



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Catholic Primary School

"Under Your Protection"



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No. 15 26th May 2010 (Week 6 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



Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians

On Tuesday the school community gathered to celebrate the feast of our patron saint Mary Help of Christians. The Feast day of Mary Help of Christians is celebrated on May 24th each year. Catholics have always had strong devotion to Mary. It is recorded that when there were no priests in colonial

Australia, Catholics prayed to Mary to nurture their faith. One of the first priests, Father Therry, dedicated the Australian Church to Mary under the title "Help of Christians". Australia was the first nation to have Mary, Help of Christians as its patroness and to observe the feast on a national scale.



Prayer

Help of Christians, guard our nation,
That it be a place of peace,
Where the love of Christ unites us
And all racial tensions cease.
Help of Christians, lead us forward,
With this dream in ev'ry heart:
To create a place of welcome
Where injustice has no part.

Help of Christians, chosen patron,
Of this fair Australian land,
You have shown a way to follow,
True to all that God has planned.
May our lives like yours be faithful,

May our loving be as true,
Till we see our God for ever,
Who has done great things for you.

Dads in the Classroom

Today the children welcomed many of the dads to assist them in the classroom for 'Dads in the Classroom'. This was a wonderful opportunity for the dads to spend some time working with the children in literacy.



Congratulations to all the dads who were able to join us and many thanks for making the time to visit the school.

Diocesan Cross Country

Congratulations to Tom Findlay, Annabel Da Rin and Kate Book on their efforts at the Diocesan Cross Country last week. A huge effort is required just to make the Diocesan carnival and the three runners gave it their all.

Staff Development Day

A reminder that the Staff Development Day for this term is on Friday June 11th. The staff will be working on strategies in Literacy when teaching text type writing. We all look forward to a fruitful professional learning experience.

Catholic School Funding

There are several sources of funding for Catholic Schools:

- Federal Government
- State Government
- Parents through fees, levies and fundraising

Each source of funding is important and critical for the proper resourcing of schools.

Our future governments need to ensure an on-going commitment to quality education and support.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au No. 2

Note

In recent weeks there have been many children who have been unwell due to a stomach bug going through the school. Some children have returned to school still suffering the effects of their illness. I would ask that the children remain at home until they have fully recovered as the spreading of this sickness has been evident.

Prayers for the Kirkman Family

Please keep Kate, Heidi (Yr 4) and Ben (Yr 2) in your prayers. Sadly Kate's mother passed away recently.



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 star like 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.*

Kevin Turner
Principal

Diary Dates

Term 2 2010

Week 6

28th May

Granny Smith visit K & Yr 4

Week 7

2nd June

Soccer Gala Day

Week 8

11th June

Staff Development Day

Week 11

1st July

OLHC Athletics Carnival

From the AP

Dads in the Classroom

Thank you to everyone who was able to come along and join us for Dads in the Classroom. There was a positive vibe throughout the school and it was fantastic to see the children interacting positively in a writing activity. I am sure that there are many masterpieces amongst the writing that took place!

If there is anyone out there who would be able to type up the stories that have been written today could you please let me know. I would love to put the work together as a book that can be shared in the Library and have the opportunity to publish some of the work in the newsletter. If you have time to do just a few I would be most grateful!

It is fantastic that the Dads in the Classroom have re-convened for 2010. We have a great meeting last Wednesday evening to plan the activities for today. I am hoping to publish the final list of class fathers in the newsletter next week. Thank you to the dads who have jumped on board and got the message out about the writing session today. Congratulations to Daniel Paul as he has taken on the role of Head Father! Further details will be in the newsletter next week.

Reading with Your Child

The most critical part of your child's homework is their nightly reading. Regardless of the age of your child reading homework is the most important. There are times when this time can seem like a chore for you and your child. It is at that time when reading to your child is vital. You might read a page each, or as a parent you might read to your child, talking to them about the book. While older children may not express their joy for being read to, they really do enjoy it.

Building your child's confidence is paramount for reading progress. Ensure that if you are listening to your child read, allow them time to familiarise themselves with the book. There is nothing wrong with reading a book more than once.

Some Tips for Parents to do this include:

Reading With Your Child at Home
Reading with children is fun and one of the best ways to help prepare them for school.

Children learn about the value and importance of reading as they watch their family reading and writing in everyday life.

Whether reading a novel, sharing a story, using a recipe, making a shopping list, writing a birthday card or reading a street sign, children observe the value of reading and writing.

What you can do at home

1. Be yourself and involve your child in everyday conversations from an early age.
2. Read aloud to your child. It will help your child to learn the language of books and encourages the enjoyment of books and reading.
3. Talk about books together - make reading a shared, enjoyable activity.
4. See that there is a range of reading material for your child at home, both fiction and non-fiction.
5. Read to your child in your first language - research shows that using your first language will help your child when he or she learns to read English.
6. Try not to let television intrude on reading time - set aside some uninterrupted time to read with your child.
7. Listen to your child read every day, even if only for a short time.
8. Give books as treats and presents.
9. Discuss the meanings of stories and words.
10. Join your local library. Borrow books for yourself as well as your child.

Many of these ideas you have probably heard before, but I really think it is important to have a refresher and the ideas may remind you of an alternative that you could try with your child. Happy reading!

Have a fantastic week. It is very hard to believe that we are already in the middle of week six. The year is very quickly disappearing! Let us all make to most of all the opportunities that we have.

Bloom where you're planted!

Peace,
Louise McDonald
Assistant Principal

Granny Smith Visit

At 11am this Friday, (providing the weather is fine) Kindy and Year 4 will be visiting the Granny Smith Community Centre in Chester Street. The children will sing and talk to the members of the centre. If parents have any questions, please see your child's teacher.

STARS Alert!

The STARS would like to thank Mrs Caravella, Mrs Eymael, Mrs Maguire and Mrs Abbott for making playdough for the children to use on Fundays at school.



This Friday the STARS are having a Baby Guessing Competition of all the teachers. It will cost 50c to have a guess and there will be prizes (movie tickets and more) for the winners in both primary and infants. The photos are on display in the school office window near the gate. We hope to raise funds so the STARS can buy more playground equipment.

Lina and Bradley
School Captains

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2010

Well done Liam Abbott and Jack Armstrong for completing the 2010 challenge.

Merit Awards Week 5 Term 2

Kindy	Jack Armstrong
Year 1	Joseph Maguire
Year 2	Eliza O'Sullivan
Year 3	Sarah Thomas
Year 4	Emily Aston
Year 5/6	Amy Cusack
	Jose Saavedra
	Georgia Manning
	Hannah Stephens
	Bryan Herijanto
	Kasia Glennie
	Jasmine Millen



Birthday Stars

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to **Kate Book** who celebrated her birthday this week.



Scholastic Book Club

All book club orders are due by 2nd June. Thank you.

Julie Moon



Community News

OLMC Parramatta – Enrolling now for Years 7 & 11 2011. Closing date 29th May. Open morning tour 21st June. July holiday strings program July 15th – 17th invites all primary string musicians of all abilities to attend. Applications close June 11th. For more information call 9683 3300 or olmc@olmc.nsw.edu.au

