



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Newsletter
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Term 1, Week 10

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Our School Term Ends Today as our Journey Towards Easter Continues "Holy Week Begins This Coming Week"

Christ's unconditional love for each and every one of us is clearly evident as we recall and reflect on the upcoming key events from Palm Sunday to Holy Thursday, to Good Friday to the glorious 'Resurrection' on Easter Sunday on 12th April. Although at home, I hope that the Easter period will be a happy and Holy time for you and your family, full of Christ's blessings and certainly an opportunity for prayer and renewal. Our rich Catholic culture and tradition is very much evident at this pinnacle point of our liturgical year.

Earlier this term we have had many opportunities to gather in prayer as a Christ centred community. Unlike the doubting Thomas, the children's love of their faith is strong and just beautiful to behold. You should be extremely proud of the wonderful work you have begun and continue to do in your children's lives as the primary educators of their faith particularly during these past few weeks of Home Based Learning (HBL). It has not been easy, but we thank you for working in partnership with us. It has been a new way of thinking and operating that we continue to develop. Thank you for your feedback in all areas as we continue to refine our HBL, taking into account suggestions, affirmations etc. We will resume the OLA HBL for term 2 on Monday 27th April.

With so much that is happening in our world during this pandemic, the Resurrection of Christ and the story of Easter calls us to be people of peace, joy, compassion, respect, forgiveness and prayer.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for their dedication and commitment to Catholic Education over the past term. I am extremely grateful and proud of their efforts. They have successfully undertaken the challenge of HBL with professionalism and enthusiasm.

I would like to extend to all of you wishes of happiness and Christ's blessings over the holidays. Take this unique time as a family to enjoy each other, particularly given the current conditions. The primary years are certainly precious and pass quickly. The time invested now is paid back tenfold in the quality of your child's relationships with you and others. Happy Easter to one and all.

Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

Tony Calabria
Principal

Just in case you wish your child to have some OPTIONAL fun tasks to undertake at their leisure over this holiday break, see the attachment to this newsletter.

This Sunday 5th April is Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter. It marks the beginning of Holy Week. Palm Sunday is the day we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem, being welcomed as our Saviour and King. The people celebrated Jesus' presence and shouted the day where the people cried out to Jesus, "Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

To remember Palm Sunday, you may like to put a branch on the door of your house or on the window, to celebrate Palm Sunday. This would help, despite social distancing, to help us be connected as we enter the Holiest of Weeks. We may be physically isolated, but not separated. We are united as the body of Christ.

We are the Church.



We are coming into an extremely important time in our Church, where Christ sacrifices himself to save us from our sins. This is always a time for personal prayer and reflection.

To reflect on Holy Week, there are **optional** family activities added to K-6 Google Classrooms, for your family to watch and listen to Christ's Passion story.

There will be many opportunities for your family to be part of the virtual Holy Week masses.

-Our Lady of the Angels: Streams Mass daily through the OLA Parish Facebook page.

From the Parish Office...

Easter Message

Millions of Catholics around the world will be unable to attend the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter because of isolation measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

Fr Warren says believers can still deepen their communion with Christ by praying and meditating on God's Word.

The Parish is praying every day for those touched in some way by COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We are especially praying for those infected with the virus and all who are ill, health care workers and those attending to the sick, first responders and essential workers, people of every nation and their leaders, and those who have died. You will hear the Church bells ring at 9am, 12 noon, 3 pm and 6pm. We ring these bells as a means of calling all to unit in prayer.

With Holy Week beginning this Sunday (Palm Sunday) and the Easter Triduum next week, we need to be a little creative in our prayers and in our observing the Holy Days and the sacred time that it is. OLA Parish is live streaming all masses on our Facebook page and we invite you and your family to join in for mass. 7NEWS will also be televising from St Mary's Cathedral the Good Friday service and Easter Sunday mass.

Keeping you all in our prayers,

Our Lady of the Angels Parish

Ph: 8883 4063



*Daylight Saving finishes this Sunday morning. Please remember to wind your clocks back **one hour** when you go to bed on Saturday.*

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2021

If you have an enrolment application at home for Kindergarten 2021, could you please scan it and send it to the office. Please keep the original application to hand in next term (or when we are back on deck).
Your attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Although ANZAC Day will not be formally celebrated in 2020, we give thanks to those who fought for our country.



Medication

If you would like to collect your Epipen or any medication that you have at school to use over the holidays and into Term 2, please call in next week and we can give it to you.

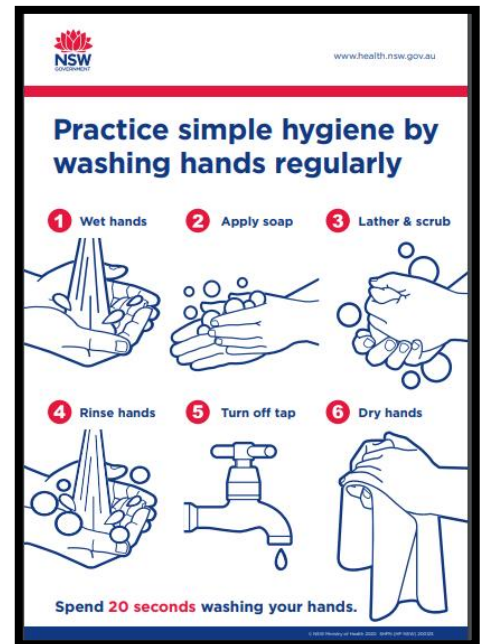
“Love and Forgiveness”

One of the greatest gifts Jesus left us is a true model of forgiveness. The moving ‘Palm Sunday’ gospel this coming weekend tells us about the last moments of Jesus’ life. If a world where, surprisingly, children and adults sometimes find it difficult to forgive others for whatever reason, take a moment to place yourself in the journey that Jesus experienced as part of Holy Week. He was innocent and condemned to death, but still He managed to find love in his heart to forgive those who spoke ill of Him, persecuted him and sentenced Him. ‘Father, Forgive them for they know not what they do’. Luke 23:34

Winter Uniform

For those families new to OLA, we normally transition into the winter uniform by Week 3 of Term 2.

As we are unsure as to when we will be returning to school in Term 2, if you require winter uniform, please complete the uniform order form closer to when we know we are returning, which is on our website, and send through by email. We will process your order and have it ready for collection in the office.



HBL will resume on the first day of Term 2, which is Monday 27th April (the Term 2 Staff Development Day previously advertised for 27th April has been postponed).

Our School has its own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent community. We are asking parents to install our Skoolbag App. To install it, just search for our school name "Our Lady of the Angels Primary Rouse Hill" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store.

There are many benefits to having this app on your device:

- You may select to receive notification for your child's grade only.
- Absentee notes can be completed on this app.
- Access to newsletters and news events linked directly to our school website.
- Instant notification when excursions are postponed, assemblies cancelled due to bad weather, delays during excursions and other important information.



Please ensure that you have updated your settings to receive the correct push notifications. You will receive alerts specific to the selected grade and all alerts sent as a whole school.

Below are installation instructions for the Skoolbag app.

*** SkoolBag App: The homescreen for school life**

Simple Navigation
General Tab for "All school" info

Instant Customisation
Tiles highlight important information, files and updates

Easy Navigation
To Events, Profile & Notifications

Flexible Branding
for consistency and presence

Quick Access
to Content Groups & eForms

Post from the app
for approved admins

SkoolBag

*** SkoolBag App: The Feed & Notifications**

Discover School
Product Updates, Guides & Content

The Feed
All posts appear chronologically

Notifications Tab
Shows history of all "push" notifications received

If you haven't downloaded the Skoolbag App to your phone, please do so as this is another form of communication that we use. Please make sure that you select the relevant grade for your child.