



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

13th September 2018

DIARY DATES

Monday 17 September

7.30pm Confirmation Rehearsal

Thursday 20 September

Rite of Confirmation Mass, 7.30pm

Thursday 27 September

Grandparents' Day

Year 6 BBQ

Last day of Term

Friday 28 September

PUPIL FREE DAY

Monday 15 October

First day of Term 4

Wed-Fri 24-26 October

Year 5 Camp

Saturday 27 October

Trivia Night

Wednesday 31 October

Kinder 2019

Orientation & Parent Meeting

Thursday 1 November

All Saints Day

Friday 2 November

All Souls Day

Monday 26 November

Swimming Program Begins

Monday 3 December

Christmas Carol Night

Wed 5 December

Primary Swimming Carnival

Wed 12 December

Year 6 Graduation Mass

Thursday 13 December

Thank You Afternoon Tea

Friday 14 December

9am Awards Ceremony

7pm Year 6 Social

Monday 17 December

End of Year Mass

Wed 19 December

Last day for students

Thursday 31 January

First day of school for Years 1-6

Friday 1 February

Kinder begin, half day

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

The Our Lady of the Way School Values state that we are:

- a safe and inclusive community
- compassionate
- respectful
- just and fair
- responsible
- cooperative



These are the values, stemming from our Gospel values, that as a whole community, we aspire to in our daily living of words, actions and interactions with others. The fourth value of **just and fair** is one that we as teachers and parents need to support our children with and is one that we can at times battle with ourselves. When we or our children see something as unjust or unfair, it is difficult to accept.

What is 'Fair Process'

We can often hear from our children, "That's not fair!", but what is it that they really mean when they say this?

We can be slightly cynical and say it is because he/she is not getting their own way. But if we take an honest look at the dynamic in operation here, we can see that the child is pointing out that some aspect of fair process is missing.

Justice and fairness provide the foundation upon which healthy relationships are built. The central theme of fair process is that:

'individuals are most likely to trust and cooperate freely with systems - whether they themselves win or lose by those systems - when fair process is observed.'

The three Elements of FAIR PROCESS

The best way to define Fair Process is to recall a time when you were treated unfairly; what was missing, what was it that people did not do? It is here that we discover the three elements of fair process:

1. LISTEN

Involving each person by asking for their input so they can tell their story.

2. SPEAK

Everyone involved and affected should be able to discuss why final decisions are made as they are.

3. UNDERSTAND

Once decisions are made, new rules are clearly stated, so that everyone understands what is expected.

We want our children to have healthy and positive relationships with their peers and with the adults in their life. If justice and fairness is the foundation, it is important to support them in understanding and valuing the process of repairing relationships when things go wrong.

P&F School and Parish Wine and Cheese Night

Last night the P&F held a beautiful night to thank those from our school and parish community who volunteer at Our Lady of the Way. These volunteers include the small and large acts, all of which have built a trusting, caring and compassionate community. On behalf of the staff, I too would like to thank all those who help the students and families in our community.

We give thanks for all those who give themselves in service of our community and of God.

We thank them for sharing their gifts and enriching our community.

May their works be a model for others and be a sign of God's presence.

God bless,

Miss Emma Mizzi

Acting Principal

Newsletter of Our Lady of the Way Catholic Primary School, Emu Plains

17 Troy Street, Emu Plains 2750 Phone: 4777 7200, Email: OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au, Web: www.olowemplains.catholic.edu.au/

"To act justly, To love tenderly and To walk humbly with our God"

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 3 WEEKS 6 & 7



Indiana Shatford, Memphis Cross, Liam Byrne, Patrick Burke, Zoe Chang, Ella Grech, Gemma Lewandowski, Grace Carey, Mason Benitez, Isabelle Gribble, Mackenzie Degnan, Edward Lennon, Marlie Robertson, Demi Boormakin, Jai Noronha, Tristan Bryant, Noah Downey, Miah Hirsch, Breha Pearson, Thomas Walker, Scarlet Storr, Georgia Kenyon, Daniel Yalden, Lucas Edwards, Kelsey Ellis, Chloe Gardiner, Olivia Eekman, Arliyah Casey, Declan Casey, Layla Pascoe, Max Dunlop, Natalie Burke, Jacob Bennett, Christopher Elias, Jessica Still, Jaxon Kenyon, Mia Kuster, Dominic Vella, Rory Muller, Talisha North, Ethan Houlihan, Lucie McIntosh, Mya Kelty, Liam Wilding, Vera Sen, Ashley Hugher, Simrin Latchminarain, Cooper Hartstonge, Connor Lohan, Nicholas Curry, Seth Fullam and Benjamin Garrahy.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 - Our Very Own Pilgrim - Miss Therese Coutinho

As part of the WYD 2019 initiative the Diocese holds a number of Fundraising events to support the pilgrims. The main one is the Diocesan Raffle. Thank you to the parents who have returned their sold tickets. All tickets sold or unsold need to be returned to the school by **20th September, 2018**. If you wish to purchase tickets they are available for sale at the office. We would like to take this opportunity to express how grateful we are for the support of this community in helping Miss Coutinho attend World Youth Day in 2019.

ATTENDANCE - EVERY LEARNER - EVERY DAY

At *Our Lady of the Way*, we continue to promote positive student attendance. Thank you to our parents for the support and value that you place on your child being at school each 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.

School Name	School Attendance Level %
Our Lady of the Way Primary Emu Plains	89.6%
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	96.3%
01	89.5%
02	89.7%
03	89.4%
04	92.0%
05	77.3%
06	92.6%

Our school average this week is **89.6%** which is **just below** the CEDP target of 90%. **Congratulations to Kindergarten, Year 4 and Year 6 who continue to display excellent attendance.** We love seeing all our students at school!

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.*

Partial Absences (PA) are recorded for each child every time they are late to school or leave early from school. **Partial Absence** from school does add up to time away from learning, settling into routines of the day or saying goodbye at the end of the day. It is important that all children are at school by 8:45am when our school day starts. A **Partial Absence** is recorded from this time and an explanation is required by parents or a carer to be signed in through the Office.

LEAVING OLOW AT THE END OF 2018?

A reminder to families that a terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing **MUST** be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term and where appropriate notice has been received, a pro-rata credit will be calculated. Where a term's notice has not been given to the principal, the term's school fees will be charged for your children. This is a Diocesan Policy.

OLOW TRIVIA NIGHT - SAVE THE DATE



*Dear Parents and Carers,
The P&F would like to invite you and your friends to our **2018 Trivia night**
Date - Saturday 27th October
Theme - Movies & TV Shows
Come and enjoy an evening of fun and laughter.*

TRANSITION TO SUMMER UNIFORM

Students are now invited to wear either their **FULL** Summer **OR** Winter uniform to school. Students should not be wearing parts of either uniform. Please refer to the uniform requirements below. The transition period will be until the end of the term. From Term 4, all students should be in full Summer uniform.

Girls' Summer Uniform	Girls' Winter Uniform	Girls' & Boys' Sports Uniform
Green and white check dress	Grey/Green Plaid Tunic & White Blouse with Peter Pan Style Collar	Bottle green unisex knee length sports shorts with school emblem and bottle green polo shirt with gold side panels and white trim with school emblem
Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem	Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem.	Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem
Black leather school shoes (no black joggers)	Black leather school shoes (no black joggers)	Sports shoes - predominately white with white laces (Fluoro or multi coloured shoes are not permitted)
Plain white ankle socks (not sport anklet socks)	Black tights/stocking (no dance pants or leggings etc.)	Plain white ankle socks with school emblem on cuff
Bottle green school hat with school emblem	Bottle green school hat with school emblem	Bottle green school hat with school emblem
Green, white or gold hair ties	Scarves, gloves or beanies worn in winter must be school green only.	Bottle green track suit with school emblem
Boys' Summer Uniform	Boys' Winter Uniform	
Grey 'blocker' school style shorts (cargo style or corduroy are not permitted) & mint short sleeve shirt with school logo	Grey pants – long school style (cargo style or corduroy are not permitted) & long-sleeved mint green shirt with school emblem.	
Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem	Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem	
Black leather school shoes (no black joggers)	Black leather school shoes (no black joggers)	
Grey ankle socks (not sports anklet socks)	Grey ankle socks (not sports anklet socks)	
Bottle green school hat with school emblem	Bottle green school hat with school emblem	

FIVER FOR THE FARMERS FUNDRAISER

A huge thank you to our community for your support in our Fiver for the Farmers fundraiser and donations at the Father's Day breakfast. We have been able to raise **over \$2000** to go the St Vincent De Paul Drought appeal who are helping individuals and communities across NSW in three ways:



- Providing immediate relief through food assistance and other household bill payments;
- Funding the delivery of water and animal feed by partner organisations; and
- Organising social events for rural communities to come together and find support.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

On the 20th September, our Year 6 students will be organising a chocolate toss and have decided that for 2018 that these funds will also be put towards helping our farmers. A wonderful initiative that has come from our students.

Below is a poem by Lucie McIntosh in Year 6, inspired by the life of our farmers.

Farmers Poem

*A drop of rain is all I need
Because I have already paid too much for the sheep feed.
Each day and each night
I give a huge fight
But I make absolutely no progress.
My children are struggling
But I can provide nothing.
So I sit here helpless and sad.
Because each day turns out bad
I want to let out all my anger and doubt
But nothing will resolve this drought.
I want to keep going
But I can't, knowing
All my sheep and cattle are dying on me.
I need some encouragement
Some happiness or enlightenment
But when will that ever happen?*



THE RECYCLABLES COLLECTION ZONE AT OLOW IS OPEN.



Our Lady of the Way School has joined forces with the Return & Earn Container Collection at Blacktown and has been asked to participate in the 'Scrap for Schools' Program.

This means the school is **a drop off and pick up point for recyclables**. The school has an account with the Blacktown collection point and all funds generated from recyclables collected from our school or dropped off by families at their facilities, will be paid into our account.

If the bottle/carton has **10c refund written on the label**, please deposit it in our white bags. So far (in one term) we have filled to the brim 4 large white bags. Only 6 bags to go before we can exchange them for money!

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE SKOOLBAG APP

Skoolbag is a free app that can be downloaded to your phone, iPad and computer as a form of communication with the school. **Skoolbag IS NOT a social media app**. It is available from iTunes and Google. Just search for OLOW Emu Plains and you will see our school crest. All school notes, notices and newsletters are updated onto this site and you will receive an alert when something is uploaded or there is an important or urgent announcement.

PLENARY 2020

Plenary 2020 is the name given to a process initiated by the Australian Bishops who are inviting people to engage in listening, dialogue and discernment about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia ahead of a Plenary Council in 2020. Significantly, a process such as this has not happened in Australia since 1937. Our voices are needed and we are invited to engage with family, friends and fellow parishioners in this time of renewal. For more information about the Plenary Council 2020 go to this website: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>.



Parishioners are invited as the sessions assist with both a parish level response as well as helping individuals share the Plenary invitation with friends and family. The next upcoming Information and Training Sessions are as follows -

- Thursday, 20 September - 7.00pm to 9.30pm at Parramatta Cathedral Hall (1 Marist Place, Parramatta)
- Saturday, 29 September - 10.00am to 12.30pm at St Thomas Aquinas Springwood School Hall (168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood)
- Saturday, 29 September - 2.00pm to 4.30pm at Emu Plains School Hall (17 Troy Street, Emu Plains)

Light refreshments will be provided at all sessions

This is a unique and exciting time. Our voices are important. Let us speak boldly and with passion and listen with an open and humble heart.

Please reply to this email with your RSVP to marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org with date and time and parish or agency as soon as possible.

Parish Sacramental Program:



We ask you to keep the following students in your prayers, as next week they will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. We wish them every blessing.

Daisy Andersen
Kiera Blazek
Isabella Bradley-Labra
Holly Clark
Taylah Cowley
Tanner Crook
Finbar Cullen
Lewis Edwards
Ava Eekman
Mason Eekman
Grace Foster

Cooper Hartstonge
Lucienne Heffernan
Sophie Jones
Ella Keigan
Mia Kuster
Taylor Latham
Lincoln Mayer
Adrienne Moffitt-Bourke
Isabelle Moran
Kees Muller
Noah Pascoe

Breha Pearson
Harrison Phillips
Archie Prendergast
Hakopa Raukawa
Isabelle Roots
Cara Smith
Scarlett Storr
Ariella Stroud
Benjamin Tabor
Samuel Thompson

Grade Masses and Reconciliations:

We warmly invite you to join your children as they celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist (during Parish Mass) on the the following days:

Week 8 - Friday September 14 - Year 2, 3 and 4 Parish Mass @ 9:00am

Week 9 - Wednesday September 19 - Year 4 Reconciliation @ 9:45am

Remember our Grandparents' Day Mass on Thursday September 27 @ 9:15am



Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mark Gardner who has made the MacKillop 2nd 11 cricket team. They will be playing in Barooga in October. We wish you the best of luck Mark!



Congratulations to Jade Elford & Milayna Brace who represented MacKillop at the all schools state touch football. Jade has been selected in the NSW PSSA team. Well done girls!

Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day

Last Friday I had the privilege of taking three Stage 2 touch football teams to the Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day held at The Kingsway in St. Mary's.

The teams played so well, displayed great sportsmanship and showed support for one another.



Thank you to those who supported our boys and girls by coaching, managing and refereeing. The volunteering of your time and all that you do is very much appreciated!

Congratulations to...

Year 3/4 Boys Team

Owen Tait
Will Pearson
Noah Thompson
Declan Casey
Archie King
Darby Weber
Mario Della Scala



Year 3/4 Girls Team

Eden Chapman
Ella Reid
Lucia Hooke
Ava Grech
Sophie Wade
Miah Hirsch
Alyssa McDonald
Mia Eekman
Hayley Burton
Holly Rech



Year 4 Boys Team

Zac Wilkinson
Evan Hotz
Lucas Latty
Ashton Bartlett
Cooper Hegarty
Jacob Thompson





CONDOLENCES

We send our condolences to Ayrton Russell and his family after Ayrton's grandmother, Gloria Irons, passed away recently.

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to the families who have finalised their school fees for 2018. These fees were due Wednesday 29 August 2018.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Principal or myself, fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states "all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued."



If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, I encourage you to contact me on 4777 7200 or olow-emupfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss payment options. The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. Please be assured of complete confidentiality when discussing financial issues.

The school fee collection process has commenced on overdue accounts that have not been addressed as above.

Pascale Vion

Senior Finance Officer