Dear Parents and families,

This week we entered the season of Lent. As one of the Church’s liturgical seasons, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday, immediately before the Mass of the Lord's Supper, when the Easter Triduum begins. It is the perfect season in which to share as a family the ideas of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is also a perfect time to stop, reflect and pray together and to experience the stillness and giving time that Lent provides. A nice activity to do as a family, is to create a prayer space. This space could include a candle, a cross, an empty bowl to represent fasting, a prayer and a small Bible. All of these items can be placed on a purple cloth – the colour of penance.

Opening School Mass. Our theme for our Opening School mass was ‘Mercy in Action at OLR in 2016’. We are constantly called to grow as disciples of Jesus and the best way to show this is by our merciful actions supporting others in need. At this mass we commissioned our teachers and student leaders for 2016.

Congratulations to our student leaders for 2016:
- School Captains
  - Georgia L
  - Sean C
- School Vice Captains
  - Aden C
  - Olivia M
- House and Social Justice Leaders:
  - Desmond House - Michaela H
  - Casey House - Joseph S
  - McAuley House - Geren L
  - Murphy House - Eliza O’C

P & F Meeting - Tuesday 16 February at 7.00pm. We invite you all to our first meeting for 2016. Come and meet our 2016 P & F Executive and hear about the plans for the year.

Our Kindergarten. Now that the courtyard is open in the morning, parents are welcome to stay with your child until the teacher collects them for class, but we ask that you do not follow them to the classrooms. Students settle better into the class routine if they unpack their own school bags and move into the classroom for the start of the school day. If you wish to speak with the teacher, please call the office and they will pass a message on to the teachers. As has become tradition at OLR, our Kindergarten students will be formally presented to our OLR school community at a special assembly on Thursday 18 February at 2.00pm prior to the 2nd Week of Lent Liturgy. All are welcome to attend.

Parent Teacher Meetings. This week teachers are conducting our Parent Teacher “Getting to Know You” meetings. From my chats with parents along the corridor, these meetings have been a valuable introduction to the year for both parents and teachers.

Michael Grose Parenting Talk. Prouille School at Wahroonga are hosting a free parent talk on Thursday 25 February at 7.00pm. Please go to http://olorpandf.weebly.com/ for more information. The password is the same one provided for the Learning Portal/Class Pages sent via email earlier this week.

Enjoy the rest of your week.
Cathy Cameron - Acting Principal

CLASS PARENT NETWORK FOR 2016

The team of Class Parents act as an integral and personal link between teachers and parents of the various year groups. They are a particularly vital role in OLR as they encourage hospitality and help build relationships across the grade. The class parent will help enlist support as required for various school activities for example, International Teachers Day and the OLR Trivia night. It is expected that the class parents will get to know all parents and families in their grade, using communication links available.

Please contact Robyn Ward in the office or our Class Parent Coordinator Narelle Robinson (relrobbo@gmail.com) if you’d like to be a Class Parent for your child’s class. For each grade we usually have 4 or more parents working as a team to coordinate outside of school social and P&F organised school activities.

Congratulations to Students Celebrating Birthdays This Week

- 12 February - Alana C (1G) & Angeline S (1G)
- 13 February - Miranda Z (KG)
- 16 February - Chanel C (KG), Gabriel C (1G), Oliver J (3G) & Anastasia S (5B)
- 18 February - Joanna P (1G)

Diary Dates - Term 1

- Monday 15 February - P&F Meeting @ 7.00pm - school staffroom
- Tuesday 16 February - Year 4 Excursion to Harbour Bridge Pylon.
- Tuesday 23 February - The Dish @ 6.00pm
- Thursday 11 February - Kinder & New Families Welcome BBQ @ 5.00pm on St Leo’s Oval.
- Friday 19 February - SDD/Pupil Free Day - MAI Assessment Day
Traffic Flow in the Morning and Afternoon

Schools are extra busy places at the beginning and end of each day especially in the first couple of weeks when more parents walk in to collect their children. Every school across Sydney would be extra busy this week. We are very lucky at OLOR that cars can move through the internal roads and that parents do not have to collect children out on the suburban road.

Our priority is the safety of your children and we have processes in place to ensure that safety.

Thank you to all those parents and drivers who are careful and comply with our traffic requests. I know it can be frustrating finding a parking space when it is busy or having to line up for a long time to access the drive-thru arrangements. Thank you for the wonderful cooperation at this busy time.

Morning Drop off

In the morning we have a drop off area along the red section of road in front of the school. This is in operation from 8am so please do not park in the spaces down from the pedestrian crossing. If you are using drop off, the procedure is to move close to the kerb, drive to the front, kiss your child in the car and then he/she opens the door and gets out with his or her bag. If you need to fix hair, arrange their uniform, get bags out of the boot or have a final conversation please park the car in the parking lot and walk your child into school. If you are in the drop off line please also be mindful of cars as you leave the queue. Some cars in the far lane are coming from the car park and driving straight past you.

Afternoon Drive Thru and Pick Up

We would like to remind parents of the correct procedure regarding the afternoon drive through and pick up for all students:

- **Bus**: students catching the bus are required to line up in the undercroft and walk to the relevant bus stop with the teacher on duty.

- **Walkers**: Students who walk home are to assemble with the bus students. They then walk to either Unwin Road or Yardley Avenue with the relevant bus line before proceeding home. Walkers are not to go off by themselves.

- **Students being collected by their parents walking into the school** are to wait downstairs in the undercroft with the supervising teacher. **Students or toddlers are not to play on the play equipment during this time.** If students are left in the undercroft past 3.10pm, the supervising teacher will bring these students up to the drive-thru for collection. Parents are asked to park their car in the OLOR car park or Yardley Avenue and meet their child in the undercroft (there is to be no parking in the driveway exiting the school on the right hand side along the CatholicCare building, as this causes traffic congestion and is a safety hazard). When parents are leaving the undercroft please cross at the first pedestrian crossing, where a teacher is directing traffic and proceed to your car in the car park keeping your children close and supervised. Students are not to wait near the office or along the red zone and run out to the car as their parent drives past. Students are not to wait in the undercroft or walk to Unwin or Yardley Avenues unaccompanied.

- **Drive-thru**: Students sit in the Cathedral courtyard in the shade. When their name is called, students get into cars under teacher supervision. No students are to leave this area to walk down to the driveway to meet parents. If students are not collected by 3.20pm teachers take them to wait inside near the office. Please follow the flow of traffic. Please don’t park outside the school in the street where parents are lining up to come for drive-thru. Please don’t park where you will interrupt the normal flow of traffic. The teachers are on supervision in the drive-thru area until the traffic flow has finished. If you wait and come at 3.15pm there are many car spaces and no big traffic lines.

Please drive slowly through the school premises and remember it is against the law to be on your phone while driving.

Again thank you for helping to keep our children safe as they arrive and leave the school premises.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Commonwealth Bank
School Banking
Account Opening
Morning @ School.

Friday 12 February
8.15am - 9.15am
Mezzanine Level of the school library.

Hello, thank you to everyone that has returned the form for volunteering in the canteen. I am still in need of extra helpers so if you want to volunteer, we would love to have you.

Please send an email to:
Carmel Daniels
Canteen Manager
kbcadan@bigpond.net.au