

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

A very warm Welcome back to School for Term 3, as we continue to Follow Jesus as Safe, Respectful Learners.

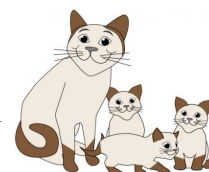
WHAT BEAUTY REALLY LOOKS LIKE

I'd like to share an article I read titled, Cats, Dogs and Dancers by U K Le Guin, which I believe you will find interesting.

Dogs don't know what they look like. Dogs don't even know what size they are. A dachshund, standing tall at 20 centimetres, will attack a Great Dane thinking it can tear the bigger dog apart. The big dog often stands there looking confused – "Should I eat it? Will it eat me? I am bigger than it, aren't I?" But then the Great Dane will come and try to sit in your lap and mash you flat, under the impression that it is a Dachshund.



Cats, on the other hand, know exactly where they begin and end. When they walk slowly out the door that you are holding open for them, and pause, leaving their tail just an inch or two inside the door, they know it. They know you have to keep holding the door open. That is why their tail is there. When a cat meets a threatening dog and can't make either an escape, it will suddenly triple its size, inflating itself into a sort of weird fur blowfish, and it may work, because the dog gets confused again – "I thought that was a cat. Aren't I bigger than cats? Will it eat me?"



Human beings are more like dogs than they are like cats. They don't always know what they look like. Or they want to look like something else. Great Danes want to be Dachshunds and vice versa. People with straight hair try to make it curly. People with curly hair have it straightened. Ideas about beauty can make people so dissatisfied that they starve and deform and poison themselves.

One rule of the game, in most times and places, is that it's the young who are beautiful. Yet we can all think of the beautiful old face of a beloved grand-parent. Beauty is all about who the person is. Beauty is what shines through those wrinkled faces and bodies.



There's the ideal beauty of youth and health, which never really changes, and is always true. There's the ideal beauty of movie stars and models which changes its rules all the time and is never entirely true. And there's an ideal beauty that is harder to define or understand, because it occurs not just in the body but in the soul and spirit.

As we get older we learn to worry less about what we look like or what the rules are and concentrate on the kind of people we are. We learn that beauty is not skin-deep but life-deep and the life we live will shape the way we look.

P&F MUFTI PYJAMA DAY

FRIDAY 31 JULY

CHILDREN CAN WEAR THEIR PYJAMAS



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

Compulsory School Attendance

Even during these challenging C19 times please be aware that school attendance is very important and a high level of absenteeism and partial absences, has a negative impact on a child's learning. I would like to share some important information regarding this matter.



In NSW school attendance is compulsory for children over the age of six years until the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. If your child has to be absent from school you can you must send a note when your child returns to school, email to the school or communicate via Skoolbag .

A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- is unwell
- has a medical certificate saying they can't return to school because they have a medical condition

If parents consider that it is in their child's best interests to be exempted from the requirement to attend school for any length of time greater than 5 Days) The school will provide parents with an Application for Exemption from Attendance at School, form. The principal will consider your application and decide whether to grant a Certificate of Exemption from Attendance at School.

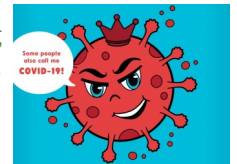
It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the children in the school. Part of this role is to keep accurate records of student attendance. If there are any issues which prevent your child from attending school each day please contact your child's teacher so that these issues can be resolved.

Once again while the school remains open during these challenging times all children are required to attend school unless otherwise advised by NSW Health, NSW Government or CEDP.

Healthy Choices this Winter

After highlighting requirements for regular attendance at school I'll now throw a spanner in the works by providing some information regarding why children should be absent from school to help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses like colds, influenza and of course Covid 19.

Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly from person to person through droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze, or talk. Flu viruses also may spread when people touch something with flu virus on it and then touch their mouth, eyes, or nose. Many other viruses spread these ways too. People infected with flu may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days after becoming sick. That means you may be able to spread the flu to someone else before you know you are sick as well as while you are sick. Young children, those who are severely ill, and those who have severely weakened immune systems may be able to infect others for longer than 5-7 days.



Children, parents, and staff are encouraged to take the following precautions:

- Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away after use and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you or your child gets sick with flu-like illness, it is recommended that your child stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.
- A reminder that there are testing clinics throughout western Sydney, should they be needed
- If your child is diagnosed with COVID-19, or is identified by NSW Health as a 'close contact' of a person who has COVID-19, please notify the school immediately.

Thought for the Week

*"Today is the tomorrow
you worried about yesterday,
and all is well"*
John T Tindsley

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.

Celebration of Learning

There is always much to celebrate at OLR with the wonderful learning that takes place every day. We have been continuing our assemblies, however the students stay in their classroom and we use the PA system. We have missed having our parents and certainly look forward to when it is safe to bring our community back together.



This Friday we will have our **Celebration of Learning** over the microphone where we will Pray together, acknowledge and celebrate Birthdays and present Merit Awards.

When we have our face to face assemblies one grade would present some of their class learning to the school community. As we continue to think differently in the light of the current situation grades will now share their learning via video. The teachers will film the students and this will be shared with all teachers and played in each classroom during our Celebration of Learning Assembly.

Year 5 will be sharing this week a video of their Real Estate Expo they held at the end of Term 2.



Lighthouse Award

This week we will be introducing a brand new award called The Lighthouse Award. This is aptly named, as the recipients of this award are students who are a 'Lighthouse' in the way they follow Jesus as a role model to their peers.



- The Lighthouse Award will be for the students who are **always** respectful, safe learners.
- They follow the expectations from the school behaviour matrix and set an example for others.

The recipients of this award will receive a certificate to take home as well as being presented with a **Lighthouse badge**. This badge will be worn every day for the following 2 weeks to highlight that they are a *Lighthouse student*. **At the next Celebration of Learning this student will have the honour of presenting the badge to the next recipient in their grade.**

We will share the great news on our school Facebook page following the Celebration of Learning on Friday. <https://www.facebook.com/olorstmary>

Mrs Julianne Regan
Assistant Principal

In 2020 we celebrate 140 years of the ongoing commitment to excellence in Catholic Education; at Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys.

At this same time we thank God and celebrate 200 years of this commitment to excellence in Catholic Education within Australia.

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

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

2020 FORMATION GOAL:

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 continue to be 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, Worship and StoryTelling 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 contemplation and prayer to praise God & inform our action, and reflect on the effectiveness of this action in caring for our neighbour.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time YEAR A 2nd August, 2020

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 14:13-21 Jesus feeds the five thousand.
They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, '**There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.**' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; **then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing.** And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate, numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus nourishes us. In a world that is fraught with meaninglessness, he offers purpose; to a world that is stumbling in darkness and confusion, he provides direction. He satisfies the hungry heart; he enlivens the drooping spirit. Those who follow Jesus will never be left to languish in the desert. If we but open our eyes, we will be amazed at the bountifulness of the nourishment that is provided for us. We will discover that God is magnanimous, even prodigal in giving, that **God's generosity exceeds all of our expectations and also our understanding.**

Furthermore, **we are nourished by God through the ministry of each other**, through the simple things of life, (distributing bread and gathering up the fragments): visiting the sick and consoling the grieving; caring for a child and giving aid to an elder; bagging groceries and directing a choir. If we but open our eyes, we will be astounded at how ordinary actions can satisfy our hunger and the hunger of others.

Most amazing of all is that this nourishment is given freely; there was no thought of requiring payment. God simply invites: Come! All we have to do is reach out our hands to receive and we will never be sent away to find nourishment for ourselves. We will discover that a bond is established that endures. Jesus is filled with compassion, a compassion that is not a fleeting emotion, but an enduring attitude. **Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ.**

WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Tuesday 28 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Reconciliation Meeting 7:30pm in OLR Church
Thursday 30 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Reconciliation Meeting 7:30pm in OLR Church (REPEAT)
Friday 31 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• P&F Pyjama Mufti Day• Voice of Youth school final
Monday 3 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dance Fever
Monday 10 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dance Fever

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthday in the last 4 weeks.

Mis Habib; Troy David; Dylan Beatty; Abuk Acher; Ridampreet Kaur; Med Anthony; Stefan Nissan; Krystal Tran; Demilade Oduloju; Abuk Quot; Reec Reec; Rita Andary; Elena Tsacalos; Ather Ajou; Joseph Khairallah; Minula Gunasekara; Aduor Deng; Christian Taouk; Knox Smith; Elsie Alvarez; Winson Yulianto; Ryan Furner; Leon Atonio; Quintana Allen; Eunice Padasas; Ryan Hughes.



Teacher Supervision Commences at 8.15am

A reminder to all parents and guardians that teacher supervision commences every school day at 8.15am. Parents are reminded to ensure that children are not to be at school before this time. Thankyou for your support in this matter.

PARENT MEETING for First Reconciliation

For parents wanting their child to receive the Sacrament of reconciliation, we invite you to attend one of the Meetings this week in the Parish Church.

Tuesday evening 28th July at 7:30pm OR

Thursday evening 30th July at 7:30pm



SCHOOL DENTIST VISIT POSTPONED

The visit to the school by the school dentist has been postponed to Term 3 Week (Monday 7 - Friday 11 September). If you haven't returned your child's consent form yet can you please return as soon as possible. You can now complete this form online at <https://form.jotform.com/TSMD/PC-Our-Lady-of-the-Rosary>



KISS'N'DROP

AFTERNOON PICK-UP

As you know, we are most fortunate to have a parent pick-up service at our school and staff are diligent in their efforts to assist in getting your child quickly and safely to your vehicle.

Having made some changes to the afternoon pick-up lines, everything is now moving much quicker. However, there remain some issues of concern in the smooth and safe running of this service for families. All drivers are asked to take greater responsibility by following procedures carefully with CARE and FULLY!

Kiss and Go Zone



This 'service' is not normal school practice and WILL ONLY CONTINUE if parents and carers cooperate fully.

This afternoon pick up service is ONLY to be used by parents and carers who adhere to all of the following procedures:

LOCAL TRAFFIC

- ♦ Cars are not to stop on the school crossing or 'queue up' back onto Saddington St. If there is a queue you need to go around the block or park in the street.
- ♦ There is **NO RIGHT TURN** into the driveway from Saddington St.
- ♦ There is **NO RIGHT TURN** going out of the driveway into Saddington St.
- ♦ Anyone **speaking on a mobile phone**, or driving illegally in any other way, will be asked to park and collect their child.



NAME SIGNS

- ♦ You **MUST** have a name sign.
- ♦ For large families, a surname is sufficient. e.g. "JONES 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.
- ♦ You can make your own sign at home as long as the **print is large and easy to read**.
- ♦ If you would like us to make a sign please return the form attached, indicating how many copies you need.

LOADING CHILDREN INTO CARS

You **MUST NOT** get out of your car.

Children **MUST** enter your vehicle from the kerbside.

If you have to load children from the driveway side of your car I am sorry but you will need to park and collect. **It is not safe** for children or adults to be on the driveway side of vehicles.



TIMES

Children **MUST be collected by 3:15pm**. After this time you will need to park and collect your child from the school office. This is not an after school care service. Some people are arriving up to an hour after school has finished. This is very unfair to teachers and staff who have other work to do and meetings to attend and they have their own families and personal commitments to go home to. If you require information about Before & After school care this is available at the office.



CHILDREN WAITING

Children are **NOT to eat or play games** while they are waiting.

If children who do not listen and/or **don't come as soon as their name is called**, those picking them up will be asked to park so that others are not kept waiting.

Children must take their backpacks off their back before they get to the car so they can get in quickly.

Please move off as soon as your children are in the car but then ensure they are 'buckled in' before leaving the school driveway.

COURTESY AND RESPECT

Teachers who are on this duty need to be treated with respect and courtesy and parents must follow their directions. They have a difficult job to do and need everyone's help.

Please make sure everyone is spoken to politely and respectfully - parents and staff alike.

Parents must not use the driveway of the units opposite the school as a turning bay; this is not showing respect or courtesy to our neighbours.



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.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated as we work together to move children away safely and quickly. With everyone's help this service will continue to work well.

Parents who do not follow these procedures will not be able to use this service.

Regards,

Michael Siciliano