be creative independently or in small groups by Dante

This is fun space to go and be creative, make and work collaboratively with others on a project of our choice by Makiah

# **Special Request:**

As this space continues to develop, we would like to ask the parent community if you have any items such as foil and cling wrap cardboard rolls (no toilet paper rolls-hygiene issues), newspapers, paper and plastic cups, boxes of different sizes, scrap material, unused and unwanted craft material you would love to donate to our Makerspace it would be greatly appreciated by the Makerspace teachers and students who use this





# From the classroom of 4B

# Bullying, Year Four say NO!

On Wednesday, Constable Rob gave Year 4 a visit. He spoke to us about why we should be cybersafe and how we can look after ourselves when we are using technology.

- We learnt that:
- 1. We do not bully others
- 2. We try to help those who are being bullied
- 3. We include students who are feeling left out
- 4. If we know someone being bullied, we tell a teacher

In Literacy groups we created posters to show how we can be cyber safe.









# P&F NEWS



On Wednesday night, the P&F AGM was held with a wonderful turn out of so many new faces joining us for an exciting night. As the outgoing president of 2015-2018, I would like to begin by thanking the team congratulating them on an exciting and rewarding 3 years for our children and our community. Every event has been a team and community effort and could not have been done without the work of so many who have given up their

time so generously. An enormous thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fun and fundraising... and most importantly to the building of OLA community spirit.

Over this time, the P&F has donated almost **\$80 000** to OLA School. This could not be achieved without the tireless efforts and support of so many both within our local community and beyond. This money has supported the purchase of the children's playground, representative sports shirts, Bootcamp breakfast, sports banners, 3 outdoor gazebos on the oval, portable shade tents and various works of school maintenance and upgrades.

The P&F has also hosted and coordinated many events you may have attended including; The 2015 Walkathon, BLINGO Bingo Night, Grandparent's Day Morning Teas, Kinder orientation morning teas/ Tea and Tissues, Mother's Day Morning tea, Father's Day Breakfast introducing this for children as well as their fathers, OLA Family Fiesta 2016 & 2017, Masters BBQ, Second Hand Uniform Sale, Christmas visits from Santa and Christmas treat, Special Treats weekly, the School Disco, the Bargain Buyers Bus Tour & the Family Photo-Mini sessions ... to name a few!

Thank you in particular to the wonderful outgoing executive and general committee who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes. It can be a comedy act juggling work, children, commitments and being a part of the P&F and each of the these ladies have given of their time so selflessly!

<b>THE OUTGOING</b> <b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b> President: Annemarie Bond Vice President: Kellie Owen Secretary: Lee-Ann Wallis Treasurer: Melissa Strong	THE OUTGOING GENERAL COMMITTEE Nicole Brown, Kelly Cleary, Geraldine Farrugia, Joanna Gladwell, Katie Mandarano, Taryn McGrath, Maria Muscat, Annie Niemiec, Kylie Ross, Laurette Sider, Alison Streater, Kylie Terzo & Sarah Whitehurst. Parent Representative Council member (PRC): Martina Thornton	"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." -Helen Keller
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You are an amazing group of women and should be so proud of what you have achieved!

I'd also like to thank the Parish Office staff especially Fr Warren. Father Warren has been extremely supportive and encouraging and nothing is ever too much trouble. We are so lucky to have him here as our pastoral leader. A special thank you to Mrs La Rocca, Mr Cauchi, Mrs Goldsworthy, Mrs Hunt and the school staff. Thank you for your support and guidance and especially your patience. We certainly have come a long way together and we have had a wonderful journey.

I am very honoured to have been the President of this team for 3 years and warmly welcome a wonderful vibrant new group of people led by Alison Streater and Taryn McGrath. We look forward to supporting them to continue the fun and fundraising and building of the school / parish community here at OLA. I wish them continued success as they begin the adventure.

Kind Regards Annemarie Bond



SPECIAL TREATS ROSTER – MARCH 2: Taryn McGrath, Sarah Jeffriess, Anne-Marie Apap, Joanne Zahorsky, Kylie Terzo, Katie Mandarano. Thank you! ©

#### From the Parish Office... Sacraments of Initiation

**Reconciliation:** For Children in **Year 2** or older, this Sacrament will take place in Term 4 of 2018. Information will be sent out to the children in Year 2 at that time in both the school and Parish newsletters.

**First Communion** For those Children who have completed their Reconciliation, in 2017 this will take place in June 2018. These children will have received an email with all the dates of sessions. Please return this selection at your earliest convenience.

**Confirmation**: For children in Year 6 who have completed and received Reconciliation and First Communion, Confirmations will take place in Term 3. *Information will be sent out to the children in Year 6 at that time.* 

For any enquiries, please contact the Parish Office **Bingo** 

You are invited to come along to our Bingo Night - Saturday, 17 March after the 5.30pm Mass. BYO: nibblies & drink.

#### 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.

#### EASTER SERVICES at OLA

normal mass times	
Solemn entrance at the 10am Mass	
Evening Mass of the Last Supper 7.30pm	
Adoration will be available till night prayer at	
Stations of the Cross 10am	
Confessions available after the stations	
The Passion Liturgy 3pm	
Saturday evening 7.00pm	
8.30am, 10am and 5.30pm	

#### **OLA Playgroup**

Operating weekly from the OLA Community - all ages are welcome. Every Thursday morning 9am-11am in the Parish Hall. For further info contact Melissa 0425 423 680.

# Student Banking

If your child does school banking, please download the <u>CommBank Youth App</u>. Tokens are no longer given out by the bank, but you can track the Dollarmite tokens on this app, as well as many other functions.

Remember to send banks books in on Wednesday and they will be returned on Thursday.

# Coles Sports for Schools Don't forget to collect your vouchers

when you spend \$10 or more at Coles.

# **Book Covering**

If you are able to assist with covering some library books, please see us in the office. We supply the contact.

Thanks,

Term 1 Week 4			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Year 3 B	Abbey Hollier	Lucas Cleland	Pippa Rosano
Year 3 G	Mya Bassili	Dylan Halwani	Keira Mooney
Year 3 W	Hugo Vozzo	Alexandra Tirador	Danielle Vella
Year 4 B	Stella Signorelli	Ethan Phelps	Katia Lesar
Year 4 G	Gemma Haynes	Julia Zammit	Mitchell Ross
Year 4 W	Harriet Preston	Georgia McQuaid	Joshua Robertson
Year 5 B	Noah Ribeiro	Mia-Bella Trifiro	Marcus Billyard
Year 5G	Eva Sultana	Romeo Okunzuwa	Marc Skoljarev
Year 5W	Zane Boatwalla	Angelica Manago	Brendan Ewer
Year 6 B	Jane Whelan	Felicity Scott	Charlotte Zahra
Year 6 W	Ava Bennett	Gabriella Bond	Olivia Lincoln

Please refer the attached ICAS Letter for students in grades 2 to 6

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





Inspiring students to aspire to greatness



CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 6TH APRIL 2018 erine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead

# MARIAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE EACH SESSION WILL: 🐯 Commence in the College Hall, where the Principal and students Tuesday 6 March, 2018 4pm or 6pm Marian Catholic College 🕈 Be followed by guided tours of the school. Visitors will be able to There will be two information sessions to showcase the students and the learning that best suits you (4pm or 6pm). experiences offered at the College.

Enrolment packages will be available at the Open Evening, or for collection from the College Reception. Information about the College is available online at www.mariancollege.nsw.edu.au

from Year 7 and 12 will provide information about school life at

view activities that will be showcased at the various tour stops 💸 Follow exactly the same format, so please come to the session time

> Applications for Year 7, 2019 close on Friday 4 May, 2018.

Please send enquiries to the Enrolment Officer: 9654 6700

- 7.00pm