



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

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

12th June 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 13 June

Years 1 and 6 to attend
Parish Mass, 9.00am

Monday 16 June & Tuesday 17 June

Year 4 to C.A.R.E.S.
Road Safety Excursion

Tuesday 17 June

7:30pm P&F Meeting
ALL WELCOME

Thursday 19 June

K-6 Athletics Carnival at
Parker Street

Wednesday 25 June

9:00-9:45am
A-E Reporting Scale
Parent Workshop

Thursday 26 June

9:15-10:15am
Celebration of Learning
10:15-11:00am
Parents Maths Workshop

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

from Monday 21 July

Parent/Teacher/Student
Conferences begin

Mon/Tues 8 & 9 Sept

Creative Arts Expo

Thursday 11 September

Grandparents' Day

Friday 12 September

7:30pm Confirmation with
Most Rev. Kevin Manning

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,

Firstly I would like to thank all the families who supported our school fete. Some afternoon rain did little to dampen the warmth and sense of community that was evident. The crowds were amazing. Fun was had by all, and the children are still talking about their favourite experience.



We opened our school grounds to welcome the greater community. I received a number of emails and phone calls expressing appreciation of the monster fete event and what generosity of spirit and hospitality was shown.

Events such as the fete can only take place by many selfless individuals giving of their time, effort and talent to work for the greater good. Our sincere thanks goes to each member of the fete committee, stall volunteers, teachers, support staff, sponsors, community organisations and businesses who supported our 2014 Fete so generously.



The P&F Fete Committee are pleased to announce that the Fete raised over \$23,000 – a wonderful effort. These funds will be used directly to purchase technology to enhance student learning in our school.

A-E Reporting Scale

At this time of the year the teachers' energy is directed at ensuring that 'we really know your child' so that we are able to clearly describe their ongoing learning. Assessment tasks completed in the first half of this year have been matched to syllabus outcomes.






Teachers regularly meet with their teaching partners to reflect, analyse and compare each student's work with the syllabus standard. This reflection stage allows teachers the opportunity to evaluate the success of teaching strategies as well as setting a clear direction for future planning for the learning of the students in their class. This phase allows for individual needs to be clearly understood and specific programs to be developed.



Thankyou to everyone that attended the two parent sessions held on Tuesday discussing the meaning of the A-E reporting scale. In anticipation of reports being distributed in the first week of Term 3, it is encouraging to see parents wanting to understand how the scale reflects their child's learning. The A-E scale is different to the scale used when we were at school. There is no bell curve and 'A' does not mean 100/100. In fact a 'C' means a sound understanding of the stage outcome, and to maintain a 'C' throughout the year is difficult. At OLOW we refer to the A-E scale using the following terms and to put the A-E reporting system into perspective, it helps to look at the analogy below for driving a car.

A-E Reporting Scale

Kindergarten	Experiencing Difficulty	Working Towards	Achieving	Working Beyond
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Years 1-6	E	D	C	B	A
Formal Terms	Elementary achievement	Basic achievement	Sound achievement	High achievement	Excellent achievement
OLOW Descriptions	Experienced difficulty	Did OK	Celebrate this work	Beyond expectations	Amazing achievement
Looking at this like a driving licence.	A person on their L plates must always be accompanied by an experienced driver.	A person on their P plates drives independently but is still learning and developing their skills.	A person who has their full driver's licence , is independent to drive on their own without restrictions.	An advanced driver can navigate through many obstacles and has extra skills.	A Formula One driver strives for excellence - conquering one challenge and then moving on to the next and even bigger challenge.
					

A very good web site for looking at work samples & A-E grading of tasks can be found at <http://arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/go/k-6/> Just click on the stage link for work samples, activities and tasks.

Parents who attended the session were appreciative and commented that all OLOW parents should attend as it very informative. With this in mind, another parent session has been organised for **WEDNESDAY 25 June at 9am in the library**. We look forward to a large turnout.

Have a great week,

God Bless
Mrs Sue Veling
 Principal

Daily Reminders:

Most important in life – Jesus
Most beautiful attire – Smile
Greatest asset – Faith
Most powerful force – Love
Worst thing to be without – Prayer

Quality Catholic Schools Survey (QCS)

In March, all staff members, Year 5 & 6 students and sixty randomly chosen parents participated in the *Quality Catholic Schools Survey (QCS)*. From the survey, it was pleasing to note that 80-100% of the respondents answered favourably across most areas. Our students found the school displays lots of compassion for others. They are provided with a stimulating environment and given many opportunities to grow and be challenged. Thank you to everyone who participated!

OLOW Athletics Carnival

Next week on Thursday 19th June is our combined OLOW Athletics Carnival to be held at **Parker Street Athletics Field**. A note went home earlier this week outlining the events and asking for parent helpers. A day like this needs a lot of support for it to run smoothly, so if you are free to help out we would be most grateful. In case it rains, our back up day is Monday 23rd June.



Sports Socks

We have a supplier who is going to provide the school with good quality white sports socks with OLOW printed on the cuff. The socks will come in a variety of sizes:

- XS: Child 9-12 (approx. toe to heel 15cm)**
- S: Child 13-3 (approx. toe to heel 18cm)**
- M: Youth 2-7 (approx. toe to heel 21cm)**
- L: Men/Women 7-11 (approx. toe to heel 24cm)**



The socks will sell for \$10 a pair from the office and should be available for sale in four weeks.

Troy Street Parking

Penrith City Council has removed the Bus Stop in Troy Street, providing a number of additional parking spots. Just a reminder that in the morning between 8:00-9:30am parking adjacent to the church in Troy Street is a **No Parking Zone** (Drop Off Zone). This means you can stop but can't park. You can drop off and pick up passengers and you must stay within three metres of your vehicle. You have 2-minutes for your child to alight and then you must move on. To be fair and safe for everyone in our community, please obey the road signs. The traffic fine is \$101.



Alopecia Awareness



Rory Muller, one of our brave Year 2 students, was so concerned about the condition of Alopecia in children that she has 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 23 June, Rory will have her hair cut off by a hairdresser. As it takes between 10-25 ponytails to make one wig, if you would like to join Rory on Monday (parents, friends or students) please notify Mrs Veling. Already we have one parent who will be joining Rory. 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.



Is my hair suitable for donation? In order for your hair to be usable by wig manufacturers it needs to be a minimum of 30cm long, but ideally 35cm in length. It should be not permanently coloured, permed or grey. Hair donations can be both straight and curly.



Rory will also be holding an M&M & Jelly Bean guessing competition (50c a guess) to help raise funds to make the wigs. Rory, Harry and Erin will be on the playground next week, so watch out for them!

Check the Names on your School Clothes

A number of students have misplaced their jumpers, jackets and hats over the last few weeks. Each item has had the child's name clearly written on it. As they are not in the lost property box, it is assumed that someone else has mistakenly taken the items and is wearing them. Could you please check all items of clothing and make sure they belong to you. It is very easy to confuse items especially as they all look the same!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Penrith Community Kitchen Appeal:

Throughout Week 9 (our last week of term) we would like to invite our families to support our Penrith Community Kitchen Food Appeal.

"I was hungry and you fed me..." (Mt. 25:35) is a piece of Scripture that the Penrith Community Kitchen uses as their slogan. We invite you to send in items with your children to help feed those who are in need.

Every week day volunteers provide meals for homeless adults and youth and low income families. To help the making of meals we invite you to send in items such as flour, sugar, rice, pasta, tinned vegetables or dinner sauces. A basket will be placed in all of the classrooms for the collection of donated items.

Our Social Justice Team will be visiting all grades to share information about the Penrith Community Kitchen and encouraging them to support our appeal.

Feast of the Sacred Heart:

On June 27 we will celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart at 9:15am in the Church. Fr Wim will be saying Mass and children from various grades will be helping us to celebrate.



When we think about the Feast of the Sacred Heart, we think about the poor...those that Jesus loved and encouraged us to love. It is for this reason that we coincide our Penrith Community Kitchen Food Appeal with the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Part of our Offertory Procession will include bringing forth items the children have bought in for the appeal.

We hope that will join us to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. You are very welcome to attend.

Scripture in the Classrooms:

Year 6:

The students of Year 6 are learning about the history of early Australian Catholics. About one third of those who arrived on the First Fleet were Irish Catholics. For many years they were like exiles living in a strange land with no priest, no Blessed Sacrament and for a long period of time were banned from gathering together at all. The English authorities at the time were always suspicious the Irish Catholics would start a riot.

In order for the students to reflect on what it was like for the early Catholics in Australia, they looked at the following piece of Scripture from Jeremiah 29: 4 -14:

“The LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those people whom he allowed Nebuchadnezzar to take away as prisoners from Jerusalem to Babylonia: ‘Build houses and settle down. Plant gardens and eat what you grow in them. Marry and have children. Then let your children get married, so that they also may have children. You must increase in numbers and not decrease. Work for the good of the cities where I have made you go as prisoners. Pray to me on their behalf, because if they are prosperous, you will be prosperous too. I, the LORD, the God of Israel, warn you not to let yourselves be deceived by the prophets who live among you or by any others who claim they can predict the future. Do not pay any attention to their dreams. They are telling you lies in my name. I did not send them. I, the LORD Almighty, have spoken.’

“The LORD says, ‘When Babylonia's seventy years are over, I will show my concern for you and keep my promise to bring you back home. I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for. Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you. You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart. Yes, I say, you will find me, and I will restore you to your land. I will gather you from every country and from every place to which I have scattered you, and I will bring you back to the land from which I had sent you away into exile. I, the LORD, have spoken.’

The students further explored what it would have been like to have lived in ‘religious exile’ by getting inside the hearts and minds of the people at the time. They were asked to imagine they were an Irish Catholic living in the early colony and write a letter home explaining what it was like. Here are some examples of what they wrote:

Dear Nan and Pop,

I am scared. I don't know what to do. I know mum and dad are putting on a brave face, but I know they are hurting inside. Every day at exactly 3:45pm I hear mum and dad in the back room whispering a prayer. Normally they say a thank you prayer to God, but lately they have been asking that the Church of England respect the Catholic people and that they understand that people can believe in different things. As mum and dad pray I hear the fear in their voices.

Today is a better day for mum and dad. There is supposed to be a convict that is going to be our Parish Priest. He is here. I can see the man dressed in black with a white collar. Mum came storming in. She was so happy. I know she couldn't stand not going to Mass. She said his name was Fr. John Dixon.

Ruby

To Tylor,

I don't like it here. I wish I hadn't stolen that apple. When we first arrived there were only 316 Catholics and 1 044 people were on the First Fleet. The English aren't letting us have Masses, so I don't know what to do. The word is if we have Mass we get killed. We are being discriminated against and it makes me feel angry and scared.

I am really excited because I heard a rumour that Fr. James Dixon is coming today. So we will finally be able to celebrate Mass!

1803 Monday. We had our first Mass today. It was the best Mass I have ever celebrated and I didn't want it to end.

Brock

Dear Irish Government,

I am writing this letter to you to tell you how the English are treating us. Firstly they treat us like we don't exist. All they want is us gone because they don't want us Catholics taking over their type of religion. They have been bullying us, but as a Catholic I will stay here and fight so us Irish can keep our Catholic faith. I just hate the way the English are treating us and honestly I have had enough and I bet you have too.

I don't know whether you have heard but our uprising has led to the banning of Catholic worship. When I heard this I was so mad I wanted to go up to the English and tell them they had no right to ban Catholic worship from us. Also in Australia we have no Catholic priest and we aren't allowed to celebrate Mass. What else will the English take away from us? They don't even care about us anymore, they just think we are here so they can discriminate against us. We have to secretly hold Masses behind their backs.

Well I just found out that maybe a priest was coming but who knows if that is true. Sorry to bother you and I will let you know if anything happens.

Felicity

Dear mum,

Dad's been executed. He joined the Vinegar Hill uprising and got caught. Just a while ago a man named James came and prayed with us but the English told him to stop. I'll be back soon, for stealing that bread was 7 years in this place.

I really don't understand. At school we don't make the sign of the cross and we only learn English. Last time I spoke Irish the teacher put a bar of soap in my mouth and a week erasing textbooks. An English man put me in something called 'juvenile adoption'.

We only sing the British National Anthem, no Irish. We don't celebrate St. Patrick's Day and any Irish flag is burnt to the ground. I've been to a secret Mass. I think they keep it secret because the guards don't like our religion.

Really, if that's what's stopping them, I'm proud of dad for standing up for himself.

Riley

Year 2:

Each grade has different Resurrection stories which they study during their Easter unit. Year 2 focussed on the story of Thomas and how he doubted that Jesus had appeared to the apostles while he was away. The Scripture is from John 20: 19 – 31:

It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!"

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!"

The students were asked to consider how Thomas and the other apostles felt when this happened and what it was like for them after Jesus had died. They expressed their thoughts through words and drama.



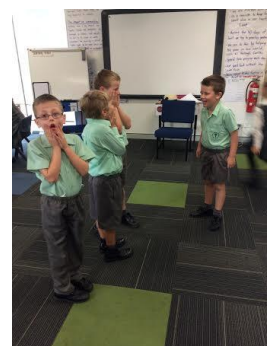
When the disciples were behind the locked doors they were puzzled, scared and sad because Jesus was killed!!!! They needed help!!!! **Abbey**



The disciples would be just shocked to see Jesus with them again. Jesus said "Blessed are those who have not seen yet have come to believe"
Kate



The disciples in the locked room were very, very afraid because they didn't know what was going to happen to them.
Taj





The disciples must have been frightened with no one there except them and the Lord. They were locked in the room because they thought the Lord was dead and they were scared.

Phoebe



Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING NEWS

Dr Yong Zhao

Last week, a number of staff members attended the Ann D Clarke Lecture. This is an annual event sponsored by the Catholic Education Office Parramatta, where educational experts from around the world are invited to speak. This year Dr Yong Zhao presented the paper, *“Fixing the Past or Inventing the Future: the Necessity of a Paradigm Shift.”* Zhao said the traditional paradigm for education has been for schools to ask employers what they need in employees, and then to parse those skills and break them down into grade levels. Students would master a set of skills that were necessary and valuable.



Today this is not the case. The traditional verbal, quantitative and logical skills have been replaced by a need of the arts: storytelling, design, creators and interpersonal skills. “There has been a shift in education to the rise of the entrepreneur and the rise of the creative class, the right brain, artists, empathizers, synthesizers,” he said.

A college or university education no longer guarantees that students will find employment after graduation. Students need entrepreneurial qualities to be a step ahead. “We are born with these things, schools can either increase them or decrease them. Standardised tests do not encourage risk taking or creativity or curiosity, Zhao said. “They need to be taught entrepreneurial qualities such as friendship; confidence; risk-taking; alertness to opportunity; creativity; passion; global competency; uniqueness & empathy. Today, students need to serve other’s needs,” he said. “They have to become great at whatever they want to pursue, and have confidence, persistence and resilience.”

Dr Yong Zhao is an internationally known scholar, author and speaker. His work focuses on the implications of globalisation and technology on education. He has designed schools that cultivate global competence; developed computer games for language learning; and founded research and development institutions to explore innovative education models. In 2012, he was named one of the ten most influential people in educational technology. He has published over 100 papers and 20 books including *World Class Learners*, which won several awards including the Society of Professors of Education Book Award (2013), Association of Education Publishers’ (AEP) Judges’ Award and Distinguished Achievement Award in Education Leadership (2013). He currently serves as the Presidential Chair and Director of the Institute for Global and Online Education in the College of Education, University of Oregon, where he is also a Professor in the Department of Educational Measurement, Policy and Leadership.

You can read more about Dr Yong Zhao on his web page <http://zhaolearning.com/>

In this picture we had the CSIRO come to our school, Our Lady of The Way (OLW). Montana is wearing space gloves and trying to undo the bolts using a spanner. It was quite difficult; she was so close to undoing the bolt. Year four had a really good time at the CSIRO.

By Tahlia Robinson



In this picture Tahlia, William and I were tasting space food. We had to make the space food too.

There was a container of something. So we put one scoop of dry mixture and 5ml of hot water and we stirred it until it got gooey. Our task was to see what it would taste like. It tasted like mash potato and salt. Our whole team did not like the space food. I liked the CSIRO incursion.

By Talesha



CSIRO

14.5.14

In this picture Tully and I are discovering moon rocks. There were 3 rocks. They were in a box and we had to wear gloves to touch them. The rocks felt cool. We had so much fun.

BY JASMINE VANEGAS.



In this picture I'm using the foil arm piece that is like what space men wear. I'm wearing it to show that when you bend your arm it doesn't pop to the same spot again like the first suit they made and it was fun.

By Jack Gale



SCENIC WORLD

On a cold Wednesday morning Year 3 took a bus to the Blue Mountains for an excursion. We went to Scenic World and the first ride we went on was the Cableway which took us across to the lookout. The Cableway took us over the forest and we were very high in the air. Then we went back to the other side and went for a walk through the bush. We went on the walkway and we learnt interesting facts about zombie slugs, egyptians, cat lovers, the coalmine and the different plants that grow in the bush and the animals that live there. There is an orphan rock in the mountains which used to be more popular than the Three Sisters. We rode backwards on the Scenic railway which is the steepest railway in the world.

By Billy Pearson Year 3



On Wednesday, the 28th May our Year 3 class caught a coach at 9am and left to go to the Blue Mountains. When we arrived at Scenic World our class went on many rides.

First we went on the Scenic Railway, the steepest railway in the world. It was an old Railway and it was built in 1978.

Next, we walked on the Walkway for almost 2 hours, it was a long time but it was amazing.

Then we went on the Skyway, we saw a waterfall. I went past the rainforest and saw a lyrebird. I also saw The Three Sisters in The Blue Mountains too.



After that we took the cable way and it was really, really high.

Then we had to catch the bus back to school. When we were at school we got to play and eat. Then the school bell went and sadly we went home.

It was the best excursion I have ever been on at school. I learnt lots about the Blue Mountains and had a great time. It had even felt like the class was my family including my teachers. It was so much fun.

By Charlize Risse, Year 3

SPORTS NEWS

Netball NSW Schools Cup



On Wednesday Laura Patterson, Alyssa Procter, Shae Healey, Madison Whiteley, Kate Charlton, Alanah Eisenhuth, Bridie Witjes, Jasmine Ridding and Ruby Lowe all competed in the Netball NSW Schools Cup carnival. We all played so well and won all four games. We had lots of fun and we would like to thank you Mrs McKeon for entering us into the carnival and we would also like to thank Mrs McKeon for giving up her lunch breaks to train us. We won all four games so that means that on the 13th of August we go to another carnival and play other teams from across Sydney. It was such a great carnival and we all worked as a team. We are so thankful for Mrs McKeon and all the hardwork she has put in for us.

By Alyssa Procter and Laura Patterson

Congratulations to all the members of the team for their commitment and hard work which certainly paid off on the day. As winners of their pool at the Penrith Schools Cup Local Day they now progress to the Sydney Metropolitan Regional Final August 13th at the Anne Clark Centre Auburn. Thanks to a wonderful group of parents who supported the team throughout the day and to our ex-student, Bec Castor, for umpiring.

Anne-Maree McKeon

Cross Country

On Friday 13th June, the following children will be representing OLOW at the NSWCPSCCC Cross Country at Sydney Motorsport Park, Eastern Creek. We wish you all the best and just remember to have fun!



Laura Patterson; Blake Skinner; Jett Cleary; Abby Riding; Charlie Connell; Aimee Wagner and Bridie Witjes.

Kirsty Reynolds

AFL News

Congratulations to Jeremy Skinner in Year Six, who was selected to play AFL for the Greater Western Sydney Rep team.



On the 9th of June, I went all the way to Penshurst to represent Greater Western Sydney in an AFL day. There were 24 children selected. We played four games and out of the four we won two! The last game was against City, we set a new record of being the closest team to beating city. At the end of the day the points were added up and we came tied first with City! It was a brilliant day.

By Jeremy Skinner

Kirsty Reynolds

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

IMPORTANT REMINDER: A reminder that no child is to have a mobile phone at school unless parents have written to the Principal with an explanation of why the phone is required. Mobile phones must be handed in to the school office staff upon the student's arrival at school. They can be collected after school has finished for the day.



Congratulations to Katie English who completed her skydiving adventure in aid of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. She raised over \$1500. Well done Katie.

Thank You!

FETE UPDATE:

We would like to thank everyone for their support of the Fete on Sunday 1st June. Although it was all cut short by the rain we were still able to raise over \$23,000.

The day was a fabulous community day and we have had a lot of feedback already. We would like to hear your opinion and invite you to complete our Fete survey by going to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JK6Q6YY>.

And the winners are:

Major raffle:

1st Prize: The Cashel Family
2nd Prize: Dave Alexander
3rd Prize: Grant

Major Chocolate Wheel Spins

iFly Chocolate Wheel Spin: Kathy Wrightson

Children's Chocolate Wheel Spins-

Wanderers Ball: Harrison Bennett (Yr 2)
Wanderers Jersey: Jack Prendergast (Yr 5)
King's Package: Lara Roser (Yr 5)
Sydney Swans Ball: Ty Peksis (Yr 4)

Auction Items:

Penrith Panther's Jersey: Hawkes Family
Sydney Swans Jersey: Skinner Family
Wanderers Ball: Newton Family

The T.V. Esky Justine



The grade that raised the most money from the Writer's Corner was Year 2. They will be having a Movie and Popcorn afternoon towards the end of the term. If you still wish to purchase your child's piece of writing this can be purchased from the office.

We would also like to thank all our sponsors especially our major sponsor Outback Steakhouse Penrith.

The Fete Committee

CANTEEN NEWS

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deals \$ 4.50

Monday 9th June 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

Penrith Symphony Orchestra presents Pops for Tots – Mozart meets Beethoven on Sunday 22 June 2014. For further information please go to www.jspac.com.au or phone 4723 7600.