



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

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Term 1

Week 8

15th March, 2017

FUTURE DATES...

MARCH

Wednesday 15th

7:00pm Parent Group
Meeting

NOTES SENT HOME MONDAY

- Parent Group Agenda
- Stage 3 Walking excursion
- Cross Country

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY

- Spring Fair Newsletter and Sponsorship form

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to
Learn

Dear Families of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. The theme for Project Compassion 2017 is "Love your neighbour" and you will see the graphic displayed around the school and Parish.

Project Compassion demonstrates how love for our neighbours can transform lives. Each week the children are leading and participating in prayer using the resources from Caritas Australia to share six stories for the six weeks of Lent in order to reveal some of the ways lives can be transformed when we follow Jesus' instruction to "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Matt. 22:39).

'The call of Jesus shakes us out of preoccupation with ourselves. Christ asks us to acknowledge in our lives that we are all members of the one human family. Each one of us is equally worthy of respect and compassion.



In Project Compassion 2017 we have the opportunity to demonstrate how love for our neighbours can transform lives. When mutual respect is fostered, communities become stronger and more resilient. This can only lead to a better future for our world, the world that Pope Francis has recently called our common home'. – Bishop Greg O'Kelly, Caritas Australia Chairman, 2017

For Lent in 2017, we hope to demonstrate love for our neighbour through our actions and through our generosity. At OLOL the children will be leading and participating in some fundraising efforts to support the Project Compassion appeal. We ask that your family respond to this appeal with generosity. More details are available in this newsletter.

"To love God and neighbour is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete: it means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served, to serve him concretely. And you are, dear brothers and sisters, the face of Jesus" – Pope Francis, 2013

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold

Award winners:

Kindergarten	Luca
Year 1	Mark
Year 2	Georgia
Year 3	Ava
Year 4	Mary-Rose
Year 5	Irene
Year 6	Melvin



PROJECT COMPASSION

You would have noticed some Project Compassion posters around the school. These posters indicate how we can help make a difference in the lives of those people around the world who are less fortunate than ourselves. As a social justice initiative we would like to be able to raise some money and support Project Compassion in the wonderful work they do to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

At Our Lady of Lourdes we are going to become involved in a "Piggytas" action. This is a fun way to help the world's most vulnerable people and encourage others to love their neighbours. Dinia is a woman from The Philippines who took part in training on how to raise pigs for income, and share their offspring with neighbours through a Hog Dispersal Program. We will be able to help Dinia and other people build a better future by taking part in the Piggytas fundraising.

For every \$75 that our school raises through Project Compassion, we will be able to provide Dinia's village in The Philippines with a pig. We would like to see how many pigs we can provide to the village in and make a difference to the lives of the villagers. Every Friday we will collect the money that has been donated to the class Project Compassion boxes and count it. On Monday morning assembly we will announce how much money we have raised for the week and therefore determine how many pigs we are able to provide. There will be a visual record of our progress on the Mercy board outside Stage 2. Each time a pig can be purchased, we will add a pig to the pig pen. Hopefully we will have a full pen of healthy squeaking piglets soon.

Lent, for most people, has often meant that it is a time to sacrifice things of pleasure, such as sweets, chocolates and other small luxuries. Perhaps if you sacrifice these pleasures, you may be able to donate the money that you would normally spend on them to our campaign. You might encourage your child to sacrifice an ice block and donate the money to the class Project Compassion box. Please help us to continue to open our hearts and minds to the needs of others, especially during this season of Lent.

STAFFING UPDATE

As you know Mrs Cathy Hutchings will be retiring at the end of the term. In the last week of school we will have assembly on Tuesday 4th April instead of Monday in order to be able to acknowledge the many years of service Cathy has given to OLOL parish and school.

As a consequence **Mrs Beth Polo** will change her role and will work in the office five days per week until the end of 2017.

I am pleased to announce that **Mrs Janelle Bawden** has been appointed permanently to the role of Religious Education Coordinator. Janelle brings many qualities and has considerable experience in this leadership role.

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

Parents are asked to be respectful of our neighbours when parking in Grantham Road. We have had incidents when parents have parked across driveways preventing residents from entering and exiting their properties. This does not lead to good neighbour relations. Please be mindful of the road signage and obey the "No Stopping" restrictions. Please be particularly careful when parking near the bus stop.



WINTER UNIFORMS

We are now taking appointments for winter uniform fittings. Code: q8ane
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Students will commence wearing winter uniform early in Term 2.



MOVING SCHOOL

The Catholic Education Office has developed a Policy relating to the notice required from parents to terminate their children's enrolment in the schools of the Parramatta Diocese. In part this states that "A term's notice" (10 weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be paid. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term. This means that unless the school receives a term's notice no pro rata adjustment will be given for part term tuition. Notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment. In this circumstance the requirement for 10 weeks notice will be waived.



Out and About

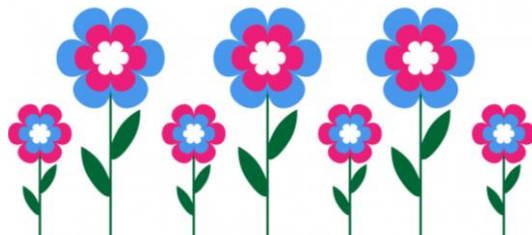
Last week it was wonderful to see so many parents at our Catholic Schools Week celebrations. The back of the newsletter showcases some of the scenes from the day. The children certainly enjoyed sharing their work with their parents and the Mass was once again a reverent celebration of the Eucharist. On Thursday Miss Byrnes and I welcomed a number of prospective parents to Our Lady of Lourdes. We spoke of our core Catholic values, the nature of the learning, the appearance of the learning environment and the community that is our school. We hope that many of these prospective parents will choose to enrol their child at our school in 2018. One of the attributes of our school that we spoke of is the fact that we are a community, closely linked with the Parish, that supports each other. Today, accompanying this newsletter, is the first of our Spring Fair newsletters. The Spring Fair is a biannual event where the school and Parish communities come together to raise funds but just as importantly to organise a fun community event. The last Spring Fair was a great success and the current organising committee are working hard to create a successful event once again. Of course they cannot do this on their own and the newsletter contains requests for assistance. Many hands make light work so the committee is looking for all the help they can get. It may be that you are able to coordinate a stall, sell raffle tickets, donate goods or bake a cake for the cake stall. One of our most urgent needs is for a coordinator for the White Elephant stall. If you feel you are able to help with this request please contact the organising committee on the email address provided. The Spring Fair committee will send through regular updates as the fair approaches. Please take time to read these and respond if you can. Tonight our regular parent group meeting is being held in the library commencing at 7:00pm. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and to find out first-hand what is happening at our school. I hope to see many of you there.
Carol Cividin – Assistant Principal



**OLOL Spring Fair ❖ 4 November
2017**

White Elephant Volunteers Needed!

The OLOL Spring Fair Committee is seeking volunteers to coordinate and help out at the White Elephant Stall. Please contact us if you are interested in running or helping out at the White Elephant for 2017.
Email: ololspringfair2017@gmail.com



PARENT GROUP NEWS... MEETING

Our next Parent Group meeting will be held tonight, 15 March at 7pm in the library. If you have any agenda items that you would like to discuss, please email Karen Dalmati on thedalmatis3@gmail.com

**PATRICIAN BROTHERS COLLEGE
BLACKTOWN
ENROLMENTS 2018**

Open night
7:00pm 22nd March 2017

Catholic Schools Week

5-11 March 2017

LEARNING CONNECTED Enrolling now



Last week, along with all other school in our Diocese, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. This is an opportunity to celebrate what is special not only about our school but about Catholic education in general. It was fantastic that so many parents could join with us in the celebration. Father Henry reminded us that Jesus asks us to “Love God and our neighbour”. He even showed us how to spell the word “LOVE”. It was a great event as the pictures below show.

