



Our Lady of the Angels School Rouse Hill

Newsletter
Vol. 4 No. 2

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9th February, 2023
Term 1, Week 3

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families throughout the school and particularly to our 2023 Kindergarten cohort. The kindergarten students have been just beautiful and are well and truly already part of our OLA community. Kindergarten through to Year 6 are very settled and enthusiastic about their learning. I have been most impressed with the children's behaviour, manner and love of learning. This is a credit to you, the first educators of your children.

This coming Monday and Wednesday, we look forward to seeing you at the Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet sessions. These will be held in your child's classroom. These 10 minute interviews provide an opportunity for you to meet and discuss your child's needs with their teacher. Parents know their children better than anyone else and sharing this knowledge gives teachers a valuable resource to assist them in progressing your child's learning. As communicated, bookings were undertaken online.

Many thanks to the teachers for generously giving up their time out of school hours to meet with you. Thank you in advance for being on time. Given these are short meetings, if you require additional time, your teacher will organise it with you. We encourage you, if you wish, to have your child with you when you meet with the teacher so that they can be part of the conversation.

I wish to inform the school community that Mrs Byrne (Yr 5W & Religious Education Co-ordinator) has decided to access entitled leave from the start of Term 2 until the end of the year, to undertake a rare and exciting opportunity of a lifetime to travel. We all wish her safe and enjoyable travels.

Miss Kristina Jurcevic, who currently job shares on 5W for two days a week with Mrs Byrne, will assume the full time responsibility for 5W from the beginning of Term 2.

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

Tony Calabria
Principal

Kindergarten and New Families BBQ THIS AFTERNOON AT 5.00PM

As communicated, all Kindergarten and new families to Our Lady of the Angels are invited to a welcoming BBQ this afternoon from 5.00pm on the school grounds. Sausage sandwich and drinks provided.

ARE YOU MISSING OUT???

For up to date information and events,
Visit our Facebook
page <https://www.facebook.com/OLARouseHill>
Or Click on the facebook f in the top corner of
our school website
Be sure to 'like us'

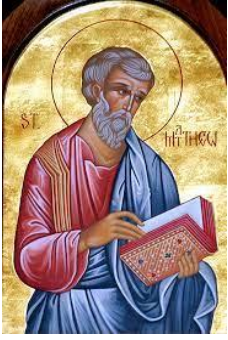
Opening School Mass

OLA's Opening School Mass and Leaders Commissioning for 2023 (School Leaders will be presented with their badge) will be held on Friday 17th February at 11.30am. All are welcome to join us for this special occasion.

KINDERGARTEN 2024 ENROLMENT INFORMATION SESSION AND SCHOOL TOUR

Friday 10th March 9.30am – 11.00am

Commencing at 9.30am with a presentation and tour (for approximately 1 hour) Please pass this information onto family, friends, neighbours etc who may wish to enrol their child into our school.



Gospel Reflection ([Matthew 5:17-37](#))

Jesus demonstrates the crucial nature of interpretation. It is easy for us today to look at something like the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes and dismiss them as irrelevant. Taken literally, they may seem to have fairly limited application to our modern lives. However, interpreted in a broader context and within the context of our own lives, such ancient codes of behaviour can take on new significance. Jesus points us towards the importance of looking beyond the surface and searching out the truth of such statements. Interpretation of scripture for our modern lives and modern world is vital to living life to the fullest.

(Greg Sunter @ Liturgyhelp.com)

Parish (9.00am) and School Masses as

Parents are most welcome to attend all masses with the children

Please see below for timetable.

WEEK 4: OPENING WHOLE SCHOOL MASS (Friday 17th February) 11.30AM

WEEK 5: ASH WEDNESDAY MASS (22nd February) 11.30AM WEEK 6: Tuesday 28th February (Year 1/Year 2)

WEEK 7: Wednesday 8th March (Year 5/Year 3)

WEEK 8: Tuesday 14th March (Year 4/Year 6/Kindergarten)

WEEK 9: Tuesday 21st March (Year 1/Year 2)

WEEK 10: Wednesday 29th March (Year 5/Year 6/Kindergarten)

Week 11: WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDING SHRINE FOR HOLY WEEK at Kellyville (Grades will be staggered throughout the day)

World Youth Day 23 CSPD Fundraising Event

*Thank you to everyone for your generous donations for our World Youth Day mufti today.
Please see below and throughout the newsletter for more photos of WYD Mufti.*



Welcome

We would like to welcome the following new families who have joined our school this week:-

The Loona family – Riddy 4W
The Gungab family – Dayron 3G

We hope that your years here with us at OLA will be richly blessed and that you will make good friends and experience learning that is meaningful, exciting and growth promoting.

Theme of the Week

“Together we are a Community”

Our theme this week helps acknowledge and appreciate our wonderful OLA community, in which each one of us plays a vital role. Together we gather, bonded by our Catholic values and relationships. As a community we examine just how we treat each other so as to continue to foster our sense of community and create harmony.

TRAFFIC AROUND OLA

Traffic at the beginning of the year is always congested as families work out the best time to leave home, or whether to catch a bus or walk etc. It usually settles down with the first few weeks.

We have more children catching the bus after school, so we have attached the Hillsbus timetable for our school for your attention. If you would like to apply for a bus pass for your child, please apply online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students

Parking is limited in the streets around the school (Rangers have already been spotted during drop off and pick up). Please see attached a flyer from Council which outlines the local rules and fines and apply.

Many parents avoid the queue by parking over at the ovals and walking up to the school. It is actually quicker and gets your steps up.

A reminder that for the safety of all in our community, please park ‘Rear to Kerb’ and use the designated crossings in the car park (ie, do not walk across the middle of the car park or trample across the gardens)

2024 Kindergarten Enrolments – Sibling

If you have a sibling that is due to enrol at OLA for 2024, can you please complete the attached google form and we will send home an enrolment pack for you to complete.

Enrolment forms and all supporting documentation needs to be submitted to the office by Friday 17th March.

<https://forms.gle/ZKANXX84hsLUbDc9>

Student Information Form

Thank you for completing the Student Information Forms sent home last week. A reminder if you have not already done so, please return forms on Monday, 13th February. Thank you.

PARENT HELPERS???

Have you completed your Child Protection for Volunteers Training??

It has been pleasing to see how many of our parents, grandparents, etc, have completed the Child Protection Training in anticipation of helping out at school. Whenever this is done, the school is notified by email and the names added go on a register to which we refer when someone wants to come into the school. The list is growing, thank you.

To avoid disappointment, please make sure you have completed this. The URL is:

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>

This includes helping at school in areas such as excursions, reading groups, P&F events etc.

We strongly encourage all parents to undertake this very quick online process every February every two years.

Grade Overviews

A detailed grade overview for the term was emailed to all families last week. It includes important information specific to your child's grade to assist you in knowing what your child is learning.

SRC Representatives – PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE FOR ASSEMBLY – Thursday 23RD February, 9.00am

There will be two SRC members for each class in Years 1-6 elected for the first semester (Terms 1 and 2) and another two SRC members elected for the second semester (Terms 3 and 4). There will be a boy and girl SRC member each semester. The presentation of SRC badges will take place at a SRC presentation assembly on **Thursday 23RD February at 9:00am** and then in Term 3 on a date to be advised. Parents will be notified by their child if they have been nominated as SRC of their class. Kindergarten will have two SRC members for the second semester only (ie Terms 3 and 4).



Happy birthday to members of our OLA Community who have celebrated their birthday this week or celebrating their birthday this coming week....

Sun 12th Feb

Benedict Ypilan

Mon 13th Feb

Sophia Gobran

Noah Baba

Charlise Mitrovich

Tues 14th Feb

Cooper Cameron

Wed 15th Feb

Ollie Coughlan

Zavier Dabit

Thurs 16th Feb

Liam O'Connor

Olivia Medjumurac

Fri 17th Feb

Emily Godden

Dates to Remember

Week 4

Mon 13th Feb

Meet & Greet with the Teachers

Wed 15th Feb

Meet & Greet with the Teachers

Thurs 16th Feb

9.00am SRC Presentation Assembly.

All Welcome

Fri 17th Feb

11.30am Opening School Mass and

Commissioning of School Leaders.

All Welcome

Week 5

Mon 20th Feb

OLA Cross Country

Tues 21st Feb

Shrove Tuesday

9.00am Welcoming Kindergarten Ceremony

Wed 22nd Feb

Ash Wednesday

11.30am Whole School Mass. All Welcome

Thurs 23rd Feb

9.00am SRC Presentation at Assembly

Birthday Treats

We kindly ask that you continue to **NOT** send in any birthday treats of any kind, edible or non-edible. This is to ensure that children are only eating food that is supplied and/or prepared by you at home. **Continuing this practise at this time is aimed solely at doing everything we can to ensure the safety of your child, particularly as Covid is still present within the wider community.**

MARK THE DATE

Kindergarten

Tuesday 21st February – We will hold a short assembly for kindergarten parents where we will present our newest members of OLA family – Kindergarten 2023.

Whole School

Friday 3rd March - Rug Reading – Our popular Rug Reading afternoon for Term 1 will be held at 2.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

The Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) – What Now?

Over the past two weeks, every child will have undertaken a Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI). This has been a valuable opportunity for teachers to individually assess the thinking and attitude of each child towards numeracy. Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta have been conducting the MAI for several years now. It is conducted at the beginning of each school year and data is analysed at an individual, class, grade, school and system level.

Why do the MAI?

Children's lives are enriched through interactions with their family, friends and environments. Through these encounters, they construct and learn number concepts and skills. Before beginning school, children know names of many numbers, can recite some sequences of number names and attach a numerical value to small collections of items. (Gervasoni & Perry, 2015). Many children have acquired a degree of number sense that allows them to solve intuitively the problems they encounter as part of their daily living and learning. However, like all learning, this is not the case for all children.

In order for teachers to maximize the mathematics learning for all children there are several factors that come into play....

1. What does the student already know?

2. What are the next steps?

3. What learning experiences will best enable the student to achieve those next steps?

4. What are some possible difficulties or 'hurdles' that may prevent student progression.

This is where the MAI comes into play. The MAI outlines a reference framework of growth points, (milestones or major stepping-stones) across four number domains of counting, place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. It maps out a likely course of children's mathematical learning and it provides the teacher with the opportunity to identify what the student has already mastered and subsequently plan suitable learning opportunities that will maximize growth. After analyzing student responses in a MAI, teachers are able to determine growth points, monitor growth and student progression, identify mathematically vulnerable students and plan learning experiences that will most effectively enable children to reach the next growth points in their mathematical learning.

If you have any further queries around the Maths Assessment Interview, or how to assist your child in numeracy, please see your child's teacher or myself for direction.

Mr Stephen Cauchi,
Assistant Principal

Literacy News



Book Covering Parent Helpers

If you are able to assist with the covering of readers and library books, please contact the office so Mrs Wagner can create a take home pack.

Thank you

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. The **2023 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge** will be launched on **27th February** this year and further information can be found on the [PRC website](#). Students will receive their login details in the next two weeks.



2023 Challenge dates

Students can include any books read from the end of the 2022 challenge on their 2023 reading record. Key dates for the 2023 challenge are:

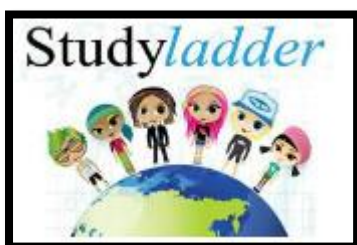
27 February 2023 - challenge opens for student entries

Friday 18 August 2023 - challenge closes for student entries

Friday 1 September 2023 - final date for coordinator validations of completed reading records. The PRC rules have been updated for the 2023 challenge. Students can now include up to 10 choice books on their reading records, and can count 5 books from an approved series as PRC books. Please refer to the rules page for more information about the 2023 PRC rules.



StudyLadder



StudyLadder is an educational website offering a wide range of activities for students aged 4-12 years. From Maths to literacy, science, music, art, culture and health. The site also includes some interactive games, videos, and other content. Whilst at school, students have unlimited access to the activities set by their teachers. Students may like to attempt tasks for homework. At home, students have access to only **three** tasks (whether they are completed or not) per day. StudyLadder might request that parents subscribe to this resource. This is **totally optional and really not necessary**, as students have multiple opportunities to complete tasks.

Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator



From the Office....

Thank you to all parents for your patience during the first week of school. The office desk and phone is often at its busiest at this time of year and so we do appreciate your patience.

Just a few reminders:

OLA is Cashless - OLA, like many schools in the Diocese, is now cashless. We ask all parents to download the Qkr App (instructions attached to this newsletter) as this and EFTPOS will be our only options for payments (other than fees). You cannot pay school fees on the Qkr App at this stage. If any payments are due to be made eg, gala days, sport trials etc, a note (email) will be sent home asking you to use the Qkr App. For existing families, can you please ensure that you change your child's class to their 2023 class, otherwise we do not know at a glance the correct grade and class they are in.

Notes for the Office - Each morning teachers will ask the children in their class if they have any notes for the office. Teachers will keep any information they require and will send any other notes to the office via the class note bag. This system allows the office to receive notes without parents being required to come into the school. It also helps the children develop responsibility for passing on information. **For those new to school life, if a note says, 'please return to the office' we mean for it to come through the notebag to the office.** Thanks

Change of Details - It is **critical** that the school always has up-to-date contact details for all students. Please ensure that any phone, address or contact details that change are relayed to the office as a matter of urgency. It is particularly important to advise the office if there is a change in the home situation (eg separation). It is most distressing for children and staff if we are unable to contact parents in the case of a child being ill or injured.

Late/Early Leavers - **If your child arrives at 8.50am or later, you need to come into the office to sign them in.** If your child is late for school or needs to be collected early, you must attend the office and fill out the Late/Early Leavers Slip. If there is a need to pick up your child early, please **DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE** to ask that your child is ready for when you get here. They will be called only when a parent has arrived to collect them. This is in the interest of minimising work in what is already a very busy office and in reducing the amount of lost learning time for your child. It is also recommended that appointments are made out of school time, wherever possible.

Exemption for Leave Form - If you are taking your child on holidays and they will miss 5 days or more from school, an Exemption for Leave Form **MUST** be completed prior to the leave and sent to the office. A certificate will then be completed and sent home. If notification is given either during or after the leave, then your child's roll will be marked as 'unexplained' leave.

School Fees - Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) will be sending out the school fees towards the end of next weeks. As we do not accept cash over the counter, if you do wish to pay your fees by cash (as opposed to credit card, direct debit, bpay) you may do so via Australia Post. Once you have received the fees, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Goldsworthy if you have any queries at all.

Medication - If your child needs medication at school, new medication forms will need to be completed and given to the office. Please see us if you need to discuss anything, or you need the forms. **No medication is to be kept in your child's school bag.**

Are you Receiving Emails? - As information & various notes are emailed from the school, please ensure that we have your correct/preferred email address on our system.

Thank you.

Tech Tip Week 2

The eSafety Commissioner runs webinars to help parents understanding the digital age. These live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences.

If you want to register for a webinar, please click on the links below each heading.

eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary and secondary school.

It will cover:

- who we are
- what you can report to eSafety
- helpful advice and resources for parents and carers.

Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

8 February 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

21 March 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/9079267171533697803>

Setting your child up for success online

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary school.

It will cover:

- age-appropriate expectations and boundaries
- online risks and strategies to keep your children safe
- where to find support for you and your child when things go wrong.

Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

8 February 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm

28 February 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

14 March 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/1671877126416238091>

Getting the most out of gaming

This 45-minute webinar provides families with strategies for supporting children and young people to have safe, positive experiences when playing games online. It is designed for parents and carers of children aged 7 to 14.

It will cover:

- when gaming can be beneficial and strategies to promote better in-game experiences
- how to keep children safe online – using safety and privacy settings in games and platforms
- strategies to promote more balanced gaming and how to create smoother transitions from game-play to other activities
- the key online risks and where to find help for things like bullying and harassment in games.

Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

14 February 12:30 pm to 1:15 pm

14 March 7:30 pm to 8:15 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/1334321559130979344>

Navigating online friendships

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in secondary school.

It will cover:

- how to support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships
- what to do when something happens at school and ends up on social media or private messaging apps
- how to report to social media platforms and eSafety.

Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

22 February 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

29 March 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/1578436230242883596>

Uniform Shop

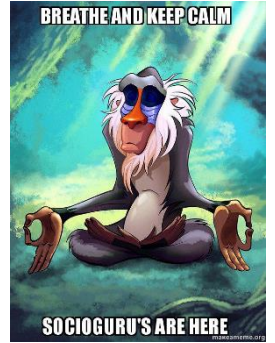
Uniform orders can be left at the office, through the notebag, via email or over the phone at any time throughout the week, and they will be **filled on Mondays and Wednesdays**. No cash will be accepted. Eftpos only.

Please note that we are **unable** to supply a hat or any other item first thing in the morning from the office as the uniform shop is not in the admin building.

We Bounce Back at OLA

Students at OLA are learning about different feelings and emotions. Acknowledging that we all experience different emotions and naming them is an important element of being able to 'Bounce Back' from situations that did not go the way that we wanted or expected. Some strategies include:

- Take 10 deep breaths
- Have a drink of water
- Walk away
- Talk to a teacher



We ask that you continue this conversation at home to identify the strategies that work best for your child/ren. You may like to discuss times when your child/ren have used these strategies successfully at home and at school.

Take a breath.

Breathing in through the nose for three seconds and then breathing out through the mouth slowly for 10 seconds is a beneficial strategy to help someone calm down. Perhaps you could ask your child/ren to show you the 'Calm Breathing' technique

Year 5 Sydney Zoo Excursion

On Monday 6th February Year 5 got to head off to Sydney Zoo to experience first hand what animal adaptations were all about.

Sydney Zoo was a great experience and a great entry event for our Science unit on Animal Adaptations. We had a wonderful session with one of the zoo educators who talked to us about the three different adaptations. We also had the chance to meet and touch some of the zoo animals and discuss how they adapt to their environment. They were a goliath stick insect, children's python and the shingleback lizard.

Year 5 then had a fantastic time walking around the zoo and viewing the different animals from Australia, South East Asia and Africa, as well as the nocturnal, reptilian, primates and water animals.

Thank you to our wonderful parents who came on the day to enjoy this experience with us.



OLA Sports News

School Team Sporting Trials Expression of Interest have CLOSED!

Thank you for entering your child. We are waiting for our OLA list of students to approve, so once we analyse the information you will be notified Via email one day next week in regards to approval and allocated trial dates. *Please note all **Football(Soccer)** entries.* Due to overwhelming applications each year Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocesan have allocated the approval process to the Football Representative Selectors.

Good Luck to our students trialling for the Mackillop Sporting Teams.

Touch Football (February 15th): Ruby Masters and Asher Davidson

Basketball (February 24th): Max Masters and Isaiah Balangon

Tennis (February 24th): Ethan Zachariah

OLA Cross Country – Monday 20th February

All students in years 3-6 and any 8 year olds will participate in the OLA Cross Country. Students aged 8,9 and 10 (in 2023) will be running 2km and students aged 11 and 12 (in 2023) will be running 3km. Please keep in mind that when your child participates in any sporting event they are required to compete in the correct age group for that year. This should be the age they are turning or have already turned in 2023. Which means any date between 1/01/2023 to 31/12/2023. Please communicate with your child before any event what age group they are to compete in.

A google form will be sent out soon for you to fill out requesting permission to attend the event at Centenary Park (Across the road), seeking parent helpers and will your child be competing for a spot on the OLA Diocesan team or just running for school spirit. We have some extremely talented long distance runners and we want to give them the best chance so we will place them towards the front of the pack on the day. At OLA we encourage all students to give everything a try so we can't wait to see all our students running for school spirit and our school community.

GALA Days

Please note all Stage 2 and Stage 3 students, there are NO allocated Gala Days for Term 1. However we have our Football (Soccer) Gala Days planned for Term 2. Trials will be held for all Stages both girls and boys early Term 2. Please keep an eye out for an expression of interest google form prior to trials.

Hills Zone OLA Swimming Team

Thank you to the parents who have filled out the google form. If you are still yet to fill out the form could you please do so over the weekend, as the information is needed by Monday morning.

Mrs Lyndelle Batten
Sports Coordinator

Parramatta Eels NRL Clinic

On Wednesday, many students from Yrs 5 and 6 participated in an NRL clinic. The clinic included appearances from 3 current Parramatta Eels NRL players - Jake Arthur, Sam Loizou and Tony Mataele. The students had a great time learning some skills and participating in drills. There were many excited onlookers keen to get a glimpse of the Eels players. We thank the Parramatta Eels NRL club for initiating this wonderful experience for our children.



Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Awards this week.

Term 1 Week 3		
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award
KB	Gabriella Mazza	Stella Kokozyan
KG	Kiara Valdez	Lucas Medjumurac
KW	Valentina Mangano	Jackson McNamara
Year 1 B	Josephine Pranoto	Mason Taylor
Year 1 G	Angela Shim	Alvaro Barbara
Year 1 W	Stella Bunda	Dannilee <u>Vilila</u>
Year 2 B	Benjamin Pisani	Aria Navarro
Year 2G	Amelia Pendlebury	Chloe Tishler
Year 2W	Chloe Psaltis	Addison Lawler
Year 3 B	Jasmine Lau	Oscar Meli
Year 3 G	Miguel Rivera	Joshua Fitzsimons
Year 3 W	Isaac Hartz	Ashvith <u>Kangigelpula</u>
Year 4 B	Jaxon Hili	Ella Macdonald
Year 4 G	Zachary Rosser	Mason Hession
Year 4 W	Gianni Mangano	Maximilian Suarez
Year 5 B	Xavier Younes	Izabel Bayly
Year 5G	Madeleine Teo	John Vickers
Year 5W	Brayden Zhu	Alanah Apap
Year 6 B	Elizabeth McKee	Noah Cleary
Year 6 G	Ava-Bella Chong	Liam O'Connor
Year 6 W	Alyssa Nichols	Sean McKeever

