



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

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Term 1 **Week 3** **10th February, 2016**

FUTURE DATES...

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 10th

7:30pm Parent Group Meeting

Friday 12th

8:40am-10:40am

Parents as Educators

Tuesday 16th

3:00pm-9:00pm

Parent Teacher

Interviews

NOTES SENT HOME

MONDAY

- ❖ Meet the teacher interviews
- ❖ Canberra Notes
- ❖ School Picnic
- ❖ Stage 3 Leaders note

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY

- ❖ Music Bus
- ❖ Stage 3 Australian Catholics
- ❖ Years 2-6 Catholic Schools Guide
- ❖ Parent Group Meeting Agenda
- ❖ Year 6 Tshirts
- ❖ Kinder-Year 3 Student Banking

Respect

Responsibility

Readiness to

Learn

Dear Parents

Today the school attended Ash Wednesday Mass to mark the beginning of Lent. We all, regardless of faith or age had placed on our foreheads a cross made of ashes. The ashes remind us that in Lent we try to become better people.

The banner on the altar read "Give, Pray, Fast". This is our guidepost for how we journey towards Easter during Lent. During Lent there are poor boxes called Project Compassion in each class. Children are asked to think about what they eat today and on Good Friday and to avoid treats. We are asked to pray each day.



Here is the reflection from Stage 3 at Mass today:

During Lent we try to take up new habits not just give up what we enjoy the most!

Give up judging others...look for Christ dwelling in them

Give up emphasising difference...celebrate our oneness

Give up the darkness around us...ignite the light of Christ

Give up words that pollute...use words that cleanse

Give up worrying...trust more

Give up complaining...become appreciative

Give up hostility and revenge...just let go

Give up bitterness...forgive more readily

Give up discouragement...promote optimism

Give up suspicion...look for the good

Give up idle gossip...spread the Good News

Give up talking...feast on listening

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Parent Group meeting tonight at 7:30pm, Meet the Teacher meetings next Tuesday and our family picnic on Friday 26th February from 6pm.

Kind regards,

Lesley Studans

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold Award winners:

Year 1	Vrinda
Year 2	Alex
Year 3	Lucas
Year 4	Madeline
Year 5	Alison
Year 6	Dominic



REMINDER

Our Opening School Mass will take place next Thursday the 18th February at 9:15am. All are warmly welcome to attend.



PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

A reminder that our first Parents as Educators course will be held this Friday, at 8:40am, in the library. There will be a repeat session on Wednesday, February 24th commencing at 7:00 pm. **If you wish to assist in any way at school this year – including excursions, iceblock sales, Mothers' and Fathers' Day stalls, you need to have completed this course either this year or in 2015.**

Reminder

ANAPHYLAXIS

A reminder that as we have a number of children with life threatening food allergies we ask parents not to send nuts and nut products to school. This includes peanut butter, chocolate nut spreads such as Nutella and nuts as snacks. We also have a policy of not sharing food with friends.



Project Compassion
Lent Calendar

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION

Did you know that you can download a Lent Calendar for your smart phone, or use the web version and set it as your homepage, to 'Learn More' and 'Create Change' this Lent?

Use the calendar to deepen your spirituality this Lent and learn about Caritas Australia's work in six countries across the globe. Explore Project Compassion, meet inspiring people and reflect on the Lenten period through daily readings, prayers and social justice actions.

A children's version is available online also; reflect together as a class, whole school, family and parish!

View or download at www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/lent-calendar

There is a Project Compassion box in each learning space for donations. Thank you for your generosity.

STUDENT BANKING CHANGE OF DAY

Banking is conducted every **THURSDAY** at OLOL. Details on opening an account can be found in the flyer sent home today.

FAMILY PICNIC AND DANCE NIGHT

On 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 join the fun with lots of dances, new and old, on the playlist. Hope to see you there!!



PARISH NEWS...

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Our parish offers the Sacramental Program to children who are in Year 3 (or older) this year. **The first meeting (parents only) is TONIGHT in the Stage 2 space.** Contact the parish office on 96222920.



SCHOOL FEES

School fees have now been sent to all families. If you do not receive your account by next week or have any queries in regards to your fees or payment options please contact Mrs Kearins in the school office.

PARENT GROUP NEWS...

LUNCH TIME TREATS



The parent group are selling iceblocks on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for \$1 this term. In the event of rainy weather and when the children are kept warm and dry inside, there would be no lunchtime sales. In this case, if parents involved in selling the iceblocks, are unsure about whether to attend or not, please ring the school office.

PARISH FEAST DAY

Parish Feast Day was held last Sunday. The Parent Group would like to thank the many volunteers that helped to make the event a success. The parish and school community work together as one for events held by our church and it was great to see so many parents there.

PARENT GROUP MEETING

Our first meeting for the year will be held tonight at 7:30pm (please make note of the time change) in the school library all parents are welcome to come. The night is very informative and is a place where parents and Mrs Studans and Mrs Cividin talk about issues and concerns and upcoming events.

YEAR GROUP PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

The parent group are still needing one more parent to be the year group parent representative for years 4 and 6. If you would like to volunteer please contact Lisa Beullens by personal message through the facebook page: OLOL pg chat or by email: lbeullens@hotmail.com

The News in RE



Today (Ash Wednesday), marks the beginning of a new liturgical season on the Church's calendar. Lent is a period of preparation for Easter that lasts for forty days. In this year of Mercy, Pope Francis has asked that we use this period of time in particular to reflect upon and experience God's merciful love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As humans, we are constantly growing and changing. At times we need to stop to recognise our human condition and acknowledge the need to repent so that we can grow and change to be more like Jesus, and this is what Lent is for.

Children are keen at the beginning of Lent each year to share their understanding of the season by volunteering what they will be 'giving up' for the weeks leading up to Easter. Lent however, is not about saying 'no' to fun or our fasting from our favourite foods, but about saying a resounding 'YES!' to God. This year Pope Francis encourages us to fast from indifference towards others and God. While giving up small luxuries is a good start, making a conscious effort to become closer to God, to repent and have a change of heart thereby ultimately becoming better people through the transforming love of God, is much better.

Of course it is not an easy time. It does require commitment. The children are learning that the Church gives us the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist to help us through this transformation. We also participate in this process through the actions of almsgiving (giving to the poor), prayer (giving God time) and fasting (creating a space where God can come more fully into our lives).

The teaching and learning that is happening in the classrooms this Lent aims at developing in the children the knowledge that when we participate in the Sacraments combined with these three actions each Lent; we are responding to our deep love and longing for the Truth that is God.

Amanda Bentley

Religious Education Coordinator

Curriculum Conversations

Welcome Kindergarten 2016!!

Last week we welcomed our newest students into our school community. It was great to see so many happy and settled children enjoying all the fantastic experiences that OLOL has to offer. We are sure that both the children and their parents will have a wonderful year at OLOL.

