



# OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 23 February 2024 [www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](http://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  
Chin Hakha/Burmese: 2.30pm  
Tongan: Every 1st Sunday 3.00pm  
**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*

*I give you a new commandment, love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples. John 13:34-35*

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Mon Feb 26** 9.00am Beginning of School Year Mass  
**Tues 27 Feb** 9.00am Parent Helper Training  
**Wed 28 Feb-Fri 1 Mar** Year 6 Camp  
**Wed 28 Feb**  
2.15pm Parent Helper Training  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE  
7.00pm P&F Meeting  
**Wed 6 Mar** 7.00pm Foundation Parent Learning Info Session  
**Mon 11 Mar** Labour Day Public Holiday  
**Tues 12 Mar** Professional Learning Day for Staff (Literacy)  
**Wed 13 Mar-Fri 22 Mar** NAPLAN for Yrs 3 & 5  
**Wed 20 Mar** 7.00pm Reconciliation Parent Evening  
**Wed 27 Mar** 7.00pm PAB Meeting  
**Thur 28 Mar** End of Term 1 at 1.00pm  
**Mon 15 April** Start of Term 2 at 8.35am.

## **SACRAMENTS**

**Thurs 6 May** 6.30pm Reconciliation for Year 3  
**Sun 26 May** 10.30am Eucharist for Year 4  
**Fri 2 Aug** 7.00pm Confirmation for Year 6

## **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAYS - PUPIL FREE DAYS**

**Tues 12 March** Literacy with Deb Sukarna

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many of you would have children that have attended or are attending Caroline Chisholm Catholic College. I ask you to keep the staff and students in your prayers as the principal of the school Mr Rob Brennan is very unwell.

This week is the second week of our Lenten journey. Lent is a wonderful time. The Lenten journey challenges us to find time to slow down and take stock, a special time for fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Our busy and very scheduled lives make it hard to find time but if we look at our day and rethink where we put our time and energy we might just be able to make some space and time.



**Please come and join the students and staff for the Opening of the New School Year Mass on Monday the 26th of February at 9.00am in Our Lady's Church.**

**We hope that we will see many parents come and join us in this wonderful celebration to welcome in the new school year 2024.**



## **Lent**



Loving God, in this season of Lent let us pray that over these 40 days, we will open our mind and hearts to recognise and respond to the needs of others. Help us to be kind to those around us, especially friends and family. Through prayer, fasting and giving to those in need, may we be ready to enter more fully into the days of Holy Week.

Amen

## Major ICT equipment Upgrade for Our Lady's 2024

There will be a huge update of technologies at Our Lady's this year. The Years 3-6 children will each have their own Lenovo Chromebook to use at school and the Year 2 classes will now have 10 Chromebooks each instead of 6 per class.



The term 1 holidays will see a new state of the art laser projector being installed in the Hall. The Year 5 and 6 classrooms, the Art Room and the ICT Lab will have large interactive TVs installed. These TVs will replace the electronic whiteboards.



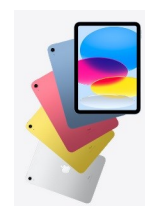
There will also be interactive TVs for each class and meeting space installed in the new building once it is completed which at this stage is scheduled to be the 2nd of October.



Classes will also have new iPads and the Years 1 and 2 classes will have 10 iPads each.

The school will have new WIFI points installed throughout which will strengthen our internet connection and the teachers will also receive new laptops.

Technology is a powerful tool used by both students and staff to enhance student learning opportunities as well as improve student engagement. We are very excited to be able to provide state of the art equipment for our students.



A big thank you to our Digital Design Technology Leader, Mr John Buttigieg for organising the purchase and installation of this new equipment.

## Reminders

### Mobile Phones and Smart watches

A reminder to families that all students must hand all mobile phones and smart watches into the school office before school in the morning and collect them at the end of the day. These devices, especially smart watches, can be very distracting to students and are not necessary during school hours. They are also very expensive to replace should they be lost or damaged at school. We ask for your support in this matter.



## Year 6 Camp - Wednesday the 28th of February to Friday the 1st of March.

I would like to thank Mr Tim Wickham our Camp Coordinator and the staff members who have volunteered to go on the Year 6 Camp: Mrs Belinda Whelan, Mrs Anna Kalc-Smyth, Ms Shai Stringa, Ms Christine Chu, Ms Jo McManus and Mr Dean Frahm. We are fortunate to have so many staff who are experienced in taking students on camps. The camp is very well organised and is designed to support the Year 6 students to build on their social/emotional skills, try out some new and sometimes challenging activities and most of all to have lots of fun. Each year the students comment on how wonderful the food is and what a great time they have had.



Yours sincerely,

*Patrizia Bertani*

**Ms Patrizia Bertani**

**Principal**

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





A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES WHO CAME!











#### **FI**

**Francis** - For staying focused and working well in maths rotations this week. Well done Francis, amazing work! *From Miss Seona*

**Amanda** - For showing the Our Lady's Gospel Value for Service by being a helpful member of our classroom to both students and teachers! Thank you Amanda, you're so helpful! *From Miss Seona*

#### **FJ**

**Lanvy** - For being an amazing self-manager in Discovery. You can organise your own learning space and pack up when you are finished. Well done! *From Miss Wendy*

**Bianca** - For showing the Learning Asset Thinker when exploring how to make a tent in Discovery. You are a great problem solver, Bianca! *From Miss Wendy*

#### **1K**

**Eli** - for being a great Self-Manager who just gets on with what needs to be done. You are a hard worker! *From Miss Shai*

**Josephine** - for returning to school with such a positive attitude and enthusiasm! We're so glad you're back! *From Miss Shai*

#### **1L**

**Noso** - For always showing the Our Lady's Gospel Value of Service when you help your classmates. You are always showing initiative and ready to lend a hand. We are lucky to have you in 1L. Well done! *From Miss Scarlett*

**Casper** - For always being a contributor in the classroom. You always speak with enthusiasm and a positive attitude when sharing in group discussions. Well done! *From Miss Scarlett*

#### **2M**

**Harry** - For being able to make a 2-digit number using MAB blocks and work with a group to pick who had made the largest number. Keep it up! *From Ms Rochelle*

**Mae** - For showing the Gospel value of Service and Compassion to your classmates when they need help. You are so quick to stop what you are doing to help others. Well done! *From Ms Rochelle*

#### **2N**

**Flynn** - For displaying the Gospel Value of Service when you assisted your classmate during Maths. Keep it up! *From Ms Robles*

**Ethan** - For taking initiative to share your ideas during Reading! Well done! *From Ms Robles*

#### **3E**

**Liam N** - For showing the Self-Manager Learning Asset when organising yourself for learning. You are a role model in 3E! *From Miss Steph*

**Anabella L** - For showing initiative and generosity when helping the tennis team pack up and organise the equipment. *From Miss Steph*

#### **3F**

**Casey** - For trying your best in everything you do, you never give up! Well done Casey. *From Ms Christine & Mrs Majczak*

**Geronimo** - For demonstrating that you are a self-manager by completing set tasks independently. Well done Geronimo! *From Ms Christine & Mrs Majczak*

#### **4G**

**Evelyn H** - For Thinking deeply and reflecting on Pope Francis' teachings about Lent. Your choices about prayer, fasting

and almsgiving showed maturity. *From Ms Karen & Ms Granata*

**Sophia V-** For sharing your family story with the class and for bringing in an artefact belonging to your culture to school. *From Ms Karen & Ms Granata*

#### 4H

**Catherine N-** for your excellent reflection on prayer, fasting and almsgiving ideas for Lent. *From Mr Membrey*

**Garang-** for your dedication and hard work in tidying up the room at the end of each day. *From Mr Membrey*



#### 5C

**Paul-** For his enthusiasm and positive attitude towards learning. Keep up the great effort! *From Ms Huyen*

**Kennedy-**For growing in confidence when sharing her ideas during class discussions. Top effort!! *From Ms Huyen*

#### 5D

**Jacob** - For being an excellent Self-Manager in the classroom by asking questions to check your understanding! Keep it up! *From Ms Gurry*

**Emily** - For being an effective Communicator by sharing your thoughts and ideas during whole class discussions. Well done! *From Ms. Gurry*

#### 6A

**Sophia** - For living out the school Gospel Value of Respect through her well mannered and polite attitude. *From Mr Wickham*

**Filip-** For showing effort by thoughtfully expressing opinions about a reading text. *From Mr Wickham*

#### 6B

**David H** - For working hard during writing to publish two wonderfully creative descriptions. Amazing effort! *From Mrs Belinda & Ms McManus*

**Rhys N** - For making good learning choices and demonstrating persistence when investigating integers on a number line. Keep up the good work! *From Mrs Belinda & Ms McManus*



FI: Bianca T  
1K: Jacob W  
4G: Isaac P  
6B: Michelle L  
STAFF: John P



Would you like to be a classroom helper at OLPS?

You are invited to attend a Classroom Helper's Information Session  
focusing on Literacy & Numeracy.



**Tuesday 27th February 2024 @ 9:00a.m.**

**OR**

**Wednesday 28th February 2024 @ 2:15 p.m.**

*(Please note change of date)*

**Where: Our Lady's School Auditorium**



It is a great opportunity to be involved in your child's learning and support your child's teacher in the classroom with a small group focus. You will learn strategies you can use at home to support your child in their learning.

Classroom helpers are always needed, especially in the junior classes. In order to be a classroom helper you **must** attend one of these sessions in 2024.

The Classroom Helper Session will focus on Literacy and Numeracy.

The sessions will be led by our Literacy Leader and Numeracy Leader.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the sessions.





**Our Lady's  
Primary  
School  
Sunshine**

# **ENROLMENTS** **FOR FOUNDATION 2025** **OPEN** **MARCH 4 2024**

**Our Lady's School is  
a Catholic Primary  
School serving the  
Parish of Our Lady's  
Sunshine.**

**In a spirit of unity and  
harmony, we strive to  
develop the whole person;  
providing an excellent  
education for all and inspiring  
our community members to  
live a Christian way of life.**



## **OPEN DAYS**

**Wednesday 1 May &  
Monday 3 June  
Tours at 9.00am &  
4.00pm**



**9312 2230**

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT NOW**

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

**Principal  
Ms Patrizia Bertani**  
[principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au)

**Our Lady's  
School**  
**32 Station  
Place Sunshine  
3020**





# Enrolments Now Open YEAR 7 2026

Enrolment applications for current Grade 5 students close on August 16, 2024.

*I want my child to attend the College.  
What do I do?*

**1. Complete an enrolment application form.**

Visit [www.cccc.vic.edu.au](http://www.cccc.vic.edu.au) to access and complete our online Application Form.

**2. Submit your completed application form.**

Ensure you provide all required documents with the application. A non-refundable application fee is required at the time of submission. Applications close mid-August each year.

**3. The College will conduct interviews of all applicants.**

Families will be invited to attend an enrolment interview with a senior staff member of the College in September 2024.

**4. Enrolment and waiting list offers will be sent to families.**

Families will be notified of any offer in October 2024.

**5. Book a School Tour**

If you would like to visit our school, please book a school tour by visiting [www.cccc.vic.edu.au](http://www.cccc.vic.edu.au) or call 9296 5311

If you have any questions please contact the College on **03 9296 5311** or email [registrar@ccc.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ccc.vic.edu.au)



**Families can book into tours of the College via this link  
<https://www.cccc.vic.edu.au/news-events/school-tours>**



# Choosing a Secondary School: *Finding the right fit.*



**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**7.00pm – 8.00pm**  
**Quin Auditorium**

<https://www.cccc.vic.edu.au/news-events/current-events>

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR OUR YEAR 5 FAMILIES

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2024

The following dates are very important for ALL students who will be attending secondary school in 2026 – our current Year 5 students.

If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 16th August, 2024 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

16th August 2024: Applications close for 2026 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges – our current Year 5 students

18th October 2024: Offers posted to prospective 2026 Year 7 applicants

8th November 2024: Final date for families to accept offers made by the Secondary School







## Collection Notice for parents/guardians

### 2024 Student Residential Address and Other Information

The Australian Government Department of Education (the department) would like to notify you that we have requested for your child's school to provide residential address and other information.

Under the Australian Education Regulations 2023, the school is required to provide the department with the following information about each student at the school:

- names and residential addresses of the student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- student residential address (**excluding student names**)
- whether the student is a primary or secondary student (education level)
- whether the student is boarding or a day student (boarding status).

The school collects the above information by generating a **unique and unidentifiable** student reference number (SRN) for each student record. The school only uses the SRN for this collection. **The SRN cannot be used for any other purpose.** The number only indicates to the department that each record provided is for one student.

#### Purpose of the collection

The Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection (the collection) informs Australian Government school education policy and helps ensure funding for non-government schools is based on need.

The information collected is used to inform school funding calculations. It is combined with Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data to calculate a non-government school community's anticipated capacity to contribute to schooling costs.

In 2020, the department introduced a new measure of capacity to contribute: the Direct Measure of Income (DMI). The DMI is based on the median income of non-government school students' parents or guardians using the collection data. For more information see [Direct Measure of Income \(DMI\) Methodology](#).

#### Use and disclosure of personal information

**Your personal information is protected by law** under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (the Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with the Privacy Act, the *Australian Education Act 2013* and Australian Education Regulations 2023.

Your personal information provided to the department through the collection may be:

- disclosed to the ABS for the purposes of capacity to contribute calculations and analysis as a part of the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). Find more information about MADIP on the ABS website [MADIP page](#)
- disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department may audit a school's collection submission. The contracted auditor compares the school's submission with the student enrolment information. The contracted auditor will not use the information for any other purpose

- disclosed to our service providers for the purpose of providing the department with information and communications technology support
- used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law.

The department does not intend to disclose your personal information to any overseas recipients.

Find the department's privacy policy on the [Department of Education](#) website which includes information on:

- how individuals can access and modify personal information held by the department
- how complaints about potential breaches or breaches of the Privacy Act can be made
- how the department will deal with these complaints.

The department commissioned an independent Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). The PIA assesses the flows of information under the Collection, compliance with the Privacy Act and measures in place to safeguard the personal information being collected. The current version is available on the [2018 Student Residential Address Collection: Additional Required information Privacy Impact Assessment web page](#).

## What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the department with the requested details; however, you can contact the school to update your family's details.

## Contacts for further information

Your school can provide additional information about the collection process.

Alternatively, please visit the [SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page](#).





**Brimbank  
Writers & Readers  
Festival**

14-23 March 2024



SCAN TO  
BOOK

# Events for Young Readers



## Storytelling adventure

📍 Sydenham Library  
1 Station Street,  
Taylors Lakes

📅 Wed 20 March, 11am-12noon

Combine poetry, theatre games, drawing and movement stories when Hey Dee Ho presents *The Fiction Factory*.

For ages: 18 months - 5 years



## Real Pigeons workshop

📍 Deer Park Library  
4 Neale Rd, Deer Park

📅 Thu 21 March, 4-5.30pm

Meet creators of the *Real Pigeons* children's series, author Andrew McDonald and illustrator Ben Wood. Discover their creative process and inspiration behind the *Real Pigeons* series.

For ages: 6 - 13 years



## Zine making workshop and tour

📍 Sunshine North Primary  
School, 65-71 Suffolk Rd,  
Sunshine North

📅 Sat 23 March, 1-3pm

Celebrate Brimbank's next generation of authors.

Tour and create within SNPS's new (intergalactic) Story Hub with 100 Story Building's 'intergalactic zine' workshop.

For ages: 6 - 12 years



**brimbanklibraries.vic.gov.au**

Join your local library today



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

**PLEASE BRING YOUR HEALTH  
CARE/PENSION CARD ALONG WITH YOUR  
COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE.  
A COPY OF YOUR ELIGIBLE HEALTH CARE /  
PENSION CARD IS NEEDED.**

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





## INSIGHTS

### Tricky Friendship Days



Relatively small issues, like not being invited to a party, can arouse big, intense feelings in our kids. Because belonging is at stake, friendship challenges will always feel like a life-threatening experience – so be assured that most parents find themselves dealing with powerful tears and shattering disappointments after tricky friendship days.

It is easy for both parents and teachers to fall into the trap of trying to “dial down the drama” when our kids feel overwhelmed. However, minimising or dismissing strong feelings will only tend to ramp them up, because our tween’s brains seek to be heard and understood in the process of regulating. I’d also like to suggest that it denies our children the opportunity to master these big feelings. Our kids need to feel to practise the emotional regulation strategies they need to navigate life well.

I want to share three practical strategies that parents can do to support their tweens during these moments. Friendship challenges are an incredibly rich platform to help kids learn emotional regulation strategies, as well as social skills, and we want to capitalise on both as we coach them forward.

#### Strategy 1: Let’s not fight the intensity

The more I learn about emotions the more I am in awe of our body’s way of coming up with solutions to discomfort, anguish and pain we experience. It doesn’t make any sense to judge that process but rather appreciate it. That’s why we want tweens to know there are no bad or good emotions. There are only healthy emotions, and each one of them is an acceptable and necessary part of being human. Ideally, we want tweens to feel safe to feel, without shame or guilt. This means accepting emotions within our home, in the same way we accept anything else about ourselves (or our experiences) that we cannot change – our age, our height, freckles or ears.

#### Strategy 2: Ask questions that empower

Although it’s tempting (and much quicker) to offer children prescription answers to friendship problems, it won’t help them in the long term. The problem with childhood conflict always being followed by adult intervention, is that kids can get into the habit of projecting their wishful thinking onto someone else who they perceive as being more powerful than they are.

If our children focus their energy on recruiting support rather than problem-solving, they miss vital learning opportunities. We are best to ask questions that express a sense of curiosity and empower them to take ownership.

#### Strategy 3: Find a positive expression

Whereas there are times that we suppress our painful emotions for our own survival, emotions are far better off moving through our kids rather than festering inside them.

# parenting\*ideas

One of my dearly loved local psychotherapists wisely tells me that children who have imaginations become their own play therapists. Play is a distraction that pulls kids out of their heads and into their bodies. Any type of play including immersing themselves in craft, participating in drama, dance, or sport, or building forts, slides and adventure courses are all helpful..

## In closing

Home really is the hero in kids' lives. It is the emotional shield from all that hurts us, bothers us, and tires us. It's a place where love is tangible, and we are cared for in ways that make it easier for us to move back into the world with a soft heart. It's the Utopia that we all yearn for and strive towards. When they feel disappointed, lost, afraid or disoriented it will be the predictability of home that continues to welcome them with open arms and wise words. As you implement these strategies, know you are offering your tween the home they deserve.

## Michelle Mitchell presents: Handling tricky friendship days

Our school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. As part of this membership, you can attend the upcoming webinar 'Handling tricky friendship days' at no cost.

### About

In this webinar, Michelle Mitchell offers a set of practical guiding principles to help empower children to handle tricky friendship days.

### When

Wednesday 2 November 2022 8:00pm AEDT

### To redeem

1. Click this link: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-handling-tricky-friendship-days>
2. Click 'Add to cart'
3. Click 'View cart'
4. Enter the coupon code FRIENDS and click 'Apply Coupon' Your discount of \$39 will be applied.
5. Click 'Proceed to checkout'
6. Fill in your account details including our school's name to verify your eligibility. These are the details you will use to login to your account and access your webinar and resources
7. Click 'Place Order'

This offer is valid until 31 December 2022. If you're unable to make the broadcast time, just register anyway and you will get access to the recording.



### Michelle Mitchell

Michelle Mitchell is an award-winning speaker, and bestselling parenting author. She has been termed 'the teenage expert' by the media and is sought after for her compassionate and grounded advice for parenting tweens and teens. Michelle started her career as a teacher, but soon discovered a special interest in wellbeing. For further details visit [www.michellemitchell.org](http://www.michellemitchell.org)





2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B

# This is my Son

## Gospel

Mk 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



God wants us to listen to Jesus. What are some things that Jesus tells us?

Draw a line from each of the following statements to either Moses or Elijah.



**Moses**

God's law was revealed to him

He challenged King Ahab for worshipping a false god

A great prophet mentioned in the first book of Kings

He rescued God's people from Egypt

Elisha became his successor

He became the leader of the Israelites



**Elijah**