

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
TUESDAY MARCH 8



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

MASTERY BY WORKING SMART

This year, how can you support your child make progress with their schoolwork and find success even in subjects where they have struggled?

A talented piano player figured out how to make practice more efficient and effective so that every performance was just as good as the audience expected.

Do what doesn't come easily.

In music, it's a huge mistake to play the piece from beginning to end. The best musicians drill the most difficult parts. Help your child define where their weaknesses are. Encourage your child to concentrate on those areas and work on them until they have mastered them.



To master a skill, master something harder.

Encourage your child to move beyond roaming the known. Strong musicians find clever ways to complicate the difficult parts of their music, playing a passage with alternative accent patterns, speed, or rhythm.

Encourage your child to try new approaches to the work they find difficult. Ask someone else to explain it to them. Move up a level and see if that helps your child understand.

Systematically eliminate weakness.

Work out where your child is weakest and drill drill them in every way you can think of until it sticks. As we move towards next week's meet and greet sessions, ask your child's teachers what you can do to assist your child. What works in the subjects that your child is good at?

Imagine perfection.

Good musicians begin with an image of how a perfect performance will sound, feel, and look and play with a perfect mental image in mind. Less-accomplished musicians play while trying to fix problems as they crop up. Encourage your child to aim for the best. Good enough isn't good enough. Aim for the best. Ask other students how they have mastered the work and follow their methods. Your child may be an excellent musician or sportsperson or gamer. What do they do to improve their game?

Practice Practice Practice

The same approaches will work in the classroom. Encourage your child to accept the challenge and make this year one of their finest!

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

Accentuate the Positive during Lent

If you have heard of songwriter, Johnny Mercer, you will recognise these lyrics:

**“You’ve got to Accentuate the positive,
Eliminate the negative,
Latch onto the affirmative
Don’t mess with Mr In-between.”**



Not that he intended to do so, but Mercer could be giving us some excellent advice for next week's Ash Wednesday and the forty days of **Lent**.

As we all know, Jesus retreated into the **desert** for forty days to prepare for His ministry.

It was for Him a time of **reflection and contemplation**.

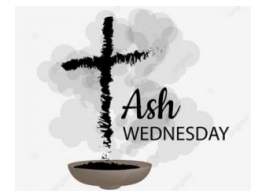
For us, to pass time in the desert means to find occasions when we create a **little emptiness and silence around us**, rediscover the road to our heart, remove ourselves from the noise of external distractions and make contact with the deepest source of our being and faith.

Thomas a Kempis offers a traditional perspective when he writes, **“Happy and wise is he who endeavours to be during his life, as he wishes to be found at his death.”**

On Ash Wednesday, our foreheads are marked with ashes to remind us that life passes away on earth: **“Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return”**. There is an old English tombstone that bears the following inscription that is, indeed, a very solemn reminder:

“Remember friends as you pass by, as you are now, so once was I. As I am now, so must you be. Prepare for death and follow me!”

Definitely, “for Adults Only”, that one!



The **ashes** are made from the **blessed palms** left over from the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. These ashes are “christened” with holy water and are scented by exposure to incense. Whilst the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that **God is gracious and understanding to those who are of goodwill**: “For generous and merciful is He, slow to anger, rich in kindness.” Prophet, Joel. 2:12.

If we are not careful, Lent can be so dreadfully boring if it focuses only on the negative, for who wants to mourn their sins and shortcomings for forty days!

Mourning our sins is about calling attention to them so that we can discard them; it is about improving our spiritual lives and seeking a closer relationship with God.

We should observe Lent, because we want to accentuate the positive influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives and to eliminate the negative influence of sin.



So, we have to **“Accentuate the positive, Eliminate the negative, Latch onto the affirmative”** and **be happy about it!**

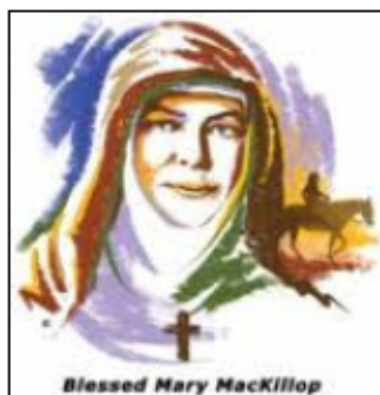
Let us Pray:

**God, our Father, we ask that
You accept us as we are,
vulnerable, flawed and in need of Your love.
May Your Spirit be powerful within us so that
joy, love and peace
may be expressed through
the actions of our lives.
Amen.**



OUR LADY OF THE
ROSARY
SCHOOL PRAYER

This is our school
Let peace dwell here
Let the rooms
Be filled with contentment
Let love abide here
Love of God
Love of one another
Love of mankind
And Love of life itself
Let us remember that
As many hands build a house
So many hearts make a school
Our Lady of the Rosary pray for us
St Joseph pray for us
Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
help us to follow Jesus.



Blessed Mary MacKillop

St Mary of the Cross showed us by her example, how to live our school motto:
'We follow Jesus'.

VOLUNTEERS

Sincere thanks to **Ms Alicia Kordahi, Ms Kristen Rouen & Mr Brad Young** who volunteered to assist with the Tuesday Clothing Pool and the afternoon daily drive through. I am currently inviting other parents and friends to assist with **trimming the school hedges**.

OLR Supervision commences at 8:15am

An important reminder that OLR school supervision commences at 8:15am every morning. Any parents who require supervision before this time please contact one of our OSHC Centres. Details below

- YMCA 1300 009 679
- St Clair OOSH 9670 5555
- Go Bananas 1300 226 262

Thought for the Week

*“Jesus is waiting for us and wants to heal our hearts
of all that tears us down.
He is God who has a name: Mercy.
Pope Francis*

Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL



EMMAUS

CATHOLIC COLLEGE KEMPS CREEK

OPEN DAY 8 March
8:45am-10:30am



PLEASE NOTE: This is a parent's only day (no students/children to attend)



From the Assistant Principal's desk...

OLR KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM



We are beginning a Kitchen Garden Program at OLR in 2022. We have been fortunate to obtain a Grant from Catholic Education Office in partnership with Penrith Lakes Environmental Centre.

"Empowering for Life"

The WHAT:

Penrith Lakes Environmental Education Centre (PLEEC) has developed a Kitchen Gardens program where students are engaged in one-hour cooking and gardening lessons each fortnight. The program is designed for students to achieve educational, wellbeing and sustainability outcomes through curriculum embedded, cross KLA lesson sequences. The Kitchen Gardens program teaches a range of life skills, supports critical thinking, communication, problem solving and teamwork skills.

The WHY:

"All the research is pointing to two biggest factors that will determine how long you live and the quality of your life:

1. What you eat.
2. The quality of your relationships."

Dr Michael Mosley, 2019

All students in Stage 2 and some students across other grades will be fully engaged in the program. They will be involved in gardening, cooking and food preparation lessons this year as part of our 'Healthy Eating' and 'Education for Sustainability' program. During these lessons students will be growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing fresh food, using a variety of utensils including child-friendly knives, hotplates and frying pans under the close supervision of expert teachers. At the conclusion of the activity students will be invited to eat the meals they have prepared.

The students were introduced to the program last Thursday and have already started creating a space for what will become a wonderful vegetable garden for the whole community. We have purchased gardening utensils and equipment, however the children are welcome to bring their own gloves, boots and aprons if they wish. (this is not expected)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

Yvette Tabone, Nybol Jal Ngong, Eric Tuliatu, Mía Kennedy,
Deng Jal Ngong, Malang Achuoth, George Poasa, Louisa
Buljubasic, Anei Akon, Lenna Orake, Nathan Kondek, Deng Aleu, Dau Aleu,
Garang Deng, Jacinta Blazevic, Ezekiel Dumbéi



TERM 1 WEEK 4 LIGHTHOUSE

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Kindy	-	Rowan Willis
Year 1	-	Evlyne Anna James
Year 2	-	Lokie Lipinch
Year 3	-	Diya Vinoth Kumar
Year 4	-	Dau Lual
Year 5	-	Juliana Masaniai
Year 6	-	Ayen Akon



WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Tuesday 22nd February	⇒	First Communion Sacramental Meeting @ 7:30pm in the Church
Friday 25th February	⇒	Year 4 attend Parish Mass
Monday 28th February - Friday 2nd March	⇒	Meet, Greet & Goals Parent/Teacher Chats (Years 1-6 only)
Wednesday 2nd March	⇒	Ash Wednesday
Friday 4th March	⇒	Year 3 attend Parish Mass
Sunday 6th March - Saturday 12th March	⇒	Catholic Schools Week
Tuesday 8th March	⇒	School Photo Day
Wednesday 9th March	⇒	OLR School Open Day & School Tours
Friday 19th November	⇒	Year 1 going to Don Bosco

Meet, Greet & Goals Parent/Teacher Chats

We would like to provide an opportunity for you to talk to your child's class teacher via a **phone call** or **ZOOM**.

These will take place from the 28th February - 4th March 2022

To book your preferred time and contact method please either use the attached QR code or book online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use event code **wfzx9**.

