



Our Lady of the Rosary School

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish
Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 9

We Follow Jesus

5TH DECEMBER 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 6th December

- Yrs 2 - 4 Swimming Program
ALL WEEK

- Y6 @ Reconciliation

Wednesday 7th December

- Y6 Graduation - 6.30pm
OLR Church

Thursday 8th December

- Y5 Reconciliation

Friday 9th December

- 2017 Yrs 3- 6
Swimming Carnival

COMPETITIVE SWIMMERS

ONLY

Monday 12th December

- 8.45am—Morning Assembly

Wednesday 14th December

- 9.15am - End of Year Liturgy at OLR Church

Thursday 15th December

- 9.00 am Gold Awards including farewell to Yr 6 & Staff followed by a "Thank You" Morning Tea for Parent Helpers

Friday 16th December

- **LAST DAY OF TERM FOR STUDENTS**
- Yr 6 Fun Day - St Marys Indoor Sports

Monday 19th December

- STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - LAST DAY FOR STAFF

2017

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY

- Yrs 2 - 6 Resume

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

- Kindy & Yr 1 Resume

Acting Principal's Reflections

Dear Parents and Carers,

The reports have been written, classes will soon be announced, that means that the end of the school year has come around once again. We have had another successful year of learning at OUR Lady of the Rosary, we need to take a moment to thank God for the many blessings we have.

During this time of Christmas it is important for us to remind our children that even if we don't have much money, we are much more blessed than millions of others in our world.

I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year. It has been very pleasing for staff to see and hear your positive responses to events organised for you and the students.

To our Parents and Friends committee, a very heartfelt thank you for your tireless work throughout the year. All the students benefit from your efforts and fundraising and we are very grateful.

We offer our best wishes to the following staff and bid them farewell as they leave OLR to take up positions in other schools within the diocese or follow new adventures in life; Mrs Crystal Middleton, Mrs Frances Sidoruk, Mrs Natalie Goodwin, Mrs Susanne Mammoliti, Mr Sean Killeen, Mrs Rosa McLean and Miss Heather Alexander. We are very appreciative of their hard work and support for the students and staff at OLR. We wish them many blessings for the future.

We welcome the following staff members to Our Lady of the Rosary for 2017. Mr Michael Siciliano, Mrs Rita Atileh, Mrs Jennie Meniconi, Mr Ben Oxley and Miss Liana Bugge. We look forward to you joining our school community next year.

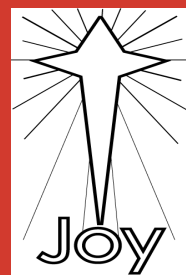
May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you and your families, and may the light of Jesus, the true meaning of Christmas shine in your homes at this special time of the year.



*May you rejoice in the blessings of
His love this Christmas & always.*

*Wishing everyone safe & Happy
Holidays!!*

*God Bless
Cheryl Fortini*



Acting Principal's Reflections cont'd**School leaders 2017**

At our Star Awards Celebration of Learning at the end of Week 7, we announced our school Student Leaders for 2017. Congratulations to the following students, I am positive they they will Follow Jesus through their words and actions as they assist the student community in 2017.

Captains: Anok Adam, Wael Arabi

Vice Captains: Alana Diab, Charlyze Tooala

Prefects: Sandy Chaghouri, Pranav Angrish

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our student leaders of 2016. Each and every one of our Year 6 grade have contributed to many events and areas of school life during the year, offering teachers, students and the wider community assistance when needed. A special thank you to our School Captains Kianna Webster and Ryan Simmons who have been amazing role models, our Vice Captains Kiera Sherry and Cayden Holstein and our Prefects Jenny Dang, Kathryn Fonacier, Bradley Van Doorn and Alexander Mascioli for their outstanding contributions to school life throughout 2016 particularly running Monday Assemblies and Celebrations of Learning. I am sure the skills you have all developed during the year will certainly help you as you continue your life's journey.

Farewell to families who are leaving OLR

As the school year draws to a close we farewell a number of families, some who have been part of the community for many years, some for a shorter period of time, who will be leaving our school community for varying reasons. We wish you all the very best for the future.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

A big thank you to all families and staff that have been able to support this year's St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal. Please consider all those in our community who need support so that they too can experience joy at Christmas.

Class Promotions Day

Class promotion will take place on Thursday 15 December at 12:00pm. This is a valuable opportunity for students to meet their new classmates and teachers for 2017. Our teachers are looking forward to meeting their new class.

Advent Liturgy

Thank you to all the parents and extended families who were able to join us last Wednesday evening for our Advent Liturgy.

It was a very prayerful and reflective liturgy focusing on the meaning of Advent and how each of us is preparing for the coming of our Saviour's birth at Christmas. A special thank you to all the children and staff who planned, practised and played an active role in the liturgy.

**Year 6 Graduation Liturgy**

The Year 6 Graduation Liturgy is this Wednesday 7 December at Our Lady of the Rosary church at 6:30pm followed by presentations back at school. In anticipation of this evening I would like to congratulate our Year 6 students on their graduation that will be a cumulative celebration of preparation and reflection represented in song and prayer.

Acting Principal's Reflections cont'd

Reports

This Wednesday 7 December you will be receiving your child's Semester 2 Report. I would strongly encourage all parents to discuss and read the learning report with your child. It is designed to give you an indication of the child's progress over the semester. The teacher's use many assessment tools to determine your child's grade.

Assessment of your child's learning and the accurate reporting of this is a complex process. Your child's achievement is a product of their effort, their approach to learning and their involvement in class activities.

This learning report is only one way of gaining information about your child's learning. The best source of information about your child's performance and how it can be improved will still be through direct contact between you and the teacher. If you would like an interview with your child's teacher please contact them as soon as possible.

Swimming Carnival

This Friday, 9 December, OLR will be combining with Holy Spirit Primary, St Clair to hold our Swimming Carnival. The students competing have had information and details of the carnival sent home last week. I wish all our competitors the very best of luck for their events. Thank you Mrs Luyt and Miss Hooker for organising this event. Parents are very welcome to join us at Ripples at 9:30am.

Swimming Program

The children have experienced another successful swimming program this year. The program which concludes on Friday has helped our students develop their skills as swimmers, building on prior ability and developed an awareness of water safety. The enthusiastic response of the students when asked about their swimming lessons proves that this experience is a valuable component of their PDHPE education.

Upcoming Dates

Please join us on Wednesday 14 December at our End of Year Liturgy, as the whole school gathers at Our Lady of the Rosary church at 9:15am, to give thanks through prayer for the year of 2016.

We would also like to invite you to join us the following morning, Thursday 15 December at 9:00am in the Undercroft for our Gold Awards Assembly followed by a Thank You Morning Tea for our parent community in recognition of all your support throughout the year. The arch to farewell Year 6 students will be after the awards. We look forward to seeing many of you there at these final school events for 2016.

From the Acting AP.....

Top Numeracy Tips for Parents

- Talk positively about maths with your child – even if you struggled with it at school yourself. Staying positive about maths will help your child. Saying "I was bad at maths" can lower a child's own expectations of themselves at maths and can give your child an excuse not to try.
- Talk to your child about how you use maths in everyday life – while shopping, banking, budgeting, cooking, driving, and keeping score in sports games, telling the time etc.
- Help your child to see the real-life purpose for the maths they are learning at school e.g. when your child is learning fractions you could ask them: "How many slices will I need to cut the pizza into so that everyone has two slices?"
- Play games with cards, dominoes or dice to help your child with maths. Try asking your child to tell you the number of dots on the dice each time they are thrown during a board game. Eventually they will be able to do 'see' the number without having to count the dots.

From the Acting AP cont'd.....

- When you are helping your child with their maths homework and they get stuck, try to help your child solve the problem themselves by asking: "What is the problem asking you to do?"

"How do you think we can work this out?"

"Do you think you will need to use addition or subtraction, or do you need to use multiplication or division?"

- Ask your child to explain how they work things out – e.g. "What is the question asking you to do?" and "How did you get that answer?" With maths problems there is always more than one way to get the right answer. When your child thinks about how they figured out a problem, it can help concepts make more sense to them and build their confidence.
- Talk with your child about how they feel about maths. They may not always be willing to discuss problems they're having, but it is important to show your support and that you are interested in what they are learning.

Family Maths Challenge

Here are some delicious biscuits!

How many biscuits are there?

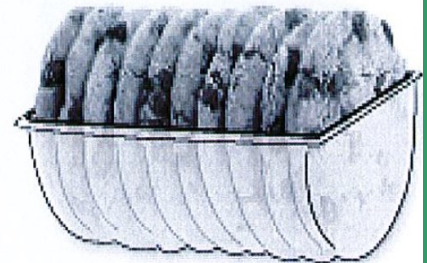
What if you had 2 packets? Or 5 packets? Or 10 packets?

What would it look like if you spread the biscuits out in an array? Could you draw it?

How many packets of biscuits would I need to buy to give all of my classmates one biscuit each? 2 each? 3 each?

If 1 packet costs \$5.00, how much would one biscuit cost?

What if I had to buy 6 packets? How much would that cost?



Kathryn Hooker
(Acting Assistant Principal)

OLR Magazine

Congratulations to the students who have had their first piece of writing published in the OLR School Magazine. The students work hard to write for authentic purposes and audiences and our magazine gives them the opportunity to share their writing with others. A copy of the magazine will be provided for each classroom and available in the school foyer. An additional copy of the school magazine has been added as an attachment to the school newsletter email.



SCHOOL BAGS

We have limited stock of Royal Blue (old colour) school bags at the discounted price of \$20.00.

Please contact the school office on 9623 2500 for more information.



MUST HURRY!!!! LIMITED STOCK!!!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR

Mass times listed as always 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 most convenient for you and the family?

Sunday, 11 Dec 2016: Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

The Church Year is also known as the Liturgical Year and we have moved from Year C to Year A. **Did you know that Advent signals the beginning of the new Liturgical Year?**

ADVENT

On Sunday we lit the second candle for Advent which is for Peace. This coming Sunday we light the third Advent candle which is the pink candle and is for Joy. Next week, the fourth week of Advent we light the fourth Advent candle which is coloured purple and has a focus on Love.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'



As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection on the Gospel

In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. Those are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

John the Baptist was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a school in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

Let us pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

© Fr Michael Tate

YEAR 6 GRADUATION 7th December, 2016

Wednesday evening 6.30pm and afterwards in the school grounds.

We look forward to celebrating seven years of education in a Catholic school for most of our graduates. This is a time to give thanks to God and pray for our hearts to be open to listen to His guiding word and the courage to do God's work.

END OF YEAR LITURGY Wednesday 14th December, 2016

You are invited! Are you able to join us? 9.15am in the OLR Church.

Have you seen the gigantic sunflower at OLR?

Some Year 2 girls have planted and grown the biggest sunflower I have seen!

It's taller than Jaidyn!!



congratulations

Term 4	
KD	Matilda Drew
KN	Jaselle Pita
1T	Mannat Mann
1S	Madison Evans
2W	Jasleen Bajwa
2G	Francis Teofilo
3G	Jacob Bingham
3V	Ngor Ngor
4O	Emmanuel Eskander
4M	Caitlyn Woods
5C	Sandy Chagouri
5K	Vanton Anufe
6T	Elisiva Taufa
6L	Taranjit Singh



MOVING SCHOOLS OR LEAVING OLOR AT THE END OF 2016

From time to time families relocate and therefore children need to move schools. If you know that your family is moving and your child will be changing schools would you please inform the school office as soon as possible.

We have other families who would like to enrol their children for 2016 and knowing if you intend to leave will mean we can offer a place to these new families.

It is a legal requirement that our school records the name of the new school your child will be attending. Please note we have already recorded this information for our Year 6 Students.

Many thanks for your attention to this important matter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

PUBLISHED November 2016

2017 Diocesan School Fees

21 November 2016

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the 2017 Diocesan school fees schedule which includes a modest 3.0% increase on the fees from 2016. Every effort has been made to keep the fee increase to a minimum and I am pleased to report that the increase is *less than* the 3.3% education CPI increase for the same period.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 3.0% increase to ensure we have consistency across our Diocese. School-based fees cover the costs of important things such as technology and school administration.

I appreciate that from time to time, some families might experience financial challenges. With this in mind, I take this opportunity to remind you that confidential fee support is available through

- discounts for families with multiple siblings in our schools
- flexible payment plans
- hardship concession policies for families in need
- the Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- the Byawalla Co-contribution Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Tuition Fees - 2017

The 2017 diocesan tuition fees are outlined below:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4th+ children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,131	\$849	\$567
	Years 1 – 6	\$1,461	\$1,095	\$732
	Years 7 – 8	\$2,028	\$1,521	\$1,014
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$2,250	\$1,689	\$1,125
	Years 11 – 12	\$2,874	\$2,157	\$1,437

The 2017 term rate for each of the first three terms is outlined below:

TERM FEES	Charged in Terms 1, 2 & 3	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$377	\$283	\$189
	Years 1 – 6	\$487	\$365	\$244
	Years 7 – 8	\$676	\$507	\$338
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$750	\$563	\$375
	Years 11 – 12	\$958	\$719	\$479



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

PUBLISHED November 2016

Diocesan Building Levy - 2017

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas, and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. This levy has replaced the various building levies that parents previously paid to school building funds (managed by either parishes or schools). **The levy for 2017 is \$756 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$252 payable in Terms 1, 2 and 3.**

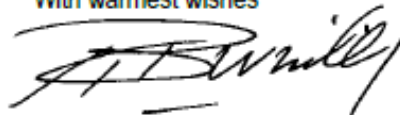
Annual Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents - 2017

The Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents for 2017 is **\$1,869 per student, payable in three equal instalments of \$623 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.** The fee applies to new students on the following visa numbers: 173, 401, 402, 411, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 442, 456, 457, 459, 462, 476, 485, 497, 580, 600, 601, 651, 675, 676, 679, 685, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged this fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a *per family* basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.

Thank you for your continuing support of Catholic education. Please be assured that we will continue to provide exciting learning experiences for them within our Catholic faith environment.

With warmest wishes



Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Parramatta of Diocese



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

SUMMER 2016/17

School Holiday Program

Give it a try at the Y!

DECEMBER

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
19	20	21	22	23
Day Camp Super Hero Day Come save the day or be the most cunning villain on our Super Hero Day with the Starlight Foundation.	Day Camp Become An Artist For A Day Explore your inner artist and creativity.	Day Camp Teddy Bears Picnic We're going on a picnic, how many bears will you bring?	Excursion Ginger Bread Decorating Get into the Christmas Spirit by decorating Gingerbread at Katoomba.	Day Camp Centre Xmas Party Christmas is here! It's time to party!

JANUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9	10	11	12	13
Day Camp Green Thumbs Garden Day What's your favourite fruit or vegetable? We're going to plant them!	Incursion Science Day Have fun with different experiments and learn awesome science facts!	Excursion Unreal Mini Golf Put your golfing skills to the test at Unreal Mini Golf.	Day Camp Music Day It's time to make some noise! Let's have fun playing and creating music all day.	Day Camp Cooking Day Show off your culinary skills at our Cooking Day
16	17	18	19	20
Incursion Circus Day Whether it's taming lions or walking the tight rope, our circus day is sure to be exciting.	Incursion Aboriginal Culture Dance, Cooking And Performance Learn about Australia's history through play.	Day Camp Chocolate Fun Day Learn about how chocolate is made while enjoying its yummy goodness.	Excursion AMF Bowling Are you going to strike out at AMF Bowling?	Day Camp Movie & Pizza Day Let's get cheesy and create your own pizza.
23	24	25	26	27
Incursion Scały Animals Learn about different reptiles and how they grow.	Excursion Farmer For A Day Old McDonald had a farm and we're going!	Day Camp Water Fun Day Can you catch the water balloon?	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Day Camp Multicultural Day Celebrate all of the many cultures in Australia. Bring in something that shows off your culture.

Bookings now open!
oshc.ymcansw.org.au



School Holiday Program

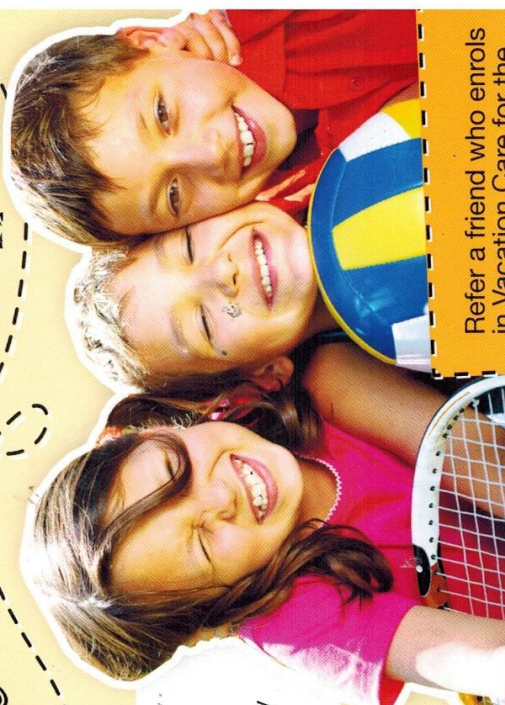


SUMMER 2016/17

Give it a try at the Y!

Activities Include:

- ✓ Chocolate Fun
- ✓ Farmer For A Day
- ✓ Bowling



Booking Forms Available Online
oshc.ymcansw.org.au

YMCA St Marys OSHC
Corner of Charles Hackett Drive & Gabriel's Lane
St Marys NSW

(02) 9833 3195

oshc.stmarys@ymcansw.org.au

Refer a friend who enrolls in Vacation Care for the first time and you will BOTH receive a FREE Day of Vacation Care.*



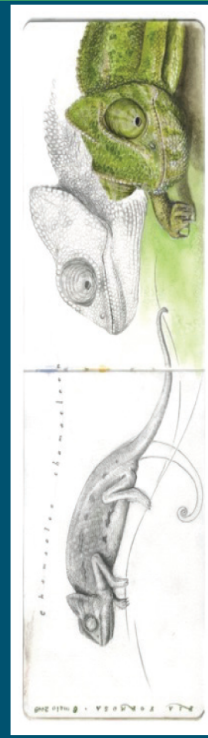
*Terms & Conditions apply

This coming Christmas holidays and into the New Year bring your family and visit our **Botanical Room** at the Mary MacKillop Place Museum. The room and activities are inspired by the discoveries and observations in nature by Fr Julian Tenison Woods [co-founder of the Sisters of St Joseph]. Children will be free to draw from natural specimens and take part in a community mural drawing project. The finished work will be displayed in the museum at the conclusion of the school holiday period.

The space will be open to visitors throughout the first half of the year. You are invited to create and contribute to the wall artwork or create your very own observational drawings. Art supplies, including props to draw, will be available for your creative exploration!

Take refuge from the summer heat and relax in a family friendly space only steps from the café, or relax in the gardens and draw directly from nature by the stream in the

Reconciliation Garden.



SUMMER HOLIDAYS
& BEYOND
AT THE MUSEUM

marymackillopplace.org.au

ROOM TO CREATE...
...GO WILD



Opening 16 December
2016

Planner Calendar 2017 – Term 1
Our Lady of the Rosary – St Marys

Dates are correct at time of printing. Please check Newsletter, Skoolbag etc. for updates

<i>Date</i>	<i>Wk</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Sat</i>	<i>Sun</i>
Jan 23 – 29	0				Australia Day	SDD		
Jan 30 – Feb 5	1	Students return Yr2-6 MAI's Yr1 Newsletter Day	MAI's Yr1	MAI's Yr1 St John Bosco	Kindy & Year 1 Full Days Kindy finish 2:30 Presentation of the Lord	Kindy finish 2:30 Winter Sports Expression of Interest closes		
Feb 6-12	2					Yr4 Parish Mass Whole School COL		
Feb 13-19	3	Newsletter Day	Communion - Parent Information Night 7:30pm		Yr5 Reconciliation 11:20am Communion - Parent Information Night 7:30pm	Beginning School Liturgy 11:30		
Feb 20-26	4	Kinder Information Night 7pm Meet, Greet & Goals Late Night - Year 1 - 6	Meet, Greet & Goals - Year 1-6 Year 4 Reconciliation 11:20am Zone Swimming – Glenbrook Pools	Meet, Greet & Goals Year 1-6	Meet, Greet & Goals Year 1-6 Yr6 Reconciliation 11:20am	Meet, Greet & Goals Year 1-6 Yr2 Parish Mass Whole School COL Don Bosco - Yr2 Diocesan Swimming Carnival-Blacktown		
Feb 27 - March 5	5	Newsletter Day P&F Meeting 7-8pm	Shrove Tuesday	Ash Wednesday K-Yr3 Prayer service in classes 12.00pm Yr4-6 Mass 12.00pm		Don Bosco – Yr1		1 st Sunday Lent
March 6 - 12	6	SDD		Don Bosco - Yr6		Yr3 Parish Mass Whole School COL Cross Country		2 nd Sunday Lent
March 13-19	7	Catholic Schools Week Newsletter Day	Catholic Schools Week	Catholic Schools Week Ditto Show K-Yr2 Show 1 11:20am Show 2 11:50am Don Bosco - Yr5	Catholic Schools Week	Catholic Schools Week Yr6 Parish Mass St Patrick's Feast Day Don Bosco - Yr4		3 rd Sunday Lent St Joseph's Feast Day
March 20-26	8	In class prayer for Feast of St Joseph		Don Bosco – Yr3		Yr1 Parish Mass Cross Country B/U Date Whole School COL – Star Awards		4 th Sunday Lent
March 27-2 April	9	Newsletter Day P&F Meeting 7-8pm			SCHOOL PHOTOS	Yr5 Parish Mass Gold Awards 2.00 pm		5 th Sunday Lent
April 3-9	10			Remembering Holy Week	Remembering Holy Week	Last Day of Term		Palm Sunday