



# Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School

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Week 4, Term 1, 2017

23 February 2017



Dear Parents,

As Lent begins next week, we are reminded to be faithful to the Gospels. We can be guided along this journey by such Gospel values as

*Love, Hope, Trust, Service, Forgiveness, Peace, Respect, Acceptance, Compassion and Justice*

Lent is a special time where it is an opportunity to stop and reflect on how we live our lives.

Lent gives us the opportunity to think of our commitment to our faith a little more and the effort we put into it. Through our life how do we go about building that relationship with our God. Perhaps there is an opportunity to go to mass during the week, make a visit to the Cathedral as you drop off or collect your children, take a little time to reach out to someone in need. Our students from Years 3-6 will join with St Leo's College and members of the parish in the TLOCC next week on Ash Wednesday at 9.30am to celebrate Mass together. Our Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes will join together in the Cathedral at 2.00pm on Ash Wednesday for a special liturgy and receive the ashes. All welcome to either ceremony.

### Parent/Teacher Interviews

My thanks to all those parents who have taken the time to meet with teachers this week and next. The teachers have appreciated the opportunity to discuss some of the areas they will be focussing on with your children. We very much value the partnership we have between the home and school.

### P&F Meeting

My thanks to our new P&F Executive who presented reports at our first P&F Meeting for the year last Tuesday. We have lots of plans for 2017. At this meeting I presented the data gathered from 127 families who completed the MMG Survey in November/December last year. It was quite a long presentation but I felt it was important to acknowledge all the areas that had been surveyed. I thank those at the meeting for their reflections and discussion. We have many things to be pleased about and I include a summary of four pages that was given to me from those who conducted the survey.

One suggestion from the group on Tuesday evening was to include the names of those who are receiving merit cards in the newsletter each week. This gives parents the opportunity to attend that particular assembly if they are able. The Thursday newsletter will list those who are receiving an award at the following Monday assembly. This will start in next weeks newsletter.

### Michael Grose National Tour

Please find attached the flyer for the parent workshop on Wednesday 8 March from 7.00pm to 9.00pm in TLOCC. This is part of a National Tour as Michael Grose, a bestselling author and parenting expert, discusses his new book 'Spoonfed Generation.' We all want our children to be resilient, confident and independent but today's world can make that more difficult than when we were young. We are hosting this event in TLOCC and providing supper.

Our P&F Association are supporting OLOR parents' attendance at this evening by subsidising the \$35.00 ticket with a \$10.00 donation. This means that OLOR parents will only pay \$25.00 per ticket. Below is the website link to book tickets. Once you click on "Tickets" click on the blue "Enter Promotional Code" on the top right hand side of the box. The code for this event is in the email sent with the newsletter link.

When you type in the code the ticket price of \$25.00 will appear. As you would appreciate, this is a generous gesture from the P&F and we ask that this code is only used for OLOR families. There are a limited number of discount tickets available and we will be provided with a name list prior to the event.

This parent evening links very well into our focus on Wellbeing and supporting children's social and emotional development.

[Online link for Parenting Master Class Tickets](#)



**Shrove Tuesday: 28 February: Pancakes Morning Tea**  
Mrs Daniels will be selling pancakes with strawberry jam at morning tea in the canteen. 50cents each.

### Diary Dates - Term 1

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Friday 24 February                | - Men in the Morning @ 8.00am  |
| Tuesday 28 February               | - Kindergarten 2017 Parent Information Night @ 7.00pm                  |
| Wednesday 29 February             | - Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9.30am: Year 3 to Year 6—The Cathedral          |
|                                   | - Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 2.00pm: Kindergarten to Year 2—The Cathedral |
| Thursday 2 March                  | - Year 1 Excursion to St Ives Wildflower Garden                        |
| Friday 3 March                    | - St Leo's Open Day  |
| Monday 6 March to Sunday 12 March | - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK  |
| Wednesday 8 March                 | - Michael Grose Parent Talk - The Spoonfed Generation, TLOCC.          |
| Tuesday 14 March                  | - OLOR Open Day for Kindergarten 2018                                  |

### Homework

There were many different opinions about homework in the survey, some wanting less, some wanting none, some wanting more. Homework is one of the most discussed areas when I meet with parents each year. As a staff we have been discussing ideas around this area and some of the challenges.

I decided to have three weeks without homework to start the year calmly. I recall this happening at my sons' high school and it was wonderful giving them a chance to transition into new classes, new teachers, new expectations etc. Apologies for the confusion that that caused some people but I think the reflection time has been beneficial.

We want homework activities to be relevant, useful and fostering good habits while developing a love of learning. We want to encourage much more reading in the home environment, fiction texts, non-fiction, poetry and multi-media resources (eg websites, videos etc). Each year the students have the opportunity to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge with books chosen to suit their level of understanding and interest. We have them all in our well-stocked library. We would love to have many more students be part of this initiative and we will be encouraging that even more so this year.

In Kindergarten to Year 4 the focus of home learning will be around Reading, Maths activities and word study. Every two weeks the teachers will update their grade weebly pages so that families are aware of learning focus areas for the next fortnight. Teachers have explained the process to parents this week and we will advise when the next update happens.

Our students in Year 5 and 6 will undertake more formal aspects of homework but through these tasks we will be encouraging the students to gather, organise and reflect on information that will help them in their collaboration and problem-solving back in the classroom.

We will continue the discussion around home learning and will welcome feedback as this semester unfolds.

### Kindergarten Information Night

A reminder to Kindergarten parents of our information night on next Tuesday 28 February from 7.00pm. Parents will have an opportunity to hear how the Kindergarten students have settled into school.

### Open Day @ Our Lady of the Rosary

We are looking forward to welcoming to our school on Tuesday 14 March from 9.30am to 11.00am, families who have children ready to start Kindergarten in 2018. Our morning will begin with a cup of tea and then a performance from the band and the choir group. After a short presentation from myself our visitors will go on a tour of the school. *If there are any current OLOR parents with children starting Kindergarten in 2018 or other school parents able to assist on that Tuesday by leading a small group around the school, please let the office know.*



### Dates for High School Open Days

Oakhill College: Thursday 2 March - 4.00pm - 7.00pm

St Leo's College: Friday 3 March - 9.15am - 11.45am

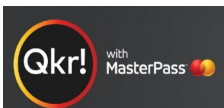
Mercy College Chatswood: Sunday 5 March - 11.00am - 2.00pm

Mount St Benedicts College: Sunday 5 March - 10.00am - 2.00pm

Marist College Eastwood: Sunday 5 March - 12.00pm - 3.00pm

God bless you and your family.

Jacinta Crowe  
Principal



Qkr! is now available as a method for ordering school lunches at OLOR Waitara. For information on how to install the Qkr app on your phone, please click on this link.

[Instructions on Qkr](#)

Our current canteen system, School24 will be run alongside Qkr for several weeks, so if you have any credit with School24 can you please use that credit before you start using Qkr.

We will be rolling out many more Qkr payment options in the coming weeks, eg Mother's Day stall, ICAS and also school fees. Additional information about Qkr can be found via this link [Qkr for Mastercard](#)

### Fees 2017

Just a reminder that payments are due tomorrow, 24<sup>th</sup> February for the following Fee Instalment Schedules;

Annual, Standard (first of three payments), Fortnightly and weekly.

Monthly Instalments are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month

If you wish to change your payment schedule/frequency you can email your details to the school email and Mrs Hanrahan will contact you. If you would like to discuss your fee situation at any time please call the office to make an appointment with Mrs Crowe.

### MULTICULTURAL DAY

OLOR will be celebrating Multicultural Day on the 21 March, which is on Harmony Day. Every year we celebrate our diverse cultural differences with a Liturgy, activities and a performance assembly. At this assembly, children have the opportunity to present an item (dance, poem, song, story etc). In the past some children have formed into a big group to perform. If your child is interested in performing at the assembly, please send an email to the school office with details of children participating and the item they will be performing.



# Library News

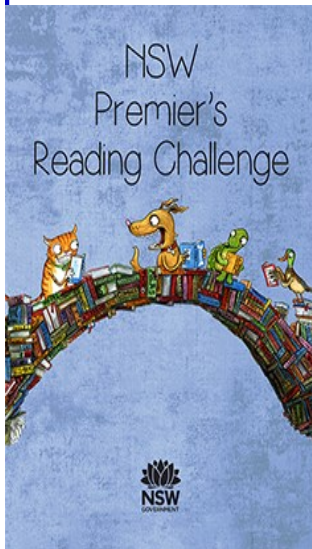
## **Library Borrowing Days**

Every week all children have the opportunity to borrow from our school library either with me or with their class teachers. Each child should have a library bag in which to keep their books. This helps to protect the books from food and drinks which may be in a school bag. If borrowed books are kept in this bag when not being read it makes life a little easier when it is time to return books to school (no more searching for books under the bed or in the family bookshelf !!!)

This year Kindergarten and Year 2 students borrow on Mondays, Year 1 students borrow on Thursdays (but can return their books on Wednesdays) and Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students borrow on Fridays.

## **Parent Helpers**

If there are any parents who are able to help with re-shelving books in the library I'd love to hear from you. I am mainly looking for parents who can help on **Mondays or Fridays** before school or at the beginning of the school day up to 9:30 am or at the end of the school day from 2:30pm. If you are available to help (it doesn't have to be every week) please email me at [sandra.todd1@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sandra.todd1@dbb.catholic.edu.au) . At present there a number of parents who have volunteered to help with covering new books at home. If you would like to be involved please email me your details.



## **Premier's Reading Challenge**

We will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge at OLOR again this year. Attempting the PRC encourages children to read (or to be read to), to select a variety of books to read and to keep an online record of what they have read.

*The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.*

*(see PRC Website)*

Students who complete the Challenge will be recognised for their efforts with a certificate at the end of the school year. Permission notes for Kindergarten, new students in other classes and other students who have never participated in the Challenge will be sent home next week. For additional details including the rules of the PRC please visit the website.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

**Students who have participated in the PRC in previous years do not need to complete a permission note. Their username and password will remain the same.** A reminder note of these usernames and passwords will be given to each student to keep in a safe place (in their English book, on the fridge at home...).

Once the first book for the year is entered online, registration is complete. For those students who are new to the Challenge (including Kindergarten students), usernames and passwords will be sent home over the next few weeks once they have been registered.

The 2017 Challenge kicks off on **Monday 6 March** and closes on **Friday 25 August**.

Happy reading!

Mrs Sandra Todd - Teacher Librarian

## **WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL?**

If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office in the morning to notify the office staff either by phone or email. If you do not contact the office, an SMS will be sent to your mobile checking if the child is at home. You need to respond to this SMS. All absences need to have a written explanation from parents when the child returns to school. Please download the form from the website at [Forms on website](#)



## **CHANGE OF SIGN IN CODE FOR THE OLOR WEBSITE AND P&F LOG IN**

The code for the "Learning Portal" and P&F page will be changed on **Monday 27 February at 9.00am**. The new code is in the body of the email with the newsletter link, or contact the school office.



# Parents & Friends Association

Greetings Parents and Friends of OLOR Waitara!

It's hard to believe we're already at the end of week 4 in the school year. I hope our new families are all feeling settled and are enjoying being part of the school community.

Speaking of which for those who have not heard about the OLOR Parents and Friends Association (P&F) , we are a group that recognises and values the role that parents and carers play in the education of their children, with an aim to strengthen the partnership between family, school, parish and the wider community for the benefit of their children's overall development and learning.

All parents and carers of students attending OLOR Waitara are members of the P&F.

The P&F meet once a term in the school staffroom (usually the 4th week of term) and this is a great forum to find out what is going on in the school and on the social front. It sets the framework for parental participation at OLOR. We met for the first time in 2017 on Tuesday night and our Principal, Jacinta Crowe, took us through the schools educational goals for the year, as well providing us with details on how OLOR Waitara performed in last year's MMG survey.

2017 promises to be a wonderful year with a number of terrific events, activities and initiatives being run or supported by the P&F. In particular our School Fair, which we hold every two years, will be on in October, and we are also pleased to be able to subsidise OLOR Waitara parents to attend the upcoming seminar by Michael Grose.

The P&F team encourages all parents and friends to participate, make suggestions, voice any concerns and to come up with solutions that will aid in the development of our community and helping our kids. For all P&F related information and events, visit the P&F website, [OLOR P&F Website](#) or click the Parents and Friends located at the bottom of the school website.

The password for this site will be changed on Monday 27 February. Please note the new password in the email sent to families with the newsletter link.

Yours sincerely  
David Millar - President, OLOR P&F

## What's Happening @ School

**Congratulations to the following students  
who are celebrating a birthday this  
coming week.**

24 February	Callum B (1B)
26 February	Zachary O (4B)
27 February	Sophie D (6B)
	Bryson M (5B)

Birthday certificates will be presented at the assembly on Monday afternoon at 2.20pm.

Congratulations to the Tjoa Family who became Australian citizens earlier this month



# School Community

## The Dollarmites are bringing the future to your school.

Since 1931, Commbank's School Banking program has been offering engaging ways for Australian children to learn the value of saving and develop lifelong money skills.

For our 2017 theme, a futuristic adventure is in store. Students will join the new-look Dollarmites as Future Savers, making their way towards the Savings Hover Park – a fantastic playground up in the clouds of a hi-tech metropolis.

**Encouraging savings habits with great rewards**  
School Banking will continue to reward children who demonstrate regular savings behaviour, and this year we're introducing an exciting new range of reward items. Two are released every term, and available in Term 1 are the Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers. Your child can redeem one of these reward items, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.

Visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) to download and print this year's Rewards Card. On our website you'll also find a fun activity sheet and a Savings Tracker your child can use to keep track of their School Banking deposits throughout the year.

**Dedicated savers get a chance to win a trip to Tokyo Disneyland**  
The Future Savers Grand Prize competition will take one lucky student on a family trip to Tokyo, Japan. Up to two adults and three children will get tickets to explore Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea, including the futuristic Tomorrowland attractions. This prize includes:

- Return economy airfares from the winner's nearest capital city to Tokyo, Japan
- Five nights' accommodation at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel
- Three-day Magic Pass to Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea
- AU\$1,000 spending money

To enter, your child simply has to make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017. This will automatically enter them into the competition for a chance to win.

For more information, visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)



Things you should know: Full terms and conditions found at [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking). Australian residents aged 4-17 yrs only with permanent residential address in NSW. Pre-approval account and for participating in *Commbank's* School Banking program. *Commbank* is a member of the ANZ Group of Banks. ANZ Bank Limited (ANZ) is the issuer of the Savings Tracker. *Commbank* is a member of the ANZ Group of Banks. *Commbank* is a member of the ANZ Group of Banks. *Commbank* is a member of the ANZ Group of Banks. *Commbank* is a member of the ANZ Group of Banks.



### Stepping Stones Triple P



## Does your child have a disability?

Parents of children with a disability aged 2 to 12 are now eligible for free parenting support through the Stepping Stones Triple P Project.

You are invited to attend the following FREE parenting seminar:

**Seminar 1 - Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability**  
Thursday 16 March from 9.30am to 11.00am  
St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga  
RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 [nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au)

**Seminar 2 - Helping your Child reach their Potential**  
Thursday 23 March from 9.30am to 11.00am  
St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga  
RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 [nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au)

**Seminar 3 - Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behaviour**  
Thursday 30 March from 9.30am to 11.00am  
St Lucy's School, 21 Cleveland St, Wahroonga  
RSVP: Natalie Montgomery Ph: 9487 1277 [nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nataliem@stlucys.nsw.edu.au)

For more sessions visit [www.triplep-steppingstones.net](http://www.triplep-steppingstones.net)



Funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia

# play AFL

HORNSBY BEROWRA EAGLES



**Auskick 4 - 7 yrs  
Juniors U8 - U17  
Girls U12, U15, U18**

Looking to play a sport with your mates?  
Come and play Aussie Rules with the 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2016 Northwest Club of the Year.

AFL footy is one of the fastest growing sports in the Country, with the Hornsby Berowra Eagles being regarded as one of the best clubs in Sydney.

Offering Footy from Auskick for 4 - 8 year olds, Grade Footy for Under 9 - Under 17 and dedicated Girls Footy being introduced this season!

For more information and registration head to our website at:

[www.hornsbyberowraeagles.com](http://www.hornsbyberowraeagles.com)  
Or contact our president Paul at [president@hornsbyberowraeagles.com](mailto:president@hornsbyberowraeagles.com)

**Come and Try Day:**  
The Hornsby Berowra Eagles will be hosting a Come and Try Day.  
Date: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
Location: Rofe Park, Hornsby Heights  
Time: 9.00 - 11.00am



## Be connected

Open Day Sunday 5 March 10am - 2pm

Inspiring Young Women, Transforming the Future

449C Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills  
[www.msbs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.msbs.nsw.edu.au)



Mount St Benedict  
College



# School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Carers

## Information for Schools

Parents and carers have long enjoyed photographing their children's progress at school. Today this often includes sharing the images on social media. When other students in the background are identifiable, there can be concerns if their parents/carers have not given permission and the images become public. Some parents and carers may have general privacy concerns about images of their children being posted without their consent, or in some cases, there can be real legal or safety concerns for the child or family concerned.

The attached School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Carers are intended to set out best practice in this evolving policy area.

### School privacy obligations

Schools operating under the Privacy Act must obtain consent from parents/carers and students before photographing or recording images of students for online use. Schools with knowledge of personal information concerning students who cannot be identified publicly for legal or other reasons generally may not disclose such information.

### General position regarding personal photography by parents/carers

The Privacy Act does not regulate personal photography or recordings by parents/carers. Schools are generally not in a position to control the personal photography activities of parents/carers or to proactively monitor what they post on social media. Generally, there is no right of schools to prevent photography in public outside the school grounds, unless a stalking, harassment or other legal issue arises.

### What schools can do

Discussion of respectful and safe photography practices under these model Guidelines can be integrated as part of school community educational programs.

Additionally, where a school considers it appropriate, it may restrict photography on school premises or excursions by setting conditions of entry. Where such restrictions are used they should be clear, tailored, publicised and capable of enforcement.

For example, on the swimming carnival note a school may state that "no photography or recording is permitted at this excursion as required by pool rules and under our school policy". This would be an example of a policy which is likely to be supported by most parents/carers and capable of enforcement. A parent/carer who wilfully disregards this policy could be warned and if persisting, could be required to leave the venue.

If a school receives a complaint from a parent concerning the photography or social media activity of another parent/carer, the school should follow its complaints handling procedure. In more extreme cases the school may assist the complainant to refer the matter to relevant authorities such as the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, or may be required to refer the matter to law enforcement authorities. In the case of persistent behaviour the school may be able to take action under its enrolment conditions.

