



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

School: Ms Keiran Byrnes (Principal)

Phone: 9622 7216

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills 2147

Email: OLOLSHills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Parish: Father Henry Duc (Parish Priest)

Website: www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au

OOSH: Tanya Hirth (Before and After School Care)

Phone: 9622 2920

Phone: 9676 7293

Term 1

Week 9

22nd March, 2017

FUTURE DATES...

MARCH

Friday 31st

School Cross Country

APRIL

Monday 3rd

No Assembly

Tuesday 4th

8:40am Assembly

NOTES SENT HOME

MONDAY

- PRC login details
- QCS survey

NOTES SENT HOME

TODAY

- Meal Deal
- Mufti Day
- School photos

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to
Learn

Dear Families of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Towards the beginning of this term I wrote to you about the importance of regular attendance at school being critical to ensuring that every student has the kind of opportunities in life that he or she deserves. In 2017, Our Lady of Lourdes will be lending our support to a campaign called 'Every Learner, Every Day', an initiative designed to remind all students and parents why regular school attendance is so important.

At school we are interested in your child's wellbeing and happiness, engagement with learning in the classroom, and social and emotional development. **The single most important thing you can do to support all of these areas is ensure they attend Every Day.** Below are five important considerations for families in supporting your child to develop great attendance.

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!

Our Current Attendance Rate at the end of Week 8 Term 1 is 90.1%.

Remember to keep coming every day so you can learn everything you can – and to come on time too!

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold

Award winners:

Kindergarten	Myron
Year 1	Harry
Year 2	Haylee
Year 3	George
Year 4	Connor
Year 5	Joshua
Year 6	Daniel



PROJECT COMPASSION DAY – WEDNESDAY MARCH 29

On Wednesday March 29, we are having a Mufti Day to raise money for Project Compassion. It is not just a Mufti Day where the children wear play clothes and bring in some money for the privilege. The day will entail some activities where the children will be made aware of some of the challenges that people have to face every day. All proceeds will go towards our 'Piggytas' initiative.



Please encourage your child to donate, at least, a gold coin on this day so that we can raise as much money for the village in The Philippines.

CAPTIVATE

Good luck to *Chloe* who will be in the CAPTIVATE Commercial Dance Ensemble performing at the Make Bullying History Gala this Friday.

Performance Date: Friday 24 March

Time: 4.30pm to 8pm

Venue: Castle Hill RSL

WINTER UNIFORMS

We are now taking appointments for winter uniform fittings. Code: q8ane
www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Appointments are available Tuesday morning and Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Students will commence wearing winter uniform early in Term 2.



NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2017 (NAPLAN)

In May 2017, the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 9th to 11th May 2017.

Friday 12th May - A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

- Tuesday 9th May Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation)
- Wednesday 10th May Reading
- Thursday 11th May Numeracy

AWARDS

Congratulations to the children who received Merit Awards last Friday:



KB	Saanv , Bianca, Charanjot , George
KW	Thoma , Avish, James , Ivy
1B	Maci , Harmony, Riley, Laumanu
1W	William, Javiar, Sophie, Kara, Shaan
2B	Lucas, Valerie , Demi, Moses
2W	Zachary, Pavithra, Aiden, Isabella
3B	Erika, Hailey, Polat , Jacob
3W	Xavier, Callum , Chantai, Nysa
4B	Erin, Florencia, Zakary, Ali
4W	Riley , Alysse , Jessica, Liam
5B	Chelsea , Jhamahl, Haydenl, Shany
5W	Tessa, Charlotte, Fletcher , Alex
6B	Joanne, Dwayne , Anoj Charlise
6W	Chloe , Chloe , Edward , Diana

KINDERGATEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

Parents wishing to enrol their child in Kindergarten for 2018 applications are now being accepted. Interview times are being timetabled and conducted with the aim that they will be completed by the end of next term. If you have any relatives or friends considering enrolling their child at OLOL in 2018, now is the time to remind them to place their applications at the school office.

UNIFORM & GROOMING

A big thank you to all of our parents who are very supportive and continue to send their child/children to school dressed in the correct school uniform and with appropriate grooming, especially haircuts. This is a great way to instil self-respect and respect for the school community to which they belong. Students are to be neatly and cleanly dressed at all times. Shoes should be clean and well presented. Hair is to be kept neat and tidy, off the collar, of consistent natural colour, of gradual even grade and all extremes of fashion are to be avoided. Some examples of "hair styles" that are unacceptable include: ridges, lines, undercuts, steps, bowl cuts, any excessive shaping with gel, and any shaving cuts. Girl's hair that is longer than shoulder length is to be tied back from the face. Hair is to be off the face and out of the eyes. Ribbons, hair slides etc, if worn should be in the uniform fabric or blue. Scrunchies are sold from the Uniform Shop. Correct length and colour socks are also required.

We thank you for your ongoing understanding in not sending mixed messages to the children and supporting us in being consistent with the OLOL uniform policy and maintaining our great reputation within the community.

PARISH FAMILY MASS

9:30am Sunday March 26

Year Four children will be leading the Mass in the readings, Prayers of Intercession and the Offertory. There will be morning tea afterwards and everyone is warmly invited to stay for that. Year Four families are reminded to bring in some food to share with the parish and place it in the kitchen in the hall beforehand. It will be lovely to see as many families as possible at the Mass as we celebrate as a parish and school community.



Maths is Fun



Nothing may be more feared in the minds of young children and their parents than learning the basic math facts. Just hearing the times tables takes many of us back to our own childhoods, staring at a blank page and trying to remember the dreaded $9 \times 8 = 72$. The good news is that children should not have to suffer the same fear. A substantial amount of mathematics education research shows that children do not master their math facts through memorisation alone. Instead, understanding comes from being equipped with quick and effective strategies for finding the solution. By using these strategies, children will always have the mental tools needed to find the correct answer and the confidence to use them.

With a strategy-based approach to the basic math facts, children use what they already know to figure out what they don't know. Rather than racking their brains to remember the answer to a basic math fact, they can simply find a "helping" fact and use it as a jumping-off point. For example, let's say that your child knows the common fact $5 \times 5 = 25$. She/he can then add one more 5 to figure out that $6 \times 5 = 30$. Think of this as the "one more than" strategy. There are many such strategies that parents can teach their children in order to equip them with the tools they need to master all of their math facts.

Some of the most common strategies for basic fact mastery include:

- ~ Skip Counting
- ~ Make 10
- ~ Doubles and Near Doubles
- ~ Nines
- ~ Commutative Property
- ~ Use Fact Families
- ~ Make it Real

I will explain a little more about each strategy in my next Maths Is Fun Column.

Karin Schrader
Maths Coordinator

CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

THIS TERM THE STUDENTS IN STAGE TWO HAVE BEEN LEARNING ALL ABOUT AUSTRALIA AND HOW DIFFERENT TYPES OF CYCLES AFFECT OUR WORLD. WE HAVE BEEN GROWING PLANTS TO STUDY LIFE CYCLES AND UNDERTAKING SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS ON WHAT MAKES PLANTS GROW. STAGE TWO HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT WAYS THEY CAN WORK TOGETHER AND BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS. WE HAVE HAD AN ENJOYABLE AND PRODUCTIVE START TO 2017.

