



Innovative Learning In A
Changing World

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School News 'n' Views

School: Ms Keiran Byrnes
7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills 2147

Parish: Father Henry Duc (Parish Priest)
OOSH: Ben Irmisch (Before and After School Care)

Phone: 8869 6800
Email: OLOLSHills@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au
Phone 9622 2920
Phone: 9676 7293

Term 1

Week 4

21st February, 2018

FUTURE DATES...

- Friday, 23rd February
Yr 6 girls to Nagle
Diocesan Swimming
Carnival
- Tuesday 27th February
Parents as
Educators 6.30pm –
8.30pm in the
Library
- Wednesday 28th February
1st Reconciliation
Meeting 6.30 –
7.30pm parent only
- Thursday 1st March
❖ Kinder Welcome
BBQ 5-6.30pm
- Friday 2nd March
❖ Stage 2 Assembly
2pm in the hall
- Monday 5th March
❖ Kinder Open
Morning prospective
families 2019
- Tuesday 6th March
❖ Catholic Schools
Week Mass at
9.15am
- Wednesday 7th March
❖ Stage 3 Canberra
Excursion
❖ 2nd Reconciliation
Meeting 6.30pm –
7.30pm

NOTES SENT HOME MONDAY...

Uniform – Jumper Order
Year 6 Leaders note

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY

Staffing Note Yr 2W

Respect
Responsibility
Readiness to Learn

Dear Families of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Last week we entered the season of Lent as a faith community celebrating the Eucharist and receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday. In my reading recently I came across this reflection on Lent as an opportunity to renew and deepen our relationship with God.

The Light of New Life

Every Lent is a fresh opportunity to air our memories of the life of Jesus on the way to his final moments and ultimate resurrection. We can easily go through another Lent without letting its roots grow deep within us. Come Easter we can simply have gone through the season like any other.

This Lent, let us be extra mindful of Jesus as he walks the way to the Father. We can take this season as a preparation to encounter Jesus anew as he descends the valley of the shadow of death and rises to spread the light of new life.

Consider this season as an invitation to take to the road with Jesus. Along the way, be attentive to his way of responding to people. Invite Jesus to enter into your own relationships, that they may be moulded and shaped by his Spirit.

Let us ask for the grace that Jesus teach us his way of compassion, especially for those most in need of healing care. As we follow Jesus on his way, let us ask for his guidance each and every day of our Lenten journey.

Madonna Magazine, Autumn 2018, p38.

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes

GOLD AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's Gold Award winners:

Kindergarten *Isabella Zelasko*

Year 1 *Amelia Laus*

Year 2 *Kara Whybin*

Year 3 *Pranshu Kumar*

Year 4 *Alex Layoun*

Year 6 *Christian Milicivec*



School Fees

School Fees for Term 1 were sent to your home address by mail. Due to an **error** in processing the Biller Code generated on your School Fees Statements the statements will be reprinted and sent again to your home address.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

When paying by B-Pay please use Biller Code 192153 then your reference number.

Term 1 fees are due by Wednesday, 21st March 2018.

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.

Please contact Mrs Monique Kearins on 8869 6800 if you wish to discuss your school fees statement or if you are having financial difficulty in paying the fees.

UNIFORMS



The uniform shop has opened for 2018. If you wish to make an appointment to try-on please logon to the website <http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au>

Use the event code: gf88b. 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.

JUMPER ORDERS

A note was sent home on Monday in relation to school jumper orders for 2018. As was the case last year there is a three week window in which to order the school jumper. Once this time has elapsed **NO FURTHER JUMPER ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN AND JUMPERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE PURCHASED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING YEAR.** Last year, despite this being heavily advertised, a number of parents expressed disappointment at not being able to purchase the jumper at a later date. Please spread the word around the parent community of the need to order and purchase the school jumper now to avoid disappointment later on. The last day to order the jumper is **Thursday March 8th, 2018.**

Nagle College Blacktown Open Afternoon/Evening for Year 7, 2019

On Tuesday 6 March from 3.30 pm until 7.30 pm. Enrolment packages will be available on the afternoon and tours of the school will be conducted. Prospective parents and students are warmly invited to attend.

Whole School Writing

As mentioned in our last school newsletter for our whole school writing stimulus this term the students were asked to write a letter to Ms Byrnes and Mrs Cividin to persuade them to purchase items for our new playground. The ideas that the students came up with were many and varied from a foam pit, to monkey bars, to soccer fields. In the end 3 letters were chosen that were both well written and had feasible propositions. Congratulations to Zak Armitage who suggested baskets of equipment, Leo Cullili who suggested soccer goals and Cassandra Laus who suggested a balance beam. In the next few weeks this equipment will be purchased and Zak, Leo and Cassandra will have the first opportunity to use it. There were many great letters. Parents may like to see some of the other finalists whose letters are on display in our "Author's Gallery" outside of Year 5.

Parramatta Diocese Cricket Team

Congratulations to Thomas Osborne in Year Six who has been selected for the Parramatta Diocese Cricket Team. This is a great achievement and we wish him the best of luck as he competes in Wollongong on the 23rd of March. We know that Thomas will represent not only the Parramatta Diocese, but Our Lady of Lourdes with great pride and sportsmanship.

Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday the 14th of February, Miss Geekie travelled with a team of 17 students to Mt Druitt Pool to compete in the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival. Every student who competed on the day demonstrated fantastic swimming ability as well as great sportsmanship. Congratulations to the students who will be progressing to the next level and will compete in the Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Friday 23rd of February. Thank you to Mrs Milicevic, Mrs Mejalli, Mrs Rigney, Mrs Fahey and Ms Cassidy who volunteered as official helpers on the day, without the help of parents we are unable to run these carnivals successfully.

A special congratulations to the following students who were named age champions or broke a Blacktown Zone record:

- Irene Suryathyo was awarded the 11 years girls age champion and broke the record for 50m Freestyle.
- Thomas Osborne was awarded the senior boys runner up age champion.
- Thomas Fahey broke the record for 11 years boys 50m Breaststroke.
- Cameron Fahey broke the record for the junior boys 50m Freestyle.
- Ziva Suryathyo was awarded the Junior girls runner up age champion.

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

A reminder that our last Parents as Educators course will be held for this year next Wednesday, 27th February, at 6:30pm in the library. **To assist in any way at school this year – including excursions, iceblock sales, Mothers' and Fathers' Day stalls or Year 6 Graduation activities you need to have completed this course** either this year or in 2017.

PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE



As you all know, we are raising money for Project Compassion in order to support a village in Nepal. Each week, we will keep you updated as to how much money we have raised and how many goats we will be able to provide for the village. In our first week of donations (which was really only three days from Ash Wednesday till Friday) we raised \$254.15 -which is an amazing effort. This means that we have been able to so far buy 5 goats for the village as each goat costs \$50 each. I know that a lot of children have been donating their ice block money and pocket money to the cause and it is just wonderful to hear the excitement in the children's voices when they tell me about what they have done to help others who are less fortunate than themselves.

Nathan Bayeh (2W and Sienna KW) has written something about what he did to donate money to Project Compassion.

"My sister Sienna, and I donated \$50 each. I've been working hard and helping around the house with special jobs like 'doing the dishwasher' and getting myself ready in the morning. I have to help my sister with her zipper. Mum and Dad gave us money for doing these jobs and we decided to give it to Project Compassion to help the people who aren't as lucky as us."

Project Compassion Day

On Wednesday February 28, 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 'Goaty Gift Paddock' initiative.

The children will need to wear sports shoes for the activities and wear appropriate clothing that protects them from the sun etc. All children will still need to wear a hat for the day as well.

Please encourage your child to donate a gold coin on the day or perhaps even a donation from your family. I am sure that our children will find personal reward knowing that they are contributing towards easing poverty and hardship for people around the world.

Thank you for your support in this social justice initiative.

Janelle Bawden
Religious Education Coordinator

Catholic Schools Week

This year from 4 - 10 March 2018 Our Lady of Lourdes will join with Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW).

Our theme for CSW 2018 is 'Every learner, every day: TRANSFORMING LEARNING'.

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 Tuesday 6th March to celebrate with our school and parish community during Catholic Schools Week 2018.

Our school will celebrate in the following ways:

Monday 5th March 9.30 - 11:00am
Open Day information session. This session is for prospective new families looking to enrol their child at OLOL in 2019.

Tuesday 6th March 8:40 - 9:10am
Open Classrooms
9.15am
Catholic Schools Week Mass
10.30 – 11.00 Approx
Morning Tea – parents
Are welcome to join their children in the playground at recess

Wednesday 7th - Friday 9th March
Stage 3 Canberra Trip

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 Tuesday 6th March.

Keiran Byrnes

Respect, Responsibility and Readiness to Learn

At Our Lady of Lourdes we pride ourselves on showing respect, responsibility and a readiness to learn. These values are important values for all our community including children, staff and parents. The children are very clear about these expectations and we are proud of the high standard of behaviour that our children display. Naturally concerns sometimes arise for children and as adults working with the children we assist them to reflect upon the situation and find positive ways to solve their concern or issue. As adults, sometimes you may also have an issue or concern in regards to your child. Office and teaching staff are always happy to listen to and help resolve any concerns that may arise. It is important that this is done in a manner that maintains the dignity of the person and is respectful. In this way we can set a great example for our children of how to resolve concerns in a positive, honest and respectful manner. As always if you need to speak with any member of staff we simply ask that you make an appointment so that we can make the time to continue to work in partnership with you. Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance

Our school attendance rate at the end of week 3 is at 90.8%. Keep up the good work.

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 **every learner every day** ✓

School Name	School Attendance Level %
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary Seven Hills	90.8%
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level %
K	86.7%
01	92.0%
02	84.3%
03	94.4%
04	93.6%
05	92.6%
06	91.3%

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
 - Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
 - Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
 - Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
 - Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
 - Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2019 

Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.




OPEN NIGHT
Tuesday 13 March 2018 4.00pm - 7.00pm


This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 6TH APRIL 2018

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

Gilroy Catholic College's 

PRODUCTION OF



Music by **Alan Menken** | Lyrics by **Howard Ashman & Tim Rice** | Book by **Linda Woolverton**

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia). All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

Wednesday 9th May • Thursday 10th May • Friday 11th May • Saturday 12th May | 2018

Tickets available from : www.trybooking.com/345002

OLOL Website Upgrade!

Over the past year many people have been working behind the scenes to upgrade our existing school website. This has been slowly happening for all schools in the Parramatta Diocese. We are excited to announce our new-look website will be launched on Tuesday the 20TH of February. The upgrade will make the site much more user friendly and easier for teachers to upload photos and general information for the community. Please check it out at <http://www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au/>

Parents should still get the newsletter emailed to them from their existing subscription. Some staff members are being trained next week for how to administer the new website, so if there are any issues to start with, bear with us! We're still learning 😊

Thank you,
Clare Willemse LTST





14 February 2018
Ash Wednesday

Dear brothers and sisters in ministry,

Earlier this week, Fairfax Media ran a series of articles on the alleged wealth of the Catholic Church in Australia and the way it deals with survivors of abuse. These articles appear to be part of a relentless campaign with similar articles likely to be published in the future.

Though these articles are mostly concerned with the financial position of the Archdioceses of Sydney and Melbourne, it is a timely reminder for us to look at what the Diocese of Parramatta is doing in the area of providing justice to survivors of abuse.

As the articles highlight, in the light of the extent of the abuse in the Church and its handling by some Church leaders, it is reasonable for people to have lost trust in the Church. As the Diocese of Parramatta, we need to rebuild this trust. It is incumbent upon us to rebuild a broken Church.

In the Diocese of Parramatta, we are constantly looking at ways to enact and demonstrate accountability and transparency in the responsible administration of the resources of the Church, despite the media reports.

In the Diocese of Parramatta, our commitment to survivors of abuse comes first. We take this commitment very seriously. We have honoured most claims of abuse brought forward from survivors and we are in the process of finalising other claims. We also have arrangements in place to meet the financial obligations to survivors of abuse.

Any suggestion that we would not honour financial commitments to a survivor of abuse to “protect” our financial assets is wrong and misleading.

It is important to note that the Catholic Church in Australia was the first organisation to commit to a National Redress Scheme. We remain fully supportive of this endeavour.

What needs to be clear is that “Church property”, usually acquired through the generous donations and volunteer work of generations of Catholics, cannot simply be compared to a normal commercial building. Church property usually belongs to an individual parish or is held in trust. Comparing a commercial building to a Church property is not the same thing and would be like comparing apples to oranges.

As Bishop of Parramatta, I reiterate my pledge to work towards having the best systems in place to protect children from harm in the future when they engage in ministry of the Diocese of Parramatta.

My offer to meet with every survivor of abuse in this Diocese is ongoing and I will continue my work in this area.

The Diocese of Parramatta remains committed to responding to survivors of abuse with justice, compassion, integrity, care and professionalism.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL

Bishop of Parramatta

Level 2, 12 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW 2150 | PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750
T: 02 8838 3400 F: 02 9630 4813 E: bishop@parra.catholic.org.au W: www.parracatholic.org

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ★ CATHOLIC SCHOOL SEVEN HILLS

7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills Tel: 8869 8600
OLOLSHills@parra.catholic.edu.au www.ololshills.catholic.edu.au



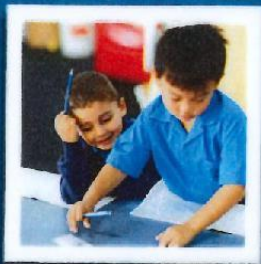
Enrolling
Now for
2019

Open Day

Monday 5th 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

**Diocesan Journey Walking with Refugees
and People Seeking Protection**

*Come Hear a Story and
Share your Thoughts about
this Journey*



*Thursday 1st March
2018*

*TABLE TALK – Finger food at
7pm*

*All Welcome – Finish at
9:30pm*

*Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
7 Grantham Road, SEVEN HILLS*

Contact: Terry 0409 373715

**Diocesan Journey Walking with Refugees
and People Seeking Protection**