



# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Newsletter  
Vol. 2 No. 9

26<sup>th</sup> March, 2021  
Term 1, Week 9

## NEWSLETTER

**Dear Parents,**

*"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 4<sup>th</sup> April. 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.



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. Thank you for working in partnership with us.

With so much that is happening here and abroad with the pandemic, floods and other natural disasters, the Resurrection of Christ and the story of Easter calls us to be people of peace, joy, compassion, respect, forgiveness and prayer.

We extend our thoughts and prayers to all those in our OLA community and beyond who have been affected by the floods.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for their dedication and commitment to Catholic Education over the past term. Together the teachers facilitate learning so that the children work towards reaching academic and human excellence in a faith-filled community. Their generosity in terms of time, self and sharing of skills is often outside the normal hours of the day but it is in giving so much that they truly receive.

We keep in our prayers our Year 3 children who this weekend celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation (carried over from last year due to Covid). We ask for Christ's blessings upon them as they receive this life-giving sacrament. May they truly know that God loves them unconditionally and will also forgive them.

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.

I look forward to Term 2 for yet another great term of faith, fun and learning.

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

*Tony Calabria  
Principal*



## PALM SUNDAY PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR B

[Mk 14:1 – 15:47](#)

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

By the time the gospel accounts came to be written, it was more than 35 years after the death of Jesus. The Gospel of Mark is now very widely held to have been the first of the four gospels, written in about the year 70 CE. One of the reasons for the writing of the gospels was the fact that those who had walked and talked with Jesus were becoming old and dying. There was a sense of capturing the story before the last eye witnesses were gone. This is very evident in the Passion narrative from the gospel of Mark. One can almost hear an elderly voice dictating the events: 'then this happened ...; then he said ...; then we all thought ...' Like so much of this particular gospel, there is very little embellishment. It's like an old time detective show, 'Just give us the facts!' The gospel of Mark presents the story of the Passion as a sequence of events with little commentary or theological reflection. (That is partly why it lends itself so well to being read by several voices.)

One of the best examples that the gospel is a straightforward recollection of events is the inclusion of the scene in Gethsemane when the young man ran away naked. No storyteller would create such a bizarre, unexplained event. There is no explanation of who the young man is, why he was wearing only a loincloth, nor why the armed men tried to seize hold of him. It is reported in exactly the same style as the rest of the story – very matter-of-fact. The presence of the young man – both in Gethsemane and in the gospel – has puzzled scholars for many years, yet if nothing else, it provides evidence of the way in which this Passion narrative was transmitted from lived experience, to memory, to oral account, to written gospel.

### Living the Gospel – Before the cock crows

Peter is an interesting character in the gospels. He is one of the first of the disciples to be called; Jesus changes his name and places great trust in him; he is witness to the most significant moments of Jesus' life; he is able to profess his faith in Jesus as the Christ and yet it is he who denies even knowing Jesus. We might have thought that Peter was Jesus' most loyal and faithful follower, yet it is he who can't stand up and claim that he was a follower of Jesus. Is it any wonder that it is difficult for us today sometimes?

### WHAT IS HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN MARCH AND APRIL

**HOLY WEEK:** This year, as part of our Holy Week celebrations, we will be attending **The Shrine of the Holy Innocents at Kellyville** on Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021. **Parents are welcome to attend this time of reflection with their child.** The address of the Shrine is 8 Greyfriar Road, Kellyville. Please find an approximate timetable of when each grade will be visiting the Shrine.

9:30am-10:30am	Year 1 and Year 5
10:30am-11:30am	Year 6 and Kindergarten
11:30am-12:30pm	Year 2 and Year 3
12:30pm-1:30pm	Year 4



**PARISH MASS RETURNS:** As COVID restrictions have eased, students will be returning to Parish Mass as a lead up to Easter. You are welcome to join us as we return to Mass. Year 2, 3 & 4 attended Mass this week. The following grades will attend Mass next week:-

**Kindergarten and Year Six:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 1 and Year 5:** Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March

### Term 2: APRIL

Year 1 will lead the school in a Resurrection Alleluia Prayer Assembly on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am. All welcome.

### Religion Focus in the Classroom

In Kindergarten, the students have been learning about the events of Palm Sunday. Thank you to kindergarten who beautifully led the school this morning in a reflection about Palm Sunday.



In Year Two, students have been learning about how they are called to care for their neighbours in words and actions just like Jesus' examples.

On Wednesday, The Sisters of Immaculata visited OLA to talk about their mission. We loved hearing all about the the Holy Spirit and how we can call on it everyday! Year 6



### PROJECT COMPASSION

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity. Please return any Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible.



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

#### Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Mar

Abbey Hollier  
Christian Morelli  
Audrey summerhays

#### Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Mar

Abbey Buxton  
Isaac Niezabitowski  
Pheonix Rich

#### Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Mar

Grace Labbad  
Amelia Makdessi  
Adriano Mancia

#### Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Apr

Alonso Buda  
Vienna Bizzanelli  
Laura McKeever  
Sienna Galea  
Lauren Myhre Fox  
Neve Moujalli  
Liam Masters

#### Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr

Mr Steve Cauchi (GO PARRA)

#### Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr

Eden Gresser

#### Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Apr

Alessio Russo  
Sebastian Nasso  
Emma Marsden  
Miss Julia Fahmi  
Mr Sean Huynh

#### Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Apr

Hailey Ocampo

#### Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Apr

Kayla Valdez  
Sienna Benitez-Taalili

#### Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Apr

Paityn Ng  
Chloe Fava

#### Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Apr

Jeanette Abboud  
Mrs Cherie Lopresti

Children celebrating their birthday in the second week of the holidays will be published in our first newsletter next term.

### Principal's Award

Congratulations to the following students who received the Principal's Award for Term 1:-

KB: Sofia Barbara	KG: Chloe Tischler	KW: Daniel Orlando
1B: Alannah Said	1G: Isaac Hartz	1W: Jack Lenane
2B: Gianni Mangano	2G: Kate McKeever	2W: Hunter Donzow
3B: Giselle Desira	3G: Niamh Sweeney	3W: Lachlan Riley
4B: Ethan Zachariah	4G: Skye Batra	4W: Ashley Cabunag
5B: Trinity Oxspring	5G: Astrid Cabunag	5W: Marcel Dalla
6B: Leona Siason	6G: Keira Mooney	6W: Aiden McGrady

### Dates to Remember

#### Week 10:

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Mar** K-6 Visiting The Shrine, Kellyville  
**All Welcome**  
**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Apr** Holy Thursday  
Last Day of Term 1

#### Term 2

#### Week 1:

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Apr** First Day of Term 2  
Children return in their summer uniform  
**Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Apr** 9.00am Resurrection Alleluia Prayer  
Assembly Presented by Year 1  
**All Welcome**  
**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Apr** Motiv8 Fun Day (Third time lucky!!)  
**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr** Kindergarten Excursion  
**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr** **School Photos**

#### Week 2:

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Apr** 11.30am Anzac Day Prayer/Raising of Flag Assembly. **All Welcome**

#### Week 4:

Naplan for Yrs 3 & 5

**Term 2 Staff Development Day – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

**Last day of Term 2 – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

### "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*

### E A S T E R

The only time it's okay to put all of your **EGGS** in **1** basket!!





## Literacy News

### PM e-Collection

A reminder that all K-2 students have access to this reading resource. This is a wonderful way to keep your child reading appropriate levelled books in the holidays. Please contact your child's teacher next week if you need assistance using this resource.

### Holiday Tips for Parents-Avoiding the Holiday Slide in Reading

Many children, especially struggling readers, forget some of what they've learned or slip out of practice during the holidays. Try these strategies to help your child improve their reading during the break and beyond:

1. **Six books to success:** Research shows that reading just six books during the holidays may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right — not too hard and not too easy. Take advantage of your local library (when opened). Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. Libraries often run reading programs that motivate kids to read, so find out what's available in your area.
2. **Read something every day:** Encourage your child to take advantage of every opportunity to read. Find them throughout the day:
  - *Morning:* The newspaper — even if it is just the comics or today's weather.
  - *Daytime:* Schedules, TV guides, magazines, online resources, etc. For example, if your daughter likes the food channel, help her look for a recipe on the network's Web site — then cook it together for more reading practice.
  - *Evening:* End the day by having your child read to you from the book he is currently reading (one of the six books, above). Have them rehearse a paragraph, page, or chapter before reading to you. Rereading will help them be more fluent — able to read at an appropriate speed, correctly, and with nice expression.
2. **Keep reading aloud:** Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so they will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase their knowledge and expand their experience with text, so that they will do better when they read on their own.

It's hard to keep up a reading routine in a season packed with distractions and diversions. These suggestions will fit into a busy schedule and make reading fun!

Source:

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/developing-reading-skills/three-ways-to-prevent-summer-slide>

**Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)** aims to encourage a love of **reading** for leisure and pleasure in students, and enables students to experience quality literature. The **challenge** encourages students to **read**, to **read** more and **read** more widely. **At OLA we would love 100% of our students to participate in this year's challenge.**

Further information can be found on the [PRC website](#).

If your child has participated before, please use the same login. Please contact Mrs Hunt or Mrs Wagner if you need help with your child's login.

Challenge Level	Number of books needed to complete the Challenge	Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge	Maximum number of personal choice books	PRC booklist selection
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9



Congratulations to Ryan Knipler (50m backstroke) and Lucas Clarke (50m butterfly) who this week competed in the Inter-diocesan Swimming Carnival at Homebush Olympic Pool. They swam extremely well. We are very proud of them both



## School Photos

School Photo day is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
(Week 1)



Information will be sent home by email during week 1 about the online ordering of photos. Please ensure you complete this before Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at [www.laurendaniels.com.au](http://www.laurendaniels.com.au).

Children are to wear their **full summer uniform**, have only studs or sleepers, correct hair ribbons, polished shoes, ties done up properly and smiles practised.

## Easter Eggs at School

As the Easter season and the common sharing of chocolate eggs is approaching, it is important to remember that there are a high number of children at OLA who are severely allergic to nuts, eggs and/or dairy etc. Parents are asked to support us by ensuring that **lollies/chocolates/easter eggs are not brought to school by children**, either for themselves or to share with others. Thank you for your continued co-operation in making OLA a safe environment for all our children.

## Year 1 History Day

Yesterday, Year 1 went back in time and experienced a History Day by going to school in the early 1900s.

The children had lots of fun playing olden day games like jacks, skipping, elastics, pick-up sticks, quoits, cat's cradle, marbles, hopscotch and ball and scoop. A special thank you to the parents and grandparents who came to help with the games. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities and one even said, "This is the best day ever!".



## Dance Fever Challenge

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

If your child is attending the Dance Fever Challenge this Wednesday evening, please make sure that you read the email and flyer that was forwarded to all parents yesterday. This flyer details the venue, times, dress code and how to purchase your ticket. Children come dressed in these clothes to the venue.

The night concludes with an Interschool Dance Challenge comprising of all children from Yrs 3-6. Children in Year 3 & 6 need to bring a black T-shirt, dark shorts and joggers. Children in Years 4 & 5 need to bring a white T-shirt, dark shorts and joggers. Children will change into their Showcase clothes after they have participated in their individual dances.

The allocation of tickets for OLA has been exhausted however parents still wishing to buy tickets should purchase tickets in Section M1

**Motiv8** has been rescheduled for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April (Week 1). Children will be in the same groups as they were allocated two weeks ago. All other details will remain the same.

## Palm Sunday Liturgy

Today Kindergarten led the school in a Palm Sunday celebration. We were excited to see the many parents that came along to join us in prayer. Kindergarten would like to wish everyone a Blessed Easter.



## SMS Student Absences

We will begin SMS student absence alerts starting on Day 1 of Term 2. This will be a time saving and easy process to lodge why your child is absent. Please see information coming home this coming week.



*Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:-*

Term 1 Week 9		
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award
KB	Nathan Andrews	Ana <del>Vrljic</del>
KG	Gabriella Dias	Kirra Tierney
KW	Angeline Garcia	Oscar Kumar
Year 1 B	Ava Nobleza	Zarah Kausei
Year 1 G	Alexander Newman	Alexis Kenyon
Year 1 W	Amali EnosiTuipulotu	Lucy Roberts
Year 2 B	Sebastian Nasso	Amelia Fava
Year 2G	Milena Grech	Harvey Fenech
Year 2W	Johanna Torres Islas	Arlo Nobleza
Year 3 B	Alessandro Albertini	Hailey Ocampo
Year 3 G	Olivia Blackman	Damien Pendlebury
Year 3 W	Flynn Coughlan	Alissar El Khoury
Year 4 B	Khai Aldaba	Olivia Iori
Year 4 G	Zachary Dixon	Cooper Ross
Year 4 W	Zoe Bell	Alex Vozzo
Year 5 B	Lucas Clarke	Georgia Sourial
Year 5G	Ethnan Mathew	Elyssa Marsden
Year 5W	Evangeline Vargas	Addison Del Rosario
Year 6 B	Olivia Cutajar	Jelena Tolentino
Year 6 G	Jayden Ennor	Grace Labbad
Year 6 W	Cailee Graham	Russell Rochaix

## Harmony Day

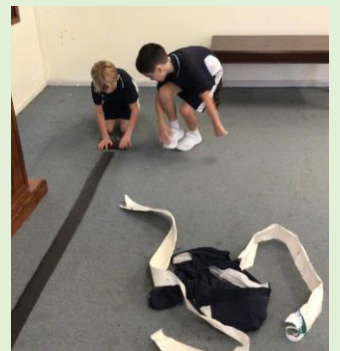
This week we celebrated Harmony Day. We wore white shirts and our theme was Peaceful Minds, Peaceful Thoughts, Peaceful Actions and Peaceful Hearts.

Each grade were given some pieces of a puzzle and wrote ideas of how they could show Harmony with others. Today at assembly we put the pieces of this puzzle back together symbolising how we as a school work together to show Harmony.



## Year 2 Science Day

This week Year 2 had a fantastic incursion about recycling. We learnt how to repurpose our household products to stop them from ending up in Landfill.



Are you missing out?? Join our Facebook page.

Take a look and see the amazing learning and happenings at OLA

<https://www.facebook.com/OLARouseHill> Or Click on the facebook f in the top corner of our school website

Be sure to 'like us'

## Artist of the Week

Congratulations to our final Artists of the Week for this term. Our display includes a wonderful array of artworks representing Australia and overseas. We also have 2 pieces celebrating Harmony Day.

K Neve Moujalli

1 Jack Lenane

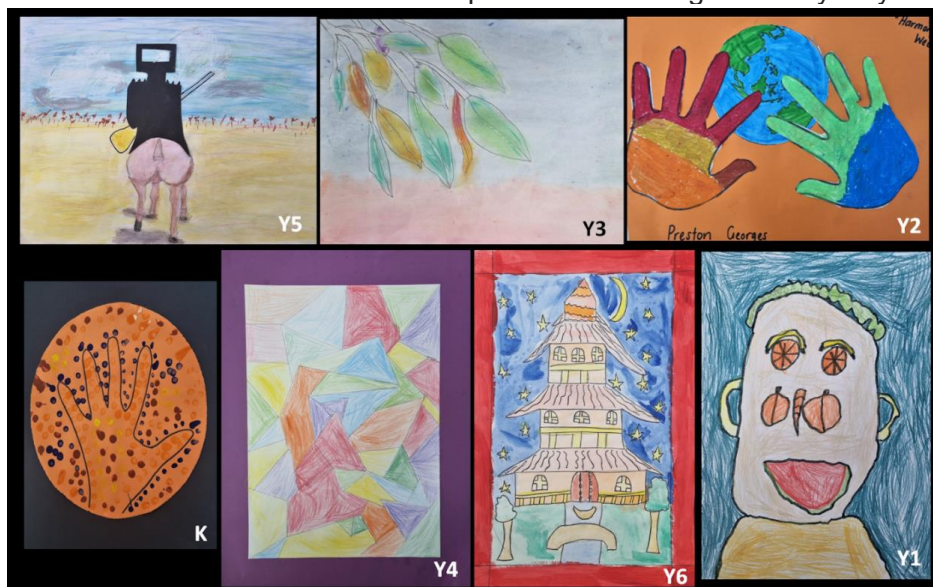
2 Preston Georges

3 Annie Blazey

4 Gael Casino

5 Leah Ocampo

6 Isabella Smith



## P&F Minutes

The Minutes of the recent P&F AGM are attached to this newsletter.

The next P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00am

*Daylight Saving finishes on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Please remember to wind your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Saturday.*

## ANZAC Day

Anzac Day falls on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April (end of Week 1). There is NO public holiday on the Monday.

We will celebrate this event at school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am with an Anzac Day Prayer/Raising of Flag assembly. All Welcome



## Holy Week

at

## Our Lady of the Angels

*Palm Sunday Vigil (27/3) - 5.30 pm*

*Palm Sunday (28/3) - 8.30 am, 10.00 am, 11.30 am & 5.30 pm*

*Holy Thursday (1/4) - 7.00 pm - Evening Mass of the Last Supper  
with Night Prayer and Adoration until 10.00 pm*

*Good Friday (2/4) - 10.00 am - Stations of the Cross*

*Good Friday (2/4) - 3.00 pm - The Passion Liturgy*

*Easter Vigil (3/4) - 7.00 pm - Saturday*

*Easter Sunday (4/4) - 8.30 am, 10.00 am, 11.30 am & 5.30 pm*

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Confessions

Good Friday - 10.00 am onwards

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Booking is essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/BPGYI>



## Uniform Shop

Winter uniform stock is now available.

For those new to school life & OLA, the students will transition into their winter uniform by week 3 of Term 2, depending on the weather. Advice will be given in the newsletter early in Term 2 as to the date that the change over will take place.

