

Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Newsletter
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Term 2, Week 3

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful seeing the children back at school this week and the joy in their faces as they meet up with their teachers and their friends, along with returning to their familiar learning environment. Equally impressive are the kindergarten students kissing mum or dad goodbye at the gate and having a real sense of achievement and responsibility and they independently walk to their classroom.

Thank you to you, our amazing parents for successfully supporting your child's learning and for ensuring the gradual transitioning back to school. Your co-operation with a number of necessary changes ie, not having parents inside the school gates, has been very much appreciated as we strive to keep the children, staff and our community as safe as possible. This past week, the mornings have featured a mixed bag of emotions from parents, including many smiles, tears, cheers and sighs of relief as they waved their children off.

The children have returned with such a positive attitude to their learning and have enjoyed sharing isolation stories. It is wonderful to hear how they have been engaged in their literacy and numeracy at home along with loving having mum and dad there to help them.

We look forward to the weeks ahead as hopefully we steadily return to our normal numbers. Please remember if need be, we are here, open and more than happy for the children to attend.

It has certainly been a challenging time for everyone adapting to different modes of learning and spending an enormous amount of time at home. My appreciation and thanks to the entire OLA staff for their commitment, dedication, and can-do attitude. The teachers have certainly given of their best in adapting to an online environment and in working in partnership with you.

Thank you for your many messages of appreciation. Parents have particularly valued the phone calls, zoom meetings and support they and their children have received.

We look forward to seeing the children again next week.

Thank You Fr Warren

Our appreciation and thanks to Fr Warren. Fr Warren will be relocating to Huon Valley, Tasmania at the end of this month. Given the current climate, a proper and deserving farewell is just not possible. He has been the shepherd of this flock that has grown from strength to strength each year since 2007. Fr Warren's leadership has positively impacted countless people and has seen the Parish enjoy a beautiful new Church and school that will be a constant reminder of his incredible work for this parish.

We would like to organise a farewell gift from our school community to acknowledge the blessing Fr Warren has been to us. If you would like to contribute, please send in a 'gold or fold' donation with your child when they are at school in an envelope marked 'Fr Warren Gift'. This gesture to show our appreciation is purely optional.

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

*Tony Calabria
Principal*

Congratulations

Our thanks and appreciation for the wonderful work undertaken by Mrs Goldsworthy in the office in the areas of finance, fees, payments etc. Our annual finance audit undertaken by CEDP today highlighted her extreme efficiency, detailed account keeping and accuracy in all financial matters. She was commended on achieving 'perfect' results in all areas. Well done indeed.

CONTINUING THIS MONDAY 18TH MAY, (WEEK 4)

As communicated, we have commenced our gradual return to school in line with Government COVID-19 guidelines. There will still be a single mode of learning, ie online, that will be completed by students on site and off site. Given the ever-changing Government directions in these uncertain times, we will communicate arrangements for Week 5 onwards closer to then. Please note that the following arrangements are flexible and may need to change.

At OLA we are gradually returning in House Colour groups. If the day your house colour is allocated does not suit, please feel free to change to another day. (We kindly ask that you let us know via an email if that is the case.) Children who need to attend each day etc, as is currently the case, can continue to do so.

Monday - RED Colour House, plus children of essential workers/extras as is currently the case.

Tuesday - BLUE Colour House, plus children of essential workers/extras as is currently the case.

Wednesday – GREEN Colour House, plus children of essential workers/extras as is currently the case.

Thursday – YELLOW Colour House, plus children of essential workers/extras as is currently the case.

Friday – Children of essential workers/extras as is currently the case.

Once again, my appreciation for your patience and understanding as we work with the governing bodies to ensure a successful transitioning of the children back to school.



Sunday 17th May

Gospel Reflection

Year A

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

[John 17:1-11](#)

GOSPEL REFLECTION-Live in Love

Throughout the gospel of John, we are reminded of the enduring relationship between Jesus and the Father. A number of times, Jesus announces that he and the Father are one. In today's passage, Jesus also says to the disciples that they can share in this relationship of love. When Jesus speaks about anyone who 'loves' him, he speaks about anyone who lives by his message and seeks to be like him. Anyone who does that will share in the love that exists between the Father and the Son. That invitation is open for each of us today as well.

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

The month of May is devoted to Mary. We pray to Mary for her gift of motherhood to Jesus. Her courage, strength, and unconditional love she showed to her son Jesus as a mother reminds us of all the



women in our lives who care and love us. May we continue to pray to Mary and spend time in reflective prayer by saying the rosary.

Staffing

Mrs Grunsell (5W) will commence her maternity leave this Monday 18th May as she awaits the birth of her first child. Mrs Hodgess (2B) commences her maternity leave on Monday 25th May as she awaits the arrival of her second child. We wish the Grunsell and Hodgess families God's blessings for a joyful birth and for the amazing journey that awaits them as their families continue to grow.

We take this opportunity to also say thank you for all their wonderful work with their respective classes and for all they have done for OLA. We look forward to their return in 2021.

We welcome:

- Miss Hogan who will assume the teaching role for 5W
- Mrs Lombardi (4 days) and Mrs Giglio (1 day from Term 3) who will assume the teaching role for 2B.



Happy birthday to members of our OLA Community who are celebrating their birthday this week

Sun 17th May
Serenity Naim
Sophia Ocampo
Logan Hayden
Meliya Boyd

Wed 20th May
Thomas Cutuk
Sienna Dixon

Tues 19th May
Luka Kurcubic
Cameron Muscat

Fri 22nd May
James Farrugia

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR OLA COMMUNITY SAFE

Please note a significant change that we ask for your support in is that we would like to limit the number of parents/adults within our school grounds. This will adhere to social distancing rules for adults and in turn minimise any potential risk.

We would envisage that students are able to independently enter through the gates and venture to their classrooms. We encourage you to use the drive through for pickup and drop off. If you normally collect your child in person from the COLA, we now ask you to please wait outside the gates near the Statue of Mary (keeping social distancing in mind) and we will deliver the students to you. As kindergarten leave a little earlier, they may wait outside the main gate next to the office.

We also continue to ask that contact with the teachers is via email (to the school) or phone only as there will currently be no face to face meetings.

Attendance

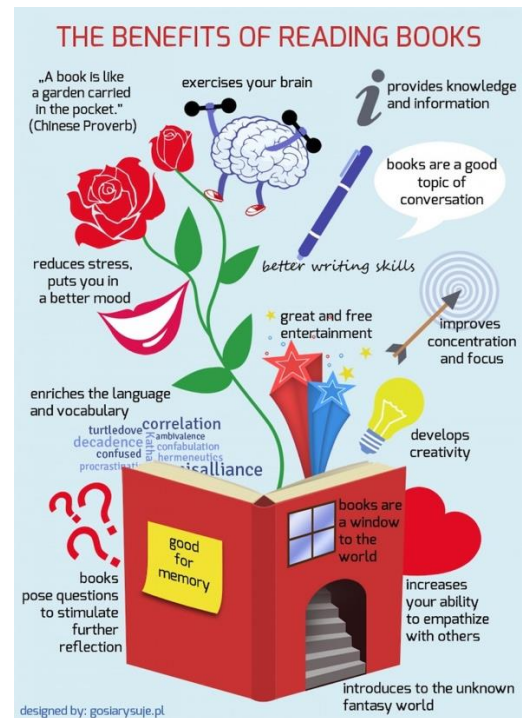
As previously advised, the attendance code 'flexible' is being used for students continuing their studies at home. This approach will not negatively affect student attendance records and will continue during Term 2.

If your child is absent from their studies due to ill health or another reason, please let us know just like you usually do ie, email the school or the Skoolbag app.

Bubblers

The school bubblers will be temporarily closed so we ask that students bring their own water bottle to school when they return.

Literacy News



Write On Competition 2020



To participate in the competition, students compose an imaginative text of up to 500 words in length using the image above as a stimulus.

Write On is an annual **writing competition** open to all NSW primary students in Years 1 to 6. It is designed to encourage students to develop their imaginative writing skills, and supports the teaching of writing. The competition aligns with the learning objectives in the NSW [English K-10 Syllabus](#). The WriteOn 2020 writing competition closes in Week 10, Term 2 (3rd July).

Imaginative pieces may include:

- narratives
- letters
- poems
- scripts for radio, screen and stage
- interviews
- journal entries.

Schools submit their best entry from each stage.

The entries are judged by a panel of experienced primary teachers from each sector.

For more information, please visit the NESA site.

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/events/writeon-competition>

Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

Birthday Treats

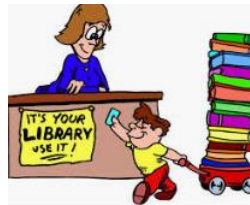
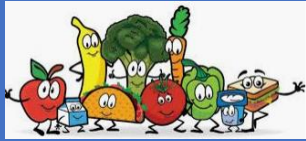
In regards to birthday treats that are sometimes sent in, we kindly ask that you refrain from sending anything in at this early stage. This is to ensure that children are only eating food that is supplied and/or prepared by you at home.

Sibling Enrolment for 2021

Letters of an offer for a place for Kindergarten 2021 have been mailed to all kinder siblings. Please return the Acceptance letter by next Friday, 22nd May. We have quite a few children on a waiting list and so we would appreciate your attention to this as soon as possible.

Canteen

Please keep an eye out for the reopening of the canteen. At this stage we envisage it returning in Week 5 with online order sales only ie, no over the counter sales due to the handling of money etc.



Library Books/Borrowing

We ask parents to return all library books on the day their child attends school over the next few weeks. The students will also have the opportunity to visit the library to borrow books.

Morning Drop Off

We kindly ask that parents do not leave their cars to help their children out during the morning drop off. If your child needs assistance etc it is always best to park and walk them to the gate. For safety, no child should ever exit the car on the driver's side. If baby capsules are in the way, then once again it would be best to park first or alternatively practise climbing over the seats etc. My thanks for your co-operation in helping our drive through flow smoothly and quickly in the morning.



Afternoon Pickup

You may have noticed a few changes to the afternoon drive through. Thank you for your support as we manage the increase of families using this service.

- Please drive to the parking bay where your child will be standing so that your child basically lines up with the passenger door.
- For both drop-off and pickup, the drive through facility is **not** intended as a place for drivers to get out of vehicles. Children need to be **independent** in entering/exiting the vehicle. It is **intended** that parents remain in their vehicles whilst in the drive through area.

Many thanks for your support.

Theme for the Week

"Be Enthusiastic in all you do"

The words of Ralph Emerson clearly express the focus of this week's theme:

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success.

When you do a thing, do it with all your might.

Put your whole soul into it.

Stamp it with your personality.

Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your objective.

Never give up. Nothing is beyond reach.

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

IMPORTANT NOTICE Facebook/Messenger

Please note: There are **NO** official grade Facebook pages. These pages are not to have a school crest/logo etc., as they are not endorsed, contributed to or seen by the school. As a result, there can often be inaccurate information regarding uniform changes, questions about reading levels etc. **Parents are always encouraged and welcome to direct questions to the school office, teachers, Mr Cauchi or Mr Calabria for accurate information.** An example of official vs unofficial was illustrated this week where a parent explained they read it on the Facebook page thinking it was endorsed by the school.

Parent Calendar for Term 2

At the present time there are no set dates for activities, events etc. As a result, we will not be publishing the Term 2 calendar at the moment.

All meetings, including the P&F general meeting will be rescheduled.

Jokes of the Week

Caleb Atkins – 1W

What did the birthday cake say to the ice cream?

You're cool!

Isabella Smith – 5B

Why did the student eat his homework?

Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake.

Kayla Valdez – KW

Knock Knock!! Who's there?

Hatch. Hatch Who?

Bless You

Benjamin Robertson – 2W

What's the best thing about Switzerland?

I don't know but the flag is a big plus

Uniform

You just have to look around the streets to note just how important the school uniform is as a presentation of a student and also the image of their school. We have a very smart school uniform, and we thank you, as parents, to instil in your children the importance of wearing the correct uniform. These photos show what correct uniform looks like for boys and girls. We thank you for your cooperation.



Or knee high socks



Winter Uniform

The students can wear either their full winter uniform or summer uniform up until **Monday 25th May** as we are aware that parents have not had an opportunity to purchase uniforms.

If you require any uniform items, please complete the uniform order form and email it to school. Once the order has been processed, we will let you know that it is ready for collection from the office. If you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Goldsworthy.

Please ensure:-

- That the top button is done up, or at least the tie is tight enough that it appears to be buttoned up
- Black leather shoes, not black joggers, are to be worn with the uniform
- Jumpers are to be worn with the uniform for both boys and girls (not cardigans)
- The bomber jacket is **NOT** to be worn instead of the jumper
- Woollen vest can be worn by either girls or boys
- Sports zip jacket is to be only worn on sports days.
- Fluorescent sport shoes are not allowed.

