



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1 February 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

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29: 11

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tues 30 Jan

School starts for students
8.45am

Mon 5 Feb

Beginning of School Year Mass
9.00am

Mon 12 Feb

Parent Helper Session 2.15pm

Tues 13 Feb

Parent Teacher Chats after
school

Wed 14 Feb

Ash Wednesday

Fri 16 Feb

Parent Helper Session 9.00am

Tues 20 Feb

Parent Teacher Chats after
school

Wed 21 Feb

Foundation BBQ

Mon 26 Feb

Professional Learning Day for
Staff (Berry Street) - NO
school for the children

Wed 28 Feb

Foundation Learning Infor-
mation Night

Wed 28 Feb - Fri 2 Mar

Grade 6 Camp (Oasis Mt Eve-
lyn)

Dear Parent,

Welcome back to Our Lady's school community! A particularly warm welcome to all our new families, the new Foundation students who are starting school for the first time and all our new families, staff and students.

I was delighted to see that the children have made a great start to this new school year. They have quickly settled into their new classes and in each class that I visited, I was greeted by happy children who were focused on their learning. I thank you parents for preparing your children so well. The staff and I are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure that your child flourishes as a person and as a learner. What matters here at Our Lady's are the students and they are at the centre of all we do. We consider it a real honour and privilege to have your child/children at our school and will do our utmost to ensure they have a wonderful year of learning.

Pope Francis had some words of reflection at the beginning of 2018 that I would like to share with you.

'Let go of life's useless baggage including empty chatter and banal consumerism and focus instead on building a peaceful and welcoming world, particularly for refugees and migrants.'

Rediscover what really matters and start from that.'



New Staff for 2018. We

Ms Kriss Oliver
Religious Education /
Learning & Teaching
Leader



welcome to Our Lady's:

Mrs Justine Sales
Design & Digital
Technologies



Ms Teagan Cullum
4G



Ms Angelica Rodriguez
3E



Ms Cam Tu Nguyen
FI

Beginning of School Year Prayer

The beginning of the school year can be an exciting time. We pray that God will always be with us.



God, Father of us all, we are beginning a new year together in our class. Help us to learn new things this year and to make new friends. May we open our minds to learn more about you. May we open our hearts to the needs of others. May we have a welcoming word for those who are new or who need a friend. Help us to learn new ways to serve you in love. Amen



At Our Lady of the Immaculate Parish Primary School we promote the safety, well being and inclusion of all children.

Child Safety

You child's safety is of prime concern and the school works diligently to ensure that we minimise any risks to your child's safety. It is important that you cooperate with the school to ensure that your child is safe at all times. I am very concerned about the number of students that have been dropped off before school at 8.00am when there is no supervision. I remind parents that they can drop off their child at 8:20am as there will be a teacher supervising the children on yard. At 8:30am teachers will be in their classrooms and your child can go into their classroom or play outside in the yard. Parents please do not drop off your child before 8:20am as this poses a safety risk to your child.

After School Care 2018—CAMP AUSTRALIA

As you know we have a new After School Care provider this year and many of you have already taken advantage of this service in 2018. CAMP Australia is a leading provider of Before and After school Care. We will be asking parents if they would like to have Before School Care for their child and if we have enough people we will set up that service at our school.

I would like to alert all parents to the fact that we have a new procedure for those children who have not been picked up after school on time. The children will be taken to After School Care with CAMP Australia in the School Hall Kitchen. The CAMP Australia program coordinators will contact the parents and the parents will be invited to enrol in the program. Parents will be charged \$24.50 for the service but they will get most of this back in the form of a government rebate.

If any parents are late in picking up their child they will need to now go to the Hall Kitchen in order to pick them up from the After School Care personnel. The children will be well supervised and cared for until their parents pick them up.

We are working with you to make sure that your children at all times receive the very best of care.

Congratulations to **Sister Jeanne** who
was named

Maribyrnong Citizen of the Year

Many of you will recall Sister Jeanne Dwyer who founded Joseph's Corner. Our Lady's school has supported Sister Jeanne's community work over many years. Last year our school community donated toys and toiletries that Sister Jeanne and her volunteers distributed to families in crisis in the west of Melbourne. For Christmas and Sister Jeanne was so overwhelmed by your generosity.

Our Lady's school will continue with a strong focus on social justice and will continue to support Sister Jeanne in her work in supporting families in the West during times of crisis. Well done Sister Jeanne! This honour was very much deserved!

'Never see a need without doing something about it'

Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross

Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Bertani

Ms Patrizia Bertani

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

We hope to see you at this
important event.

Kath Murdoch Parent

Information Evening



Wednesday 7th February at 7pm –8:15pm

in the Father John Maher Auditorium

Kath Murdoch is an experienced teacher, author, university lecturer and an educational consultant who has worked extensively throughout Australia, Europe, Asia, America and New Zealand.

Would like to know more about the type of learning that your child experiences at Our Lady's school? This is an opportunity that you cannot miss. Kath has been working with the Our Lady's staff over the last two years. She will be able to answer many of your questions about contemporary learning.

*In pursuit of knowledge, something new is learned
in pursuit of wisdom, something old is unlearned.
To grow, we need to learn, unlearn and re-learn'*
Kath Murdoch



First Week
Fun!





Fun and Learning in Week 1





Learning fun in Week 1





\$1200 Awarded to Our Lady's

A big thankyou must be given to our wonderful parents **Carmen Angus** and **Renee Teranen**.

Carmen and Renee are Telstra employees who worked with Greg Woolford (Family School Partnerships Co-ordinator at Our Lady's) to successfully win our school a grant of **\$1200**.

As a result all our children will benefit through purchasing a Sphero Robotics Pack this will enable us for the first time to be able to teach robotics and coding whilst nurturing and encouraging imagination and creativity with technologies in a fun and engaging manner. They are suitable for ALL levels of Primary school and truly address the area of Programming, using logic and collaborative problem solving.

Thanks again to our wonderful parents Carmen and Renee for being such supportive parents in our community.



"Opportunities for diverse communities"

BECOME A TEACHER'S AIDE

CHC30213 – Certificate III in Education Support

Course location- Braybrook

Course Starting-March 14th

A qualification in **Education Support** is your gateway to a rewarding career as a **Teacher Aide** or **Teaching Assistant** in a Primary or Secondary school.

With employment security and career opportunities on the rise, it's little wonder why this industry is one of the most popular choices for those looking to make a difference.

Government subsidies available for course fees.

More Information Ph VICSEG 8398 500

Course Information: <http://www.vicsegnewfutures.org.au/new-futures-training/courses/child-care/certificate-iii-in-education-support>

insights

Helping children make a bright start to school

by Michael Grose



Starting school is a major step in a child's educational journey. It is made easier when children are prepared for the transition.

Children's milestone events such as starting school always bring a mix of emotions for both children and parents, with excitement, anticipation and nervousness being the most common. If either you or your child is feeling anxious about the big event then the following tips will help ease the tension and ensure your child makes the best possible start to their school life:

1. Be positive about the year ahead

School starters generally take their cues from their parents so your attitude to school, your child's teacher and learning can set the scene for a positive year ahead. Be positive and confident that your child will fit in and succeed and you increase the likelihood that they will do so.

2. Tell them what to expect

One of the best ways to ease a child's anxiety is to provide information about what they can expect at school. Over the school holidays, reinforce what they have already learned about lining up, play areas, routines and other aspects of school they may have experienced during the transition program. In this way your child will be better prepared for what happens when real school starts.

3. Develop your child's independence skills

Children with age-appropriate self-sufficiency skills generally find starting school much easier than children who have always had everything done for them. In the months leading up to the start of school make sure your child knows: how to open and close their lunchbox; how to pack their bag or backpack; how to use the toilet independently; and how to pack away their belongings. Practise eating play lunch and school lunch with your child. Also help them develop the habit of packing up their toys, their dinner plates and their clothes. These simple habits soon become ingrained patterns that will help maximise your child's long-term success at school.



4. Explain what school expects from them

Let your child know that being at school requires some behaviours that may be very different from those required

at home. For instance, there will most likely be different rules and routines. They will probably have to work with many more children, they may have to put up their hand to get a teacher's attention and they may have to wait their turn to be heard. Help them understand that in a classroom they may not be able to do things when they want to – which can come as a shock to some children. These lessons about fitting in will help your child adapt quickly to their new surroundings.

5. Teach social etiquette

School requires children to make friends with other children and also to work and play alongside others. Take the time to explain and role-play the social etiquette that will help your child succeed socially. *“Jeremy, when you want to play with others you need to say, ‘Excuse me! Can I join in your game?’”* Another way for children to learn social etiquette is through play dates, family gatherings and family mealtimes. Also insist that your child shows good manners including using ‘please’ and ‘thank you’, which will aid their continued social development.



6. Familiarise them with the school environment

The scale of the physical environment of a school can be daunting for young children so consider spending some time at school during the holidays so they become familiar with the playground and the buildings. Also make the journey to and from school a number of times prior to the start of school so that they are comfortable when they go on the first day.

7. Develop a goodbye routine

Despite the best start to the school year there will always be those days when a child just doesn't want to go to school. Tears and tantrums are common for many school starters. It helps in these less-than-pleasant situations if you have a goodbye routine that includes a smile, a kiss and/or hug and leaving without looking back. If saying goodbye in the morning continues to be a struggle, seek the advice and help of your child's teacher.



8. Don't forget to develop a hello routine too!

Once school has finished some children just want to relax without talking about school, while others may unload about the events of the day. Follow their lead but regardless of whether your child opens up or closes down make sure they have some downtime so they can relax and unwind. If your child always presents a tale of woe about school (*“I hate school. I'm not going back”*), be patient and remember that children can be faulty observers and don't always see things as they really are. Help them look for the positive or good parts of their day by asking questions such as *“What did you enjoy about today?”*

At times of transition it's worth remembering that some children adapt to change far quicker than others. Some children adapt easily to new routines and new surroundings, while others may take many weeks to feel comfortable with going to school. If the latter is the case for your child, then patience, consistency and exposure to affirming parent networks may be the best allies that you and your child can have.



Jesus is the Good News

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Gospel Mk 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.



Jesus went away to be alone and pray.
Where are some places that you pray?

Colour in all the shapes that contain dots to reveal what Jesus wants everyone to know.

