



Our Lady of the Rosary School

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish
Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

Newsletter

TERM 1 WEEK 10

We Follow Jesus

27TH MARCH 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 28th March

- P & F Meeting—7.00pm

Thursday 30th March

- School photos

Friday 31st March

- Y5 @ Parish Mass - 9.00am
- 2.00pm - Gold Awards & Easter Raffle

Monday 3rd April

- Morning Assembly

Thursday 6th April

- 9.00am - Remembering Holy Week in Undercroft
- Year 6 Fundraiser Sausage Sizzle - 1.15pm

Friday 7th April

LAST DAY OF TERM ONE

Friday 14th April

- Good Friday
- Easter Saturday
- Easter Sunday

TERM 2

SCHOOL RESUMES

MONDAY 24TH APRIL

Monday 24th April

- Term 2 Resumes
- Morning Assembly - 8.45

TUESDAY 25TH APRIL

ANZAC DAY

NO SCHOOL

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Wednesday 26th April

- Whole School Anzac Celebration - 11.15am

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,



QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will be once again participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) survey.

The QCS survey provides information from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community, and assists us in our focus on continuous improvement.

Between 20-31 March all staff and all year 3 to year 6 students, and 60 randomly-selected parents are asked to complete an online survey. Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents were sent home a paper survey but are also able to complete the survey online if preferred. The survey takes about 20-30 minutes to complete.

An independent survey consultant (Insight SRC) who manages the data collection will ensure the survey data is kept strictly confidential. Each school will receive a de-identified information report at the end of May to help them to develop strategies for further improvement.

As a parent if you are randomly-selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Deb Smith our QCS Survey Facilitator.

Safe Respectful Learners

Did you know that kindness was once a Knightly Virtue? Knightly virtues were part of every medieval Knight's code of honour and were standards that Knights tried to adhere to in their daily living and interactions with other people. Thanks to the Kindness Movement, kindness has not been left behind in the Middle Ages.

NEXT STAFF

DEVELOPMENT DAY

MONDAY 15TH MAY

NO CHILDREN

Our focus will be on "LITERACY"

MISSION

From the Principal cont'd.....

The Kindness Movement tells us that, "Participating in regular small acts of kindness is beneficial to your health, longevity and well-being; making the decision to be a little kinder will bring more pleasure and direction to your life than ever before." What's more, "The practice of being kinder is a simple way to make your life more joyful and fulfilling. So, relax, enjoy, be friendly, laugh, be playful, help others. Focus on the things you enjoy rather on the things that annoy."

What good advice all that is! Does your family or your school need a "Kindness Movement" of its own making? A kind person is one who is described as being friendly, generous, warm-hearted, sympathetic, considerate, gentle, affectionate, forgiving. Could your home or school do with more people like this? Well, whether kindness blossoms or lies dormant depends on whether it is nurtured. Parents and teachers have the power to instill kindness in children by being supportive and affirming. If children learn to understand how others think and feel, they will better understand how their choices affect other people.

If we act in a kindly manner and do things in the same way we expect our children to act and do, then, our children will have a much better chance to be kind people. Here's a little story: "As the bus slowed down at the crowded bus stop, the bus conductor leaned from the platform and called out, 'Six only!' The bus stopped. The conductor counted on six passengers, rang the bell, and then, as the bus moved off, called to those left behind, 'Sorry, plenty of room in my heart but the bus is full.' The conductor left behind a row of smiling faces. It's not what you do, it's the way you do it." The Friendship Book of Francis Gay.

If we teach our children about love and kindness by teaching them with love and kindness, they experience the good feelings that come with being helped. From this, they understand for themselves the value of helping, because they know that when they share kindness, they are making others feel good. Furthermore, they will be better able to understand that, when someone does something hurtful to them, they should try to handle it in a way that supports forgiveness not revenge, to make peace not war.

In our current society, there is the need to teach our children what "attractive" really means. The new trend of "Lookism" tends to present social acceptability as based upon how a person looks. But being "attractive" encompasses many traits such as kindness, friendliness, thoughtfulness, being interesting, being a healthy eater and having an individual and natural body image. Who you are on the inside is much more important than what you look like on the outside. The poet, Adam Lindsay Gordon, left behind these famous lines:

"Life is mostly froth and bubble
Two things stand alone,
Kindness in another's trouble
Courage in your own."

God, our Father,
we ask You to establish a kinder,
gentler order in our lives and in the lives of our children.
Gently grow this kindness within us,
so that it may be expressed to others
through the sympathetic influence
of what we say and do.
May we be safe respectful learners.
Amen.

From the Principal cont'd.....

EXCITED ABOUT TECHNOLOGY??

Where is technology going? Often we're surprised by technology. But there's actually a large aspect of technology that's predictable. Technological systems themselves give us a sense of where things are going.

Telephones were inevitable, but the iPhone was not.

The Internet was inevitable, but Twitter was not.

The main drive right now is to make things smarter.

It's called artificial intelligence, or AI. This is going to be one of the most influential developments in our society in the next 20 years. It will be a huge part of your lives. We already have AI but often it works in the background, for instance in hospitals, where it's used to diagnose X-rays. It's used to fly planes. And of course, in Netflix and Amazon, it's always in the background. Your calculator is smarter than you are in arithmetic already; your GPS is smarter than you are in spatial navigation; Google is smarter than you are in long-term memory.

We'll put AI into, for instance, a car which won't be driving like a human. It won't be thinking like us. It won't be distracted, it won't be worrying about homework, it won't be on the phone. It's just driving. Robots are going to be doing many of the tasks that we do now, as well as a whole new lot of tasks that we didn't know we wanted to do before. They're going to create new kinds of jobs.

When the computer Deep Blue beat the world's best chess champion, people thought it was the end of chess. But today, the best chess champion in the world is not an AI. And it's not a human. It's the team of a human and an AI. The best medical diagnostician is not a doctor, it's not an AI, it's the team. You'll be paid in the future by how well you work with these bots. Where does that take us? Perhaps 25 years from now, they'll look back at our understanding of AI and say, "You didn't have AI. In fact, you didn't even have the Internet yet, compared to what we have now."

There are no AI experts right now. We are just at the beginning of the beginning, we're in the first hour of all this. We're in the first hour of the Internet. We're in the first hour of what's coming. The most popular AI product in 20 years from now, that everybody uses, has not been invented yet. That means that you're not late. Excited? You should be.

Winter Uniform

Traditionally children return to school in term 2 wearing full winter uniform, however, if the weather is still quite warm parents are asked to use their discretion and allow their children to continue wearing full summer uniform.

Thought for the Week

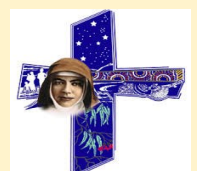
*“My favourite question to ask after listening to problems, concerns, and complaints is,
‘Imagine if things were going perfectly; what would it look like?’”*

Dan Rockwell 2017

Have a Blessed Week

Michael Siciliano

PRINCIPAL





From the Assistant Principal's Desk...

Welcome to my desk. In each fortnights newsletter I will add ideas, tips or explanations for parents to help their children at home either in literacy or Numeracy. If any parents have a question regarding the curriculum that you would like clarified please let me know and I can address this also, usually there is more that one parent with the same question.

Raising Curious Children

People who are curious and who love learning new things are usually happier and more optimistic than those who have no interest in learning. Furthermore, those who are curious generally do well academically, and find work that is continually interesting to them.

The great thing about curiosity is that, for most children, it's already there! We LOVE learning when we are young. Unfortunately, there are many things we do in families and schools that actually destroy our love of learning and our curiosity. But it doesn't have to be like that. Parents can do several things that will foster curiosity and a love of learning in their children, and help them grow up intellectually stimulated and successful.

- Model a love of learning. Be seen reading, finding answers, and discovering things yourself. Your children will watch and learn from you.
- Embrace the motto "we try new things". Whether it is a new meal, a new sport, a new holiday destination, or a new way of cleaning the house, let your children know that you want to try new things and discover things you previously did not know much about.
- Teach your children to find answers. When your children ask you a question, rather than answering them directly encourage them to find out for themselves. Point them to references, the Internet, or other useful sources.
- Ask questions. If your child is curious about something, find out why. Encourage discussion. Find out what s/he knows already. When your child makes a statement (about anything) you can ask "why" and have an interesting conversation. Your demonstration of curiosity can be a terrific example to your children
- Be willing to talk. It is often easy for a parent to say "I'll tell you later", or "Not now, I'm busy." Such responses will dampen the enthusiasm and curiosity a child has for a subject. Be being available, your child will be able to pursue a love of learning and all you have to do is facilitate it.

From The Library.....



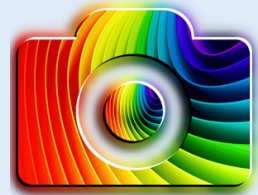
Premiers Reading Challenge.....

The 2017 Premiers Reading Challenge is open to all students from k-6. Students in year's k-2 will read books with their class teacher. Students in year's 3-6 will need to see their class teacher for their student login to enter their reading log online, or see Mrs Weston for a reading log. This is a fun and motivating challenge that encourages students to read the amazing range of books we have in our library. All reading logs need to be either entered or returned by Friday the 25th of August 2017, to be eligible for a certificate.

Happy reading,

Cheryl Fortini and Rebecca Weston.

School Photo Day - This Thursday 30th March



This Thursday is SCHOOL PHOTO day. **ALL** students are to wear their full summer school uniform including correct school shoes and socks. No sports uniforms this Thursday.

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by advancedlife Photography.

Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed this week, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at **www.advancedlife.com.au** using our school's unique 9 digit Online Order Code. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day.

Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to enquiries@advancedlife.com.au **ORDER NOW!!!!**

WWW.ADVANCEDLIFE.COM.AU

9 Digit Online Order Code JV9 BYY 4DP

God Bless

Cheryl Fortini

Assistant Principal

CONSENT FROM PARENTS

If for any reason you **DO NOT** want to have your child's name, photograph, voice (audio), image and Works to be published in hard copy and digital form on school and diocesan websites, school and diocesan social media channels. Materials newspapers and other media for the media for the purpose of promotion and communication of CEDP activities or programs, training materials and resources please advise the school in writing .

SCHOOL LEGIONNARE HATS

Due to the unexpected demand for the above we are currently out of stock.

We will advise you as soon as the new stock arrives.

Stock is expected to arrive at the end of April/early May.

Sorry for any inconvenience.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR

From the page of the Religious Education Coordinator

Mass times are listed here for your convenience.

You are invited and encouraged to join the believing community for prayer and worship at one of the following times.

Saturday 6.00pm. Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am. 10.30am & 5.30pm

We are blessed to have so much choice for Weekend Mass times.

What time is the most convenient time for you and the family?

2017 Our Lady of the Rosary School Mission Goal:

'All students to demonstrate understanding of the relationship between Scripture, Catholic Values, Virtues, and Christian Life'.

Sunday, 2 Apr 2017: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jn 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me
will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?'

Reflection on the Gospel by Michael Tate

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.

But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be *the Resurrection and the Life*.

*RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR cont'd***Remembering HOLY WEEK.**

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 9 (the first Sunday of the school holidays). Please note parish mass times on the roster below.

EASTER ROSTER

Procession for Palm Sunday 9th April 10.30 Mass

Tuesday 11th April- 2nd Rite of reconciliation - 7.30pm

Holy Thursday - Last supper - 7.30pm

Good Friday - 11.00am Passion Play

3.00pm—Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday—8.00 pm Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday—7.30am, 9.00am & 10.30am. **Please note NO EVENING MASS**

You are invited to join us in prayer, next Thursday April 6, at 9.00am *in readiness for Holy Week-the most holy time in the liturgical year.*

We will gather in the Undercroft Area to celebrate as a whole school, the significant days of Holy Week-the most holy time in the liturgical year. We will conclude the celebration with the Lord's Resurrection.

Thursday 6th April

Time: 9.00am

Location: in the Undercroft Area.

Mrs Colleen Fuller

REC Coordinator



Love of Literacy

It's time for entries for the 2017 School Magazine cover!

Are you a budding artist? A creative thinker? Have a love of writing? This could be an opportunity for you.

All entries need to be submitted to Miss Hooker by

Tuesday 4th April - Week 11.

Start thinking about what pieces of writing you would like to submit for the magazine.....

We will be calling on writing pieces early next term.

OLR School Magazine is coming again in 2017!

ENTRIES are NOW OPEN TO DESIGN a new cover FOR THE 2017 SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

YOUR DESIGN MUST BE;

- ★ Published
- ★ Portrait orientation
- ★ Clear and easy to read
- ★ Eye catching



All entries need to be submitted to Miss Hooker by Tuesday 4th April, 2017 (Week 11)

Supervision at School

Please remember that playground supervision at school commences at 8.15am and concludes at 3.25pm. At afternoon dismissal, children must be collected by 3.15pm. For safety reasons, children should not be at school before or after these times.

School Starting Time

School starts at 8.45am. Children need to be at school by 8.30am so they can have a play and socialise with their friends and go to the toilet before lessons start.

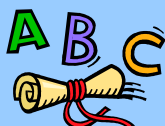
**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
ST MARYS
KINDERGARTEN 2018**

Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2018

Please collect an Enrolment Package from the school office

32B Saddington St, St Marys 9623-2500

8.15am—3.30pm Monday to Friday

**DIOCESAN NEWS AND EVENTS**

The Diocese of Parramatta is developing an app to help you keep in touch with what is happening in the Catholic Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. You will be able to find the latest news, events and local Mass times. To sign up to be the first to know when the app is released go to:

<http://parracatholic.org/app/>

You can also keep up-to-date with news and events across the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond by subscribing to Catholic Outlook's website to receive daily updates:

<http://catholicoutlook.org/subscribe/>

Positions vacant

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for three positions: Facilities Management Coordinator and Property Officer located in Parramatta; Parish Secretary at St Finbar's Parish at Glenbrook. For further details, go to <https://parracatholic.org/employment/> Applications for these positions close on Monday 27 March 2017.

Invitation to Fr Arthur Cook's farewell: 23 April

Fr Arthur Cook is retiring from parish life and will be leaving the Diocese of Parramatta at the end of April. To mark the occasion and to thank Fr Arthur for his years of service to the parishes of the Diocese, there will be a celebration on Sunday 23 April at St Matthew's Catholic Church, 12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor. An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to farewell Fr Arthur. The celebration will start with morning tea after the 9am Mass and will be followed by a BBQ lunch. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 12 April 2017 to the parish office, tel (02) 4577 3073 (BH) or send an email to stmcc@tpg.com.au

Term 2 Planner Calendar—Dates are correct at time of printing. Please check Newsletter & website for updates.

Date	Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 24 - 28	1	START TERM 2 8:45-9am Morning Assembly	ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY 5-6am Dawn Service at the St Marys RSL	11:15-12:15pm Whole School Anzac Celebration				
May 1 - 5	2	Newsletter Day 8:45-9am Morning Assembly MONTH OF	Diocesan Cross Country Eastern Creek 7:30-8:30pm Confirmation Parent Evening	DON BOSCO – Y1	7:30-8:30pm Confirmation Parent Evening	Y5 PARISH MASS Whole School-COL 3-4:30pm P & F Don Bosco Fundraiser		
May 8 - 12	3	8:45-9am Morning Assembly 7-8pm Kindergarten 2018 Information Evening	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN Recess & Lunch Mother's Day Stall	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN Y6 RECONCILIATION	MOTHERS DAY LITURGY Fizzics Education Incursion Y1 2:30pm Mother's Day Stall Confirmation Applications due		Mother's Day
May 15 - 19	4	Staff Development day Children do not attend	Newsletter Day Y4 RECONCILIATION 8:45-9am Morning Assembly	DON BOSCO – Y2 Primary School Leaders Civic Reception - Panthers	Y6 Overnight Canberra Excursion Y5 RECONCILIATION	Y6 Overnight Canberra Excursion Y3 PARISH MASS Whole School COL		
May 22 - 26	5	8:45-9am Morning Assembly 7-8 Parents Association Meeting		OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day Jamison Park	Y4 PARISH MASS Infants Athletics Morning DON BOSCO –Y5 3:30pm – P & F Family Movie Night Undercroft		
May 29 - June 2	6	Newsletter Day 8:45-9am Morning Assembly		DON BOSCO - KINDER		Y1 PARISH MASS DON BOSCO –Y4 Whole School - COL		PENTECOST
June 5 - 9	7	8:45-9am Morning Assembly	7-8pm FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE		Primary Athletics Carnival	PARISH MASS - KINDER	FIRST COMMUNION MASS	FIRST COMMUNION MASS HOLY TRINITY
June 12 - 16	8	QUEENS BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	Newsletter Day 8:45-9am Morning Assembly IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY & HEART OF JESUS PRAYER 7:30-8:30PM 1ST RECONCILIATION PARENT INFO NIGHT		School reports sent home Back up day for Primary Athletics Carnival 7:30-8:30PM 1ST RECONCILIATION PARENT INFO NIGHT	Whole School COL – Star Awards Y2 PARISH MASS		FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI
June 19 - 23	9	8:45-9am Morning Assembly 3-4:30 pm 3 Way Interviews 7-8 Parents Association	3-8 pm Late night 3 Way Interviews	3-4:30 3 Way Interviews	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day Jamison park 3-4:30 3 Way Interviews	Y6 PARISH MASS 3-4:30 3 Way Interviews		
June 26 - 30	10	Newsletter Day 8:45-9am Morning		2pm- Gold Awards	Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer Gala day Jamison Park	Y6 Fundraiser Mufti PJ Day End Term 2	Term 3 will commence Monday 17 July	

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

School Disco:



Parents Association would like to thank all parents, students and staff who attended the school disco last Friday, 24th March.

Without the support of the school families this event would not have been successful. It was a great night and everyone enjoyed.

A big thank you to all our wonderful parent volunteers and school staff, including Mr Siciliano for all your help and support.

Together we raised a profit of over \$1,200. That's a fantastic effort and will go towards to the learning of the children. Thank you to all once again for your support in making the disco a successful one.



Easter Raffle:

This Friday, 31st March is the Easter Raffle. Thank you to all families who have donated generously. We will be making 6 Easter hampers to raffle and one Easter hamper will be donated to the less fortunate on behalf of the OLR school community. If you still have yet to bring in any Easter eggs, please hand it in to your class teacher by tomorrow, Tuesday morning. Thank you to all families for purchasing the Easter raffle tickets. There are still some left if you would like to purchase any more. Easter raffle will be drawn this Friday at the Celebration of Learning.

Facebook:

Join us on Facebook for upcoming events, information and general matters to keep you updated and informed. Look for OLR St Marys Families Page.

You all are invited to P&F Meeting tonight, 27th March, in the staffroom, 7-8pm.

Best regards
Parents Association

St. Mary's RSL Sub-Branch will conduct its

ANZAC

Commemorative
March & Service

Sunday 23rd April

Everyone is invited to march
or show your support.



St. Mary's area schools, sporting and community
groups will be involved in the service.
The March starts at 2.30 pm at Coachman's Park
and culminates for a Service at Victoria Park.

JOIN US IN THE MARCH ... OR JUST THE SERVICE

ANZAC DAY

DAWN SERVICE

at St. Mary's RSL Club starting at

5.00AM

1914-1918 2014-2018
View all on the BIG SCREEN live video

Camp WALLABY 2 DAY CAMP WALLABY SYDNEY WEST

Meet the Wallabies!
Train along side them
& get their autograph

Venue: Nepean Rugby Park

126 Andrews Rd, Penrith.

Date: 11-12 April, 2017

Time: 9.00am - 3.00pm

- All 6-16 year old boys and girls are welcome
- 2 day camp to develop rugby skills
- Contact and non-contact programs available
- ARU accredited coaches
- Great awards and prizes
- Before and after care available

Price: \$220 per person (inc GST)

Register Online: campwallaby.com.au
(click on Upcoming Camps)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Kate O'Sullivan // Info@campwallaby.com.au // 0407 023 349

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