

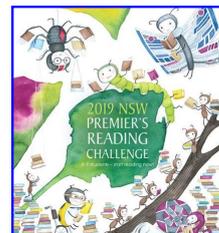
2020 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT PACKS NOW
AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

From the Principal,

Dear Parents and Friends .

2019 NSW Premiers Readers Challenge

Last year many children from Our Lady of the Rosary participated in the Premiers Readers Challenge. Once again this year I encourage all our students to pursue their love of reading for leisure, pleasure and learning by participating in the 2019 Premiers Readers Challenge. The Reading Challenge commences 4 March and concludes on the 30 August 2019. For more useful information about the challenge go to the following website: www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au



More Than a Great Education

This year Our Lady of the Rosary will join Catholic Schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week from 3-9 March. The theme for CSW 2019 is 'Transforming Learning' which encourages schools to showcase for the community what's happening in our classrooms. In the coming weeks please check the diary section of our newsletter for the dates and times of the OLR Catholic Schools Week events which include: Liturgy, open classrooms and Parent Information session



It is important that we reflect on the unique contribution of Catholic schools to our collective goal of education. Each Catholic school shares an ethos that is inclusive, welcoming and vibrant. Each school works towards a vision of each student as made in the likeness and image of God. This means that we work towards helping each child, irrespective of background, ethnicity or creed, reach their full potential academically, spiritually and socially. To be in the likeness and image of God means that we have the capacity to truly care for ourselves, each other and the environment around us.

While each Catholic school shares this profound commitment to this vision, every school does this differently. Each school is influenced by the community it serves For this reason, every Catholic school works in a unique and distinctive manner in educating each child to holistically develop their talent, skills and potential. Saint Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians; 'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.'

Each Catholic school is a vital member of the one community which is called to work towards the Kingdom of God. Each Catholic school contributes to this mission in a unique way.

Prayer for Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week is a special time when we celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our Catholic Schools. It is a time when we give thanks for the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place every day in every classroom. We pray for all who work in the service of Catholic Education who create the opportunities for children to grow and thrive.



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E: olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au W: www.olorstmarys.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish - Fr Brendan - 9623 1962

TRAVELLING THE WORLD WITHOUT LEAVING HOME

Not every family can take a year off and travel the world but we can all teach our children to know and respect the geography and cultures around the world.

WAYS TO OPEN UP THE WORLD

Read around the world. Focus on one area of the globe each month - Africa, Europe, North America and so on - reading age-appropriate books and stories about those regions.

Decorate your home with maps. You can buy beautiful maps, globes and atlases. You can also buy stick-on map decals for the wall. Anytime you encounter a place in a book or hear from a relative travelling abroad or talk about a country in the news, you can locate the place on the map. Use coloured pins to mark them.

Try international foods. Try to eat every type of cuisine you can. Night markets often have a range of ethnic foods, usually reasonably priced. Choose from the international sections of the supermarket to cook new recipes. Visit an Asian or Middle Eastern supermarket and see what you can discover. Use the maps to show the family where people eat these foods.

Use the mail. A pen pal can not only provide a glimpse into another country but can turn into a lifelong friendship or passion. The borders in children's minds will start to expand as they bond with someone from another country. While this could be a great idea be mindful of scams from overseas.

Sponsor a child. Families can give money to help a child out of poverty through organisations such as Unicef Australia. Make it a family project that everyone contributes to. Discuss the other child's home country and culture, and the challenges they face. **These are all simply starting points for talking more with your children** about the world outside your home and how your family interacts with that world.

The world is a wondrous place. It's by getting outside of ourselves that we can really get to know what's inside of ourselves, what's inside of each and every person on our planet: a longing for love, connection, happiness, peace.



Important Notice

ANAPHYLAXIS REMINDER

"As you may or may not be aware there are a number of children attending our school who have severe allergies to many different foods. This means that if these children come in contact with any food products they will have a severe allergic reaction.

We also ask that you remind your children not to share their lunch or any other food with another child"

CEDP Parent Representative Council

I am inviting members of our community to nominate themselves for the position of OLR member of The Parent Representative Council (PRC) for the Diocese of Parramatta.

The PRC is a volunteer parent organisation that has proudly served the Diocese of Parramatta continuously for more than 30 years. The PRC work closely in collaboration with Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, the Executive Director Greg Whitby and the CEDP Executive Team, Parish Priests, Principals and School Parent Bodies in providing additional support to families throughout their child's learning journey with in the Catholic Education System.

The PRC expressed their appreciation for the 2018 School Reps support in advocating and promoting the PRC work, meetings and keynote speakers for 2018.

The PRC are looking forward to 2019, our theme for this year is focused on Wellbeing. Meetings and supporting topics will focus on student, parent, family and spiritual Wellbeing. Other key initiatives for 2019 year will be:

Supporting the new RE curriculum. There already is a Parent Advisory Group in place working with the mission team.

Promoting the importance of Catholic Education to politicians in the led up to the elections for both state and federal.

Putting together a parent submission for the 2020 Plenary Council

Undertake a review on the School Parent Body Constitution

Deliver Parent General Meetings

The Schools Parent Rep and Alternate Rep will be an important part of the above initiatives and their positions will provide a voice for our community.

If you are interested in nominating yourself for this position or would like to make further enquiries, please contact me by note, email (olorstmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au) or phone (8856 8301).



Thought for the Week

"We have a Lord who is capable of crying with us, capable of walking with us, capable of walking with us in the most difficult moments of life."

Pope Francis.

Have a Blessed Week
Michael Siciliano
PRINCIPAL





From the Assistant Principal's desk...

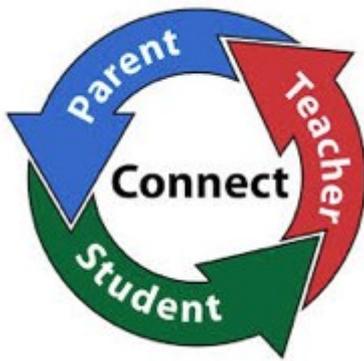
Welcome to my desk. In each Newsletter I will provide general information, ideas and tips for parents in all key Learning Areas. If you have a particular question or query or anything you would like more information about, please let me know.

MEET AND GREET

Building a strong culture of parent-school engagement

Parental engagement recognises the important role that both parents and teachers play in developing positive attitudes towards learning and education for children, building their motivation and confidence as learners, and fostering their enjoyment of learning.

Parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education. Research has shown that when schools and families work together, children do better, stay in school longer, are more engaged with their schoolwork, go to school more regularly, behave better, and have better social skills. Parent engagement also results in longer term economic, social and emotional benefits.



This week, we invite parents and carers to come to school to meet their child's teachers. These meetings involve the development of *shared goals with input from parents, teachers and children and allow for a shared learning environment to be established from the very beginning.*

We recognise that all children are different and their learning journey needs to be catered to their specific needs.

Teacher's Role: Teachers will facilitate the meeting and give insight into how your child has started the school year.

Parent's Role: Parents will give teachers any information they feel is relevant for the academic, social and emotional support they will require at school.

Child's Role: To share their ideas about where they feel they are doing well and which areas they are looking to grow and further develop this year.

After the meeting we ask that, as parents you regularly check in with your child as to how they feel they are working toward their goals and when they feel they have achieved them.

These formal meetings are not the only time you can meet with teachers. If you ever have any concerns about your child's learning or well being please call the office and make an appointment. It is important that if you ever have concerns you let us know as soon as possible **"we can't do anything about something we know nothing about."**

Heirachy of Support at OLR

1. Classroom teacher
2. Stage leader -K,1,2 – Mrs Dunn, 3,4 – Mrs Darby, 5,6 – Mr Eisenhuth
3. Assistant Principal – Mrs Regan
4. Principal – Mr Siciliano



Once again we look forward to working with you in 2019 in developing our students as independent, self- motivated, creative learners.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION @ Our Lady of the Rosary

From the page of the Religious Education Coordinator - Mrs Colleen Fuller

Parish Mass times are listed for you and the family.

You are invited to gather with the believing community for Holy Mass, at one of the many available times.

We are blessed to have this choice.

Saturday 6.00pm.

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am. 10.30am & 5.30pm

Choose a Mass time that is a most suitable time for you and your family.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: **Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic.** Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount.

Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'**Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.** Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned.

Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION on the Gospel

by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus challenges us to unlearn the language of the world and to learn a language which is counter-cultural, paradoxical, perplexing, such as: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you' etc, etc. Are such attitudes and actions possible?

Our Lord is the best model. *Jesus is the Word of God in human history. Jesus is the language of Heaven spoken in a human life.*

We have to read the Gospels and then imitate His dialect. Otherwise we might merely mutter to ourselves which would end up being eternally Hellish.

When we become aware of our language malpractice, i.e., sinning, and if we become *really tongue-tied, i.e., seriously sinning, we can come to the Sacrament of Confession and emerge articulate and conversant with Christ again. We can talk with Our Lord again. We are singing the same tune.*

Then at the moment of death we can gracefully pass over to our intended destiny which is not incommunicado, but communicado, holy communicado, holy conversation with God and with every creature.

We might pause for a moment and resolve to practise the language of Heaven and to 'walk the talk' every day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthday in the last 2 weeks.

Dau Lual; Thiep Ngor; Marcus Andrews; Amariah Gae'e; Nathaniel Blackwell; Yvette Tabone; Eric Tuliatu; Deng Deng Jal Ngong; Mia Kennedy; Chase Cortes; George Poasa; Lenna Drake; Nathan Kondek



WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

Monday 18th - Fri 22nd Feb	Meet, Greet & Goals Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 19th Feb	Kindergarten 2019 Information Night
Thursday 21st Feb	Lifted Live Jnr Concert - Yr 5 attending
Friday 22nd Feb	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Monday 25th Feb	St Dominics High School talking to Year 5 & 6 boys Caroline Chisolm High School talking to Year 5 & 6 girls
Monday 25th Feb	P&F AGM 7:00pm - ALL WELCOME
Monday 3rd - Friday 8th March	Catholic Schools Week
Monday 4th March	Catholic Schools Week School Celebration Liturgy 9am; Open Classrooms 9:45-10:45am; Picnic Morning Tea 10:45-11:15am
Tuesday 5th March	Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 6th March	Ash Wednesday

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Ebooks

Our Lady Of The Rosary scored second in the Diocese for most Ebook Checkouts in 2018. This is very impressive and shows the love that students at OLR have for reading. Keep up the great work.

Top Schools Overdrive

Most Checkouts

- 1 St Francis of Assisi Primary School - Glendenning
- 2 Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School - St Marys
- 3 St Finbar's Primary School - Glenbrook

TERM 1 SCHOOL FEES

We are sorry for any inconvenience but we have been advised by the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta that there will be a delay in school fee statements being sent out to parents. We will advise you via skoolbag when we receive any further information.

St Dominic's College

Open Day 2019

Sunday, 3rd March

You are invited to join us for our Annual Open Day at the College from 10:00am to 2:30pm.

The morning session starts at 10:00am, followed by a tour of the College at 10:30am.

The afternoon session starts at 12:30pm, followed by a tour of the College at 1:00pm.

St Dominic's College
54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747
Ph: 02 4731 1933
Email: info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au



SKOOLBAG APP

Have you downloaded our skoolbag app yet?

We send notifications and reminders out to parents through the app, plus you can create an absent note for your child if they are going to be away. These notes are printed and handed to the class teacher. You can only enter full day absences, please do not use the app to advise if your child is going to be late or needs to be picked up early.

Please see attached instructions for downloading.

BUS SAFETY WEEK 18-24 FEBRUARY

Be Bus Aware highlights the importance of bus safety for all road users. Buses are large, heavy vehicles and can't stop quickly.

BE BUS AWARE
Buses can't
stop quickly



BeBusAware.com.au

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed

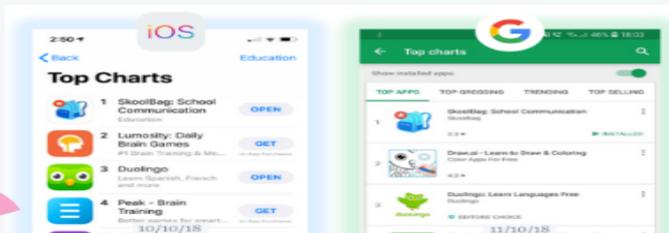
SkoolBag

SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.



SkoolBag 