



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Catholic Primary School

"Under Your Protection"



8 Cambridge Street, Epping, 2121

Ph: 9868 3322 Fax: 9868 5035
Email: olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

After School Care: 9869 3635
www.olhcepping.dbb.catholic.edu.au

No. 10 21st April 2010 (Week 1 Term 2)

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

Easter Season



This year I attended, with my family, the Easter vigil: the vigil Liturgy was exceptional. From the lighting of the fire at the beginning of the service and the Easter Proclamation, to the telling of the story of salvation, to the singing of the Gloria and all the many symbols presented throughout the service, there was no doubt to everyone there that night that "the Lord is truly risen!"

Now for the next fifty days this heightened sense of joy and peace and love continues to be proclaimed, celebrated and sung with great enthusiasm and faith. It's a wonderful experience.

Winter Uniform

Most children have returned to Term 2 in their winter uniform and they certainly look very smart. There is some warmer weather forecast in the next few days and so I will leave the decision to parents if they wish to send the children in their summer uniform. I would appreciate all the children wearing their full winter uniform by the end of week 2.

Anzac Day

Our two School Captains Lina and Bradley will represent the school at the dawn service this Sunday at Forest Park. This important event provides us all with an opportunity to remember all those men and women who fought for our freedom.



Next Tuesday 27th April, the school will hold a Anzac Day Commemorative Service in the school hall at 11.30am. Ken Wighton from the Epping Club will speak about the ANZAC tradition. All parents are welcome to join us.

NAPLAN

In the week beginning Monday 10th May Year 3 and Year 5 will be participating the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This series of tests will assist to identify each child's learning strengths and needs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the agreed national benchmarks of student achievement.

The teachers of these classes will be supervising the children during these assessment tests.

Funding NSW Catholic Schools

"The Facts On Funding NSW Catholic Schools" brochure has been sent home today with the newsletter. I encourage all parents to take the time to read this information.

Cluster Cross Country

Best wishes to all the children who will be representing the school at the North Shore Cluster cross country next Wednesday. Try your best and run hard for your school.

Mulch Available

As previously reported the big gum tree on the top playground was removed during the holidays. As a result there is a large amount of mulch available for anyone wishing to come and collect it. Could you please phone the school office to arrange pickup if you are interested.



Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes to the Fidler family; Charli (Year 1), Jack, Tara and James on the birth of little Sally on 31st March.

Reflection

The Greatest and Most

The greatest joy.....giving
The greatest loss.....loss of self respect
The most satisfying work.....helping others
The ugliest personality trait.....selfishness
The most endangered species.....dedicated leaders
Our greatest natural resource.....our youth
The greatest shot in the arm.....encouragement
The greatest problem to overcome...fear
The most effective sleeping pill.....peace of mind
The most crippling failure disease....excuses
The most powerful force in life.....love
The most dangerous pariah.....the gossiper
The world's most incredible brain.....the brain
The worst thing to be without.....hope
The deadliest weapon.....the tongue
The two most powerful words....."I can"
The greatest asset.....faith
The most worthless emotion.....self pity
The most beautiful attire.....the smile
The most prized possession.....integrity
The most powerful channel of communication.....prayer
The most contagious spirit.....enthusiasm

Kevin Turner
Principal

Diary Dates

Term 2 2010

Week 2

26th Apr Anzac Day Holiday
28th Apr Cluster Cross Country
30th Apr Easter Season Mass 12.15pm

Week 3

4th May School Photos
7th May Mother's Day Liturgy
9th May Mother's Day

Week 4

11th – 13th May NAPLAN testing
12th May Year 4 Class Mass 10.15am

Week 5

18th May P & F Meeting 7.30pm
21st May Pentecost Mass 12.15pm

Week 6

25th May OLHC Mass 12.15pm
27th May Year 3 Class Mass 10.15am

From the AP

Welcome back for term two! I hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. The children were full of excitement on Monday as they shared their various adventures over the break! We were truly blessed with the weather too! What a great combination.

This promises to be another busy, yet fulfilling term as we continue our learning journey together. We look forward to working in partnership with you to provide a Christian, caring, safe and challenging environment to your child to blossom.

Spelling at Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

In the coming weeks we will be making some adjustments to the way that spelling is taught in our school, with particular focus on Stage One and Stage Two.

So, why do we teach spelling?

Spelling is **functional**; it is a system for making meaning. Spelling is **social**; its purpose is to enable readers to construct meaning. Correct or standard spelling assists the reader. Language can be referred to as 'living', that is language is constantly evolving. Language communities determine what is correct spelling. A clear example of this is SMS or MSN language that has been adopted by many in recent years. Yet, good writers know in what context this is or is *not* appropriate! There are many examples of the evolution of accepted spelling.

Spelling is a highly valued skill in our society today. Many parents, teachers and employers as well as the media have strong views about the importance of acquisition of spelling skills and the ability to spell accurately at schools and beyond.

Spelling is a system which integrates *phonetic* and *morphemic* patterns to produce meaning when writing. Spelling can also refer to a writer's ability to use standard or correct spelling. Learning to spell is part of the developmental process of learning to write. Teaching, and indeed learning to spell, is an on-going activity.

Learning to spell accurately is very important and a variety of methods, including direct instruction, is necessary in order to help students acquire spelling skills. As it is often a literacy skill that is called for in some social interactions and a person's literacy skills are often judged by their spelling skills. A deficit of spelling skills can hinder a student's academic performance.

Effective spellers use a number of different strategies interactively in order to spell correctly. At Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School we continually strive to meet the children's needs and the focus on spelling demonstrates our on-going commitment to quality teaching and learning.

School Photos

On Tuesday, 4th May School Photos will be taken. There are envelopes coming home today with all of the relevant details. Please keep an eye out for these. Each child is required to have their OWN envelope with their order. Envelopes for *family photos* are available from the office.

The children will need to wear **full winter uniform** on this day. Please ensure that you have returned your orders by Friday 31st April as orders need to be sent to the photographer prior to the day of photography.

*Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul.
Dream deep, for every dream precedes the goal.*

Pamela Vaull Steu

Peace,
Louise McDonald
Assistant Principal

Enrolment for First Holy Communion

Enrolment forms for the First Holy Communion preparation program will be available from Sunday 11th April in both our churches and on the parish

website www.eppcarl.org.au Completed forms must be received in the parish office by Sunday 25th April. To celebrate First Holy Communion the children need to have celebrated Confirmation and First Reconciliation.

The choices available for lesson times during May and details for the First Communion Masses in June will be on the enrolment form.

Please contact me with any queries.
Julie Astalosh
Julie@eppcarl.org.au 0407255593

Our Parish Multicultural Food Festival

To celebrate the wonderful cultural diversity of our parish, we are holding a food festival.

When: Pentecost Sunday 23rd May
Where: Parish halls at both Epping and Carlingford
Time: After 10am Mass

To make this event a great success, please join in by providing your cultural food to share on the day.



Library News

Parents please note that there have been some changes to the library timetable for Term 2.

Tuesdays – Kindergarten, Year 1 & Year 4
Wednesdays – Year 2, Year 3 & Years 5/6

Before and After School Care News

Welcome back to Term 2! We are very pleased to announce that this term on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons we will be enjoying 'Dance' and 'World Cup Soccer' as part of our Active After School Care program.

Did you know that children of primary school age require a minimum of 60 minutes of proper exercise a day?

After school care provides a healthy afternoon tea to fuel our kids for an afternoon of fun games that encourage leadership, social skills, movement and a sense of community.

Please contact Gemma if you would like to participate.

Phone: 9869 3635, email: olhccca@live.com.au

Australian government assistance for National Capital excursion

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programs which focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour have been outlined in a previous newsletter.

We hope that the excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

Tracey Dawson
Year 5/6 Teacher

MyZone fares and tickets

Please note that the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and the concessions currently available for students will not be affected by the introduction of MyZone ticketing. For further information go to www.myzone.nsw.gov.au or call 131500.

Merit Awards Week 10 Term 1

Kindy	Jesse Hartmann Grace Keeley
Year 1	Alessandra Re Isabelle Morrison
Year 2	Elizabeth Honor Taj Varlow
Year 3	Marc Agostino Georgia Kewin
Year 4	Henry Kirk
Year 5/6	Brandon Fisher Holly Baldwin



Birthday Stars

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrated their birthday this week and during the school holidays.

Sam Aloisio
Annabel Da Rin
Niamh Keeley

Tom Findlay
Vicky Gonzalez

Seasons for Growth Adult Program

Exploring the seasons of grief

Everyone experiences loss and change in their lives. It may be through death, separation, divorce, loss of home, job, dreams or lifestyle.

Seasons for Growth provides a sound framework and a safe learning environment for adults to think about and understand their own loss and grief experiences. Men and women are supported through presentations and a reflective group process which provides skills to assist with the journey through the seasons of grief.

Carlingford – Wednesdays 2, 9, 16 & 23 June
Gerard Majella's Parish Centre
543 North Rocks Road

Balgowlah – Wednesdays 2, 9, 16 & 23 June
St Cecilia's Parish Centre
Wanganella & White Streets

To find out more about the program or to book into a Seasons for Growth Adult program contact Ros Lloyd at Centacare Broken Bay on 9488 2531 or email ros.lloyd@dbb.org.au

A Diocesan initiative of the Parish Support Unit (PSU) and Centacare Broken Bay.

Community News

Diocesan Parent Council – Parent forum back by popular demand Kimberley O'Brien from Quirky Kids Wednesday 26th May 7 – 8.30pm OLOR Primary School, Waitara. For further information visit the DPC website www.brokenbayparentcouncil.org or contact parentcouncil@dbb.edu.au
Diocesan Parent Council – Women's Retreat at Challenge Ranch May 29th – 30th. Cost \$190. For further information and bookings call Margaret Channing on 0419 001 890 or 43 441509.