



By The Way



Celebrating 40 Years of Catholic Education at Emu Plains

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

7th February 2019

DIARY DATES

Wed 13 February

P & F Meeting, 7pm

Friday 15 February

Year 1 Fizzics
Incursion

Monday 18 February

Parent Information
Night

Tuesday 19 February

Year 2 Fizzics
Incursion

Thursday 28 February

Penrith Police visiting
Year 1

Monday 4 March

Celebrations of
Learning, 9.30am

Wednesday 6 March

Ash Wednesday

Yrs 3-6 Mass 9.15am

Kinder Liturgy
11.30am

Year 6 GRIP

Leadership Day

Thursday 7 March

Catholic Schools
Week begins

Friday 8 March

Open Day for new and
prospective families

Catholic Schools

Week Games
Afternoon

Thursday 14 March

Kindy Munch and
Crunch

Thursday 21 March

Harmony Day

Monday 25 March

Japanese students
visit OLOW this week

Tuesday 2 April

Cross Country

Thursday 4 April

School Photo Day

Friday 12th April

Last day of Term 1

Monday 29 April

Term 2 begins

Dear Our Lady of the Way Community,

Firstly, I would like to welcome back all the children, staff and families of Our Lady of the Way, following the summer holidays. I sincerely hope you all had a wonderful summer. The staff and children had a lovely first couple of days. Among other things, Kinder have been learning how to sing "twinkle twinkle little star" in Japanese, Year One were demonstrating their mathematical thinking by bundling, using flip charts to represent their bundle and explaining their reasoning. Year Two were exploring choices and were using their "show me boards" to gain a group consensus of the OLOW's expectations in regard to behaviour and interactions with others. Year 3 were engaged in decoding scrambled quotes from Dr Seuss in their tribes and were demonstrating collaborative skills. Year 4 were eager to share their A to Z of OLOW, highlighting the values and practices that represent our school. Year 5 had an amazing set of examples of writing which engaged the reader. They were also exploring the learning cycle and "the learning pit" that is a natural process when we are learning new skills. Year 6 engaged in a discussion around what leadership is and how we can be leaders at OLOW. Personally, visiting the classrooms with Miss Mizzi, was a lovely way to start the school year. I have been telling my family each night how I have had the best day ever. They do keep reminding me that I have said that every day for the last three weeks!

Welcome Back!



Each year we set goals in the areas of Formation, Mission and Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy. We will share, in detail, specific strategies at our upcoming Information evening.

Our goals for 2019 are:

Formation, Mission and Religious Education: *For students to demonstrate an enhanced engagement in the Religious Education Curriculum through the inquiry process.*

Literacy: *For students to improve their reading comprehension through improved self-correction rates and inferential comprehension strategies.*

Numeracy: *For students to show evidence of a greater understanding of mathematical tasks through developing vocabulary and the use of efficient reasoning.*

Throughout the year, teachers will focus on these goals both at a school and system level. We have regular opportunities to meet with colleagues from neighbouring schools to share our progress with these goals and to receive feedback on our next steps. We are also assisted at a system level through visits from key personnel who act as "critical friends" and provide professional development opportunities for staff, including the leadership team.

We are fortunate to be part of such a dynamic, collaborative system.

New Families and Staff

We are very pleased to welcome some new staff to Our Lady of the Way this year who bring with them a wealth of experience and enthusiasm for the year groups they are teaching in.

Kimberley Mathewson, Genevieve Lennon, Melissa Viera, Belinda Reynolds, Christine Smallwood, Kelly Wallington, Lisa McClafferty, Maree Ryan,

We would also like to welcome the following families who are new to Our Lady of the Way in 2019

All of the new families in Kindergarten, as well as Ashton (K), Colby (Yr 3) and Annabelle (Yr 5) Tran; Jessica Penfold (Yr 4); Myra Davidson (Yr 5) and Ashleigh and Lauren Ryan (Yr 3).

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.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/

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

Staffing at OLOW for 2019

Kindergarten (Early Stage 1)	Jo Thomas Kimberley Matthewson Dianne Khalifeh (Diversity Team) Genevieve Lennon (Diversity Team)	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Thursday Thursday, Friday
Year One (Stage 1)	Jennifer Hensen Deanne Kuipers	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday
Year Two (Stage 1)	Rebecca Blazek Bernadette Curry	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday
Year Three (Stage 2)	Anne-Maree McKeon Gina Storr Sharon Taylor	Monday to Thursday Wednesday to Thursday Monday, Tuesday, Friday
Year Four (Stage 2)	Carole Day Patricia Scott Kylie Rix Andy Singh (Term 1) Student Services	Monday to Friday Monday to Thursday Tuesday to Friday Monday, Tuesday, Friday
Year Five (Stage 3)	Therese Coutinho Megan Vella	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday
Year Six (Stage 3)	Tara Cremen Melissa Viera	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday
Diversity Team	Linda Flanagan (Leader) Michelle Glynn Sofia Collins Rebecca Kakoschke Kylie Rix Emma Mizzi	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Tuesday, Friday Tuesday to Friday Monday to Friday
Library	Sue Masters	Monday, Tuesday
Japanese (RFF)	Kate Filan-Schafer	Wednesday to Friday
Music (RFF)	Elizabeth McGregor	Wednesday to Friday
Leadership Release	Dolores Grima-Starkey	Wednesday
Teacher Assistants	Jade Nixon Anne Mathison Rochelle Mason Christine Smallwood Kelly Wallington Belinda Reynolds Maree Ryan Lisa McClafferty	Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday to Friday Monday, Tuesday Wednesday to Friday
Admin Staff	Julie Irvine Pascale Vion Sarah Zarlenga	Monday to Friday Monday to Thursday Thursday (even wks), Friday
Parish Priest	Fr Paul Roberts	
Parish Administration	Chris Rannaste	
Principal	Donna McFadzean	Monday to Friday
Assistant Principal	Emma Mizzi	Monday to Friday
Religious Education Coordinator	Carole Day	Monday to Friday

Leader of Learning (Diversity & Mathematics)	Linda Flanagan	Monday to Friday
Leader of Learning (English)	Bernadette Curry	Monday to Friday
Special Projects (Semester 1)	Therese Coutinho	Monday to Friday
Maintenance	Mat Sharp	Monday, Tuesday, Friday
IT Trainee	Yugant Gahlot	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
Canteen	Brenda Anderson	Monday to Friday

Parent Information Evenings – Monday 18th February

This year, our Parent Information Evening will take on a slightly different format. We will have a session where you attend your child's grade meeting. We will repeat these sessions three times in order for you to attend a session if you have more than one child at the school. In addition to the grade session, we will be presenting a session for all members of the community to attend. This will take place in the Parish Hall. During this session we will introduce all staff to you as well as highlighting our goals for 2019 and also other information around communication procedures. We look forward to seeing you at this evening.

Times

5.00-5:45pm Whole school session in the Hall

Kindergarten session

6.00-7.00pm - starting in the **hall** for approx 40 minutes and then an open classroom for parents to look at the learning environment

Years 1-6

3x repeated sessions and parents can select which one they attend if they have multiple children

Session 1: 6.00-6:30pm

Session 2: 6:30-7.00pm

Session 3: 7.00-7:20pm

These meetings will be held in your child's classroom.

I look forward to getting to know you all. Please feel welcome to come and introduce yourself to me.

Yours in Christ

Donna McFadzean

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

At the start of each year, teachers along with their students take time to get to know each other and to set class expectations to ensure a positive learning environment. At Our Lady of the Way we value this time of the year and believe it is important to build strong relationships with each other. In the past we might have had 'class rules' that all must follow or face the consequences. Today we believe in setting class expectations with the students, knowing that when they feel part of the process it is deemed to be more fair and students are more likely to work and learn within set expectations. We talk with the students about each of us having a job. Teachers have a job in the classroom and so does each student. This week, Mrs McFadzean and I have witnessed many of our grades setting up their class expectations - a great foundation for a successful year of learning.



Year 5 Y-Chart about what a quality classroom should be like.

Learning how to RELATE:



One of our Learning Platforms is 'Learning to Relate'. Positive relationships are key to a successful learning environment, school and overall well-being. We talk with our students about 'connecting behaviours' and 'disconnecting behaviours'. In all that we do, we aim to connect positively with others, rather than disconnecting from others.

You can talk with your children at home about how they are connecting with new (and old) friends in a positive way at school. A great phrase for the end of the day is:

"What went well today?" rather than *"How was school today?"*

The first phrase tends to provide a more positive response and possibly more than a simple one-word answer. Another great way to start or end the day is to talk about what you're grateful for. This helps train our brains to focus on the positive in each day and to take notice of the little things that bring us happiness.

Emma Mizzi

Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Opening School Mass:



You are warmly invited to attend our Opening School Mass that we will be celebrating next Wednesday, February 13 at 9:15am. The theme of our Mass is 'Put out into the Deep...Be not Afraid'. We will reflect on how we can be courageous and curious risk-takers as we build our lives on the example of Jesus and do God's work.

Following our Eucharistic celebration we will welcome our new community members and our Year 6 Student Leadership Teams and Student Representative Council members will receive their badges.

Parish Sacramental Program:

Details about the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation will be shared with you very soon. Final details of the programs are being organised.

I am looking forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

SPORTS NEWS

PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN TENNIS TRIALS

Last Friday, Darby (Year 5) and Mia (Year 6) represented OLOW at the Parramatta Diocesan Tennis Trials. They both did extremely well, Darby placing 4th and Mia placing 5th. Darby will now go on to the Mackillop Trials on the 1st of March and Mia is a reserve for the next trials.

We congratulate them both and wish them the best of luck!





BEGINNER'S GUITAR LESSONS

Beginner's guitar lessons will be starting tomorrow, Friday 8th February. These lessons are for children in Years 2 – 6. Once the gates are opened at 8.15am, children should make their way to the Music Room. There will be no charge for these lessons.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Students and staff of Our Lady of the Way, Our Parish Vinnies Conference extends its appreciation to you all for your generosity last Christmas. Your generous contributions to the hampers meant that nearly fifty families and individuals in the Emu Plains area were able to be helped.

Special thanks to the coordinating teacher and the classroom teachers and office staff who supervised the project.

Wishing you all the very best for the 2019 school year.

Paul Ryan

Emu Plains Vinnies Conference



SCHOOL FEES

Statements for the first instalment of school fees for 2019 will be mailed out during the week beginning 18th February. The due date for payment is on or before Wednesday 20th March 2019. If you have not received your statement by Monday 4th March, please contact me on 4777 7200 to arrange for a copy to be sent home.

The Flexible Payment Plan will again be offered as an option for the payment of 2019 fees. The necessary information required to take up this convenient payment alternative will be provided with your first instalment fee statement. Please note that if you wish to be included in the Flexible Payment Plan option, all paperwork needs to be returned to Catholic Education Office, Parramatta by the date specified on the form.

The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, you are encouraged to contact the school to arrange an appointment with the Principal to discuss payment options. Your situation will be treated with care and confidentiality and an appropriate arrangement will be made for you. Please note that as part of this process you may be required to complete an Application for School Fees Assistance Form so that the school is able to conduct an accurate assessment of your current financial situation. Please be assured of **complete confidentiality** with regards to any information you are asked to provide.

N.B. If you were on a payment arrangement for 2018 (except Flexible Payment Plan or Salary Sacrifice) it is important that you contact me when you receive your First Instalment statement so that I am aware of your intentions for 2019.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made regarding the payment of your account it will be assumed that full payment will be made on or before the due date. 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". Outstanding accounts will be forwarded to the Catholic Education Office for actioning.

If you need to discuss any issues, or have any questions, regarding the school fees, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone on 4777 7200 or by email olow-emupfees@parra.catholic.edu.au

School fees can be paid by Bpay, Postbillpay, cash, EFTPOS, credit card or cheque.

Pascale Vion

Senior Finance Officer





CLOTHING POOL

We are looking for parent volunteers to help us with the OLOW Clothing Pool. Ideally we would like to open the clothing pool from 8.45am to 9.15am, and/or 2.30pm to 3.00pm. Days can be negotiated.

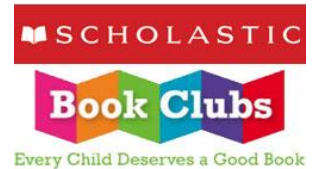
The parent helpers would be responsible for opening the shop, fulfilling orders, sorting donations of clothing, handling cash payments, and maintaining a tidy environment.

The Clothing Pool is a valued resource in our school community. It provides many of our families with quality second hand uniforms at affordable prices. Unfortunately, without parent helpers, we will struggle to continually provide this service.

Please contact the office on 4777 7200, or mail olow@parra.catholic.edu.au if you are able to help or require further information..

BOOKCLUB

Please note that all book club orders must be placed online. Instructions are given on the Scholastic brochure. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



OLOW 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*



ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 7, 2020 Information Evening

Wednesday 27th February, 2019

Session 1:

3.15pm Register for tour
3.30pm Tour of the facilities
4.30 - 5.00pm Address by the Principal

Session 2:

5.15pm Register for tour
5.30pm Tour of the facilities
6.30 - 7.00pm Address by the Principal

- Tours will begin at 3.30 and 5.30pm *sharp* to enable visitors to view all of the College facilities.
- Prospectus and enrolment application forms will be available on the night.

Enquiries: Sandra O'Brien, Enrolments Secretary 4754 8907

St Columba's Catholic College 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777
Phone: (02) 4754 8900 Email: stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au

Bookings are
not required.

Please register at the
College Library
upon arrival.



Gateway Family Services

Parenting Group Programs

Term 1, 2019



Program	Date & Time	Location	Registration
<p>Circle of Security</p> <p><i>Learn how to be a strong, wiser & kinder parent with your kids. Suitable for parents of 0-12 year old.</i></p>	<p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>20th Feb - 3rd April</p> <p>7:00pm - 9:00pm</p> <p><i>* NO Childcare</i></p>	<p>Blaxland Uniting Church (Back Hall)</p> <p>70-76 Old Bathurst Road, BLAXLAND EAST</p> <p>(Onsite parking available)</p>	<p>Gateway— 1300 316 746 (free call)</p>
<p>Tuning In To Kids</p> <p><i>Emotionally Intelligent Parenting</i></p> <p><i>Learning to better talk & understand your child to help manage your child's emotions & behaviour.</i></p>	<p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>6th Mar - 27th Mar</p> <p>7:00pm - 9:00pm</p> <p><i>* NO Childcare</i></p>	<p>Penrith Church of Christ (Rear Hall)</p> <p>158 Stafford Street, PENRITH</p>	<p>Gateway— 1300 316 746 (free call)</p>
<p>1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching</p> <p><i>Learn how to understand & manage your child's difficult behaviour. Suitable for parents with 2-12 year olds.</i></p>	<p>Every Monday</p> <p>18th Feb - 4th March</p> <p>9:30am - 11:30am</p> <p><i>* NO Childcare</i></p>	<p>Blackheath RSL</p> <p>Cnr Station Street & Bundarra Road, BLACKHEATH</p>	<p>Gateway— 1300 316 746 (free call)</p>
<p>Bringing Up Great Kids</p> <p><i>Learn about mindfulness & reflection, promoting positive interactions, the meaning behind children's behaviour and ways in which parents can take care of themselves & find support when they need it.</i></p>	<p>Every Thursday</p> <p>28th Feb - 4th April</p> <p>7:00pm - 9:00pm</p> <p><i>* NO Childcare</i></p>	<p>Lawson Community Pre-School</p> <p>16 Honour Avenue, LAWSON</p>	<p>Gateway— 1300 316 746 (free call)</p>
<p>Navigating Separation for DADS</p> <p><i>A group which creates opportunities for sharing, reflection & recognising strengths to manage stability and connection with your child.</i></p> <p><i>A space to explore relationship and parenting change, difficult emotions, personal values and peer support.</i></p>	<p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>27th Feb - 27th March</p> <p>7:00pm - 9:00pm</p> <p><i>* NO Childcare</i></p>	<p>Heatherbrae, Lawson</p> <p>1 Benang Street, LAWSON, (located beside carpark behind Lawson Pub)</p>	<p>Gateway— 1300 316 746 (free call)</p>

For more information and Individual Flyers go to:

www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au or www.facebook.com/GatewayFS

Gateway family services parent group program is funded by DSS and NSW FACS.

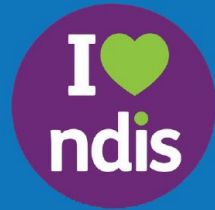
Gateway works collaboratively with community partners to bring parent groups to communities from St Marys to Blackheath.

Thanks to MMM for providing childcare for the Daytime groups.





WE CARE!



 PICKY EATERS OR PROBLEM FEEDERS
 PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING

**FREE
EVENT!**

Tuesday, 12th February 2019
6.00PM - 7.30PM
Afford National Head Office
3-7 Marianne Place, Minchinbury NSW

FOR CHILDREN AGED 18 MONTHS AND OVER

RSVP Audrey: 0481 903 619
Linda: 0434 608 009
www.afford.com.au