



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 10 Term 4

12th December, 2014

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that this is the last formal newsletter for the year. So much is happening; it is difficult to know where to start. First and foremost is to say 'thank you' to everyone in this school community for making it as special as it is. A school is 'people' – to my exceptional staff- office and teaching - their professionalism, dedication and care; to the P&F, Natalie, Glenda, Melissa and the rest of the team and to you, the parents, without whom so many events would simply not happen.; to Fr Warren, Fr Joby and others in the Parish Office for supporting the school and working with us in the interest of the students; and last, but most importantly, the students- these little people created in God's image- without whom there would be no school. You have been wonderful and worked well and learnt much. To everyone, I wish you a happy and Holy Christmas and a safe and restful holiday.



On Wednesday evening, a **Graduation Ceremony** was held for the current Year 6 students. I would like to thank the families for coming along, making this a special night for these students. Congratulations to all these students and in particular to Hayden Burt who received the Ray Williams Encouragement Award, to Bailey Christoffel for the Hills Shire Community Award and the shared award of consistent application and

love and justice went to Sharmayne Gibson and Jackson Warren, sponsored by Rotary. Thank you to Mrs Byrne and Miss D'Mello for preparing for the Mass, Mr Quirk for the music, the Year 5 students lovely singing and parents for the beautiful supper, organised by Glenda Vecchio, to the staff for attending after a very long day and of course, Fr Warren, for always being there to support the students and staff at so many levels.



End of Year celebrations

Please note the dates and times of our end of year celebrations, notably:

- Tuesday 16th Dec - End of Year Mass and farewells– 10am
- Tuesday 17th Dec - End of year Social Night – from 5.15pm – 7.30pm
- Santa arrives between 5.45 and 6pm. Don't be late!
- Christmas Nativity 6.20pm for a 6.30pm start.

Families are asked to pack their own picnic hamper and find a spot on the basketball court or oval for an informal gathering and social night.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE BULK OF THE OVAL CLEAR FOR Santa's arrival.

Each year, our Christmas Concert tells the story of the birth of Jesus. This is a story from the Bible and the concert is a liturgy. I am asking that everyone attending shows the appropriate respect. Most of the carols are chosen so that you, the audience can join in with the singing. Your participation is an important part of this celebration and will make it even more special for the children.

The end of year social and the Christmas Concert are determined by the weather.

In case of cancellation, an email and a SkoolBag alert will be sent out mid-afternoon.

Dates to Remember

Mon 15th Dec: Year 6 Fun day
Tues 16th Dec: End of Year School Mass 10am
Wed 17th Dec: Motiv8 Fun day whole school
LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS
Term 1 2015 Calendar will be sent out next week.

Principal's Awards – Term 4 2014

Congratulations to the following students for being nominated for this term's Principal's Award:

Student	Principal's Award
Kinder B	Luke Garofano
Kinder G	Macy Owen
Kinder W	Anthony Gomez
Year 1B	SSal Colosimo
Year 1 G	Zane Boatwalla
Year 1W	Kiara Wijaya
Year 2 B	Alexander Harrod
Year 2 W	Jada Scoulou
Year 3 B	Ashley Cummings
Year 3 G	Amber-Lilly Baker
Year 3 W	Anthony Cutuk
Year 4 B	Raphael Di Lorenzo-Boussard
Year 4 W	Chelsea Lynch
Year 5/6 B	Riyantha Naidu
Year 5/6 W	Bryan Manago

2015

The teachers have been working in their 2015 teams to plan the teaching and learning of their new class group and undergoing the hand over process from teacher to teacher. Communication is vital in the interest of effective transition for all to have a good start to the year.

Farewell.

As with every year, change is inevitable, especially in a new and growing school. Sadly there are a number of staff members that we farewell at this time – Mrs Irwin, who has been on maternity leave will not be back at OLA in 2015. We also farewell Miss Conolly, Mr O'Rourke, Ms Devine, Mrs Brand, Mrs Boerma and Mrs McLifty. We thank these staff members for all their good work. In 2015, we welcome many new staff members with a range of experience and I am confident they will contribute much to an already powerful and dynamic staff. A full staff list can be found further in this Newsletter.

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School Staff List 2015

Principal:	Mrs Eva La Rocca
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Cathy Hey
Religious Education Co-ordinator:	Mrs Emma Kate Callaghan
Primary Co-Ordinator:	Mrs Katrina Byrne
Literacy Coordinator:	Mrs Lisa Hurst
Coordinator LTST:	Miss Pina Grima
2014 Class Teachers	KB: Mrs Suzie Monks
	KG: Miss Ashlee Thomas
	KW: Miss Abby Fredericks
	1B: Mr Andrew Baker
	1G: Mrs Maria Cannavo
	1W: Miss Melissa Theoharous
	2B: Mrs Lisa Hurst
	2G: Miss Clare Crozier
	2W: Miss Nicole Grima
	3B: Mrs Emma-Kate Callaghan
	3W: Mrs Vesna Jurcevic
	4B: Miss Pina Grima
	4G: Mrs Cherie Lopresti
	4W: Mrs Lisa Rizk/Mrs Felicity Long
	5/6B: Mrs Katrina Byrne
	5/6G: Miss Samantha Pepin
	5/6W: Miss Kyra D'mello (Mrs Giglio)
Learning Support:	Mrs Jan Schroder
RFF/Exec release (2DAYS):	Mrs Elaine Lombardi (Term 1) Mrs Emma Meyer (Term 2-4)
RFF (2DAYS):	Mrs Rebecca Moulton (PDH)
	Mrs Michelina Micallef (Italian)
	Mr Mark Quirk (Music)
Release various	Miss Kimberly Marchant
Counsellor (Wednesday):	Ms Lauren Forwood
Reading Recovery:	Mrs Frances Eisenhuth and Mr Baker
EMU Specialist:	Miss Fredericks, Mrs Hey, Miss D'mello (Mrs Giglio)
Library/Teacher's Aide:	Mrs Sara Wagner, Mrs Jacinta Aspinall
Secretary:	Mrs Helen Goldsworthy
Office Assistant:	Mrs Tracey Hunt
Grounds person (Tues/Thurs):	Mr Meinardo Benitez

Term dates for 2015 for students

The school year consists of four terms that run over two semesters.

Term 1	Year 1-6 students return Wednesday, 28 th January 2015 <u>Kinder students start school on Monday, 2nd February 2015.</u> Term ends Thursday April 2 nd .
Term 2	Students return to school Monday April 20 th . Term ends Friday, June 26 th .
Term 3	Students return to school Monday, July 13 th . Term ends Friday, September 18 th .
Term 4	Students return to school Tuesday, October 6 th . Term ends for students on Friday, December 18 th .

There will be a brief 'meet the teacher' session on Tuesday afternoon for all students and most teachers.



LOTE

Since OLA School opened, the teaching of a language and culture other than English (LOTE) has been part of our practice. After five years of Japanese, it has been decided that it is time to offer the students exposure to a different language.

For this reason, I am pleased to announce that, commencing in 2015, the LOTE will be Italian. Being a Latin language on which much of English is based, it is anticipated that the learning of Italian language will provide a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the English language. Of course, the Italian culture will also be a significant component of this area of HSIE.

Saint of the Week: ST. LUCY

Feast Day: December 13th



Lucy was born into a rich and important family, but her father died when Lucy was young leaving her and her mother with no one to take care of them. When Lucy was very young she promised Jesus that she would live her life only for Him and no one else.

Lucy's mother became sick, and was sick for many years. This made their situation even harder. Her mother wanted Lucy to get married, because if she got married then they would be taken care of again. Her mother wanted Lucy to marry someone who did not believe in God and Lucy refused to marry him.

Lucy wanted to tell her mother that she had given her life to Jesus, but she was afraid that this would make her mother angry. Since her mother was still sick, she asked God to heal her so that she would believe in Him and allow Lucy to save her life for Jesus.

She took her mother to the shrine of St. Agatha and together they prayed for her mother's healing and God answered their prayers. Her mother believed and when Lucy told her about her promise to Jesus, her mother agreed that she should not marry.

She died a martyr for her faith in Jesus. Since her name means light, and she lived her short life in the light of Christ, some celebrate her feast day with lighting a wreath of candles.

A FEW THOUGHTS FOR ADVENT.....

Advent is more than a countdown to Christmas. Advent is a season of hope and preparation. It is a time for reflection, self-examination and repentance as we wait for the coming of our Christ.

The beginning of the calendar year sees many New Year Resolutions – Why WAIT until then to make a change? Take the time this ADVENT season to make a change in your life and see how that affects those around you.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.....

I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful 2014. Thank you for the support given to me this year in my role as Acting REC, I look forward to continuing to work with the school and parish community next year. I wish all of our students and families a peaceful Christmas. May the business of the shops not take away from the true meaning of Christmas this year. Remember that Christ is the reason for this season. Look out for family and friends who need that extra love this year.

Merry Christmas. Mrs Emma-Kate Callaghan ☺

Family Sacred Space.

Thank you to the **Dimech Family** for sponsoring the Family Prayer Space this week.

We look forward to families sponsoring our prayer space in 2015.





Parent helper thank you afternoon tea
The teachers are very grateful for all parent assistance throughout the year and were very happy to be able to thank everyone who helped in any way, big or small at our 'Thank you afternoon tea'



From the P&F.....

Thank you once again to Anne Marie Bond & Kelly Owen for organising the Second Hand Uniform shop. They along with their crew of helpers do a great job in sorting the uniforms and I am sure it is greatly appreciated by all the parents. They will be holding a shop in Term 1 of 2015 so you have any old uniforms to donate please start sending them in after Week 3 next year.

SPECIAL TREATS 2015

The children have thoroughly enjoyed special treats each Friday. A special thank you to all of the helpers for their flexibility and enthusiasm this year!

We will be putting together a roster for Terms 1 and 2 for 2015. No experience necessary, just a friendly smile and a small amount of time. Toddlers are welcome!

If you are able to give 45 minutes of your time from 1.20pm on a Friday once or twice a term, please forward your *name and contact number* to Annemarie Bond at mnabond@bigpond.com

We all know that the children really look forward to having a special treat each week and it is a great opportunity to get to know some other parents at OLA.

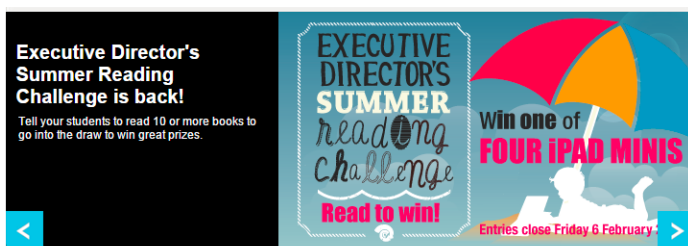
Thank you for your contributions so far and we look forward to meeting you in the near future!

Evening with the Angels - Tuesday 16th December 2014

End of year Social Night – from 5.30pm / Christmas Carols and Nativity –6.30pm.

This year we will again be having a picnic and inviting our families to bring their own picnic hamper, rug or chairs and set up on the basketball court or oval to join in the carols while the school retells the Christmas Story. There will be a visit from a special guest (5.45pm so don't be late) and a treat for all the children. We will also be organising a Coffee Van and Dippin' Dots Ice Cream cart for the evening.

These events are held in the school grounds and determined by the weather.



Catholic Education Office

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is happening again!

Students are encouraged to read a minimum of 10 books over the school holidays, upload their details online at parra.catholic.edu.au and they'll

go into the draw to WIN one of four iPad minis!

Entries close on Friday 6 February, and the winners will be announced on the Catholic Education website on Monday 16 February.

Appropriate Uniform & Appearance – Important information for 2015

A reminder that the uniform runners are to be predominantly white – not bright or fluorescent colours. The sport socks are to cover the ankle, **not** the short anklet style.

It has also been noticed that many of the boys are having trendy haircuts and are far too short for school. Whilst this may be ok during the holidays, upon the return to school, it should not be cut any shorter than a blade 3. Your assistance in these matters would be greatly appreciated.

BootCamp and Breakfast at OLA! (from the website)

It was the brainwave of two OLA teachers that grew into far more and reaped greater rewards that they ever could have imagined. Each Tuesday and Thursday morning throughout the year, Mrs Byrne and Ms Grima set up the boot camp training course ready for an 8am start. Initially students were 'invited' but the program became so popular that interested students were asked to apply, stating reasons for joining. As the year progressed, other teachers (Miss Fredericks, Mrs Monks and Miss Thomas) generously volunteered their time to assist, parents joined in with their children and the program grew to include a healthy breakfast, prepared by the students – including the clean up afterwards, also assisted by Mrs Bennett.



"The benefits to the students have been extraordinary at a number of levels," said Miss Grima.

Year 6 student, Hayden Burt commented, "I have loved the program. I am not only much fitter, I feel so much better about myself and have much more confidence and can concentrate better in class." One of the dads who joined his son was Nunzio Vecchio. "I am amazed at the difference this has made



to Samuel. He has much more tenacity and it has certainly heightened his awareness of nutrition." Staff members are extremely generous in giving their time and action to respond to the needs of the students in this school. The school community is very fortunate at many levels.

The school is grateful to the IT Department of Woolworths Australia who have sponsored the program by providing fitness gear and fresh fruit each week for breakfast. The program finished up for the year with a fun, muddy morning and special breakfast – not so nutritional but yummy.



Emma and Imogen work out; some serious exercise before some fun in the mud.

BOYS' SHED

Another example of teachers going the extra mile to make a difference to our students is Mrs Schroder and the Boys' Shed. This program has made a positive impact on the development of a numbers of our boys and they have made a difference to the landscape of the school! Once again, we would like to thank MASTERS for their sponsorship of this project. Today, two members of the Masters IT dept were out to help the boys with their garden which is taking shape nicely.



2015 Diocesan School Fees

Dear families

As you may be aware, government funding of the school sector is still very much in the spotlight. There is still no proposed funding model from the Federal Government beyond 2017, which is causing uncertainty for schools and our system.

While we hope a new model will be developed soon, we can expect further pressure on government funding in the future. Educational inflation is at 5.1% adding further pressure on the costs of schooling.

This means we will need to pass on a 5% school fee increase next year to ensure we can maintain our current service levels (see over page).

We understand families are also facing greater financial strain, so we do not make this decision lightly.

We are committed to ensuring that no child will be refused enrolment due to a family's financial situation and we have in place a range of discounts and programs to support families including:

- Sibling discounts for second and third child enrolled
- No diocesan tuition fees for the fourth and subsequent children enrolled
- The Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- Financial hardship relief
- The Byallawa co-contribution scheme for Indigenous families

Our schools also keep school-based fees for technology, administration and excursions within a reasonable amount to ensure the costs of a Catholic education are as affordable as possible.

In terms of capital funding, there is increasing pressure on Catholic schools to pay for development costs and land for new schools. Additionally, new government funding for capital projects is very limited and interest subsidies have been abolished.

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

To ensure this continues we will be increasing the building levy by 5% or \$33 per family per year (see over page).

We continue to make every effort to contain educational costs while increasing our services and value for money and are directing our limited resources into big initiatives like:

- literacy and numeracy programs to improve learning outcomes (Focus160, Reading Recovery, EMU, EM4) and our support for students with disabilities and emotional and behavioural needs (Diversity is the Norm, post school options, etc)
- putting more teaching resources into classrooms for literacy intervention
- providing greater opportunities for professional learning for leaders and teachers
- increasing support for students with disabilities, behavioural and emotional needs
- improving our technology and infrastructure
- modernising learning spaces



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees - 2015

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees can be paid upfront at the start of the year or in three equal payments in Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee is only charged for the first three (3) children currently enrolled in the diocese (in other words there is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the diocese or other participating Catholic schools - see 'Sibling Discounts' below). To work out how much the fee is for each child, check the table below.

The 2015 Annual and Term Diocesan Tuition Fees are as follows:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4th+ children	1st Child	2nd Child	3rd Child
		100%	75%	50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,047	\$786	\$525
	Years 1 – 6	\$1,350	\$1,014	\$675
Secondary	Years 7 – 8	\$1,875	\$1,407	\$939
	Years 9 – 10	\$2,079	\$1,560	\$1,041
	Years 11 – 12	\$2,658	\$1,995	\$1,329

TERM FEES	Charged in Terms 1, 2 & 3	1st Child	2nd Child	3rd Child
		100%	75%	50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$349	\$262	\$175
	Years 1 – 6	\$450	\$338	\$225
Secondary	Years 7 – 8	\$625	\$469	\$313
	Years 9 – 10	\$693	\$520	\$347
	Years 11 – 12	\$886	\$665	\$443

Annual Diocesan Building Levy - 2015

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. *The levy for 2015 is \$702 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$234 payable in terms one, two and three.*

I understand that for some families, school fee increases will be difficult to manage, and if this is the case, I urge you to confidentially contact your school principal to enquire about financial hardship.

Please know we will provide every assistance to families in serious financial need.

Please visit our website www.parra.catholic.edu.au for more information. If you have any concerns please contact your school principal.

Yours sincerely



Greg Whitby
Executive Director of Schools



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

From the Classroom of 1B.....

This week in Year 1 we have been working on our exciting Christmas craft. We used our excellent fine motor skills to make cute little elf decorations, baubles and Christmas trees. Here are some photos of our work in progress!



Yesterday Year One had a friendly visit from zookeeper Kerry from Taronga Zoo. She introduced a variety of native animals to them and talked about their habitats and features. The students all had an opportunity to either touch or view the animals and see them up close. The students really enjoyed the visit from Kerry and her friendly animals and learnt so much about them.



Uniform changes for Week 11

- On **Monday 15th December**, all children from Kinder to Year 5 will be participating in a free skipping workshop run by Dance Fever and will need to wear their **sports uniform**.
- On **Tuesday 16th December**, it is our end of year Mass and all children are asked to wear their **summer school uniform**.
- On **Wednesday 17th December**, it is our Motiv8 day and all students are asked to dress according to the **note that was sent out earlier this week**.

2015 Swimming Carnival

Our Lady of the Angels School will be holding its annual swimming carnival on **TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2015**. All children in Year 3-6 are expected to participate in the carnival. A note about the swimming carnival went home last week to all children in Year 3-6 and a google.doc was emailed home. As the carnival is in week 2 of term 1, can you please assist us in completing the google.doc and sending back the permission slips by next Wednesday, 17th December. An email was sent to the year 2, 2015 parents advising that if their child is turning 8 in 2015 and they are a strong, competent swimmer, ie they can easily swim 50m, then they will be eligible to attend. We will not be taking Year 2 children who can only swim 25m as these races are for the students in Years 3-6. Also, please note that there will not be a 25m breaststroke event, only freestyle and backstroke.

From the Parish Office...

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

5.30pm Children's Mass.

12.00am Midnight Mass with Christmas Carols from 11.30pm

Christmas Day

8.30am & 10.00am ****NOTE: There will be NO 5.30pm mass on Christmas Day****

Christmas 2014!!

OLA Parish will be holding it's Christmas Party on Sunday, 21 December. Your family are invited to come along and celebrate the birth of Jesus and the wonderful year Our Lady of the Angels has had. Please let us know for catering purposes if you are able to come. Food will be available for sale. BYO nibbles and Water Guns!!

Christmas Decoration Competition - we are also having a great competition. Please see the Parish Bulletin for details.

2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas will be held in the Second Rite at

Richmond: St Monica's on Mon. 15 December at 7.30pm

Stanhope Gardens: St John 23rd Parish on Thurs. 18 December at 7.30pm

Our Lady of the Angels Parish has Reconciliation on Saturday mornings at 9.30am and also by appointment with either Fr Warren or Fr Joby.

Gingerbread House Making - You are invited to come along as an end of year Christmas Activity to make a yummy Gingerbread House in the OOSH room on Wednesday, 17 December from 7pm-9pm. Cost \$40- Please RSVP to the Parish Office so that we can order the houses.

Graduating Class of 2014

Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2014. A beautiful mass was held on Wednesday night to farewell the Year 6 students. May God Bless all these students in their next step in life.

New Year's Eve Mass

Wednesday, 31 December at 7.00pm following by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 10pm.

A great way to end the year 2014!

New Year's Day Mass

Thursday, 1 January at 9am

House Blessing As we begin this new Liturgical Year, in this season of Advent, you are invited to think about having your house blessed. Fr Joby is available to attend to your family home and bless it. For all appointments contact Fr Joby on 8883 4063 or email frjoby@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Warren Edwards

Assistant Priest: Fr Joby Kadambattuparambil Ittira

Mass times:

Sat vigil: 5:30pm **Sunday:** 8:30am, 10am & 5.30pm.

Weekdays: Mon -Sat: 9 am Wed -7pm Novena Mass to St Joseph for special intercessions for the Building of our Church.

Email: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Website: www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au

Ph: 8883 4063 **Fax:** 9629 7603

Term 4 Week 10			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Thomas Cutuk	Alivia Turner	Milla Price
Kinder G	James Apap	Evie-Mae Blount	Amity Galea
Kinder W	Madison Zahra	Roxanne Pace	Isobel Clarke
Year 1B	Arya Clements	Xavier Joseph	Parker Galvin
Year 1 G	Jonathon Fuda	Angelica Manago	Peter Giovas
Year 1W	Chloe Hill	Kiara Wijaya	Bryce McDonald
Year 2 B	Bridget Wall	Austin Turner	Lucy Finch
Year 2 W	Felicity Scott	David Parada	Melissa Brooke
Year 3 B	Charlotte Garcia	Jessica Bollard	Carys Fitzgerald
Year 3 G	Ailbhe Gannon	Beatrice Espejo	Sophia Tapley
Year 3 W	Melissa Preston	Shanae Makumbe	Isaac Swinden
Year 4 B	Angus Misek	Sophie Rudek	Ella Sievwright
Year 4 W	Mirko Basic	Jai Turner	Tyler Spiteri
Year 5/6 B	Jeremy Tjhin	Emma Corey	Mirabai Rangan
Year 5/6 W	Patricia Constantino	Alana Berry	Kristian Skoljarev

