



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13 December 2018

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
Our Lady's is a Child Safe School

'I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible' The Nicene Creed

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 13 Dec

Graduation Mass & Disco

Fri 14 Dec

Parish Movie

NO ASSEMBLY TODAY

Mon 17 Dec

12.00-1.00pm Years 1-6 Orientation

2.30pm Assembly outside

Dinner in the Yard & Art Show

Wed 19 Dec

9.00am End of School Mass

3.00pm Students finish for 2018



2019

Wed 30 Jan

Getting To Know You and Your Child Day 1

Thurs 31 Jan

Getting To Know You and Your Child Day 2

Fri 1 Feb

Classes start for all at 8.45am



Dear Parent,

It is hard to believe that this is my final newsletter for 2018 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. 2018 is the ninety ninth year of Our Lady's school and I am happy to say it has been a very good year for our school community. As we bring this year to a close I give thanks to Mary Our Lady for watching over our school community.

I would like to particularly express my thanks and gratitude to Father Peter our Parish Priest. Your leadership has made an invaluable contribution to making this year such a successful one for our school. You have guided and supported the staff, children and families of Our Lady's School in their journey of faith throughout 2018. We thank you for your wisdom, encouragement and guidance and we look forward to working collaboratively under your leadership in 2019. Thank you to the students, staff and parents of Our Lady's School, 2018 has 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 and safe to grow and flourish; as both a person and as a learner.

A sincere thank you to the tireless work, time and energy given to the school by all the Parents and Friends Committee members and all the many parent volunteers that have so generously given up their time to support the many events that were organised throughout 2018. Thank you also to the Fete Committee members who have had many meetings to make sure that Our Lady's School 100th Year Fete in 2019 will be a fabulous event not only for our school but also our parish and beyond.

Special thanks also to the Parent and Friends Advisory Board members for their valuable input and insights throughout 2018. You have played a very important role in the life of the school and bring the voice and concerns of the parent community to the meetings. I thank you for sharing your wisdom and great ideas. It has been a pleasure to work with you and I look forward to continuing our good work in 2019 our School's 100th year.



End of School Year Prayer

The end of school for the year 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.

We also pray for our graduates, as they face new challenges and opportunities and new beginnings at their new schools.

We pray this in the name of Jesus and the Holy Spirit of love. Amen

Our Lady's Student Leadership Model for 2019

We have been reviewing the model of Student Leadership at Our Lady's School and have decided to implement a more contemporary model which is more closely aligned to our beliefs about learning and teaching and our School's Gospel Values: *In faith and love, we are people of: compassion, courage, justice, peace, respect and service*. These values will both drive and underpin our new model of leadership.

Therefore Foundation-6 Student Leadership at Our Lady's is based on the belief that:

- leadership is the living out of the Catholic Social Justice principles
- living out God's message of hope empowers and enables oneself and others
- all students have a voice and leadership qualities that can be nurtured and developed
- both learning and leadership are both developmental lifelong processes
- developing leadership skills early will allow students to become more deeply involved and connected to all aspects of all school life
- providing a wide variety of leadership opportunities across F – 6 which will cater for and explore children's interests as well as the school's needs.

By nurturing an F – 6 Leadership program, we aim to raise the students' awareness of the needs of others, particularly in the wider community, and develop their attitude of empathy and compassion. Research states that an awareness of this begins at a very early age, and in fact, it is wonderful to see many of our students across the school, already involved in helping others, including assisting staff in so many ways as well as fund raising for the wider community, simply because they want to make a positive difference.

Strong leadership can be demonstrated through selfless actions and without the need of a title or the wearing of a badge. Consequently, we seek to foster a leadership culture within all students and provide them with both the support and opportunities to experience and develop their leadership skills and potential. In this way, students will recognise that leadership is a transformational, ongoing learning process which is developed through attitude, disposition, behaviour, education and experience.

Students in all year levels will be nurtured to build their leadership capacity via our rich and varied curriculum. The Year Six students will all have the opportunity to work towards receiving a Leadership Badge. As leaders of our school they will be taking on roles of responsibilities at different times throughout the year rather than having allocated school captains, vice captains and sports captains. We believe this more inclusive model will provide greater diversity of leaders and more student led actions taking place in our school.





Thoughts on Graduating by Patrick P



Lets begin, firstly I would like to give a big thank you to all the Teachers and Staff of Our Lady's. You all were a huge magnificent part of our Journey. You shaped us into leaders and made us strive for greatness. Your words and actions shined everyday in class and you made us become inspired learners. We were guided during learning with strategies and ways that improve our learning. All of you prepared us for our future to come and when we group up we can say 'Everyday we learnt something.' And it was because of you, Our Lady's Staff. You were all committed to your job and we are proud to call you our class teachers and supporters. The laughs, tears, jokes and words will stay with us throughout the years and those days and times are cherished deeply in our hearts.

Secondly, Friends. We only have a few days left with one another. Right now look at your friends and people you care about. After we leave say thank you to them and for all that they did for us. We all care about each other and each moment we are together the moment is captured in our hearts. The tears, love, sadness, joy and laughter; it all matters. Your friends are special so every time you see them remember to be grateful that they're in your life. We have been through so much in 7 years and when we look back we will remember those special moments in our life with our friends and we laugh. 'Friendship is a gift, a bond cherished every moment with each other, your friendship grows with them every laugh, tear, smile, word and action the bond grows further.'

Lastly this School, Our Lady of The Immaculate Conception. I can't say thank you enough for everything: education, friends, teachers, activities and more. When we grow up we can say 'I'm Proud' because Our Lady's shaped us into Leaders, Young Adults, Confident People, Role Models and especially who we are today. Thank you so much.

We are the Year 6s of 2018. No one can take our education from us, so keep striving for greatness. We have put our minds to our work and life, now here we are. Like Michael Jordan said "Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen."

We made it happen, we have graduated.

Thank you,

Patrick Plarisan

Class of 2018

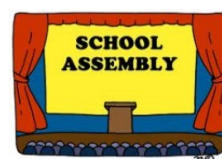
thank you

Class Teachers for 2019

FI Ms Cam Tu Nguyen	FJ Ms Natalie Severino
1K Ms Karen Everson	1L Ms Jen Howe
2M Ms Menica Scarpaci	2N Ms Lianne O'Connell
3E Ms Angelica Rodriguez	3F Ms Anna-Maria Murphy
4G Ms Caroline Wood	4H Mr Eamonn Murphy & Mr John Buttigieg
5C Mrs Pauline Zammit & Mrs Kim Dalmau	5D Ms Olga Deltiglio
6A Ms Tosh Kaan	6B Ms Jess Steele

ASSEMBLY NEWS

Due to our Art Show being set up in the Hall we were planning to have our normal Friday Assembly outside tomorrow. However with the weather forecast predicting further rain overnight and tomorrow, our **Assembly led by 4G will now be held outside on the blue green grass on MONDAY 17 DECEMBER at 2.30pm.**



END OF YEAR MASS REMINDER

We warmly invite everyone to join us at our final Mass for 2018 on Wednesday 19 December at 9.00am in the Church to celebrate all our achievements of 2018.



Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Bertani

Ms Patrizia Bertani

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

*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.*

ART NEWS

The children will be bringing their artwork home on Tuesday December 18th inside a large plastic art folio. Please take your child's artwork out and return the plastic folio to school as we reuse these from year to year.

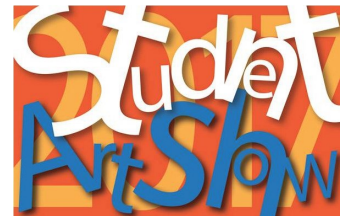
Also your child needs to bring home clay art. It would be great if they could have a container about the size of a litre ice cream container with a lid to take home their clay. This will be a safer way to transport this art.

Thankyou to the parents who have offered to help put up the art for the art show, the more the better so if you haven't replied to my request to help out tomorrow (Friday 14 December) please come along if you're free for any amount of time.

Thankyou for your support

Pina McDonald

Art Teacher



PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

The Parents and Friends Committee would like to thank the Our Lady's School community for the ongoing support throughout 2018. We have had a successful year of fundraising; the children have had lots of fun at the movie night and show days. All the funds raised from this year's events has been put aside to purchase new equipment to enhance our children's learning. Next year we will meet to decide where exactly that money should be spent.



Next year we start Celebrating the 100th Year of Our Lady's Primary School. In the first term on Saturday 30th of March we are planning our School Fete, we have been in planning for months and we look forward to bringing you a fantastic event. We are excited for what 2019 will bring to Our Lady's School.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support,

2018 Parents and Friends Committee

Our Lady's Parish Children's Christmas Mass Rehearsals

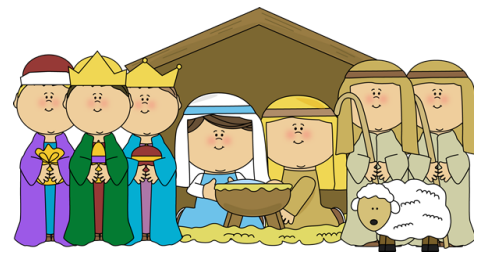
Tuesday 18th December 3.15 – 4.15 pm in the church

Monday 24th December 9.30 - 11.00 am 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



insights



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

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.

What must we do?

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C



Gospel

Lk 3:10-16, 18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.'

John the Baptist had great respect for Jesus. He told people, "Someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals." Write down in the shell how you can show your respect for Jesus.



Water is used in the sacrament of Baptism as a symbol of life and purity. Below there are clues to six hidden words that are all symbols used in Baptism and Mass



G	F	A	Y	I	H	I	Q	K
F	T	M	W	J	O	Q	G	W
D	G	P	V	Z	Z	U	F	I
Z	G	W	A	T	E	R	I	N
Z	G	X	P	K	F	T	R	E
Q	E	S	L	U	Q	H	E	N
Q	D	K	C	R	O	S	S	X
Q	A	Q	K	U	G	H	M	B
N	C	A	N	D	L	E	B	J
B	H	B	R	E	A	D	D	Q