



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Catholic Primary School

"Under Your Protection"



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No. 38 1st December 2010 (Week 8 Term 4)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 9.15am

Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am & 6.00 pm

Weekday Masses OLHC Church

Thursday 7.00 am (Convent)

Tuesday & Friday 12.15 pm

Wednesday 9.15am

From the Principal

The Season of Advent

During Advent we light the **Advent wreath**. The wreath is traditionally made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent.



The purple candles symbolise the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken in Advent.

The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday – Gaudete is a command ordering us to rejoice!

In these days of penance and preparation leading up to the feast of our saviour's birth, it reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid the season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Jesus and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The light, as always, signifies Christ, the Light of the world.

Parish Mass this Sunday

Father Colin has invited me to the 10:00 am. parish Mass this Sunday to receive a special blessing from the parish community. I am honoured to attend and I

invite all families to join me at the liturgy and the morning tea that will follow the Mass.

Graduation Mass

Next Wednesday December 8th at 6:30 pm. the graduating class of 2010 will attend the annual Graduation Mass. This is an important event for these children and their families.

All members of the school community are invited to attend, especially the Kindergarten children, as we farewell the Year 6 students.

Some Important Dates

The final day of the academic year is Wednesday 15th December. The children will be able to leave with their parents at the conclusion of the farewell ceremony for the Year 6 students which is after the 9:15 am. Advent liturgy.

The return date for the students in 2011 is Monday January 31st for Years 1 – 6. Kindergarten children begin the next day.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Shai and Nick on the birth of Euan James born on Monday 29th November weighing 3.8kg and 54.5cm long.



Kindy Supper 2011

Unfortunately due to lack of numbers the Kindy Supper scheduled for tomorrow night will not go ahead.

Class Mum Nominations

A reminder that nominations for Class Mum are due by this Monday 6th December.

2010 Talent Quest

The annual talent quest will be held on Monday December 13 at 9:15 am. in the Hall. I encourage all the children to work hard in preparing for this quest for talent!

Reflection

Seeking and Celebrating the Real Meaning of Christmas

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Entering a large grocery store a couple of months ago, I was startled by several large displays near the checkouts and exits.

There, nestled in between the bins of fresh Halloween treats, were stacks of boxed Christmas chocolates and stocking stuffers.

*The Christmas season had begun and it wasn't even October.*



Sometimes it seems that the gap between Christmas and the rest of the year is getting shorter. This eagerness to get a jump on holiday cheer is purely practical from a retailer's point of

view: Stores typically make more than half of their yearly sales during these few short weeks. Shopping has become a pretty substantial part of the Christmas tradition.

Yet Christmas is and should be so much more than what we buy. Gifts are fun, both to give and receive, but they are only symbolic of a much greater gift:

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).*

**The love of God came down to earth - now that is something to celebrate!**

It's easy to become overwhelmed by the business of Christmas. That doesn't mean we have to lose track of the significance of this time of year, or miss out on the opportunities it can present.

## Concluding Prayer

**A Prayer for Christmas Morning**  
by Robert Louis Stevenson

**The day of joy returns**, Father in Heaven, and crowns another year with peace and good will. **Help us** rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wisemen.

**Close the doors** of hate and open the doors of love all over the world.

**Let kindness** come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

**Deliver us** from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts.

**May the Christmas morning** make us happy to be thy children,

**And the Christmas evening** bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

**Amen**

Kevin Turner  
Principal

### Diary Dates

#### Term 4 2010

##### Week 9

8<sup>th</sup> Dec Graduation Mass and Dinner 6.30pm  
9<sup>th</sup> Dec Final Assembly for 2010

##### Week 10

14<sup>th</sup> Dec **BBQ & Christmas Carols 6pm**  
15<sup>th</sup> Dec **Advent Mass 9.15am**  
**Last day of Term 4 for students**

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Dec Staff Development Days/Pupil Free

#### 2011

##### Term 1 Week 1

28<sup>th</sup> Jan **Teachers return to school**

##### Week 2

31<sup>st</sup> Jan **Students return to school**  
1<sup>st</sup> Feb **Half day for Kindy 2011**

### From the Office

#### Family Registration Form

The yellow Family Registration Form is due back to the office by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. This form is used to assess the sibling discounts for the school fees for next year. Please ensure you return your form on time.

### From the AP

What an exciting start to the week we had! On Monday afternoon Shai Lah gave birth to a gorgeous baby boy. I am very delighted to be able to share with you that both Euan and Shai are doing very well. I am sure that you join with all of us in sending Shai & Nick all the very best! I know that I cannot wait to have a cuddle!

#### Semester Two Reporting

Next Wednesday you will receive your child's second semester report. This report is the culmination of your child's progress in the second half of this year.

Upon reading their child's report many parents ask the question about how they can further support and encourage their child's learning journey. I know that I often focus on helping your child as they learn to read, yet in recent days I have been considering how parents can support their child's writing development.

I found these suggestions from the New South Wales Department of Education and Training:

#### Helping your child with writing

How can I encourage my child to write?

- Read your child's writing or have him or her read the writing to you, and make positive comments, for example, "I really like the way you've described this."
- Praise your child for having a go at writing words that are new and explain how to spell harder words.

- Talk to your child about why an author or film maker might create a book, play or film in a particular way. What ideas or opinions are presented? What is the author's purpose?
- Read and talk about the writing that your child brings home from school.
- Praise your child for using neat and legible handwriting.
- In order to develop spelling and vocabulary, play word games such as *I Spy*, *Scrabble*, *Boggle*, *Scattergories* and crosswords.  
How can I help with writing at home?
- Have your child label things that he or she designs or makes.
- Compile a photo album or scrapbook with your child and have him or her write captions for the photos and pictures.
- Encourage your child to keep a diary of special events, e.g. a holiday diary.
- Make the writing of notes, letters and stories a normal part of family life.  
How can I support my child with writing tasks given for homework?
- Help your child to understand why they have been given the task. Ask him or her to talk about what has to be done.
- Encourage your child to use various types of paper for drawing and writing and to use a variety of instruments, such as pens, pencils, crayons and textas.
- If you have a computer or typewriter at home, make it available for your child to use.
- Help your child to use reference materials such as dictionaries, thesauruses, encyclopedias, CD-ROMs and the Internet.
- Before your child attempts a task, help him or her to understand what reference materials are needed by talking about the task and asking questions which will guide the child's planning.
- Draw attention to the technical words in writing and look them up together in a dictionary.
- Help your child to understand and use the information presented in graphs, diagrams and pictures which may be needed for a written assignment.
- Encourage your child to use neat and legible handwriting.

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au)

*Set your sights high the higher the better. Expect the most wonderful things to happen, not in the future but right now. Realise that nothing is too good. Allow absolutely nothing to hamper you or hold you up in any way.*

*Eileen Caddy*

Peace,  
Louise Jongejan  
Assistant Principal

## Library News

### Return of Library Books

This week will be the last week for class borrowing. All library books are due back to school on Monday 6th December.



If any parents are available to assist with some sorting and shelving on Tuesday 7th or Wednesday 8th December from 9-10am, we would love you to call in, as many hands make light work.

Mary Anne Jackson  
Teacher Librarian

## Thankyou!

We would like to thank Zappis Pizza, Oxford Street, for donating a delicious lunch to our Kindy class last Friday in celebration of the Kindy class having sold the most raffle tickets. This is one of the many ways Zappis have shown their support for OLHC over the years and we would like to thank them.

## Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 8.30 – 9.30am. Orders can be sent on the order form through the office and these will be filled and sent home with the children.



Carmel & Monica

## Birthday Stars

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to **Alessandra Re** who celebrated her birthday this week.



## Merit Awards Week 7 Term 4

|        |                       |
|--------|-----------------------|
| Kindy  | Grace Keeley          |
|        | Breanna Hartmann      |
| Year 1 | Mikayla Caravella     |
|        | Isabelle Morrison     |
| Year 2 | Laurence Sheehan      |
|        | Cameron Fernandopulle |
| Year 3 | Vicky Gonzalez        |
|        | Tia O'Callaghan       |
| Year 4 | Thomas Booby          |
|        | Kate Book             |



Year 5/6

**Bradley Booby**  
**Alex Micallef**

## Year 6 Cake Stall



Cakes and slices will be sold this Thursday lunch by Year 6 students as a fund raiser for their graduation celebrations.

Cakes and slices will vary in price from as little as 20c through to \$1 each.

This will be the final Year 6 cake stall.

Year 6 students and their families appreciate your support.

## STARs Alert!

Tomorrow Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December the *Minute to Win It* competition will commence. If you would like to be part of this competition (50c to enter) please register with Zoe, Hannah, Heidi or Kate as places are limited.



## Community News

**Christmas Carols** - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 7pm at Epping Oval. Food, drinks and glow sticks available for sale. For more information contact All Saints Church on 9876 3733.

**North Epping Learning Difficulties and ADHD (NELDA) Parent Support Group** - The next and final meeting for 2010 for parents of children with learning difficulties and/or ADHD, with/without coexisting conditions, will be held on Friday 10th December, from 9.30-11.30am. This meeting is a chance for parents to chat over a coffee. Younger children are welcome, we put out some toys for them. Entry is by gold-coin donation. We meet at All Saints Anglican Church, Malton Road, North Epping. Any enquiries please phone or email NELDA 8213 6252 or [parentsupport@neldapsq.org](mailto:parentsupport@neldapsq.org)