

# Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10 2021

December 7, 2021

Dear Parents and Friends of Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School

## **INTRODUCING THE 2022 STAFF**

**Principal** Mr Michael Siciliano

**Assistant Principal** Mrs Julianne Regan

**REC** Mrs Colleen Fuller

**Stage Coordinators**  
 Mrs Teresa Wakeling (K-2)  
 Mrs Kelly Dunn (Stage 2)  
 Miss Karlie Beckhaus (Stage 3)

### EARLY STAGE 1

Kindergarten	KBLUE	Mrs Fiona Van Doorn	KGOLD	Mrs Sophie Nechepurekov
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### STAGE 1

Year 1	1BLUE	Miss Amelia D'Souza	1GOLD	Miss Chantelle Zuza
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Year 2	2BLUE	Mrs Tara Eisenhuth (Ryan)	2GOLD	Miss Naomi Zammit
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### STAGE 2

Year 3	3BLUE	Miss Lesley Clark	3GOLD	Miss Jessica Wheelahan
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Year 4	4BLUE	Miss Monica Lopez	4GOLD	Miss Yazmin Perrin
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### STAGE 3

Year 5	5BLUE	Ms Ellie Coledan	5GOLD	Mrs Megan Hilder
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Year 6	6BLUE	Miss Karlie Beckhaus	6GOLD	Miss Tj Cakmak
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### DIVERSITY SUPPORT

ES1 & Stage 1	Mrs Kim Patchell (Diversity Leader) Mrs Wendy D'Souza, Miss Hannah Satorre, Miss Jessica Menezes, Mrs Natalie Bell
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Stage 2	Mrs Kelly Dunn, Mr Tim O'Shea, Mrs Bridgette Millevoi, Mrs Sally Turner, Mrs Kathryn Burnett.
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Stage 3	Mrs Colleen Fuller, Mrs Danica Mrsic, Mr Howard Vanjour, Mrs Felicity Goodchild
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### SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Creative Arts/Music	Mrs Vanessa Butchard
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PDHPE	Mrs Kaelih Peaty
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LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS WED DECEMBER 1 2021

FIRST DAY FOR YEARS 1-6 WED FEBRUARY 1 2022

FIRST DAY FOR KINDERGARTEN THURS FEBRUARY 2 2022



Celebrating 140 YEARS  
1880 - 2020

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

<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	Mrs Anne Rando Mrs Debbie Smith Mrs Bernadette Alexander Mrs Rebecca Weston
<b>LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Mrs Rebecca Weston
<b>TEACHER ASSISTANTS</b>	Mrs Sognia Piccirilli, Mrs Lori McMillan, Mrs Carmen Grech Mrs Maria Moutzouras, Mrs Debbie Issa
<b>LEARNING TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR</b>	Miss Monica Lopez
<b>SPORT COORDINATOR</b>	Miss Tj Cakmak
<b>LEARNING TECHNOLOGY TRAINEE</b>	Mr Todd Ward
<b>SUDANESE LIAISON OFFICER</b>	Mr Deng Athum
<b>SCHOOL COUNSELLOR</b>	Ms Casey Barber
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>	Mr Dom
<b>CLEANERS</b>	Mrs Immaculata Gaudiosi & Mr Dom

As you can see from the above, as of 2022 our classes will be named Blue & Gold for our school colours.

## **THE THOUGHT THAT DOES COUNT**

We are told with a gift that it's the thought that counts. But researchers have found that it actually doesn't, at least not in the way we usually think.

They paired off visitors to a museum - sometimes two strangers, sometimes two friends or relatives - and then one of them was led off to a separate room and asked to choose a gift for the other person from the museum's shop. Some givers were told to pick randomly, while others were told to think carefully about the recipient's tastes.

The thoughtful givers naturally expected their effort to be appreciated, but it usually didn't matter. Even though the recipients knew which gifts had been picked randomly and which had been chosen carefully, it turned out they liked a randomly-chosen gift just as much as a thoughtful one.

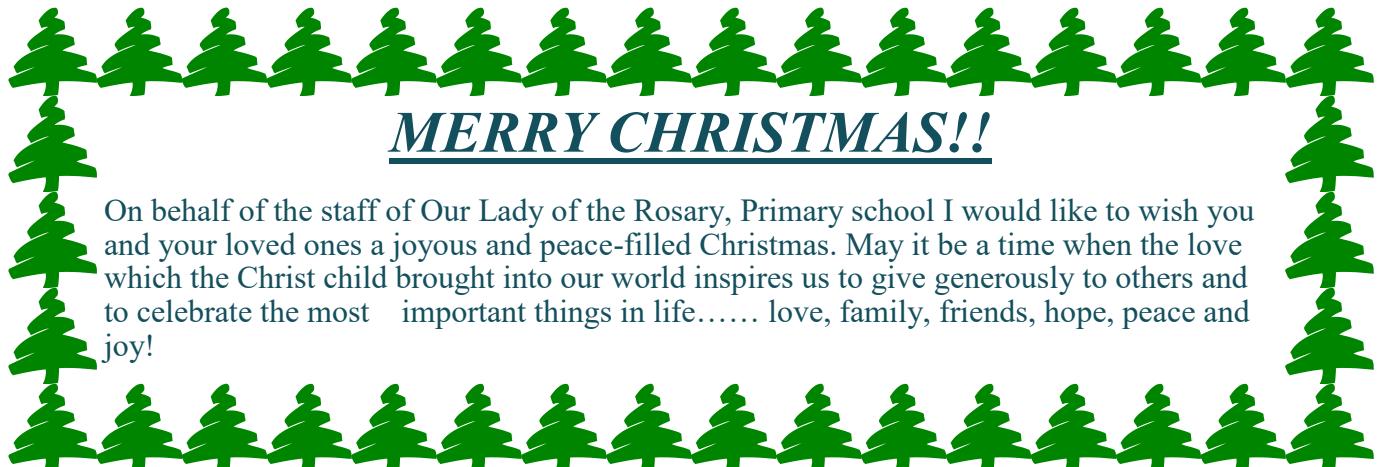
As long as the gift was satisfying, the people getting it usually didn't consider how much thought had gone into it.

So if you fear you're doomed to buy a bad gift, then maybe you should find something that shows at least that you made an effort.

Otherwise, the best reason to try hard is for your own pleasure in choosing the gift. When people spend time thinking about a gift for someone else, they feel closer to the person, and that makes them happier.

**The teachers' gift to the children is education and all the things that the teachers have done this year. The teachers have put a lot of thought into this gift and a lot of time and effort. I think it is the best gift of all.**

**We hope you and your children will appreciate this gift of education and put it to good use.**



## A MESSAGE TO PARENTS TO END A DIFFICULT YEAR

Parents work really is harder now. There's so much personal and professional stress, and some people are suffering from what's called helmet fire – a condition that occurs when people are working hard for long hours under lots of pressure, making decisions under time constraints, analysing too much information, and dealing with uncertainty, fear and sadness.



This can result in shutting down entirely; being busy with unproductive work – for example, organising and reorganising – and avoiding key tasks; sticking to initial decisions even when conditions have changed; focusing on one thing to the exclusion of everything else.

One researcher found that those who survive and thrive in emergency situations show playfulness, curiosity, flexibility, humour, empathy and intuition. Another study identified flexibility, adaptability, tolerance for uncertainty, being able to set priorities, working independently when needed and attention to detail.

Be gentle with yourself. Of course this is hard. The world is struggling with a disaster, and you are doing a hard job in a hard time. You are not losing your mind because you are grouchy or forgetting things. How else could it be? Be gentle with others. They are also living and working during the pandemic, in addition to whatever other losses and pain and obstacles they face.



Assume good will and best effort whenever you can. Be strong, which is to say, realise how strong you already are to be doing what you do right now... Finally, be safe. Science is advancing and we are learning new things about the coronavirus all the time.

## Best Wishes

I invite Our Lady of the Rosary Community to join me in extending our best wishes to the teachers who are leaving our school at the end of this year.

- Mr Alan Eisenhuth has worked at OLR as a coordinator and teacher for 6 years and is moving to St Joseph's Primary School, Kingswood as a Coordinator.
- Miss Rhiannon Tomlins has worked in year 3 this year and has taken up a teaching position at St Aidan's, Rooty Hill in 2022.
- Ms Monique Beglinger has been our school counsellor during 2022 and in 2022 she will be working at Chisholm Primary, Bligh Park and Cathwest College.

I know you will join me in wishing Mr Eisenhuth, Miss Tomlins and Ms Beglinger well as they start a new chapter in their life.

I invite you to offer up these prayers for Mr Eisenhuth, Miss Tomlins and Ms Beglinger.

### **Lord God**

Thank you for the extraordinary love,  
commitment and creativity

these wonderful teachers have given this school.

Thank you for the way they have served us  
and given out so much to the children we care for.

We pray that they will go on to find new treasures each day,  
and that the blessing of Christ would be upon all that they do.

Amen.

## **May The Road Rise Up To Meet You** *(celtic blessing)*

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

I'd like to welcome Mr Tim O'Shea (Year 3 Diversity teacher) and Ms Casey Barber (School Counsellor) to the OLR Staff in 2022.

## **CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS**

One of the most popular activities of the Advent and Christmas seasons is the singing of carols. We have “Carols by Candlelight”, “Carols in the Park”, “Carols in the classrooms” and all express happiness and joy. However, not all carols were composed in happy or joyful circumstances and the “Twelve Days of Christmas” was one such carol. When Henry VIII had his falling out with Pope Clement VII, he set about to dismantle the Catholic Church and to establish the Church of England. Catholics were not permitted to practise their faith openly or even in private; if they were caught, the consequences were severe: heavy fines, imprisonment, even death.

So, Catholics devised a “coded” carol as an instruction tool for their children. It was called the “Twelve Days of Christmas” and its images covered the essentials of their Catholic Faith. The “true love” is God; the “me” is every baptised person; the “partridge in a pear tree” is Jesus and his cross; the “two turtle doves” are the New and Old Testaments”; the “three French hens” are faith, hope and charity; the “four birds” are the four Gospels; the “five golden rings” are the Pentateuch which were the first five books of the Hebrew Scripture that contained the “law” or teaching and instructions; the “six geese-a-laying” are the six days of creation; the “seven swans” the Gifts of the Holy Spirit; the “eight maids” the Beatitudes; the “nine ladies dancing” the fruits of the Holy Spirit; the “ten lords” the ten commandments; the “eleven pipers” the eleven faithful Apostles; the “twelve drummers” the twelve articles of faith in the Apostles Creed.



Another popular Christmas Activity is to erect the Christmas tree and clothe it with “robes” of decoration. Most probably, the Christmas tree had its origin through a combination of two medieval religious symbols: the Paradise Tree and the Christmas Candle. Around about 1000 A.D. Advent Plays told the stories of creation and the fall of Adam and Eve. Usually, the plays ended with a promise of the coming of a Saviour. The Garden of Eden was depicted by a fir tree with apples hanging on it; it was called the Paradise Tree. The custom moved from being outside plays to being in-home celebrations, where Christians would hang apples and other meaningful items on the tree, including small candles to remind them of God’s gift to them of Christ the Saviour, the “light of the world”. The Christmas Candle was lit on Christmas Eve to symbolise Christ the light of the world; the candle remained lit for the entire Christmas period.



The third most popular Christmas activity is the setting out of the crib, which is an attempt to reconstruct the stable and manger environment in which Christ was born. The crib, as we know it, dates from St Frances of Assisi who, on Christmas Eve 1223, celebrated the stable scene with a sermon about the humble surrounds into which Jesus was born in the very humble town of Bethlehem.



All these real activities and symbols of Christmas are there to help us to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas: the birth of Jesus, God’s Son. It is somewhat of a forlorn wish that peace will be in our home during the Christmas period, as peace runs the great risk of being overrun by feverish activity, which could mean that all the “superficials” are well attended to, while stress levels are given a “boost” and home budgets given a “bust”.

Christmas should be a time of great celebration but within an atmosphere of peace and joy. “I bring to you good news of great joy, for to you is born this day a saviour who is Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2:10,11

**Happy Holidays**  
**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.

# Semester 2 Reports



On Friday, the children will bring home their Semester 2 Report.  
This report will look different from previous years.

*In response to changes to the learning and teaching environment during COVID-19, we have needed to adjust the assessment and reporting processes. While this report will look different, it will still provide you with valuable information about your child's learning, while complying with government requirements.*

Whilst we usually assess using a 5 point scale, this report has been adjusted to a 3 point scale:

**Working Towards      Working At      Working Beyond**

*There will also be a grade for the child's effort toward their learning.*

Teachers always use a variety of Data sets to determine a Grade and Comment for the children's report. However, due to the fact that the students worked from home for a Term and a half this Semester and have only been back at school for a relatively short time the report has been adjusted accordingly.

This Semester 2 report recognises and reflects the student's learning in three focus key learning areas: Religious Education, English and Mathematics.

- ◆ **In English**, there are 2 comments showing what the child *is able to do...*  
And 1 comment to indicate an area they are **working towards**.
- ◆ **In Mathematics**, there will be 1 comment indicating what the child *is able to do...*  
And 1 comment to indicate an area they are **working towards**.

**The LIGHTHOUSE TRAITS are divided into the 3 areas of our Learning agreement...**

**Safe      Respectful      Learner**

These traits are an indication of the child's approach to their learning - how they are able to work independently and how they cooperate with others. This allows parents to see areas of strength and areas for improvement in regards to resilience, attitude, willingness to reflect and social skills.

There will also be a **General Comment** which in most instances will discuss a child's approach to learning - academically, behaviourally and socially. The teacher may also discuss another Key Learning Area the child has shown a particular strength in.

There will be an additional comment on the report if your child is considered 'at risk' in terms of their attendance - either during Home Learning, where they may have not consistently participated in the learning provided by the teacher. Or they may have had several full or partial absences since returning to school.

As always, we continue to work in partnership with you, the parents, who are the child's first educators. We ask you to discuss the report with your child you child your child and set a few goals for 2022.

Once again, we thank you sincerely for the support you have given to the staff during what has been one of the most difficult years of schooling for students and teachers.



We look forward to continuing your child's learning journey with you in 2022.

# From the Religious Education Coordinator - Colleen Fuller.

## Mass Times

Please check Sunday and Week-day Mass Times at the OLR Parish Facebook page.:)

The OLR church is open after renovations and after the Covid lock down. The community is ready to welcome you. Please check the Facebook page for Mass Times.



[\*\*ADVENT - What is it? Advent is a time of preparation-preparing our hearts for the Lord's Coming.\*\*](#)

This Advent we will learn, act and pray for a more just and fair world – a world full of hope, peace, joy, and love.

**This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent**

*The word 'Advent' means 'coming'. When we light the candles on the wreath, it symbolises the coming of light (Jesus) into the world.*

Candle 1 (violet): represents hope

Candle 2 (violet): represents peace

**Candle 3 (rose): represents joy**

Candle 4 (violet): represents love

*The central white candle is lit on Christmas Day and represents Christ.*

## VINNIES HAMPERS

Gracious thanks to all the families who contributed so generously to the Christmas Hampers. Your generosity will make a huge difference to the joy and peace many families will feel this Christmas. The Helpers who came from Vinnies to collect the Hampers were very thankful and applauded our generosity. Remember that we don't have to be wealthy. We do need to contribute from what we have. Gpong without something ourselves to give to others.



**This sunday's Acclamation**    *Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

**Sunday Gospel:**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 3:10-18*

*What, then, must we do?*

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' **There were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**NATIVITY - Please keep tuned into Facebook for a video of our Nativity celebration.**

In order to keep our students and families safe, the whole school Nativity celebration will be celebrated in grades..

## LIGHTHOUSE WRAP UP

With such a difficult year for everyone, it has been fantastic to see students return to school with such enthusiasm and passion for learning. As times get difficult for the community again it is important we acknowledge the growth and positivity of our students. In the time we have been back at school students have been amazing in the way they strive to be respectful, safe learners.



**As a way of acknowledging their hard work, we have decided to make the final day of school a Christmas mufti day.**

We encourage students to wear Christmas themed and Christmas coloured clothing as they come together to celebrate the year and farewell each other for the holidays.

As I finish up in my role leading Lighthouse at OLR, I acknowledge the amazing growth and success I have seen in the students. It has been a fantastic journey over the last 6 years and I look forward to hearing about the ongoing success of the students at OLR.

Thank you,  
Mr Alan Eisenhuth

## TERM 4 WEEK 8 LIGHTHOUSE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Kindy	-	Grace Gautum
Year 1	-	Monica Dabra
Year 2	-	Krystal Tran
Year 3	-	Evangelina Soriano
Year 4	-	Gabriella Pereira
Year 5	-	Rafqa Sakr
Year 6	-	Emma Pace



## WHATS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

	⇒ <b>School Nativity Concert</b> (to be recorded over the week and watched in class)
Friday 10th December	⇒ <b>Year 6 Graduation</b> (to be live streamed)
Monday 13th December	⇒ <b>Year 6 Fun Day</b>
Tuesday 14th December	⇒ <b>End of Year Liturgy/Awards</b> (announced over the PA in class) ⇒ <b>2022 Class Transition</b>
Wednesday 15th December	⇒ <b>Christmas Mufti Day</b> (Children can wear the shirts they were going to wear for Christmas concert) ⇒ <b>LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS</b>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

Nyigeng Deng, Ashley Fonacier, Emily Vocalan, Carmen Harrouz, Flo Wibowo, Diyo Kelei, Alyssa Dommick, Adi-Vasiti Misivata, Rinaldo Morabito, Emmanuel Lagu.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in December.

Avika Kumar, Latasha Thimmaiah, Alex Wernhard, Matilda Khairallah, Tristan Pierre, Crystal Christine, Tilda Chalk, Navya Lagowala, Evelyn Anna James, Georges Chaghouri, Sotiria Grivas, Akot Akot, Marcus Bond, Noah Lima, Alysha Bodie, Paula Veikoso, Quedy Malek, Mehtab Grewal, Aluel Malek, Abuk Athum, Chol Aleu, Ben Le, Nemetallah Awad, Gabriella Dababneh, Maria Lagu, Savannah Mizzi, Rizul Dabur, Eva MacFarlane, Finnegan Blackwell,

## Congratulations

Miss Ryan is getting married in the holidays, next year she will be Mrs Eisenhuth.

We hope her and her husband-to-be have a wonderful day and we wish them all the best for their future.



## 2022 OLR STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

School Captains

Holly Blazevic & Shaurya Hardiya

School Vice-Captains

Matilda Khairallah & Anthony Jabbour

Mission Team:

Joy Kenyi  
Eric Tuliatu  
Gabrielle Ampong  
Yom Lual  
Ayen Akon  
Samuel Gai  
Taara Hariraam  
Alek Ajou  
Atelaite Taufu  
Austin Kyle



Congratulations to everyone and a big thank you to the 2021 team who have done a fabulous job this year.