



# Our Lady of the Rosary School

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish  
Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

# Newsletter

TERM 1 WEEK 8

*We Follow Jesus*

20TH MARCH 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Thursday 22nd March

- Y6 Reconciliation

### Friday 23rd March

- P & F Disco
- P & F Easter Raffle
- Y4 participate in Parish Mass
- 2.00pm—Star Awards

### Monday 26th March

- 8.45am - Morning Assembly
- 7.00pm—P&F Meeting

### Tuesday 27th March

- School Photos

### Thursday 29th March

- Holy Week Liturgy Monday 9:00am in the Undercroft- Stations of the Cross

### Friday 30th March

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**NO SCHOOL TODAY**  
**EASTER SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

### Monday 2nd April

**EASTER MONDAY**  
**NO SCHOOL TODAY**

### Tuesday 3rd April

- 8.45am - Morning Assembly

### Friday 6th April

- 2.00 pm—Gold Awards

## *From the Principal*

Dear Parents and Friends .



## **National Day Against Bullying**

Last Friday, 16 March, was National Day against Bullying. OLR teachers spoke to their children and highlighted the importance of being Respectful Safe Learners. As part of our Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L) program at OLR our teachers promote that every day is a National Day against Bullying.

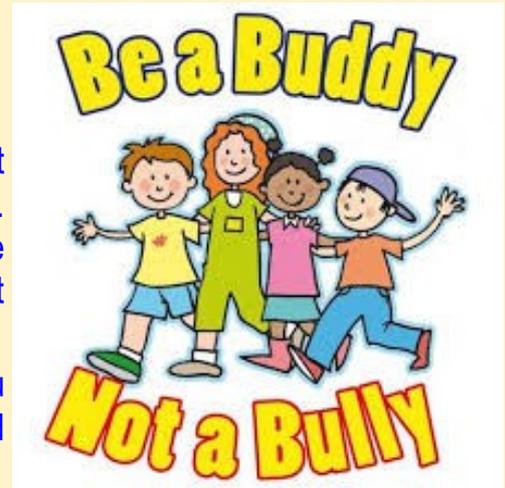
Parents and carers have a key role in preventing and responding to bullying. Following are a list of reminders which can assist your children in being Respectful Safe learners at OLR.

### You can:

- Learn what bullying is and what it is not. This is the first step in talking about how to prevent or respond to bullying with your child. 'Bullying' is a word that is used for lots of things that are not actually bullying. These other behaviours may be just as serious, but may require different responses.
  - ◇ Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).
  - ◇ Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.
  - ◇ Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.
- Talk about bullying with your child at home to make it easier for them to tell you if something happens. Make sure they know what bullying is and how they can respond. Help prepare your children to prevent online bullying and to know what to do if it happens.

*From the Principal cont'd.....*

- Start when your child is young to guide them to develop the social and emotional skills they will need to build positive relationships throughout their lives, including problem-solving skills.
- Recognise the warning signs of bullying. Although there may not be an issue, you should talk to your child if you have any concerns. Raise the topic generally if you don't want to ask directly. Be aware that many times children and young people won't ask for help, so it is important to know what to look for.
- Learn about how to respond appropriately if your child tells you about bullying. You can reassure your child by remaining calm and being supportive.
- Find out as much as you can about what has happened by talking calmly with your child. A good understanding about what has happened can also help you in communicating with the school about the situation.
- Read about strategies that can help. Practising strategies at home with your child is a good way to prepare them to use them at school.
- Contact your child's teacher if bullying has occurred and the school will assist in this important matter.
- The teachers and you can work together to support your child, whether your child was bullied, bullied others, or witnessed bullying.



### What to do if your child is Bullying Others

If you hear or see that your child displaying one or more of the following behaviours, then its a indicator that your child is Bullying other.

They may be:

- teasing other children over and over again
- ignoring other children or leaving them out of games or activities
- saying mean things or calling other children names
- spreading nasty stories about other children
- hitting and pushing other children
- taking other children's things.



If your child is hurting other children physically or emotionally, and is doing it over and over again, this is bullying. Stepping in early is the key to helping your child learn how to get along with others and avoid bullying behaviour in the future. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher so that together you can teach your child how to be a Respectful Safe Learner.



*From the Principal cont'd.....*

## St Patrick's Breastplate

17 March



Christ be with me, Christ within me  
 Christ behind me, Christ before me  
 Christ beside me, Christ to win me  
 Christ to comfort me and restore me.  
 Christ beneath me, Christ above me  
 Christ in quiet, Christ in danger  
 Christ in hearts of all that love me  
 Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.  
 (390-461 A.D.)

## Saint Joseph's Feast Day

19 March

O glorious St. Joseph,  
 to you God committed the care  
 of His only begotten Son  
 amid the many dangers of this world.  
 We come to you  
 and ask you to take under your special protection  
 the children God has given us.  
 Through holy baptism they became children of God  
 and members of His holy Church.  
 We consecrate them to you today,  
 that through this consecration  
 they may become your foster children.  
 Guard them, guide their steps in life,  
 form their hearts after the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

St. Joseph,  
 who felt the tribulation and worry of a parent  
 when the child Jesus was lost,  
 protect our dear children for time and eternity.  
 May you be their father and counselor.  
 let them, like Jesus,  
 grow in age as well as in wisdom  
 and grace before God and men.  
 Preserve them from the corruption of this world,  
 and give us the grace one day  
 to be united with them in heaven forever.  
 Amen.



### Thought for the Week

“Life is the art of drawing without an eraser.”  
 John W Gardner



*Have a Blessed Week*

Michael Siciliano

**PRINCIPAL**



## From the Assistant Principal's desk...

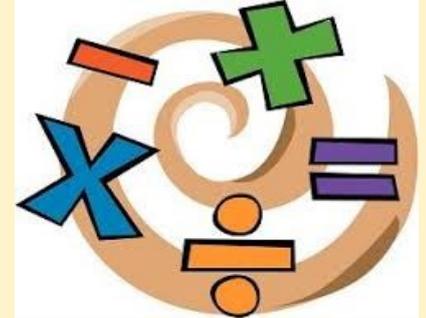
Welcome to my desk. In each Newsletter I will provide general information, ideas and tips for parents in either Literacy and Numeracy. If you have a particular question or query in regards to the curriculum let me know and I will be happy to address it.

### The Teachers at OLR Love to Learn!

Last Monday we had a Staff Development Day where the teachers took time to come together and share their knowledge and expertise with one another as learners.

The focus for the day was **Numeracy**, led by Mrs Casis and her team, supported by our Teacher Educator from the Catholic Education Office.

Our school Action Plan this year for Numeracy calls us to commit to working toward a common goal that is based on Data and evidence-based best practice.



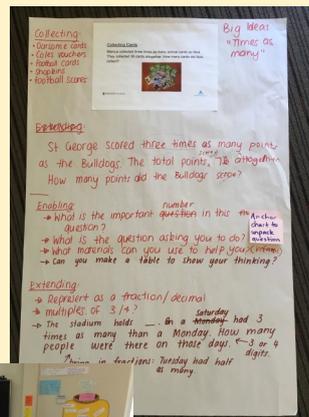
**2018 Goal:** All students will be working mathematically to solve challenging rich problems. 80% of students will be at their 'on the way' Growth Point or above in multiplication and division and students with Personalised Plans will achieve the goals as stated in their plans.

The teachers spent time deeply analysing the whole school and then individual school data. This data relates to the Mathematical Assessment Interview that was done earlier this term. The aim was to know exactly where each student is sitting in regards to their mathematical understanding and then what we can do as teachers to move our students to the next point in their learning.

We then examined some rich open tasks that can be used in classrooms and how we can make them engaging for our students as well as extending their Mathematical understanding across all strands.

It was an extremely successful day with all teachers leaving with deeper knowledge of their students and many new ideas on how they can further support and extend the learning of the students in their class.

Below are some photos of our dedicated teachers at work!



## From the Assistant Principal's desk cont'd.....

### HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD WITH NUMERACY AT HOME?

Through everyday activities and play situations children will naturally use numbers. Young children are very capable of sharing out things such as lollies so that each person has a fair share or adding a friend's collection to his or her own and finding the total. We need to help children discover quick and easy ways of using numbers.

#### How do children learn to use numbers?

When first learning to use numbers, children will need to have the objects with them in order to add, subtract, multiply or share equally (divide). They will go through a process of needing to see and count each thing, one at a time. We need to help children learn to start counting from a larger number and add or subtract a second number. We also need to help children build mental images of a group or quantity so they do not always have to rely on seeing the objects. Helping children to mentally "see" groups of things will also help them with understanding multiplication and division before they learn the "tables".

#### What can you do at home?

- Play board games such as Snakes and Ladders with two dice and encourage your child to add the two numbers rolled. Show them how to count from the larger number.
- Play card games such as 21 or bust. In this game, two cards are dealt to each player who adds the numbers together. Each player may ask for more cards from the "kitty" with the aim of being the person with the highest score that does not go over 21.
- Share fruit such as mandarins with your child and add the number of pips you both have.
- Ask your child to help you work out how many more items are needed when you are shopping. I have six apples here, how many more will I get to make ten?
- Look at house numbers when going for a walk. Ask your child to guess what the next number will be.
- Set the table for one person and ask your child to put out enough plates for everyone. Ask them how many more were needed.
- Count the number of eggs in a carton, and again after some have been removed. Ask your child, How many were taken away?
- Read a book to your child that has a contents page. Look for a story or chapter on a certain page and work out how many pages until the next story
- Use empty toilet rolls or empty plastic bottles and a ball to make a game of skittles. Encourage your child to tell you how many were knocked down and how many are still standing after bowling. Keep a score of how many are knocked down to see who is the winner.
- Sing songs that include numbers. Ask your child to tell you the next number in the song before you sing the next verse.
- Go for a drive and point out the signs that indicate the distance to the next town. In the country the numbers on the kilometre signs go down by 5. Ask your child to work out what number will be on the next sign.
- Have your child help share out food to the family. How many slices will I need to cut the pizza into so that everyone has two slices?
- Ask your child to share out items fairly with others.
- Count the number of things in a collection such as shells in a bag or a large jar of buttons. Ask your child if there is a quick and easy way of counting, say counting by fives.
- Decorate patty cakes with sultanas or smarties. Place the same number of sultanas or smarties on each cake and ask your child to find out how many you will need altogether.
- Count the number of ice cubes in a tray. If your child counts by ones suggest counting by the number in each row of the tray. (This will usually be counting by twos.)
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#### Kind Regards

Let us remember that as many hands build a house, so many hearts make this school.

*Mrs Julianne Regan*  
Assistant Principal



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS at OLR

From the page of the Religious Education Coordinator

### Parish Mass times are listed for your convenience.

You are invited to join the believing community for Holy Mass at one of the following times.

**Saturday 6.00pm. Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am. 10.30am & 5.30pm**

We are blessed to have this extensive choice for Week-end Mass times.

**Choose a Mass time that is most suitable time for you and the family to attend.**

### FIRST EUCHARIST PARISH PROGRAM.

Students began their formal learning within the Parish Sacramental Program several weeks ago.

We continue to hold these students in our prayer.

**Sunday, 25 Mar 2018:  
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year B**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. 12: 12-16



***"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"***

<sup>12</sup> A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup> So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel!

<sup>14</sup> And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as is written:

<sup>15</sup> 'Fear not, daughter Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!'

<sup>16</sup> His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him.

### **REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL**

**Jesus entered Jerusalem**, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but **riding simply on a donkey**. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, **Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to non-violent revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God**. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

**First, Jesus embodied God-for-us**, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, **Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people** (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, another Gospel (**Luke**) recounts that **as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.'** He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers.

**We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries**, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, **yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.**

*Religious News at OLR cont'd.....*

**HOLY WEEK remembered at school Prayer Service - Thursday March 29**

You are invited to join us on Holy Thursday in Prayerful Reflection on the events of Holy Week.

**Date: Thursday March 29**

**Time: 2:00pm**

**Location: in the School Undercroft Area**

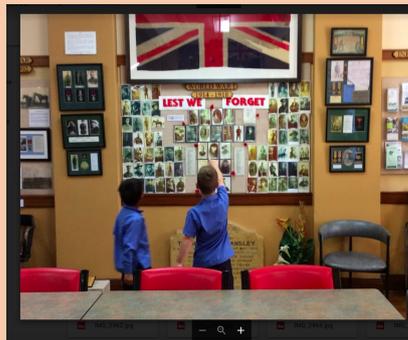
*Mrs Colleen Fuller*

**REC Coordinator**

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**Year 2 History Excursion**

On Tuesday 6th of March, Year 2 went to the St Marys Historical Society. Year 2 have been learning about the past, specifically the local area of St.Marys. In the museum students explored the history of the local people and places that are significant to St Marys.



**CONSENT FROM PARENTS**

If for any reason you **DO NOT** want to have your child's name, photographs, voice (audio), image (video) and Works to be published in hard copy and digital form on school and diocesan websites, school and diocesan social media channels, promotional materials, newspapers and other media for the purpose of promotion and communication of CEDP activities or programs, training materials and resources please advise the school in writing.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Parents are reminded to take photos of **ONLY** their child. Permission needs to be obtained from any other child's parent/guardian prior to photos being taken.

Thanking you in anticipation.





**TUESDAY**  
**27TH MARCH**  
**2018**

School Photo Day is next *Tuesday 27th March*.  
Students must wear their FULL SUMMER UNIFORM on this day.

*If it is their usual sport day please do not send them to school in their Sport uniform for this day.*

*All children will be photographed on the day for school records. If you would like a sibling photo please pick up a form from the office.*

If you would like to order photos you can send the envelope into school on the day or *order online*.

**ORDER NOW** go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)  
and enter the code **JV9 BYY 4DP**

## FROM THE LIBRARY...

The first issue of Book Club went home with students on Tuesday the 13th of March. This is a great opportunity to purchase from a wonderful range of quality books. Please have all orders and payments returned to the school or online by Tuesday 27th of March 2018.

**ATTENTION!**  
**HAVE YOU**  
**FORGOTTEN YOUR**  
**ORDER!**

In term 4 of 2017, we had an order for Book Club left in the office with no name or class. We are still hoping to find the owner. If you did not receive your order last year, could you please contact the office.

Rebecca Weston  
Library Administrator

## SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Please be reminded that playground supervision at school commences at 8.15am and concludes at 3.15pm. At afternoon dismissal, children must be collected by 3.15pm. For safety reasons, children should not be at school before or after these times.

# OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY ST MARYS KINDERGARTEN 2019



Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2019  
Please collect an Enrolment Package from the school office  
32B Saddington St, St Marys  
8856 8301  
8.15am—3.30pm Monday to Friday

**LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE**  
for  
**YRS 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6**



Enquiries are more than welcome!



## KINDERGARTEN 2019 INFORMATION EVENING



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
ST MARYS

Monday 14th May 2018

7.00 —8.00pm

Kindergarten Classrooms

Parking in school grounds

(entry via Saddington Street)

St Marys

*This is a great opportunity to meet this year's  
Kindergarten teachers and have your questions answered.*

*Children welcome!*

*Free show bag for each family!*

RSVP: 8856 8301

## DIOCESAN NEWS AND EVENTS

### **Sisterhood Catholic Women's Conference: 16-18 March**

Do you want to go deeper in your relationship with Jesus, do you want to grow as a Catholic woman and develop friendships with other women of faith? Join women of all ages for a weekend of prayer, keynote talks, the sacraments, adoration and quality sisterhood time. Keynote speakers include; Darlene Darlene Zschech, Laura Roland, Sr Mary Rachel OP, Jonathan and Karen Doyle, Jo Hayes, Justine Cumbo, Francine Pirola and more. to register visit [www.sisterhood.org.au](http://www.sisterhood.org.au)

### **Individual Discernment Weekend: 17 March**

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth are hosting an individual discernment weekend retreat on 17 March 2018 from 4:00pm for women (aged 18-35) who want to discern their vocation to religious life. This retreat is will be a one-to-one encounter. It includes prayer times, talks, accompaniment and the opportunity to have a live-in experience with the Sisters. Address: Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on email [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or mobile 0449 656 406.

### **Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 8 April**

Rev Fr Chukwunonyerem Akamadu, Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic community, will celebrate Mass at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Contact Fr Akamadu tel 0451 174 438, Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

### **Grief to Grace: 8 – 13 April**

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griefftograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griefftograceaus.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griefftograce.org](http://www.griefftograce.org)

### **Healing After Abortion Retreat: 13-15 April**

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, Sydney offers regular healing retreats for those who have experienced an abortion. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. Information and a brochure can found at: [www.rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.au) or call us on our confidential voicemail number 0400 092 555 or email [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto:info@rachelsvineyard.org.au).

### **Palm Sunday Procession: 25 March**

Catholic Youth Parramatta are hosting the annual Palm Sunday Procession. Starting at Parramatta Town Hall on Sunday 25th March at 5:15pm and walking to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Details at: [parracatholic.org/cyp](http://parracatholic.org/cyp)

### **Good Friday Night Walk: 30 March**

Catholic Youth Parramatta are hosting the annual Good Friday Night Walk. Starting Friday 30th March at 10:00pm from St Patrick's Church, Blacktown and finishing at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Details at: [parracatholic.org/cyp](http://parracatholic.org/cyp)



## Looking for Child Care?

### Mission Australia Family Day Care - Western Sydney

Are you looking for Quality Child care, with low group ratios of 1:4 for under school age children. A home away from home environment with individualised programs that meet children's strengths, needs and interests.

Our Educators work under the National Law and Regulation, as well as the National Quality Standards and the Early Years Learning Framework. All Educators hold a qualification of a certificate 111 in child studies or higher. Educators are supported by the staff at Mission Australia Family Day Care Western Sydney, who visit them regularly to monitor; safety, your child's wellbeing ,and more.

Family fee subsidies (CCB and CCR) are available to eligible families

**MISSION AUSTRALIA** | together we stand



**Please Call**  
Mission Australia Family Day  
Care—Western Sydney  
on 47243011  
for more information



## Stepping Beyond Support Group for Separated / Divorced Adults



- Are you separated or divorced?
- Have your emotions overwhelmed you at times?
- Are you struggling with the impact this is having on your life?
- Is communication difficult with your ex-partner?
- Do you find it difficult to support your children through this process?
- Would you like support as you deal with your changed circumstances?

**If you relate to any of the above, please call PH: 8843 2530 or e-mail Rita at [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au) for more information about our Support Group.**

**VENUE:** 13 Buller St, North Parramatta  
**DATE:** Last Tuesday of each Month (Jan –Nov)  
**TIME:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm  
**COST:** \$5.00

