

WELCOME BACK

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

## WELCOME BACK

### POSITIVE ROLE MODELS



This week I'd like to share with the school community an interesting article I read written by Michael Gross which is so relevant as we return to Face to Face learning after four months of learning from home.

*"Children learn what they live."*

It has been estimated that ninety to ninety-five per cent of all human behaviours are learned through modelling.

Modelled learning is largely unconscious, picked up from non-verbal behaviour and is strongly influenced by the quality of the relationship that exists between the model and the learner. The higher the regard the more likely a person is to follow an example, which makes parents such influential models.



That also means it is a little scary being a parent. Someone is watching and perhaps copying every move we make: - the good and the bad stuff, the behaviours we are proud of and the behaviours we want to forget!

For healthy development children need to be surrounded by adults who model responsible, caring behaviour. If they experience nurturance they are more likely to be nurturant. If they experience encouragement they are more likely to encourage others and if they experience optimism if they are more likely to develop a positive view of the world and themselves.



Twentieth Century poet Edgar Guest best expressed the power of modelling in his poem

#### **"The Living Sermon":**

*"All the lectures you deliver may be very wise and true,  
But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.  
Though I might not understand you and the fine advice you give.  
There's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live."*



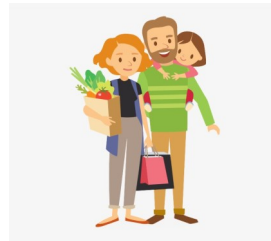
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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish - Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

As significant adults in children's lives parents and teachers need not leave modelling to chance. We need to harness its power and consciously model behaviours and language we want children to learn before they move into adolescence. For instance, if we want children to resolve conflict in civil ways they need to see adults do the same. If we want children to watch less television and read more then our chances of success increase if we set the example ourselves.



The period of life before puberty offers the prime opportunity for parents to model prosocial behaviours that often last a lifetime. The impact of modelling on children by parents and other significant adults in their lives is profound and shouldn't be left to chance.

## **A PRAYER OF THANKS!**

A difficult, yet life giving and rewarding mission is that of parenting.

A thank you and a thought for our OLR Parents and Guardians

:

### **Beatitudes for Parents**

Blessed are those parents who make their peace with confusion and with noise,  
for such is the kingdom of childhood.

Blessed is the parent who engages not in the comparison of her child with others,  
for precious unto each is the rhythm of his own individuality and growth.

Blessed are the mothers and fathers who have learned laughter,  
for it is the music of the child's world.

Blessed and wise are those parents who understand the goodness of time,  
for they make it not a sword that stifles growth but a shield to protect the growing one.

Blessed and mature are they who without anger can say "no",  
for comforting to the child is the security of firm decisions.

Blessed is the gift of consistency,  
for it eases the heart of a child.

Blessed are they who accept the awkwardness of growth,  
for they are aware of the choice between marred furnishings and damaged personalities.

Blessed are the teachable,  
for knowledge brings understanding, and understanding brings love.

Blessed are the women and men who in the midst of everyday routine give love,  
for they bestow the greatest of all gifts to each other, to their children, and in an ever-widening circle to their fellow human beings.

And ... Blessed are parents for they love their children!



# **Blessed**

### **Thought for the Week**

*"Let us know this love in our acts,  
bearing with one another,  
forgiving and forgetting."*

*Mary MacKillop 1890*



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.



I would like to take this opportunity to say a **HUGE thank you** to the teachers at Our Lady of the Rosary. Their professionalism, patience, resilience and hard working attitude make us a very lucky community.

During home learning they went above and beyond to still 'teach' the students the best way they could. I know they made contact with families and continued to support all of the children in their class, remotely.

I hope the children take the opportunity to show their appreciation for their teachers on Friday by bringing their best smiles to school.



THANK YOU  
TEACHERS

## WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Friday 29th October ⇒ **WORLD TEACHERS DAY**

Monday 1st November ⇒ **All Saints Day**



Tuesday 2nd November ⇒ **All Souls Day**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

Daniella Sackey, Amean Arou, Adut Aleu, Kai Satchell, Giorgio Salmas, Alessandra Lorenzo, Cooper Pace, Apubo Kuol, Angelpreet Kaur, Charlotte Mizzi, Liam Mitchell, Mykel Mendoza, Khloe Rien, Eman JalNgong, Anna JalNgong, Aria Scanlan, Quot Quot, Natalya Papandreou, Genk Akot, Kevin Le, Chiagoziem Ogbodo.



## School Fee Reversals and Refunds for Cancelled Excursions and Activities

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Due to some excursions, activities and overnight excursions being cancelled, the school fees have now been adjusted with reversals to reflect these cancelled events.

Any accounts that were in credit have been contacted via phone or text by me

Kind Regards, Anne Rando  
School Finance and Office Administrator

## Leaving Our Lady of the Rosary in 2022?

We would kindly ask families to please inform us in writing if they intend to discontinue the enrolment of their child/children at Our Lady of the Rosary in 2022. Please contact the office for a Leavers Form.

Your appropriate response is requested so that we can offer places, in a timely manner, to new families seeking enrolment.



*From the Religious Education Coordinator.*

This week we have been delighted to welcome the return of all students to the school site. There have been many smiles from students and teachers mixed with looks of appreciation from parents.

**Like school, Churches are reopening as they continue to implement social distancing expectations and ask all adults, and young adults to wear a mask.**



## Mass Times

During the time of the pandemic, Our Lady of the Rosary Parish is livestreaming masses via their Facebook page at the following times:

Monday - Friday 6:30am  
Saturday 8:00am & 6:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am

## **Monday 1st November - ALL SAINTS DAY.**

On Monday students will have the opportunity to engage in prayer and reflection as we celebrate the Feast of All Saints. These Prayer Celebrations will be held in Class or Stage Groups.

On this Feast Day we celebrate all saints: all those wonderful people who show us how to live a life of holiness. They lived the gospel of Jesus, showing his mercy and love to all those around them. They are our heroes.

They give us examples of how to live the joy of the Gospel as we do God's work.

**Saints show us how to follow Jesus by loving God and loving our neighbour** in the ordinary things we do each day.

Saints remind us that God calls each of us to live a life of holiness and to become saints too. This is our mission.

## **Thursday 11th November - REMEMBRANCE DAY.**

**On the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day of the eleventh month WE REMEMBER!**

**On this day we take the time to acknowledge in prayer and thanksgiving, all those men and women who gave their commitment, and too often their life, to protect our freedoms within Australia.**

**It is also a time to reflect on how we live each day to create peace and friendship within our families, our school, our friendship groups and our nation.**

## **Next Sunday's Gospel ... Mark 12:28-34**

### **The Greatest Commandment**

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"<sup>29</sup> "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'<sup>a</sup> **30** Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'<sup>b</sup> **31** The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>c</sup> There is no commandment greater than these."<sup>32</sup> "Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. **33** To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."<sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

**R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen** OFM Conv DD STL  
Bishop of Parramatta

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## **Pastoral letter to the People of Parramatta on the return to worship**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Praised be to our God who as St Paul says is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him (Romans 8:28).

Next, I want to say a big thank you to all the families and parish communities in our Diocese of Parramatta!

During the long months of necessary lockdown, you have all risen to the challenge of sustaining one another through times of great isolation, loneliness, and grief in an impressive variety of ways, spiritual, emotional and practical. Thank you for bearing all these things with patience and for promoting the common good so responsibly.

I especially thank all who have worked tirelessly, in hospitals, aged care homes and across the nursing and medical profession for giving of yourselves so generously.

I thank all who have worked valiantly in our schools, facing unforeseen demands, and meeting them with characteristic professionalism, a sense of duty and dedication.

So many laity, consecrated persons, deacons, and priests have given so generously of their time and energy to keep open our churches here in the Diocese of Parramatta, as havens of peace and prayer.

In this pandemic crisis so many have creatively developed diverse new patterns of outreach - of prayer, catechesis, study, and spiritual solidarity; all who have made participation in the Mass possible through the internet. A special thanks to our Diocesan team who have provided us with *The Well* ([thewell.org.au](http://thewell.org.au)) which has nourished so many in these trying times, including those from far and wide.

Perhaps, some may be concerned that when things finally return to 'normal,' many Catholics will have grown accustomed to staying home and either watching Mass online or not participating at all.

But as we all know deep down, 'virtual' worship can never really replace the in-person celebration of Mass. Livestreamed liturgies should remain available for the sick and the elderly. But, even then, parishes should try to reach out to them in a personal way so that they remain connected to the community.

And how can we fail to thank all those in the outreach agencies of our Diocese who serve the Body of Christ in the poor, the refugees, the lonely and all on the 'peripheries'? They have contributed magnificently to the immense effort of providing food for those most in need. The generosity shown in the distribution of so very many meals and other acts of solidarity has given eloquent expression to the mercy, love and compassion which are at the very heart of the Gospel.

What will be the pace of our emerging from this pandemic remains as yet unclear. However, one challenge is certain.

Sometimes in times of stress like these, our work, shopping, sport, and entertainment media can capture our hearts. Let's all now take special care to recover a sense of sacred time as we emerge from this pandemic.

May we all, as the People of God in the Diocese of Parramatta, recommit ourselves to awaken in people a grateful love for the gift of the Eucharist as well as the Lord's Day.

When we go to Communion, we receive Christ in the most intimate way possible during our life — allowing him to become one with us — so that we actually become what we receive, the Body of Christ.

May we again devote ourselves to the grace and beauty of the Eucharist. Our Risen Lord is so close to us in the Eucharistic mystery.

Strengthened by His Body and Blood, our Saviour Jesus of Nazareth, constantly sends us out on mission, to live the Gospel afresh.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Long Van Nguyen', with a small cross symbol to the left.

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv  
Bishop of Parramatta**

*Given at Parramatta on 22 October 2021  
The Feast of St John Paul II, Pope*

Prue Car MP, Member for Londonderry,  
would like to invite students to  
participate in her annual

# CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



THIS YEAR'S  
THEME IS:

'NO ORDINARY  
CHRISTMAS'

**DUE:** 5 November 2021  
**FORMAT:** A4 - Original or High Quality Scan  
**SEND TO:** [londonderry@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:londonderry@parliament.nsw.gov.au) OR  
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