



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1 March 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

Wed 28 Feb - Fri 2 Mar

Grade 6 Camp

Mon 5 Mar

Maths Parent Session with Michael Ymer

Fri 9 March

Parish Movie

Mon 12 March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Catholic Education Week:

Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy

Mon 19 March

School Photos

Thurs 29 March

3.15pm End of Term 1

Mon 16 April

Start of Term 2

Fri 20 April

Parish Movie

Wed 25 April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday. No school for the children

Mon 7 May

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

SACRAMENTS

Eucharist (Year 4)

Sun 27 May 10.30am (4H)

Sun 3 June 10.30am (4G)

Reconciliation (Year 3)

Thur 6 Sept 7.00pm

Confirmation (Year 6)

Fri 16 November 7.00pm

Dear Parent,

As we know learning does not only happen in a classroom, every experience is an opportunity for learning no matter where we are. This week students in Year 5C participated in an extraordinary learning opportunity aboard the SV Pelican which is a 62 foot catamaran. For one day the SV Pelican was Year 5C's classroom and Port Phillip Bay was where we sailed. On board we had 3 research scientists who specialised in marine biology who facilitated the day.

The children were invited to participate in this learning experience to enrich, challenge and awaken a deep appreciation for and wonder about the rich marine life that is an important part of their environment.

Two of the crew members dived over board and collected a large starfish, sea grass, seaweed, abalone and other sea creatures for the children to learn about in the water tank we had on board. Of course the creatures were all returned to the sea. Via a special underwater microphone students were able to listen to the sounds made underwater by a variety of sea creatures. The students were amazed that the little shrimps made the loudest noises and that sound can carry very far in water.

The children were so happy to see Sammy the Seal a local inhabitant who was basking in the sun and this immense starfish that our divers found.

The children in 5D will be sailing on the SV Pelican on Tuesday of next week.



Prayer for the World

God created all people. We are loved by God.

Thank you, God, for the gift of all people, all cultures, all nations.
Thank you for your love for each of us. Help us to remember that our differences enrich our world and our lives.

Be with all of us so that we may work together for the good of all people.

Amen



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

Parent Advisory Board

The evidence is consistent, positive and convincing: families have a major influence on their children's achievement. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.

(Anne T. Henderson, Beyond the Bake Sale)

We are opening up the nominations for the Parent Advisory Board. If you are interested in representing the parent voice in matters of curriculum, school resources and infrastructure, please come and join us.

The Parent Advisory Board Vision

- To represent and to be representative of all parents and families, being inclusive and committed
- To share and live out the vision and the values of the school
- To be a rich source of wisdom and insight as well as working to strengthen community partnerships
- To consult and seek to achieve better outcomes for all members of the school community
- To be role models for others – maintaining a professional and confidential approach
- To make everyone feel included and welcome
- To be active listeners committed to working collaboratively
- To work proactively and positively for the school
- To represent the parent voice and the whole school community in a loyal and proper way
- To establish boundaries and protocols to operate by
- To at all times maintain confidentiality

Congratulations to all children who wear the correct school uniform.

A big thank you to their parents for supporting them to do so!



Thank you to all children who are showing pride in our school by wearing the correct school uniform.

On the left we have Zoe, Chanel, Eve and Asha from 2M all wearing the correct summer uniform.

On the right we have Jonti and Tessa from 1K wearing the correct sports uniform.



Our Lady's School Is Committed to having a Zero Tolerance to Bullying of any form

At Our Lady's we promote a safe environment where individuals may grow and develop. The modelling of positive behaviour and anti-bullying strategies at Our Lady's has become an important aspect of student learning.

We aim to:

- Assist in the prevention, reduction and response of bullying behaviour (including cyber bullying)
- Promote a proactive attitude to and clear understanding of procedures to be taken when addressing allegations of bullying
- Facilitate a consistent approach to the management of bullying and/or incidences
- Ensure the safety and well-being of all staff and students in an environment free from bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimization.

Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Bertani

Ms Patrizia Bertani

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au





Spotlight on Learning

"The heart of human excellence often begins to beat when you discover a pursuit that absorbs you, frees you, challenges you, or gives you a sense of meaning, joy, or passion."

Terry Orlick, 2007

At Our Lady's, we have an ongoing commitment to the personalisation of learning using an inquiry approach.

What is personalised inquiry?

When students are engaged in personal inquiry tasks - they are generally investigating something they have chosen to learn more about or learn to do. They are genuinely interested in or passionate about this thing.

Why use personalised inquiry at Our Lady's?

Research has shown that when opportunities for personalised inquiry are provided, students:

- get to learn what they are **interested** in
- pursue their own individual **passions**
- have greater **flexibility and independence** in their learning
- are more likely to **stay on task** and remain **focused**
- share their skills and knowledge and build their **self-esteem**
- are less reliant on their teacher and peers, and develop important **self-management skills**.

What does personalised inquiry look like at Our Lady's?

The two approaches to personalised inquiry that are being implemented at Our Lady's are: Discovery Time in Years F-2 and iTime in Years 3-6.

This is an exciting time of innovation for our school curriculum. As the Learning Leaders, we look forward to sharing this journey with you.

Junior Learning Leader

Natalie Severino

Junior Learning Leader F-2

Middle Learning Leader

Michelle Drought

Middle Learning Leader 3-4

Senior Learning Leader

Tanya Majczak

Senior Learning Leader 5-6

OUR LADY'S SCHOOL PARENTS ADVISORY BOARD (PAB)

Membership

Open to all parents/carers – representing families

Principal (representing Parish Priest and School Community – children, families and staff)

School Leaders as required

Community members as invited e.g. Family-School Partnership convenor

Structure

Chairperson

Deputy Chairperson

Secretary

Currently the Parents and Friends Committee meets and reports regularly to the Principal who will pass on relevant information to the Parents Advisory Board

Vision for Parent Advisory Board

- To represent and to be representative of all parents and families, being inclusive and committed
- To share and live out the vision and the values of the school
- To be a rich source of wisdom and insight as well as working to strengthen community partnerships
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- To be role models for others – maintaining a professional and confidential approach
- To make everyone feel included and welcome
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Current protocols/agreements include:

Maintain a positive and proper tone for all our communication – in meetings and in representing the school. Speak for the needs of all children and not our personal concerns (individual matters are to be discussed with the school leaders and teachers).

Agenda is set by the Chairperson in consultation with the Principal. All parents attending are welcome to add items to the agenda. New agenda items are tabled and then placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

Meetings start at 7.00pm and end at 8.00pm.

The chairperson communicates matters to the school community via Parent Advisory Board Newsletter article. Please email to: jhill@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

The principal follows up matters with the staff and the whole community.

The secretary records and distributes the notes of the meeting to all attendees and apologies.

Proposed agenda items must be emailed to the Chairperson / Deputy Chairperson / Secretary 1 week before the scheduled Board Meeting.



Parents Advisory Board

Expression of Interest Form

Expressions of Interest are invited for the Our Lady's School Parents Advisory Board 2018.

I, (your name) _____

Parent of (name and grade of your eldest child):

Contact number: _____

Contact email: _____

Am interested in becoming a member of the Our Lady's School Parents Advisory Board in 2018

Signed: _____

Date: _____

ALL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FORMS ARE TO BE HANDED TO THE PRINCIPAL

Role Descriptions

Chairperson

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

The main role of the Chairperson is to:

- Be the main representative/spokesperson for the Parents Advisory Board
- Liaise with the Principal to finalise agenda items for the next meeting and advise the Secretary to distribute the agenda and required pre-reading at least 3 business days before the next meeting
- 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
- Work towards a collaborative approach with other members of school community
- Be mindful of timelines, keep discussions on track and keep meetings moving

Deputy Chairperson

The responsibilities of this role will be to:

- Support the Chairperson in the coordination of the meetings (i.e. pre-reading / pre-work, etc.).
- Support the Chairperson in the running of the meeting by ensuring timelines are adhered to, and discussions are on track.
- Assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson or the Secretary in the event either one is unable to attend the meeting.

Secretary

The Secretary is very important to the efficient operation of the Parents Advisory Board.

Duties and responsibilities include:

- Taking minutes at Parents Advisory Board meetings
- Photocopying and distributing minutes to Committee members along with agenda prior to the next meeting
- Dealing with any incoming/outgoing correspondence

Committee Members

Committee members have a responsibility to:

- Attend Parents Advisory Board meetings as regularly as possible and send apologies if unable to attend
- Help organise Parents Advisory Board 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

AGM for 2018 is to be held Wednesday 14 March at 7.00pm in the Hall Kitchen



5C aboard the Pelican



5C aboard the Pelican





Dinner at Camp



PARISH MOVIE AFTERNOON TEAS 2018



Dear Parents,

Over the last seven years, the Parish 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!



The food preparation is undertaken between 9a.m. and 11a.m. in the kitchen located in the Hall. In order for this to be well supported, we need the assistance of four parents each Movie Day.

If you can help on any of these mornings, please fill in the slip below and return it to Mrs Toni Balbata via your child's classroom tub by Monday 5th March. 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 the year. Further, a reminder will be sent to you a week prior to your rostered day.

You do not 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 may accompany the volunteer parent.

If you need to discuss anything or ask questions, please contact me via the school's telephone number.

The children and I look forward to working with you in this rewarding programme.

In anticipation, I thank you for your kind offers.

Sincerely,

Toni Balbata

Mrs Toni Balbata and the Hospitality Committee

PARISH MOVIE AFTERNOON TEA VOLUNTEERS

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade _____

Contact Number _____

Yes, I can help on Friday, 9th March

Yes, I can help on Friday, 20th April

Yes, I can help on Friday, 11th May

Yes, I can help on Friday, 8th June

Yes, I can help on Friday, 10th August

Yes, I can help on Friday, 14th September

Yes, I can help on Friday, 12th October

Yes, I can help on Friday, 9th November

Yes, I can help on Friday, 14th December

CANTEEN NEWS



Do you have time to spare on Mondays and Wednesdays?

If you do the Canteen would LOVE your help. They are in urgent need of helpers on Mondays and Wednesdays especially, just between 12.55pm and 2.00pm!

Please see Geraldine or Nubia if you can help.

insights



Helping children who struggle with learning

by Michael Grose

Parenting is easy when you have a child who is talented and finds learning relatively easy. You can marvel at their performance and feel some measure of parental pride.

On the other hand it's frustrating and, at times, heartbreaking to watch your child struggle to attain even mediocre levels of success at school, in sport or in leisure activities. It's even more difficult if your child repeats a year of learning.

When your child has difficulty at school, your approach as a parent makes huge difference to their self-esteem, the relationship with their teachers and their attitude to learning.

Here are some ideas to keep in mind if you are parenting a child for whom success at school, or in other high-status areas such as sport, just doesn't come naturally.

1. Avoid using other children as benchmarks

Benchmarking your child's progress against that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably it will lead to frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Each child has his or her own developmental clock which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. It's the first group that can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare the slow bloomer to siblings, friends' kids and even themselves when they were in school.

The trick is to focus on your child's improvement and effort and use their results as a benchmark of progress and development. *"Your spelling is better today than it was a little while ago"* is a better measure of progress than *"Your spelling is the best in the class!"*

2. Focus on your child's talents

Be mindful that many successful people including Bill Gates, Richard Branson and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg struggled at school. Traditional learning wasn't for them. However they each had supportive adults in their lives who helped them find their interests and fostered their talents. Help your child see beyond any limits they put on themselves (*"I'm hopeless at school"*) to see the many other talents and strengths they have.

3. Develop a growth mindset

Recent research shows that people who believe they can increase their intelligence through effort and challenge actually do get smarter and do better in school, work and life over time. It's exciting to know that your child's talent and smarts aren't fixed. Their brain can always learn more, continue to grow and be stretched. Communicate a growth mindset to your kids by focusing your praise more on their level of effort rather than on their natural abilities of talents. Praise the strategies they use and look for opportunities to stretch their capabilities.



4. Be your child's cheerleader

Kids who have to work really hard to achieve need someone in their lives who is able to boost their self-confidence, particularly when they are struggling. Make a fuss over small successes so your child can puff up their chest every now and then. Many adults find it easy to encourage the kids who do well but baulk at encouraging kids who struggle or find learning difficult. But it's these children who really need encouragement. As much as humanly possible, comment favourably about your child's effort, contribution and improvement in all areas of life. You can do it!

5. Increase their time in activities where they experience success

As a young teacher I remember when a father banned his son from playing football as his school results were poor. I was incensed. This boy found school learning very difficult and football was one area where he was able to shine. I suggested to the father that his son should spend more time, not less, playing football, as this was the activity where he experienced the most success. Children who struggle at school benefit from spending more time in environments where they feel confident and capable, as those feelings can eventually transfer over to other areas – including the classroom.

6. Be mindful that persistence pays off

Children who have to work hard and persist learn an important life lesson: that success in most endeavours takes effort. Those kids who sail through their childhoods without raising a sweat can struggle when eventually they do have to work long and hard to succeed.

Raising kids who find life a breeze is easy. However, parenting kids who take longer to mature, or kids that must put in a 110% effort to achieve, is challenging for any parent. Parenting a child who struggles, or has to repeat a year level, requires you to develop a growth mindset, focus on kids' strengths, be liberal with encouragement and have realistic but positive expectations for success.



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.

Jesus cleanses the temple

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B



Jesus was not pleased when he found people selling things in the temple. Some people sold cattle, sheep and doves for sacrifice and some people changed Roman coins for temple coins.

Draw some traders and money-changers in the temple and write down what Jesus said to them.



Gospel

Jn 2:13-22

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.



There are times when things make us angry; even Jesus got angry and upset sometimes. But there are good and bad ways of dealing with anger. Complete the statements below by using words and/or pictures.

When I'm angry I sometimes do the wrong thing by...

When I'm angry I can do the right thing by...