



Our Lady of the Rosary School

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish
Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

Newsletter

TERM 4 WEEK 8

We Follow Jesus

4TH DECEMBER 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 5th December

- School Swim Program
ALL WEEK Yrs 2 - 4

Friday 7th December

- Y5 attend PARISH MASS
- Celebration of Learning Star Awards

Monday 10th December

- School Swim Program
ALL WEEK Yrs 2 - 4
- Second week of Advent**
- 8.45am - Morning Assembly
- P&F Meeting
7.00 - 8.00pm

Tuesday 11th December

- School reports sent home

Wednesday 12th December

- Year 6 Graduation
6.00 - 8.30pm

Thursday 13th December

- End of Year Liturgy & Gold Awards 9.00 - 10.00am
- Parent Thank you morning Tea
10.00 - 11.00am
- Amosia attending CEDP Primary Sports Award

Friday 14th December

- Year 4 attending Parish Mass
- Year 6 Fun Day

Monday 17th December

- 8.45am—Morning Assembly
- 2019 Class Promotion
2.00 - 2.45pm

Tuesday 18th December

- End of Year Nativity Event

**LAST DAY OF TERM 4
FOR STUDENTS 2018
WEDNESDAY 19TH
DECEMBER**

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,



INTRODUCING THE 2019 OLR STAFF

Principal:	Mr Michael Siciliano	
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Julianne Regan	
REC:	Mrs Colleen Fuller	
Stage Coordinators:	Mrs Kelly Dunn - K-2	
	Mrs Nicole Darby - Stage 2	
	Mrs Josephine Edwards - Stage 3	
Instructional Leaders:	Mrs Teresa Wakeling	K-2
	Mrs Julianne Regan	3-6
Early Stage 1:		
Kindergarten	Miss Tara Ryan	Mrs Fiona Van Doorn
Stage 1:		
Year 1	Mrs Kelly Dunn	Miss Karlie Beckhaus
Year 2	Miss Heather Alexander	Miss Monica Lopez
Stage 2:		
Year 3	Mrs Nicole Darby	Miss Bridgette Moore
Year 4	Mrs Anne Maree O'Rourke	Mr Alan Eisenhuth
Stage 3:		
Year 5	Mrs Josie Edwards	Mr Joseph Eid
Year 6	Mr Howard Vanjour	Mrs Jennie Meniconi
Diversity Support:	Mrs Kim Patchell - Diversity Leader	
Mrs Wendy D'Souza	Mrs Kathryn Burnett	Mrs Natalie Bell
Mrs Sally Turner	Mrs Rita Atileh	Miss Rebecca Smith
Mrs Danica Danev	Miss TJ Cakmak	Mrs Colleen Fuller
Specialist Teachers:	Mrs Vanessa Butchard- Creative Arts/Music	
	Mrs Shonagh Schoten- PDHPE	
Library Administrator:	Mrs Rebecca Weston	
Administration:	Mrs Anne Rando	Mrs Debbie Smith
	Mrs Rebecca Weston	

From the Principal cont'd.....

Teacher Assistants:	Mrs Coreena Greening Mrs Lori McMillan Mrs Carmen Grech Mrs Maria Moutzouras	Mrs Trish Sattler Mrs Nadene Tucker Mrs Sognia Piccirilli Mrs Charlene Galea
Learning Technology Coordinator:	Mr Alan Eisenhuth	
Learning Technology Trainee:	Jackson McKenna	
Sudanese Liaison Officer:	Deng Athum	
School Counsellor:	Ms Barbara Mulligan	
Maintenance:	TBC	
Cleaners:	Mrs Immacolata Gaudiosi, Mr David Payne & Ms Maria Torchia	

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

As we come to the end of 2018 I would like to farewell and thank the following staff members for their professional contribution to the OLR Community:

- Mrs Amanda Casis
- Mrs Doris Rizzo
- Mrs Milica Pomeroy
- Miss Jessica Wheelahan
- Mrs Judy Kari
- Mr David Rooney

Congratulations on your recent promotion or change in career. We know you will tackle this new venture with the same passion and dedication you've displayed as part of our OLR team and will quickly establish yourself as valued educators in your new roles. Working with you has been an honour and privilege, and we know you will continue to succeed in this new phase of your professional career. We wish you the best both professionally and personally as you move into your new positions.

WELCOME TO OLR

We welcome and acknowledge the following leaders and educators to the OLR school community in 2019.

- Miss TJ Cakmak- Diversity Support Teacher.
- Miss Bridgette Moore- Year 3 class teacher.
- Welcome Back from Maternity Leave Mrs Kathryn Burnett & Mrs Natalie Bell.

REMEMBRANCE DAY



Dylan De Leon, Madison Mariano,
Xavior Joyce
attended the Armistice Day
celebration
on the 11th of November 2018



From the Principal cont'd.....

The Season of Advent

Here's a good insight into life: "Life is not about being better than someone else. It is about striving to be better than you used to be." Author Unknown. St Augustine had another good insight when he wrote: "When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from the light, the light continues to be bright in itself but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God."

And withdraw from God we all do, not out of disbelief necessarily, but mostly out of forgetfulness, because we are just too busy with the rest of life. With Christmas just around the corner, we might be too busy to give attention to what we are actually commemorating. Those who live "by the cash register" will do everything they can to keep our attention on our wallets and purses. The Three Wise Men seem to have had the true understanding of the Christmas event. They spent many weeks in anticipation as they travelled from their homeland to Bethlehem. When they arrived, their purpose was to honour the newborn child and out of courtesy they brought one gift each.

We, too, have the opportunity for a period of anticipation in the Season of Advent. Of course, Advent is a constant season for, within our own lives, we are continuously waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectations, are all part of our Advent experience. God does not come to us from the sky, he comes to us in the daily story of our lives in people, places and events.

Advent invites us to prepare for the commemoration of God's coming by taking time to have a closer look inside ourselves away from the busy outside. This looking inside is not about remorse or regret, nor about listing ways life over the past year could have been different; it's not about wishing we were better people. It's about forward movement, getting new bearings, relying more on God for directions. It's about a fresh start, getting closer to the "fire" and the "light" that are God's love and compassion. Advent is a time to "Rejoice, let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is nigh" St Paul Phil 4:4,5

As well, Advent is a time to:

“Accept surprises
that upset your plans
shatter your dreams,
give a completely
different turn
to your day
and – who knows –
to your life.

It is not chance.

Leave the Father
to Himself weave
the pattern of your days.”

Dom Helger Camara. A Thousand Reasons for Living.

Then: “The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

St Paul. Phil. 4:7.

Thought for the Week

“The most common one-liner in the Bible is,

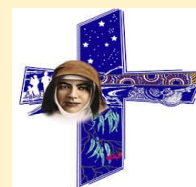
“Do not be afraid”

Someone counted, and it occurs 365 times.” — Richard Rohr,

Have a Blessed Week

Michael Siciliano

PRINCIPAL





From the Assistant Principal's desk...

Welcome to my desk. In each Newsletter I will provide general information, ideas and tips for parents in all key Learning Areas. If you have a particular question or query or anything you would like more information about, please let me know.



Semester Two Reports

Soon you will receive your child's report for Semester Two. These reports are only one way of gaining information about your child and their academic progress. We encourage you to also look through your child's workbooks or work samples that will be sent home in the coming weeks.

The report communicates information about your child's learning for all seven Key Learning Areas (KLAs)

- Religion
- English
- Mathematics
- Human Society and its Environment
- Science and Technology
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Creative Arts - using a scale of achievement.



What is a Scale of Achievement?

Kindergarten learning reports

communicate individual achievement in all areas according to the following scale:

Experiencing difficulty	Working towards	Achieved	Working beyond
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Years 1 – 6 learning reports

communicate individual achievement in all areas according to the following scale:






E	D	C	B	A
Elementary Achievement	Basic Achievement	Sound Achievement	High Achievement	Excellent Achievement
Number of students achieving an "E"	Number of students achieving a "D"	Number of students achieving a "C"	Number of students achieving a "B"	Number of students achieving an "A"

From the Assistant Principal's desk *cont'd.....*

For Years 1 to 6 the number of students achieving at each level E - A is stated on your child's report for each key learning area.

Listed in the table below is an example of achievement (Year 1 to 6) for parents regarding their driving skills. The majority of the parent community would be a "C" (Sound Achievement) and this is what we would expect the majority of drivers to achieve.

This idea may assist you when reading your child's report.

E	D	C	B	A
Elementary Achievement	Basic Achievement	Sound Achievement	High Achievement	Excellent Achievement
Learner Drives with guidance & support 	Provisional Able to drive but lacks experience Basic driving ability 	Sound driver Experienced in various situations 	Attended advanced Driver training course Experienced and tested in various situations 	Formula 1 driver Experienced and tested in various situations at high speed 

Teachers use a range of tools to assess student learning, including (but not limited to) :

- Checklists
- Anecdotal records
- Rubrics
- Student reflections
- Observation records
- Standardised tests
- Outcome based assessment tasks
- Rich tasks...

Comments

In the Semester 2 Report a comment section has been included for Religion, English and Mathematics as well as a general comment. In the Key Learning areas of Religion, English and Mathematics the comments take the form of dot points. The first set of dot points relate to what the student *is able to do* and the next set of dot points give suggestions as to *what the child is working towards* for the student in relation to the Key Learning Area.

The general comment at the end of the report gives the teacher an opportunity to comment on the work habits and social aspects of each child.

As throughout the year, parents have the opportunity to discuss their child's performance. Should you wish to have a meeting with your child's teacher, please contact the office or your child's teacher to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

From the Assistant Principal's desk cont'd.....



Your child's effort for each area is reported using a three-point scale:

- Improvement Required
- Usually
- Consistent Application

CONGRATULATE YOUR CHILD ON THEIR SUCCESSES, FOCUSING ON THEIR EFFORT.



REMEMBER ALL CHILDREN LEARN AT DIFFERENT RATES AND SHOULD BE CONGRATULATED ON ALL THEY HAVE ACHIEVED AT SCHOOL IN 2018.

Kind Regards.... Let us remember that as many hands build a house, so many hearts make this school.

Mrs Julianne Regan
Assistant Principal



WHOLE SCHOOL NATIVITY CELEBRATION

Wednesday December 18 6:30pm start.

You are invited to our End of Year Whole School Celebration of Christ's Birth - a saviour is born into the world.

Generations of believers had waited for thousands of years for the birth of the Messiah!

We are people of the Resurrection. We believe that Jesus' sacrifice and his return prove that what he promised in his revelations about the Kingdom are true.

5:00 pm School gates open for Sausage Sizzle Meal. A detailed note went home yesterday for you to pre-order. Sausage Sizzle sandwich - \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00. Drinks available separately.

6:30 pm Nativity Presentation begins.

Each Grade will present a part of the story of CHRIST'S BIRTH. All children are needed to attend to represent their Grade in presenting this great salvation story.

Students are invited to dress in green, red or white unless their grade communicates specific requests to parents

The school gates will be opened at 5:00pm and families are invited to assemble in the school grounds to share a simple family meal before the students present the scripture story of Christ's birth.

The following food items will be available for sale. Please place your preorder at the School Office.

Sausage sizzle sandwich \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00

Soft Drinks \$2.00

Poppers \$1.00

Food items will be available for sale until 6:00pm. No food items will be sold during the performance.

The presentation of the Story of Christmas will begin at 6:30pm.

We look forward to sharing this family evening with you and your children.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR

From the page of the Religious Education Coordinator - Mrs Colleen Fuller

Parish Mass times are listed for your convenience.

You are invited to gather with the believing community for Holy Mass, at one of the many available times.

We are blessed to have this choice.

Saturday 6.00pm.

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am & 5.30pm

Choose a Mass time that is most suitable time for you and your family.

OLR Mission Statement: We strive to be a school, which is a centre of excellence, where the Gospel message is proclaimed and all individuals are catered for in a happy, caring and innovative environment.



2018 MISSION GOAL

All students will know how to live our school motto: 'We Follow Jesus', through *prayerful reflection and deep exploration of Scripture*, using the Three Senses.

Sunday December 2,

2018: First Sunday of Advent - Year B



This is a time to journey through the four weeks of Advent, reflecting on the Gospel while focusing upon a weekly theme: **peace, hope, joy and love.**

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection. We contemplate the First Coming of Jesus as Saviour, and anticipate his promised Second Coming. Amid the flurry of Christmas preparations, we look for practical ways to observe the holiness of the season in our everyday life.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your redemption is near at hand.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR cont'd....



Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before **the Son of Man.**'

The Gospel of the Lord

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now.

In some instances we can become conscious of **Jesus' saving, transforming power** in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory.

This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added 'living in the virtual world'. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert.

In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ *has* come, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.

VINNIES HAMPERS

Thank you most graciously for your generous contribution to our Vinnies Hampers which we make available each year for families in need through the great work of St Vincent de Paul.

These Hampers were presented to Mr Corkill, representative from St Vincent de Paul on Monday December 3, at our Whole School Assembly.

END OF YEAR LITURGY and GOLD AWARDS

Date: Thursday December 13

Time: 9:00am

All families are invited to attend.

VENUE: School Undercroft

We look forward to coming together as a school community to praise God and give thanks for our many blessings in 2018. It is a time when we acknowledge the achievements of all students and in a particular way we applaud those students who have excelled in their learning.

Mrs Colleen Fuller
RECoordinator

AFTERNOON PICK UP AND SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL

Afternoon Pick Up

To use kiss'n'drop in the afternoon you **MUST have a name sign**. For large families, a surname is sufficient. e.g. "BROWN FAMILY". Please **attach the NAME SIGN to the 'front' of the passenger side sun visor** so it can be flipped down quickly and seen easily. Signs lying flat on the dash board can't be easily seen. Hand held signs are not safe as they take the driver's attention away from the road/driveway. Other carers picking up your child **MUST also have a sign**. If they don't, they will need to park. See the front office for a form and we will make a sign for you.

If there is a **medical or other reason** why you need to be given other considerations, with afternoon pick up, please write directly to the Principal so a "special permit" can be issued.

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.

Should you need out of school child minding please find below the names of the Before and After School Care Centres that service the school.

YMCA Before and After School Care.....9833 3195

(St Marys Public School Grounds)

Princess Mary Street ST MARYS

St Clair Out of School Hours Care (OOSH).....9670 5555

Baptist

158 Bennett Street

ST CLAIR

Go Bananas.....1300 226 262

Cnr Forrester & Boronia Road (St Marys Leagues Club)



JAPANESE STUDENT VISIT





We Follow Jesus

Our Lady of the Rosary

32b Saddington Street, St Marys NSW 2760

PO Box 811, St Marys 1790

Phone: 8856 8301

Email: olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Having accurate, up-to-date information on our students is an important part of maintaining their safety and wellbeing, and supporting their learning. It also assists schools to make good decisions about how best to support and care for all students. To ensure that the data we currently hold is current and accurate, CEDP is conducting a **data validation survey**.

What does this involve?

It is pretty straight forward. Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) will send you an email, SMS and/or letter with a link to the survey. Please note that in some cases you may need to confirm visa details, arrival and school starting dates in Australia, so please have this information with you before starting the survey.

The survey will ask you to confirm or change the information the school currently has about your child/children. This could include names, addresses, email addresses etc. In the majority of cases, the information will not have changed. If it has, it is important you record this in the survey. Letters sent to parents will include instructions on how to access the survey online.

Completing this survey helps to ensure that we have the right information about your child in the case of an emergency and for programs that best suit your child's needs.

Reminder emails and SMS will also be sent.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this project, please contact your school. You can also contact the CEDP Helpdesk at enterpriseservicedesk@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone 9840 5620.

Thank you for your support of this important project.

Mr Michael Siciliano

PRINCIPAL