



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Catholic Primary School

“Under Your Protection “



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No. 2 10th February 2010 (Week 2 Term 1)

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

Opening School Mass

Last Friday the school community gathered together to celebrate the opening school mass for 2010. The theme of the mass was: Celebrate our faith, be challenged to achieve, continue our journey as life-long learners and reach out to others in justice and love.



Mercy Values

At the end of 2009 the staff gathered at the Sisters of Mercy Convent at Parramatta to gain a greater understanding of our Mercy heritage.

Several of the sisters spoke to us about their time as teachers at OLHC and the involvement of the Mercy Sisters over 80 years.

As a group we focused on the Mercy values and their relevance to us today as teachers and educators. These values of: compassion, loyalty, justice, integrity, responsibility and mutual respect will be a focus of the newsletter in coming weeks.

Student Leadership

In 2010 we are providing opportunities for increased student leadership. Currently the senior students are involved in aspects of leadership. A decision has been made to increase this across the school.

Ms Dalle-Nogare has taken on the role of working with students in Years 3 – 6 to form a group who will provide leadership for the students.

Rationale

Student leadership provides an opportunity for students to actively contribute in the decision-making processes at our school. Students will be encouraged to take on leadership

roles in an endeavour to increase their own leadership skills, act as effective role models for the student body and offer responsible service to their school and peers.

Proposal

Meetings will occur during Thursday lunch times in the Kinder room. Meetings are open to all students from Years 3 – 6. Membership is free flowing. Once a project has commenced, team members are required to stay for the duration of the project.

Class Mothers Meeting

For all class mothers there will be a meeting next Wednesday 17th February at 7.30pm in the staff room.

Many thanks to all those mums who assisted at the morning tea on the first day that the Kindergarten children attended 'big school.' My apologies for not mentioning this in last week's newsletter.

Weetbix Try-athlon

It was great to hear that so many children participated in the recent Weetbix Try-athlon. This is a wonderful event that promotes participation. Congratulations to all the children from OLHC who competed.



Epping Twilight Markets



We look forward to many families attending the markets this Friday night. Bring on the fine weather!

Swine Flu Vaccination

Below is important advice from NSW Health in regard to the vaccination for swine flu:

Swine flu activity has dropped significantly in NSW over recent months, but continues to have a heavy impact in many Northern Hemisphere countries. It remains to be seen what the impact in Australia will be as we move into next winter, although an early start to the 2010 influenza season is likely and a resurgence of pandemic influenza activity is possible.

A vaccine is now available to protect adults and children over the age of six months from swine flu. The vaccine, called Panvax®, has been approved by Therapeutic Goods Administration. NSW Health is encouraging everyone to obtain a free vaccination against this potentially life threatening illness. The Panvax® vaccine is available free from most general practitioners.

Immunising a high percentage of the school not only protects those individuals who receive the vaccine, but also reduces the chance that any students or staff with a weakened immune system (for whom the vaccine may not work as effectively) will be exposed to the infection. Further information can be obtained through the following links:

NSW Health information about the vaccine:

<http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/vaccination/index.asp>

Kevin Turner
Principal

Diary Dates

Term 1 2010

Week 3

12th Feb Epping Twilight Markets

Week 4

17th Feb Ash Wednesday Mass 12.15pm
Class Mums Meeting 7.30pm staff room

Week 5

23rd Feb P & F meeting 7.30pm
24th Feb 1, 2, 3 Magic – parent education 7.30pm

Week 6

1st Mar Cluster Swimming Carnival
4th Mar K – 2 Swimming Carnival

From the Office

2010 School Fees

The 2010 school fee invoice has now been sent home.

The payments are due in three instalments. The amounts and dates for each instalment are shown on this invoice. Please keep this invoice for reference during the year.

After the end of each month you will be sent a statement which shows any payments which have been made during that month.

If you have any queries about your invoice, please contact Leanne Speechley in the office.

From the AP

Thank you for taking the time to read ALL of the notes that came home in the last week. I know that there were so many of them with many sections to fill out and sign. Thank you for your cooperation. We really appreciate your support with this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Parent Teacher Interviews

These are currently underway. They are an important feature of our Assessment and Reporting procedure. These 10 minute chats are a chance for you to tell your child's teacher *about* your child. As you would understand we are still gathering the pieces of the many aspects of your child. This is an important mechanism in helping us to find out more relevant information about your child. Please remember to bring those *Reflection Sheets*. They are a great opportunity for you to reflect for a few moments about your child.

Homework Policy

At this time of the year we review a number of policies as a staff. On the first day we went through the schools Homework Policy. With Homework starting in many classes I thought that it was worthwhile to publish relevant parts of the policy in our newsletter so that everyone has a common understanding of the purpose of homework.

A full copy of the Homework Policy is available on the School Web Site.

The purpose of homework is to

- provide an opportunity for students to practise skills and reinforce classroom learning
- assist in the student's development of good study patterns for later years
- provide a means of communication with parents, providing information about their child's learning
- assist in the student's development of time management skills

At OLHC ...

- class teachers:-
 - set homework tasks linked to class learning
 - check completion of tasks and provide feedback to students
 - facilitate nightly home reading
- students:-
 - read each night as a part of their homework routine
 - K-2 Home Readers are to be read out loud to parent / guardian
 - 3-6 Independent reading plus twice a week (10-15 min) reading out loud to parents
 - complete homework tasks as set by class teacher
 - use students diaries (Yrs 3- 6) to record homework
 - use reading diaries (K-2) to record nightly reading
- parents:-
 - view and sign student diaries (Yrs 3-6)
 - view and sign reading diaries (K-2) for nightly reading
 - inform class teacher if homework is not completed

Homework is set according to the needs of the students.

Why do we set homework?

- consolidation of learning
- to develop good study skills
- allow parents to see what's being taught

What outcomes do we want the children to achieve?

- enjoy homework and see it as worthwhile and an extension of the learning
- realise that it's their work
- establish good work habits and consolidate learning
- enjoy sharing their learning with their parents

What are our requirements around homework for children?

- must be valued – homework that is set must be completed, marked and feedback given
- must be consistency across K -6
- homework must be done by the children themselves
- homework needs to be completed in set time frame

Homework is to be completed Monday – Thursday with MAXIMUM times per night as outlined below:

| | | |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Early Stage One reading, 5 minutes other) | 15 minutes | (10 minutes |
| Stage One reading, 5minutes other) | 20 minutes | (15 minutes |
| Stage Two reading, 20 minutes other) | 40 minutes | (20 minutes |
| Stage Three reading, 30 minutes other) | 60 minutes | (30 minutes |

What are our expectations?

- set work should be completed
- parents to sign diaries – K, 1, 2 Reading Diaries 3 – 6 Student Diaries
- Children notify teachers if they are having difficulty with work

At OLHC, we believe homework *should* be:

Consistent
Connected to learning
Purposeful
Interesting

At OLHC we believe homework *shouldn't* be:

Onerous
Stressful
Upsetting
Too difficult
Punishment
Too time consuming

Begin difficult things while they are easy, Do great things when they are small. The difficult things of the world must once have been easy; The great things must once have been small...

Peace,
Louise McDonald
Assistant Principal

Children's Mass – Sunday 21st February 10am



We would love to have some volunteers for readings, offertory and choir. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see as many students as possible attend these very special mornings.

If your children would like to be involved in this Mass, please call Julie on 0402 454 983 or email on da_rinju@lilly.com before Wednesday 17th February. Please meet at the organ at 9.40am on Sunday for practice.

Enrolment for First Reconciliation

The enrolment period for the preparation program for First Reconciliation commences on Sunday 31st January and fully completed enrolment forms must be received at either parish office by Sunday 14th February. Enrolment forms are available near the rear entrances to both our churches and from the parish website www.eppcarl.org.au. Carefully read and retain the information sheet which accompanies the enrolment form and note all the relevant dates for the program in your diary. Lesson days and time for celebration of the sacrament on March 20th are allocated as the forms are received. So if you want your first preference, please lodge the form early in the enrolment period.

Children aged 7 and older may enrol in the sacramental program. The decision of when to commence is at the discretion of parents who know their child best. A letter giving information and dates for all the sacramental programs this year is available from both our churches and the parish website. This includes the celebration of First Reconciliation, Confirmation, First Holy Communion and the preparation for Baptism of children aged 7 and over.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the sacramental preparation programs.

Julie Astalosh
Sacramental Program Coordinator
Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford
0407 255 593 or julie@eppcarl.org.au

Confirmation for Adults

Bishop David Walker will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on suitably prepared, baptised, catholic adults at the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday, 23rd May 2010. Please contact me if you are interested in being prepared to receive this sacrament.

Julie Astalosh
Sacramental Program Coordinator
0407 255 593 or julie@eppcarl.org.au

Epping Twilight Markets

The following families are rostered on to assist with the smooth running of the next Twilight Markets on Friday 12th February 2010:



3.30 to 6.30pm: Morrison (Operations Manager), Ré, Sharpe, Bronk, Boyce, Exton, Booby, Baldwin, Gray, Osman.

6.30 to 8.45pm: Snell, Demasi, Book, Wright, Aston, Kewin, Chanekon, Gregorio.

8.45 to 9.30pm (Pack up crew): Fernandopulle, Aloisio, Glennie, O'Callaghan, Fitzgerald.

On the night, can all volunteers sign in on the form that is located at the first aid desk.

Tiffany Chanekon

Market Café Baking – Help needed

Many thanks to those baking for the markets this week. Any parents interested in baking cakes for the market café to be sold on the night please contact Barbara Paul 0412 055 502 or email barbdantiana@optusnet.com.au. We need 20 parents who are prepared to bake things like slices, cupcakes, muffins banana bread or anything that tastes great. You will only need to bake once this year, any help will be much appreciated.

Markets Book Stall

There is still time to get books you'd like to donate to the Twilight Markets book stall in to the OLHC office before the markets this Friday night. All proceeds go towards your children's education.

Scott Kay
0413 274873



Canteen

We will be selling gelato this week at lunchtime at the canteen. \$2 for one scoop and \$3 for two scoops.

Unfortunately we will have to increase the price of the cheese and bacon rolls as our supplier has increased their prices. A full cheese and bacon roll will now cost \$1.80 and ½ cheese and bacon roll will cost 90cents.

Canteen Coordinators

Scholastic Book Club

Please return any book club orders by Monday 15th February. Many thanks.

Julie Moon



Donations for Kindy

Donations of real cups and saucers, real uniforms such as nurses, doctors etc pots and pans and any old jewellery, is needed for 'make believe' play in Kindergarten. A donation of a doll's house would also be greatly appreciated. Please leave at the school office or give directly to Ms Dalle-Nogare.

Merit Awards Week 2 Term 1

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Kindy | Liam Abbott Hillary Poulter |
| Year 1 | Oscar Kirk Charli Fidler |
| Year 2 | Niamh Keeley Matthew Hogan |
| Year 3 | Jack Prowse Georgia Kewin |
| Year 4 | Bryan Herijanto Mikhala Balzan |
| Years 5/6 | Alex Micallef Liam Quinn |



Community News

Marist College Eastwood Open Day – 7th March. Limited places for Year 7 2011, currently enrolling for 2012 & 2013. Call 9858 1644 for more information.

St Leo's Catholic Collage Open Day – Friday 12th March 9 30am – 11.30am. Prospective parent evening Tuesday 16th March 7.30pm. Call 9487 3555 for more information.

OLMC Parramatta Open Days – Information evening for Yr 7 2012 February 22nd. Open Day March 1st and June 9th afternoon for Yr 7 2011. Bookings are essential. Go to www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or call Anna Davis on 8838 1251 for more information.

Carlingford Cougars Junior Rugby League Club – U6 – 14yrs invited to "come and try" nights and registration Friday 19th and 26th February 5pm – 7pm at Roselea Oval. Registration is free for U6 players and \$100 individual & \$140 for a family. Enjoy a free sausage sizzle and meet some of the Balmain Tigers State Cup Squad. Call 0423 361 944 or Tylana Booby on 0409 920 823 for more information.

School Banking with North Epping Community Bank Bendigo Bank

School Banking is a great way to teach children to save and is now available with Bendigo Bank. Any deposit of 50cents or more is accepted. Please leave your passbook and banking at the school office on a Tuesday and it will be processed and returned to you.

If your child would like to participate but does not have an account please call at the branch (Shop 9 288 Malton Road North Epping) and we can open one for them (identification requirements apply).

We are proud to have been supporting your school with grants, sponsorships and school banking for 6 years.

Sharyn Hubert

Birthday Stars

Congratulations and happy birthday to the following children who celebrated their birthday this week and during the holidays.

Jai Oorloff-Kay
Nicholas Gray
Marie Caravella
Jack Prowse
Jeremy Osman

Sarah Thomas
Eliza O'Sullivan
Mikayla Caravella
Emily Chiplin

