



Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Week 9 Term 1

24th March, 2016

"Blessed are the merciful, for mercy they will find".

Dear Parents,

A couple of weeks ago I spoke about the importance of having the ethical fortitude to remain true to what one believes is right and not be influenced by 'the crowds'. Today is Holy Thursday. Last Sunday was Palm Sunday. We heard how Jesus was welcomed back into the city of Jerusalem by crowds of people waving palms. As little as four days later, these same people were calling for Him to be crucified. How easily are the masses swayed if there not *thinking* people!

Today, the school community gathered to recall the events of Holy Week. Thank you to Year 3 presenting this liturgy and to Mrs Byrne (REC). We look forward to celebrating the most important part of Easter, the Resurrection, upon our return to school next Tuesday.



Thank you to Mrs Hurst and the Year 3 students for our Holy Week Liturgy today. It was perfect – the tone, the reverence and prayerfulness of the students were a delight to behold. Thank you, also, to the parents who attended. I think it would have been nice to see as many parents attend the liturgy as did the Easter Hat Parade.

NEWSLETTER



Hosanna! Entering Jerusalem;
sharing His last meal;
Jesus is betrayed;
Jesus is condemned;
Jesus is crucified and dies.



*Oh Jesus crucified. For us You suffered, for us You died – on the cross
How can we pass by and not care?
It was our sins that nailed Him there,
on the cross.*

Quality Catholic School

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will be participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) project which began in 2012. It is a five year project which means this is the final year of participation.

QCS will provide data from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community and will assist us to focus our efforts for improvement by building on our successes to date.

From 21st March to 1st April, all staff, approximately 50 students from Years 5 and 6, and 60 randomly-selected parents will be asked to complete an online survey. Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents will be sent home a paper survey but will also be able to complete the survey online if preferred. The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.

A survey consultant (Insight SRC) has been engaged to manage the data collection. The survey data will be kept strictly confidential and no individual will be identified to the school or the Catholic Education Office. Each school will receive an information report at the end of May and will use this report to inform their planning.

If you have been selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

If you have any questions please contact the principal on the school email or phone.

Literacy News

Oral language is the foundation for reading. Listening and speaking are a child's first introduction to language. Talking and singing teach your child the sounds of language, making it easier for him or her to learn how to read.

Here are some things you can do to help your child build an appreciation for words and language:

- Tell family stories about yourself, your child's grandparents, and other relatives.
- Talk to your child as much as possible about things you are doing and thinking.
- Ask your child lots of questions.
- Encourage your child to tell you what he or she thinks or feels.
- Ask your child to tell you about his or her day – about activities and games played.
- Be patient! Give your child time to find the words he or she wants to use.
- Sing songs, such as the alphabet song, and recite nursery rhymes, encouraging your child to join in.
- Play rhyming and riddle games.

Word of the Week Competition

In week 11 students will have an opportunity to write a creative piece of writing using **all** their words of the week. Below are the Term 1 words. Students are to submit their passage to Mrs Hurst by **Thursday 7th April**. Prizes will be awarded to the most creative piece from the Infants and Primary grades.

Infants' Words of the Week

splendid	applause	whimper	expensive
shriek	enormous	champion	

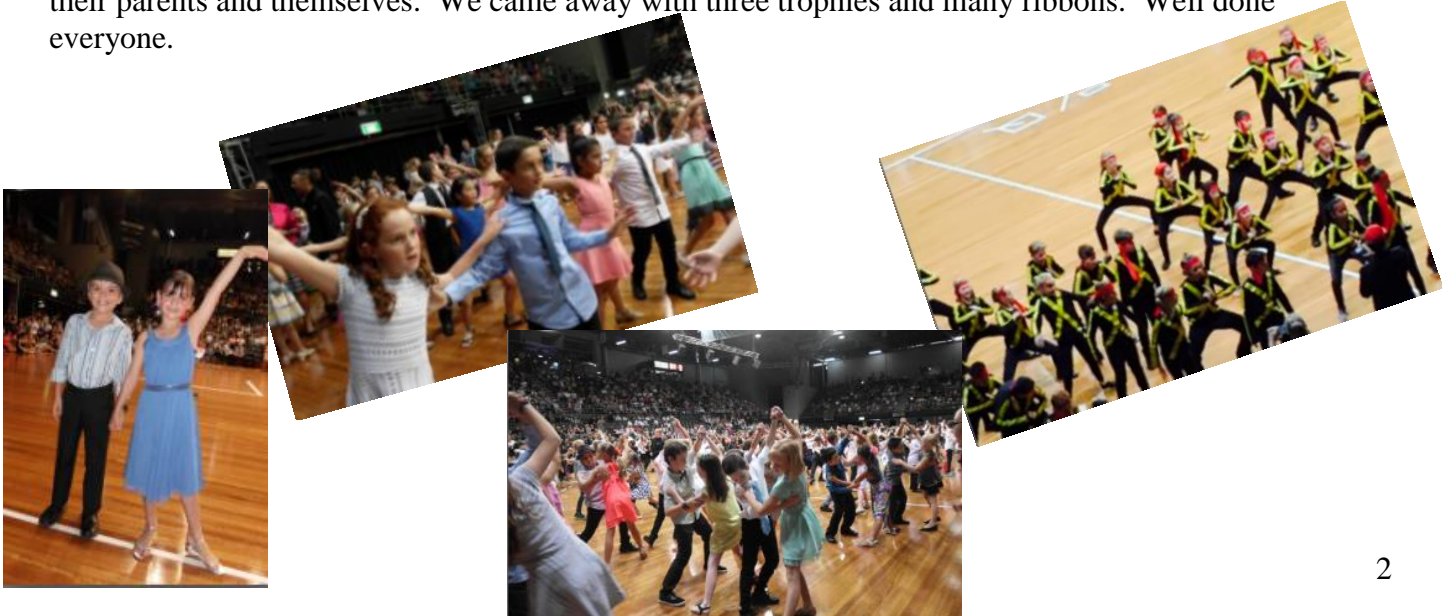
Primary's Words of the Week

banish	meticulous	vigilant	hasten
outlandish	exhilarate	debris	

Lisa Hurst Literacy Coordinator

Dance Fever

Last night 110 students from years 3 – 6 participated in the Dance Fever Interschool Challenge. What a wonderful event it was. The students danced extremely well and were a credit to their dance teachers, their parents and themselves. We came away with three trophies and many ribbons. Well done everyone.



From the Classroom.....Year 3W

In Year 3 this week we have prepared for our Easter Liturgy.

Lord,

As we prepare to enter the mystery of these three most holy days, we ask you to enlighten our minds and hearts with the hope and promise of Christ's passion, death and resurrection. Give us eyes to see Him in the breaking of the bread and hearts that reach out to Him in service to one another. We ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen



This week we had an amazing Australian visit our learning space. Dawn Fraser spoke to the students about her life and fabulous achievements. We have been studying 'Famous Australian' this term and were fortunate to meet such a wonderful woman. Thank you to Mrs Buxton for organizing the visit.



From the Parish Office...

EASTER SERVICES

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Last Supper 7.30pm
Adoration will be available till night prayer at 10pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross 10am
Confessions available after the stations
The Passion Liturgy 3pm

Easter Vigil: Saturday evening 7pm

Easter Sunday: 8.30am, 10am and 5.30pm

After Mass, there will be a special morning tea and Easter eggs from the Easter Bunny!

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea!!

Wishing all our Parish School families a very Happy and Holy Easter.

We look forward to seeing you over Holy Week.

Sacraments of Initiation

First Communion For those Children who have completed their Reconciliation in 2016 First Communion will take place in June 2016. The first Parent-only session will be held on **Thursday, 19 May at 7.30pm.**

If you have a child in Year 3 or an older grade who has completed their Reconciliation and is not registered for First Communion, we ask that you contact the parish office for further information.

Parish Ball

On Saturday, 2 April, the Parish will be holding a Ball at the Castle Hill RSL Club. Tickets are now on sale for \$75-. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Mass times:

Sat vigil: 5:30pm **Sunday:** 8:30am, 10am & 5.30pm. **Weekdays:** Mon -Sat: 9 am

Confessions:

9:30 am Sat

Baptisms & weddings: By appointment

Parish Priest: Fr Warren Edwards

Assistant Priest: Fr John Rizzo

Parish Secretaries: Geraldine Farrugia and Rose Sultana

Winter Uniform

The students wear their winter uniform during terms 2 and 3.

However, whilst the weather varies from hot to cold, they can still wear their summer uniform until **week 4, Monday 16th May**. From this date forward, they need to be in their full winter uniform.

Whichever uniform they choose to wear, it must be either full summer or full winter, not part of both.

School Photo Make-up Day

For those children that were away from school on photo day, the makeup date is Friday 1st April. A separate email will be forwarded to these students advising that they will be having their photo taken on that day.

PLEASE NOTE... 99% of our communication is VIA EMAIL.

Every day, the office receives a multitude of phone calls with questions about school events that have been communicated at least twice – Newsletter and Grade Communication Notes, so much so that a visitor from CEDP working in the office commented on how much time is spent taking such calls.

Please refer to this source of information in your emails before ringing the school.

LAST DAY THIS TERM IS A SPECIAL FUN DAY - SOME SURPRISES AND FUN COMPETITION FOR THE CHILDREN and, yes, you can help them.

Watch out for more details in next week's Newsletter.

Dates to Remember

Week 10: Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Wed 30th March – Kindy 2017 Information Night 7.00pm NEW FAMILIES ONLY

Week 11: Tues 5th April – Principal's Morning Tea

Fri 8th April – Last Day of Term 1 MUFTI FUN DAY GOLD COIN WYD

Tues 26th April – First day of Term 2

Only a short week, but what a week it was!

Until next week, have a happy and Holy Easter. God bless and stay safe.

Eva La Rocca, Principal