



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

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

23rd October 2014

DIARY DATES

Sat/Sun 8/9 November

Weekly Parish based lessons – Reconciliation

Tuesday 11 November

Year 6 Reconciliation
10.00am

P & F AGM followed by
P & F Meeting, 7.00pm

Wednesday 12 November

Yr 5 & Kinder attend
Parish Mass

Sat/Sun 15/16 November

Weekly Parish based
Lessons – Reconciliation

Tuesday 18 November

Year 5 Reconciliation

Friday 21 November

Faith@Work Fundraiser
MUFTI DAY \$2.00
Wear Pink, Purple or Blue

Sat/Sun 22/23 November

Weekly Parish based
lessons – Reconciliation

Mon 24 Nov – Fri 5 Dec

Swimming Program
Yrs K-4

Thursday 27 November

Reconciliation Practice
7.00pm

Monday 1 December

Christmas Concert led by
Andrew Chinn, 7.00pm

Monday 8 December

8.45 Celebration of
Learning Award Assembly

Tuesday 9 December

Year 6 Farewell Mass,
7pm

Friday 12 December

9.15 End of Year School
Mass and Morning Tea

Year 6 Social Night
6pm

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,

On Wednesday we held our Kindergarten Orientation morning for all children starting at Our Lady of the Way in 2015. The morning was filled with enthusiasm, excitement and a few nerves. There was a great feeling of community and a shared commitment by staff and parents for these children in 2015.



Events such as this allow us to celebrate Catholic education and the commitment of families and staff to instil in the children the values and traditions of our faith. As members of the baptised, we are part of something much larger than ourselves: a living communion of saints, united in the gift of the spirit. Each of us has been called to a unique role in nurturing what the Spirit has begun in your child's life at baptism. Together we seek to pass on what we ourselves received from others who held fast to their faith.

Our school is a special place where the life of the Spirit can pervade every aspect of teaching and learning, from the moment your child sets foot in the schoolyard until the end of the day.

May we all make a commitment to your child's faith development - continuing the covenant entered into at Baptism and may this be an opportunity to renew and develop your faith through the eyes of your children.

Today at Our Lady of the Way we celebrated World Teacher' Day. We congratulate the following teachers who received service awards for milestones reached in 2014:

- Mrs Rebecca Kakoschke – 5 years of service in Catholic education
- Miss Jade Proctor – 5 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Jody Robinson - 5 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Sarah Zarlenga - 10 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Jenni Walsh - 10 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Carlin Eekman – 15 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Linda Flanagan – 20 Year of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Bernadette Curry - 20 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Joanne Thomas - 20 years of service in Catholic education
- Mrs Anne-Maree McKeon – 25 years of service in Catholic education



We give thanks for the partnership between parents and teachers in guiding the children at Our Lady of the Way.

Have a great week,
God Bless

Sue Veling

Principal



Stop Work Meeting

On Monday 10th November a significant number of teachers at *Our Lady of the Way* will be holding a stop work meeting from 8:30-9:30am in support of the union's decision to challenge aspects of the draft enterprise agreement. This has been an ongoing campaign.

Supervision will be provided from 8:15am for those children at school on the playground and formal lessons will begin at 9:30am.

You may decide to bring your child in at 9:30am on Monday, however, for those families who are unable to do this, please be reassured that suitable supervision will be provided.

Higher School Certificate

Yesterday was the last day of the HSC. Congratulations to all students who sat for the exams. May they keep safe and have wisdom as they celebrate the completion of their high school education.

Joint School & Parish Working Bee THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended the working bee. It was a great community effort. I wish to personally thank Mr Mifsud and the staff who attended on the day and worked side-by side with the parents and friends. The grounds are looking wonderful and the children are really enjoying watering all the plants.

Thank You!



Thank You to:

Los Chmiel; Peter, Olivia, Harrison and Jacob Bennett; Kevin, Bailey, Ethan and Amity Houlihan; Catherine, Russell, Ethan and Jessica Still; Adam, Chloe and Cody Luczak; Dolores Grima Starkey; Sofia Lamaletie; Dallas, Brad, Connor, Finn and Zarah Snedden; James, Benny and Thomas Tabor; Fr PJ; Kate, Howie, Jason and Abigail Andrews; Anne, Troy and Luke Mathison; Paul and Carol Burton; Aaron, Shannon, Oliver and Eliza Herps; Steven, Julie, Ty and Bodie Peksis; Erik and Keira Blazek; Paul Riley; The Hawkes family; Pat Scott; Bernadette Alexander; Deanne Kuipers; Michael Mifsud; Julie Irvine; Jo and Brad Thomas (apologies for anyone that was missed).

School Disco

A great night was had by all on Friday at our disco. Lots of music, dancing, singing and noise. Even though it was very hot, the children seemed to enjoy themselves and exerted lots of energy over the evening. Thank you to the P&F for organising such a wonderful event.

P&F Meeting & AGM – Tuesday 11 November 7pm

On Tuesday 11th November at 7pm the P&F will hold their AGM. All positions will become vacant. You are warmly invited to nominate and become part of a great team who help build community and raise funds to resource the school.

Swimming Program Kindergarten – Year 4

OLOW's swimming program for all children in Kindergarten to Year 4 will begin on Monday 24th November to Friday 5th December. The cost of this 10-day program is covered in the school activity fee. The swimming program (Aquatics) is a compulsory component of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education curriculum and all students in Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 are required to attend.

End of Year Awards

Just a reminder that the end of year awards will be distributed at the morning assembly on Monday 8th December using the following categories:

- ★ Love of Learning Award
- ★ Mary MacKillop Award
- ★ Most Improved Award
- ★ Positive Attitude Towards Learning Award
- ★ Music Award
- ★ Japanese Award

All parents and friends are warmly invited to attend this ceremony.



Christmas Concert led by Andrew Chinn

The musical composer Andrew Chinn will again be at OLOW to run his fantastic music workshop with the students. The day will culminate with a Christmas Concert at 7pm on Monday 1st December held on the playground.

End of Year School Reports

Semester two reports will be sent home on Friday 5th December. If you wish to discuss your child's report/progress, please make an appointment to see the classroom teachers.

Individual Numeracy Assessments 2015 for Year 1-6

The first two days of school in 2015 will be Staff Development Days – Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th January. Staff will be using these days to assess children using a one-on-one numeracy interview. Each test goes for a minimum of 30 minutes. An on-line booking form will be available towards the end of the year. Those students who miss out will be able to complete the test with the class teacher at a later date.

School begins for all Years 1-6 students on Thursday 29th January 2015.

Please note: Children starting Kindergarten in 2015 have a different testing regime. Please refer to the information received at Orientation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Remembrance Day Ceremony:



You are invited to attend our Remembrance Day ceremony which will commence at 10:45am on the Infants playground. The ceremony will include a scripture reading, laying of poppies and rosemary, the Last Post, a minutes silence and the reading of names that the community of Our Lady of the Way would like to remember. A note was sent home with your child on Tuesday inviting you to add the name of loved ones that have served or are serving at present. We will read them out as part of the ceremony and we will remember them.

Mass and Reconciliation:

- Year 6 attending Reconciliation at 10:00am - Tuesday November 11
- Year 5 and Kindergarten attending Parish Mass at 9:00am - Wednesday November 12
- Stage 2 Parish Mass at 9:30am - Sunday November 16
- Year 4 attending Reconciliation at 10:00am - Tuesday November 18
- Year 1 attending Parish Mass at 9:00am - Wednesday November 19
- Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Parish Mass at 9:30am - Sunday November 23
- Year 5 attending Parish Mass at 9:00am - Wednesday November 26
- Year 6 attending Parish Mass at 9:00am - Wednesday December 3



MASS TIMES

Diocesan Works Fund Appeal – faith@work:



During the month of November, we will be joining all schools and parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta to help support the Diocesan Works Fund (DWF). Also known as faith@work this fund reaches out to people in our local communities that are not supported by regular parish contributions. The faith@work appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as one Church family to support ministries and services that no individual parish or school can offer.

On **Friday November 21** our school will be holding a **mufti day** to support the DWF. Your children are invited to **wear pink, purple or blue** and give a **\$2 donation**. Please be generous and help support this appeal so that these good works can continue.

An envelope is being sent home today for those of you who might wish to make a donation on behalf of your family. These envelopes can be sent to the office and they will be passed on to the Diocesan Works Fund. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

Maths in everyday life

As parents, whenever possible, talk about Mathematics at home and try to put in a real context: "What time is it now?" "Could you weigh the cake ingredients, please?"

Let your son or daughter know that everyone can learn Mathematics and that it is important in whatever job you do as an adult. You can explain how Mathematics is important for the different members of the family, and how it is used in everyday jobs around the house.



Play games and do puzzles that involve Mathematics (eg dominoes, playing cards, dice). Praise your child for their efforts and persistence, especially if a problem has been difficult. Whenever possible, have Mathematics tools available to help (eg scales, measuring cups, analogue and digital clocks, rulers and maps).

Talking to your child and helping them to reason is important. In this way, most children will realise that you think Mathematics is important and they will respond positively.

At all stages of development from 4 to 11 years old, you can help by being enthusiastic and encouraging different activities, whether that is four year olds setting a table with the correct number of places or older children making graphs and charts. For example, they could make a weather chart, or a fruit chart that records the bananas and apples eaten each day for a month.

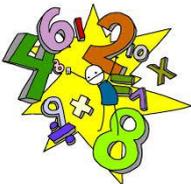
Follow your child's interests - and exploit any opportunities. For example, use time and measuring when making a model, or when answering 'How long until I can go out on my bike?'



Whatever you are doing, try not to show frustration or get cross if your child gets stuck. Leave whatever it is you're doing and think of something different and return later. A problem always looks different when approached the next day. Your child may have had a busy day and be tired or fed up (and so may you).

In school today through numeracy strategies we put the emphasis on the need for children to 'know, understand and do', to be able to talk about their maths through the use of language, symbols and vocabulary, and to be able to explain their methods and offer reasons for their choices.

The maths techniques and methods children are taught in schools are based on giving them an understanding of mathematics and helping them to articulate that through explaining, discussing their work with each other and involving them in solving problems that apply to everyday life.



For parents who didn't experience these techniques while they were at school, there is a learning curve to understand how children are being taught Mathematics. We need to understand how current Mathematics teaching is helping to equip children with numeracy skills that will be essential in helping them to cope effectively with many decisions in life.

More ideas at <http://www.mumsnet.com>

Please contact me at mmifsud@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to the **OLWCURRICULUMSPOT**.

Take Care
Michael

LEARNING NEWS

Year 5 Camp

In Week 3 Year 5 enjoyed the wonderful experience of going to camp. Our learning intent for writing over the last week has been to 'inform the school community about our camp experience.' The students worked in groups or independently and could choose the type of informative text to use to share their experience. Some chose factual recounts, some a review and one a procedure. Parts of their texts are shared below:

On the 20th of October Year 5 left at 7:15am to go to a school camp. We even got to watch Ice Age 3 on the TV. When we arrived at Berry an instructor named Nick told us where to put our luggage.

Nick and Noah

We waved goodbye to our parents. Then we saw some scenery on the way to Berry. When we were halfway to Berry we started to watch Ice Age Three. We were halfway through the movie when we arrived at Berry and we met Nick and Ben when we arrived. When we got to our destination they made up a game called orienteering. We had to explore the camp and find information about safety and camp.

Jayden, Ciaran and Adam

It was a long trip that hurt my legs but it was worth it to see the spectacular sights of long wavy grass. We soon arrived at Berry and stretched lazily. We got our bags off the bus and sat on the basketball courts waiting for instructions and eating delicious bananas.

Kyal, Blair and Bailey

When we got there the Instructors gave us an orientation and we put our bags down. Then we had some free time. We then had to get into groups. The way we got into groups was we paired up and then they put us into groups of four.

James and Jack

First of all we got sorted into our table groups and our activity tribes. There were two groups called 'Crows' and the 'Water Dragons'. We got straight into our first activity where we had to run around the property and find the rules and mottos of the camp. In the middle of the activity it started to rain which made it even more fun [for most of us].

Tahlia and Annabelle

The first activity was the Treasure hunting. In our table groups we had to find 12 boards with a map and a sheet. Then when we find a board we had to record all the messages on it. The boards were all over the campsite.

Madalyn



After lunch we split up into two groups. Half of us did rock climbing and the others did the giant swing. We did rock climbing. We all had to wear a harness. There were five in each group: four on the rope and one climbing.

Jackson, Christopher and Jack

The first activity we did was archery. Every child hit the target and some even got a bullseye which was worth 500 points. Many people also hit right on the rim of the target. The next exciting activity was the dark maze. As we were going in one by one our instructors told us scary stories about the dark maze. Inside the maze it was pitch black and had many tyres blocking our way while we were trying to make our way out of the maze.

Jill, Maddison, Bianca and Jessica



The next morning we quickly got straight into activities. The 'Crows' did kayaking and the 'Water Dragons' did canoeing. The Crows had lots of fun rafting up and playing 'stuck in the mud'. When these activities were over we got changed into dry clothes and did some night activities.

Noah and Nick

At Berry we participated in a lot of fun activities. The activities we did were exploring Berry camp, archery, rock climbing, kayaking, canoeing, dark maze, disco and giant swing. The giant swing was our favourite activity. With the giant swing you must have a harness on. The harness had to be around your thighs, your waist and your shoulders. When you have your harness on you get connected to a rope.

Georgia and Lara



The giant swing was one of our favourite activities. The way the giant swing worked was with two poles that are usually used for electricity. Once you were attached to the harness the other people in your group pulled you up by a rope. The harness was so strong it could hold your mum and dad's car at the same time but the harness we used was too small.

Olivia N. and Mikayla

Berry Sport And Recreation Camp is a good chance for your child to face their fears like of darkness in the dark maze and for high ground the giant swing. Your children's skills of teamwork, aiming and courage can be developed with fun activities like archery, rock climbing, canoeing and kayaking. The camp lets your child do household things like cleaning and serving the healthy food to the children.

Dominic

On a muggy, miserable day we were taking lessons on canoeing at Berry camp. We all had our doubts about it due to our low knowledge of canoeing. As we went into the river we were full of excitement. We drifted away as we hit the banks for the first of thirteen times. We almost fell in eight times and it was scary.

Aimee, Kaitlyn and Alannah

Canoeing:

1. Put your life jacket on
2. Grab a paddle each
3. Grab a canoe
4. Put the canoe in the water
5. Get into the canoe
6. Start paddling all the same way
7. If you paddle left, you will go right and if you paddle right you will go left, so make sure you swap a lot.
8. Now you will be able to canoe

Nadeesha and Adrianna



We did lots of activities like the giant swing, the dark maze, rock climbing, archery, canoeing and kayaking. My favourite activity was kayaking and then the giant swing. But all the activities were lots of fun. I highly recommend Berry for any school camp. Berry was lots of fun and I wish I could go again.

Shae



In Term 4 Year 5 went to camp at Berry to show leadership. We all had a wonderful time and learnt a lot of things. The activities challenged our fears. One of the awesome activities was the giant swing and everyone had to help. I loved the giant swing because everyone pulled a rope to help the person swing up. When they got to the top we counted down 'Three, two, one' and the person on the swing pulled a rope and did a free fall like a wrecking ball.

Kirrilly, Bridie, Madison and Shanice

On the last day of camp the Crows did the giant swing. I had trouble putting my harness on so our instructor had to help me because it was tangled. He numbered us and I was third last. I felt super nervous and my legs were shaking! When it was my turn everyone pulled me up to the top! It was so high I felt like a bird! The crows then shouted three, two, one.... and I pulled the cord.

Kate and Amber

SPORTS NEWS

Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastics Competition

On Friday 31st October, 23 students attended the Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastics Competition at St Andrew's, Marayong. The children were wonderful representatives for our school. They displayed a supportive attitude and participated in the event with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship. The teams trained for some time before the day and the skilled coaching from Mrs Kate Connell (Team Manager), Mrs Vanessa Sullivan (Judge) and Ms Janet Lloyd (Team Manager), contributed to a successful day for the Our Lady of the Way teams. Thank you to these parents for all of their dedication and to all of the other parents who attended the competition and supported our team on a very hot day. Our team's results were:

Olivia Bennett - Bronze medal for mini-tramp
Georgia Ristevski - Bronze medal for long vault
Our Lady of the Way placed as runners-up overall

The team included: Bailey Houlihan, Marshall Pereira, Milli Storek, Sophia Lusk, Layla Starr, Miah Green, Lara Sullivan, Layla Woods, Olivia Bennett, Aimee Wagner, Georgia, Ristevski, Amber Dempsey, Maddison McCarry, Kaitlyn Stewart, Emilie Donohoe-Thompson, Felicity Mayer, Lucy Vinci, Madison Van Esveld, Ruby Lowe, Keisha Chilmmaid, Laura Patterson, Jasmine Ridding and Alyssa Procter.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GYMNASTS!



Mrs Deanne Kuipers, Mrs Joanne Thomas

GENERAL INFORMATION

Book Club

The last Scholastic Book Club brochures for the year have been sent home.

Parents, if you'd like to purchase anything from the catalogue to use as Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers, we can arrange for books to be held at the office for your collection, rather than sending them home with students. Please write these instructions on your order form if you'd like to take advantage of this.

Thanks for supporting Book Club this year.

The Book Club Mums.

Bus Passes

Bus passes are granted to eligible students upon application. Application forms are available through the school office. Once you have completed the form, please return to the school office for validation.

- a) Infants pupils attending Kindergarten to Year 2 are entitled to apply for a pass irrespective of distance from home to school.
- b) Eligible students in Years 3 to 6 **MUST be NO LESS** than 1.6km (radial distance), or 2.3km or more by the most direct practicable walking route to the nearest point of physical entry to the school
- c) If your child loses their bus pass an application must be made direct to the appropriate bus company not the school office. A fee of approximately \$15.00 for replacement of a bus pass will be charged by the bus company and this is payable directly to them.



Please note that clarification of bus routes and times should be made directly through the relevant bus company:

Blue Mountains Bus Company on 4751 1077, website - www.bmbc.com.au or email: customerservice@bmbc.com.au
Busways on 9497 1870 or 9497 1871, website - www.busways.com.au or email infoline@busways.com.au.

Please attach your child's bus number to his/her school bag.

The bus driver has the right to confiscate the bus pass of any child misbehaving on the bus. These passes are sent to the Principal. Passes are returned to the child once parents have been contacted and the misbehaviour is resolved. Further action may be required if behaviour does not improve.

Note: Children who miss their bus or are late being picked up go to the office and wait.

Bus Travellers Moving From Year 2 to Year 3

When your child is moving from Year 2 to Year 3, you will need to re-apply for a bus pass as your child **will NOT automatically receive one**. Please collect a bus application form from the school office and return it **as soon as possible**.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you live inside the stated area, you are NOT eligible and, therefore, will not receive free travel. Please do not fill in an application if you live inside this area.

Photographs and Videos

At times during the year, *Our Lady of the Way* students have the opportunity to be photographed and videoed. These photos and videos may be used as part of grade assessments, be uploaded to the school Facebook page, Twitter, Skoolbag etc, the school website or placed in school publications such as the Parent Handbook. Photographs may also be used in publications to promote the school in newspapers and other media.

When you enrolled your child, you gave us permission to do this. If you wish to withdraw this authorisation and consent, please notify the school in writing.

15% DISCOUNT VOUCHER

ALL SCHOOLWEAR PURCHASED BEFORE NOV 15th

PLUS PRESENT THIS VOUCHER AT YOUR LOWES STORE BY 15TH NOVEMBER TO RECEIVE A MINIMUM 15% DISCOUNT ON ALL YOUR SCHOOLWEAR PURCHASES

- **EXTRA 5% DISCOUNT**
Receive an extra 5% discount when you purchase with your Ezy-Way credit card.
- **SCHOOL REBATE**
Your school receives a rebate on all uniforms purchased at Lowes!



www.lowes.com.au

- **RAINCHECKS OK!**
If we don't have what you need in stock we'll give you a raincheck.

ORIENTATION DAY
SPECIAL OFFER