Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to 2016 and the beginning of another school year. I hope that all your holidays were relaxing and full of fun and that you all took the opportunity to spend time with your families, friends and loved ones.

A very warm welcome to our new staff members to Our Lady of the Rosary community:
Miss Jessica O’Brien (Kindergarten Gold teacher)
Miss Sian Owen (Year 2 Gold teacher)
Mrs Theresa Lowden (Year 5 Gold teacher).
We also welcome back Mrs Sara Clarke (who has been on Maternity Leave) who will be teaching Year 1 Gold with Mrs Michelle Gibbs.
I know they each bring their own experience, enthusiasm and passion for teaching to OLOR.

We welcome all new families to OLOR and know that you will find our OLOR community to be welcoming, enthusiastic and supportive.

My thanks to all the teachers and staff for beginning the year with such enthusiasm. Our Kindergarten 2016 children are meeting with their teachers over the next few days for individual sessions so the teachers can get to know them a little better. We will welcome them to ‘big school’ next Tuesday 2 February when their classes formally commence.

Congratulations to Miss Daniella Separovich and her fiancé Ivi on their engagement. Exciting times ahead for them both. Further congratulations to a former teacher, that some of you may remember, Mrs Kylie Lloyd-Jones and her husband Lucas on the birth of their first baby, Henry Lloyd-Jones, born Monday 18th January.

As you are aware, Mrs Crowe was injured at school last Saturday. We are pleased to inform you that the surgery was successful and she is in good spirits. She will be out of action for a few weeks. During this time I will be supported by the leadership team and the staff in running the school. Please contact me if you have any concerns. Please keep her in your prayers.

School Gates
Many of you arriving at the school today would have noticed the new arrangements with our new gates. These locks are for security and the safety of our students. The gates will be locked at 9:00am and reopened at 3:00pm. To enter the school please proceed via the ramp and press the button adjacent to the office window. Many thanks with your patience as we get used to this new system.

Swimming Carnival
All the students are excited about attending our Annual Swimming Carnival tomorrow, Friday 29 January at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. The Years 3-6 children will be participating, as well as those children in Year 2 who are turning 8 this year and are competent swimmers. Please read the information on the original permission note for further information regarding supervision and other details. In the event of rain, the carnival will still go ahead as we need the results for the Cluster Carnival, however, we may need to prioritise the 50m races over the 25m races in order to obtain the required results.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
In Week 3 teachers will be conducting our Parent/Teacher “Getting to Know You” meetings. These meetings are a valuable opportunity for parents to talk to the teacher about their child. It is an expectation that at least one parent or caregiver meets with the class teacher during the nominated time. If you are unable to attend we would ask that you send a note to the class teacher so that he or she can arrange an alternative meeting. Meeting times can be booked through the online system School Interviews. A link for these interviews will be sent home via email tomorrow.

Kinder & New Families Welcome BBQ
Our Annual Kindergarten and new families Welcome BBQ will be held on Thursday 11 February from 5:00– 7:00pm. We invite all our Kindergarten families and other new families from Years 1-6 to come along and meet other new families. All food and drinks supplied. Thank you to our 2016 Parents and friend Social Committee for co-ordinating this event.

You are all invited to join us for our Beginning of the Year School Mass on Friday 5 February at 9.30am where we will pray for the year ahead and commission our staff and new student leaders for 2016.

Looking forward to a great year ahead.
Cathy Cameron - Acting Principal