



Innovative Learning In A Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

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Term 2

Week 4

18th May, 2016

FUTURE DATES...

MAY

THURSDAY 19th

7:00pm Confirmation

FRIDAY 20th

AFL Clinic Stages 2 & 3

2:00pm Assembly

MONDAY 23rd

Meal Deal Orders Due

NOTES SENT HOME MONDAY

- ❖ Year 6 Cake Stall
- ❖ Parent Group Meal Deal

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY

- ❖ Kindergarten & Year 1 Help for Meal Deal
- ❖ Year 2 Excursion

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to
Learn

Dear Parents

At the moment it is one of my favourite times of the year- enrolment interviews. It's such a pleasure to meet our new students and their families. The life journey taken to reach Our Lady of Lourdes is often quite considerable, overcoming many obstacles to be rewarded with the gift of a child who can come to our school.

You may remember me asking you the question: "Why would you like Our Lady of Lourdes school for your child?" Parents always answer that they would like a school that imparts good values to their children, values that they hold themselves.

Today I'm writing about the carpark which does crossover into good values. In Australia we can be caring, polite and respectful in our regular lives but somehow when we get into a car.....

We are lucky to have the carpark to use to drop off the children. Imagine how difficult and dangerous it would be if we had to drop the children off in Olive St or Grantham Road. The carpark does become congested some mornings and the peak time for our carpark does coincide with the end times of morning Mass. We arrive at the carpark after an epic morning of getting children ready for school and sometimes/always feel pressured.

So here are our top tips for avoiding carpark congestion:

-Arrive at school between 8:10am and 8:25am. The carpark is less busy at that time.

-Park on Grantham Road and surrounding streets and walk the children to the gate.

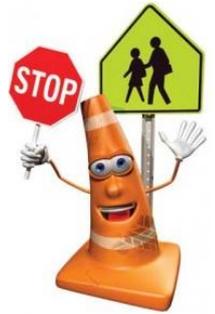
-Plan to arrive at the carpark no later than 8:30am so you have 10 minutes to get through the queue if you plan to use Kiss and Drop zone outside the Hall.

-Use the Kiss and Drop as parking spaces are limited in the mornings when the carpark outside the Office is closed after 8:10am

-Use both spots at the Kiss and Drop. There is now a big number 1 and 2 painted on the road.

-Consider others by not getting out of your car at the Kiss and Drop zone, not double parking or parking in the Office carpark before school and using the pedestrian crossing to walk the children through the carpark.

Consider others and especially our children by not judging and or abusing parents or parishioners who you feel are not following the rules. This behaviour is not something you are wanting to see in your children and they will not want to see it in their parents or in the parents of their friends. Along with Mrs Cividin, Mrs Regan, Miss Bentley and Miss Schrader, one or two mornings a week I go into the carpark – it's great to meet so many of you early in the morning and I have lots of interesting conversations with children and parents that are good for the building of connections between home and school, an important part of my job. If someone is not doing the right thing I will remind them of our rules out of earshot of children. I can understand that sometimes parents will park in a place because they are thinking of their child but school is a place where the rules and guidelines apply to all regardless of circumstances and Catholic schools are about all acting together as a Christian community. So we really rely on everyone doing the right thing in front of children who are absorbing the values of their parents.



Kind regards,

Lesley Studans

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold Award winners:

Kindergarten	Isha
Year 1	Aaron
Year 2	Phillip
Year 3	Florencia
Year 4	Charlotte
Year 5	Daniel
Year 6	Jackson



ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS

This year we will once again be making class hampers of winter food items which will be used by the Society to help those in need. Early next week, the children will come home with a request for a donation of a non-perishable food item for the class hamper. The hampers will be presented to a representative from the Society at the Sacred Heart of Jesus liturgy on Friday in week 6. Thank you in anticipation for your support of this appeal.



2017 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

Please return the completed enrolment application forms by Friday 27th May as interviews have already commenced.

Winter Uniform

Thank you for ensuring your children are wearing their correct winter uniform. **A reminder that girls must wear a tab and boys a tie.**

Appointments can be made at www.schoolinterviews.com.au code **XVQUU**.

Alternatively if you know the sizes required you can complete an order form and return it to the school office with payment. Forms can be downloaded from the school website.



CARPARK

Safety concerns have once again been raised about the carpark. Parents are urged to obey all traffic signs and pay particular attention to the crossing both in the morning and the afternoon. Parents are asked to ***never*** overtake on the crossing, stop on the crossing or increase speed when approaching the crossing. This is to ensure the safety of all carpark users. Thank you in anticipation.



YEAR 1 FAMILY MASS THIS SUNDAY 22ND MAY AND WYD BBQ BREAKFAST

The families of **Year 1** will lead the **Family Mass this Sunday at 9:30 a.m.** Year 1 are also responsible for providing morning tea for the Parish after Mass. Please send any donations (packaged cakes or biscuits) to the classroom. There will be a fundraising BBQ after Mass to raise funds for our teacher pilgrims as well as the pilgrims from the parish. Everyone, especially families are welcome to come and celebrate the Eucharist together.

THIS WEEK'S CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY: COMFORT THE SICK

The children are encouraged to make 'Get well soon' cards for patients in local hospitals and nursing homes who may not receive many well wishes. Creating a card from an anonymous friend is a simple way that we can show God's mercy and love to others. Each stage has been allocated a different hospital

Early Stage One/Stage One- Local nursing homes
Stage Two- Blacktown Hospital
Stage Three- Westmead Children's Hospital

The children have been asked to complete these cards in their own time if they wish to participate. Any cards can be sent to Miss Bentley.

PARENT GROUP NEWS...

MEAL DEAL

Our chicken strip meal deal is on Friday 27th May. Just a reminder that orders need to be returned by **next Monday, 23rd May.**

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Our parish has an active Youth Group for those children who have left primary school. The Youth Group engages in both social activities and fundraising/social outreach activities. Over coming weeks the Youth Group will be promoting a range of activities in the newsletter. Have a look and see what the youth of our Parish are involved in.



ST VINCENT DE PAULS WINTER APPEAL - AN ACT OF MERCY

From the 8th of May through till the 5th of June, the Youth Group are kindly inviting the members of our Church and Primary School community, to extend their generosity and support to this year's Winter Appeal. Donation items can include blankets, toiletry/sanitary items and winter goods, which will most certainly be of great use to the less fortunate, the homeless and the poor in our society. Donation tubs are placed at the back of the Church and in the Parish Office for collection. Please get involved, act with mercy and let's warm up their world together!

WORLD YOUTH DAY BIG BREAKFAST

Are you hungry for a breakfast treat? On the 22nd of May after 9:30am Mass, the Youth Group are cooking up a bacon and eggs breakfast plate priced at ONLY \$5. All the money collected will be fundraised towards our 5 very own Pilgrims of our community, who will be travelling and attending World Youth Day. Come and join us after Mass for this delightful breakfast, a warm cuppa and a nice chat!



COMMUNITY NEWS...

NAGLE COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

Enrolments for Year 7, 2017 at Nagle College are open.

Year 7 interviews will commence on 8th June, 2016 with acceptance letters posted at the end of Term 2.

If you would like more information, please contact the College on 8887 4501.

Out and About

Last week I spoke to our Year 6 students about the safety issues around social media. It is always a tricky subject. Social media in all forms is not allowed at school (even staff cannot access Facebook via the school internet). However we at times get complaints about student's behaviour on social media. As a school it is very difficult for us to control because due to the restrictions we have in place this activity happens at home on "the parents watch", and we have no control over the home environment other than asking for parental cooperation. It is equally vexing because it actually contravenes the rules of all the social media sites for any primary age student to have such an account. To set up an account a student (or their parent) has to lie about their age. As one parent pointed out to me how can we expect our children to act on line with integrity when their membership is based on a lie. When I spoke to the students I pointed out that the reason such sites have age restrictions is because they consider children under 13 to not be mature enough to use and understand the true ramifications of information they share online. There are many instances where age restrictions are in place for the safety of our children. We would not let a 14 year old drive a car, a child of any age smoke cigarettes or consume alcohol because as adults we know that the age restrictions that apply are there to protect the young person until they are able to make a responsible decision themselves. The dangers of social media are just as real but for some reason many parents feel that disregarding the age restrictions that apply is ok in this instance. There is much evidence to the contrary. I would encourage all parents to think about the access their children have to the internet and social media in particular. The following link to the Office of the Children's esafety Commissioner provides useful information for parents on all aspects of online content:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/esafety-information>. It is worth remembering that we are the adults in the situation. Children do not always know what is best for them. As parents we often have to make hard decisions for the good of our children. Responsible access to the internet is an example of this.



Carol Cividin – Assistant Principal

CONGRATULATIONS

Our Lady of Lourdes would like to congratulate the following children who make their Confirmation tomorrow night:

*Connor
Lilly-Maree
Jacob
Patricia
Victor
Ava
Harley
Sophia
Sofia
Alessandra
Dominic
Lachlan
Leah
Jackson*

*Kitty
Jaylen
Jayda-Leigh
Aaron
Taliah
Charlotte
Mikayla
Macy
Harry
Katelyn
Matthew
Cameron
Anastasia
Mary*



We will pray for you as you continue on your faith journey!