



## Our Lady of the Angels School Rouse Hill

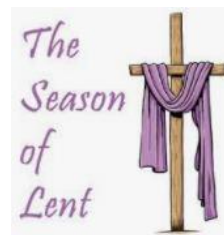
Newsletter  
Vol. 3 No. 7

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11<sup>th</sup> March, 2022  
Term 1, Week 7

### Catholic Schools Week 2022

Yesterday, as part of Catholic Schools Week we welcomed 2023 prospective parents to OLA. They were certainly impressed with our beautiful school and all that we do. This coming week we celebrate two special Feast Days, St Patrick's on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March and St Joseph's on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March. For St Patrick's Day, we invite the children to wear green accessories with their normal school uniform. This can include green ribbons, hair scrunchies, bangles, gloves, socks, laces, shamrock etc. Please see the RE Section of this newsletter for item to donate for the St Vincent de Paul Kids Packs Program.



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Schools around the Diocese of Parramatta next Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> March will join in helping those that have been affected by the devastating floods in the Lismore Diocese to support those in need. OLA will be holding a **CRAZY HAIR/MUFTI DAY** on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. We kindly ask the children to bring in a gold or fold (note) donation which will be forwarded to those who have suffered losses and hardships in the Diocese of Lismore. Please note – although the Diocese are moving to a cashless system, monetary donations can be made on this day. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you for your positive feedback regarding family week. Spending time and having 'experiences' with the family are what students crave. Family time is the most important time you can spend in building strong family relationships. Some activities undertaken by the children that have shared over the week have been:-

- Family movie night
- Cooked dinner with the family
- Rode our bikes to the park
- We played Cluedo
- Played board games

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During Catholic Schools Week it is wonderful to hear about why our children love being at OLA. Below are just some examples of what some children wrote:-

*I love OLA because of the astounding teachers and peers whom I can trust and I am comfortable with, this guides students to learn and thrive with support knowing that they can be themselves and learn. I also love the learning spaces as it enhances my learning abilities and allows me to reflect on a variety of tasks we have done as a class, group and independently.*

*The extra curricular activities that OLA gives, grants opportunities and experience to students who want to expand their knowledge and do things that they are compassionate about, like cheering people on at sport events or speaking at a debating activity. This is why I love OLA.* Leah Ocampo Year 6

*I love OLA because everyone treats each other equally and is kind. When someone is upset the teachers always helps them. Our principal always makes sure that we are happy. Everyone respects each other and the environment. We are all kind.* Zoe Farias Year 4

*OLA is a great school because I get to learn Italian, music, sport, science, religion, maths, dance, writing, literacy groups, reading, art and health. Also I like the days when we do something like – waterslides, mufti days, Motiv8, Pyjama Day. OLA is the best school that I have ever had in my life.* Aiden Ajay

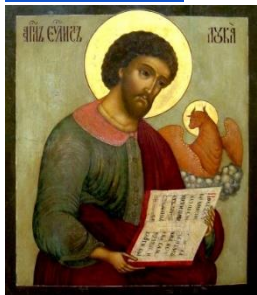
*Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.*

Tony Calabria

NEWSLETTER

# First Sunday of Lent (6th March 2022)

Luke 9:28-36



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

### Listen to Him

God's voice from the cloud claims Jesus as his Son, the Chosen One and then goes on to instruct those present - and we, the readers - to 'Listen to him!' For the disciples, this was a message not to get carried away with their own ideas about the Messiah but to listen to what Jesus was saying about the suffering he must endure and to what he was saying about true discipleship. Jesus tells us that to be a follower of his involves sacrifice, hardship and often unpopularity. It is this message we must listen to as much as the promise of salvation. (LiturgyHelp.com @ Greg Sunter)



## Caritas – Project Compassion 2022

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

This year we will be fundraising in a different way for Project Compassion. Donations can be made throughout the Lenten Season using the **QKR App** (under Fundraising), or directly through the Caritas site at <https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/ourladyoftheangels>. All fundraising proceeds made through the QKR App will be forwarded to Caritas at the beginning of Term 2.

To promote children's understanding of giving to others this Lent, why not ask your children to help around the house to earn some money for Project Compassion. Instead of receiving coins to go into the traditional Project Compassion Box, maybe you could run a tally that they can see, and at the end of it make the donation online together.

**First Reconciliation:**  
Please keep in your prayers our OLA students preparing for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.



## Stage Masses

This coming week the following grades will be celebrating Mass in the Church:-

Years 3 & 4 - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am

Years 5 & 6 - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 11.30am

Parents of these children are welcome to attend.



## St Patrick's & St Joseph's Feast Day Thursday 17th March

### Green Accessories

## St Vincent de Paul 'Kids Pack' program

This year for the Feasts of St Patrick (and St Joseph) we are supporting the St Vincent de Paul Charity with their Kid's Packs Program.

We are asking students to donate either long-life flavoured milk poppers, packets of individual size plain popcorn, pretzels, or mini rice crackers. sed that these are the only items to be donated ie, no individual chips, twisties etc.

As part of an act of service, the Stage Three students will be putting the pack together and we will deliver them to St Vincent de Paul to distribute to schools who have nominated they need assistance for their families.

Thank you to Year 3 who will be presenting an assembly on Thursday 17th March at 9.00am about St Patrick & St Joseph.

Year 3 parents are welcome to join us for this assembly. Year 3 have also prepared and displayed posters around The school promoting the Kid's Packs Program.



Each Kid's Pack contains a long-life flavoured milk, and an individual serve packet of each of the following — mini pretzels, mini rice crackers and plain popcorn.

## Literacy News

### Ways to improve reading comprehension at home

#### Help them decode words by reading aloud

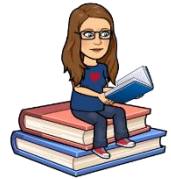
An awareness of the letters and sounds words make and understanding how they blend together to make words and sentences is called decoding. When you read you determine what the words are and whether they make sense in a sentence. The only way to check how your children decode, is to ask them to read aloud. This forces them to go slower, which gives them more time to process what they read, hearing the words as well as seeing the words on the page.

#### Find the right books

It's important not to set the bar too high. Generally, your child should recognize 90% of the words in the books they read in order to feel comfortable with the reading process. Stopping more often will interrupt the flow and will just confuse him or her as they try to focus on the overall meaning of the story. Obviously, also pick stories that interest them. It could be fairies, adventures, cars or Star Wars. We all prefer to read books about things we are interested in, so let your children do the same.

#### Source:

**Premier's Reading Challenge** Please contact Mrs Wagner via the school email if you need any login details. More information can be found on the [PRC website](#).



**Congratulations to the following students for completing the challenge this week. Well done girls!**

**Evelyn McKee 2B, Olivia Falzon 3B & Sienna Ng 4B**



At OLA we would love **all** students to participate in this year's challenge. There will be a pizza lunch for the grade with the greatest percentage of participants.

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

### **What is Number Busting?**

Number busting is an activity that is appropriate for all children from K-6. It is used to help children understand quantities of numbers. It allows children to manipulate a quantity to find that it is made up of a variety of smaller quantities. It is important that children realise that there are multiple pathways to 'bust open' a given number.

Children in the younger years benefit from using concrete materials such as bead strings, pop sticks or counters when busting a number. Children then use this knowledge to solve other mathematical problems.

#### **Try This**

**Let's bust open the number 45.** (number can be manipulated depending on age/ability of the student). The challenge is to find as many ways as possible to split or partition this number in 3 minutes. The solutions should be interesting and creative.

#### **Example**

$4 \times 11 + 1$

Half of 90

The number of days in January plus 14

7 squared - 4

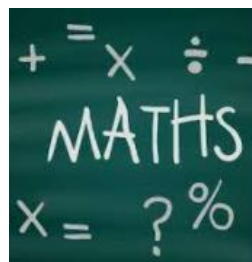
$(3 \times 10) + (3 \times 5)$

90 divided by 2

$(100 - 50) - 5$

The difference between 10 and 55

The number of legs on 8 ants take away 3



This is a great activity to do at home. Children can share their favourite solution and explain why they have chosen to share it.



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

**Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Jenette Tan  
Natalie Vella

**Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Carlos Ji  
Gabriella Dias  
Lachlan Newman

**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Mason Sleiman

Liam Dyke

Mrs Christine Bernobic

**Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Frankie Francis  
Chloe Cambourn  
Noah Lesar

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Riley Johnson  
Julia Aguilar  
Jack Austin

**Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Eni Odejayi

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Benjamin Andrews

***Do you have the Information you Need?***

*Thank you to the many parents who contact the teachers, the office, Mr Cauchi or Mr Calabria directly with questions, concerns, feedback, issues and more importantly to seek clarification. Society is such that information is often misconstrued or acts like 'chinese whispers'. Common sense should always prevail. Today's sensationalistic media does not help with the dissemination of accurate information. It is always paramount that if you are unsure that you speak to the people that know and have the correct information.*

*To that end, please always send any emails to [ola@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ola@parra.catholic.edu.au) and these will be forwarded to your child's teacher, Mr Cauchi or Mr Calabria. Please **DO NOT** send any emails to your child's teacher directly.*

**SMS Absence Text**

Please DO NOT send a message through the absence texting system other than in response to the 10.30am absence text sent out stating the reason for your child's absence. **If your child tests positive to Covid-19, please ensure you email the office so that we can respond and send home the home learning link.**

**Playground Fun**

Finally, after the rain the children have been able to have some fun in the playground with their friends. Our new sandpits were certainly a hit!

**Kindergarten 2023  
Sibling Enrolment Application**

Enrolment forms for siblings were due today. If you have not returned the completed enrolment form, can you please do so early next week.

**Mackillop Hoodies**

We are proud of our school uniform and how smart the children look. As the representative season begins, children that represent MacKillop often purchase a hoodie to mark the event. A few students have been wearing these to school as a substitute to the normal school jumper/jacket. This MacKillop sports hoodie is not part of our school uniform.

From Term 2 onwards, MacKillop representative clothing will not be permitted to be worn at OLA.

Many thanks for your continuing support in this area.

**School Fees**

If you are not opting to pay by the flexible payment plan, the fees are due and payable by 18<sup>th</sup> March. If you have any queries at all or would like to set up an extended payment plan, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Goldsworthy.

**Dropping off too early??**

Please be aware that student supervision officially begins at 8.20am when the school gates are open. If, on the odd occasion you arrive a little early, your child must be seated near the entry gate next to Admin until the teachers on duty arrive at 8.20am.

Thank you for your support in this area.

**Theme of the Week:**

*"Have Faith & Trust in Jesus"*

Our theme this week helps remind us that we should always place our trust in Jesus – to trust and know that His love and care will always be with us and guide our lives. As a family we live out and show our faith and trust in Jesus as we deal with life's challenges. Prayer as a family is just one of the many ways of making Jesus part of our lives.



*Kindness*  
BE KIND AND  
COMPASSIONATE  
TO ONE ANOTHER,  
FORGIVING EACH OTHER,  
JUST AS IN  
CHRIST GOD  
FORGAVE YOU.

*Ephesians 4:32*

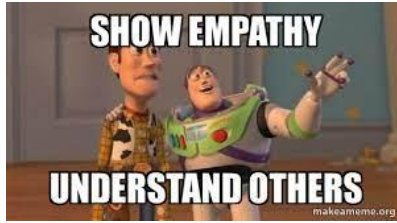


# We 'BOUNCE BACK' at Our Lady of the Angels

Students at OLA will be exploring the themes of empathy and forgiveness. Empathy is the ability to step into the shoes of another person, aiming to understand their feelings and point of view, and to use that understanding to guide our actions. Empathy is really important for how we get along with people. Whether you can be a good friend or be successful with a team of others depends on being able to understand how other people might see a situation and how they are feeling. It helps you know how your actions affect others, what actions you need to take to be a good friend or teammate, and it helps you understand more about the people and the world around you. Forgiveness is when an individual voluntarily chooses to let go of feelings and thoughts of resentment, bitterness, anger, and the need for vengeance and retribution toward someone who we believe has wronged us, including ourselves. Developing empathy is a necessary step in forgiveness. Like adults, kids sometimes feel wronged by others. Through retaliation, kids may feel like they are merely responding to the situation, however, they may be less accepted and more rejected by other kids, and have fewer or lower-quality friendships. On the other hand, choosing to forgive can de-escalate a cycle of conflict and preserve a valuable friendship.

We ask that you continue this conversation at home to identify the need to ask for forgiveness and also to forgive others so that we are able to move forward from situations that we hold on to. Developing resilience and the capacity to 'Bounce Back' from situations at times, requires the forgiveness of others and/or ourselves.

You may like to watch this catchy music clip together. [The Playground Craze - BounceBack Video on Youtube.](#)



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## Online Safety – Constable Ethan West visits OLA

On Wednesday, students in Years 3-6 had a visit from Local Area Police School Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Ethan West. During his visit, he spoke about how to be safe behaviour while online and consequences of inappropriate use of technology. Constable West provided the students with strategies they can use in their everyday lives as they navigate technology.

As parents, we ask that you remind your child/ren of online etiquette and consequences of engaging in unsafe or inappropriate behaviour. It is important that, as parents, you are always aware of your child's online activities. For more information and strategies to support you at home, please visit the government website <http://www.esafety.gov.au/>.

Below are some examples of the messages students took home from the chat with Constable West about being safe online.



## 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.

## Winter Uniform

For those new to school life, please note that the children do not change into their winter uniform until about week 3 of term 2. The winter uniform will be available for purchase from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

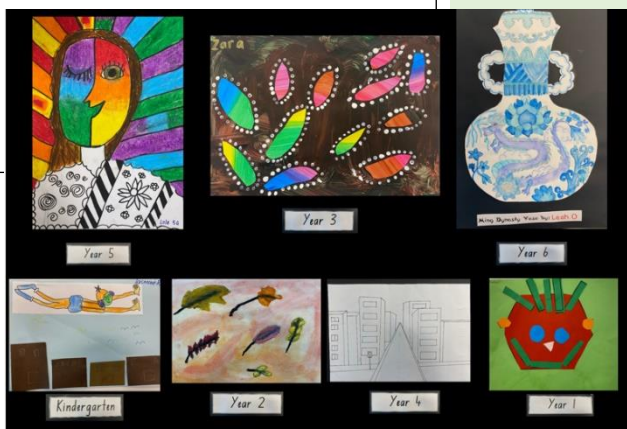
## School is Cool – but not if you are late

Being at school on time in the morning is paramount. Your child's learning is often disadvantaged if they are late. They also often feel embarrassed arriving after everyone else. They miss important messages and/or the start of their lessons, in all their learning results can suffer. If on the odd occasion that you arrive after 8.50am, you, as the parent, must visit the office to sign a late slip for your child to take to class. Thank you for your support in this area.

### Artist of the Week:

Congratulations to the following students who have their work displayed this week:-

- K: Jasmine Russo
- 1: Cooper Rossi
- 2: Adrian Farrugia
- 3: Zara Farias
- 4: Zara Pisani
- 5: Lola Quinlan
- 6: Leah Ocampo



## School Hats

OLA has a "NO HAT, NO PLAY" policy

Please ensure your child has their school hat with them each day to assist in promoting sun safety and awareness in your child/ren. Any child not wearing a school hat at play times will need to play under the sheltered areas. Please ensure that your child's hat is clearly labelled.

### Dates to Remember

#### Week 8

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Mar

Stage 2 Mass – 11.30am

**Parents of Years 3 & 4 welcome to attend**

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Mar

St Patrick's Day – Green Accessories can be worn – Donations to Kids Pack Program 9.00am Short Assembly presented by Year 3  
**Parents of Year 3 welcome to attend.**

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Mar

**Crazy Hair/Mufti Day**

Gold or Fold Donations for the Lismore Floods

## Student Awards

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

Term 1 Week 7		
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award
KB	Marcus De Guzman	Zoe Tan
KG	Edie Mallard	Gabriella Atalla
KW	Edward Heyes	Evie Micallef
Year 1 B	Sierra Macquet-Maurel	Samora Noel-Osimen
Year 1 G	Ashton Riley	Sirine AlLati
Year 1 W	Noah McCrory	Gabrielle Acluba
Year 2 B	Chayse Attard	Sienna Mataia
Year 2G	Cameron Brackenbury	Alina Youssef
Year 2W	William Lewis	Victoria Zakharova
Year 3 B	Amelie Pelaez	Sofia Montgomery
Year 3 G	Emma Alin	Zara Farias
Year 3 W	Charlotte Eyres	Korbin Bruckard
Year 4 B	Olivia Blackman	Giselle Desira
Year 4 G	Zara Pisani	Alana Apap
Year 4 W	Kenyon Okunzuwa	Olivia Hartz
Year 5 B	Sid Gael Casino	Emily Al Lati
Year 5G	Magnus Myhre Fox	Natalie Vella
Year 5W	Ava-Belle Chong	Luca Signorelli
Year 6 B	Grace Wallis	Mia Lee
Year 6 W	Evie Vargas	Tomas Mallari