



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Catholic Primary School

"Under Your Protection"



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No. 39 8th December 2010 (Week 9 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

My Last Newsletter!

As I pen my final contribution for the School Newsletter, I am reflecting on my last five and half years here at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School. There are some experiences that we are just meant to have: I feel deeply that I was meant to come here. Whatever I have achieved at the school has been eclipsed by what I have received from this wonderful generous and caring community.

I have been inspired by the outstanding teachers at this school. They give so much to the children in their care each and every day. Many of my daily responsibilities have been made lighter by the cheerful and highly competent office admin and support staff who keep this place ticking along like clockwork. I have learned a great deal from the children who make this school such a special place. Their intriguing questions, their challenging insights into the way the world works, their thirst for knowledge and their amusing and often quirky takes on life; all that is the stuff that really counts, that makes me want to come to work each day. Your children have a great deal to be thankful for – their wonderful parents to start with! The tangible evidence of the importance of the home/school partnership is woven into every aspect of the day.

As I have said many times before, this is a wonderful community, one that you should all be very proud of. I have had the privilege of teaching in a number of different schools across Sydney and this place will always have a special place in my heart. I thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives and I will always cherish the learning, the friendships and the memories that I take with me from here.

2011 OLHC Staff

I can now confirm the Staff for 2011.

Principal:	Mary Hor
Assistant Principal:	Louise Jongejan
REC	Tracey Dawson
Kindergarten:	Rosita Dalle-Nogare
Year 1:	Angela Long
Year 2:	Louise Jongejan and Kate Madigan
Year 3:	Camilla Ireson
Year 4:	Monique Douglas and Kim McVicar
Stage 3:	Tracey Dawson and Kim McVicar (Executive Release)
Teacher Librarian	Mary Anne Jackson
Learning Support:	TBC
Literacy Support:	Kate Madigan
Music:	Fiona Mead
Sport:	Kesni Hayes
Office Staff:	Leanne Speechley Leigh Turner

2010 Semester 2 Reports

The Semester 2 reports have been sent home today. I encourage parents to take the time to discuss the report with your children and celebrate the successes that have been achieved this year.

2011 School Leaders

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected the 2011 School Leaders:

School Captains

Caitlin Halmarick
Wee-Boon Tan

Red House Captains

Alexandra Micallef
Jack Boyce

Green House Captains

Lorenzo Saavedra

Blue House Captains

Holly Baldwin
Nathan Stubbs

Graduation Mass and Dinner

Best wishes to the Year 6 children and their families as they celebrate their Graduation Mass and Dinner tonight. This is a very special time for the children and I know that they are very excited about sharing this moment together.

Many thanks to the teachers and parents who have worked hard to make the night possible.

Christmas Carols and Family BBQ

A reminder, that all families are invited to the Christmas Carols and Family BBQ next Tuesday at 6:00 pm. The children are very excited about performing for their families and celebrating the achievements of 2010.



We are all looking forward to gathering together to say farewell for the year.

Final Thursday Assembly Tomorrow

Please join us tomorrow for our final assembly as we farewell Mrs. Bridgefoot (Year 4 Teacher) who is returning to Villa Maria Hunters Hill and Mrs. Readford (Learning Support) who is leaving due to family commitments.

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!

Christmas Greetings

The staff at Our Lady Help of Christians would like to wish every family a happy and holy Christmas. Your children have brought us so much joy and we thank you for supporting us during 2010.

May the peace and love of Christ be with you during this season of Christmas!



God is Love

Christmas is all about love

Christmas is thus about God and Love

Love is the key to peace among all mankind

Love is the key to peace and happiness within all creation

Love needs to be practiced - love needs to flow - love needs to make happy

Love starts with your partner, children and family and expands to all world

God bless all mankind

Kevin Turner
Principal

Diary Dates

Term 4 2010

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

2011

Term 1 Week 1

28th Jan

Teachers return to school

Week 2

31st Jan

Students return to school

1st Feb

Half day for Kindy 2011

From the Office

Family Registration Form

All families need to fill in and return the yellow Family Registration Form to the school office. **This form is required for all families in the school regardless of whether there are siblings or not. Please return ASAP.**

From the AP

Gracious! I cannot believe that I am sitting down to write my *little* section for the newsletter for the last time in 2010! What a year it has been and now it is time for us to say goodbye to some treasured members of our community and wish them well on the next step on their journey.



Last Sunday we began the process of saying goodbye to Mr Turner with Kevin receiving a blessing and receiving a gift from the Parish to thank him for his many contributions that he has made to our school and parish community. Greg D'Arcy spoke of Kevin's many contributions to continue the hard work of building the school community. He spoke of Kevin's open, friendly leadership, his fairness and his hard work, just to name a few of the qualities that Kevin has brought to his role as Principal at Our Lady Help of Christians.

We have a number of opportunities coming up to farewell and thank Kevin. This Thursday the children will formally farewell Kevin at the School Assembly. All parents are warmly invited to this Assembly. Thursday evening the P&F have organised farewell drinks for Kevin at the Eastwood Rugby Club for 6.30pm.

The farewells continue next week with the P&F formally farewelling Kevin at the Carols Evening on Tuesday, 14th December and of course Kevin and all of those who are moving on from our school community will be farewelled at the Advent/End of Year Mass at 9.15am next Wednesday, 15th December.

I know that each and everyone one of you join with me in saying thank you to Kevin for all that he has done in his time here at Our Lady Help of Christians. Kevin has inspired, encouraged, nurtured, challenged and shown fairness to each and every one of us. Thank you Kevin and may you and your family be blessed as your journey continues.

Semester Two Reporting

Today your child will receive their Semester Two report. This report is an indication of your child's learning in the **second semester** of this year.

Just a few reminders about the context of the reports:

Parent Update!

How do teachers give the A-E grades?

Teachers use their **professional on-balance judgment** to determine a student's grade. Both formal and informal assessments are undertaken throughout the reporting period and an overall achievement judgment call is made by the teacher based on what the student has demonstrated, the standards

Parent Update!

The reporting system... What should I be doing to help my child?



Continue to support your child by talking to them...

- **about their learning...**
- about their school report and **all** the information contained in the written report (Teacher comments, Catholic Values, Learning Behaviours etc)

Help!

If anyone could assist with covering new Home Readers and Library books over the holidays could you please let Leanne or I know and we will get a bundle of books to you as soon as the plastic arrives to cover the books. It would be great to have these readers ready to go for the New Year.

This should be good news to all those parents who diligently listen to their child read each night, there are new books to listen to!

If you have any questions about the reporting process please feel free to contact me. We are working in partnership with you to ensure that your child blossoms to be the very best person that they can be. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's report the best person to see is their class teacher.

Give peace a chance!
John Lennon

Peace,
Louise Jongejan
Assistant Principal

Christmas Eve Children's Mass Epping



All children who attended school in 2010 are invited to take part in the Christmas Vigil Masses (7pm Christmas Eve). We would like volunteers for many roles, including; Gospel mime, readings and processions. (Mary, Joseph, Wise Men, Shepherds and the more angels & sheep the better!!!)

The children participating in the Mass will be required to attend the following practices.

**Rehearsals: Children's Rehearsal after school
Monday 13th Dec 3.30 – 5pm
Children's Dress Rehearsal Wednesday 22nd
December 3.45 - 5pm.**

Please reply no later than Friday, 10th December or phone Julie on 0402 454 983/da_rinju@lilly.com

Although we try to give everyone his or her first preference, it is not always possible.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open tomorrow 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.

**The Uniform Shop will also be open on Friday 28th
January 2011 from 10:30 am. – 12:30 pm.**

Carmel & Monica

Birthday Stars

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

Sam Cleary

Georgia Manning

Happy Birthday also to Laurence Sheehan who celebrates his birthday on the 24th December.



Merit Awards Week 8 Term 4

Kindy	Daniel Dunn Charissa Low
Year 1	Matthew Eymael Charli Fiddler
Year 2	Jessica Honor Olivia Halmarick
Year 3	Georgia Kewin Georgia Manning
Year 4	Liam Booby Cory Gonzalez
Year 5/6	Yasmine O'Callaghan Lorenzo Saavedra

Community News

Farewell Morning Tea at North Epping

Kindergarten - North Epping Kindergarten will be hosting a morning tea on Tuesday 14th December (10am – 11am) to farewell Janet Cashman. Janet has been a teaching assistant in the front classroom since it first opened in 1996. Sadly (for the little kids of North Epping & Epping) Janet is retiring at the end of 2010.

All are welcome to join with staff and parents from North Epping Kindergarten in both thanking Janet for her many years of service to our community and in wishing her all the best for her retirement.

For catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 10th December by contacting the office on 9869 7344. Donations will be taken on the day if you would like to contribute towards a farewell gift for Janet.

OLHC Epping Netball Club

Annual General Meeting Monday, 13th December, at Epping Pub 7pm.

All welcome! Any queries please call Julie on 0402 454 983.



Tuckshop News

This Friday is the last week of tuckshop before the school holidays. As we are having a sausage sizzle at the Christmas Carols on Tuesday 14th December, we will NOT be having our usual sausage sizzle this Friday. However the tuckshop will be open as usual for morning tea & normal lunch orders. We will also be selling gelato - \$1.50 for one scoop & \$2.50 for 2 scoops. And as a special treat we will be also selling sour straps to end the year on a sweet note!

Thank you to all of the families that have supported the tuckshop this year and a big thank you to all the mums and dads that have been able to volunteer their time at the tuckshop. Wishing all the OLHC families a very Merry Christmas followed by a peaceful & happy New Year.

Marissa Sheehan