



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

9 December 2022

www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter-Damien McKinley
Principal: Ms. Patrizia Bertani
Parish Mass Times:
 English: Saturday 9.00am, 5.30pm, Sunday 9.00am, 10.30am & 5.30pm
 Vietnamese: Saturday 7.00pm, Sunday 12.30pm, Friday 7.30pm
 Burmese: Every 2nd Sunday 2.30pm
 Chin: Every 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday 2.30pm
 Tongan: Every 1st Sunday 3.00pm
School Phone: 9312 2230
School website: www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady's is a Child Safe School

But test everything; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Fri 9 Dec

Reports published on nForma Portal

Mon 12 Dec

Years 1-6 2023 Orientation
11.30am-1.00pm

Tues 13 Dec

Government Secondary Orientation

Dinner in the Yard with DJ, Art Show 6.00 - 8.00pm. **Yr 5/6**

Dance Performance 6.30-6.45pm

Parent Teacher Interviews by request

Wed 14 Dec

Year 6 Graduation: Mass 6.00pm. Disco 7.15-8.15pm

Thurs 15 Dec

Casual Clothes Day for a donation

Fri 16 Dec

11.30am End of Year Mass
2.30pm End of Year Assembly
3.15pm End of 2022 for students

Mon 19-Tues 20 Dec

Professional Learning Days - Handover Days for Staff.

2023

Mon 30 Jan Getting to Know You and Your Family appointments for Years 1-6. Foundation Session 8.45am-1.00pm

Tues 31 Jan Getting to Know You and Your Family appointments for Years 1-6. Foundation Session 8.45am-1.00pm

Wed 1 Feb Classes start for Years 1-6 at 8.35am. School finishes at 3.10pm every day. No school for Foundation 2023 Wednesdays during February.

Dear Parents,

On Thursday we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception after which our Parish and School are named. We began by gathering together in Our Lady's Church for a Mass which honoured Our Lady's Feast Day. I would like to thank all members of the choir who sang so beautifully and also performed a liturgical dance. Thank you to both Father Peter our Parish Priest and Father Peter Zinh who co-celebrated the Mass. Thank you to all the parents and parishioners who joined us for the Mass. Thank you to Mrs Cuni and Ms Oliver who organised the Our Lady's choir and songs for the Feast Day Mass.

Semester Two Reports

Today you will receive your child's Semester Two written report. You will receive your child's report via the nForma Parent Portal. If you have changed your email address recently it is important that you let Mr John Buttigieg on jbuttigieg@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au or the office on enquiries@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au know in order for you to receive your child's written report for Semester Two.

Please take the time to sit and read them with your child. Praise your child for all they have accomplished over this last Semester. Spend time discussing what have been the highlights and the challenges of this year. Most importantly celebrate their learning journey and their achievements.

Staff News



Mrs Geraldine Williams, pictured on the left, has been involved with Our Lady's school for 31 years as both a volunteer at the canteen and as canteen manager for over 20 years. At the end of this year Geraldine will be retiring and will be focusing on spending more time with her family and particularly her beloved grand children. We thank Geraldine for her enormous contribution to our school community; for her care of the students, for her love of Our Lady's school and for providing delicious lunches to so many students and also staff.

Geraldine we will miss your warm smile, please stay in touch.

From all of us here at Our Lady's we wish you all the very best of luck as you begin a very well deserved retirement. With heartfelt thanks and best wishes from the children, staff and parents of Our Lady's school.



Parish Feast Day Celebration - Saturday 10 December

*6.00pm - Parish Mass with participation from multicultural groups Followed by a shared Dinner and BBQ in school grounds.

This will be an opportunity for fellowship with parishioners from the diverse cultural groups that make up Our Lady's parish.

*This will replace the 5.30pm Vigil Mass and the 7.00pm Vietnamese Vigil Mass for this day only.

Graduation Prayer

Graduation is a wonderful time. We look forward to a future of promise.



Father, as we get ready for graduation we ask you to be with us.

We do not know what is ahead of us but we are ready to walk into the future. As we face new challenges, guide us and our lives. May we see this time as an opportunity, a new beginning, a time of hope. Help us to make a difference and to live in your love in all that we do.

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

Please come to Dinner In the Yard and Art Show

Tuesday the 13th of December 6pm to 8pm

We invite all families to bring a blanket and a picnic dinner in the schoolyard on the blue/green grass area. There will be music provided by our regular DJ, dance performances from our Year 5 and 6 students and of course a beautiful display of our students' Art pieces, set up in the old Year 4 rooms for you to enjoy.

We ask you to make a donation as you enter the Art Show. The donations will be used towards the new school building which will begin on January the 9th 2023 during the school holidays.

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday.



Canteen news

We have struggled to get regular volunteers for our canteen. I thank all those parents who did volunteer and give up their time to help out Nubia, Geraldine or Connie with the canteen this year. We very much appreciated your help.

Unfortunately, there were many times when we simply had no parents able to help out and this made getting the lunches ready and serving the students at the window very, very difficult. As a result next year the canteen will be running on 3 days only. **It will be open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday only.** Nubia and Connie will be working at the canteen on those days as Geraldine will be retiring this year. Connie will take over from Geraldine. I am very grateful that she has accepted this position.

I appreciate your understanding in this matter and I know both Nubia and Connie have some exciting ideas to introduce to the canteen menu for 2023.



Children's Christmas Mass 2022

Primary school age children are warmly invited to participate in our annual Children and Families Christmas Mass, to be held at 6pm Christmas Eve at Our Lady's Church. Children of the parish will perform a short Nativity liturgy before Mass begins.

Rehearsals will be held Thursday 22 December at 9.30am and Saturday 24 December at 9.30am at Our Lady's Church. Please contact Jacinta on 0408 314 428 before December 22 with your children's names and ages if they would like to participate.



A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO OUR TOY DRIVE

Thank you to all families who have donated a toy or gift and thank you to the Parents and Friends Committee for organising the toy drive.

All donations will be delivered to Joseph's Corner in Yarraville, a charity set up by Sister Jeanne to assist and bring some Christmas cheer to the most vulnerable families in the western suburbs. Volunteers from Joseph's Corner will then distribute the toys to the families.

I'm sure Sister Jeanne is smiling from above knowing that we are helping to keep her dream alive. Well done everyone!

Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Bertani

Ms Patrizia Bertani

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au



Casual Clothes Day

Thursday 15th December

The Wellbeing Committee have organised our last casual day for the year. With a donation, wear casual clothes to school!

Please give a donation and DIG DEEP FOR OUR LADY'S to support our new building.

We hope it will be fun and exciting for all students!



FI

Maria - For writing up our science experiment well. Great work! *From Ms Cam Tu & Mrs Granata*

Hinnaya - For reading fluently and answering comprehension questions well. *From Ms Cam Tu & Mrs Granata*

FJ

Foundation J - For working together and helping one another. You are great Collaborators Foundation J! *From Miss Wendy*

1K

Naing - for showing the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Peace by promoting a safe and fair classroom environment for everyone. *From Miss Shai*

Samara - for displaying the Learning Asset of a Communicator by confidently and respectfully speaking with your peers to solve problems. *From Miss Shai*

1L

Zade S - For showing the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Peace during our whole-school Mass. You were respectful and reverent. *From Miss Steph*

Francis T - For being a Collaborator when working with others to collect data. You did a great job sharing roles of asking questions and recording using a tally. *From Miss Steph*

2M

Justin B - For demonstrating the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Service by being so helpful in the classroom and always volunteering to do extra jobs. Well done! *From Mrs Granata & Mrs Mendoza*

Brian L - For staying focused and working hard on your Christmas narrative. Keep up the great writing! *From Mrs Granata & Mrs Mendoza*

2N

Bonnie M - For presenting very convincing reasons why being a girl or a boy should not determine or limit the sorts of sports or activities they can enjoy. *From Mrs Mitchell*

3E

Imogen -For sharing and enhancing your knowledge about the Great Southern Reef during our excursion to Jawbone Marine Sanctuary. Your enthusiasm was amazing! *From Miss Karen*

Natalie -For demonstrating the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Courage when you picked up a live sea star in our 'Touch and Talk' lesson at the Jawbone Marine Sanctuary excursion. *From Miss Karen*

3F

Charlotte M - For making responsible choices when it comes to your learning. You are so focused and you try your best at all times. Keep it up! *From Mr Josh*

Maya L - For demonstrating Our Lady's Gospel Value of Service by being an active participant in class, answering questions, sharing opinions and helping others. *From Mr Josh*

4G

Pharrell For showing Courage by trying really hard in all subject areas- keep it up! *From Ms White*

Neveah- For showing Service by always lending a helping hand around the classroom *From Ms White*

4H

Angeli- For always displaying the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Service. Keep it up! *From Ms. Robles*

Giselle- For listening to and implementing teacher feedback when working on your persuasive piece. *From Ms. Robles*

5C

Ryan L- For challenging yourself in Writing to produce work of different genres. Well done Ryan! *From Mr Membrey*

Will F- For showing enthusiasm when engaging in graphing and coordinates tasks in Maths class. Keep it up Will. *From Mr Membrey*



5D

Miranda - For continuously demonstrating the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Respect by always attentively listening and focusing on her learning. *From Mrs Muscat*

Gabe - demonstrating the Learning Asset of Self Manager by taking pride in his work and completing it to the best of his ability. *From Mrs Muscat*

6A

Alisha L: For maintaining a positive attitude to learning throughout this year by completing learning tasks with great care, effort and skill. *From Mr Wickham*

Digby M: For displaying talent as a writer through reflective and well written texts that convey your thoughts and opinions. Well done! *From Mr Wickham*

6B

Eve I - For the hard work you have shown in all subject areas this year and the kindness you consistently display towards others. *From Ms Gurry*

Tom D - For the positive attitude that you bring into the classroom each day and for consistently showing kindness to your peers. *From Ms Gurry*



BIRTHDAYS UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR

FI: Rose F, Louisa D, Elias S, Alexander H
1K: Scarlett M, Pearlyn K, Mia N, Anabella L
1L: Yodi G, Zade S
2M: Owen T
2N: Madelene R
3E: Kennedy H, Lara M
4G: Lilian H, Chan Chan M
4H: Ryan V
5C: Van R, Zack T
6A: Richard N
6B: Mikayla C, Christian Z
Staff: Mrs Meilak



OLPS P&F

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

One Prize Per Year Level!

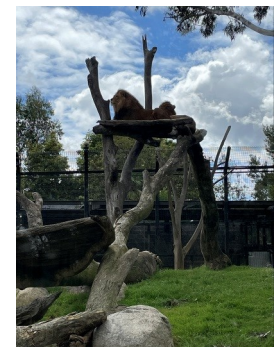
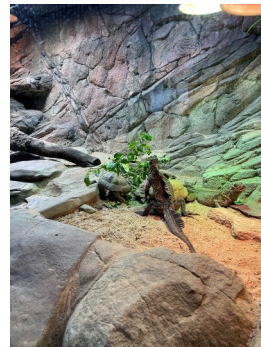
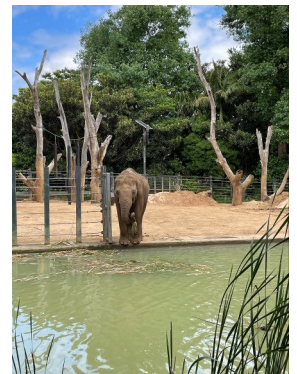
\$1.00 per ticket on QKR

**Tickets on sale 1st - 15th
December**

PRIZES DRAWN AT
ASSEMBLY LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL
FRIDAY DECEMBER 16
2022



Year 2 at the Zoo





Year 3

Jawbone Sanctuary





Dear teachers, students, parents and caregivers

Sunshine Heights Cricket Club would like to invite you to our third T20 match between the Sunshine Heights Cricket Club and The Royal Australian Navy on **Thursday 15 December at Ainsworth Reserve Glengala Road Sunshine West.**

This has proven to be a wonderful event over the past years celebrating inclusion and diversity, which is highly supported and attended by the wider community.

Apart from the match itself commencing at **5.30pm** the event will feature:

- Free Blast Cricket Session and Face Painting for the kids **3.30pm-4.30pm**
- Flag ceremony and national anthem **5.00pm**
- Food provided
- Special invitees: Federal MP The HON Dan Mulino, State MP Sarah Connolly, Brimbank Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors, Cricket Australia, Cricket Victoria, Sport Australia, RSL, Army/Navy Cadets, the Royal Australian Navy.

Sunshine Heights Cricket Club is a Gold Medal Good Sports club which means we are ahead of the pack when it comes to being a healthy, safe, inclusive club to play cricket at for all.

Look forward to seeing you there!



Royal Australian Navy

VS



Sunshine Heights CC

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

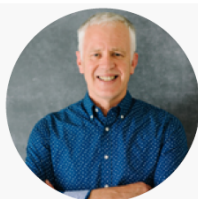
The quicker kids form new friendships the sooner they'll feel comfortable in their secondary school surroundings. Encourage your young person to be open to forming friendships with all sorts of kids; to be accepting of others who may be different to them; to take social risks by joining in activities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

Jesus is
coming to
save us



3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A

Gospel Matthew 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.

