Dear Parents,

In preparation for this time of national remembrance we have had an Anzac memorial sculpture designed and made for our lower playground. This will be a lasting memory for the students of our centenary celebrations and a place to hold future Anzac Day services in years to come.

Yesterday our OLOR community was involved in a very special ceremony to commemorate the ANZAC Centenary. We had representatives from the RSL, Member for Hornsby, Matt Kean, new Member for Ku-ring-gai, Alister Henskens, representatives from CSO, Fr Robert and Deacon Roberto and many friends and families from OLOR. The designer/sculptor of our memorial was also there which was a big thrill. We were especially honoured to have the presence of the Governor of NSW, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d) and Mrs Hurley with us.

Here at OLOR we have another special reason to remember and give thanks. A former student (1987-1993), Jason Brown, was a trooper in the elite SAS regiment and died on active service in 2010 in Afghanistan. Jason’s parents, Ann and Graham Brown, and his sister, Stephanie, joined us as well as several of his friends from primary days at OLOR. We remembered Jason during our service and have erected a plaque near the memorial in his honour. His sister spoke movingly of her older brother, reminding the students of the importance of friendship and supporting each other through life’s ups and downs.

With the weather against us we had to move the ceremony inside. How lucky that we have TLOCC! The Band, Choir, Year 6, Scouts, Guides, student leaders and all students were absolutely amazing. I have never been so proud of our OLOR students. All students were so well behaved, so reverent and participated so well. His Excellency and Mrs Hurley particularly mentioned to me how wonderful the students were. Parents you should be very proud.

Many thanks to all those who made yesterday such a memorable occasion. It was very much a combined effort. Appreciation to our Cuppa Crew who served our VIPs refreshments.

We have had some lovely congratulatory notes....

...an excellent function...a very poignant, moving service and wonderful tribute to Trooper Jason Brown. Well done to you and the OLOR team.

As we join together over these next few days, we have much to be thankful for and to reflect on. Celebrating the Spirit of the Anzacs we reflect on the soldier......he is one of them, he is one of us. May we always be grateful for the service our soldiers gave to our country and keep alive the memory of all those who died to ensure our freedom. Lest we forget.

Jacinta Crowe, Principal

More photos on the website

Congratulations to students celebrating birthdays this week

24 April - Holly McG (KG)
25 April - Nicholas K (1G)
27 April - Madison E (4G)
29 April - Grace D (4G) & Serena S (6G)

What's Happening At School

Diary Dates - Term 2

Friday 24 April - Second-hand uniform shop open @ 8.30am—9.00am
Friday 1 May - Men in the Morning @ 8.00am
Tuesday 3 May - Cluster Cross Country - St Ives Showground
12-14 May - Naplan for Years 3 & 5.
Thursday 14 May - P&F Meeting @ 7.00pm/staffroom
Friday 5 June - Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day

Please check the school calendar online for the latest information. Click on this link: OLOR Parent Term Calendar
Mothers' Day Mass

We will be celebrating the gift of Mothers with a Mass on Thursday 7th May at 9:30am in the Cathedral. If you would like a photo of yourself with your children for our liturgy reflection please email them to the school by Monday 4 May to avoid disappointment as photos sent after Monday will not be included. Thank you.

It has become a tradition that some of our fathers serve morning tea after this Mass. If any dads are able to help on the day, please contact the school office. Morning tea will be supplied.

OLOR ANZAC Speech

Your Excellency, distinguished guests and the OLOR community,

I am disappointed that I can't be with you today, but it gives me great pleasure to provide some words to share on this memorable day. At this point I would like to make special mention of our Principal, Jacinta Crowe and her senior executive team, who have not only made this memorial happen, but have also prepared it with the dignity and humility it deserves.

100 years ago many Australians and New Zealanders were asked to do something no one in their wildest dreams would imagine. Young adults, some not much older than our Year 6 children, would confront the most horrific scenes one could ever see. Many didn't get the chance to tell the tale. We should not forget that the Diggers who went to war in World War One left our shores believing they were going to see the world and maybe get into a fight or two. They really had no idea of the horror that awaited them. Yet the legacy that they left our country was everlasting, keeping us free and secure and creating a culture where we are forever known throughout the world for our tenacity, our commitment and our "mate ship".

In many ways the men and women since and certainly today, who put their hand up to serve, are even braver than those who went to Gallipoli. They know all too well that they could find themselves in the line of fire, putting their lives at risk. They do this willingly. I find this fortitude and strength incredible.

Trooper Jason Brown was one of these incredible people. As an alumni of Our Lady of the Rosary his story resonates loudly with us, as he is one of us. We thank Trooper Jason Brown's parents for joining us today and take courage from their strength and resilience at a time of remembrance.

This beautiful tribute to the ANZACs, to the incredible men and women who have served our country proudly and to our own Trooper Jason Brown, will serve as a small but powerful reminder to our school community about finding strength and fortitude in the face of adversity, about commitment and resilience when things get tough and that we are very lucky to have the support of such great 'mates'.

Lest We Forget.

David Millar
2015 President OLOR P&F

Parents & Friends Association

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Canteen Roster

Monday 27 April - Jennifer Bartlett & Melissa Collins
Tuesday 28 April - Volunteers Needed
Wednesday 29 April - Volunteers Needed
Thursday 30 April - Volunteers Needed
Friday 1 May - Rima Elsom & Sandra Bangayan
Monday 4 May - Volunteer Needed
Tuesday 5 May - Mary Drever
Wednesday 6 May - Christina Crasto
Thursday 7 May - Dawn Stephens
Friday 8 May - Alison Costelloe & Courtney Hollinger

Butter Chicken is now on the menu. Pies & sausage rolls will be available next week. We have no margarita pizza for tomorrow. Thank you, Carmel Daniels.