



**Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Education 1919-2019**

## OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**12 December 2019**

[www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Peter-Damien McKinley  
**Principal:** Ms. Patrizia Bertani  
**Parish Mass Times:** Saturday 6:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am, 10:30am & 5:30pm  
**School Phone:** 9312 2230  
**School website:** [www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au)  
*Our Lady's is a Child Safe School*

*'In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind' Job 12:10*

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### **Mon 16 Dec**

2020 Years 1-6 Orientation 12.00-1.00pm  
2.20pm Sports Assembly in the Hall

Graduation Mass for Gr 6 at 5.45pm

#### **Tues 17 Dec**

##### **Last Day of 2019**

**11.30am Final Mass**

**3.15pm School finishes for 2019**



#### **2020**

##### **Wed 29 Jan - Thurs 30 Jan**

Getting To Know You Sessions Day 1 & 2. Families will attend a time on one of these two days to meet their 2020 teacher.

##### **Fri 31 January**

Classes begin for all students  
Foundation to Grade 6 8.45am-3.15pm

##### **Mon 3 February**

Professional Development Day for Staff (Literacy Focus) No school for the children

##### **Tues 18 February**

Professional Development Day for Staff (Review planning) No school for the children

##### **Wednesday 19 February**

Professional Development Day for Staff (Review planning) No school for the children



Dear Parent,

It is hard to believe that this is my final newsletter for 2019 and as the year draws to a close we give thanks for all its challenges and blessings. We give thanks for all that through the grace of God we have achieved as a School and Parish community during this very special Our Lady's 100th year.

This year we celebrated Our Lady's School 100 year birthday and had many celebrations throughout the year including our 100 Year School Fete, our 100th Year Celebration Mass and of course our whole school musical tribute retracing Our Lady's school history, *Step Back in Time*. Thank you to all who came to the performance and thank you for all the positive feedback.

It's been a wonderful year for our school community. Together, we have achieved much and have worked hard to improve Our Lady's School so that it is a place where each and every child feels valued, supported, safe and eager to learn. Thank you to all the Our Lady's staff, the students, parents and friends who have all contributed to making our 100th year such a successful one.

A special thank you to Father Peter our Parish Priest who has guided and supported myself, staff, students and families of Our Lady's School in their journey of faith, throughout 2019. We thank you for your wisdom, encouragement and guidance and we look forward to working collaboratively under your leadership in 2020

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 YEAR SIX GRADUATING CLASSES—6A and 6B**



### **End of the School Year Prayer**

*The last class is a time to thank God for the year. We have all grown in faith.*



*God, Father of us all, thank you for all we have learned this year. We have grown in faith, hope and love of you.*

*Thank you for the friends we have made and the good times we have shared. Be with us as we go forward into the summer.*

## ***Celebrating* 100 Years of Catholic Education 1919-2019**

This Sunday we light the third Advent Candle – the pink candle. This is a sign we are getting close to celebrating Jesus' birth. I ask you to say the following Advent prayer with your family.

*O God, rejoicing, we remember the promise of your Son. As we light the third candle of Advent, may the blessing of Christ come upon us, brightening our way and guiding us by his truth. May Christ our Saviour bring life into the darkness of our world and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen.*



*I invite you all to come to our end of year Mass on Tuesday the 17th December at 11:30am*

### **2020 BELL TIMES**

8.30am	Classrooms open
8.45am	Classes start
10.50am-11.30am	Snack time
1.30pm	Eating time
1.40pm-2.20pm	Lunch time
3.15pm (3.00pm Wed)	Home time



**Thank you to those families who have settled their accounts for 2019.**

**If you have not done so, could you please ensure that all accounts are paid as soon as possible.**

**Please see me if you have any concerns about settling your account.**

### ***CLASS TEACHERS FOR 2020***

Foundation I	Ms Cam Tu Nguyen	Foundation J	Miss Severino
1K	Ms Karen Everson	1L	Ms Stephanie Huynh
2M	Ms Menica Scarpaci	2N	Ms Jennifer Howe
3E	Ms Lianne O'Connell	3F	Ms Anna-Maria Murphy
4G	Mrs Justine Sales & Mr John Buttigieg	4H	Mr Tim Wickham
5C	Ms Wendy Veldman	5D	Mrs Angelica Mendoza
6A	Ms Tosh Kaan	6B	Ms Michelle Gurry

*May the joy and peace we celebrate at the Saviour's birth fill your hearts and homes this Christmas and may the New Year bring you love and hope.*

***Happy and Safe Holidays to you all!***

Yours sincerely,

*Patrizia Bertani*

**Ms Patrizia Bertani**

**Principal**

[principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au)





*Celebrating* 100 Years of Catholic Education 1919-2019



# Step Back In Time







# Step Back In Time





# Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Education 1919-2019



## Step Back In Time





# Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Education 1919-2019



*Step back in Time*



# EXTEND UPDATE.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Gardening and the great outdoors	Science time and volcanos using mentos and diet coke	Indoor group games - musical chairs, fruit salad and octopus	Lego world building challenges and creative Lego drawings	Sports challenges - basketball and soccer competitions

## The Extend Superstar is...

**Juliana...** for engaging in daily experiences in a positive manner at all times.... Well done ☆

## What's Been Happening?

Our last newsletter for 2019. What a wonderful year it has been with exciting challenges, new experiences and lots of laughs. This week children participated maths challenges, table tennis games, hangman competitions, group games, created Xmas cards and decorations and enjoyed outdoor sports such as playground tiggy and basketball comps.

We look forward to seeing you all next year and from the team here at extend we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Enrol and book now: [extend.com.au](http://extend.com.au)**



## Our Lady's Parish Children's Christmas Mass Rehearsals

Monday 16th December: 3.15pm - 4.15pm in the church

Monday 23rd December: 9.30am - 11. 00am in the church

All primary school aged children from the parish are welcome.

Parents/adult carers must remain at the church during rehearsals.

Please contact Jacinta (0408 314 428) with any enquiries





## Goodbye primary school, hello secondary school

by Michael Grose



*The end of primary school is a significant milestone in children's lives. They've spent half their lives in primary school, in many cases in the same school, which is significant.*

Developmentally they've come a long way from those skinny little kids who lined up for class on the first day holding a parent's or carer's hand. Now entering puberty, most are taller than their mothers and the only people they'll hold hands with are 'special friends', but not in public. Those displays of affection will come later in the secondary school years.

Changing from primary to secondary brings a mixture of emotions in kids such as excitement, apprehension, pride and, in many cases, sadness about leaving friends and familiar surrounds behind.

Parents often go through the same range of emotions as children at this time so we need to acknowledge those feelings in ourselves, just as we should in our children.

### Looking back

This is a time for kids to celebrate their achievements; show appreciation to their teachers and enjoy the friendships that they've formed. Here are three ideas:

#### 1. Let's celebrate

Primary school graduation ceremonies play an important part in the primary school life, as they mark the end of an era and the start of a new part of their lives. We need to be careful that the meaning doesn't become lost as graduations become increasingly lavish, even to the point where some students are transported to their graduation in a stretch limo. *Keep them simple and keep them close to the school's values.*

#### 2. Show gratitude

As a former teacher I know how much a simple thank you can mean from students at the end of the year. So make sure your kids take the time to thank their final year teacher and as well as seek out to thank other teachers who contributed to their education over their primary school journey. *Gratitude costs nothing but has a great impact.*

#### 3. Enjoy friendships

Encourage your kids to be open and friendly at this time of the year, and steer clear of cliques and fellow students who want to exclude others from their groups. The end of primary school can be tricky to navigate, particularly



## parenting\*ideas

when early maturers stick together and ostracise certain classmates. *This is the time for friendly behaviour and inclusiveness.*

### Looking ahead

When primary school is finished and the holidays are coming to an end it's time to focus on the new experiences of secondary school. Some kids take secondary school in their stride but it is natural to experience some difficulty.

If your eldest is starting, then secondary school will be a relatively new experience for you too. It will take some time for you to adjust to the school's culture and communication methods.

Your attitude as a parent can help your child quickly adjust. Here are three ideas for you to help kids make a smooth adjustment:

#### 1. Promote friendships

The quicker kids form new friendships the sooner they'll feel comfortable in their secondary school surroundings. Encourage your young person to be open to forming friendships with all sorts of kids; to be accepting of others who may be different to them; to take social risks by joining in activities even though they may feel uncomfortable; and to be friendly, approachable and positive!

#### 2. Be ready to listen

Patience and understanding in the early weeks is essential. Brush up on your listening skills as you help your young person adjust. Talk to your young person about change and reassure them that it's normal to feel unsure or nervous in new circumstances. Let them know that many difficulties they face will be temporary.

#### 3. Keep your attitude positive

Confidence is catching so make sure you see this transition time as an exciting challenge that your child can handle rather than an event to be feared. Ask them about the new subjects or interesting activities they are doing, and try to shift their focus to the positive aspects of school. Discuss settling in issues with the appropriate person such as a year level coordinator, but give your young person time to handle them on their own before seeking help.



#### Michael Grose

*Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 10 books for parents including Thriving! and the best-selling Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It, and his latest release Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children. A trailblazer in the parenting and educational scenes Michael regularly appears in the media throughout Australia in programs including The Project, The Today Show and ABC radio.*



Jesus is  
coming to  
save us



**3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A**

## Gospel

**Mt 11:2-11**

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

Jesus told John the Baptist's followers to tell him all they had seen and heard. How did Jesus help the following people?

**Blind People**

**Deaf People**

**Lame People**

**Lepers**

# Advent Wreath

Each Sunday during the season of Advent, we light a candle on the Advent Wreath.

The candle which is lit on the third Sunday of Advent is pink. All the other candles are purple. Colour in the Advent Wreath.

