

KINDERGARTEN 2020 INFORMATION NIGHT

MONDAY 13TH MAY

6:30 - 7:30 PM

Dear Parents and Friends

WELCOME BACK TO TERM TWO

As we commence term two I'd like to review our learning goals for 2019. Learning for our children is most effective when there is a close partnership between school and home. With this in mind I would like to revisit these goals with the parent community.

Religious Education Goal

All students actively engage with our school motto: 'We Follow Jesus' responding as disciples of Christ.

Literacy Goal

By the end of 2019, 80% of students will be at or above their expected grade benchmark in comprehension.

Numeracy Goal

All students will be using problem solving and reasoning to solve challenging rich tasks.



Enrolling Kindergarten 2020

At OLR we are proud to be part of an integrated system of 80 schools, in the Diocese of Parramatta, that offers high quality learning opportunities in a thoroughly professional setting. The Diocese of Parramatta is located in one of the fastest growing areas of New South Wales. The Diocese is west of Sydney and stretches from Dundas Valley, West to Katoomba, South to Luddenham and North to Richmond.



Our teachers and staff are focussed on their students and they take a "whole person" approach to ensure that all students not only achieve their academic best but also that their wellbeing and advancement in faith are nurtured. The strong focus on community in our Parramatta Diocese schools is reflected in the commitment of the teachers and staff and in the support that they give each other. This has been vital to the development of our schools' culture of striving for continuous improvement.

In our school system we evaluate our performance as educators so that we can continue to enhance student learning. In this, we act as an agent of the Catholic Church and we present the Church's message to young people in our care. We are privileged to share our Catholic faith with our students, whether they be Catholic or not. This sharing is a "community effort", undertaken in combination with the local parishes. In all our schools there is a focus on hospitality, enthusiasm and genuine endeavour, and we would be very pleased to share these qualities with you as we welcome you into our community.



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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish - Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

There can be no greater reason for rigorously planning for the future of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta than the well-being of an individual child. Some twenty thousand children are placed in our care each year and they deserve the absolute best that we can give them. Modern school education is highly complex and resources are finite. This demands a systematic approach to planning that begins first and foremost with being clear about our mission and purpose. When our vision is clear we are all better positioned to set timely priorities and then deliver on what we proclaim.



Catholic education is a significant contributor to the broader evangelising mission of the Church, and this vision for Catholic systemic schools sits within the overall Diocesan Pastoral Plan we are all called to implement. Whilst there have been significant achievements in the past, none of that can be taken for granted into the future. We must plan carefully and prayerfully, always alert to improving the faith and learning opportunities of our students so that they will experience life to the full. In considering the collaborative work of Catholic schools and the Catholic Education Office, I am reminded of Jesus' final promise to the disciples, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). We are ultimately called to not work in isolation but to be of generous service and support to each other, heartened by the knowledge that we are always under the constant care of our ever-loving God.

I invite all parents as members of the Parramatta Diocese to inform your friends, neighbours and relatives about Our lady of the Rosary Primary School. Invite them to follow us on facebook or share with our web site or Skoolbag app. Enrolments are now open for K 2020 and limited places available in other grades.



Tell Them From Me

In the coming weeks (**Monday 27th May – Friday 14th June**) we will be inviting students (Year 4, 5 & 6), teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.



We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning* survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at Our Lady of the Rosary.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. When we get closer to the dates mentioned above I will distribute the URL link and you will be able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device.

Best Wishes for the Future

A sincere thank you to David Payne who retired from Our Lady of the Rosary last week after 10 years service as School Cleaner. We wish David and his family all the very best for the future.

Thought for the Week

*'A stream cuts through rock, not because of its power,
but because of its persistence.'*

Jim Watkins



Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

The following poem "The hand that rocks the cradle" reminds us of a mother's influence over children and potentially the world. The influence a mother might have over her child can extend to everything from morals and manners to work ethics and belief systems. The woman's influence can be strong, often so strong that the results of her influence can extend well beyond her lifetime.



The Hand That Rocks The Cradle

The Hand that rocks the Cradle
Is The Hand That Rules The World
Blessings on the hand of women!
Angels guard its strength and grace,
In the palace, cottage, hovel,
Oh, no matter where the place;
Would that never storms assailed it,
Rainbows ever gently curled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

Infancy's the tender fountain,
Power may with beauty flow,
Mother's first to guide the streamlets,
From them souls unresting grow--
Grow on for the good or evil,
Sunshine streamed or evil hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

Woman, how divine your mission
Here upon our natal sod!
Keep, oh, keep the young heart open
Always to the breath of God!
All true trophies of the ages
Are from mother-love imperaled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

Blessings on the hand of women!
Fathers, sons, and daughters cry,
And the sacred song is mingled
With the worship in the sky--
Mingles where no tempest darkens,
Rainbows evermore are hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

--William Ross Wallace





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.

ASSESSMENTS AT OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY



What mandatory Assessments do we conduct on our students and why?

The Guiding Principles :

Improving the learning outcomes for all students is at the heart of the strategic intent of our school under the directive of the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta.

The National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy (2005) stated that “**the assessment of all children by their teachers at school entry and regularly during the early years of schooling is of critical importance to the teaching of reading, and in particular, to identify children who are at risk of not making adequate progress.**” They concluded that early assessment is a key responsibility of system and school literacy planning.

The National Numeracy Review Report (2008) stated that “**to raise the overall level of achievement, increased resources (including specialist teachers working ‘shoulder to shoulder’ with teachers) should be directed to support teachers in regular classrooms to provide intervention for a higher proportion of students during all the compulsory years of schooling, and that these resources be particularly focused on the early years of schooling.**”

Our Lady of the Rosary is classified as an LNAP (Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan) school, which means we receive additional funding to support the Literacy and Numeracy initiatives with in our school.

As part of this project all Kindergarten students are assessed using the **Best Start Assessment at the beginning of the school year. Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is a literacy and numeracy assessment conducted for all Kindergarten students in the first five weeks of school. It identifies each student's literacy and numeracy skills on entry to Kindergarten.**

In the middle and end of the year, an instructional reading level is required for all Kindergarten students. At the end of the year, Kindergarten students will also be assessed using items from the Early Years Assessment.

Year 1 students are assessed using the Early Years Assessment at the beginning and end of the school year with the bottom 20% of Year 1 students being assessed on additional test items. An instructional reading level is required at the beginning, middle and end of the school year for all Year 1 and Year 2 students.



The Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) is also administered at the beginning of the year to Year 1 through to Year 6. This gives teachers an indication of where each sits in regards to their Numeracy understanding. This information informs teachers on how to target the learning for each child.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy – important skills that each child needs to succeed in school and life. The NAPLAN tests are designed to help us make sure students are on track with their literacy and numeracy development. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in NAPLAN tests for reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Between the **14th and 20th May**, our school will participate in **NAPLAN Online**. Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format. To see the types of questions and interactive features of NAPLAN Online, visit [the public demonstration site](#). Year 3 will complete the Writing test on paper, however all other tests will be online.

It is important for all students to complete these tests to allow teachers a bigger picture of how they are progressing with their Literacy and Numeracy skills.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

For more info:

- [How to support your child during NAPLAN information for parents and carers](#)
- [Watch a video that explains NAPLAN Online](#)
- [Subscribe to ACARA's monthly parent newsletter, Parent Update](#)

As a school, we continually look at whole school, grade and individual Data to determine our next steps as a school and for each child. Our teachers differentiate the learning to allow all students to access the Curriculum.



CLOTHING POOL

Just a reminder that our second hand uniform clothing pool is open every Tuesday from 9:15am.

We do ask if all parents can remember that when you have finished searching for the items you want, that you leave the area clean and tidy for the next parents. This service is run by volunteers and it is not fair for them to have to spend their time cleaning up when the clothing pool is left in a mess.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION @ Our Lady of the Rosary

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

Parish Mass times are listed for you and the family.

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

We are blessed to have so many time choices to attend Mass.

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 to attend Sunday Mass.

Attending mass is an integral part of our Christian life as we gather as community to hear the Word of the Lord in holy scripture, be spiritually nourished by the Eucharist to strength and guide us as we go out into the world each week to do God's work and spread the message of the Gospel.

Sunday Gospel: 19 May 2019 - Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34 We greet the gospel with joy and expectation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Today's gospel is one of the most beautiful, yet challenging, in our liturgical calendar. Jesus commands us to love one another just as he has loved us. Powerful stuff! Try to spend some time this week reflecting on this passage, what it means for you, and what it might mean for your children.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 13:31-35)

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself,

and will glorify him very soon.

My little children, I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment: love one another;

just as I have loved you, you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection on the Gospel

'Love one another as I have loved you.' You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.

But actually, **something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside** of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.' It is the same with a person seeing their much loved life partner in a similar situation.

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, **has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others.** We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: **'Love one another as I have loved you.'**

© Fr Michael Tate

Together let us remember, the universal call to be a Christian is grounded in our commitment to love one another. This love is much more than a feeling. It is a call to action. Jesus has shown us that we must be a servant to the world.

Our service spreads from within our homes and then outwards toward all members of the community. ***We are to love one another as God has loved us.***

Our mission is to 'be' Jesus as much as we are able. This leads us into our School Mission Goal for 2019.

2019 Our Lady of the Rosary School MISSION GOAL:

All students to actively engage with our school motto:

'We Follow Jesus' responding as disciples of Christ.



MOTHER'S DAY School liturgy will be held on Friday at 2:00pm

YOU ARE INVITED to join us in prayer and song!

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

***I invite all prayers for our student candidates who continue their participation in the PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR FIRST EUCHARIST.**

***As well, I invite parents of students in Year 5 or Year 6 to attend a Parent Meeting on either Tuesday May 7 or Thursday May 9 evening to enrol in the PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CONFIRMATION.**

These meetings will begin at 7:30pm in the Parish Church.

FAMILY FUN DAY Friday May 24 (The Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians)

All students are asked to give a gold coin donation and wear Mufti in return for their generosity

In this way we will contribute to providing support to families in need within our immediate community, through the generous work of Catholic Care, which is located at Mamre House.

A whole School Liturgy will be held at 9:00 am to celebrate and pray for families which are the building blocks, the foundation, of our society.

Following the LITURGY, families will be invited to OPEN CLASSROOMS where students will be engaged in creating a FAMILY PORTRAIT. Prizes will be awarded to winning entries.

At 10:45 families are invited to share a PICNIC MORNING TEA in the School Grounds.

Woolworths Earn & Learn starts Wednesday 1 May

We will again be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion. Last time we managed to purchase some great resources for the school. Starting Wednesday 1 May, anyone can collect stickers to support your school when they shop at Woolworths, whether they're staff, parents or friends.

Stick together and collect more

With every \$10 spent* at Woolworths, one sticker is collected. These can be placed onto the Earn & Learn sticker sheets and dropped into the collection box at Our Lady Of The Rosary School.



To help boost your sticker collection, look out for the range of participating products in store which will earn you double stickers.

WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Tuesday 6th May	P&F Mother's Day Stall
Friday 10th May	Follow-up Mother's Day Stall Mother's Day Liturgy 2:00pm
Monday 13th May	Kindergarten 2020 Information Night (6:30-7:30pm)
Tuesday 14th May	P&F Meeting (7:00-8:00pm)
13th-24th May	Naplan Testing

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthday since the last newsletter.

Yasmin Zaatini, Mareng Agok, Chase Mizzi, Gom Maout, Samuel Sabastiano, Jemma Matthews, Norman Ambayo, Michelle Sudarno, Charlyn Bankler, Jacinta Dib, Jal Jal Ngong, Christina Succar, Kobe La Rosa, Holly Blazevic, Castiel Ibisate, Kosta Grivas, Juliana Masaniai, Curtis Piol, Abraham Kur, Deng Gar, Rhea Kumar, Jack Darby, Josephine Cahill, Ajou Agok



Easter Show

On the 11th of April stage 3 went on a excursion to the Sydney Royal Easter show at Homebush. The excursion taught us about Agriculture and what it is like to be a farmer today. When we arrived at the show we split into three groups. These groups completed various activities throughout the day, some of these activities included talks by farmers about cotton growing, apple growing and reusing odd vegetables. Other activities included hands on learning in making quiches, cheese and ice-cream along with a petting enclosure of ducks, chickens, donkeys, lambs and llamas.

The whole stage watched a farmer shearing a sheep which took less than five minutes to do. Then we were allowed to touch the wool which felt very soft. Then the stage moved to the milking factory to see how the cows are milked. The dairy farmers milk three different types of cows as they produce various amounts and types of milk. The cows are milked twice a day, early morning and in the afternoon.

Later in the afternoon we watched a live show about a snake and a tortoise. The snake keeper spoke about the differences about venomous and non-venomous snakes and the different places snakes can be found. The keeper also spoke about how the foxes eat the tortoise's egg and destroy their habitat.

It was a wonderful experience for stage 3 to go to the show as it allowed us to gain an understanding of the challenges farmers face in today's society.





Invitation to Chatterbox Live Q&A Event

26 April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

CEDP has always valued parent feedback and with the use of new technologies, we now have the opportunity to become more connected with families in real-time. As part of our commitment to promoting student and parent voice in our schools, we have launched a new initiative called *Chatterbox Live*.

We have had success using social media platforms to host Chatterbox Live in a number of primary and secondary schools already. I was impressed with the range of questions students asked me on issues related to schooling in today's world.

I am extending the invitation to our parent community to join us for the first Chatterbox Live event for parents and carers. This will be held on Thursday, 13 June at St Andrews College Marayong from 7.00pm. I'm looking forward to hearing your views and responding to your questions related to Catholic schooling in the Parramatta Diocese.

Registrations to attend the event in person will open on May 20 at 9am. If you would like to attend in person, please register your interest as soon as possible by visiting chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au.

If you're unable to attend in person, you are welcome to tune in live by 'liking' the CEDP Facebook page to be reminded when the event begins. You can do this at www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/.

If you have any questions or would like further information in regard to this event, please contact Lachlan Andrews via l.andrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au or on 9840 5790.

I look forward to strengthening our engagement with parents.

Regards

Gregory B Whitby AKM KSG
Executive Director



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

12 Victoria Road (Locked Bag 4) North Parramatta NSW 2150

Phone - 02 9840 5600

Sudanese Follow Up Parents Group Meeting
Friday 10 May, 2019

Dear Parents /Carers from OLR, St Marys, Emmaus College, Trinity, Kemps Creek, and Holy Spirit, St Clair,

We, the Sudanese Liaison Officers would like to meet with all Sudanese parents, to discuss any issues or concerns and how we can best support your families.

One parent from each family is required to attend where your voice will be heard and important information will be shared.

Date: Friday 10 May, 2019

Time: 9:30am to 11am

Venue: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall, Corner of Swanston and Collins St, St Marys

Morning tea will be provided

Sincerely yours,

Mr John Cinya – 0409 030 384
Sudanese Liaison Officer

Mr Deng Athum – 0400 444 887
Sudanese Liaison Officer



M E A L D E A L S

T E R M 2 - 2 0 1 9

#1

CHICKEN & LETTUCE SANDWICH,
JUICE POP TOP,
QUELCH STICK ICE BLOCK

\$5.50

#2

CHEESE SANDWICH,
JUICE POPPER,
FROZEN YOGHURT CUP

\$5.50

#3

SAUSAGES & GRAVY,
MASH POTATO,
FLAVOURED MILK (300ML)

\$5.50

#4

SINGAPORE NOODLES,
JUICE BOMB CAN

\$5.50

Road safety



Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children and others safer during drop-off and pick-up times during the school week:

- Make sure your children are fastened in the correct child car seat for their age and size and that it is fitted correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- Watch for flashing lights on buses. They let you know that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road. A 40km/h limit applies when school bus lights flash.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Always park and turn legally around schools. Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area. Never call out to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- It's safest for children to get out of the car through the Safety Door, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on safetytown.com.au



Lives lost on NSW roads.
Our goal is zero.

