



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

1 Wellgate Ave Kellyville 2155

Phone: 8808 7300

Email: ola@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website <http://www.olarousehill.catholic.edu.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OLARouseHill>

Newsletter
Vol. 2 No. 29

10th September, 2021
Term 3, Week 9

Dear Parents

The finishing line for our 'Marathon' is certainly in sight as we enter the last week of Term 3. After we complete this term, we have a well-earned break for rest, recuperation and time to just be. After the holidays we have a 'fun run' (rather than another marathon) for three weeks before we begin our staggered return under the direction of the Premier.

It will continue to be challenging but together we can do it. As parents you have been outstanding, thank you for your partnership. Thank you to the teachers, it has been a term like no other and they have certainly excelled, and finally congratulations to our children, who have proved they can do anything they put their mind to.

There has been much talk about the impact of Covid on our learners, but the following reflection certainly puts a different perspective on it.

A different viewpoint of the impact that lockdown and remote learning has on our children...

What if they have more empathy, enjoy family connection, can be more creative and entertain themselves, love to read, love to express themselves in writing?

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own garden and sitting near a window in the quiet? What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organise their space, do their laundry and keep a well-run home?

What if they learn to ride a bike, play a board game, do simple crafts, learn to bake, climb a tree, play without a screen?

What if they learn to understand the value of money, what's important and how to live with less? What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home?

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

What if they learn to just be: to be resilient, to be content?

What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers?

What if, among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life?

Congratulations to Mrs Lombardi, who has been appointed to Santa Sophia from 2022 onwards. Mrs Lombardi joined OLA in Term 2 last year covering a Maternity Leave position. Our thanks and appreciation to Mrs Lombardi for her outstanding work as Year 2 Teacher and as a member of our OLA team. We wish her all the best for the future.

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

*Tony Calabria
Principal*

NEWSLETTER

Please note: IMPORTANT DATES

Term 3: The final day of remote learning for Term 3 will be Friday 17th September.

Term 4: Monday 4th October is a Public Holiday

Tuesday 5th October will be a Staff Development/Pupil Free Day

On Tuesday 5th October, staff will be remotely completing their full first aid certificate which is renewed every three years. This important professional learning ensures that our staff are fully trained to support and look after your children in the event of an illness, accident or emergency.

This day was originally planned for the end of this term but required rescheduling.

COSCH will be operating on this day if there is sufficient need for supervision. If you would like to contact COSCH, please email Gillian our COSCH co-ordinator on gillian.pedder@cdpsl.org.au

Wednesday 6th October – Remote learning will resume.

WIN-WIN WEDNESDAY

Wellbeing Is Needed

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will continue with our fortnightly Wellbeing afternoon this coming Wednesday, 15th September from 12 midday. The teachers will post wellbeing activities for the children on their Google Classroom page on Wednesday morning. Please take the opportunity for some Wellbeing for everyone.



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
Sunday 12th September 2021 [Mk 8:27-35](#)

Gospel Reflection

In the Gospel Peter goes from the top to the bottom in no time. He scores high when he answers that Jesus is the Messiah, but then is reprimanded by Jesus when he doesn't want to hear of death and suffering. It's like a roller coaster ride for poor Peter.

Have you ever had one of those roller-coaster days – up one minute, down the next? Describe what it was like. Do you think Peter could relate to that day? Can you relate to Peter's?

Obviously Jesus loves Peter, even when he messes up. He congratulates Peter when he does well, and he criticises him when he does poorly. Peter is praised when successful, and forgiven when unsuccessful. How is Peter's relationship with Jesus like your relationship with your parents? How is it different?

Jesus speaks of following him and taking up the cross. He means that we will have to endure the suffering and the difficult times if we are to be his followers. Have you endured some hard times? Who has endured those hard times with you? When have you supported someone else going through hard times? Do you think this is what Jesus is talking about? Why or why not?

How is taking up the cross and following Jesus (mentioned in the Gospel reading) connected to putting your faith into practice (mentioned in the second reading)? How is Jesus' message similar to James' message?

ARE YOU OK? Here is a simple way that we can reach out to others in need. Take time to call someone, text or email to check in. Sometimes a random act of kindness is enough to put a smile on someone's face and allow them to feel the love of God. Just a simple chat with a friend can lighten the load and brighten a day.



Literacy News

2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE



Congratulations to all the OLA students who participated this year.

We had just over **140 participants** in this year's challenge. Please note the PRC Challenge closed last week. The validations will continue until the 17th September. **Congratulations to Amelie Pelaez 2W & Charlotte Naim 4B for completing the Premier's Reading Challenge.**

A special mention to the following students for reading so many books in this year's challenge. These results are outstanding

- Aiden Ajay 1B (48 books)
- Brae Aldaba 2B (46 books)
- Caleb Atkins 2G (52 books)
- Jenessa DeLaCruz 2W (53 books)
- Cassie Graham 2G (46 books)
- Rey Gupta 2G (39 books)
- Melina Lesar 2B (96 books)
- Elisheba Mathew 2G (44 books)
- Kate McKeever 2G (157 books)
- Jai McLuskey 2G (49 books)
- Kiaan Rawal 2G (68 books)

Congratulations to the following classes for their high percentage of student participation. 2G we will celebrate your success next term. All students will receive a certificate.

1st 2G

2nd 5W

3rd 2W



Books you read after the Challenge closes can count towards the next year's Challenge

Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

We 'BOUNCE BACK' at Our Lady of the Angels.

This week we focus on being able to 'Bounce Back' when things don't go the way we expected or when we feel afraid. At times a task or experience may seem too overwhelming. It seems easier and may feel safer to rely on another person stepping in and doing it for us. Developing independence to 'have a go' and to 'Bounce Back' in a safe environment is important for developing confidence, self esteem and independence. It is important to understand that this may take many attempts and that this is ok. At OLA we celebrate new learnings and growth when children overcome challenges.

Each week the students will be asked to reflect on their feelings and experiences of times they have and can 'Bounce back' when things don't work out the way we would like or expect. These student reflections may be social or learning experiences. OLA the Koala, our school mascot will need some advice and we hope you enjoy the positive conversations that occur with your children as you discuss these ideas. You may even like to watch this catchy music clip together. [The Playground Craze - BounceBack Video on Youtube.](#)

Rebecca Cordukes – Coordinator



Thank you ...We very much appreciate your kind words of appreciation

"I have been meaning to send a thank you email for some time now.

I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you for your support, and words of kindness over these last few weeks. The slides prepared every day are absolutely amazing, so creative and filled with interesting and fun learning ideas. How do you do it?

Especially wanted to give my appreciation for your organising the kids to have reading sessions or little time to chat to friends that they miss so much. I know my son absolutely lights up and is reenergised from these small opportunities. It means so much to him and to our family the extra effort you are all doing to help with these trying circumstances.

Your commitment is outstanding, all while also dealing with your own families and workloads.

It doesn't go unnoticed, as a parent I know and just wanted to express my gratitude for everything you do for the kids."

"As I listened in the background earlier to my daughter receiving support and guidance on something that she finds extremely tricky, I felt compelled to write and express our appreciation and thanks.

The world we find ourselves in has so many challenges for everyone. We are all juggling and doing the best we can but the dedication and support provided by OLA is amazing and we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge it.

The teachers' expertise, positive attitude and commitment has provided comfort and assurance throughout this learn from home experience. The time and effort undertaken by the teachers in setting out the work so it has a sensible structure and is easy to follow makes each day run more smoothly and provides an 'at school' feel. The extremely detailed guidance through clear steps, videos, links and voice recordings is so helpful and offers a reassurance of being on track with the required tasks. The positive written and audio feedback provided by the teachers never fails to bring a smile to their faces.

The creative approach taken in the Music, Italian and Sports lessons to allow them to continue to grow their skills in these areas is wonderful.

We just wanted to take the time to write to you. Homeschooling is hard and challenging at times, but it is made so much easier with the help and support from OLA. A special mention to our children's teachers. We believe they are dedicated, caring and committed teachers who bring out the best in our children.

Theme for the Week

"Understanding, Tolerance & Inclusion"

We live in a diverse society, one where there are differences between people. This applies to gender, people with physical and intellectual disabilities, and other differences. One of the greatest challenges posed by a diverse society is how very different people can live together. One solution for the tensions that differences can bring is tolerance. Tolerance means being prepared to live with and accepting differences.



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

Sun 12th Sept

Esther McDonald
Jackson Navarro
Mrs Rebecca Moulton

Wed 15th Sept

Grace Wallis
Samuel Meighan

Mon 13th Sept

Zara Pisani

Thurs 16th Sept

Joshua Shnoudi

Tues 14th Sept

Harrison Ko
Heidi Nicholls
Giacomo Crosato

Fri 17th Sept

Ruby Millers

Sat 18th Sept

Mrs Rebecca Cordukes

Values Matter at OLA

"Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion"

As always, parents teach by example

- Notice your own attitudes
- Remember that children are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself. Do not make jokes that perpetuate stereotypes.
- Select books, toys, music, art and videos carefully
- Point out and talk about unfair stereotypes that may be portrayed in media
- Answer children's questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.
- Help your children feel good about themselves.
- Honour your family's traditions and teach them to your children.

School Captains Message

Just in case you missed Wednesday's Facebook post of a message from our School Captains Matthew Kamber & Ebony Lynch, Click [here](#)