Dear Families of Our Lady of Lourdes,

This year from 5 - 11 March 2017 Our Lady of Lourdes will join with Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW).

Our theme for CSW 2017 is ‘Learning connected’, building on Pope Francis’ statement that ‘Everything is connected’. This sense of connection calls for shared responsibility for the care of nature and our human relationships in a changing world.

Catholic Schools Week is about forging and strengthening connections between everyone who has a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing our activities and actions.

During Catholic Schools Week, we take the opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our schools every day.

For that reason, we invite you and your family to join us at OLOL on Friday 10th March to celebrate with our school and parish community during Catholic Schools Week 2017.

Our school will celebrate in the following ways:

Thursday 9th March
9.30-11:00am Open Day information session. This session is for prospective new families looking to enrol their child at OLOL in 2018.

Friday 10th March
8:40-9:10am Open Classrooms
9:15am Catholic Schools Week Mass.
10:30 - 11:00 (approx) Morning tea

This is an ideal opportunity to support our community of OLOL and learn more about the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day.

Our school has a supportive and talented community of teachers, parents, carers, clergy, parishioners and support staff who work together to give students the best education possible.

This special week on the Catholic Schools’ calendar provides an opportunity for the community to recognise our committed and gifted teachers and support staff for their work in encouraging success, promoting discipline, supporting creativity and instilling compassion in our young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support of OLOL and look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week with you on Friday 10th March.

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes
GOLD AWARDS
Congratulations to this week’s Gold Award winners:
Kindergarten Jessica
Year 1 Amber
Year 2 Latai
Year 3 Diya
Year 4 Alysse
Year 5 Brayden
Year 6 Vaidehi

IMAGINATION – NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY
On Friday 3rd of March OLOL Year 6 school leaders went to the Darling Harbour Convention Centre for National Young Leaders Day. We were able to listen to five amazing speakers that have demonstrated leadership and done significant things in their lives. We left school at 7:20am to get to the Centre and hopped on a train to the city. There were over 4000 leaders from many schools from all over the state. The theme of the day was 'Together We Can'. The hosts, Gemma and Scott were very funny. The speakers were Sam Skinner, Sam Webb, Jade Hameister, Dr. Jordan Nguyen and Barry Conrad. They all were great speakers and they taught us a great deal about leadership.

We learnt not to let our problems get in the way of our lives, that we can be great and to believe in ourselves. Sam Skinner was teaching us to put our friends and family before ourselves. Sam Webb taught us that if we collaborate and work together as a team anything is possible. Jade Hameister taught us to be brave and not perfect. As she pointed out failure is the next step to success. Dr Jordan Nguyen advised us that we need to look for opportunities to make the lives of others better. Barry Conrad taught us that a leader includes all and is a gatherer of people. We had a great day and had a special performance from Barry Conrad.

WAKAKIRRI 2017
We are very excited to announce our school is taking part in the Wakakirri story dance competition again this year. The performance will take place at the Riverside Theatre, Parramatta in Week 6 of Term 3. Our story this year is called, "Once Upon a Fairy Tale". We are asking all students from Years 3-6 who would like to be part of our Wakakirri item to come to the auditions next week in the school hall at lunchtime: Tuesday 14th - Stage 2. Wednesday the 15th - Stage 3. We will be asking for any parents who wish to help to join the Wakakirri parent committee next term.

Thank you,
Clare Willemse  Creative Arts Teacher

SCHOOL FEES
Term 1 School Fees are now overdue. If you already have paid your fees, thank you. All outstanding school fees should now be paid or under an arrangement.

If you are having difficulties in paying your school fees please do not hesitate in contacting Mrs Monique Kearins on 9622 7216.

School Office hours are 8:30am – 3:30pm (Closed from 10:40am to 11:00am)

All payments and enquiries can be made during that time. Payments may be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPay, Post BillPay or by Credit Card. Details are located on the bottom of the statement. When paying by BPay please use the current statement. We advise that we are unable to process EFTPOS payments after 3:30pm.

WINTER UNIFORMS
We are now taking appointments for winter uniform fittings. Code: q8ane
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
FAREWELL MRS CATHERINE HUTCHINGS
Mrs Catherine Hutchings, who is one of our wonderful office ladies, will be leaving OLOL at the end of this term as she has made the decision to retire.

Mrs Hutchings has been a part of the OLOL community for 28 years as a parent, a volunteer, a teacher assistant, library assistant and in more recent years as one of the office ladies. Mrs Hutchings was instrumental in setting up the Out of School Hours service at OLOL and has also been very active in serving our OLOL Parish. This service included chairing the Parish Council and contributing to the Children’s Liturgy and Baptism programs.

Mrs Hutchings has always been an asset to our school. She is a person who has served others including children, parents and staff. She has always been a great supporter of our school showing loyalty and commitment. Her tireless efforts have made a difference to our community over many years. She will be greatly missed.

Mrs Hutchings, in the journey ahead as you are able to spend more time with your husband and family doing the things that you most want to do, we wish you great happiness, good health and that God’s blessings travel with you.

PARENT GROUP NEWS...
LUNCHTIME SALES
We are still in need of parents assistance for lunchtime sales to continue, if you are able to help out on any of these days, please contact any of the parent group committee members or email ololpg@hotmail.com

MEETING
Our next Parent Group meeting will be held next Wednesday, 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

HELPER FORM
Just one thing – if you haven’t sent your green helper form back, it’s not too late just send it with your child to school. If you require this form, please email Theresa Sultana on theresa.sultana@lendlease.com

PG FACEBOOK PAGE
If you would like to join the group just search for “OLOL PG chat” and ask to join.

RE at OLOL
The season of Lent calls us to ‘clean up oneself’ of all the ‘unwanted stuff’ ruling our life, keeping us from the love and forgiveness of our Lord. Lent reminds us that just as our material ‘stuff’ is prioritized, we should balance our own emotional, spiritual needs with the needs of the people around us.

Monday - Wash Day Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday - Ironing Day - Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday - Mending Day O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday - Cleaning Day Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday - Shopping Day O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday - Cooking Day Help me, my Saviour, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with the clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday - The Lord’s Day O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart as my honoured guest so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

Let us start afresh this Lent, a life filled with love, peace, joy and justice!
God’s blessings!

Janelle Bawden
Acting Religious Education Coordinator
This year we are fortunate to have specialist teachers in the areas of Creative Arts (Drama and Dance) and Physical Education (Sport). The students are really enjoying their weekly lessons. Here are some quotes and photos from our Year 1 and Year 2 students.

**Creative Arts with Mrs Willemse**

“‘I like to do Acting with Mrs Willemse’
Kristena"

“‘It is really good how we play fun games’. Javiar"

“I love the guessing game when you don’t tell what you are doing”. William"

**Physical Education with Mrs Brogden**

“‘Mrs Brogden does fun things with us, we get to run around the school’. Emma"

“I like when we play soccer”. Isabella"

“I like it when Mrs Brogden lets us play fun games in sport” Audrey"

“We get to play soccer” Alex"