

WELCOME BACK

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

## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to an exciting 2021 school year.  
Welcome back to all of our students from Year 1 to Year 6, and our families!  
I extend a very warm welcome to the new children in grades other than Kinder, and their families.  
A HUGE welcome to our 59 Kindergarten children and their families.



## OUR MOTTO - We Follow Jesus

As we commence 2021 I invite you to pray and reflect on the words of our school song.

## OLR SCHOOL SONG

In 1880 at St Marys,  
Mother Mary and her nuns  
Listened to the call of Jesus,  
Found a school for little ones.  
Kangaroos hopped through the playground,  
Native birds flew overhead.  
In this happy, joyous setting  
Jesus' word was taught and spread.

*We follow Jesus, We follow Jesus,  
We follow Jesus, He's our friend.*

Now at Our Lady of the Rosary  
Children from all nations come.  
We're all happy here together  
Aussies caring one for one.  
Learn to love the ways of Jesus.  
Learn to read and write and pray.  
There is happiness in learning  
Caring teachers show the way

Music by: Ruth Egan  
Lyrics: Peter Gibson



# Expectations for the New Year

As we welcome back the new school it's a good time to consider what you *expect of your children*. Having expectations that are high—yet also realistic—is essential for school success. Think of a balloon. If there's no air (like no expectations), it's flat. If you put in too much air (expectations that are too high and impossible to meet), the balloon bursts. Finding the right balance of expectations will stretch children to grow without frustrating them.



Tips for primary school children:

- Help children develop predictable routines around waking up, getting ready for the day, eating nutritious meals, taking care of their bodies, going to bed at a regular time, and getting enough sleep. Children are more likely to be successful when their routines help them thrive.
- Build on your children's interests. They're more likely to meet high expectations when they're doing things they enjoy.
- Talk with your children about the goals you've set and achieved in your life. Explain how you overcame obstacles to meet your goals.
- Expect bumps along the way. Achieving high expectations is not like climbing a ladder where each step is a step up. Expect setbacks and doubts. They're all part of the process. The key is to work through the difficulties along the way.
- Encourage children to grow and develop at their own pace. Don't compare your child to other children. Some are early walkers. Some are late walkers. Both are acceptable for the individual child. Follow your child's lead.
- Watch out for pressures that you place on your child because of your preferences rather than your child's needs. For example, not all sports-passionate parents are going to have sports-passionate children.
- Have high expectations for homework and schoolwork.
- Help children break large, difficult tasks into smaller, more manageable tasks. This is called 'chunking' and can build confidence as they achieve each part.

## Attendance Focus for 2021

As you would be aware, student absenteeism impacts on student achievement, wellbeing and efficiency. I once again invite parents and children to make this a focus in 2021.



### **Key Facts About School Attendance**

- Attendance affects academic achievement. Every day of attendance contributes towards a child's learning and enhances academic achievement
- Attendance has a strong relationship with student outcomes as measured by NAPLAN scores. Each percentage point increase in attendance is related to higher student outcomes by an average of 2-3 NAPLAN scale score points in numeracy, reading, spelling, writing and grammar & punctuation
- Absence from school is associated with academic achievement in the current year as well as future years
- If children do not attend school regularly they miss out on the chance to build a good attendance habit
- Being absent for one day of school each fortnight (2 days a month) adds up to missing more than a year of learning over 10 years.
- Sporadic absences affect academic achievement as much as consecutive days
- School attendance patterns are established early in Kindergarten and Year 1

### **Thought for the Week**

*"Life's most treasured and inspired moments often come unannounced"*

*-Anonymous*



Have a Blessed Week  
Michael Siciliano  
PRINCIPAL

**I would also like to extend a special welcome back to our dedicated staff:**

<b>Principal</b>	Mr Michael Siciliano	
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Mrs Julianne Regan	
<b>REC</b>	Mrs Colleen Fuller	
<b>Stage Coordinators</b>	Mrs Kelly Dunn - K-2	
	Mr Alan Eisenhuth - Stage 2	
	Ms Ellie Coledan - Stage 3	
<b>Instructional Leaders</b>	Mrs Teresa Wakeling - K-2	
	Mrs Julianne Regan - 3-6	
<b>Early Stage 1</b>		
<i>Kindergarten</i>	Mrs Fiona Van Doorn	Miss Sophie Nechepurenkiov
<b>Stage 1</b>		
<i>Year 1</i>	Miss Amelia D'Souza	Miss Chantelle Zuza
<i>Year 2</i>	Miss Monica Lopez	Miss Tara Ryan
<b>Stage 2</b>		
<i>Year 3</i>	Miss Karlie Beckhaus	Mrs Bridgette Millevoi (Moore)
<i>Year 4</i>	Miss Jessica Wheelahan	Miss Yazmin Patel
<b>Stage 3</b>		
<i>Year 5</i>	Ms Ellie Coledan/ Mrs Danica Danev	Mr Blake Morfoot
<i>Year 6</i>	Mr Howard Vanjour	Miss TJ Cakmak
<b>Diversity Support</b>	Mrs Kim Patchell - Diversity Leader Miss Hannah Satorre; Mrs Kelly Dunn; Miss Naomi Zammit; Miss Lesley Clark; Mr Alan Eisenhuth; Miss Ericca Fernandez; Mrs Megan Hilder; Miss Jessica Menezes & Mrs Colleen Fuller.	
<b>Specialist Teachers</b>	Mrs Vanessa Butchard - Creative Arts/Music Mrs Kaelih Peaty - PDHPE	
<b>School Finance Officer</b>	Mrs Anne Rando	
<b>School Administration Officer</b>	Mrs Debbie Smith	
<b>School Support Officer</b>	Mrs Rebecca Weston - Library Wed & Fri; Office Tues & Thurs.	
<b>Teacher Assistants</b>	Mrs Sognia Piccirilli; Mrs Lori McMillan; Mrs Maria Moutzouras & Mrs Carmen Grech, Mrs Debbie Issa, Mrs Katrina Ranieri	
<b>Learning Technology Coordinator</b>	Miss Tara Ryan	
<b>Sport Coordinator</b>	Miss TJ Cakmak	
<b>Sudanese Liaison Officer</b>	Mr Deng Athum	
<b>Learning Technology Trainee</b>	Mr Todd Ward	
<b>School Counsellor</b>	Mrs Monique Beglinger	
<b>Maintenance</b>	Mr Dominic	
<b>Cleaners</b>	Mrs Immaculata Gaudiosi; Mrs Maureen Schenau & Mr Dominic	



### *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.*

## **WELCOME TO 2021...A YEAR OF LEARNING AND FUN!!**

What a wonderful start to the year it has been. Years 1-6 began last Thursday and have settled into routine very quickly. It has been great to walk around the classes and see the children so settled and getting straight into the learning.

Thank you to all parents for sending their children back to school looking fantastic in their correct school uniform. Just a reminder that our uniform policy states that students should not have extreme haircuts... this includes shaved lines and mohawk styles. Girls should wear hair bands to match the uniform or their hair colour.

Yesterday, our new Kindergarten students began. The children were happy to be at school and have been enjoying the wonderful activities planned by their teachers.



Over the holiday break all of the teachers have worked extremely hard to set up the learning spaces and plan the learning for the Term.

Our whole school vision for this year is:

**For students to be self-reflective learners who strive for excellence in all learning areas.**

Our staff and students will be working on this vision which will see students become assessment-capable learners. This means that they can give and receive feedback and make independent choices on how to take their next steps as a learner.

It is our aim to gain a minimum one year's growth for one year's learning for every student at OLR.

**We look forward to working in partnership with you all this year.**



## WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Friday 5th February ⇒ ***Celebration of Learning (no parents to attend)***

Monday 8th February ⇒ ***Kindergarten start full days (8:45am - 2:55 pm)***

Wednesday 17th February ⇒ ***Ash Wednesday***

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthday so far this year:

Jasnoor Bajwa, Kaydence Taruk, Awein Arou, Jordan Landas, Angelo Lorenzo, Jayden DeGuzman, Dut Baak, Zach Habib, Rishaan Chhabaria, Mariah Nichols, Trishaan Nair, Nezhah Strano, Jaselle Pita, Mariana Maseeh, Kuol Kuol, Elouise Maseeh, Emma Pace, Rainne Acuna, Rajveer Manocha, Anyar Majok, Gabriella Zarb, Bryce Sami, Atelaite Taufu, Soham Saha, Olivia Rookes, Harshadha Duvvuri, Charbel Andary, Tony Mairi, Mannoor Kaur, Rochelle Chandrapala.



### SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The second hand uniform shop is open every Tuesday between 9:15am and 10:30am. We are asking if any parents would be available to help with the running of this. We need someone to help parents find sizes and to tidy up at the end.

Any parents who have uniforms that their children have outgrown, please deliver to the school office as we are in desperate need for second hand uniforms.

Parents are reminder to be courteous to other parents and to social distance when at the clothing pool, please do not push and reach over in front of other parents.

Please be mindful of other parents and keep the area clean and tidy. This has not been happening (see photos).



## 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 Mark's gospel.



In 2020-2021 we continue to celebrate 140 years of ongoing commitment to excellence in Catholic Education; at Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys and 200 years of excellence in Catholic Education within Australia.

Pope Francis has also dedicated this year (2021) to St Joseph; patron saint of the Universal Church.

In his writing Pope Francis reflects on St Joseph as :

- a beloved father
- a tender and loving father
- an obedient father
- an accepting father
- a creatively courageous father
- a working father
- a father in the shadows.

Pope Francis presents St Joseph as an example of the type of father so very much needed in the world and in the church.

### NEW DRAFT Religious Education Curriculum:

The New Draft RE Curriculum leads us to the 3H Paradigm of HEAD, HEART and HAND. Within this paradigm students are taught the Dispositions and how to apply them in the ordinary of each day; as the Success Criteria for our life.

## Head

(cognition, intelligence)

Be Attentive  
Be Intelligent  
Be Reasonable  
Be Responsible

## Heart

(affectivity, socio-emotional)

Be Contemplative  
Be Empathetic  
Be Humble  
Be Loving

## Hands

(praxis, discipleship, action)

Be Present  
Be Active  
Be Compassionate  
Be Effective

*Our continuing challenge and opportunity is to learn how to use these dispositions in contemplation and prayer each day, as we learn how to live as a true follower of Jesus.*

## Monday 8th February, 2021- Feast of St Josephine Bakhita Patron Saint of Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan.

We are encouraged to pray for all those affected by the crimes of modern slavery and human trafficking, and for the people who volunteer and work for the eradication of these crimes.

Long after slavery was officially abolished, the practice not only continues but thrives. Whether they are women in electronics, children on cocoa farms or men in bonded labour on construction sites, millions of people globally, including Australia, are forced to perform labour through coercion, intimidation or deceit. Ask your students to share with you what they have been learning about St Josephine Bakhita.

## **SPORT DAY & LIBRARY DAYS**

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>SPORT DAY</b>	<b>LIBRARY DAY</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Wednesday & Friday	Friday
<b>Year 1</b>	1D - Wednesday & Friday 1Z - Tuesday & Friday	Friday
<b>Year 2</b>	Monday & Wednesday	Friday
<b>Year 3</b>	Monday & Thursday	Friday
<b>Year 4</b>	Tuesday & Thursday	Wednesday
<b>Year 5</b>	Monday & Thursday	Friday
<b>Year 6</b>	Tuesday & Friday	Monday

### **SCHOOL PAYMENTS**

As per CEDP guidelines, we are no longer permitted to take cash as payment. All payments (clothing pool, school fees, has & bags) at the school, need to be made by eftpos.



### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- **What do I do if my child is late for school?**  
If your child is late for school, you need to bring them into the school office and have them signed in. You cannot use the skoolbag app to provide a late note.
- **What do I do if I need to pick my child up early from school?**  
If you need to collect your child early from school, you need to send a note into the school office explaining the reason you need to collect your child, this note needs to be approved by the Principal. Then when you come into the office to collect your child, the office staff will call your child to the office and sign them out.
- **What do I do if my child is away from school?**  
If your child is away from school for any reason, complete an Absentee Note through the skoolbag app or send in a note to your child's teacher explaining the absence when your child returns to school.
- **What do I do if I change my address or phone number?**  
It is important that the school has your correct contact information for both yourself and your emergency contacts. Should you change your address or phone number, please complete a change of details form at the school office.



# positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

## NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP



*Join us for an online workshop where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support young people on the autism spectrum, from across New South Wales.*

During the online workshops, we will cover four topics:

- diversity of autism
- working together with your child's school
- understanding sensory processing
- understanding behaviour.

These workshops are part of a series of sessions but you can choose if you would like to register for each session or just the individual ones you are able to join.

*\*Please note that this is not a webinar but is an online workshop where we will work collaboratively together online across the sessions.*

### Location:

NEW SOUTH WALES  
via zoom online

### Dates & Times (AEDT):

#### Diversity of Autism

🌟 Tues 2 Feb, 2021  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### Sensory Processing

🌟 Tues 9 Feb, 2021  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### Understanding Behaviour

🌟 Tues 16 Feb, 2021  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### Working Together

🌟 Tues 23 Feb, 2021  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



http://

For more information and to register, visit [www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au)  
or contact Rachael Dillon [rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au](mailto:rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au)