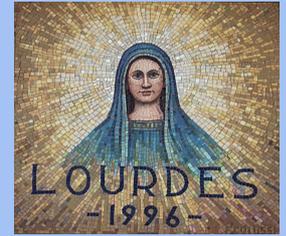




Parish Priest: Father Henry Duc
Phone: 9622 2920

OOSH: Ben Irmisch
Phone: 9676 7293



Newsletter Term 1 Week 6, 2019

6TH MARCH, 2019

FUTURE DATES

Tomorrow - 7th March
Kinder 2020 Open Morning for prospective new families 9.30am - 11am
Enrolments Open for 2020 Kindergarten.

Tuesday 12th March
Parent Group Meeting at 7pm

Wednesday, 13th March
LAST DAY FOR SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Friday 22nd March
Assembly - Yrs 3 & 4

Friday 29th March
OLOL Cross Country

Wednesday 3rd April
Parent Information Evening - Confirmation 6.30 - 7.30pm

Friday 5th April -
Assembly in the hall at 2pm
Kinder Yrs 1 & 2

Wednesday 10th April
First Reconciliation Liturgy 7pm - 8.30pm

Thursday 11th April
Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Friday 12th April
LAST DAY FOR TERM 1

Principal's Message



Dear Families of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Today is Ash Wednesday, a day that begins a new season in our Church year, Lent. Lent is a very special time during which we prepare ourselves to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection at Easter. This morning OLOL celebrated the Eucharist and we received the ashes. We heard in the Gospel how we can participate in three important activities to prepare for Easter.

The first activity that Jesus talks about is almsgiving. Almsgiving, or giving alms, is helping people who are in need. We help by giving what we can. We also help with our time and talents.

The second activity Jesus talks about is prayer. This one seems easy to understand. During Lent, we are asked to make a special effort to have a life of prayer and to improve our prayer lives.

The third activity Jesus talks about is fasting or giving up something. During Lent, we don't eat meat on Ash Wednesday and on Fridays. We might give up something else to show God we are preparing for Jesus' Resurrection. Lent is a good time to fast from habits that we would like to change too, such as saying unkind things to others or gossiping.

These are ways in which we learn to love God more.

Loving God, thank you for inviting me to come to you this Lent. By your Spirit, help me to soften my heart toward you and the people around me.

**God Bless,
Keiran Byrnes**

PHOTO GALLERY:

See the latest photos on the school website:



[2019 Kindy Welcome BBQ](#)



[2019 Catholic Schools Week](#)

2020 enrolments



Enrol now for 2020

Enrolment packs are available for collection at our Open Day session tomorrow 7th March which takes place from 9.30am - 11.00am or at the School Office. If you have any relatives or friends considering enrolling their child at OLOL in 2020 encourage them to attend

The Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. If you wish to make an appointment to try-on please logon to the website:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/login>

Event Code: n4dcm

As students will be changing to winter uniform in Term 2, it is advisable to start booking your appointment if you wish to try-on, as the time slots fill up very quickly towards the end of term.

Alternatively, if you know the size please complete an order form and return it to the school office. If you require any further assistance please contact Aida Almeida in the school office.

PLEASE NOTE: Last day to try winter jumpers is tomorrow morning. NO ORDERS AFTER TOMORROW.

EARLY YEARS ASSESSMENT

All schools in the Parramatta Diocese will be conducting testing on the Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two children this term. This is an important source of data for the Catholic Education Office and most importantly for our teachers as they prepare learning programmes for our children. The assessments provide information for the teachers about the starting points for the learning of each child. The Catholic Education Office provides release for the classroom teachers to do this testing.

SCHOOL
FEES
ARE NOW
DUE!

The School Fees have now been sent to your mailing address. **First Instalment is due by Friday, 29th March 2019.**

In accordance with Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta Conditions of Enrolment:

Payment Due Date: All Fees and Charges are due and payable 30 days from the date of the School Tax Invoice / Statement unless a payment arrangement is agreed to by the school in writing prior to the Current Term Fees Due date.

Flexible Payment Plans (FPP) are offered as an alternative payment option for your School Fees. Should you like to accept this offer our preferred method is to go to <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/school-fees> and arrange a direct debit from a nominated bank account or credit card. A Direct Debit Request Form has been supplied should you not have access to a computer and should be lodged with CEDP before the 22nd March.

BPAY election **requires you** to set up a recurring payment for the exact amount displayed under your preferred option, via your bank by the 22nd March so the first payment occurs by the 29th March.

Please contact Monique Kearins on 02 8869 6800 or olol-shlsfees@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any queries regarding your account or if you wish to discuss payment arrangements.

Withdrawal of a Student: A full terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before a parent / guardian terminates the Student's enrolment. If sufficient notice of termination of the Student's enrolment is not given, the parent / guardian is to pay the School one term's school fees including any Diocesan Fees applicable. This amount reflects the School's financial loss associated with the Student's withdrawal without sufficient notice of termination. One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment.

Facilities at OLOL – Construction Work

Thank you for your continued cooperation as construction works continue. Though there is some inconvenience during construction we look forward to further improvements to the playground for the children.

A reminder that access to the school is as follows during construction

School Access:

- All pedestrian access to the school will be through the school gate near the Library.
- Children who normally wait in the afternoon on the paved area opposite Year 6 (carline) are to be collected by parents from the hall.
- Adjustments within the school site for the children to access learning areas, playground areas and toilets was explained to the children on the first day of school

OOSH Access:

- Access for parents dropping off and collecting children from OOSH will continue to be available through the gate entrance near the car park as usual. NB This access is for OOSH only.

Progress of the construction in the past week include:

- Delivery of manufactured steel for the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)
- Construction of steel framework for the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)
- Removal of every second pole on existing Stage 3 verandah and renewal of supports



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC SCHOOL SEVEN HILLS

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills Tel: 8869 6800
OLOLShills@parra.catholic.edu.au www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au



Enrolling
Now for
2020

Open Day

Thursday 7th March

9:30-11am

Talk by Principal, Tour of the school including Kindergarten
and Morning tea with Kindergarten teachers

All welcome ~ please RSVP ~ Phone 8869 6800



All welcome



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

3-9 MARCH 2019

Discover our difference
at your local Catholic school



Out and About

This week marks Catholic Schools Week, a great time to celebrate all that is special about all Catholic Schools but OLOL Seven Hills in particular. This week it was great to see so many parents attending our Catholic Schools week liturgy and open classrooms, followed by a morning tea of scones with jam and cream, on the playground. It was a chance for students, even so early in the year, to showcase their learning to their parents.

Today is a chance to focus on what makes a Catholic school truly unique. Of course I am talking about the celebration of the Eucharist to mark Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Our Catholic faith underpins all that we do, and the celebration of the Eucharist is central to that faith, so it is fitting that we come together as a school community in this way during Catholic Schools Week. It was lovely to see so many parents and Parishioners at our Mass.

Finally tomorrow at 9:30 we have our open morning for prospective Kindergarten students for 2020. This involves a presentation to parents followed by a school tour. If you know of anyone who has a child starting Kindergarten next year please encourage them to come to our open day to see all that OLOL has to offer.

HAPPY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK !

Carol Cividin - Assistant Principal

NAGLE COLLEGE BLACKTOWN OPEN DAY

Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street Blacktown will be holding their Open Evening for Year 7 2020 on Tuesday 19 March from 4.00 pm - 7.30 pm. Enrolment packages will be available on the evening and tours of the school will be conducted. Prospective parents and students are warmly invited to attend."





**Congratulations to Term 1 Week 5
Gold Award Winners:**

<i>Kinder</i>	<i>Summer Sindel</i>
<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Luca Madejeski</i>
<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Ashton McLoynes</i>
<i>Year 4</i>	<i>Aiden Clark</i>
<i>Year 5</i>	<i>Isaac Ortiz</i>
<i>Year 6</i>	<i>Diya DSouza</i>



Congratulations to the children who received Merit Awards at Week 5 Assembly:

KB: *Aaliyah Moussa, Adam Kabani, Myra Sethi, Taylyn Buckley*

KW: *Johnathan Getahun, Olive Jaca, Jordan Un, Tilly Zhu*

1B: *Nilisha Upety, Lachlan Osborne, Alexis Avia, Clare Park*

1W: *Gabriel Ishac, Aariah Moss, Tate Roughly, Sienna Bayeh*

2B: *Zac Nohra, Charlotte Martin, Tohuia Kama, Matthew Cadavid*

2W: *Charanjot Minhas, Juliana Zhu, Ameliyah Talauta, Marshal Millar*

3B: *Ada Feliciak, Arya Patel, Aaron Shrestha, Anika Thakur*

3W: *Sleiman Awkar, Jamie Hallett, Eva Layoun, Shaan Patel, Emma Skinner*

4B: *Riley Ballment, Alexandra Kostis, Andre Roy, Mayanna Watts,*

4W: *Emily Biziuk, Ellie Cho, Jane Fountain, Kevin Su, Tahlia Winter, Valerie Sulaiman*

5B: *Jayden Cortis, Vincent Gomes, Alex Layoun, Keira Pangilinan*

5W: *Alby Bento, Wyatt Hornyak, Naveen Panakkal, Isabella dela Cruz*

6B: *Haisam Chaudhary, Aarushi Duggal, Sean Park, Rhys Webster*

6W: *Catherine Holmes, Riley Sultana, Saanvi Vadlamudi, Nicholas Wang*

NAPLAN ONLINE

Commencing on the 14th of May this year all students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 in NSW schools will complete NAPLAN Online. Over the last 2 years students have experienced the online version of NAPLAN in a trial setting. This year, however, we move to the actual tests being carried out online.

For our Year 5 students all of the NAPLAN tests - including Writing will be undertaken online. Our Year 3 students will complete the Writing component of NAPLAN on paper but will complete Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy online. As the date approaches more information will be provided.

Please find below a link to the Catholic Education Office of Parramatta's resource to assist parents understand what is involved with NAPLAN online and NAPLAN generally. The link provides information about the NAPLAN public demonstration site which can be accessed by students at home to provide them with practice with the online form. I would encourage parents to give the children time exploring this resource. Additional practice time will be also provided at school. At OLOL NAPLAN online will be accessed using Chromebooks which have a keyboard so providing students with access to the online site using a laptop or desktop computer would also be helpful to assist with navigation skills.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself. Carol Cividin - NAPLAN Coordinator

[CEDP NAPLAN ONLINE RESOURCE FOR PARENTS](#)

Premiers Reading Challenge

As a school we are once again participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge. The challenge officially commenced on Monday. Logon details should be sent to the school next week for all new students including our Kindergarten students. Students who participated last year are able to log on using their previous log on details. Once I have received details I will send a note home with all children explaining about the challenge and reminding them of their log on details.

Keep watching this space for updates!
Carol Cividin



Student Attendance

At school we are interested in your child's

- Well being and happiness
- Engagement with learning in the classroom
- Social and emotional development

The single most important thing you can do to support all of these areas is ensure they attend Every Day

Five Top Tips for Parents

1. Set the Expectation

- Good attendance starts with families making school a priority.
- Absences add up quickly



2. Start Early

- Set good patterns from Kindergarten
- But it is never too late start improving attendance

3. Communicate with school about every absence

- The Attendance roll is a legal document
- We are required to keep a record that your child is present - or the reason why they are absent for every school day

4. Expect Challenges

- It's not unusual for children to resist coming to school at times
- Recognising the problem and addressing it early helps
- Be firm

5. We need to work together

- When problems arise, let us know
- We all want your child to be happy and engaged, and to reach their full potential!

every learner
every day 



WORLD YOUTH DAY PANAMA 2019

After 5 days in Mexico, we then made our way to Panama City, Panama for World Youth Day.

We spent our first day visiting *Old Town* and exploring the Churches and Chapels. Each place was created beautiful and expressed faith in different ways from the paintings, statues and murals of Christ's life. The following day, World Youth Day officially started, beginning with the Opening Mass celebrated by Archbishop José Domingo Ulloa Mendieta, as Metropolitan Archbishop of Panama. His encouraging words resonated with the 200,000 young people gathered. "We believe in you. We hope in you", he said. "The change and transformation that humanity and the Church requires are in your hands".

The Catechesis sessions were led by Bishops and Cardinals from the US and Australia and included animated youth activities, cultural performances, worship and adoration in a 3000 seat filled exhibition centre. We watched a beautiful presentation of the Way of the Cross, and were able to acknowledge the hardships Jesus encountered through an creative and interpretive account of the Stations of the Cross, and danced and worshipped with hundreds of pilgrims in Omar Park with Australia's own Fr Rob Galea and his band.

To end our pilgrimage, we walked with over 1 million pilgrims to Metro Park, where we slept overnight under the stars. World Youth Day then concluded with the Holy Mass celebrated by Pope Francis and the announcement of the World Youth Day 2022 to be held in Lisbon, Portugal.

Pope Francis personally addressed the hundreds of thousands of young pilgrims on several occasions over four days of World Youth Day. He would often ask those present to move away from what makes us comfortable and challenge the norms that we have become accustomed to in our present world.

World Youth Day was a pure celebration of faith, diversity and humanity. Throughout the whole event, we could feel the spirit and passion from all pilgrims on display at every moment. It was truly awe inspiring to be in a place where you could see all nations represented.

In the next Newsletter I will share my highlights of the retreat in Houston America.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support and prayers whilst I was away.

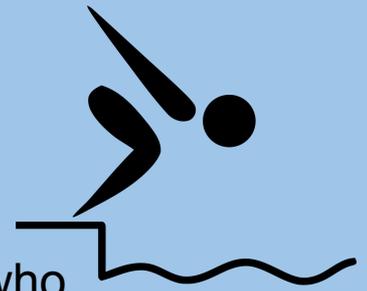
For highlights of each day of the trip please visit parrawyd.org or follow Catholic Youth Parramatta CYP on Facebook.

Photos: Countries coming together to celebrate the WYD opening mass, San Felipe de Neri Church, Seeing the Pope arrive for the final Mass.

Sharleen Espiritu



Sport News



Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all of the talented swimmers who represented Blacktown Zone at the Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival on the 22nd of February. All of the students demonstrated a fantastic sporting attitude and athletic ability, representing our school with pride.

A special congratulations to Cameron Fahey, Thomas Fahey and Ziva Suryathyo who have progressed to the next stage of the competition and will represent Parramatta Diocese at the MacKillop Swimming Carnival. This is an outstanding achievement and we wish them the very best of luck in the competition.



Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day Trials

The Stage 3 boys and girls touch football trials will be held on Thursday 7th of March at lunchtime. Mrs Marlee Cividin and Mrs Elise Clynick will begin the trials on Thursday, however, depending on the number of students the trials may be carried over to another lunchtime. Students will need to bring their sports shoes to change into if it is not their regular sport day. The Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day will be on the 12th of April at St Marys.



Kindergarten Welcome Barbeque - An evening of fun!

Last Thursday Our Lady of Lourdes hosted a barbeque to welcome the newest additions to our OLOL Community - our Kindergarten students and their families. It was wonderful to see so many happy faces. Parents had a chance to meet one another and our kindergarten students played with new found friends, teachers, Year 6 student leaders and SRC.

The new playground equipment proved popular with all students and a delicious sausage sizzle was catered for by our Parent Group and Year One families. The highlight of the evening was the Kindergarten Treasure Hunt, where the students took the lead showcasing their school to their excited parents, ending the night with a cold iceblock.

A big thank you to our Parent Group for organising the barbeque and to our Student Leaders for helping to make the night such a fun and memorable one. A big thank you also to Mrs Marlee Cividin and Miss Jessica Bradford for their hard work in preparing the Treasure Hunt. It was a wonderful night!





**OLOL Parent Group
Keeping you**

IN THE KNOW

March 2019

Talk about hitting the ground running! This has been an intense, but great start to the school year with fantastic input and participation from our parent community.

To recap what has happened:

First Parent Group Meeting for 2019 -

We had a fantastic turn out to our first Parent Group meeting for the year. Information and updates regarding the exciting projects going on throughout the school were shared as well as a variety of other information concerning the OLOL community.

Our next meeting is NEXT TUESDAY 12TH MARCH in the school library at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

2019 Parents as Educators Courses –

Congratulations to the parents who completed the course, enabling them to assist as class helpers, with lunch sales, Meal Deal distributions, Mothers and Fathers Day stall, excursions and more. Next opportunity to complete the Parents as Educators course will be the same time next year.

Kinder Welcome BBQ – Many thanks to the army of helpers who came to assist in serving and welcoming our kindergarten families.

We hope the Kindy families had a lovely, memorable time.

Pancake Meal Deal – Many thanks to the multitude of helpers who assisted in packing and distributing the Pancake Day Meal Deals. We hope your children enjoyed their morning tea treats. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for shout outs for our upcoming Hot Cross Buns Meal Deal!!

The Parent Group Executive are here to support and assist the OLOL Parent Community. We truly appreciate your input and assistance

The executive committee of the Parent Group consists of:

President	Patrizia Fiorenza
Vice President	Katherine Fountain
Secretary	Melissa Fahey
Treasurer	Janine Ballment
Publicity Officer	Melissa Laus
Email	OLOLPG@hotmail.com

The Parent Group meeting minutes can be found on the school website www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au. Go to 'notes for home', then 'whole school' then select the minutes you are looking for.

Please feel free to contact us at the email address listed above or if you see us around school if you have any queries, suggestions, requests or ideas to assist in supporting our school.

Dates to Remember!

March Dates

Tuesday 12th March – Parent Group Meeting

Meet in the **Library** at **7pm** for information on what is happening at OLOL from Mrs Byrnes, Mrs Cividin and the Parent Group. See below for further details.

Friday 22nd March - Stage 2 Assembly
2pm in the school hall.

Friday 29th March – School Cross Country Carnival.

April Dates

Friday 5th April – Stage 1 Assembly
2pm in the school hall

Friday 12th April – Last Day of Term One

– Hot Cross Buns

Meal Deal

Monday 29th April – Back to School

Lunchtime Sales

Zooper Doopers continue to be a popular treat for the children of all grades every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We are exploring other options to offer during lunchtime sales throughout the year, so if you have any suggestions, requests or ideas, please forward them to the Parent Group email or feel free to catch one of us around the school. We welcome your input, so please keep the ideas coming!

Parent Group Meeting

The 2nd Parent Group meeting for the year is to be held in the **school library** at **7pm** next **Tuesday 12th March**.

Please come along and hear what's going on at school, listen to updates on things going on in our school and share your thoughts and suggestions to contribute to the school community.

Hot Cross Bun Meal Deal

In the coming weeks we will be sending home order forms for our upcoming Hot Cross Bun Meal Deal. We are looking for a team of parents who would like to band together to assist us in the co-ordination of the Meal Deal (with our support, of course!).

All order forms and collation forms are set to go and we will place the order with the bakery, we just need some wonderful parents to pick up the Hot Cross Buns and oversee the distribution of the buns on the morning of the Meal Deal – Friday 12th April.

Some of the Parent Group Executive will be there to support and assist you on the morning of distribution and a call out for an army of distribution helpers will be going out in the coming weeks.

If you and a group of parent friends are able to take on this task, please let us know via the pgchat private message, the Parent Group email, or catch one of us at school! Thanks in advance!



Toolbox:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/login>

Uniform Booking Code: n4dcm

OLOL PG Chat Facebook Page

The Parent Group have a private Facebook page. It is a place where you can ask questions and provide answers about our school, school events, or parent group events. There are currently 201 members. Welcome to the new members who have joined recently. If you would like to join the group just search for "OLOL PG chat" and ask to join. Please read the rules so that you are aware of what can and cannot be posted. It is a great on the spot communication tool and event reminder!

Skoolbag App

Download the Skoolbag app for alerts regarding school events and quick access to notes, newsletters and school information



SkoolBag

OLOL Community Events

ALL parents of OLOL are members of the Parent Group and ALL are invited to put forward suggestions for events to build the parent community bond.

If there is an event that you are interested in co-ordinating for the OLOL parent and/or school community, please communicate your ideas to us and we will support you in co-ordinating the event to support our school (once the due protocol and process has been followed).

Suggestions so far have included a school community outdoor movie night, a "Dads Ride Day" and a Slice Drive.

We have enjoyed the start to our year working as a school parent community and look forward to our continued endeavours ahead.



Pastoral letter to the people and clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta

Dear friends,

The news concerning Cardinal George Pell and his conviction and incarceration on historic child sexual abuse crimes has dominated local and international media this week. Such news has caused a wide range of emotions in the community.

Even among Catholics, there is a sense of shame and anger at the betrayal that the clerical sex abuse crimes represent, and the hypocrisy they reveal. It is wider than simply the case of Cardinal Pell. We must respect the processes of the law and await the outcome of the appeal.

In the meantime, our primary concern must continue to be the care of the victims of sexual abuse.

The revisiting of such grievous wounds has been difficult for many. As we approach Lent, may we, too, grieve with all those suffering intensely. Genuine hope begins whenever we listen to the story of another with an open heart.

Some, too, feel that in the marketplace the “brand Catholic” has suffered a grievous blow. Perhaps so. But we are not a market nor are we a popular cult.

We are first and always a community of disciples following our one master, Jesus Christ. We are not the Church of one particular leader, be it Pope Francis or Cardinal Pell or any other bishop.

We are the living Body of Christ made up of saints and sinners.

We are challenged by Our Lord to reach out to all who are hurting, and to all victims of every abuse and sinfulness. We are to be the “field hospital” for all the marginalised as Pope Francis has asked us to become. We are to be in the messiness of life, not to run away into some “idealised future or romantic past.”

To be such, demands that we let go of our sense of superiority, privilege and power and embrace again our need for healing and forgiveness and to look again at the Suffering Servant leader who is our Lord Jesus.

Many people may say these are only words and they would be correct. However, for us they are the words of Jesus and we are called to put our faith in Him and demonstrate it in our actions by our care for all in need.

This would mean changing the way we think and act so that all may feel safe and welcome in our communities regardless of what they believe, look like, or have, and regardless of their sexuality, gender or marital status.

The season of Lent summons us to a discipleship of humility, weakness and vulnerability, of dying and rising in Christ. We are challenged to remove our heart of stone and to have a heart of flesh instead.

During this period of crisis and darkness, as the Church, let us pray that we have the courage to die to that which is contrary to the Gospel, and rise to be what Christ has called us to be.

Yours in Christ the Chief Shepherd,

A handwritten signature in green ink, reading "Vincent Long Van Nguyen".

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

Given at Parramatta on 1 March 2019.

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv STL DD

Bishop of Parramatta

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