

DIARY DATES

- Wed 12 December**
Year 6 Graduation
Mass
- Thursday 13 December**
Thank You Afternoon
Tea

Year 6 Fun Day
- 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

Kinder begin
9.30am to 12.30pm
- Friday 1 February**
Kinder attend
8.45am to 12.30pm



Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Sunday 2nd December marked the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. Each season has its own special grace and in the Season of Advent we prepare for Christmas awaiting with expectant longing for God to be born again into our lives, our families, our Church and our world. During Advent, we are meant to take stock of our lives, to check our direction and to await with expectation the special grace that God promises to offer us at Christmas. During the Advent season, we symbolically participate in the waiting of the patriarchs, kings, prophets, and priests, as we await Christ's final and glorious return. As we wait in long lines this Advent season, or as we wait for anything really, we can remember the waiting of those expecting the Messiah, and always wait with patience, humility, and expectant hope in a state of prayer. It is difficult, but especially during Advent, waiting prayerfully and patiently, in the manner of our Lord and his blessed Mother, is not only a good spiritual discipline, but could also lower our risk of holiday induced blood pressure. It seems like we're all waiting for something, so why not use these experiences to enhance our Advent disciplines by prayerfully waiting, joining our prayers with Isaiah, Zechariah, and all the saints.



Come Lord Jesus may we be prepared for your coming in glory.

Semester Two School Reports will be sent home next Wednesday 12th December. In the envelope, there is a letter explaining the 5-point grading system used at OLOW for K-6. Please take the time to read through the report with your child, discussing successes and goals for 2019. Teacher interviews are available for any parent who has concerns or questions about any aspect of their child's report. Please make an appointment via the office or Skoolbag to see your child's class teacher.

An invitation is extended to all of the Our Lady of the Way community to attend our Thanksgiving Mass on Monday 17th December at 9:15am in the Church. At this time of the year, it is important to stop and give thanks for the great successes our community has shared. At this time, we will also give thanks for those families and staff who are leaving OLOW this year. We give thanks to God for each of these people and for sharing their gifts with us all.

Prayer for the end of the school year

At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:
 For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school,
 both in and out of the classroom,
 For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced;
 For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed;
 For the respect and care that has been given.
 We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.
 For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,
 For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days
 And for the love that has kept us going.
 We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord –
 Bless our students: may your Spirit inspire them with confidence and a love of learning;
 Bless our families: may your spirit keep them safe through the holidays and
 Leave them with memories to cherish.
 Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together.
 We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

In the coming week, we will share with you some important information in preparation for the new school year. This will include staffing, our student leadership teams and other important information to assist you in preparing over the holidays. We will also utilise this mini newsletter to celebrate our learning successes from 2018.

May God Bless You,

Miss Emma Mizzi

Acting Principal

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 4 WEEKS 6 & 7



Vanessa Bogaerts, Patrick Burke, Zali Bryant, Daniel Yalden, Madison Fitzsimmons, Charley Whalan, Sarah Fenning, Benji Smith, Olivia Walker, Max Selby, Eva Curry, Jake Callaghan, Abby Calleja, Oliver MacLennon, Aiden Cremen, Max Dunlop, Brodie Miles, Eli Smith, Michael Gardiner, Holly Hartstonge, Jaxon Kenyon, Tanner Crook, Jack Brown, Harrison Phillips, Kate Roser, Dieter Erdman, Madeline Wade, Iustinian Vasilescu, Kristian Liras, Andrew Kennedy, Martina Della Scala, Ayrton Russell, Ivy Hayward, Joey El-Sissa, Sarah Fenning, Kelsey Ellis, Amara Frank, Daniel Partlett, Edward Lennon, Jack Sikic, Harrison Fisher, Jake Thompson, Darby Weber, Evan Hotz, Ashton Pogoriutschnig, Shanyah Kubik, Isabella Bradley-Labra, Joshua Vanegas, Archie Prendergast, Rory Muller and Daisy Anderson.

ROTARY AWARD

On Tuesday the 27th November, Katelyn King received the Service Above Self Rotary Award. Katelyn was nominated for this award as she is someone who always leads by example, she demonstrates excellent leadership qualities and is humble in everything she does. Katelyn has a passion for public speaking and caring for the environment. She always lives out the Mary MacKillop message of seeing a need and doing something about it. Congratulations Katelyn we are all very proud of you.



READING RECOVERY GRADUATES

Congratulations to Trinity Callaghan, Oliver Casey and Cody Mortimer who successfully completed the Reading Recovery Program under the guidance of Ms Glynn and Miss Lamaletie. Reading Recovery is an accelerative reading program run by specialist teachers. The program is sponsored by the Catholic Education Office Parramatta Diocese.

OLOW CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We had an amazing Christmas Concert last Monday night led by Andrew Chinn and the children of OLOW. What a beautiful evening for our community as we continue through the Season of Advent, preparing for Christmas. I would particularly like to thank Miss Reynolds and Mrs Day for their organisation of the evening and the staff for their preparations with the children. Thank you to the great audience of parents, grandparents and friends – another great example of our strong OLOW community. Merry Christmas!



OLOW PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our Primary Swimming Carnival was held yesterday at Glenbrook Pool. It was a wonderful day! Thank you to all our parents for helping; to Miss Reynolds and Miss Vella for their fantastic organisational skills; to the staff for their commitment; and to the students for being great participants. The results will be announced at our school assembly.



2018 CEDP PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS AWARD EVENING



On Thursday 13th December, the 2018 CEDP Primary Schools Sports Award Evening will be held. This night is to acknowledge all the amazing achievements of the talented sportspersons in primary sport. We congratulate both Jade Elford and Edward Lennon who will be receiving the award for the following sports.

Edward Lennon - Athletics & Cross Country MacKillop Team

Jade Elford - Rugby League 11 Years MacKillop, MacKillop Girls

Touch, MacKillop Athletics & NSWPSA State Touch teams

Well done to you both and we can not wait to see what the future holds.



END OF YEAR AWARDS

Our end of year AWARDS will be distributed on Friday 14th December at 9am. The school band and choir will also be performing at this occasion. The awards consist of the following categories:

- Love of Learning Award
- St Mary MacKillop of the Cross Award
- Most Improved Award
- Positive Attitude Towards Learning Award
- Music Award
- Japanese Award
- Good Sport Award

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

ENROLMENTS FOR 2019

We are planning for the 2019 school year and to help us with this please let the office know if your family will not be continuing at OLOW in 2019. You are reminded that concerns regarding financial difficulties is not a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and Our Lady of the Way can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise. We have healthy enrolments for all classes in 2019, with some children on waiting lists, so in fairness to these families we ask you to let us know if you are changing schools.

If you know anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child at OLOW from 2019, in any grade, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible to assist with planning.

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS

School Bus Opal Card School student applications for 2019 open from Monday, 15 October 2018. Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 do not need to re-apply if they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.



Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification. Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition, which is due to, expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply. Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply. If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>.

Some important dates for your calendar:

Opening and Blessing of the new Administration Block
Friday 7th December – additional information to come.

Year 6 Graduation Mass

Week 9 Wednesday 12th December @ 7pm

OLW School Awards Ceremony

Week 9 Friday 14th December @ 9am

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass

Week 10 Monday 17th December @ 9:15am

THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA



You are cordially invited to attend a special
THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA

To be held at school

At 2pm

Thursday 13th December..

Please RSVP Julie in the office

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Year 3 have been learning about God's Wondrous creation and how we can be stewards. In class, students presented a creative representation of the seven days of creation from Genesis. Here are a few examples:



Hi Hayley here, my experience with creating the creation story in a puppet show was probably the best time I have had in art this year. It was a time for me to share my knowledge with my teachers and peers. Here are some of my favourite lines. "And God said it was good. God's light shined down on the land. "So that is my experience with the creation story. **Hayley Burton**

I drew a picture of all the beautiful different layers of God's creation. First there's the ocean with all types of sea creatures, the sand above it next the ground with grass and trees on top. Above that is the sky with clouds, and on top of it all is heaven where God rested.

Jacinta Roser



I chose to do the creation wheel because it represents the earth and that god's love is never ending. The creation wheel is important to me because it shows that it is one story. God's creation is truly wonderful, it's a great experience. **Jake Thompson**



ASSESSMENT FOR SUCCESS

As educators, we assess our students in a variety of ways. The following are ways in which we use Formative assessment to know where our students are and where they need to be.

INVOLVE LEARNERS IN THE PROCESS

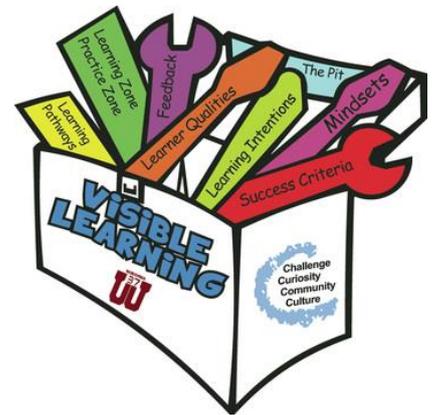
We:

- ✓ ask them to name their learning goal and tell us how they know they have met it.
- ✓ help students form habits in documenting their work, and then teach them how to self-assess.
- ✓ invite students to plot their own data, investigate the findings, and speculate the ways that will promote further successful learning.
- ✓ require students to reflect before, during, and after learning.

BY BECOMING VISIBLE LEARNERS

We:

- ✓ define the learning intentions.
- ✓ determine where learners will attend to the target (success criteria) most explicitly during the learning experience.
- ✓ consider how students might make the learning relevant to this target visible and invite them to do so.
- ✓ document this learning using print, audio, and visual recordings.
- ✓ study the data gathered, looking for patterns for future success.
- ✓ use the ideas that emerge to inform our feedback, our own learning, and theirs as well.



When we're able to assess without disrupting learning and when the learners themselves are part of every phase of the assessment process, the results can be truly amazing.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Last Wednesday evening the P&F met for the Annual General Meeting where we thanked the 2018 committee and elected the 2019 committee. I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to all those who have served on the P&F and for those who have put their hand up for the coming year. Your work and support for the staff and students at OLOW is so very appreciated.

Congratulations to the new committee for 2019 –

President: Maree Ryan (Remy Cross Year 1)

Vice President: Kiery Pascoe (Noah Year 5 & Layla Year 3)

Secretary: left vacant at this time

Treasurer: Kate Andrews (Abigail Year 4)

Fundraising Coordinator: Vacant

Fundraising Assistant: Tamara Miles (Jayden and Brodie Year 4 and Bryson Kindergarten)

Social Media: Sarah Pereira (Marshall Year 6 & Carter Year 3)

P&F Committee: Tara Cremen (Jimmy Year 6, Aiden Year 3, Maggie-Rose Year 2 & Aisling Kindergarten), Melissa McGrath (Mia Year 2 & Maddison Kindy 2019) Jane Cashel (Georgia Year 6 & Samuel Year 4), Kelly Tabor (Benny Year 5, Thomas Year 2 & Samuel Kindy 2019).



LOW KISS & DROP ZONE Procedures

'Let's keep our children safe'



LOCATION ~ Troy Street, near the parish driveway

HOURS OF OPERATION ~ 8am-9:30am

PURPOSE

The Kiss & Drop Zone is for parents and carers to be able to drop off their children safely without the need to get out of the car.

RULES & PROCEDURES FOR KISS & DROP

DOs

- ❖ *The Kiss & Drop sign is placed daily on Troy Street to indicate the zone and where the front of the line begins*
- ❖ *A staff member is on duty from 8:20 - 8:45 to assist during the busier time*
- ❖ *Cars line up along the kerbside until they reach the front of the que (on the parish driveway)*
- ❖ *When a car is at the front of the line, children are to get out of the car on the kerb side of the road and unassisted. The driver is to remain in the car at all times*
- ❖ *The process should be fast. Children should be ready to get out of the car on arrival to the front of the line with their bags and items for the day ready.*
- ❖ *Be respectful and courteous of other drivers and members of the community*
- ❖ *Follow the road rules*

DON'Ts

- ❖ *Drivers should not get out of their car (if a child needs assistance, please park the car)*
- ❖ *Don't allow children to get out of the car before reaching the front of the line*

Host Families Wanted

Would your family like to host a Japanese student, 24th – 29th March 2019, and enjoy a wonderful cultural exchange?



Students are aged 13-15 years & speak some English.

What you need to provide:

a comfy bed (sharing a room is fine) 3 meals a day and daily transport to/from Our Lady of the Way School.

Families are paid \$50 per night per student for hosting.

Students attend school on weekdays and enjoy family life with you on the weekend.

If your family is interested in hosting a Japanese student (and didn't host a student in March this year) please complete an Expression of Interest Form available from the School Office or from Mrs Kate Schafer (Japanese Teacher).

If your family did host a Japanese student this year, you should already have been emailed by VS Oceania to ask if you would like to host a student again. If you have not been contacted and would like to host again, please let the Office or Mrs Schafer know.

Once you have completed the form, return it to the Office or to Mrs Schafer. You will then be contacted by the VS Oceania staff. VS Oceania is the company who are organising the visit for the Japanese students.



CLAIM the DATE - 10TH FEBRUARY 2019 at 2pm
"Have your say about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia" at Mavis Wood Hall , Mid
Mountains Community Centre. EVERYONE is welcome.

What's on these January school holidays ?

Getting Ready for High School

- WHO: Children starting High School in 2019
- WHEN: Mon 7 Jan to Fri 11 Jan, 9am -12pm
- WHAT: This camp is for children who are transitioning into Yr 7 or repeating Yr 7 and who have organisation difficulties with school tasks and routines as well as social difficulties in their interactions with others.



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

- WHO: Children starting Kindergarten in 2019
- WHEN: Mon 14 Jan to Fri 18 Jan, 9am -12pm
- WHAT: This camp is to assist children in their transition from preschool to school and is for children who are about to start Kindergarten in a mainstream classroom setting.

Playground Skills

- WHO: Children in Kindergarten to Year 3
- WHEN: Mon 21 Jan- Fri 25 Jan, 9am to 12pm
- WHAT: The camp is for children who have difficulty knowing how to play in the playground, how to make friends, how to keep friends, how to understand and communicate their feelings.



SKILLS for KIDS

Occupational Therapy and Speech Language Pathology

580 High Street PENRITH 2750

T: 02 4739 0267

F: 02 4739 9446

E: contact@skillsforkids.com.au

W: www.skillsforkids.com.au

FROM READING AND WRITING TO PERFORMANCE ... A CREATIVE PUPPET ADVENTURE

Wed. 16th January 2019 @ 9am-1pm



- Write a play based on Roald Dahl's "Revolting Rhymes" or David Walliam's short stories.
- Create your puppet character and backdrop.
- Perform your play!

8yrs and up **Cost:\$10** (includes morning tea)

Bookings essential

Contact us on **4751 4642** or **sccrr@iinet.net.au**

SPRINGWOOD CHILDREN'S CENTRE INC

A not-for-profit charity

2/119 Macquarie Rd, Springwood

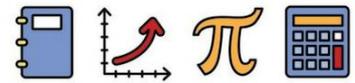


OPEN HOUSE MATHEMATICS

Tue. 15th January 2019 @ 10am-12pm

Cost:\$10 Bookings essential

Suited to all levels... Year 6-12



Need help? Then bring:



- Your mathematics books
- Present and past assignments
- Questions relating to specific maths problems
- Past exams

For January we also offer 2hr = \$10, group sessions for specific areas. General Maths Level 1-2

e.g. algebra, fractions, interpreting set data, trigonometry, geometry, application of area and volume, etc.

(sessions determined by demand)

Contact us on:

4751 4642 or sccrr@iinet.net.au to book

Check our Facebook/Web site for sessions offered

springwoodchildrenscentre.weebly.com

[facebook/SpringwoodChildrensCentre](https://www.facebook.com/SpringwoodChildrensCentre)



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2/119 Macquarie Rd, Springwood