



Our Lady of the Angels School Rouse Hill

Newsletter
Vol. 4 No. 4

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24th February, 2023
Term 1, Week 5

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Lent has Begun

As a school community, we gathered for Mass on Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent. During this Liturgical season of the Church, children and adults may sometimes ask the question: "What is Ash Wednesday?" The ashes used are made by burning the remains of the palms blessed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance (sackcloth and ashes). They also remind us of our conversion of our lives during this season of renewal. During Lent, the Church asks us to contemplate ongoing conversion. To achieve conversion, the Church proposes the practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



It is the focal point of the church's liturgical year. It occurs forty days before Good Friday. We are reminded to be faithful to the Gospels. Believing in the Gospels helps us to walk with Jesus. We can be guided along this journey by such Gospel values as Love, Hope, Trust, Service, Forgiveness, Peace, Respect, Acceptance, Compassion and Justice.

Student Attendance

Australia has one of the very best education systems anywhere in the world. Each day, our young people are provided with opportunities to learn more about the world they live in through their experiences in and out of the classroom. Schools teach children about themselves, their relationships with others and about life beyond school. This includes preparing them for the workforce.

Regular attendance at school is critical to ensuring that every student has the kind of opportunities in life that he or she deserves. When students are not at school, they are missing out on so much. Without the knowledge, the skills or the support that schools provide, young people can fall behind and find themselves underprepared for the fast-paced and often very challenging world. Please see the email coming home re, diverse attendance procedures. Please see the email coming home re Diocesan Attendance procedures shortly.

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

*Tony Calabria
Principal*

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.

Rug Reading

This Coming Friday 3rd March at 2.30pm

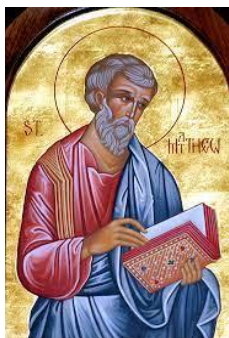
Families are invited to our first 'Rug Reading' for 2023.

Please bring a picnic rug and favourite book to share with your child/ren. We ask that no food or drinks be shared during this reading time.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY MONDAY 24TH APRIL, 2023

Children DO NOT attend school on this day.

School resumes for Term 2 on Wednesday 26th April as Tuesday 25th is ANZAC Day.



First Sunday of Lent (Year A) 26-2-2023 Gospel Reflection ([Matthew 4:1-11](#))

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light, Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.
(Greg Sunter @ Liturgyhelp.com)

Parish (9.00am) and School Masses this term

Parents are most welcome to attend all masses with the children

Please see below for timetable.

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)



Caritas – Project Compassion 2023

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 once again 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.



LENT is a time where we reflect on our relationship with God and those around us. We take time to pray, make a sacrifice through fasting and give of ourselves to others through almsgiving.



A Prayer for Lenten Simplicity

Free me, Lord Jesus, from anything that obstructs my way to you. Clear away the clutter of petty grudges. Remove smudges of resentment and bitterness. Cleanse me of thoughts filled with anger envy, or self-pity.

Create space in my life for more kindness and less spitefulness, greater generosity and stronger compassion.

Enlarge my heart with a spirit of gratitude this Lent, so that I recognize the simple gifts that lay in abundance all around me.

In your sacred name, I pray. Amen.



First Reconciliation:

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



Sacramental Program Term 1

First Reconciliation Sessions are held on:-

Thursday 23rd February at 6.30pm

Thursday 2nd March at 6.30pm

Thursday 9th March at 6.30pm

Thursday 16th March at 6.30pm

Thursday 23rd March at 6.30pm

First Reconciliation is on Saturday 25th March at 10.00am and 11.00am.



This year during Lent, we will also be supporting the Jesuit Social Services Ignite store. The Ignite store provides affordable groceries including fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, and dairy, to the Mt Druitt and wider community. We are asking students from different grades to donate items to fill the shelves of the Ignite store, which is in desperate need of replenishing. Items we will be collecting from each grade are below;

Kindergarten: Biscuits-Sweet/Savoury/Rice

cracker/Crackers

Year One: Pasta Sauces/Simmer sauces/2-minute noodles/cup noodles/Cup-a-soups/Rice
Year Two: Breakfast cereals/Flour/Jelly/Museli Bars/LCM Bars
Year Three: Canned goods - Soups/Canned Vegetables/Ready to eat meals/Tuna
Year Four: Chutney/Relish/Mustard/Pickles/Sauces-Worcestershire/Soy/Salad Dressing
Year Five: Coffee/Milo/Tea bags/Nesquik/Hot Chocolate/Cordials/Juices/Poppers
Year Six: Spreads-Honey/Vegemite/Peanut Butter/Nutella/Jams

We ask families to send in items on the 17th March, when we will be celebrating St Patrick and St Joseph Feast days with a **green mufti day**. We have arranged pick up of the items after this date.

P&F AGM

Our Parents & Friends AGM will be held this coming Wednesday, 1st March at 7.00pm. All are welcome to join us as we work together in partnership for the benefit of the children in our care.

Agenda:

- P&F Report
- Principal's Report
- 2023 Initiatives
- Parents inservice topics for 2023
- General Business

Student Medication

If your child requires any medication whilst they are at school, it must be stored at the office. If we have sent home paperwork to be completed by either yourself and/or doctor, can you please ensure that you return it as soon as possible. This is very important so that we are aware of dosages etc.

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/ZKANXX84hsLUpbDc9>

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.

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.**



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

Mon 27th Feb

Skye Batra
Adrian Kajavshekan

Tues 28th Feb

James Lowe
Ally Flores
Miss Pina Grima

Wed 1st Mar

Samuel Cauchi

Fri 3rd Mar

Alannah Apap

Dates to Remember

Week 6

Tues 28th Feb 9.00am Years 1 & 2 Mass. All welcome
Wed 1st Mar 7.00pm P&F AGM. All Welcome
Thurs 2nd Mar 6.30pm Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 2
Fri 3rd Mar **2.30pm Rug Reading. All Welcome to our popular Rug Reading afternoon.**

Week 7

Tues 7th Mar Constable Ethan West visiting Years 3 – 6
Wed 8th Mar 9.00am Years 3 & 5 Mass. All welcome
Thurs 9th Mar Hills Zone Swimming Carnival – Mt Druitt
6.30pm Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 3
Fri 10th Mar 9.30am Kindergarten Open Day for 2024
2.30pm Yrs 1 & 2 Parent Helper Info Session

School Fees

All families should have received their 2023 school fees in the mail this week. If you have not received your fees, please contact Mrs Goldsworthy as soon as possible and a copy will be forwarded to you.

If you have any queries at all, particularly if you wish to set up a payment plan, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Goldsworthy. If you are paying your fees by the term, then the due date is 15 March.

QKR App

Please ensure you update your child's class for 2023 when you use the QKR up for the first time this year.

OLA FACEBOOK PAGE

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'

Student Representative Council

Congratulations to our Semester 1 (Terms 1 & 2) Student Representatives that were presented with their badges earlier this week

1B	Romain Moujalli Brittany Brown	2B	Benjamin Pisani Aria Navarro
1G	Tommy Buck Samara Whitsed	2G	Remy Buda Amelia Pendlebury
1W	James Lowe Rome D'Cruz	2W	Daniel Orlando Chloe Psaltis
3B	Jacob Gatt Amalia Gergely-Hollai	4B	Korbin Bruckard Ella Macdonald
3G	Jack Lenane Benjamin Nicholls	4G	Mason Hession Audrey Verzosa
	Lucy Roberts	4W	Max Suarez
3W	Harrison Vella Lila Naim		Jeanette Abboud
5B	James Farrugia Hailey-Jayde Taylor		
5G	Harrison Dolahenty Zoe Farias		
5W	Lachlan Riley Ilaria Buda		



Congratulations to the Czipri family (Viktoria 1G) on the birth of their baby brother last week, Benedict.



SRC Semester 1, 2023



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



Year 1 & Year 2 Parent Reading Helpers

Thank you to the Year 1 & Year 2 parents who have indicated their availability to be a 'Parent Helper' this year. If you would still like to assist, please complete and return the note to your child's teacher by next week. The volunteers will be contacted and invited to attend a 'parent helper' information meeting on Friday 10th March at 2:30pm. A reminder that all volunteers must complete the 'Working with children' online course before you can assist in the classroom.

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



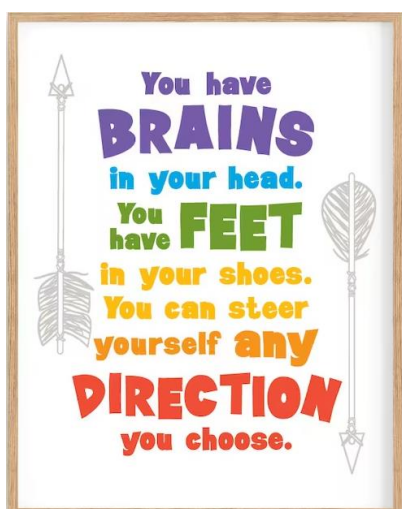
Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) aims to encourage a love of **reading** for leisure and pleasure in students and enables students to experience quality literature. The **challenge** encourages students to **read**, to **read** more and **read** more widely. The **2023 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge** will be launched this Monday **27th February**. Further information can be found on the PRC website. **Students will receive their login details from Mrs Wagner just after the PRC begins.**

Lisa Hurst
Literacy Coordinator

School is Cool – but not if you're 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 you arrive after 8.50am (**you will know it is after 8.50am if the teacher is no longer on duty at the kiss and drop**) you, as the parent **MUST** visit the office to sign a late slip for your child to take to class.

Many thanks for your support in this area.



Changing Going Home Arrangements

A reminder to parents that our official school day is from 8.50am – 3.10pm and that your child is required to be present between these times. Children should not be taken out of school early unless it is for an important reason (ie appointment for specialists etc). Likewise, any changes of going home arrangements should only be made in cases of emergencies. As you can appreciate, contacting classes for children to come to the office for early departures or to advise going home changes is disruptive to the learning, in particular to the whole school if the class is not in their room and an announcement needs to be made.

We ask that all early departures and changes to going home arrangements are advised by email (if before 1.30pm) to ola@parra.catholic.edu.au or by telephone if after 1.30pm.

Please note children will only be called to the office when you arrive to collect them. We ask that you do not contact the office requesting your children be ready and waiting for your arrival as delays in traffic etc may result in children waiting for long periods.

We thank you for your support in this area.

Tech Tip Week 4

Tech Free Zones

Do you have a space in the house that is a tech free zone? Do you turn devices off? Do you have a healthy balance with devices?

How to create tech-free zones.

- Keep family mealtimes, other family and social gatherings, and children's bedrooms screen free.
- Turn off televisions that you aren't watching, because background TV can get in the way of face-to-face time with kids.
- Recharge devices overnight—outside your child's bedroom to help him or her avoid the temptation to use them when they should be sleeping.

These changes encourage more family time, healthier eating habits, and better sleep.

Maths News

Thanks to the students who shared your answers from last week's questions. There was some unbelievable thinking. Mr Cauchi would love to see more answers from this week's questions. Please share.

Infants Learning Task

Cubby House

9 friends are playing in a cubby house.
Some of the friends are inside the cubby house and some of the friends are outside of the cubby house.

Draw a picture to show how many friends are inside the cubby house and how many are outside the cubby house.

Give as many answers as you can.

Enabling Prompt

What if there were six friends inside the cubby house ?
How many friends would be outside the cubby house?

Extending Prompt

What if there were 15 friends?
What if there were 27 friends?
What if there were 38 friends?
How many solutions can you find?
Can you show your thinking using a number sentence?

Primary Learning Task

Time Differences

The time is now 2.45. The bus leaves at 10 past 4. How long is it until the bus leaves? Work out your answer in 2 different ways.

Enabling Prompt

The time is now 2.45, and the bus leaves at 5 to 3. Work out how long it is until the bus leaves.

Extending prompt

What is a rule that would help with all calculations like this one?

Theme of the Week

"Doing Your Best"

As a learner it is important that you are always doing your best in everything you do, in academics, behaviour, relationships etc. Expecting the 'best' from our children and encouraging them to always give their best allows their true potential to shine. Children who always do their best are usually content with the effort they have put into a given task or the behaviour they have displayed and are not continually saying 'I could have done better'. Doing your best at your own level is one key to success; it does not always mean coming first.

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 and these will be forwarded to your child's teacher, Mr Calabria or Mr Cauchi. Please **DO NOT** send any emails to your child's teacher directly.*

We Bounce Back at OLA

We are all capable of developing skills and strategies to 'Bounce Back' and build resilience. Students at OLA are learning to identify and implement important steps that can be taken to resolve conflict.

When faced with conflict, students at OLA are encouraged to...

1. Calm down by taking deep breaths, having a drink of water, going for a walk or speaking to a teacher
2. Take turns speaking using 'I' statements
3. Agree on a solution

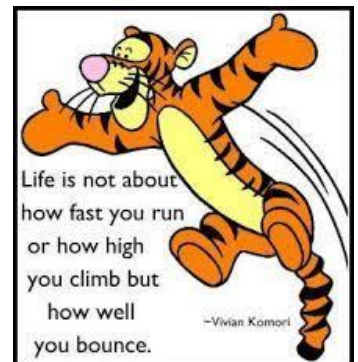
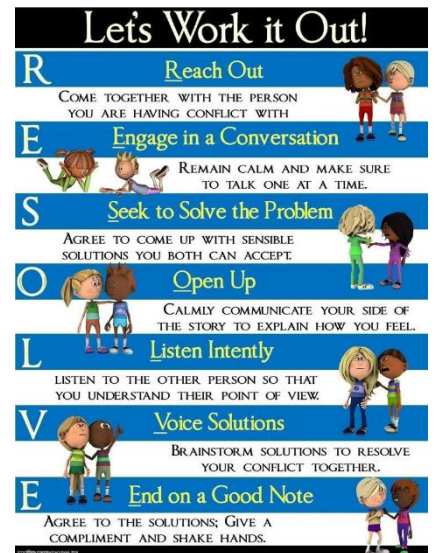
What are 'I' statements?

'I' statements allow children to name what happened, state how it made them feel and identify what they would like to happen next.

Example: 'When you took my pencil, I felt upset because I needed it to do my work, so I would like it if you asked me before you used my things.'

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 the strategies that can be used at home and the different strategies that can be used at school.

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



We loved our Kindergarten Presentation Assembly
Welcome to Our Family



OLA Sports News

2023 OLA Cross Country 🏃🏃🏃🏆

The sun was out and it was extremely hot at our OLA 2023 Cross Country on Monday. All students displayed outstanding athleticism and genuine sportsmanship. Running 2 or 3 kms is tough for anyone, however our students from years 2- 6 pushed themselves to their limits with so many achieving fantastic results. Congratulations to our 2023 OLA Cross Country Team that will be racing early next term at the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek. Well deserved and best of luck. It's a tough course!

U12 Boys 1. Noah Falzon 2. Khai Aldaba 3. Tony Dinh 4. Lucas Richardson 5. Isaiah Balangon 6. Noah Cleary	U11 Boys 1. James Farrugia 2. Liam O'Connor 3. Flynn Richardson 4. Harrison Dolahenty 5. Lachlan Riley 6. Jack Leahy	U10 Boys 1. Korbin Bruckard 2. Sebastian Nasso 3. Arlo Barry 4. Kieran McKeever 5. Tristan Capello 6. Zac Rosser	U8/9 Boys 1. Hamish Clarke 2. Samuel Cauchi 3. Koby Hughes 4. Thys Aldaba 5. Cameron Brackenbury 6. Cooper Rossi
U12 Girls 1. Ella Ciantar 2. Charlotte Naim 3. Ava-Belle Chong 4. Mirelle Fernandes 5. Abigail Holland 6. Chelsea Hughes	U11 Girls 1. Charlotte Holden 2. Giselle Desira 3. Eva Millers 4. Lauren Myhre Fox 5. Hannah Burgess 6. Erica Sommers	U10 Girls 1. Lyla Sofiak 2. Brae Aldaba 3. Scarlett Buchanan 4. Asher Davidson 5. Olivia Falzon 6. Amelie Pelaez	U8/9 Girls 1. Amalia Gergely-Hollai 2. Abhi Sundaram 3. Mya Mitrovich 4. Emma Marsden 5. Natalie Balangon 6. Scarlett Leahy



Basketball Mackillop Trials

Wishing Max Masters and Isaiah Balangon the best of luck as they trial for the Mackillop Basketball team. OLA are cheering for you!

Tennis MacKillop Trials

OLA would like to wish Ethan Zachariah all the best as he represents Parramatta at the MacKillop trials for Tennis. OLA are cheering for you!

Netball Parramatta Trials

Hailey-Jayde Taylor, Isaiah Balangon and Max Masters will be showing off their netball skills at the Parramatta Netball Boys and Girls Trials on Monday 27th February. Best of luck from the OLA community.

Football/Soccer Parramatta Trials

On Tuesday 28th February OLA will have 8 Boys and 3 Girls attending the Parramatta Diocesan Football Trials at Kellyville. They are given the opportunity to display their skills and talent in order to make it through to the first group of selected students to represent Parramatta. Due to an overwhelming response this process for selection will be conducted in stages. To all our students attending we wish you the best of luck.

Fionn Galway, Roko Deur, Khai Aldaba, Alessandro Albertini, Aiden Harvey, Lachlan Newman, Lucas Dobaj, James Farrugia, Alexander Gobran, Charlotte Holden, Charlotte Naim and Olivia Jones.

Rugby League Parramatta Trials

Wednesday will be a busy day for our Rugby League boys as they display their footy skills in order to possibly be selected for the Parramatta Rugby League Team. Wishing Lucas Richardson, Patrick Cleary, Noah Cleary, Cooper Roberts and Jack Leahy all the best. OLA are cheering for you.

Regional Athletics (Weekend of 18-19th February)

We had a number of students represent their Little Athletics Clubs at Regionals last weekend.

Congratulations to all students who were able to place in an event and make their Club proud.

Congratulations to Magnus, who won a bronze medal in the 100m sprint final. He was the 4th runner in the 9-12yrs boys 4 x 100m relay. When he received the batten they were in 3rd place, and he ran like lightning to win the relay which means The Hills District Athletics relay team are off to NSW State Championships on 19th March.

Our Year 1's are so clever. They have been learning about maths patterns....



Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Awards this week.

Term 1 Week 5		
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award
KB	Soham Chotalia	Aubrey Breen
KG	Gianna Lobo	Emma Hodgess
KW	Sophie Kovacevic	Eloise Mckee
Year 1 B	Jasper Zhang	Olivia Sourial
Year 1 G	Leo Martino	Viktoria Czipri
Year 1 W	Sari Camilleri	Emmett Chong
Year 2 B	Leonardo Borgiani	Sirine Al Lati
Year 2 G	Angeline Garcia	Liam Masters
Year 2 W	Jack Lambert	Rosario Borbajo
Year 3 B	Nevenka Topic	Adrian Farrugia
Year 3 G	Samuel Meighan	Natalie Balangon
Year 3 W	Cameron Brackenbury	Alannah Said
Year 4 B	Caleb Atkins	Scarlett Buchanan
Year 4 G	Luca Moujalli	Lachlan Wang
Year 4 W	Nevaeh Macquet-Maurel	Sebastian Nasso
Year 5 B	James Farrugia	Damien Macquet-Maurel
Year 5 G	Olivia Hartz	Xavier Fava
Year 5 W	Ava Smith	Cooper Keating
Year 6 B	Samantha Ocampo	Zoe Bell
Year 6 G	Leonardo Fresta	Blake Icaro
Year 6 W	Dempsey Hughes-Nichols	Ethan Maddaford