



# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

1 Wellgate Ave Kellyville 2155  
Phone: 8814 5989 Fax: 8814 5716  
Email: [ola@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ola@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Website: [www.olarousehill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olarousehill.catholic.edu.au)



Week 6 Term 4

13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015

## NEWSLETTER

**Dear Parents,**

The following reflection aligns with what we try to promote here at OLA...

### Butterfly Reflection

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further.

So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon.

The butterfly then emerged easily.

But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were Life's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. Remember nature needs no help, just no interference. There are processes of life, things we all go through. The struggles are a part of our journey and are preparing us for what awaits. They are preparing us to fly.

-unknown

Try to resist from 'snipping your child's cocoon'.

In response to last week's front page of the Newsletter, I received this message...

*Your comments in the latest newsletter prompted me to write something I have been meaning write to you for a while. I too would like to express my great satisfaction with your school*

*I met with you a few weeks earlier so as to decide if OLA would be a good school for (child). We had previously been at a large and well established public school so I was concerned how (child) would adjust to being at a much smaller school and to a Catholic school. I am happy to say that all our experiences and encounters have only been positive.*

*The open classroom style of teaching is new to us but so far I can only rave about it. I see (child) really engaged in learning and interested to tell us what she is learning - for the first time. I believe that having different teachers for different subjects and topics keeps her more interested. Also having different maths and reading and writing groups has made her more competitive - I say that positively because in her previous school she never discussed what reading group or maths groups she was in nor cared.*

*She is also making friends with some very sweet children. Considering she has entered the school at this late stage, most of the children have welcomed her with open arms.*

*I also would like to say keep up the homework policy. By this I mean, keeping it simple and not taxing for the students. Also I appreciate that whilst the children in class have done several interesting projects; they have all been worked on during class time only, not needing parents to do the work with them or for them as might be the case if they were given as homework.*

*Finally, the religious aspect of the school has suited (child) surprisingly well. She comes home telling us all about the saints she is learning about, their lives, miracles and their deaths and I can tell the stories really inspire her. Also she knows her new prayers by heart and often adds them to her nightly prayers.*

*Thank you for making OLA School the nurturing and caring place it is for (child).*

*I look forward to having many more wonderful years and experiences there.*

(Shared with permission)

### Dates to Remember

Week7: Swimming Program for Yrs 1, 2 & 3  
Week 8&9: Swimming program for Yr 4 and kinder  
30<sup>th</sup> Nov/1<sup>st</sup> Dec: Stage 3 Sun Surf Program  
Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Dec: Year 6 Graduation Mass & Supper  
Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Italian Day

Please pray for the students in Yr 2 preparing to receive Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.



## Gospel Reflection Mark 13:24-32

'But in those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will come falling out of the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send the angels to gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of the sky.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, right at the gates. In truth I tell you, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Sky and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

**Reflection** "What I say to you I say to all: Keep awake." (v.37)

In Jesus' final counsel to His disciples Jesus encourages that the Messianic crisis and the long awaited deliverance of the chosen people were about to take place. They did in fact take place in the Death and Resurrection of Christ. This symbolises God's powerful intervention in human history and the ultimate victory of God's people under the leadership of Jesus who suffered and died and rose again for the salvation of His people. This promise and hope enables us as Christians to live with courage and hope amidst our sufferings. (God's Word 2015-Daily Reflections)



## Saint of the week-

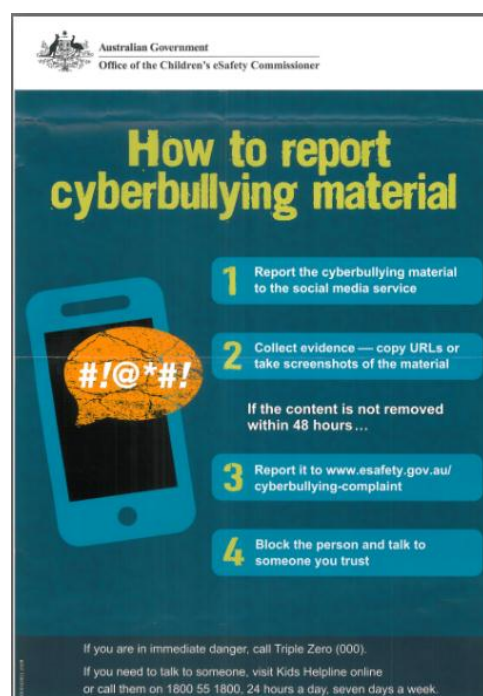
**St Agnes of Assisi (19<sup>th</sup> November)**

St Agnes was the younger sister of St Clare of Assisi and known as a miracle worker. She was born in Assisi and was the youngest daughter of Count Favorino Scifi and Countess Hortulana.

On Palm Sunday evening in 1212, Clare fled her family and their money in the dark of the night to join Francis of Assisi and his brothers. It was on this night that Clare promised herself to God. She joined Francis in a little church he has repaired below the town of Assisi. She founded the Franciscan secluded Order, known as the minors- *the little ones*. Agnes joined her sixteen days later at the Benedictine cloister of St Angelo in Panso. Her father sent an army to bring Agnes back to them. She was badly beaten but it was because of the miraculous Clare that saved her. Agnes was accepted by St Francis and then joined Clare with other noblewomen of Assisi. Agnes was eventually named abbess (female superior of an Abby). In 1219, St Francis sent her to direct the Poor Clares at Monticelli, near Florence. She wrote a letter to her sister, which expresses her love of poverty and her loyalty to Clare's ideals. After Clare has passed away in 1253, Agnes followed three months later on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Agnes was buried near her mother and younger sister in the Church of St Clare of Assisi.



*Mrs Katrina Byrne, Acting Religious Education Co-ordinator*





## P&F NEWS

### FRIDAY SPECIAL TREATS 2016

The children have thoroughly enjoyed special treats each Friday. A special thank you to all of the helpers for their flexibility and enthusiasm! We will be putting together a roster for Terms 1 and 2 for 2016. 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 once or twice per term, please forward your **name and contact number** to Annemarie [olapfc@gmail.com](mailto:olapfc@gmail.com)

We already have volunteers from our 2016 Kinder families and this 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!

### SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Thank you for your generous donations of second hand uniforms so far. If you have any items of clothing that you would like to **donate** to the OLA Second Hand Clothing Shop, please send in the **clean** items to the school office in a plastic bag. *A special thank you to Jo Gladwell and her team for coordinating the organisation of the second hand uniforms.* The 2016 Kindergarten families appreciated the opportunity to purchase items last week.

*Our Lady of the Angels  
P&F Association*



#### Parent Representative Council

Meeting: 16 November 2015

at 7pm

*Diocesan Assembly Centre  
Blacktown*

*'All students are gifted and  
talented... identifying pathways  
to success'*

[www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au) for more  
details

This is a three-hour interactive seminar on constructive techniques for parents when disciplining and encouraging their children.

Parents will learn:

- what discipline means and how to set clear boundaries that children respect and learn to appreciate
- to use conflict as a tool to improve relationships
- to use different discipline techniques

Tuesday 24 November 6.00pm – 9.00pm

Cost: \$25 / \$15 concession

Venue: Interrelate

Suite 423, Level 4

14 Lexington Drive, Bella Vista

**Bookings Essential – Phone 8882 7850**



# From the Classroom - 5/6B

## League Tag

On Tuesday Stage 3 participated in a school league tag day!

We all got to show off our skills in games against our opponents and with the ball.

All teams showed great sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the day and celebrating some wins.

We wouldn't have made it without our wonderful coaches that taught us the skills.

A big thank you to Mrs Byrne, Miss Thomas and all the teachers that came along and taught us how to play!

We had a great time at league tag it was loads of fun!

By Tiarné McLuskey and Claudia Coombes





### **From the Parish Office...**

#### **Reconciliation - Year 2**

This weekend Lesson 2 will commence. Please remember to bring along your "Prayer Letter" and that these lessons are compulsory. Either Saturday 4.30pm or Sunday 9am. All enquiries: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au.

#### **Preparation for Total Consecration to Our Lady**

You are invited to participate with us in the Total Consecration to Our Lady at OLA Church. This continues every weeknight at 7.15pm with Saturday and Sunday at 6.30pm.

#### **Christmas**

Christmas Bingo - will be held in the Hall on Saturday, 28 November from 7pm. Please advise if the Parish office if you are attending.

Gingerbread House Making - Please contact the office if you are interested in attending this night. Saturday, 5 December at 7pm.

You get to assemble and decorate your own yummy Gingerbread House. Bookings are essential. Cost: \$30

Parish Christmas Party - Keep free Sunday, 13 December for our Parish Christmas Party. Santa will be visiting. Please let him know if you are attending so that he can remember to bring your child (ages 0-12) a little gift. BYO Food/Drinks/Good Cheer!

Need some Christmas Present ideas? The Parish are organising 2 outings at the Capitol Theatre to see The Sound of Music on Sat. 13 February 2016 and Fiddler on the Roof in April 2016. Please contact the Parish office for ticket details.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Warren Edwards

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Rizzo

#### **Mass times:**

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

**Weekdays:** Mon -Sat: 9 am

**Email:** parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

**Website:** www.ourladyoftheangels.org.au

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

### **Numeracy Hint**

There are many simple ways to help your child and develop their confidence with mathematics. For example, you can increase your child's appreciation of the importance of numeracy by showing them how maths skills apply in daily situations. It is important to help children 'think mathematically' rather than just focus on getting the right answer. Show children where maths exists in the real world - for example, how many extra sausages to add to the barbecue when there are guests coming for dinner - parents can encourage their children to think mathematically.

#### **Social skill –**

#### **Staying out of fights –Weeks 5 and 6**

The social skill this week is about how to avoid getting into fights by using strategies such as counting to ten, walking away, asking for help and acting out your best choice.

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION...**

PLEASE NOTE THE LETTER FROM CEDP, ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER EMAIL, REGARDING 2016 SCHOOL FEES.  
THANK YOU.

Term 4 Week 6			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Kinder B	Ileesha Gunasekara	Claire Sievwright	Isabella Smith
Kinder G	Lucious Cappello	Tahnia Arora	Zach Lee
Kinder W	Hudson Baker	Luke Smyth	Isabella Stein
Year 1B	Katia Lesar	Isobel Clarke	Joseph Abdallah
Year 1 G	Tyrone Lee	Thomas Cutuk	Julia Zammit
Year 1W	Janiya De La Cruz	Acacia Sales	Charlotte Muscat
Year 2 B	Marcus Billyard	Marc Skoljarev	Lucas Buda
Year 2 G	Isabel Williams	Eva Sultana	Zachary Nicholls
Year 2 W	Janelle Mensah	Christian Attard	Lauren Eyles
Year 3 B	Mikayla Bowden	Gabriella Muscat	Rylan McGrady
Year 3 W	Sabrina Marino	Ethan Graham	Heidi Papandrea
Year 4 B	Phoebe Strykowski	Joshua Maisetti	Owen Huber
Year 4 G	Thomas Dobaj	Sascha Strykowski	Kylan Ewer
Year 4 W	Mia Sprowles	Juliana Constantino	Ashley Cummings
Year 5/6 B	Raphael Di Lorenzo	Rex Finch	Tamzin Naidoo
Year 5/6 G	Caleb Martinez	Ivan Kamber	Bradley Girdham
Year 5/6W	Brock Crook	Aidan Williams	Samuel Vecchio

**Thank you for observing the 8.20am start of supervision in the morning. This is in the interest of all students' safety.**

*Until next week, God bless and stay safe.  
Eva La Rocca, Principal*