



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

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Term 1

Week 4

17th February, 2016

FUTURE DATES...

FEBRUARY

Thursday 18th

9:15am Opening

School Mass

Blacktown Zone

Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 24th

School Photos

7:00pm-9:00pm

Parents as Educators

Friday 26th

2:00pm Assembly

6:00pm-8:00pm Family

Picnic and Dance Night

NOTES SENT HOME MONDAY

- ❖ Kindergarten Newsletter
- ❖ Year 2 Newsletter
- ❖ Year 6 Newsletter

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY

- ❖ Parent Group "In the Know"
- ❖ School Photo Order
- ❖ Consent for Raffle Tickets and Use of Student Work and Images

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to
Learn

Dear Parents

Are you feeling tired yet? You've:

outfitted the children for school (no small expense),

brought the children to school for their MAI interview,

covered the books (handling sticky plastic book covering with increasing skill with each beginning school year),

packed the lunches (knowing that the healthy parts may not get eaten),

read the notes (lots of important information at this time of the year),

filled in the forms (thankyou),

and spoken to the teachers (great to see you at Meet the Teacher evening last night),

Possibly you've:

attended Parents As Educators training (if you want to be involved at school in any way you need to do this every 2 years),

sold iceblocks at lunchtime,

attended and /or helped at the Parish feastday Mass,

welcomed new kindergarten parents,

attended sacramental meetings,

helped in the library or Year 1 classroom,

worked hard to make a new friend in the community,

supported someone unwell or grieving in our school community

Time to relax!

Next Friday we have an opportunity for something fun. We have our annual school picnic from 6-8pm. Parents won't have to cook

sausages or sell drinks just bring your family and a picnic. The children can safely run around – you have a chance for some relaxed socializing (and dancing if you would like). Many teachers will be there too- also relaxing, knowing that they can get to know the parents in an informal way after the formalities of the beginning of the year.

This week we elected our student leaders. Congratulations to:

School Captains: **Gabrielle and Harry**

Student Representative Council:

Year 3: **Catherine, Zackary**

Year 4: **Madeline, Aryan**

Year 5: **Alex, Alison**

Kind regards,

Lesley Studans



GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold Award winners:

Kindergarten	Timothy
Year 1	Moses
Year 2	George
Year 3	Jessica
Year 4	Brayden
Year 6	Harry



REMINDER



Our Opening School Mass will take place tomorrow, Thursday the 18th February at 9:15am. All are warmly welcome to attend.

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

A reminder that our last scheduled Parents as Educators course will be held next Wednesday, at 7:00pm, in the library. **To assist in any way at school this year – including excursions, iceblock sales, Mothers' and Fathers' Day stalls or Year 6 Graduation activities you need to have completed this course either this year or in 2015.**

Reminder

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our school photo day is

NEXT Wednesday, 24th February. Envelopes outlining the packages available were sent home today. **THESE ENVELOPES CAN ONLY BE SENT TO SCHOOL ON PHOTO DAY AND NOT BEFORE.** Each envelope is individually barcoded for your child. Family photo packages are available by contacting the office.

Children are to wear their **full summer uniform. NO SPORTS UNIFORM.** Girls should have long hair tied back with appropriate ribbons or scrunchies. Only 1 pair of stud or sleeper earrings is permissible for girls.

STUDENT BANKING CHANGE OF DAY

Banking is conducted every **THURSDAY** at OLOL.



CONSENT FORMS

Consent forms for raffle tickets (no tickets are being sent home at present) and use of student's work or names (e.g. names in newsletter for awards or sport) have been sent home with each student today. These must be completed and signed by parents and **returned by each student before next Tuesday, 23rd February.** This is a requirement of the Catholic Education Office.

FAMILY PICNIC AND DANCE NIGHT

On Friday, February 26th, we will be holding a family picnic and community dance night from 6-8pm. Families are warmly invited to bring a picnic and find a spot on the playground to relax and socialise with other school families. Following the picnic we will have some dancing with a number of staff joining in. Come and have fun as we attempt the Macarena, Gangnam Style and Nutbush among others!



ASSEMBLY MANNERS

We request that all parents respect and consider the students facilitating assemblies by switching off all mobiles, not talking to those around them and ensuring toddlers aren't too noisy. We also ask that students are not collected between 2:00pm and 2:50pm as taking students from the audience is disturbing to those presenting. Should you need to collect your child(ren) during this time, when Friday assembly is on, we request that they are collected prior to 2:00pm. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

SCHOOL FEES

Australia Post's delivery times have changed, which may cause a delay in some parents receiving their Term 1 statements later than usual. This could be an extra 1-3 business days in most cases. All fees will be due 7th March. If you have any queries in regards to your fees or payment options please contact Mrs Kearins in the school office.

YEAR 4 FAMILY MASS SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

The families of Year 4 will lead the Family Mass on Sunday the 28th February at 9:30 a.m. Year 4 are also responsible for providing morning tea for the Parish after Mass. Please send any donations (packaged cakes or biscuits) to the classroom. Everyone, especially families are welcome to come and celebrate the Eucharist together.



OUT and ABOUT

Yesterday it was so lovely to see so many of our parents at the Meet the Teacher interviews. Feedback from staff indicates that this was once again a positive experience allowing them to gain a valuable insight into their students. I hope that parents also found it purposeful. This year we have changed the way that we prepare Personal Plans for our students with additional needs. Whereas previously these plans were formulated as part of the Meet the Teacher Interviews we are now going to hold separate meetings with parents towards the end of this term to discuss and finalise these plans. This will allow the class teachers time to observe the students within the classroom environment and gauge the best way in which they can be supported. These plans will be reviewed with parents at the half yearly interviews and evaluated again at the end of the year to see if the agreed goals have been met. Personalised plans are not written for every student. If your child has a personalised plan you would have been made aware of this in previous years. If you have any questions with regards this process please see your child's classroom teacher or Mrs Regan or myself as we oversee the Personalised Plans in the school. Last Friday we held our first Parents as Educators course. Twenty five parents attended and we have many more registered for our next course on Wednesday 24th February from 7 – 9 pm. We have updated the course this year to give more of an insight into teaching and learning at OLOL. The course also includes the mandatory online child protection course. If you wish to help in the school in any way this year, including excursions, iceblock sales and our Mothers' and Fathers' Day stall it is mandatory to have completed the course either this year or last year. If you have not already registered but wish to assist in the school please come to the course on the 24th as this will be the final time it is offered this year. I will once again be showing my dancing skills at the Community Picnic and Dance on 26th February. A number of teachers are joining me so I hope to see many parents and students in attendance. –

**Carol Cividin
Assistant Principal**



Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future. You can donate through School boxes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

COMMUNITY NEWS...

STEPPING BEYOND: SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

CCSS Solo Parent Services "Stepping Beyond" Support Group, is held on the last Tuesday of each month for those struggling through a separation or divorce.

Next gathering: 23rd February

Venue: CCSS Centre, 38 Prince St, Blacktown.

Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00.

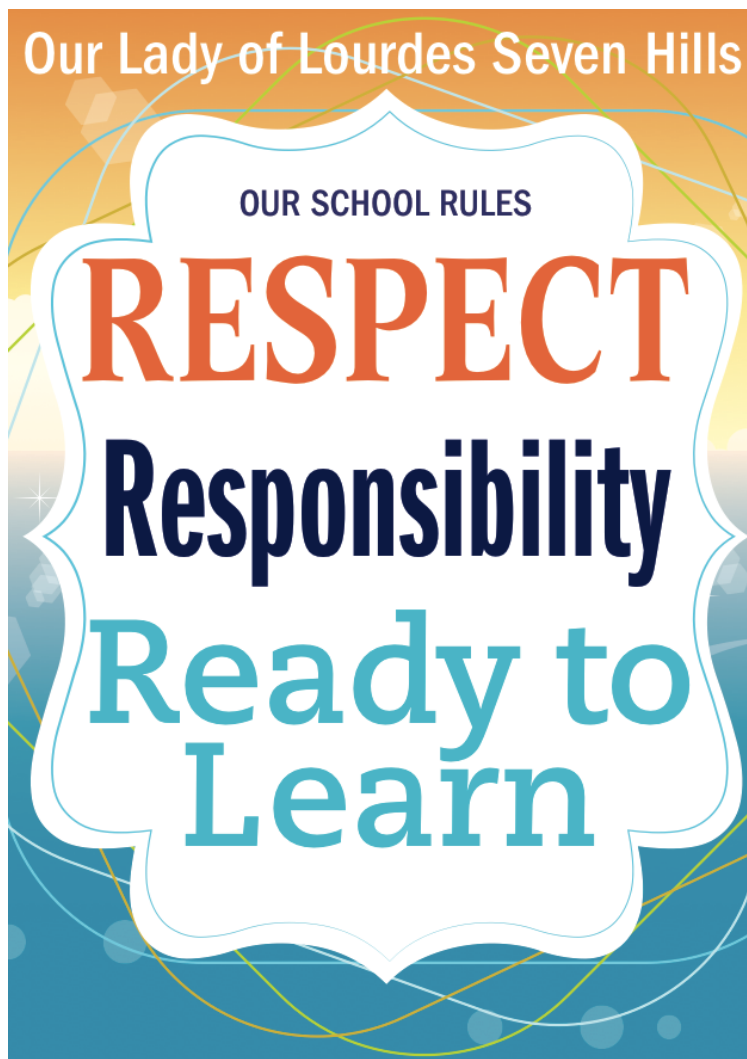
Registration: Rita 8822 2222

or soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The following qualities are those asked of our student leaders and captains:

1. Shows a love of Jesus in the way they act during prayer, church and everyday life
2. Knows how to do the right thing when no-one is watching
3. Gets along well with others
4. Responsible for belongings
5. Responsible, when given a job to do
6. Solves problems with school work
7. Solves problems with friends
8. Appreciates other people who are different- speaks respectfully about people of different races and abilities
9. Encourages other people to do well.
10. Like Mary MacKillop, actively tries to solve problems. Sees a need and does something about it.



All children in Year 6 are expected to act as leaders and are trained through the Leader In Me program. Throughout the course of the year they will be presented with many leadership opportunities beginning with caring for their Kindergarten buddies.