

DIARY DATES

Friday 3 November

MUFTI
and
SPECIAL MEAL DAY

13 – 17 November

Swimming Lessons for Kinder to Year 4

Monday 27 November

Christmas Concert

Thursday 30 November

Swimming Carnival

Wed 6 December

Year 6 Graduation Mass

Thursday 7 December

Thank You Afternoon Tea

Friday 8 December

Awards Ceremony

Year 6 Social

Monday 11 December

Thanksgiving Mass, 9.15am

Friday 15 December

Last Day of School

Wed 31 January 2018

First day of Term 1 for Years 1-6

Thursday 1 February 2018

Kinder begin 8.45am-12.00pm

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Congratulations to everyone for their role in making the OLOW Fete a success. It is a huge effort for the community to stage such an event but the result was outstanding. So many people spoke to me at the Fete about its wonderful reputation and they were impressed again!!

Firstly, thank you to all the families and visitors for attending and supporting the Fete. Thank you for buying raffle tickets, ride tickets, books and other items. The parents, volunteers, students, visitors and community groups all contributed.

I would like to say a big thank you to Tara and Ben Cremen for an outstanding job in coordinating the Fete this year on behalf of the Parents & Friends Association and for all the committee members led by Kiery Pascoe. Thank you to the members of the Fete Committee, the people who attended the fete meetings and those who were behind the scenes. Everything ran smoothly which can only happen with great organisation, months of planning and lots of creativity.



There were the traditional stalls, new stalls and a 'market style' feel under the new COLA. Add to this a fine, sunny day (other than a few drops) and the Fete was a fantastic community event and a huge success for the school. Thank you to each stall holder for taking on these roles and for their dedicated work. Thank you to volunteers that worked tirelessly on stalls.

Thank you to the staff who contributed enormously again to the Fete. They ran the choir and band, helped set up and pack up for the Fete, volunteered on stalls including the dunking machine, face painting and sponge toss and the photo display and helped in many other ways.

Thank you to all of our sponsors who generously donated to the Fete. Your contributions offset many expenses at the Fete and enable the school to successfully fundraise through the event. (A list of the sponsors are attached to this newsletter.)

The Fete was really an amazing community event again!! Congratulations and well done to everyone!!

On Wednesday our school hosted an Assistant Principal's meeting with 30 colleagues from some of our diocesan schools. I am always so grateful to my colleagues and students for opening their learning spaces to visitors and very proud to share this with our colleagues from other schools. Following our learning walk, the visiting Assistant Principals had so many wonderful comments to share. They were particularly blown away by the relationships between the staff and children and the wonderful learning opportunities that our students had been given. They were very impressed with our Year 5 and 6 students in the way they were able to articulate their learning and their independence and self-regulation being demonstrated. A high school Assistant Principal said that it felt like he had walked into one of his senior classrooms in the way the students and teachers were working alongside each other. Our colleagues also reflected on how beautiful and warm our school looks and feels. Congratulations to all.

God Bless,

Miss Emma Mizzi

Acting Principal



OUR LADY OF THE WAY MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of the Way is a Catholic community in which children, teachers and parents nurture a sense of personal worth as they work together in a safe, happy, challenging and faith-centred learning environment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 4 WEEK 2 & 3

Term 4, Week 2



Term 4, Week 3



Week 2

Ben Thomas, Beau Edmonds, Mackenzie Clarke, Jack Sikic, Lara Dwyer, Eli Downie, Emma Lohan, Noah Thompson, Holly Penny, Akida Deacon-Chilmaid, Jacob Thompson, Eli Smith, Lucienne Heffernan, Samuel Thompson, Harrison Armour, Sienna Gahagan, Layla Starr, Liam Darke

Week 3

Zac Welton, Ryley Coote, Ashley Hughes, Jewel Bahlmann, Emma-Lee Haines, Thomas Tabor, Draw Funnell, Marcus Elias, Ashton Clark, Nicholas Heffernan, Hannah Selby, Lucas McClenahan, Holly Rech, Scarlett Storr, Isabelle Moran, Maya Grieve, Connor Lohan, Henry Starr, Cohen Borg, Mia Urquhart, Ethan Knott

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

At Our Lady of the Way, we continue to promote student attendance

- EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY -

Regular school attendance plays a critical role in ensuring that every student has access to the same learning opportunities. When students are not at school, are late to school or leave school early, they are missing out on so much that can impact on their future learning.

On the 1st November, Our Lady of the Way Attendance Level was 83.3%

School Name	School Attendance Level %
Our Lady of The Way Primary Emu Plains	83.3%

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	87.9%
01	92.9%
02	85.7%
03	81.8%
04	77.5%
05	80.9%
06	72.7%

Congratulations to **Year 1** who has reached the Diocesan target of 90%. We look forward to a healthier Term 4, so our attendance level can return to above 90% for all grades.

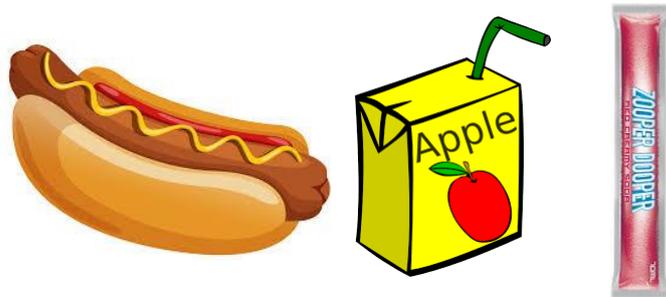
Absence Explanation Note: If your child is away from school, a note explaining their absence is required within 7 days of returning to school. If no note is received the absence is recorded as 'unexplained'. Parents can use the Skoolbag app to email an absence note to school.

Building program

The last stages of the building program have begun. Our new fence and retaining wall are complete, giving our neighbours some more privacy. The covered walkway is on track with most of the structure complete. The roof will come closer to the end of the year. The school will inform you when the laneway gate is back in use.

Mufti Day and Special Meal Deal this Friday

To celebrate the great success of the fete, tomorrow will be a mufti day with the availability of a \$5 meal deal that includes a hot dog or sausage sandwich, popper and zooper dooper. Please bring the exact money in a lunch order bag and give to the class teachers in the morning.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sacrament of Confirmation:



Congratulations to Alexander Hawkes, Paige Hawkes and Erin Downey from Year 5 for celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation, conferred by Fr. Mick last Saturday evening. May God Bless them.



Term 4 Mass and Reconciliation:

Please join with the students in celebrating the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation at a grade and whole school level. You are more than welcome to attend with your children. The dates for Term 4 are:

Week 5:

Wednesday November 8 - *Year 1 and Year 6 Parish Mass* - 9:00am
Friday November 10 - *Year 3 reconciliation* - 10:00am

Week 6:

Thursday November 16 - *Year 6 Reconciliation* - 10:00am

Week 7:

Thursday November 23 - *Year 5 Reconciliation* - 10:00am
Friday November 24 - *Years 2, 3 and 4 Parish Mass* - 9:00am

Week 8:

Friday December 1 - *Year 5 Reconciliation* - 10:00am

Week 9:

Wednesday December 6 - *Year 6 Graduation Mass* - 7:00pm

Week 10:

Monday December 11 - *Thanksgiving Mass (whole school Mass)* - 9:15am



Three Senses of Scripture:

Throughout this year teachers and students have focused on reflecting on scripture from different points of view - we call them senses:

Literal Sense - the who, the when, the where of the scripture.

Spiritual Sense - reflecting on where God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit are in the scripture, what sacraments connect with the scripture or the Catholic Values or Catholic traditions that are present.

Application Sense - reflecting on what the scripture is calling me to do.

Together we are working towards developing a deeper understanding of God's Word and who God is calling us to be.

Over the next few weeks I would like to share with you some of our children's thinking...

In response to the Creation Story (Genesis 1-2:4) a Kindergarten child shared:



How can we care for God's creation?

- watering the plants
- giving animals food
- help people

How can I show my thanks for God creating the world?

Pray to God and say thanks to God for the animals you made and my friends and family and my grandma and the beautiful plants.

In response to 'Jesus in the Temple' (Luke 2: 41-52) a Year 1 child shared:

What would the Good News be that Jesus was teaching in the temple?

- That he knows all the answers if they ask him.

Why were people amazed at Jesus?

He could answer all the questions and he was only 12 years old.

Who is Jesus' father?

Joseph on earth, God in heaven.

Why did Jesus have to be in his father's house?

To pray.



How can we spread Good News like Jesus in the temple?

- Talking with good manners
- Being kind to others
- Telling other people the stories

In response to 'The Annunciation' (Luke 1: 26-38) a Year 3 child shared:



Where is God in the scripture?

- I think it's when Mary said 'yes' to God. The angel is going to tell God.

Where is the Holy Spirit in the scripture?

The Holy Spirit helps Mary have the baby. 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' was said by the angel.

What did you learn from the painting of the Annunciation?

- Halo - that the Holy Spirit is with both of them.
- An angel is there - the angel came down from heaven to tell Mary the good news.
- The angel looks honoured to be with Mary because Mary said 'yes'.

What sacrament is present in the scripture?

Baptism because Mary is starting a new life.

What Catholic traditions are present?

We say the Angelus every day. We say 'the Lord is with you' in the Hail Mary.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

Year 2 Speak about Mission

This term each Year 2 student has presented a speech about how we share the mission of Jesus at Our Lady of the Way. The speeches were well written and were well presented. Thanks to Billy for helping us to learn about our mission of loving Jesus.

Today I am talking about ways I have shown love for others just as Jesus taught us. Jesus is a very kind person, He helps people no matter what. We can all learn by his stories and scriptures how we can be like Jesus.

In the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus, I learnt from Jesus not to be jealous of others or greedy. Like Zacchaeus, who gave back 4 times the amount of money he took from people he cheated, I give my toys and clothes that I don't use anymore to The Smith Family.

The Smith Family is a children's charity. They help kids who don't have as many things as you or I would. I learnt that more than 1.1 million Australian children are living in poverty, which means that they don't have good schools, clothes and toys like you and I.

Each year after my birthday and Christmas my family and I sort through all our toys and clothes. Those things we don't use we give to the Smith Family by putting the toys and clothes into one of the big red clothing bins.

I try not to be greedy like Zacchaeus and give away my toys and clothes to other children.

Another way that I am part of the mission of Jesus and love others is by caring for other people, like my friends at school.

This year as part of year 2, I have helped my classmates by showing love when a classmate didn't have anyone to play on the playground. I asked this classmate to come and join my game. I have also helped my friend in the classroom when he was late to class and he didn't know what he had to do. I helped by giving him a hand with the array game.

I learned from Jesus that it is good to help others, even when other people don't agree.

In the story of Jesus and the Blind Beggar, Jesus called out to the blind man and asked him to come over and tell him what was wrong. Jesus asked "what do you want of me" to the blind man, even when the other people were telling the blind man to be quiet.

I need to be more like Jesus because showing love to people is the right thing to do.



REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR 5 CAMP!

On the 18th of October, Year 5 went to Berry for a leadership camp. This camp needed us to work as a team to make the camp and all of the activities work successfully. In the rock climbing we were in groups and only one person was allowed to go up the wall at the time, but we had to all pull the climber up. In the canoeing we had to work as a team to go forward and in a straight line. During the rogaining activity, which is like orienteering, we had to work as a team to find all the markers in just 45 minutes. On Friday the 20th of October, Year 5 returned from Berry and they all went home tired. - **Josh Robinson**



Sometimes when I go somewhere I have very high expectations and then it doesn't live up to my expectations. But I will admit that Berry definitely lived up to my expectations. Yes, we did have to leave our home and family behind, oh and our food but it was definitely worth it.

I absolutely loved all the activities at camp but there are two I particularly loved the most. These activities were the rogaining and the giant swing. - **Lucie McIntosh**



Camp was amazing. It gave us a chance to get away from home and do some fun activities such as rock climbing, canoeing and many more. My personal favourite was rogaining. We were allowed to go around just about the ENTIRE PROPERTY to find markers to put on our list and show our instructor.

Now, the activities! They were the highlight of that 3-day trip. The ones that most of our school did were the Giant Swing (my favourite), Rock Climbing, Canoeing (I nearly capsized), Rogaining (LOVED that one) and 1 group did the Vertical Challenge. - **Harry Lewandowski**

Once we arrived at camp I was filled with joy and excitement, as I also felt like a leader of Our Lady of the Way. Our first activity was archery, this meant for me that I have to aim to be a great leader and meant that I can do anything if I try and if I believe. Our second task was rock climbing, it meant that you have to show others that they can trust and rely on you in everything you do and say. - **Sandra Elias**

Berry Sports and Recreation Camp! There are three words to describe it FUN! FUN! FUN!!! At camp you push yourself to new limits and do things you thought you'd never ever do.

Canoeing:

Canoeing involves teamwork and listening. To move through the water you have to work and listen to the counts being called to move the boats. It is so much fun to work together and paddle down the river. I loved canoeing, it was so much fun.

The Giant Swing:

The giant swing involves teamwork, listening and bravery. You are pulled to the top of two poles and you let go of a rope and start swinging through the air in a harness connected to a rope. It is exhilarating and so much fun to swing through the air from a high point. It was lots and lots of fun!!! - **Abbey Flanagan**

At the Year 5 camp we had many activities to show leadership. Those activities included archery, rock climbing, rogaining, the big swing and canoeing.

At camp I thought that I showed bravery because I did the big swing even though it seemed really high I still did it.

The Year 5 camp was about leadership and giving people self-confidence and showing that they can do it. We had to show that we can problem solve and help others without making it unfair. We had to explore ways to make teamwork fair for everyone and show leadership in all of the activities. - **Paige Hawkes**

We were all on the bus talking about how much fun camp is going to be, losing track of time when we start turning towards this sign saying Berry Sport and Recreation Centre. I look out both sides of the bus and I see only grass with cows and bulls on it. We keep going down the driveway when on one of the sides I see this big circle target it was archery it looked amazing and so much fun. On the other side of the bus I see the cabins and two 13 metre high posts it was the giant swing. The bus pulls up and the instructor steps on board I then realise that this isn't going to be prison. The instructors were so nice and taught us some new leadership skills. The activities were extremely fun but I have just got to say the food wasn't the best. – **Oscar King**



On Wednesday we did archery. After archery we did another hunt we had to find red and white cards. We went all over the property for this hunt, we also went into the bull paddock, next to the river and next to the road.

On Thursday my group did rock climbing. Around 6 people, including myself, made it to the top blindfolded with the groups' instructions. In the afternoon we did canoeing, we paired up with two other people - a captain and a classmate. We paddled and paddled and paddled bumping into weeds and other canoes. My group got beached a couple of times. We stopped on the river and had fruit break. Our instructor told us to make rafts with our canoes and then paddle back to the Jetty. - **Emily Sekulic**

Camp was designed to teach us about leadership and trying new things, it was also made for people to overcome their fears and to help their peers. At camp, there were many different activities and tasks like Rogaining, Archery, Rock Climbing, the Giant Swing and Canoeing. They were all really fun activities that went all day, split up by Brekky, Lunch and Dinner in the Dining Hall. The grade was split up into groups and an instructor was with your group for the whole experience.

After a long day we headed on down to the Recreation Hall for some night time fun! Then we headed on back to our cabins with our teachers and we had a nice rest ready for the next fun day. After three days and two nights at this awesome place we came back home on the bus to our loving families that would have missed us so much and we could not stop talking about the amazing experience at Berry that we had!

Overall, I loved camp and would love to go back for more! I loved learning about leadership, courage and teamwork. It is so worth it and I hope Year four and all the other grades will love their experience. I also hope that they learn a few things about how to be a great leader. 10/10!!! - **Charlie Thomas**

If someone was to ask me what one of my favourite life changing experiences was that also develops a skill; I would say Berry Sport and Recreation Camp was definitely one. It showed us leadership and teamwork just to name a few and it was awesome.

My group was Sarah who was at the back, Abbey who was in the middle and myself at the front. My group was behind for the majority of it but we still had a great time and were enjoying ourselves.

We split into three big groups and the big group I was in was called bandicoots. Bandicoots served dinner that night and I was in charge of putting corn on everyone's plate. That was also a highlight.– **Maddy Wade**



Last week Year 5 went to Berry Sport and Recreation Camp. It was a lot of fun; we all had a great time. We did many activities, such as rock climbing, archery, rogaining, giant swing and canoeing. My favourite activities were rock climbing and canoeing because they both involved a great amount of teamwork. With rock climbing if you were not on the wall you would be on the ground supporting the climber. You needed to use a great amount of teamwork. Canoeing was also one of my favourite activities because you are in the water paddling. It also had a great amount of teamwork because you had to make your mind up about which way to paddle. It was very relaxing eating fruit on the water and inhaling the view of the lake.



I did not mind the food. The sleeping accommodation was very nice and the beds were very comfy. Each block had a common room with a TV and some lounges. **Riley Burton**

When Year Five went to Berry for camp we showed loads of character strengths to help one another. We used teamwork throughout our activities. We also showed bravery everyday and if someone was nervous or afraid about an activity we would help them overcome their fear. We showed leadership every day, every hour, every minute at this camp. This camp taught us new things, brought us back together if we were angry at one another and we also got over our fears. - **Erin Downie**

On Wednesday the 18th of October, Year 5 went to Berry for our Sport and Recreation camp. We had to be at school at 6.40am and it took three and a half hours to get to Berry. When we got there we had something to eat and then we got ready to go canoeing. Justin, Henry and I were in a canoe together and we had lots of fun pushing Mr De Celis into the reeds. Then we went on the giant swing. We had to challenge ourselves to go 9 metres high and then let go of the rope. It was easy and lots of fun. We also went rogaining. This is where you have a map and it has clues about where the tags are hidden and you have to try and find as many as you can. Our group came second. My favourite part of camp was archery. I liked it because I hadn't tried it before and now I really want to learn more about it. I also learnt lots about the other people in my class and what their abilities are. - **Harrison Armour**



The Year 5 camp to Berry is about how to show Leadership and Teamwork because we are going to be having that responsibility next year for SRC, School Captains, Tech Team, House Colour Captains and so much more. At this camp I definitely showed teamwork when we were doing the Giant Swing and we needed to pull a rope back to hold them up. Also when we were doing rogaining we needed to have a group and try to find landmarks all throughout the camp. At camp we showed Leadership in canoeing when we needed to listen to what other people were saying so we didn't capsize, didn't hit anything and were able to find out a good and reliable system to keep you going. At camp I felt really excited and nervous because I would do things I have never done before but I also felt a bit nervous because we were going to be stepping out of our comfort zone. But overall it was really fun! – **Larissa Stewart**

Postcards from Berry!



GENERAL NEWS

LOWES VOUCHERS

We have some vouchers to use at Lowes. The first is a 15% off school wear (in store and online) voucher. If you would like to take advantage of this online, go to www.lowesschoolwear.com.au and enter the code 15SCHODS at the checkout to receive your discount.



The second voucher is for \$10 off Bata School Shoe voucher (selected styles only, in store only at selected stores).

Both vouchers are valid until 31st December 2017. If you would like one, please call into the office.

Please support our Fete sponsors!!

OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE®

Studio1000
PHOTOGRAPHY AUSTRALIA
SUTCLIFFE MEATS

Spurr
Steak Ranches
A taste for life

CLASSY CANDLES

YOU CAN DANCE!
PERFORMING/ARTS/SCHOOL

Jenny Craig

Jim Aitken
Partners

CROSSBONES
an MMV GALLERY

Panarottis
Pizza Pans
Big on Family, Big on Pizza.

ASHMORE PALMS
HOLIDAY VILLAGE

NEPEAN
DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOCIATION

CHAMBERS CELLARS
Emu Plains

PENRITH
TRADE TALK
GOLF CLUB

GIANTS
NETBALL

Majestic
Penrith

REVOLUTIONS
HEALTH & FITNESS CENTRE

SOPRANOS
MUSIC SCHOOL

AQUA GOLF
AT ARDMORE

PANTHERS PENRITH
YOUR WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT

Sittano's

Tracy's Sense-sational Beauty

SYDNEY SWIFTS

POLMARKET DELI & CAFE

Scissor Struck Hairdresser

nu nutritionstation
Supporting Healthy Professionals

PENRITH SCHOOL OF GUITAR
More Life Through Music, More Music through the Guitar

MUSCLE Bros

KOORONG

The Very Bazaar

MasterFoods

Abundant Life & Health
Naturopath and Herbalist

HI-CRAFT
CENTRAL SUTCLIFFE LAMINATE

HIGH STREET SOCIAL

priceline pharmacy

THUNDER

Kingpin

Aussie Disposals

Nepean Pizza
Kebab & Charcoal

NPC

GARLANDS FLORAL DESIGNERS
EMU PLAINS & SURROUNDING AREAS

HORIZON LINE

BASEBALL AUSTRALIA

Amcal+
Emu Plains

Emu Plains Take Away Fish & Chips
87 Great Western Hwy

Cristi's Jewellers

PENRITH GOLF FACTORY

Ofishal Pets
95 Great Western Hwy