

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you! Liturgical year, that is.

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent marking the official start of the Liturgical (church) year. We leave the period of Ordinary Time (Green) and move into the four weeks of Advent (Purple), a time of preparation for the very important event of Christmas.

As with all special events in our lives – be they birthdays, HSC, weddings - the degree of success experienced in the outcome is largely dependent on how well we have prepared.

Advent is a reminder that our lives here on Earth are times of 'preparation' for the greatest event of all, when we will meet God in our next life. Advent is an opportune time to ask ourselves...

How well are we preparing ourselves to meet God?

Please join us on Monday morning at assembly for the school Advent Prayer.

Correction to last week's newsletter- it was Feast of Christ the King, not Corpus Christi to mark the end of Liturgical Year. Too much on the mind.

Special Announcement

Earlier this week I announced Mrs Hey's appointment as principal of Holy Trinity School, Kemps Creek. While we are very sad to be losing Cathy, it is a wonderful opportunity for her and certainly a gain for her new school in 2017.

It is my pleasure to announce Mr Steve Cauchi has been appointed Assistant Principal of Our Lady of the Angels School, commencing 2017.

Mr Cauchi is an experienced AP, a family man and one whose faith is central to all he does. While we are fortunate to have many talented and capable members in OLA staff, Mrs Hey's departure will leave a significant void, particularly in the area of Numeracy. I am confident Mr Cauchi's appointment will complement our team and will bring a wealth of knowledge and wisdom to our school community. I know you will join me in welcoming him in the usual OLA way.



We are fast approaching the end of the year. Next week's Friday assembly will be a whole school assembly, commencing at 2.30pm, with Principal's Award presentation for this term. Teachers have been busily working on end of year reports which will go out towards the end of Week 9.

The following is a summary of some significant events to note:

Week 9:

- **2017 SRC Elections** School (Monday 5th Dec) and Sports House (Wed 7th Dec) Captains Speeches and elections; Class SRC elections are done in the new year.
- Wednesday 7th Dec: **Principal's Morning Tea; Year 6 Graduation** and awards presentation, supper
- Thursday/Friday: classes moving into new building (we hope)
- Friday 9th Dec **Year 6 fun day**

Week 10:

- Monday 12 Dec 9-10am: **meet the teacher for 2017** – current and new students only;
2.15pm: **thank you afternoon tea for all parent helpers.**
- Tuesday 13th Dec **8am Bootcamp Breakfast** (Bootcampers only)
- Wednesday 14th Dec: **Christmas Social** (parents byo nibbles and drink) 5.30pm and whole school concert at 6.30pm- this year's **Christmas Concert** will be facilitated by Andrew Chinn. The students will be presenting items in their class groups so it is an expectation that all students attend this special occasion. The concert will be held in the church (thank you Fr Warren).
- Thursday 15th Dec: 9am Whole school **End of Year Mass** followed by farewell of staff
- Friday 16th Dec: Last day of school for students – **Motiv8 fun day.**

On Wednesday, all current and 2017 staff members underwent mandatory CPR, anaphylaxis and asthma training.

Dates to Remember	
Mon 28 th Nov	Swimming Program for Kindy and Yr 3
Wed 30 th Nov	Italian Day
Fri 2 nd Dec	Whole School Assembly – Principal's Award



Sunday 27th November: First Sunday of Advent –Year A (Mt:24:37-44)

Mt 24:37-44

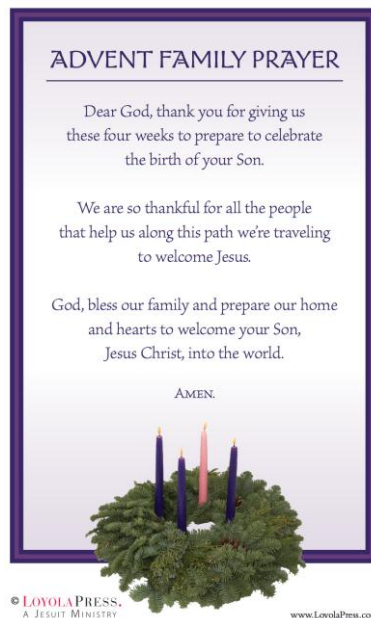
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'



Gospel Reflection



In Sunday's Gospel Jesus describes how the Jewish people bound themselves to God in covenant and their lives slowly improved. The people became complacent and forgot who was responsible for their blessings. They forgot about their relationship with God. The people needed to face hard times to reignite their faith and their need for God. During this first week of Advent, the Gospel is reminding us to get ready for the birth of Christ. As the first candle on the Advent wreath is lit this weekend, we are reminded of hope. We are waiting for the coming of Jesus into our hearts and lives. While we wait, we can prayer, examine our conscience and give others hope through our acts of mercy and caring for those around us who need our help.

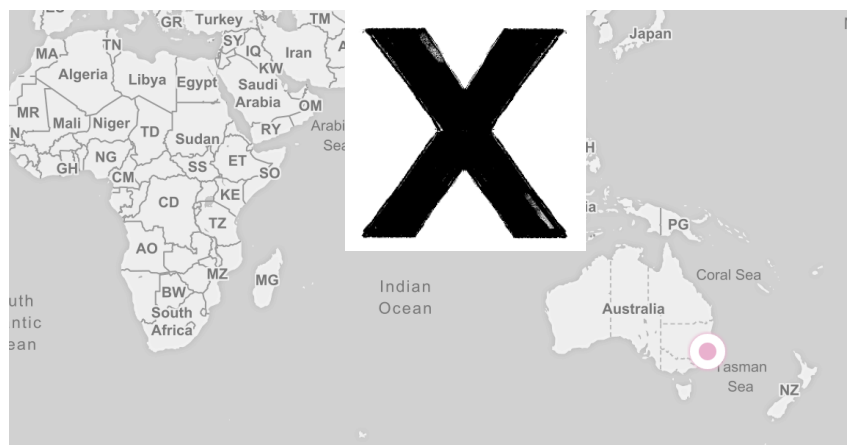


Operation Christmas Child

Our shoeboxes are being processed and will be sent any day. Check out the school website to see where our boxes will be delivered.



Please prayer for our Year 2 students who will be receiving the sacrament of their first Reconciliation over the next few weeks. May they be filled with God's forgiving love and the gifts of courage and strength to feel the power of Reconciliation.



Bishop's Office

Xt3 Advent Calendar

This year's Xt3 free Advent Calendar looks at the Nativity scene through the eyes of a child. The website and app contain videos, meditations and podcasts for the Christmas season. Available on the First Sunday of Advent: www.xt3.com/advent
Advent – a Season of Hope: 26 November

This Reflection Day starts at 9.30am and concludes at 3pm at Mt Schoenstatt, Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Presenter: Sr Mary Louise Walsh ISSM. Cost: \$25, BYO lunch – morning & afternoon tea provided. To register tel (02) 4773 8338, info@schoenstatt.org.au

Annual Advent Festival: 27 November

All are welcome at Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills. This year we will pre-empt the O Antiphons, and pray these ancient cries of Come O Morning Star, Come O Holy Guide, Come O Prince of Peace! On 1st Sunday of Advent, 3.30pm Afternoon Tea followed by the Festival at 4.30pm for one hour. RSVP for catering purposes by 21 November. Contact: (02) 9484 6208, mtstbenedict@bigpond.com Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills, entrance off Hull Road.

ACU Advent Lessons and Carols: 28 November

Led by the ACU Strathfield Student Choir. Starts 6pm, followed by light refreshments. Barron Memorial Chapel, Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Rd, Strathfield. Details tel (02) 9701 4223, AVC.NSW-ACT@acu.edu.au

Scripture Reflection Evening – The Gospel of Matthew: 30 November

The Institute for Mission is hosting a Bible study evening led by Dr Michele Connolly RSJ. Sr Michele is a biblical studies lecturer at the Catholic Institute of Sydney and will be opening up the Gospel of Matthew in preparation for the upcoming Advent season and liturgical year. This evening will be a great start to the next step in our worship cycle. From 7pm-9pm at the IFM, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. RSVP by 25 November: charbel.dib@ifm.org.au

Trip to Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Sutton Forest: 6 December

You are invited to join the Sacred Heart Parish community for a day trip that includes coach travel, morning tea, self-guided tour of the grounds and shrines. BYO picnic lunch. Departs 9.30am from Sacred Heart Parish, 14 Ralph St, Westmead, returns approx 4pm. Cost: \$15pp. Bookings close: 29 November. Tel (02) 9635 9262, office@sacredheartwestmead.com.au

Formation in Themes of Faith

This guided exploration of key components of Catholic life is designed for people who are keen for mutual conversation and prepared reflection – no prior formal studies in faith are required. The Institute for Mission partners with the Institute of Faith Education (Archdiocese of Brisbane) in offering this program. Participants complete the Institute of Faith Education's Beginning Theology course. An engaging collection of provided readings are the stimulus for the group to further explore the Catholic faith. The process helps participants in their competency and ongoing growth regarding several key areas of life in faith: God (themes of Spirituality and Trinity), Word of God (themes of Scripture, Old and New), People of God (themes of Church, Sacrament and Spirit) and Living in God's Love (themes of Catholic teaching and living). Applications close 11 December. Details: <http://www.ifm.org.au/themesoffaith>

Mass for the Holy Innocents: 28 December

The principal celebrant for the 23rd annual pro-life Mass will be Sydney's Bishop Richard Umbers. Mass at 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville, followed by a rosary procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents for devotions and benediction. Everyone is welcome to pray for the protection of all human life (especially the unborn) from conception to natural death. A luncheon will be provided – please bring a plate to share. Inquiries (02) 9629 2595.

Girls' Camp at Mount Schoenstatt: 11-14 January 2017

Girls aged 10-12 are invited to a three-day camp at Mt Schoenstatt. We will explore how our faith connects with our everyday lives. Program also includes prayer, craft and fun activities. From 4pm on Wednesday 11 January to 4pm on Saturday 14 January. Venue: Home of Light, Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$110 (includes food and accomm). RSVP: Monday 12 December (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka 0439 537 843, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com

Mass for World Day of the Sick: 9 February 2017

Everyone is welcome to this annual Mass in acknowledgment of carers and those for whom they care. Includes the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Bishop Vincent Long will be the principal celebrant for Mass at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church, 51 Allawah St, Blacktown. Plenty of parking – refreshments to follow.

MOUNT SCHOENSTATT SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Saturday, 26th November – Women's Reflection Day – Advent – a season of hope

Presenter: Sr Mary Louise Walsh

Cost: \$25 includes morning and afternoon tea. BYO Lunch

Where: Family Hall, Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa

Time: 9.10am to 3.00pm

Bookings: info@schoenstatt.org.au or phone: 4773 8338

RSVP: 21st November.

www.schoenstatt.org.au

Literacy News

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

These summer holidays, Mr Greg Whitby is again launching his Summer Reading Challenge to encourage all students to read, read, read! Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, poetry, book, e-book or novel. This year there is no minimum number of books to read and there are more chances of winning a prize.



Words of the Week

Next week we will conclude our words of the week for the year. We will continue with this initiative next year along with a whole school approach to spelling. Thank you for all your support promoting these words in your homes.

Infants- flee

Primary- pertinent

Lisa Hurst, Literacy Coordinator

ITALIAN DAY – NEXT WEDNESDAY

Ciao parents

This is a final reminder about Italian Day on next Wednesday 30th December.

The morning will commence at 10.30 with setting up, and food stalls will be open from 11-12. Cold food (cakes, pastries, biscuits etc) will be 50 cents and hot food \$1, and all proceeds will be donated to Catholic Mission.

For those parents who have kindly offered to bring in food, where possible please pre cut your food, to make it easier for parents and students assisting at the stalls.

Please bring your food to the office, and please label ALL containers and serving utensils clearly with your name.

Finally, please remember you are all welcome to stay and have a picnic lunch with your children. Looking forward to a great morning!!

Signora Micallef

PRC news

Last week all participating students received their Premier's Reading Challenge certificates. At Monday's assembly we acknowledged the following students who have successfully participated for consecutive years: Platinum (7 years) – Tiarne McLuskey, Anthony Parada, Gold (4 years)- Zane Boatwalla, Beatrice Espejo, Lauren Eyles, Michael Eyles, Max Fischer, Annelise Gutwenger, Charlie Hallal, Nicholas Hallal, Lucas McLuskey, Madison Mihalic, Caitlyn Palmer- Burton, Marc Skoljarev, Phoebe Strykowski, Sascha Strykowski,

Great News!!!

The uniform shop will be back in business next Tuesday. It is now located behind the canteen area, opposite the new Year 3 classrooms.

Hours are **Tuesday 8.20am – 9.30am.**

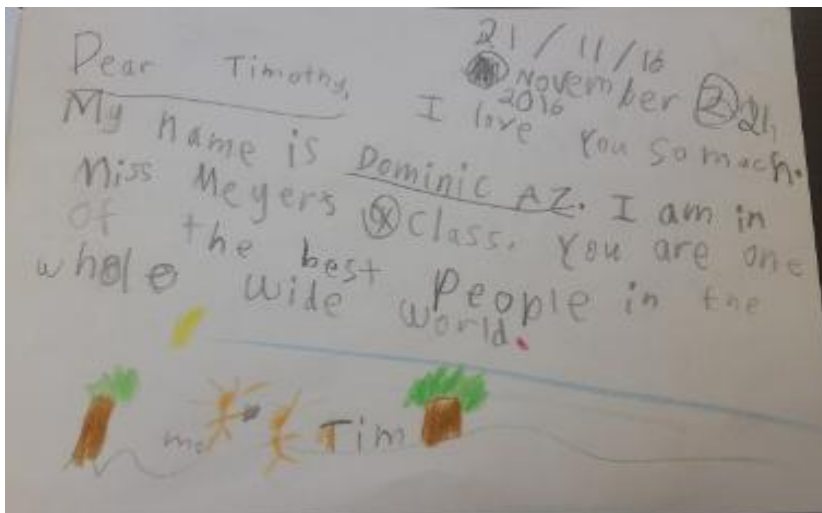
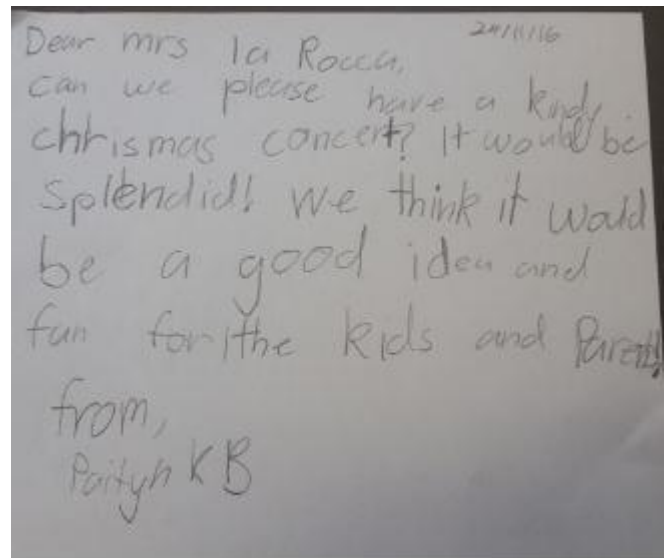
Uniform orders can be left at the office, through the notebag, via email or over the phone at any time throughout the week, and they will be filled on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please DO NOT ask for a hat or any other item first thing in the morning, as the shop is now not easily accessible and we will not be able to supply it.

Please find attached the new price list which is applicable from 28/11/16.

From the Classroom of....KB

Letter Writing in KB

In Kindergarten, we have been learning about Letter Writing for our Science and Technology unit 'Communication.' We have looked at the process of writing and sending a letter as well as the structure of a letter. The children have been reading a variety of letters, watching audio visual texts and have had many opportunities to write their own letters. Kindergarten read the story book 'The Day the Crayons Quit' which is a quirky collection of letters from the perspective of a packet of crayons. The children really enjoyed this! Here are few photos of the children hard at work and a couple of sample letters.



Cross Stitch Club

At the start we thought that we wouldn't get anything done but throughout the sessions Mrs Cheadle taught and assisted us on how to cross stitch and the skills to learn and retain. Cross stitch requires concentration, forbearance and most of all practice. It was really easy to achieve and design pattern of your image. Cross stitch is extremely entertaining and is so enjoyable.

Cross stitch is a sewing technique that is super fun and a great way to let kids be creative and do craft. Cross stitch has been a marvellous opportunity for us to be able to sew and stitch patterns that we have created, the only downside is that Mrs Cheadle can only do it twice a week but other than that it is as great as winning the lottery. Doing cross stitch gives you steady hands and a good eye, as you have to get the needle through the tiny holes. We have had a splendid time being a part of cross stitch club. Most people would expect that cross stitch club would be tedious, dull and frustrating but really it's the opposite. Cross stitch club, hosted by Mrs Cheadle and held on Tuesday and Thursday at 1st break and is a great way of entertaining you throughout your break time.

You get to design your own pattern for what you're creating. It lets your ideas come to life in an astonishing way. It improves fine-motor and concentration skills which is useful in the classroom and at home. At the moment we are creating a Christmas themed design, but really in cross stitch club you can create anything with just a little bit of patience.

Written by Sascha Strykowski, Beatrice Espejo, Carys Fitzgerald and Enaya Puri





P&F NEWS



SALE NEXT FRIDAY from 2.15pm

Thank you for your generous donations of second hand uniforms this year. 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 as soon as possible.

SPECIAL TREATS ROSTER –Annemarie Bond, Kelly Cleary, Marie Sales, Jennifer Billyard, Kylie Terzo and Joanne Zahorsky. Thank you ☺



*Our Lady of the Angels
P&F Association*

*** *If you have any ideas or are interested in helping out in any way please email*
olapfc@gmail.com

“Christmas at the Shrine”

Fun for the whole family with a Christmas Carol Sing Along, Blessing of the Baby Jesus, Sasuage Sizzle, Face Painting , Christmas Craft Booth , Soccer Fun and Games, Christmas Raffle, Christmas Tea and a visit from Santa Claus

Saturday, 3rd December, 2016

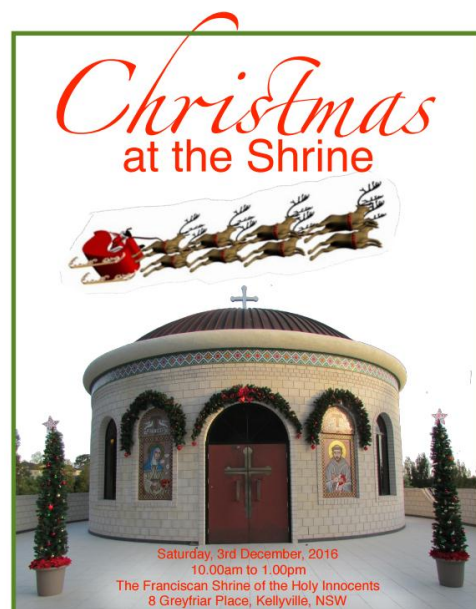
10.00am to 1.00pm

The Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents
8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville, NSW

Please park at the Our Lady of the Rosary car park (8 Diana Av.) and walk next door to the Shrine.

Until next week, God bless and stay safe.

Eva La Rocca, Principal



Term 4 Week 7			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Year 3 B	Iris Tsang	Bailey Knowles	Joshua Orton
Year 3 G	Patrick Leach	Lauryn Eyles	Jericho Cirera
Year 3 W	Rachael Perillo	Roman Bizzanelli	Akeesha Gunsekara
Year 4 B	Gemma Gladwell	Zac Lesar	Anton Blazevic
Year 4 W	Matthew Dalton	Brandee Yeow	Ryan McGrady
Year 5 B	Chiara Fallone	Shanae Makumbe	Paige Hayden
Year 5 G	Max Kelly	Malachi Cauchi	Cody Kingcott
Year 5W	Phoebe Strykowski	Nicholas Zahorsky	Breanna Debrincat
Year 6 B	Caleb McGrady	Sophie Rudek	Rex Finch
Year 6 W	Aaron Rebultan	Ashton Stacey	Daniella Lopresti