



MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am. All welcome!

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

26th June 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 27 June

9:15am

Feast of the Sacred Heart
Whole School Mass

LAST DAY TERM 2

Monday 14 July

First Day Term 3
K-6 Semester One reports sent home

Tuesday 15 July

Confirmation Parent Information Evening
7.00pm

Wednesday 16 July

Year 1 Excursion
Sydney Aquarium

Confirmation Parent Information Evening
7.00pm (repeat session)

Thursday 17 July

Musica Viva

Saturday 19 July

Confirmation Commitment Mass, 6.00pm

Sunday 20 July

Confirmation Commitment Mass, 9.30am

from Monday 21 July

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences begin

Thursday 24 July

Year 5 Drama Performance, 10.00am

Year 6

Voice of Youth Final

Friday 25 July

Pyjama Day for Vinnies
Winter Appeal

Saturday 26 July

Enrolment Mass for Confirmation, 6.00pm

Wednesday 29 July

P & F Meeting
All Welcome

Friday 8 August

Bingo Night
Parents and Friends,
18 years and older

Friday 29 August

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (PUPIL FREE)

Wednesday 3 September

Fathers' Day Breakfast
Fathers' Day Liturgy
Fathers' Day Stall

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,



What a great term for the children, parents and the wider community of Our Lady of the Way. We have had much to celebrate and many things to be proud of, all brought about through the hard work of our students, our staff and our families.

As the term concludes let us look back with pride at all the special events that have taken place - ANZAC day prayer; Class Masses; First Holy Communion; Feast of Sacred Heart Mass; School Monster Fete; Mothers' Day Prayer; Mothers' Day stall; Penrith Community Kitchen appeal; Celebration of Learning; Parents workshop for Maths; Parent information session on A-E reporting scale; Year 4 C.A.R.E.S excursion; Visit by Fiona Scott MP Member for Lindsay; Taronga Zoo incursion for NAIDOC Week; Athletics Carnival K-6; Year 5 CSIRO incursion on the human body; Year 1 Community incursions - Police, Fire Brigade and community members; Diocesan Cross Country; Diocesan Works fund mufti day; Visit by our author in residence - Bettina Strong; Life Education lessons; Soccer Gala Days; Combined Creative Arts Expo choir rehearsal; Biggest Morning Tea fund raiser; Year 2 excursion to Arms of Australia Inn Museum; Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians Liturgy; Year 3 excursion to the Blue Mountains; Year 12 McCarthy students build compost bins; Netball carnival; Whole School 35th anniversary photo; Year 6 leaders Penrith Leaders Civic reception; Rory gets her hair cut to support children with alopecia across Australia.



We thank God for these shared experiences, and for the many opportunities we have at Our Lady of the Way. May we never lose sight of our shared mission, to give life to Jesus by Acting Justly; Loving Tenderly and Walking Humbly with our God.

Half Yearly Reports

I have had the pleasure of reading all of the student's reports this week. I just wanted to acknowledge the professionalism, time and effort the staff have used in analysing work samples to grade the subject areas and composing report comments.

On the first day of Term 3 you will receive your child's half yearly report. It is always very easy to focus on the grades received. And while these are important, we need to look beyond these and celebrate the whole child. There are so many special qualities that a child has that cannot be graded and recorded on a school report. One of the best measures we have as parents is not something that can be graded as A, B, C, D or E - it is in fact, our child's personal growth, their happiness at coming to school and their willingness to persevere. These behaviours show learning attitude, the ability to engage with their learning and experiences here at school. If a child is truly eager about their learning they will keep giving their very best, whatever grades they receive. Yes, as parents we want our children to do the very best but a 'personal best' is not always something that can be measured.

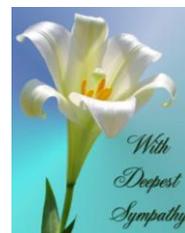


Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences will take place in Weeks 2 & 3 (21 July - 1 August). Interview times will be available through our booking app on Monday 14 July from 5pm.

Our Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mrs Curry, Liam (Yr 6) and Lucy (Yr 8) with the loss of their father and grandfather last week. He was on holidays in Ireland when he passed away. The funeral for Mr Larry Cooper will take place at 10am this Friday 27th June at St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church, Penrith.



Athletics Carnival



Thursday was a lovely day for an Athletics Carnival! Sun, fun and running brought our community together. From the reaction of the children and the many parent congratulations, the event was a great success. Well done to all house teams for their good sportsmanship and exemplary behaviour but congratulations must go to the **RED** team (BENJAMIN) led by our Year 6 leaders Brock Healey and Laura Patterson for winning the athletics challenge.

Days like this don't just happen and lots of careful planning goes on behind the scenes. I wish to personally thank Ms Kirsty Reynolds (OLOW Sports Coordinator), Mrs Rebecca Kakoschke and Mrs Pat Scott for organising our Athletics Carnival; and to all the staff, parents and grandparents that helped out on the day.



Have a lovely break from the normal routines and we will see you again on Monday 14 July.

God Bless,

Mrs Sue Veling
Principal

New Enterprise Agreement for Staff

Protected Action Ballot

You may be aware that the all Catholic Education Offices in NSW are currently undertaking a consultation process with teachers and support staff for a new Enterprise Agreement. On 25 and 26 June, a ballot will be held in schools in the Diocese of Parramatta to vote on proposed industrial action regarding the agreement. This does not necessarily mean that teachers and staff will take industrial action, and we will advise you of the outcome of the ballot as soon as it is known.



Alopecia Awareness at OLOW

Rory Muller, one of our brave Year 2 students, was so concerned about the condition of Alopecia in children that she offered to have her hair cut and donate it to Variety so it can be made into a wig for children with Alopecia.

By donating her hair, she will give back to someone with Alopecia their confidence and self-esteem – a priceless gift. To be able to give your hair to someone who has none, is a kind, generous and rewarding thing to do.

At assembly on Monday morning, Rory had her hair cut off by a hairdresser.

Donations of hair are integral to Variety being able to continue to provide wigs to children whose families are not able to meet the expense. It takes between 10-25 ponytails to make one wig.

Our Lady of the Way school is very proud of Rory for her unselfish act and making us all aware.

Winners of Rory's Guessing Competitions are: M & M's – Mrs Pruss, Jelly Beans – Charlie Thomas, 2J

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Penrith Community Kitchen Appeal:

A sincere 'thank you' is extended to all the families who helped to support our Penrith Community Kitchen Food Appeal. Once again the generosity of our school community has been outstanding. Members of our Social Justice Team will help to deliver all your donations early in Term 3.

Thank you also to the Social Justice Team and Mrs Blazek, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Flanagan for helping to coordinate this appeal.

Feast of the Sacred Heart:

Please join us tomorrow (June 27) as we celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Mass will be at 9:15am in the church.

St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal:

Once again our school will be supporting the St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. We will be raising money for this appeal by holding a Pyjama Day on Friday July 25. We are inviting the children to bring in a gold coin donation (or more if you wish) for the privilege of being cosy and warm in our pyjamas on this day.

Once again our Social Justice Team will be sharing information with the children to help them gain an understanding of those we are helping through this fundraiser.

Would Your Child Like To Be An Altar Server?

Those children that have received their First Communion are now invited to become an Altar Server. In order to become an Altar Server you will need to attend mass regularly, and you can nominate which Mass you prefer to be rostered to serve. You will be guided by a more experienced Altar Server to help you gain confidence.



If you would like to help out at Mass in this way, please have your mum or dad contact the parish office on 4735 1041 or by email at olowpar@pnc.com.au so we can organise to begin your training. Training will most likely be provided after 9.30am Mass on Sunday 3rd August.



Confirmation

All children in Years 5 or 6 who have celebrated their first communion are invited to prepare to celebrate their confirmation. This commences in Term 3. Compulsory parent information nights will be held on Tuesday 15th July at 7.00pm or Wednesday 16th July at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall (please attend either meeting).

Scripture in the Classrooms:

Year 1:

The students of Year 1 have been working on a Religious Education unit called 'Stories of Jesus'. One of the beautiful stories that they have focused on is the parable of the Good Shepherd. The parable was shared in a variety of ways including this version from a big book:

Once when he wanted to tell them who he was, Jesus said: "I am the Good Shepherd."

The shepherd loves his sheep and knows each one by name. The sheep know his voice and come when he calls. They follow him wherever he goes.

During the daytime, he takes them out and goes with them. They would not follow a stranger.

He takes them to beautiful places with green grass, cool water and good things to eat. They are happy.

The Good Shepherd goes ahead and protects them.

There is a special place where the shepherd keeps his sheep at night so they will be safe. It is called the sheepfold.

The children were asked to explain the message from the story of the Good Shepherd.

The story of the Good Shepherd teaches us to behave like Jesus and to follow Jesus' way. To know Jesus will always be there for us and he will always guide us. Jesus is our Shepherd and we are his sheep. It tells us how to care for others and share with our friends. To be kind to all the people around us.

By Jade Elford

The story of the Good Shepherd teaches us to follow Jesus' way. That is why our school is called Our Lady of the Way. Jesus is our shepherd and we are his sheep. When we are lost Jesus will find us. Our school follows Jesus' way because he is our shepherd and we are his sheep.

By Samuel Thompson.

Year 3:

Year 3 has begun a unit about Mary. At the beginning of the unit they were asked to create their own image of Mary.



The students will also be looking at the many stories of Mary from the Scriptures and also the many artists who have shared their image of Mary through the ages.

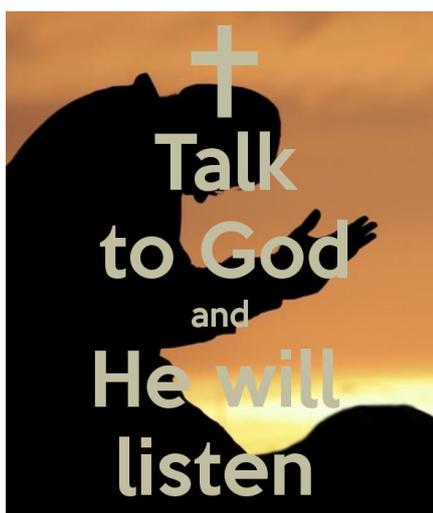
Year 4:

Year 4 is completing a unit of work on prayer, "Talking and Listening to God". The students were asked to reflect on when, where, why and what they pray for. They worked in their Tribes and each member recorded one aspect of the discussion.

Reflections on Prayer...

<p>When...</p> <p>I pray before bed Olivia prays at 12:00 Clare prays at church Matt S. prays on planes</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Emma P.</i></p>	<p>What...</p> <p>When you're scared or worried Your dad My cat My dog Sick/ injured people Siblings Homeless/ hungry Family The things we have Food and drink</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Clare R.</i></p>
<p>Why...</p> <p>To let God know you care about him I pray because I love God Because I might crash Because I believe</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Olivia C.</i></p>	<p>Where...</p> <p>In bed On holidays Home Church School</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Matt S.</i></p>
<p>When...</p> <p>We pray at 12:00 We pray at lunch and before bed At school</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Ethan S.</i></p>	<p>What...</p> <p>Penrith Community Kitchen The sick, family, friends, disabled, homeless, poor Salvation Army, Vinnies</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Kiah Mc.</i></p>
<p>Why...</p> <p>Sometimes people say that they pray because it keeps us calm and when we're hungry we pray for food.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Lachlan Ai.</i></p>	<p>Where...</p> <p>We pray at home and church Somewhere quiet and private At school, home and at night At school</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Recorded by Olivia B.</i></p>

Carole Day
Religious Education Coordinator



The Learning Partnership

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.

Jane D. Hull

The role of parent/teacher/student conferences in the school and family partnership is integral. You are the key to your child's success in life, which, by implication, includes success in education. Research tells us that students of parents who are actively and positively involved in their child's education do better at school. When a parent values education, their child will value education and, more often than not, apply themselves to learning. A love of learning and a desire for excellence (whatever that may look like for each individual) is the greatest gift we can give our children.

On the first day of Term 3, all students will receive their half-yearly report. The report contains their academic achievement for the semester and a comment on their progress. Although detailed, the written report is only one component of the reporting process and cannot, by the nature of its physical limitations, provide all the information on your child's learning, nor answer specific question you may have about your child's progress. This is the domain of the parent/teacher/student conferences.

Parent Teacher Student conferences are an excellent opportunity for you to follow up on the information you receive in the report and discuss your child's goals for Semester two. Even if you do not have concerns or queries it is the perfect time to develop the parent-school partnership that is invaluable throughout your child's school life. Your child will lead the conference in partnership with his or her teachers to share with you their learning over the first semester of 2014.

A strong relationship with the school and, in particular, your child's teachers allows us to be 'on the same page', creating a united front to ensure the educational success of our children.

We encourage you to join us in developing you child's value for education and love of learning by attending the upcoming conferences. Conferences will take place from Monday 21 July and bookings will be open from Monday, 14 July at 5.00pm.

Please take this valuable opportunity to meet with us so that together we can create the best learning opportunities for our children.

Cheers
Michael Mifsud

SPORTS NEWS

Athletics Carnival **Results**

200M Junior Boys Jett Cleary Blake Skinner	100M 9 Year Girls Miah Green Sophie Procter	800M 11 Years Boys Ryan West Jack Palombo	Long Jump Senior Girls Laura Patterson Jasmine Ridding
200M Junior Girls Alysha Hoy Abby Ridding	100M 10 Year Boys Lachlan Armour Keegan Smith	800M 11 Years Girls Aimee Wagner Bridie Witjes	Shot Put Junior Boys Ty Peksis Boyd Boormakin
200M 11 Years Boys Noah Panczyk Ryan West	100M 10 Year Girls Abby Ridding Olivia Bennet	800M Senior Boys Jeremy Skinner Joshua Patterson	Shot Put Junior Girls Montana Clifford Clare Roser
200M 11 Years Girls Aimee Wagner Bridie Witjes Georgia Ristevski	100M 11 Years Boys Noah Panczyk Ryan West	800M Senior Girls Jasmine Ridding Laura Patterson	Shot Put 11 Years Boys Noah Panczyk Jack Palombo
200M Senior Boys Jeremy Skinner Joshua Patterson	100M 11 Years Girls Georgia Ristevski Aimee Wagner	Long Jump Junior Boys Blake Skinner Ethan Dempsey	Shot Put 11 Years Girls Madison Whiteley Kate Charlton
200M Senior Girls Jasmine Ridding Laura Patterson	100M 12 Years Boys Luke Mathison Joshua Patterson	Long Jump Junior Girls Clare Roser Montana Clifford	Shot Put Senior Boys Brock Healey Luke Mathison
100M 8 Year Boys Bodie Peksis Aaron Hasket	100M 12 Years Girls Laura Patterson Jasmine Ridding	Long Jump 11 Years Boys Noah Panczyk Nicolas James	Shot Put Senior Girls Ruby Lowe Alanah Eisenhuth
100M 8 Year Girls Chelsea Taber Charlize Risse	800M Junior Boys Charlie Connell Blake Skinner	Long Jump 11 Years Girls Aimee Wagner Bridie Witjes	
100M 9 Year Boys Jett Cleary Thomas Vanegas	800M Junior Girls Abby Ridding Clare Roser	Long Jump Senior Boys Luke Mathison Joshua Patterson	

On Thursday OLOW had our sports carnival. All the children did really well and we all had lots of fun. On the day, there were four house colours **Benjamin**, **Clark**, **Bede** and **Manning**. All teams were all so enthusiastic about their house colour. On the day we had all these activities including ball games, running races and long jump. At every activity you went to, you would earn a house point for your colour even if you didn't place in any races. At the end of the day the teachers announced who got the most points out of the four teams.

Whoever got the most points won. Benjamin won!!!

We would like to thank all the teachers for making the day such an enjoyable day and also a big thankyou to all the parents who volunteered and helped out on the day.

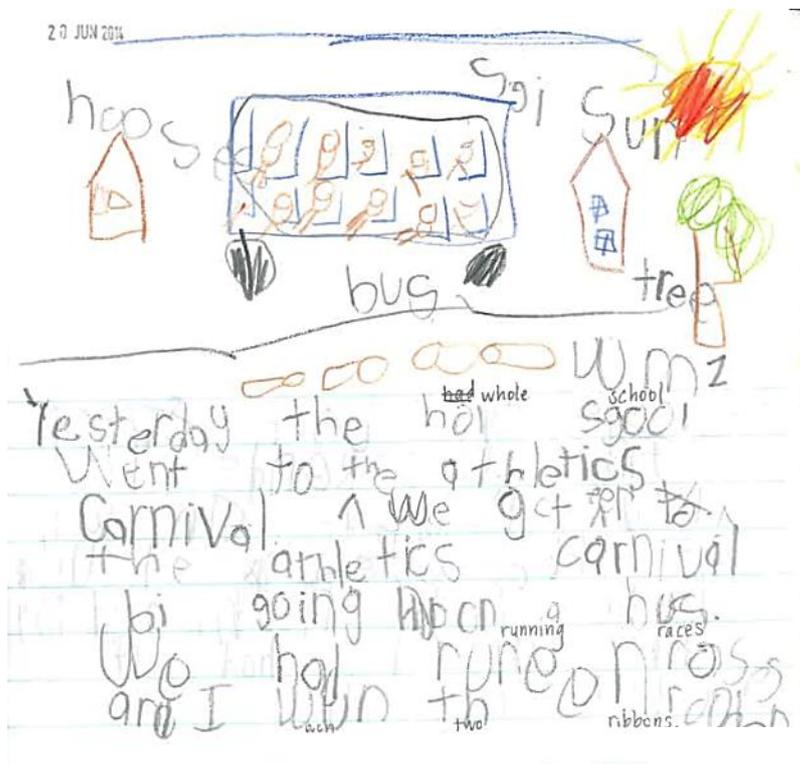
Laura Patterson - Benjamin Sports Captain

RED RED SPEED AHEAD, RED,RED BEAT THE REST, RED RED TRY YOUR BEST GOOOOO BENJAMIN!!!

This was one of the many encouraging chants that were screamed throughout the day. Congratulations to all of primary and infants children who participated in the 2014 athletics carnival. Thank you to all the teachers and parents that helped during the day and a BIG thank you to the Year 6 leaders Luke and Maddison (**Clark**), Tylor and Antonea (**Manning**) and Isaac and Felicity (**Bede**). Lastly, I would like to congratulate and thank all the Benjamin athletes who participated and helped us win with the most points.

Brock Healey - Benjamin Sports Captain

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL By Kindergarten



Yesterday the whole school went to the athletics carnival. We got to the athletics carnival by going on a bus. We had running races and I won two ribbons.

By Oliver Herps

Yesterday was the Our Lady of the Way athletics carnival. The whole school came to the carnival. We went in a race and I won.



By Jacob Bennett

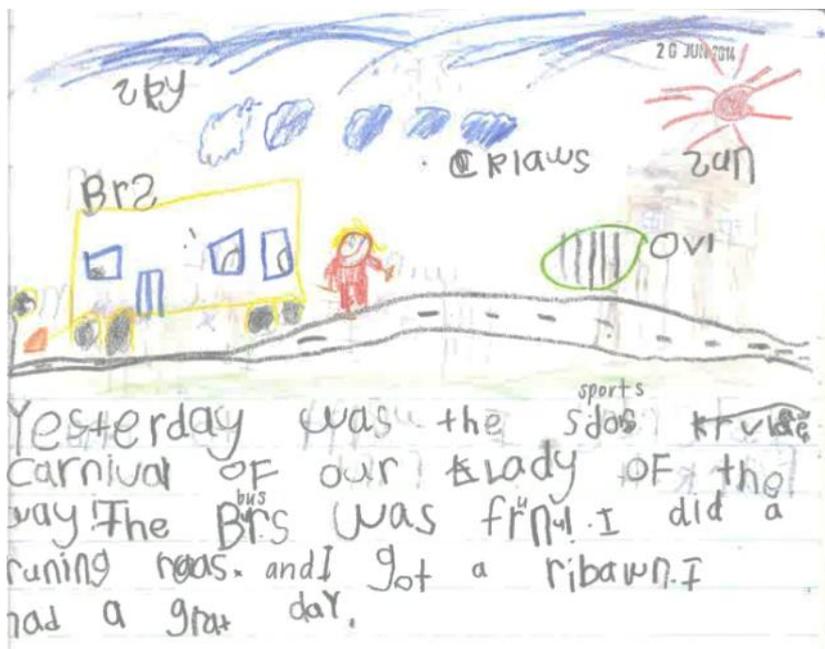


On Thursday I went to the athletics carnival. I liked the running races.

By Lucas Latty

Yesterday was the sports carnival of Our Lady of the Way! The bus was fun! I did a running race and I got a ribbon. I had a great day.

By Evan Hotz



Yesterday was Our Lady of the Way athletics carnival. My favourite part was the running races and the bounding hoppers. The whole school came. I had lots of fun and I won two races.

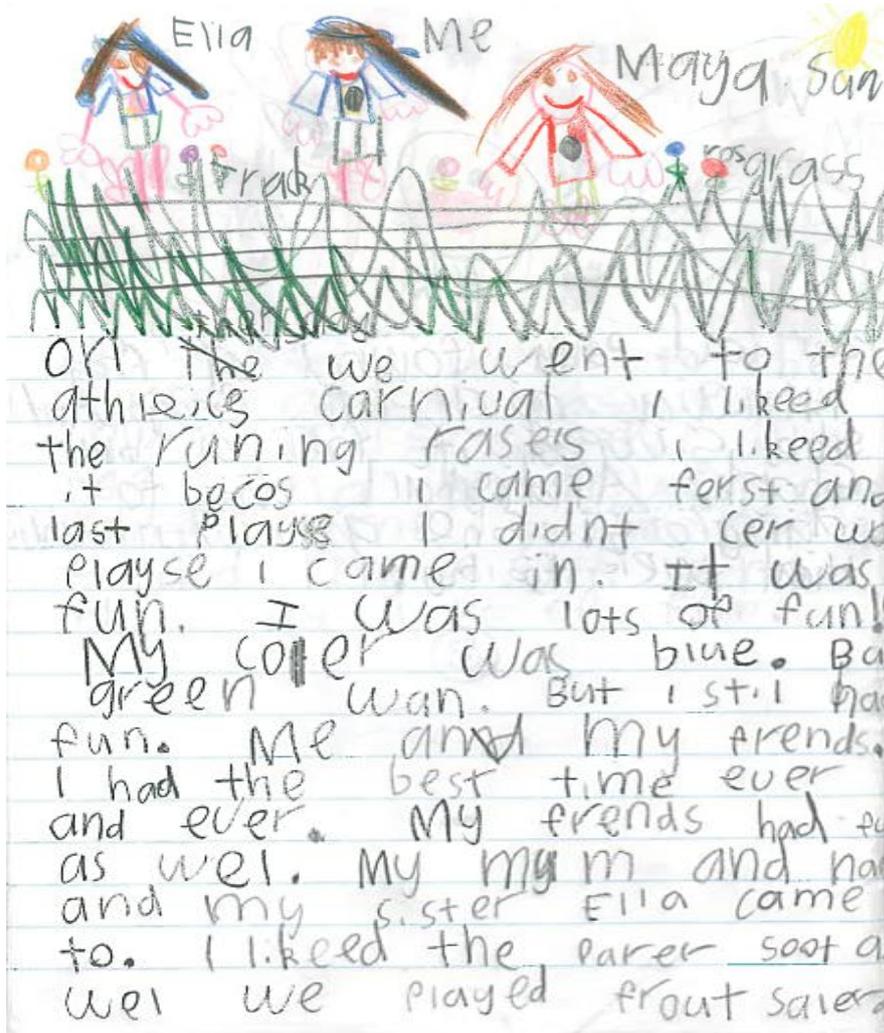
By Ava Palombo



On Thursday it was the carnival and it was awesome. I liked the races and I liked the bouncy hoppers and I liked the parachute!!!

By Cooper Bahlmann



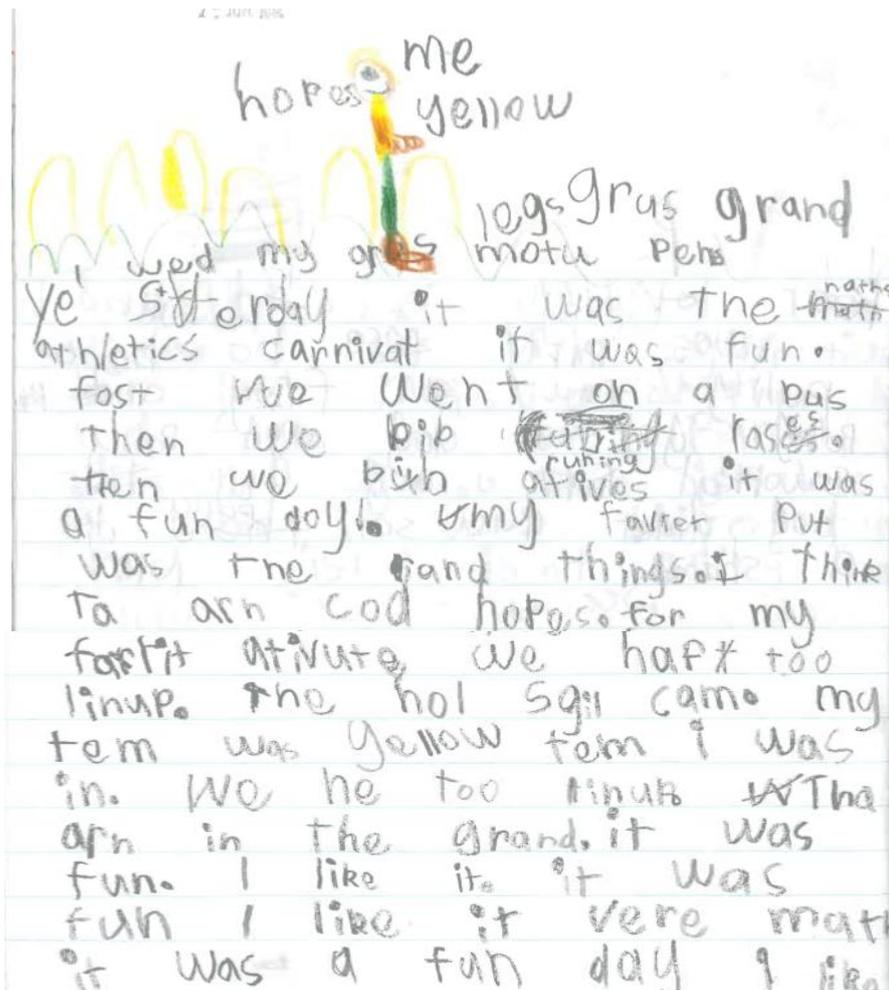


On Thursday we went to the athletics carnival. I liked the running races. I liked it because I came first and last place. I didn't care what place I came in. It was fun. It was lots of fun! My colour was blue but red won. But I still had fun. Me and my friends had the best time ever. My Mum and Nan and my sister, Ella came too. I liked the parachute and we played fruit salad.

By Miah Hirsch

Yesterday it was the athletics carnival, it was fun. First we went on a bus. Then we did running races. Then we did activities, it was a fun day! My favourite part was the hurdles. We had to line up. The whole school came. My team was yellow team. It was fun, I liked it.

By Alexander Boyd



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL







Parramatta Diocesan Girls Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day

The Stage 3 girls finally had the opportunity to play soccer after it was postponed twice last term due to rain.

Last Tuesday, 17th June, 12 girls from Years 5 and 6 participated in the Parramatta Diocesan Girls Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day at Anne Aquilina Reserve, Rooty Hill. The girls are to be commended on their behaviour and their sportsmanship. They constantly encouraged each other throughout the day. The girls should be very proud of themselves.



Thank you to the parents who transported the girls and cheered them on during the day. A huge thank you must go to Mr Ruskin, Annabelle Ruskin's Dad, for offering to manage the team and to Lachlan Ruskin for volunteering to referee on the day.

The girls in the team were Erin Dargan, Caitlyn Pearson, Felicity Mayer, Aroha Tupaea, Annabelle Ruskin, Kaitlyn Stewart, Alannah Walker, Tahlia Rando, Shae Healey, Bridie Witjes, Brooke Robertson and Shanice Matapo.

Mrs Scott

On Tuesday the stage three girls were able to play in our gala day! We won three games, drew two and lost one. We all enjoyed the day immensely and we had fantastic weather. Our coach for the day was Mr Ruskin and he was a great help. Thank you to everyone who helped out on the day and their support.

Erin Dargan

The stage three girls played six games at our soccer gala day. The twelve of us played and worked together as a team. It was a great day with all our parents and teachers there, supporting us. We came 3rd overall! A BIG thank you to Mrs Scott for dedicating her time to train and come with us on the day.

Felicity Mayer

Stage 2 Soccer Gala Days

The stage 2 soccer gala days took place this week, with the boys competing on Tuesday, followed by the girls on Wednesday.

The boys had a very successful day and showed great teamwork, holding their positions and following the great coaching of Mrs Connell. They showed solid defence all day, only having one goal scored against and some excellent attacking, which resulted in them being the undefeated winners of their pool. Congratulations boys!

The girls gave it their all and improved with every game. After five games we had four 0-0 draws and a 1-0 loss. In the sixth game, with great determination, our goal drought was broken by Charlize and Emma and the team rose to a 2-0 victory! Our final game saw another 0-0 draw. Well done girls!

The children gave up a lot of their play time in the last couple of weeks to train and are to be commended on their sportsmanship, teamwork and dedication.

A big thank you goes to Mrs Connell for giving up her time to train the boys team at school and coach them on the day. Thank you to Lachlan Ruskin (brother of Annabelle) who refereed on both days. Thank you also to the parents for driving your children and supporting them on the day.

Boys team - Lachlan Armour, Lachlan Aitchison, Brandon Kruzic, Matthew Sekulic, Charlie Connell, Ethan Dempsey, Alex Pintos, Bailey Latham, Jayden Roots, Blake Skinner and Patrick Urquhart.

Girls Team - Emma Patterson, Abby Dixon, Brooke Bentley, Tailyn Tupaea, Mia Urquhart, Kaitlyn Spring, Isobel Campbell, Charlize Risse and Chelsea Taber.



Mrs Johnston and Mrs Kakoschke

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Lost Glasses

We have had 3 pairs of children's glasses handed into the office recently. If your child has lost their glasses please contact the office.

Reminder for All Families

If, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and a professional fulfilling experience for our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures. These documents can be accessed on the school website (<http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au>) or system website (www.parra.catholic.edu.au).

CANTEEN NEWS

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deals \$ 4.50

Available until the end of Term

Meal Deal 1

Chicken & Salad Roll, Flavoured Milk, Bag of Fresh Popcorn

Meal Deal 2

Hot Dog with Sauce, Juice Bomb, Bag of Fresh Popcorn

COMMUNITY NEWS

BRAVE Self-Help is a program for the prevention and treatment of anxiety in young people. This self-help program is sponsored by *beyondblue* and is now freely available to all Australian children and adolescents aged 7-17 years old, and their parents. There are separate programs for children (7-12 years old), teenagers (12-17 years old) and parents, and your child or teenager can participate without you needing to do the program, and vice versa.

There are 10 sessions for children/teenagers, and 5/6 sessions for parents, depending on the program. You and/or your child or teenager can register at any time, and do the sessions as often you/they wish. As this program is self-directed, there is no therapist support, however, there is in-built support from the computer program itself. Brave Self-Help is suitable for all types of anxiety, including separation anxiety, social anxiety, specific phobia and generalised anxiety.

If you or your child/teenager would like to register for this program, or if you would like more information, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend (a marriage enrichment experience for married couples)

12 – 14 September (7 – 9 November) at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au www.wwme.org.au www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

Stepping Beyond: Support For Those Separated Or Divorced

On the last Tuesday of each month CCSS Solo Parent Ministry invites those who have been separated or divorced to an evening for sharing and support. The emphasis is on personal development, growth and goals for a hope-filled future. Shared personal experiences are prompted by the questions: "How well are you stepping beyond? What do you want to step beyond? What are you currently stepping beyond? What is stopping you from stepping beyond? What have you learned as you keep stepping beyond?" Venue: CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205.