

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

A SPECIAL GIFT FOR YOUR CHILD

Looking for the perfect gift to give your child? Look no further, for you already have this perfect gift within your power: a happy childhood is one of the best gifts that adults have in their power to bestow upon their children. If we make a child happy today, we will make the child happy twenty years on by the memory of it.



Happiness isn't something that you can give all wrapped up like a present. If we were to shower our children with gifts of toys or shield them from emotional discomfort, they are more likely to grow into adulthood as people who are bored and joyless. The best gifts for happiness are internal not external, an inner set of tools they can rely on for life.



There is no way that parents can make children happy all the time. Children need to learn how to deal with some distress and to figure out how to cope with it. Learning how to deal with life's frustrations and setbacks is essential for future happiness. A parent's role in these situations is to help children find solutions. What's more, children need to know that it's all right to be unhappy sometimes; it's part of life.

If we try to eliminate unhappiness, we might be giving the message that it's wrong to feel sad; children need to experience the whole range of human feelings including sadness. However, parents can encourage children to be happy about what's going okay, or what they have, instead of being sad about what's not going okay or what they don't have.

Likewise, conflicts and disagreements are a normal part of life and are important in as much as they allow for the statement of differences and the expression of feelings. However, our behaviour and manner of relating affect those around us profoundly, so, parents need to ensure that differences are reconciled without destroying the differences or the people who hold them.



Maybe St Peter's words to his community of believers could be a source of inspiration to us: *"And now this word to all of you. You should be like one happy family, full of sympathy towards one another with tender hearts and humble minds."* 1 Peter 3: 8.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
TUESDAY MARCH 9

ALL CHILDREN TO WEAR FULL SUMMER UNIFORM



Celebrating 140 YEARS
1880 - 2020

A: 32B Saddington Street St Marys 2760 PH: 8856 8301

E: olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au W: www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au

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

Children need to have some scheduled activities, which develop social skills or individual talents. But, like us, they need their own space, their chance to follow their own interests, their time to manage as they choose, their opportunity to build an inner happiness which they will carry on through life.

As parents, we need to keep an eye on the “big picture” of life and set it within a positive and healthy home environment where our children can develop into value- driven, successful and happy people. If they can develop positive attitudes about themselves, their family and their community, they will be less inclined to be lured by the, oftentimes, seductive messages of popular culture. They will want to be successful, happy contributing people.

Their happiness will be our happiness.

**Let us pray:
God, our Father,
we ask that
we and our children
be gifted with a positive inner attitude
of mind and heart
& true happiness.
Amen.**



Enrol now for 2022

Our Lady of the Rosary Primary St Marys

OPEN DAY 10 March 11:30am - 1:00pm

**DO YOU HAVE FAMILY/FRIENDS WHO HAVE A CHILD STARTING
SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?**

We are having an open day for prospective parents to have a tour around the school on Wednesday 10th March. We are running 2 tours from 11:30-12:00pm and 12:30-1:00pm

Due to COVID we are restricted to how many parents we can have,
we are asking if parents can book their preferred time on

www.schoolinterviews.com.au using the booking code **nepzz**

THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE

Some children don't want to share and take turns. When confronting scarce resources, children's sense of fairness blurs with their selfishness, with selfishness dominating: *'I want it so I should have it.'* Young children are capable of generosity and caring, but their empathy is self-centred (I feel bad because someone got hurt), and they sometimes display greed and indifference.



So what should parents do? The usual approach is urging children to share, consider the feelings of others, and be nice. Children may comply from fear, not from a rational understanding of others' rights. Punishments may also produce hostility, with regression to earlier behaviour when the adult is not there.

It's not until children are around eight that cognitive development catches up with raw emotions and they're able to feel empathy and grasp the ideas of reciprocity, justice and benevolence. Young children, in short, are unable to fully absorb the interests of another (*If I were the other person, what would I want?*) or to assume a disinterested viewpoint (*I want what's best for all*). Rather, the prevailing mindset is, *'Although it may be unfair for you to keep the swing when I want it, it's perfectly fair for me to keep it when you want it.'*

SUGGESTIONS

- **Have modest expectations for sharing.** Explain it, preach it and model it, but don't expect regular follow-through without adult supervision.
- **Stress behaviour rather than moral wrongness.** For example, "When you play, you must take turns. Everyone gets to have five crayons. You get more only after everyone else has that many." With this approach there will be disputes, but they're more likely to centre on breaches of the rules rather than fairness.
- **Don't shame or punish a child who behaves unfairly.** Accept that this is natural, developmentally normal behaviour for the age.
- **Spark empathy.** Read stories, or review real experiences in which one child is treated unfairly by having less than, or the worst of, something. Then talk about that situation.
- **Attend to the victim rather than the perpetrator.** For example: "Nelly isn't willing to share with you; what else can you do? What friends might join you?"
- **Let it go when possible.** Young school children have short attention spans. Get involved to determine fairness if the dispute doesn't get resolved of its own accord – but without disapproval.

It's fine to establish rules for play, remind and exhort children to follow them, and praise them when they do, but when young children naturally slip into me-first attitudes, it should not be perceived as moral failure. Teach Teach and Reteach.

Thought for the Week

*"Joseph's noble heart never faltered,
never was deterred by the most trying obstacles"*
Mary MacKillop 1883

Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL





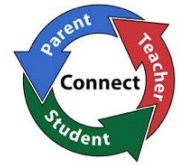
From the Assistant Principal's desk...

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.

MEET, GREET AND GOALS

Building a strong culture of parent-school engagement

Parental engagement recognises the important role that both parents and teachers play in developing positive attitudes towards learning in building the student's motivation and confidence and fostering their enjoyment of learning.



Parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education. Research has shown that when schools and families work together, children do better, stay in school longer, are more engaged with their schoolwork, go to school more regularly, behave better, and have better social skills. Parent engagement also results in longer term economic, social and emotional benefits.

This week, we have invited parents to connect with their child's teacher. As we are still under current COVID restrictions it isn't possible to meet in person, however we have set up an opportunity for you to have a **phone call or a Zoom meeting**. These meetings involve the development of *short term goals with input from parents, teachers and children and allow for a shared learning commitment to be established for the year. We recognise that all children are different and their learning journey needs to be catered to their individual needs.*

The conversations will be strictly 10 minutes to allow teachers to transition from one call to the next. Wherever possible, have your child sitting with you so they can hear the conversation and contribute. Please have a discussion with your child after the interview.

OUTLINING THE PROCESS

Teacher's Role: Teachers will facilitate the meeting and give insight into how your child has started the school year. They will set a *short term goal for the child based on current data to be focusing on for the remainder of the semester. Goals will be reviewed and updated at the Parent meeting at the end of Term 2.*

Parent's Role: Parents will give teachers any information they feel is relevant for the academic, social and emotional support their child will require at school.

Child's Role: To share their ideas about where they feel they are doing well and which areas they are looking to grow and further develop this year.

After the meeting we ask that, as parents you regularly check in with your child as to how they feel they are working toward their goals and when they feel they have achieved them.

These formal meetings are not the only time you can meet with teachers. If you ever have any concerns about your child's learning or well-being please call the office and make an appointment. It is important that if you ever have concerns you let us know as soon as possible **"we can't do anything about something we know nothing about."**

Hierarchy of Support at OLR

1. Classroom teacher
2. Stage Leader
 - K,1,2 – Mrs Dunn
 - Years 3 & 4 – Mr Eisenhuth
 - Years 5 & 6 – Ms Coledan
3. Assistant Principal – Mrs Regan
4. Principal – Mr Siciliano



Once again, we look forward to working with you in 2021 in developing our students as self - reflective learners who strive for excellence.

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

SCHOOL STARTING TIME

School starts at 8.45am. Children need to be at school by 8.30am so they can have a play and socialise with their friends and go to the toilet before lessons start. It is very important that children are not late to school as their learning day starts as soon as the bell goes in the morning and children who are late miss vital information for the day ahead.

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

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 look forward to 2021 as a year of **Family, Faith, Formation** and Fun.

2021 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 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** as a way of being in the world, living according to the Word of God. 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.

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.

Head (cognition, intelligence)	Heart (affectivity, socio-emotional)	Hands (praxis, discipleship, action)
<i>Be Attentive</i> <i>Be Intelligent</i> <i>Be Reasonable</i> <i>Be Responsible</i>	<i>Be Contemplative</i> <i>Be Empathetic</i> <i>Be Humble</i> <i>Be Loving</i>	<i>Be Present</i> <i>Be Active</i> <i>Be Compassionate</i> <i>Be Effective</i>

Caritas Australia

During the season of Lent we focus on three areas of self-reflection and action in bringing ourselves closer to God and in contributing to a more just world:

Prayer

Fasting and

Almsgiving (good works).



This year through our connection and support of Caritas Australia our focus is taken from Oscar Romero's quote:

'Aspire not to have more but to be more!'

Caritas Australia does amazing work in accord with Catholic Social Teaching. This year there is a particular focus on Solidarity and Human Dignity.

Each classroom has a Mission Box and are encouraged to share from what they have with those in need. These will be collected at Easter.

We are also setting up an online opportunity for families to contribute to help families in great need. I encourage you to be thinking of how you can have less this Lenten Season and share with our neighbours who are in great need.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Week 7 7th March - 13th March, 2021

The theme this year for Catholic Schools Week is '200 years of Catholic Education.'

At this stage parents unfortunately are not able to participate in these celebrations onsite, and if this changes we will notify you immediately.



The School week will begin with a Liturgy on Monday morning at 9:00am. During this Liturgy there will be a focus on Scripture, Song and Prayer as we praise God and seek God's blessing and grace and we continue to 'follow in his footsteps'.

The children will also be having a picnic morning tea (please send your child with a yummy treat to have at this time).

LIGHTHOUSE AWARDS

TERM 1 WEEK 4

Kindy	-	Antonio Danao
Year 1	-	Everly Morrison
Year 2	-	Diya Vinoth Kumar
Year 3	-	Ayouth Anthony
Year 4	-	Alysha Bodie
Year 5	-	Adual Chut
Year 6	-	Angel Kaur



WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Monday 2nd March - Friday 5th March	⇒ <i>Meet & Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews</i>
Sunday 7th March - Saturday 13th March	⇒ <i>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK</i>
Monday 8th March	⇒ <i>Catholic Schools Week Liturgy (no parents to attend)</i>
Tuesday 9th March	⇒ <i>SCHOOL PHOTO DAY</i>
Wednesday 10th March	⇒ <i>SCHOOL TOURS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS 11:30-1:00 (Please book a time)</i>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

*Aneí Akon; Lenna Orake; Nathan Konddek; Dau Aleu; Deng Aleu;
Garang Deng; Jacinta Blazevic; Annabelle Gould; Samridhi Malla;
Nijel Senathirajah; Mia Domjan; Ethan Schroeder; Jarasi Pita; Adol
Kur; Amel Ker; Savannah Mizzi.*



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

This year more than 4,100 students entered the Executive Directors Summer Reading Challenge, this is the best year so far.

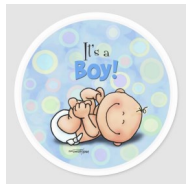
Congratulations to the following students from OLR who entered the Challenge

- Sandra Chalouhi
- Jaylon Chandrapala
- Shaurya Hardiya
- Diya Vinoth Kumar
- Nijel Senathirajah
- Gerlene Siladan



And a Special Congratulations to **Nijel Senathirajah** who won a runners up prize of a \$30.00 voucher.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the Athum family (Abuk (Angel) KV) on the arrival of their new baby boy, Malek (Akim), born on 20/02/2021 at Nepean Hospital.



SPORT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Tamanna Chaudhary (1Z) who won the following medals at a Little Athletics event.

Gold medal in 50m

Silver medal in 300m, 200m, 100, 70m & Long Jump (1.91m)



SCHOOL FEES

Dear Parents / Carers,

Term 1 School Fees have now been sent. Term 1 fees are due on Wednesday 17 March. There are many payment options available. If you have not received your school fee statement, or if you would like to set up a payment arrangement, please contact Anne Rando - 8856 8301.

If you are experiencing Financial difficulties and would like to discuss options for assistance, please also contact Anne Rando – 8856 8301 or via email - arando2@parra.catholic.edu.au

Kind regards,
Anne Rando
School Finance Secretary

School
F E E S

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 9th March.

All students are to wear their **full summer uniform**.

Individual & Sibling Photos can be ordered online through www.advancedlife.com.au using the online code **JV9 BYY 4DP**

(online orders close Monday 8th March) or you can send the correct amount of money in the school photo envelope to the school office, envelopes with correct money will be accepted on photo day (these envelopes are handed directly to the school photographer, so no change will be provided).



The Music Bus Free Trial Lesson



For a limited time, we're offering
new students a free trial lesson
– just to give it a go*

Tuition in Keyboard, Ukulele, Singing,
Drums, Guitar and Rock Band.

only \$20 per week (\$22 for drums)



phone 1300 168 742

Limited space available.

www.themusicbus.com.au

*Offer available until end of term. To new students only. 1 free trial per student.

**BOOK
Your child's
Free Trial
Lesson
NOW!**



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.

This online workshop is for parents, full-time carers and grandparents. Join other families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership.

During the online workshops, we will cover three topics:

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

Location:

 New South Wales
via zoom online

Date:

Tuesday 9th March 2021

Time

Wed 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM (AEDT)



For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au
or contact Laura Owens lauraowens@autismspectrum.org.au