



# Our Lady of the Angels School, Rouse Hill

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Newsletter  
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7<sup>th</sup> February, 2020  
Term 1, Week 2

## Welcome to the 2020 School Year

### Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families throughout the school and particularly to our 2020 Kindergarten cohort. The Kindergarten students have been just beautiful and are well and truly already part of our OLA community. Kindergarten through to Year 6 are very settled and enthusiastic about their learning. I have been most impressed with the children's behaviour, manners and love of learning. This is a credit to you, the first educators of your children.

It has been lovely meeting and chatting with the many members of the OLA community in the mornings, afternoons and earlier this week at the swimming carnival. Thank you once again for taking the time to say hello and making me feel welcome.

In working in partnership, you are always welcome to email me through the school email any suggestions, ideas, feedback etc so that together we can continue to provide the students with the best Catholic Education possible.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, here is a little of my journey. I was born to Italian parents and grew up on the northern beaches. I married my beautiful wife Maureen and moved to Castle Hill. We have four wonderful children now aged between 26 and 17. Since graduating I have been a classroom teacher, Religious Education Co-ordinator, Primary Co-ordinator, Assistant Principal and Principal for the past 20 years. My first primary school as Principal was at Christ the King, North Rocks for 10 years, followed by St Angela's for 10 years and now my next new adventure here with you at OLA. My appreciation and thanks to Fr Warren and the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta for entrusting me in leading this Christ Community.

### Opening School Mass & SRC Commissioning This Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 9.00am

Our Opening School Mass will be held this Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February at 9.00am. Everyone is most welcome to attend and to be part of this wonderful celebration of our Faith. The children are to wear their full school uniform on this day NOT sports uniform. They really enjoy having their parents present, if it is possible. We hope you can attend on this special occasion as we gather to pray for a safe and enriching year for everyone in our school community.

*Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.*

*Tony Calabria  
Principal*

### *Some photos of our Kindergarten children on their first day of school*



### Kindergarten and New Families BBQ This Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

We look forward to gathering with our new families across Years 1 – 6 and all kindergarten families on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March from 5.30pm – 6.30pm under the COLA. An invitation has been sent home to these families this week. Please RSVP for catering purposes

### KINDERGARTEN 2021 ENROLMENT INFORMATION SESSION AND SCHOOL TOUR

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Open School between 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Information Session: 7.00pm

Please pass this information onto neighbours, friends etc who may be interested in enrolling their child in our great school



## Sunday 9th February Gospel

### Reflection

Year A

[Mt 5:13-16](#)

(Please click on the bible reference to read this Sunday's Gospel)  
*'You are the light of the world'*

#### Gospel Reflection

The salt and light of the world passage is often used to affirm and encourage, but when Jesus tells his disciples – and us – to be salt and light of the world it is not so that they can draw attention and glory to themselves. The whole purpose of being salt and light is to lead others into the right relationship with one another and with God. Whilst the translation we have clearly states that disciples are to be salt and light of the world, it is just as clear that the intention is that they/we be salt and light for the world.

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH IN RE

**WEEK THREE: Thursday 13th February: Opening School Mass and SRC Commissioning**

**WEEK FIVE: Tuesday 25th February: Shrove Tuesday  
Wednesday 26th February: Ash Wednesday (Whole school parish mass @ 9 am)**

## Parent Information Night

Each year in Week 3, the school holds an information evening for parents with their children's class teacher. We hope that you can attend so as to enhance the learning of your child by being fully informed of the processes, procedures and content for your child's new grade and stage of learning. Your support and partnership is extremely valued and appreciated.

The grade information sessions will be in your child's learning space.

\*Kinder to Year 2 will run from 6.30 – 6.55pm

\*Year 3- Year 6 will run from 7-7.30pm.

If you have two sessions at the same time, our advice is to attend that of the oldest child as you have already experienced the younger. Please remember that this is a brief and general information session and not a time to ask teachers about your child.

The sessions are for parents, not for children. Children are welcome to play on the oval under teacher supervision while you attend the information sessions.

#### Parent Representative

If you would like to be a parent representative for your child's class, please indicate this on the sign on sheet at the Parent Information Night. This position entails welcoming new families to your class, being a point of contact for families and the parent liaison for the P&F.

## Student Information Form

Thank you for completing the Student Information Forms sent home last week. A reminder if you have not already done so, please return forms on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you.

#### Are you Receiving Emails?

As information & various notes are emailed from the school, please ensure that we have your correct/preferred email address on our system. We are hopeful that by next week we will have the problems with our emails rectified.



Happy birthday to members of our OLA Community who have/are celebrating their birthday on.....

**Sat 1<sup>st</sup>**

Eva Bond

**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Olivia Falzon

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Kianah Lesar

Isabella Deur

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup>**

Luis Flores

Elisheba Mathew

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup>**

Reyansh Gupta

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup>**

Erica Sommer

Joshua Stewart

Hundal Ekamveer

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup>**

Sofia Costa

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup>**

Isabella Smith

Orlaith McManus

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup>**

Macy Owen

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup>**

Alex Vozzo

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup>**

Jeremiah Chayban

Natalia Zahorsky

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>**

Noah Baba

Jayden Makdessi

Charlise Mitrovich

Ava Camilleri

Sophia Gobran

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup>**

Melina Lesar

Cooper Cameron

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup>**

Jasmine Fedele

Oliver Coughlan

Zavier Dabit

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup>**

Ethnan Mathew

Liam O'Connor

Olivia Medjumurac

#### PARENT HELPERS???

#### ***Have you completed your Child Protection for Volunteers Training??***

It has been pleasing to see how many of our parents, grandparents, etc, have completed the Child Protection Training in anticipation of helping out at school. Whenever this is done, the school is notified by email and the names added go on a register to which we refer when someone wants to come into the school. The list is growing, thank you.

To avoid disappointment, please make sure you have completed this. The URL is:

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>

This includes helping at school in areas such as gross motor, lunches, reading groups, etc.

**We strongly encourage all parents to undertake this very quick online process every February every two years. Our suggestion is to do it every even year, ie 2020, 2022 etc**

#### Canteen

We have attached the flyer for the Flexischools App which is where you make your canteen orders. Please download this App onto your phone.



## Dates to Remember

### Week 3:

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Feb** Yr 2 Excursion to Rouse Hill Farm

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb** BBQ for Kindy & New Families

5.30pm – 6.30pm.

Information Sessions for all Parents

6.30pm – 6.55pm K – Yr 2

7.00pm – 7.30pm Yr 3 – Yr 6

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Feb** Opening School Mass 9.00am  
SRC Commissioning – All Welcome

### FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Feb** Zone Swimming Carnival

Infants Assembly 2:40pm

School Census Day

Teddy Bears Picnic - Kindergarten

### Week 4:

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Feb** Yr 4 Science Day

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Feb** P&F AGM Meeting 7.00pm

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Feb** Primary Diocesan Swimming Carnival

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Feb** Primary Assembly 2:40pm

## PARISH DINNER DANCE



*You are invited to the*  
*Our Lady of the Angels*  
**2020 DINNER DANCE**

Saturday 14th March, 2020

The Greenway Room

The Fiddler

**Cost: \$75**

3 course meal with

LIVE Entertainment featuring

**Mr Joe Apap**

Payment can be made by Card, Cash or Cheque  
For further information, contact Geraldine ~ 8888

## School Census Day - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February is the school census day. All children should attend school on this day and absence should only be if it is absolutely necessary.

If you know that your child will be away on 14<sup>th</sup> February, please email [ola@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ola@parra.catholic.edu.au) advising the reason for the absence and when they will return.

This is of course a requirement that applies to everyday of the school year, however Census data is directly related to Government funding for our schools and the requirements outlined above are set by the Department of Education. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Colonial Day - Year 5

Year 5 were taken back in time to the late 1700s on Monday, the 3rd of February. We started with a gallery walk, observing artworks of the time. Some familiar names popped up, including James Ruse, Mary MacKillop, Arthur Phillip. Our experiential opportunity really made us comprehend the gravity of being a convict. Some of them were our age and were torn away from their families to a country far away all because they stole a loaf of bread or a handkerchief.



## Parking Rules & Fines

Please see the flyer attached with this newsletter from The Hills Shire Council on Parking Rules & Fines around schools. We often have the council ranger patrolling the area, so please abide by the rules.

## Year Six Leadership Day

On Thursday 6th February Year Six participated in Leadership Day. It was loads of fun. We were able to participate in lots of activities that taught us different leadership skills and qualities such as teamwork, trust, communication and collaboration. Two of the most memorable activities we took part in were 'The Floor is Lava' and 'The Trust Maze'. 'The Floor is Lava' was so much fun because we all had to use problem solving skills and communication to work together to get from one side of the lava pit to the other - the only problem was that there were five people but only 4 stepping stones. 'The Trust Maze' was another amazing activity because we had to tell our blindfolded teammate how to get through the obstacle course without falling into the shark infested waters. It was a memorable day that taught us valuable skills that we will be able to use to be great leaders of OLA.

By Isobel Clarke and Julia Zammit



### SOME THINGS TO NOTE PLEASE...

- Children are not permitted to play on the primary gym out of official OLA school hours.
- Parents collecting students at the end of the day are asked to wait in the basketball area and keep the area around the stage and infants' gym free of traffic. Teachers will escort all students to the basketball court area.
- Please exit via the gate closest to parish office
- Parents/grandparents using the drive through in the afternoon are reminded to stagger the pick-up times as follows:

If your OLDEST child is in KINDERGARTEN, your pickup time is 3PM.

**NO OTHER PARENTS SHOULD BE ARRIVING BEFORE 3.10pm.**

If your **oldest** child is in Year 1 or Year 2, please pick up from 3.10pm

If your **oldest** child is in Year 3 or Year 4, please pick up from 3.20pm

If your **oldest** child is in Year 5 or Year 6, please pick up from 3.30pm.

All younger siblings will wait with the oldest sibling, under teacher supervision

- **Parking is limited in and around the school (Rangers have already been spotted during drop-off and pick-up). Please utilise the parking at both ovals across the road and walk into school or meet your children there.**

**These requests are in the interest of all students' safety and smooth running of the school. Thank you for your cooperation.**

## Uniform Shop

The OLA Uniform Shop is open on  
Mondays from 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 Mondays and Wednesdays**. A copy of the uniform order form is attached to this newsletter or can be found on our website.

Please note that we are **unable** to supply a hat or any other item first thing in the morning from the office as the uniform shop is not in the admin building.

## OLA Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> February, students from Years 3-6 competed in our school swimming carnival. It was a fantastic day with many fun memories created for all students.

We were lucky to have our new 2020 House Captains, who were eager to start as our leaders of the school. They were extremely organised and encouraged their House to cheer competitors and create a true House Spirit.

The carnival ran smoothly, with many students participating in novelty events, 25 and 50m races. Many achieved their personal best and others developed more confidence swimming in the 50m races.

Age and Colour Champions will be announced early next week due to our assembly not taking place today because of the rain.

I would like to thank the OLA Community for their support on the day. The many volunteers who helped on the day and parents supporting their children.

I would like to congratulate all the students for their behaviour and participation on the day.

The children should feel proud of their personal achievements on the day.

Luke Campbell  
Sports Co-ordinator

*Many thanks to Mr Campbell, assisted by all the Staff, in ensuring our carnival was beautifully run.*



# The Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) – What Now?

Over the past two weeks, every child will have undertaken a Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI). This has been a valuable opportunity for teachers to individually assess the thinking and attitude of each child towards numeracy. Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta have been conducting the MAI for several years now. It is conducted at the beginning of each school year and data is analysed at an individual, class, grade, school and system level.

## Why do the MAI?

Children's lives are enriched through interactions with their family, friends and environments. Through these encounters, they construct and learn number concepts and skills. Before beginning school, children know names of many numbers, can recite some sequences of number names and attach a numerical value to small collections of items. (Gervasoni & Perry, 2015). Many children have acquired a degree of number sense that allows them to solve intuitively the problems they encounter as part of their daily living and learning. However, like all learning, this is not the case for all children.

In order for teachers to maximize the mathematics learning for all children there are several factors that come into play....

1. *What does the student already know?*

2. *What are the next steps?*

3. *What learning experiences will best enable the student to achieve those next steps?*

4. *What are some possible difficulties or 'hurdles' that may prevent student progression.*

This is where the MAI comes into play. The MAI outlines a reference framework of growth points, (milestones or major stepping-stones) across four number domains of counting, place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. It maps out a likely course of children's mathematical learning and it provides the teacher with the opportunity to identify what the student has already mastered and subsequently plan suitable learning opportunities that will maximize growth. After analyzing student responses in a MAI, teachers are able to determine growth points, monitor growth and student progression, identify mathematically vulnerable students and plan learning experiences that will most effectively enable children to reach the next growth points in their mathematical learning.

If you have any further queries around the Maths Assessment Interview, or how to assist your child in numeracy, please see your child's teacher or myself for direction.

Mr Stephen Cauchi,  
Assistant Principal

# Celebrating our Talented Students

Term 1 Week 2			
Student	Academic Merit Award	St Francis Award	Einstein Award
Year 3 B	Sophia Mangano	Lily Haynes	Lucas Richardson
Year 3 G	Magnus Myhre Fox	Aaliyah Naidoo	Fionn Galway
Year 3 W	Mason Sleiman	Noah Baba	Ella Ciantar
Year 4 B	Mia Lee	Grace Wallis	Addison Galvin
Year 4 G	Olivia Vella	Ruby Millers	Rohan Pillai
Year 4 W	Jordan Holden	Sienna Flores	Trinity Manago
Year 5 B	Harrison Ko	Meliya Boyd	Nidhi Chetty
Year 5G	Javin Chugh	Cassandra Higham	Ethan Streater
Year 5W	Claire Sievwright	Oliver Davidson	Kobe Coombes
Year 6 B	Joshua Robertson	Solomon Montgomery	Maya Cauchi
Year 6 G	Gemma Haynes	Jaeden Mensah	Georgia Falzon
Year 6 W	Cohan Sommer	Roxie Pace	Acacia Sales

## Student's Birthday

Celebrating a birthday is something all children look forward to! If your child wishes to bring a treat to school to share with their friends (**purely optional and not needed**) we kindly ask that you send in cupcakes or donuts. Cupcakes and donuts are preferred as they are easy to hand out and are a treat that all children enjoy. Due to the multitude of allergies present, we ask that you do not send lollies, chocolates or other treats in for birthdays, Easter, Christmas etc.

Please note, although a lovely idea, ice blocks are **NOT** to be sent in as they are not practical as we have limited freezer space. If your child has allergies, you are welcome to send some cakes in a labelled container for your child, which will be kept in the freezer in the staffroom and given out as necessary. Thank you for supporting us as we endeavour to keep all children safe and happy.