



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

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Term 1

Week 5

24th February, 2016

FUTURE DATES...

FEBRUARY

Friday 26th

2:00pm Assembly

6:00pm-8:00pm Family
Picnic and Dance Night

MARCH

Friday 11th

Kindergarten 2017
Open Morning

**NO NOTES SENT
HOME MONDAY**

**NOTES SENT HOME
TODAY**

- ❖ Kindergarten –
Year 2 Safety
Book

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to
Learn

Dear Parents

Would you believe we are now almost half way through the term?

This is now a good time to remind you that absences from school affect your child's learning. Already this year I have had many requests for leave for holidays and cruises. If you have asked me for this you would have received a phone call. I can't know what I do about how absences from school affect learning and achievement without sharing it with parents, along with a request that further absences from school are carefully considered, before tickets are booked. The school year is structured with breaks at weekends and between terms to minimize clashes between family time and school time.

At the moment there are quite a few children arriving habitually late to school which also worries me. Learning starts right from the bell and late coming disrupts the whole class not just the child who is late. We can give you lots of assistance if you are having trouble getting your child to school if they are reluctant to attend.

Thank you to the majority of parents who are braving the carpark crush each day leaving plenty of time for your child to arrive at school and settle into the playground before the bell goes to start our day of learning in the classroom. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you and your beautiful children at Friday night's family picnic. (I promise I won't talk about school absences!)

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day
can make a difference



Each day's learning builds
on what has been learnt before



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten
It's where good habits begin



Kind regards,

Lesley Studans

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold Award winners:

Kindergarten **Charlize**
Year 1 **Rhys**
Year 2 **Erika**
Year 3 **Kevin**
Year 5 **Anoj**
Year 6 **Gabrielle**



CONSENT FORMS

Could all forms please be returned by this Friday.

FAMILY PICNIC AND DANCE NIGHT

This 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!



ZONE SWIMMING NEWS

OLOL were well represented at the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival last Thursday.

Congratulations to:

Harry

Senior Boy Runner Up

Chloe

11 Year Girl Runner Up

Also to

Abbie

Sophie

Sophie

Sophie

for qualifying for the Parramatta Diocesan swimming Carnival this Friday. Well done to all our other swimmers for putting in their best effort.

Jacinta

Andreas

Leah

Jackson

Christian

Thomas

Aaron

Petar

Mikayla

Nicholas

Macy

Amanda

Liam



YEAR 4 FAMILY MASS SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

The families of Year 4 will lead the Family Mass on this Sunday, 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.



In Laos Duangmala's son, Hum Noy, has the chance to learn and thrive at a school for children with intellectual disabilities, supported by Caritas Australia. So far Our Lady of Lourdes Primary has raised \$134.25.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion
1800 024 413

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

A reminder that our last scheduled Parents as Educators course will be held **TONIGHT** 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

LENTEN VEGETARIAN RECIPES

BAKED SPINACH ZITI

Ingredients

- 500 g Pasta (spiral/penne)
- 1 can diced/whole tomatoes
- 1 tsp chili flakes
- 2 onions diced
- 3 sticks celery diced
- ½ bulb of garlic diced (or 2 tbsps garlic paste)
- 1 large bunch of spinach chopped roughly
- ½ cup thickened cream
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Boil the pasta till it is almost fully cooked (about 8mins in boiling water). You must keep the pasta slightly undercooked because the final cooking process will bring it to completion later. Drain and keep cool.

In a medium size nonstick pan, slow fry in 3 tbsps of oil on a medium heat: onions, celery and chili flakes till the onions are cooked and the celery has lost its colour. Keep the ingredients moving in the pan to avoid the onions caramelising.

Stir in the garlic and tomatoes and cook till the tomatoes are broken down and the garlic is translucent. There should be a gravy forming with the tomato juice. Add ½ cup of water to the pan to de-glaze the base.

Simmer the sauce for 10 mins to intensify the flavours. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Add the spinach to the pan and let it wilt. Continue to stir the gravy mix and spinach for 1-2mins. Add the thickened cream and stir to combine. Add more salt/pepper if necessary.

Add pasta to the pan and bring it to a high heat so the sauce is bubbling and the pasta is heating up again. This will cook the pasta to completion. Continue to stir the pasta for 1-2 mins without letting it burn on the edges.

In an oven-proof dish place the mixed pasta inside and bake for 10-15mins at 200°C (180°C fan forced) this will complete the cooking process for the pasta. For an optional garnish, add some basil leaves and serve with salad.

Serves 4-6.

The News in RE

During the 40 days of Lent the children will learn about the importance of prayer, repentance and penance as a way of purifying our hearts in preparation for our new life in Christ born on Easter Sunday. In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis reminds us that acts of mercy can also cleanse our hearts. In his 2016 Lenten message Pope Francis stressed that “works of mercy can reawaken our conscience and challenge our indifference to the poor.” The Catholic Church gives us seven corporal works of mercy:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the imprisoned
- Comfort the sick
- Bury the dead

Participating in the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal is just one way that we can participate in these corporal works of mercy. This year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

This theme of Learning more, creating change is explored through six feature stories for the six weeks of Lent. These stories demonstrate how education, training and sharing knowledge empowers individuals and communities to transform their futures and create lasting change. As Pope Francis says “*Education is an act of hope*”.

Our goal at Our Lady of Lourdes for the 2016 Project Compassion appeal is to raise \$1000. Your donations to Project Compassion will allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work towards a more just and fair world. Each class will house a Project Compassion box and there will be a box in the school foyer for parents and visitors. You can also donate online via the website

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Miss Amanda Bentley
REC





**Our Lady of Lourdes
Opening School Mass**

Thursday 18th February

