



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.olhcdbb.catholic.edu.au

No. 37 24th November 2010 (Week 7 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

The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation for the coming of Christ into the world, celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas.



The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of

faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.

2011 Class Mums

Attached to this week's newsletter is a note inviting mums to nominate as class mothers for 2011. I encourage all mums to consider this very important role at OLHC.

Market Raffle Winners

Congratulations to Kindergarten who were the winners of the Pizza lunch from the raffle competition. They

were able to sell the most tickets for the very successful Christmas Market Raffle.

My School Website

It is anticipated that My School version 2 will be launched in December. There have been a number of changes and some new additions. One such addition is the inclusion of the school's 2009 financial data. The 2009 recurrent income and capital expenditure and related source of funding will be displayed on the website.

"School fees are very important but education is extremely expensive. Together, the State and Federal governments provide about 80% of the operating funds for most of the Catholic schools in NSW. For Catholic schools, the remaining 20% is made up by fees and other charges paid by parents, support from the parish (for primary schools) and fundraising activities. Parents also pay substantial building levies for new buildings and major upgrades of school facilities."

The information above comes from the Council of Catholic School Parents Advocacy and Support for all parents www.cbsp.catholic.edu.au No.4. Source: NCEC 2008 Annual Report, p35, Published 2009. Productivity Commission, Review of Government Service (Australia), Report on 2 Government Services 2009, Volume I, Part B 'Early Childhood, Education and Training'. Report published January 2009.

When you view the financial data you will notice that Federal funding to OLHC is much higher than state funding. The reverse is true for government schools as their main source of funding comes from the state.

Approximately 80% of total recurrent income is spent on staff salaries and this is the case for all schools across the Diocese. As reflected in the above statement from the Council of Catholic Schools education is expensive. Recurrent income (school based fee) is also spent on school resources that assist in the education of the children, excursions, incursions, bus transport, swimming lessons, sporting events, cleaning and maintenance of the school and specific educational projects.

Being a part of a systemic school has its distinct financial advantages in that costs that are common to all schools are paid for centrally. These costs include insurance, industrial relations, superannuation, workers compensation, counsellors, accountants, curriculum specialists, ICLT, OH&S, human resources and Child Protection to name a few. A portion of the 20% recurrent income covers these centralised costs. If we were a stand alone school we would pay much higher rates for these essential services.

Reflection

What It Means To Be Young

By Samuel Ullman

Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind; it is not a matter of rosy cheeks, red lips, and supple knees; it is a matter of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions; it is the freshness of the deep springs of life.

Youth means the predominance of courage over timidity, of adventure over the love of ease. This often exists in a man of sixty more than in a boy of twenty.

Nobody grows old merely by a number of years. We grow old by deserting our ideals.

Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair - these bow the heart and turns the spirit back to dust.

Whether sixty or sixteen, there is in every human being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the stars and the starlike things, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing child-like appetite for what-next, and the joy of the game of living.

*You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt;
as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear;
as young as your hope, as old as your despair.*

Advent Prayer

Lord God,
may we, your people,
who look forward to the birthday of Christ
experience the joy of salvation
and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Kevin Turner
Principal

Diary Dates

Term 4 2010

Week 8

30th Nov Musica Viva
2nd Dec Kindy 2011 Supper 7.30pm

Week 9

8th Dec Graduation Mass and Dinner 6.30pm
9th Dec Final Assembly for 2010

Week 10

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

16th & 17th Dec Staff Development
Days/Pupil Free

From the AP

It is really hard to believe that we are almost at the end of November! Tomorrow is one month until Christmas. I'm really not sure where the time is going. I know that as I open my diary I feel exhausted with all that is coming up. This is such a busy time of the year for everyone.

It is really important to remember the special people in our lives. This time of the year can get so busy that we don't get to finish things off and experience that great sense of completion. I know that this is a constant challenge for me. We don't always have the opportunity to spend time reflecting and giving thanks for all the gifts in our lives or just pausing to take a rejuvenating breathe. So as we enter this season of Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas let us all take up the challenge to prepare for the coming of Christ this Christmas.

Semester Two Reporting

The teachers are busily writing and finalizing your child's Semester Two report. I often look at the reports when they are finished and ready to go home and marvel at the amount of time and care that goes into each and every report. Each teacher takes a lot of time and care to present you with an accurate picture of where your child is in their learning journey at this time.

It is important that as the reader of the report you have an understanding of the grading process that is mandated in all schools across Australia. To assist you with this knowledge there are two definitions in this newsletter.

Parent Update!

What does the grade "B" mean?

The student has demonstrated a **thorough** knowledge and understanding of the content and achieved a **high level of competence** in the processes and skills taught and can use them in **most situations**.



Parent Update!

What does the grade "D" mean?

The student has demonstrated **basic** knowledge and understanding of content and achieved **limited competence** in the processes and skills that have been taught. For some students more time is needed to demonstrate achievement.



Just like babies learning to walk...some take longer than others or need some support before they can 'walk' independently.

If you have any questions about the reporting process please feel free to contact me. Your question may be helpful to others too! We are working in partnership with you to ensure that your child blossoms to be the

very best person that they can be as well as inspiring the children with the passion to be life-long learners.

Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.
Victor Borge

Peace,
Louise Jongejan
Assistant Principal

A Blessing at 10am Mass for Mr Turner

Fr Colin would like to invite all OLHC school families to **10am Mass on the 5th December at Epping** where Mr Turner will receive a *Blessing*. Join us for a celebratory morning tea outside the church after Mass as the Parish says farewell and all the best to Mr Turner.



Market Feedback

At the P & F AGM it was agreed that we have an Annual Epping Christmas Market again in 2011. If you haven't already done so and would like to give feedback about anything to do with the 2010 Market, please do so. Your feedback will help ensure the Market in 2011 is a great one and that it meets the needs of the school community. Contact: bosul@optusnet.com.au

Belinda O'Sullivan



Library News

Return of Library Books

Next 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.

Thank you to the many helpers who have assisted in the library this year. As you know the library is a busy place and the parental support we have enjoyed has been invaluable in completing the many tasks that need to occur each year.

A huge thank you, in particular, to Julie Moon for running the book club and along with Lucy Low have provided consistent support to our library service throughout the year. Many thanks also to the many helpers who have been willing to cover books at home. OLHC is such a supportive school community.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The children who completed the 2010 challenge will be receiving their certificates soon. Congratulations to all these children. Any child who would like to start reading for 2011 can do so and keep a personal record of their reading until online registrations become available next March. The new books for 2011 have been added to the website so get started now.

Summer Holiday Reading

The Summer Reading Club will be launched on 1st December at Hornsby Library. Why not think about joining the Epping library "Summer Reading Club" It runs for 8 weeks over the school holidays. Once you have joined you are given a log book which you bring with you when you visit the library. For every five books you read, you will go into the prize draw, get stickers or stamps placed in your reading log and have your name added to the Summer Reading Club display board. Remember, the more books you read, the more chances to win!

Have a joyful and wonderful Christmas and enjoy your holiday reading.

Mary Anne Jackson
Teacher Librarian

School Calendar Orders

Don't forget to put your order in for the School Calendar. Please return your order form and money to the office by this Friday, 26th November. Order forms are available from the office.

Many thanks,
Year 3 Class Mums

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 9th 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 Ben & Adam Gangemi who celebrated their birthday this week.



Merit Awards Week 5 Term 4

Kindy	Jack Armstrong Tahlia Demasi
Year 1	Oscar Kirk Kate FitzGerald
Year 2	Ben Gangemi Bridget Maguire
Year 3	Jeremy Osman Georgia Manning
Year 4	Jaiden Snell Alistair Moon
Year 5/6	Amy Blissenden Holly Baldwin



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.

Year 6 yummy cakes and slices will be available every Thursday until 2nd December. Year 6 appreciate your support.

STARs Alert!

Tomorrow at lunchtime the final of OLHC Idol will be held in the school hall. All children are welcome to watch.



Next Thursday 2nd 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.

Plastic Containers

If you left a plastic container at the Christmas Market, please collect it from the school office.

Community News

Carols in the Park – Sunday 12th December at Boronia Park Epping. Main program starts at 7.15pm. Food available or BYO picnic. Fireworks at 9pm.
Tennis4All – Holiday camps 20th – 22nd Dec 8.30 – 11.30am. 10th – 12th Jan 8.30 – 11.30am and 17th – 19th Jan 8.30 – 11.30am. Cnr Boundary Rd & Beck Sts North Epping. Cost \$80 – 3 days or \$30 per day. Call Paul Conroy on 0417 499 447 or go to www.tennis4all.com.au