



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

23 February 2017

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

Who do you say I am?'

Matthew 16:15

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 23 Feb

Life Education Parent Session
2.15-3.00pm

Wed 1 March

Ash Wednesday

Wed 1-Fri 3 March

Gr 6 Camp

Fri 10 March

Professional Learning for Staff
(Personalising Learning Using
an Inquiry Approach) **No
school for the children**

Mon 13 March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Wed 15 March

School Photos

Fri 31 March

End of Term 1 at 3.15pm

Tues 18 April

Professional Learning for Staff
(Reporting 2017 and the new
Victorian Curriculum) **No
school for the children**

Wednesday 19 April

Term 2 begins

Wednesday 25 April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

SACRAMENTS 2017

Eucharist

Sun 11 June 4G

Sun 18 June 4H

Reconciliation

Thursday 14 September

Confirmation

Friday 17 November

Dear Parents,

Recently there have been developments which impact on the curriculum that we deliver in our school. These have come from the Archdiocese of Melbourne in the form of a new Education Framework called Horizons of Hope and from the Victorian government which has mandated that all schools transition to the Victorian Curriculum in 2017.

These core curriculum documents will be used by the staff of Our Lady's school to inform and inspire the design of our curriculum in 2017 and beyond. We will be using the school Professional Learning days to support us in re-shaping our current curriculum so that it is in alignment with both the 'Horizons of Hope' and the 'Victorian Curriculum' documents.

The term 'curriculum' is often used in the world of education and I think it is important to provide you with a definition when relaying information about new curriculum documents. According to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (2015), the school curriculum is a statement of the purpose of schooling. It defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling, set out as a series of learning progressions. The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills that are required by all students for lifelong learning, social development, and active and informed citizenship.

RICH, REAL and RELEVANT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

AT OUR LADY'S

This week Year 5C and 5D sailed out into Port Phillip Bay on the beautiful 65 foot catamaran called the 'Pelican 1'. We had a team of experts on board such as Harry and his wife Jayne who are both Marine Biologists and Kade who is a scientist who works in the bay researching and tracking plants and animals. We had rangers as well as the amazing crew. The children learnt about how to look after the bay, using sustainable practices such as recycling, reducing and re-using. Ms Jo McManus our school Sustainability Leader will be supporting all classes to put these into practice. The school worked very hard to get enough funding this year for both classes to attend.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR STAFF DAYS

Please make sure these days are in your Diary

Friday 10 March - Victorian Curriculum

Tuesday 18 April - Reporting 2017



Prayer for Today

Thank you, God for giving us today. It is great having my friends and teachers to work and play.

Help us to be grateful in every way as we learn to be trustworthy, respectful, responsible, fair and caring citizens of today.

Please watch over us, as we explore and learn joyfully.

Please bless our teachers, friends and family. Amen



FOUNDATION PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

CONNECTING PARENTS TO THEIR CHILDREN'S LEARNING

Thank you to all the parents who attended the two very successful sessions which were held at 9am and at 7pm yesterday. The sessions focused on providing parents with up to date and practical information about their child's learning across many areas of the curriculum including: Literacy, Numeracy and ICT.

Here is a sample of the parent feedback:

Very informative. Good to know changes in Learning/curriculum. Will need to adapt these to our child.

Great to attend this session. Feeling more informed. Thankyou!

Extremely helpful. Coming from `kinda,` not knowing what to expect from school. Thanks.

Great insight into what goes on in the classroom, how literacy and numeracy work. Great use of ICT to further expand children's` understanding of concepts.

This information is really useful for us. We will know how to teach and cooperate with school in the right way. Thank you.

I would also like to thank the staff members who facilitated and organised the sessions:

Mrs Kath Mitchell (FI), Miss Natalie Severino (FJ), Ms Geraldine Maguire (Literacy Leader), Mrs Carmel Menzies (ICT Leader), Mrs Anna Kalc-Smyth, (Numeracy Leader) and Mrs Christine Carabott (Deputy Principal/ Student Wellbeing Leader).

Below you can see the wonderful students in 1K and Signora Federica our Italian teacher. I walked into the 1K students' Italian class and they welcomed me in perfect Italian with:

Bongiorno Maestra Bertani e la pace sia con te.

Which translated into English means, Good morning Ms Bertani and peace be with you.



Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Bertani

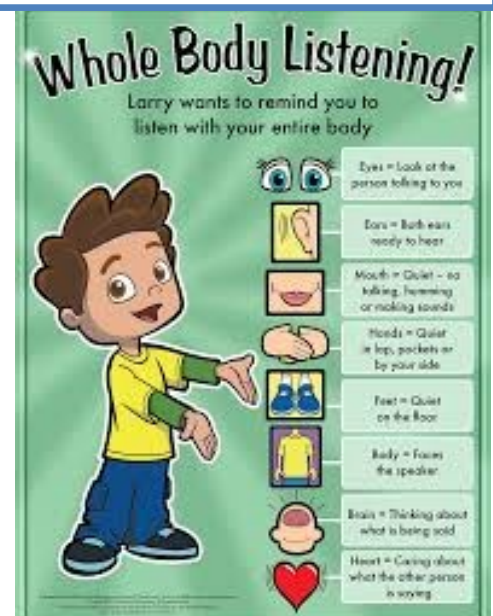
Ms Patrizia Bertani
Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Whole Body Listening helps us to be better learners.

Year 1K are FANTASTIC LEARNERS because they put all aspects of Whole Body Listening into practice. Their teacher Ms Karen is so proud of them and so am I.

It would be good if everyone at Our Lady's school can put all aspects of Whole Body Listening into practice just like Year 1K does.



ROLE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND FRIENDS COMMITTEE

President

The President's position carries a task of trust and responsibility and requires skill and time. The President should exercise authority with tact, be impartial and open to other points of view.

The main role of the President is to:

- * Be the main representative/spokesperson for the P&F
- * Liaise with the Committee members and set the agenda for meetings
- * Be the main contact for agenda items
- * Open the meetings punctually and ensure the agenda is followed
- * Ensure those present at the meeting have the opportunity to discuss each item on the agenda prior to a decision being made
- * Make sure, particularly on contentious matters, as many points of view as possible are expressed
- * Make sure everyone is given an opportunity to speak and encourage members to speak by addressing questions to them
- * Work towards a collaborative approach with other members of school community
- * Be mindful of timelines, keep discussions on track and keep meetings moving
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Vice-President

The Vice President plays an important role by assisting the President with P&F responsibilities and replacing the President and chair meetings in the absence of the President.

Secretary

The Secretary is very important to the efficient operation of the P&F. Duties and responsibilities include:

- * Taking minutes at P&F and Committee meetings
- * Photocopying and distributing minutes to Committee members along with agenda prior to the next meeting
- * In consultation with the Principal and President:
- * Providing a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting for display on the parents' notice board
- * Dealing with any incoming/outgoing correspondence

Treasurer

The Treasurer carries a task of trust and responsibility. Duties and responsibilities include:

- * Taking charge of monies of the P&F
- * Keeping accurate financial records of all receipts and expenditure
- * Banking all money regularly
- * Reporting regularly on the P&F's financial position at meetings
- * Preparing a financial report for the Annual General Meeting

Committee Members

Committee members have a responsibility to:

- * Attend PFA meetings as regularly as possible and send apologies if unable to attend
- * Help organise P&F activities and projects
- * Work towards the best possible outcomes being achieved
- * Be mindful that discussions should be on topics which are relevant to the whole school community
- * Facilitate and nurture positive home/school relationships within the parent community



Election of the Our Lady's School Parents and Friends Committee

Nomination Form

P & F Meeting – Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 7.00pm

Nominations are invited for the Our Lady's School Parents & Friends Committee 2017.

Nomination

I, (your name) _____

Parent of (name and grade of your child) _____

Nominate: (name of person) _____

For the Position of: (one form per nomination)

☐

President

☐

Vice President

☐

Secretary

☐

Treasurer

Signed

Nominator: _____

Date: _____

Nomination Acceptance

I, (nominee) _____

Parent of (name and grade of your child) _____

Accept the nomination as indicated above.

Nominee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

***ALL NOMINATION FORMS ARE TO BE HANDED TO THE PRINCIPAL
BY 9:00AM WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2017***

COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT

Have you returned your Community Code of Conduct to school yet?

Just a reminder that it is a requirement that EVERY family in the School read, sign and return this document (pictured below) to the Office.

Extra copies available from the Office if you have misplaced your original.

Our Lady's Primary School	System Update: 07/02/2017	
Version: 0.1	Date of Next Review: 07/02/2020	
<p>• Photograph or video a student or young person without the consent of the Principal or a member of the Leadership Team.</p>		
<p>Failure to Comply With This Code of Conduct Where parents, parent volunteers, members of the school board or parent's association is suspected of breaching any obligation, duty or responsibility within this Code of Conduct, Our Lady's Primary School will take immediate action to address the concern. Where deemed appropriate, a breach of this code of conduct may be referred to Victorian Police.</p>		
<p>Acknowledgement I have read and understood this Code of Conduct and agree to display behaviours that safeguard students, young people and other members of the school community at Our Lady's Primary School against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect.</p>		
<p>Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>		
<p>Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>		
<p>Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>		
<p>Principal / Child Safety Officer Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>		
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Our Lady's Primary School	System Update: 07/02/2017	
Version: 0.1	Date of Next Review: 07/02/2020	
<p>Child Safety Code of Conduct School Community – School Copy: Please read, sign and return to School</p>		
<p>Introduction This Code of Conduct has a specific focus on safeguarding our students and young people at Our Lady's Primary School against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect. It has been developed in accordance with Victorian Government's Ministerial Order No. 870 to support the school's Professional Child Safety Code of Conduct and defines expectations of parents and those members of the school community, who may, at times, act as volunteers.</p>		
<p>Purpose The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish clear expectations for appropriate behaviour by adults towards students & young people. It aims to protect children and reduce any opportunity of abuse or harm to children. This Code of Conduct also provides members of the broader school community with guidance on how best to support students and young people and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations.</p>		
<p>Scope This Code of Conduct applies to all parents, parent volunteers, members of the school board or parent's association and any other person, who volunteer their services to the school. This code applies to members of the school community who infrequently participate in 'Child Connected Work' at Our Lady's Primary School.</p>		
<p>Child Connected Work Child Connected work is defined as: 'Work authorised by the school's Principal, members of the Leadership Team or the School Board performed by an adult in the school environment while children are present or are reasonably expected to be present.'</p>		
<p>For the purpose of this School Community Child Safety Code of Conduct, 'Child Connected Work' includes activities such as volunteering as a parent helper, guest speaker, members of the school board or parent's association. This also applies to members of the school community who infrequently volunteer their services at working bees, maintenance works, school sporting events, concert rehearsals or other like activities.</p>		
<p>Acceptable behaviours All parents, parent volunteers, members of the school board or parent's association are responsible for supporting the safety of our students, young people and broader school community by complying with the following 'acceptable behaviours':</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adhering to the School Community Child Safety Code of Conduct (this Code) and associated procedures at all times.• Taking all reasonable steps to protect students & young people from all forms abuse.• Respecting the privacy of all students & young people and their families.		
Page 1 of 4		



Dear Parent,

This week we have had the Life Education Van at Our School. All students have been immersed in a learning session once throughout the week based on an area selected by their teachers to connect to their FLI learning.

We have included a few photos from across the week.

We have some other exciting news in the area of Wellbeing and Social and Emotional Learning. As a school, we have become members to Michael's Grose's website which provides us with professional learning articles to support parents. These articles will be included in the newsletters on a regular basis throughout the school year. We hope you find them beneficial, affirming and supporting to your role as parents. The first article by Michael Grose is titled 'Make this year your child's the best ever'.

Regards

Christine Carabott

Deputy Principal & Student Wellbeing Leader



Father Peter's visit in 2N





Grade 5 Aboard the Pelican





Grade 5 Aboard the Pelican



YMCA CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS OSHC



PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

For all **Bookings and Cancellations** please call us directly on **0401 700 401**
Email us: ourladysoshc@ymca.org.au
 For any **Account Information** please call our office on: **8371 0500**
www.childrensprogram.ymca.org.au

WEEK 4	After School Care Activities	Afternoon Tea
Monday Staff: Brad, Hang	Inside: Paper Plane Designs and Fly Outside: Group Games	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Noodles
Tuesday Staff: Brad, Lucette, Michelle	Inside: Penguin Pictures Outside: Free Play Homework & Readers.	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Rice Cakes
Wednesday Staff: Brad, Hang, Chelsea	Inside: Sea Creatures Origami Outside: Soccer	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Chocolate Chip Cookies
Thursday Staff: Brad, Michelle, Chelsea	Inside: Make a Stand Up Animal Outside: Cricket Home-work + Readers	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Popcorn
Friday Staff: Brad, Marlene, Michelle	Children's Choice: Games, Activities Inside & Out. Cooking Coconut Ice with Marlene	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Fairy Bread
WEEK 5	After School Care Activities	Afternoon Tea
Monday Staff: Brad, Hang	Inside: Animal Bookmarks and Bird Mobile Outside: Free Play	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Rocky road
Tuesday Staff: Brad, Lucette, Michelle	Inside: Animal Finger Puppets Outside: Group Games Homework & Readers.	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Dip, carrots and celery
Wednesday Staff: Brad, Hang, Michelle	Inside: Clown Mobile and Clown Activity Sheets Outside: Cricket	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Rice Crackers
Thursday Staff: Brad, Michelle, Chelsea	Inside: Masks and Hats Outside: AFL/Soccer Homework + Readers	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Lemon Maderia Cake
Friday Staff: Brad, Marlene, Michelle	Children's Choice: Games, Activities Inside & Out. Cooking Chocolate Cupcakes with Marlene	Seasonal Fruit & Veggies Sandwiches

A variety of seasonal fruit and vegetables are always offered to children for afternoon snack! **A variety of arts, crafts, board games, construction, recreational activities, sensory and imaginary play** opportunities are available every day for children to choose. **Homework & Home Readers Time** – Our YMCA staff are there to encourage home readers and homework and most days we set aside a time to encourage this!

If you or someone else is picking up your child (children) early from school and they are not attending the after school care, please let OSHC Team know. Please remember children need to bring their school hat (Broadbrim or Legionaries Hat) from 1st September to 1st May and sunscreen will need to be applied when playing outside.
Bookings and Cancellations: It is important to book your child's place so we can plan and expect their arrival at Before and After School Care. To ensure the safety of your child please notify us of any absences or additional days of care **via the My Family Lounge Portal** <http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au/enrol/my-family-lounge-sign-in.html>
 As a reminder please note that the cancellation period of 7 days notice applies for all Before and After School Care bookings. For additional information on our program please visit <http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au/school-care/our-locations/our-ladys-ps.html>

There may be certain circumstances where children receive gifts or prizes throughout the year as part of our advertised programs. These occasions would be advertised on our program planners to provide parents/guardians with prior notification. Occasions where children may receive gifts/prizes as advertised are as follows: last day of school terms, end of year celebrations, designated holiday program days, cultural and festive celebration days and during organised program competitions. Thank You, Brad and Our Lady's OSHC Team



Friday 10th March 2017

Professional Learning for Staff - No School for Children

Our Lady's Primary OSHC

32 Station Place, Sunshine VIC 3020

M: 0401 700 401

E: ourladysoshc@ymca.org.au

www.childrensprogramms.ymca.org.au

Outside School Hours Care – 8.30am to 6pm

Our Lady's OSHC would like to offer families the opportunity to enrol children into a full day of care on Friday 10th March 2017.

For existing families, if you would like your child to attend, please enrol your child by seeing Coordinator in the OSHC Room and complete your details on the sign-up sheet or go online by Thursday 2nd March 2017.

For families who haven't enrolled their children into Our Lady's OSHC, please visit our online website <http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au/enrol/my-family-lounge-sign-in.html> to complete the enrolment form, then email ourladysoshc@ymca.org.au to express your interest, by Thursday 2nd March 2017.

The cost for the full day of care will be \$59.00 per child minus CCB/CCR benefits.

If we have 15 children booked in on the sign-up sheet, we will be able to go ahead with School Closure Day.

However, if there are not enough children booked in, all parents/guardians, who placed their details on the sign-up sheet, will be notified on **Friday 3rd March, 2017.**

There will be arrange of activities during the day including but not limited to:

Outside Play (weather permitting)
Free Play

Art and Craft
Blocks, Board and Card games

Sporting Games

If you have any questions please contact me in person or ring 0401 700 401 or email ourladysoshc@ymca.org.au Kind regards, *Brad Lenahan, OSHC Coordinator*

ART ROOM NEWS

The art room is looking for donations of soft toys.

Our junior artists will be printing with these so they will not be able to be re-turned.

If anyone can donate any soft toys that you no longer would like please bring them to the art room. Many thanks!



Dear Parents,

Over the last six years, the Movie Afternoon Tea days have been a huge success. An interest in cooking and a love of working with children is all you need to apply for this rewarding position! All equipment, ingredients and easy to follow recipes are provided. You will be met with enthusiasm, co-operation and three to four eager young apprentices ready to create delicacies from scratch. Assistance and direction will be provided where required!



In order for the cooking to be completed on time, we require the help of four parents to assist the children to prepare afternoon tea for the parishioners.

Cooking is done between 9a.m. and 11a.m. in the kitchen located in the hall. If you can help on this morning please fill in the slip below and return it to Mrs Toni Balbata in your child's classroom tub by Monday 5th March.

You don't have to have a child in years 5&6 to offer to help. Please remember though that you must have a Working with Children Check and wear it on the day. Due to Health regulations I would like to inform you that no children can accompany the volunteer parent.

The children and I look forward to working with you in this rewarding programme. Should I get more than four offers from parents for any day I will draw up a roster and let you know when your help is needed during term 1 and 2.



If you need to discuss anything or ask questions I can be reached via the school's telephone number or email tbalbata@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

In anticipation, I thank you for your kind offers.

Sincerely,

Toni Balbata

Mrs Toni Balbata and the Hospitality Committee

PARENT HELPER FOR PARISH COOKING

Name _____

Child's Name and Grade _____

Contact Number _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 17 th March | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 17 th March |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 12 th May | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 12 th May |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 9 th June | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 9 th June |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 21 st July | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 21 st July |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 18 th August | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 18 th August |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 15 th September | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 15 th September |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 10 th November | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 10 th November |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I can help on Friday, 15 th December | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I cannot help on Friday, 15 th December |



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY IS COMING

SCHOOLPIX will be here on WEDNESDAY MARCH 15!

PHOTO DAY TIPS:

- Dress:** Full summer uniform to be worn by ALL children.
Grades 5 and 6 – as you have Sport on a Wednesday you will need to either bring your runners to put on for your Sport lesson OR bring your whole Sport Uniform to change into AFTER your photos.
- Hair:** Neat and swept off face. All hair shoulder length or longer **MUST** be tied up.
- Online Orders:** To pre-order online, take your personal Order and ID Numbers found on your order form and go to www.schoolpix.com.au. Orders can be placed online up to 2 working days after photography. *You do not need to return the order form if you order online.*
Remember: All orders placed online before midnight on photography day will receive a free 20cm x 25cm black and white portrait print.
- Manual Orders:** Complete your order form and return with payment to school by photography day. **Reminder that exact money must be included. The Office will not be able to provide change.**
- Sibling Orders:** For a special photo of you children together order online by **10am** on photography day. Alternatively collect a Sibling Order Form from the office or download it from the SchoolPix website and return it on photography day. Only siblings that place an order will be photographed.

PO Box 5222, Hallam VIC 3803

Ph: 1300 766 055

Email: enquiries@schoolpix.com.au



IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING RAILWAY WORKS AND POSSIBLE CAR PARKING ISSUES

Dear Stakeholder,

Sunbury line- Buses replace trains from Wednesday 8 March - Monday 13 March 2017

The dangerous and congested level crossings at Main and Furlong roads have been removed. Thanks for your patience as we continue to improve the new station precincts.

We're transforming St Albans into a better connected transport hub, with a new bus interchange and five new retail spaces at St Albans Station, a shared user path between St Albans and Ginifer, new pedestrian walkways and reconstructed car parking.

To facilitate construction, buses will replace trains between Sunbury and Sunshine stations from Wednesday 8 March - Monday 13 March 2017.

*Normal train services will resume on Tuesday 14 March 2017.

During this time, a range of different buses will be operating, including express, limited express and stopping all stations bus services to make customers journey as direct as possible.

Your institution has been identified as one with students, staff and associated stakeholders that may be impacted by these works. Attached is our detailed customer brochure for you to provide to your students and staff to assist with their journey planning.

We are here to help you travel during these major construction projects and will endeavour to get you to and from your destination as quickly and easily as possible.

If anyone within your organisation would like to speak directly to a project representative about the upcoming rail disruption they can contact us on 1800 762 667 or email furlongmain@levelcrossings.com.au

For service information, please contact PTV on 1800 800 007 or visit ptv.vic.gov.au.

For more information please contact:
Furlong Main Level Crossing Removal Project Team
Email: furlongmain@levelcrossings.com.au
Call: 1800 762 667
Web: levelcrossings.vic.gov.au



Translation service
For languages other than
English, please call (03) 9280 0780



Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Make this year your child's best ever at school

A new school year means a clean slate for students. Here are 7 ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child's best year ever at school

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child's performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours. Here are five ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child's best year ever year at school:

1 Commit to your child going to school every day on time

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.

2 Help kids start each day well

A good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time get up, eat and get ready for the day.

3 Establish work & study habits

The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school's expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child's or young person's school

and help them establish a work routine that matches.

4 Make sure your child gets enough sleep

Many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their wellbeing and their learning. A good night's sleep consolidates learning, as well as assisting future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bedtime and get-up time each day. Have a 45-minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5 Insist kids exercise

The old saying about 'a healthy body and a healthy mind' is so true. Exercise releases the chemicals needed for learning and wellbeing. Yet kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage your child to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives.

6 Focus on being friendly

Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations

each day. Yet we often only focus on academic learning. There are strong links between social success, and academic success and wellbeing. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be sensitive to others; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers. These are all characteristics of socially successful kids. At the same time discourage anti-social behaviours such as over-competitiveness, self-centredness and lack of sharing.

7 Develop self-help skills

Successful students are often well organised, self-directed and self-motivated. Personal organisation seems to come more naturally to girls than boys, however both genders benefit from coaching in this important area. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their every day lives. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school.

At the start of the school year kids are likely to adopt changes than at any other time. Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas to really focus on and you'll find that the rest will fall into place.



Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my **FREE** weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.





You cannot serve both God and money



8th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

Gospel Mt 6:24-34

Jesus said to his disciples: 'No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

'That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the

flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry, do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'



Jesus tells us not to worry about tomorrow and that we should concern ourselves with putting God's work first. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that God asks of you

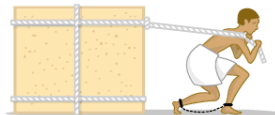
U



+



a



2



Try to decipher this teaching that Jesus gave to his disciples

