

Dear Parents and Friends of Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School

Term Two Review

As term two comes to a close, our minds and hearts are full of contentment because it's been an **exceptionally unique** home and school learning experience for the children at Our Lady Of The Rosary Primary School. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their hard work and care for the children in our school. Although we have cancelled and postponed many activities this term I wish to acknowledge the pastoral and professional skills displayed by the OLR staff. Thank you to all the parents for your support throughout the term with online learning. I wish to express my admiration for the positive mindset displayed by our parents, children and teachers during this term. Together we've learned much and shared many exciting experiences. The worldwide Covid 19 Pandemic saw the cancellation of many experiences however at OLR we continued with the home online learning and in situ learning.

- Anzac Day Liturgy- Cancelled
- Mothers' Day Liturgy and Stall- Cancelled
- Naplan Online- Cancelled
- Don Bosco- Cancelled
- Family Day Liturgy and open classrooms & celebrations- Cancelled
- Soccer gala days- Cancelled
- Modified semester One reports
- In Class Celebrations of Learning, Star and Gold Awards
- Year 5 Flash Mob
- Year 2 Toy Expo



SCHOOL RESUMES FOR TERM 3

MONDAY JULY 20, 2020

WISHING EVERYONE AN ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY



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

FEAR NOT



Jesus says to us what he said to his first disciples,
"Do not be afraid, I am with you".
So, let us bring our fears to Him, and whatever doubts we may have.

LET'S PAUSE AND FOCUS ON THAT FOR A FEW MOMENTS.

*Lord, you give us strength when we are weak. We praise you,
LORD HAVE MERCY.*

*Lord, you give us courage, when we are afraid. We thank you.
CHRIST HAVE MERCY.*

*Lord, you give us new heart when we fail. We glorify you.
LORD HAVE MERCY*

Jeremiah 20:10-13. Matthew 10:26-33

Once upon a time, there was a mouse that had a crippling fear of cats.
A magician took pity on it and turned it into a cat. But then it became
afraid of dogs.
So the magician turned it into a dog. Then it became afraid of Panthers.
So the magician turned it into a panther. Then it became afraid of hunters.
At this point the magician gave up.
He turned it back into a mouse saying, 'Nothing, I do for you is going to be of any help because
you have the heart of a mouse.'



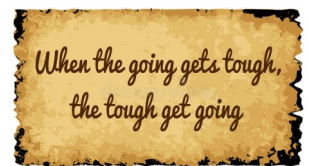
FEAR CAN BE CRIPPLING

I think that this little story fits most of us at some time or times in our lives.....Fear can be crippling; fear can bring about division, fear can be an overwhelming control mechanism of abused use of power.

Its opposite is fearless, which runs together with freedom and daring to dream, as well as putting the Lord's dreams into action.

Jesus has given us this vision of how to live a fearless life in the **BIBLE**.

As Christians, we have been called to show love and mercy as we traverse the world in which we live. However our lives are rarely free of daily challenges yet with a positive growth mindset we can be inspired by the title of an 80s song, '*when the going gets tough, the tough that keep going.*' By Billy Ocean.

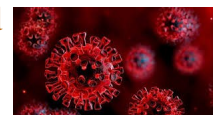


This 'toughness' is not being a robust military assault person, but rather being 'in Christ.' St. Paul says in one of his letters, '*I can do all things through Him who gives me the strength.*'

Fear is a dreadful experience....it can be real dread, in the root meaning of the word. Our world in so many places has the veil of FEAR in it and over it. The terrorist attacks overseas and in our own Country, Australia, keep us on edge! That is one of the most gruesome bi products of Fear.....we are on edge!

The Covid 19 has brought fear across our world.... this silent, invisible virus has virtually turned the world upside down! We are on edge, we can control this virus.....the fear of catching it, controls us. However, it has not all been doom and gloom. Many good things have happened in our society and Church because of it.

THINK. What have been some of the good and wholesome things that you think have happened due to 'lock downs'?



In Matthew's Gospel we are encouraged to take up on the important issue of not being afraid whilst on mission as a disciple of Jesus. Jesus assured them *'Not to be afraid'*. Jesus goes to great lengths to tell us how important and special we are as human beings, in response to his invitation to follow him. We all have an inner longing to know, and be told that we are special. We shine and grow as human beings when we are told from someone who is a true friend, that we are special. Jesus did that for his disciples and does that for us every day.

'I can get by with a little help from my friends...' The Beatles 1968.

Some days we wonder if we are special. We need to get out of ourselves and continue in our positive appraisal of others, and where differences occur, conversation can be graced moments of reconciliation, and mutual upbuilding. It seems to me that so much of the world is filled with negativity.... always looking for what's wrong. I love the lighthouse program at OLR because at school as a Principal I free and frequently distribute lighthouse cards to children who are safe respectful learners.

A CELTIC PRAYER:

I rise today with God's strength to direct me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eyes to look before me,
God's Word to speak to me,
God's hand to uphold me,
God's pathway before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's host to save me:- from falling into temptation:
from thinking that I am not worth much,
from thinking that God does not forgive me!
Amen

Thought for the Week

*"Spoon feeding in the long run teaches us nothing
but the shape of the spoon."*

E M Forster

Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL



Farewell and Best Wishes



We would like to wish Mrs Natalie Bell all the best as she is getting ready to welcome a new baby into her family. Mrs Bell will finish at the end of Term 2 and we look forward to her return in 2021.

We welcome Mrs Kubra Kalender who will be replacing Mrs Bell.



We would also like to offer Mrs Piccirilli and Miss Williams our thoughts and prayers as they will both be having surgery during the holidays. We wish them a speedy recovery and look forward to their return.



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 ONE REPORTS

Tomorrow you will be receiving your child's Semester One Report. As you are aware, this year has been very different from any other. The students began the year at school with their teachers and then from the end of Term One into Term Two they moved to remote learning. We thank you for the way you responded and supported your child's continued learning as together, we adjusted to the challenges of COVID-19. All students, families and teachers have shown great resilience, creativity and flexibility.



As a result of the disruption in regular teaching, learning and assessment this report will look very different than previous years. The teachers have used many sources of data, and have worked hard with all students since the return to face to face teaching, to know where they are at in their learning.

The report is broken into the key learning areas of:
Religious Education, Mathematics and English.

As per the Department of Education and CEDP Guidelines there have been **no A-E grades assigned**.

Your child's achievement has been reported using a 3 point scale in relation to **Grade expectations at this point in time**.

- Working Towards
- Working At
- Working Beyond

In the areas of **English and Mathematics** the teacher has written a **Goal that the child is currently working on**. **This is important for the student to know the next steps in their learning**.

For example

_____ will ask questions to find out the meaning of unfamiliar words when reading.
_____ will learn to count a collection of 30 by using efficient strategies including sorting objects into arrays.

You will find further information about your child's learning in the **Traits section**. This has been broken into the areas of **Safe Respectful Learner**, which aligns with our whole school learning agreement.



Further feedback has been provided in the **General Comment**, which is in the form of :

- 3 areas where the child is showing positive growth and ...
- An area to work on or requiring improvement.

Due to the current restrictions, we will not be holding the usual scheduled formal face to face meetings this Semester. However, if you have any further questions or concerns about the information within the report please contact your child's teacher. **Phone interviews can be held at the parent's request, by making contact with the school office**.

I am sure you appreciate the dedication and hard work of the teachers in putting your child's Semester One report together. We thank you for your continued support and encourage you to have a positive conversation with your child about their learning successes.



Mrs Julianne Regan
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION @ Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys. NSW

From the page of the Religious Education Coordinator - Mrs Colleen Fuller
WE CELEBRATE 140 years of Catholic Education at Our Lady of the Rosary.
At the same time we thank God for 200 years of Catholic Education within Australia.

SCHOOL FORMATION GOAL - 2020 to form, to inform, to transform

All students to be self-reflective disciples of Jesus, through deep learning from Matthew's Gospel.

PARISH MASS ATTENDANCE: In this time of Covid 19 we are all committed to practising social isolation and using soap and hand sanitisers to keep everyone safe from Covid 19.

For this reason, opportunities to attend Mass are still being provided online for your convenience.

Fifty parishioners are invited to attend Mass each Sunday by registering with the parish.

You simply need to book your attendance through the Parish Office: 9623 1962

Please check the Our Lady of the Rosary Parish website to discover all possibilities that are available for Prayer and Worship within the Parish.



Blessings to you and your family at this time of challenge and opportunity as we focus on family & friends and the

'Common Good'. Through our love of God and love of our neighbour let's continue with active participation in prayer to praise God and inform our action, and reflect on this action.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 5th July, 2020

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do.

Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Not an Outsider but an Insider

In the Jewish story of the creation of Adam, the author has God fashion a figure of a human being out of damp earth, and then breathes into the nostrils of this clay figure.

It becomes 'Adam'. In Hebrew, the word for breath, wind or Spirit is the same, so this story tells us that **we become human when the Holy Spirit is breathed into our very being.**

St Paul tells the early converts in Rome, those recently baptised, and therefore tells us who are baptised: 'The Spirit of God has made his home in you.'

Since your baptism, the Holy Spirit, the Breath of God, dwells in you in a special way. Baptism re-creates us, sharing in the life of the true Adam.

We could pause for a moment to pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Friday 3rd July

- **Last school day for Term 2**

Monday 20th July

- **School resumes for Term 3**
- Dance Fever starts (every Monday for Term 3)

Wednesday 22nd July

- African Beat Drum Show

Monday 27th July

- Dentist visiting (please return consent forms)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthday in the last 2 weeks.

Stephen Mulipola; Emilija Marjonavic; Petra Vukic; Logan Moore; Lohgan Allen; Bailey Houseman; Ryan Rouen; Akon Quot; Gloria Gar; Ti Tafaese; Alessa Estphan.



AFRICAN BEAT DRUM SHOW

On Wednesday June 22 the African Beat drum show will be visiting OLR. This will be having a whole school incursion.

African Beat presents a well-structured, informative and highly interactive performance called "Salaka", which means "Sharing" in Ghana. Students are immersed in the rich culture and rhythms of Africa, in an entertaining and educational way.

Bringing literally hundreds of drums to our school, every student will learn and play an authentic African rhythm. Students will learn a traditional African song to accompany the drumming rhythm and experience African dancing.

Students will be attending at the following times:

9:30 - 10:30	Years 4, 5 & 6
11:30 - 12:30	Kinder, Years 1, 2 & 3

Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta has approved incursions for the Diocese. We are still awaiting directions regarding external excursions.

OLR staff and visitors will be following all Covid-19 safe procedures.





We Follow Jesus

Our Lady of the Rosary

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Thursday 25th June, 2020

Dance Fever - Dancing

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Next term your child will be participating in a weekly dancing program run by a company called "Dance Fever". This is the same company that was at OLR in 2019 for our gymnastics program.

Dance Fever follows the NSW PDHPE syllabus in order to provide fun and engaging activities for students K-6.

This program has already been included in your school fees therefore no payment is required.

This program will start in Term 3 on the Monday of Week 1 and will run to the end of the term. Each grade will be participating in a 40-minute weekly lesson.

Due to this program, we will need to change the Term 3 sports uniform days to the following:

Kindergarten	Monday and Friday
Year 1	Monday and Friday
Year 2	Monday and Thursday
Year 3	Monday and Wednesday
Year 4	Monday and Wednesday
Year 5	Monday and Thursday
Year 6	Monday and Friday

To accommodate this valuable program, morning assemblies will take place on a Tuesday morning, NOT Monday morning for Term 3 only.

Thank you for your continued support of your children's learning.

Kind Regards,
Miss Tj Cakmak
Sports Coordinator

Prue Car MP

YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



Mr Michael Siciliano
Principal
Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School
32b Saddington St
ST MARYS NSW 2760

09 June 2020

Dear Mr Siciliano *Michael*

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you and your staff to thank you for your incredible efforts during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

I greatly appreciate the additional efforts and new skills required to deliver remote learning and the extra hours involved in creating and delivering educational content to students through this period.

I understand the difficulties that were faced when schools were asked to prepare for a staggered return of students only for this to be changed a week later. There was a huge amount of work required in creating timetables, developing lessons and liaising with families.

As students return full time to school, I wanted to acknowledge our community's appreciation for the dedication demonstrated across our school communities. Please pass on my sincere thanks to all of your teachers, administration staff and cleaning staff for the work they have done.

I would greatly appreciate any feedback you can provide me on how we can better support our students and school communities in the months ahead, so please don't hesitate to contact me with any thoughts you may have.

Yours sincerely

Prue Car MP
Member for Londonderry
Shadow Minister for Education

STATE MEMBER FOR LONDONDERRY

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YEAR 7, 2021 ENROLMENT CLOSING DATE EXTENDED

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YEAR 7 2021



Patrician Brothers' College Blacktown

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