

The

# Rosary Link



## Newsletter Of Our Lady Of The Rosary Catholic School, St Marys

Phone No: 9623 2500 Principal: Mr Allan Jones

School Website: <http://www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au>

*Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Church, Fr Brendan Murphy, Ph No: 9623 1962*

*Emmaus Catholic College, Principal: Dr Brad Campbell, Ph No: 9670 4588*

Term 1, Week 8

19th March, 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

*As we continue **our Lenten journey** let us discipline ourselves to make some time for prayer and reflection.*

*How are we called to change and renew ourselves?*

*When can we pray so we bring God's grace into our hearts?*

*What are the Scriptures saying to us?*



As a staff this week we explored the **seven connecting habits**, and the seven disconnecting habits. Perhaps this is a good framework for us all to reflect upon in our daily lives as we prepare ourselves this Lent for the joy of Easter.

### CONNECTING HABITS

Listening  
Supporting  
Encouraging  
Trusting  
Negotiating differences  
Respecting  
Accepting

### DISCONNECTING HABITS

Criticising  
Blaming  
Complaining  
Nagging  
Threatening  
Punishing  
Bribing

There are also good lessons here for how we expect the children to behave and how we model good behaviour for them.

### Catholic Schools Week – THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all those who joined us for prayer on Tuesday and/or visited last Thursday for Catholic Schools Week as we celebrated **Quality Catholic Schooling and “More Than A Great Education!”**

The children always love having visitors. The interest you showed and the encouragement you gave them through being here is wonderful to see.

### Everyone's Learning

I commented to a Year 1 child recently that, “*Today's a great day to learn some thing new!*” Her response? “*Yes you never stop learning!*” Young Bella's attitude to learning is great!! I think we can all learn something from her.

### Straight into our learning.....

The changes made to our weekly assemblies has meant the children are going straight into their learning spaces Tuesday to Friday mornings. The teachers are telling me that this is making for a much more focussed and settled start to the day. All children are getting at least 45 minutes more quality learning time at the beginning of the day. This adds up to a HUGE amount of learning time across the whole year!

It does mean that ALL children MUST be at school to start learning at 8:45am. **I would encourage all families to think about school starting each day at 8:30am.** This gives you some breathing space for when things don't run so smoothly! If you're a little late, you won't be late at all!! It is also very healthy for children to be able to have a run around and to socialise with their classmates before formal learning begins.

Children arriving late disrupts the learning of others. Children will have 5 minutes grace to get into class, but no more than this. From 8:50am any late children MUST report to the office with their parents so they can be signed in.

### **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

As a way of working in partnership with parents and carers we do keep a record of any interviews, either in person or over the phone. From now on teachers will use a 'booklet' to do this. This helps to ensure that we all follow up with any commitments made. It also gives a good record of the conversations about your child's learning and wellbeing, over time.

### **Parents' Association Thank You!**

It was FANTASTIC to see so many people at our last Parents' Association Meeting. A record crowd for some time I believe. This parent involvement and support is so encouraging and is greatly appreciated. A reminder that Parents' Association meetings will start promptly at 7pm and finish at 8pm, at the latest.

The new committee was elected. School photos, parent afternoon car park pick-up, communication with parents through Skoolbag and the Website and other matters were all discussed and decisions made to address these issues. Action has been taken to tighten procedures and follow up on these matters.

Thank you once again to the outgoing committee.

Britt Pappas, Julie Grima, Linda Gosbell, Rebecca Brown & Maddie Tourgelis.

To our incoming committee, congratulations and best wishes for an enjoyable and successful year.

President: Britt Pappas, Vice President: Kristen Rouen, Treasurer: Melissa Mascioli, Secretary: Linda Gosbell and Social Secretaries: Tara Cremen & Nicole Attard

### **Kiss and Drop Volunteers**

On a recent visit to another school there were parent volunteers helping in the Kiss and Drop Zone in the morning. They were opening car doors and assisting children to move into school quickly and safely. Just keeping things moving along smoothly. What a great idea! What a great way of helping each other! If you are willing to help just one morning a week for 20-30 minutes please leave your name, and the morning/s you can help, at the school office. You will be provided with a 'fluoro vest' and basic training in how to fulfil this role.

### **Kindergarten 2015 Interviews**

We have already started interviews for Kinder 2015. It is a real delight to meet with these excited children and their families. New families speak very highly of the school's reputation and our current families speak with such pride in our school.

If your child is starting Kindergarten next year, or you know of someone wanting to enrol for Kindergarten 2015, please encourage them to complete an application form and return it to school as soon as possible as offers of placements will be made, in most cases, immediately following interviews. Applications must be received before the end of May to be assured of a place.

### **Parent Afternoon Pick-Up**

Many thanks to all those who returned the note asking for a 'name sign' to be made. Please also ensure that anyone else who picks up your children has a sign. This will speed up the process for everybody.

From now on:

- It is a requirement of using this area that you must have a 'name sign'.
- If there are no spaces left in the waiting bay you need to move on and park as we cannot have traffic backing up onto Saddington St.
- The children using parent pick-up will soon line up near the gate to speed up the process. (As soon as we get an extra speaker installed so it is easier to call them. Apologies for the delay.)

On another note, the gate near the office will be opened at 2:30pm to allow those who arrive early to come in. If the gate hasn't been opened please see the ladies in the office who will open it for you. Request for a parent sign letter is attached to this newsletter.

### **Parent Voice - Parent Feedback Surveys 2014**

Many thanks to those who returned this survey. Your feedback has proved invaluable as we set priorities, make decisions and keep striving to make OLR the best school community it can possibly be!

A random selection of parents would have received a "Quality Catholic Schools Survey" this week. All Staff and the majority of Year 6 students also complete a survey at this time of year, again providing us with invaluable information as we plan for the future.

### **High Expectation**

At OLR we have very clear expectations regarding the behaviour of all members of our community. We follow Jesus by respecting everyone's rights. We have refined how we communicate with parents, especially for significant behaviour issues that arise. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

***May God bless you all, as together we follow Jesus.***

Yours sincerely,

Allan Jones  
PRINCIPAL



### **Weekend Mass Times**

**Saturday:** Evening: 6.00pm

**Sunday:** 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am  
and 5.30pm.

# Upcoming Events

## Thursday, 20th March

Year 5 go to Reconciliation



## Friday, 21st March

- Year 3 go to Don Bosco
- School Cross Country
- BOOK CLUB** orders are due today. Please ensure orders are returned by this date.



## Tuesday, 25th March

- Year 4 go to Reconciliation
- Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day



## Wednesday, 26th March

Year 1 go to Don Bosco

## Friday, 28th March

Year 1 Parish Mass



**Monday, 31st March**  
**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**  
**NO STUDENTS ON**

## Tuesday, 1st April

Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day

## Wednesday, 2nd April

- Parent Literacy Workshop
- Kinder go to Don Bosco



## Thursday, 3rd April

Stage 3 Camp

## Friday, 4th April

Stage 3 Camp



## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association Committee for 2014 are as follows:-

Britt Pappas	President
Kristen Rouen	Vice President
Melissa Mascioli	Treasurer
Linda Gosbell	Secretary
Tara Cremen & Nicole Attard	Social Secretaries



The next Parents' Association Meeting will be held in Term 2, Week 2, Monday, 5th May in the Library at 7pm.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. If there is an item you wish to put onto the agenda, please send it in writing to the school. The closing date will be Friday, 2nd May.



## SPECTRUM Special Screenings

Join **HOYTS** for a morning of fun!

We're delighted to invite families affected by Autism Spectrum disorders to two very special movie screenings. Kids are free to make noise in the cinema, lights remain on and sound is lowered, so you and the whole family can enjoy the experience in a comfortable, sensory friendly environment.

### WHAT'S ON

**The Lego movie**  
Sunday April 6, 10.30am

**The Muppets: Most Wanted**  
Sunday May 4, 10.30am

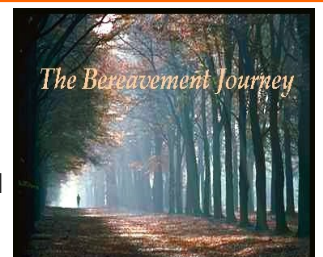
**ALL TICKETS \$8.00**

### BOOK NOW

**AT THE HOYTS PENRITH BOX OFFICE OR  
CALL (02) 4749 5600 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## Bereavement Support Program

CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry is holding its second fortnightly Bereavement Support Group Session on Tuesday 18th March, for those whose spouse or long term partner has died. The topic for this Session is "Images and Frameworks for Understanding Grief". Venue: 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, from 10.00am – 12pm, cost \$5.00. This is an opportunity to gain some information about the grieving process and to support each other during this most difficult and painful time. Details and Registration: [soloparentministry@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentministry@ccss.org.au) or Ph. 99330205



## Woolworths Earn & Learn Points

Thank you to all our parents who collected and sent in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Vouchers. We were able to use the points collected to purchase these great resources for the school..



### **SUPPORT GROUP**

For Mums.Dads & Carers.

? Raising a child with more than your average behavioural challenges? Struggling to keep up with ADHD and ASD?

You don't have to do it alone -  
Come join us for a coffee and chat support group!

**When:** 6.30pm to 8.30pm Second Tuesday each month  
**Where:** Mission Australia, 46 Bringelly Rd, Kingswood  
**Cost:** gold coin donation

Register by contacting  
Beling Attard on 4724 3015

### CANTEEN NEWS

#### **Meal Deal 1**

Chicken, Lettuce & Mayonnaise Roll  
Flavoured Water Buddy  
Frozen Juice Cup

#### **Meal Deal 2**

Hot Dog with Sauce  
Flavoured Water Buddy  
Home Ice Cream

Both Meal Deals are \$ 4.50 and will run until the end of this term.

**When:** 6.30pm to 8.30pm Fourth Thursday each month

**Where:** NSLS, Shop 1, the Broadwalk Arcade,  
458 High Street, Penrith

**Cost:** gold coin donation

Register by contacting  
NSLS on 4721 4766

### *Our Thanks to St Marys RSL Sub-Branch*

On Thursday 7th March our school captains and Mr Jones attended a function with members of the St Marys RSL Sub-Branch. They were presented with a cheque for \$500 for Library books. We thank them for their generous support.  
L to R Mr Ian Henderson, Mr Ted Fish and Mr John Foeken with Claudia Fava and Isaia Gae'e.



### **Volunteers Needed!!!!**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,  
Kindergarten are looking for parent volunteers from any grade to help us with our Gross Motor program. This will take place on a Wednesday afternoon, once a fortnight starting Term 2, Week 2. If you are able to help, please complete the form below and send into the office.

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### **Kindergarten Help**

- ☐ I am able to help in Kindergarten
- ☐ I have completed an online Child Protection Form (Please visit: [www.childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au))

**Child's Name:** ..... **Class:** .....

**Name:**..... **Phone No:** .....



In Maths, we have been learning to find the area of different things.



Year 2 have been counting, ordering and reading two and three digit numbers.



We love going to Don Bosco for sport.

### The Beach by Milana

The beach has blue, salt water with a bit of green in it. Beaches have soft, yellow sand with some seaweed and animals on top. At the beach, there is a nice cool breeze. All the beaches have green, slimy seaweed. Some day's it is a sunny day at the beach.

In writing, Milana described the beach, relating it to our integrated unit, where we have been learning about different environments.

# Year 2



## Lent

We have been learning about prayerful ways to get ready for Easter and ways we can help people.

Year 2 are collecting money for Project Compassion. We want to be able to help others in need around the world.



# Our Lady of the Rosary

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19th March, 2014

Dear Parents,

## KISS & DROP NAME SIGNS

Due to the large number of parents using this service it is now a requirement that you must have a name sign to display on your dashboard.

Please complete the following information and send it to the office so a sign can be made for you.

If you don't want to use a name sign then you will need to park your car and go into the school to collect your children.

Thank You,

Allan Jones

Principal

✂

FAMILY NAME: .....

Children's Name: ..... Class:.....

..... Class:.....

..... Class:.....