



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

5 November 2021

www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter-Damien McKinley

Principal: Ms. Patrizia Bertani

Parish Mass Times:

English: Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 9:00am, 10:45am & 5:30pm

Vietnamese: Saturday 7.30pm, Sunday 12.30pm

Chin: Sunday 2.30pm

School Phone: 9312 2230

School website: www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady's is a Child Safe School

'And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger' Luke 2:12

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Every Friday Assembly is online

Fri 5 November

Casual Clothes Day!

Thursday 11 November

Remembrance Day

Friday 12 November

Yr 6B Confirmation 5.30pm

Friday 19 November

Yr 6A Confirmation 5.30pm

Monday 6 December

Dinner in the Yard 6.00-8.00pm

Wednesday 8 December

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 9 December

Grade 6 Graduation (Time TBC)

Wednesday 15 December

Students finish for 2021 at 3.00pm

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE 2021
SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS**

Mon 1 Nov Report Writing Day

Dear Parents,

As I am writing this newsletter DJ Con has just finished setting up his equipment in the playground and is preparing to begin the Our Lady's lunchtime disco. DJ Con was just as excited as the children as this is his first event in almost 2 years. I cannot wait to hear the music playing and seeing the students singing and dancing to the music and enjoying this very special lunchtime treat with their friends and teachers. What a wonderful way to end the week and to celebrate the whole school coming back.

On Wednesday we had the last Parent Advisory Board meeting for this year. I would like to thank all the members of the Parent Advisory Board for their work throughout 2021. As principal of the school I have always felt very supported and have valued the suggestions and ideas that the PAB members have contributed. The members have been very generous in sharing their expertise and knowledge to help improve all aspects of school life. I look forward to continuing this very important partnership with our parent community in 2022.

Term 4, WEEK 3 ⇒ Drop off and pick up gate arrangements

A-F ☀ Morning Drop Off (Victoria Street)	
8:20 → 8:45	A → F Back gate on Victoria Street (near Yr2 classes) & Church gate (near canteen)
A-F ☀ Afternoon Pick Up (Victoria Street)	
3:05 → 3:14	Back gate on Victoria Street (near Yr2 classes) & Church gate (near canteen)
Wednesday only 2:50 → 2:59	

G-L ☀ Morning Drop Off (Station Place)	
8:20 → 8:45	Main entrance (near office) - Station place & Station Place gate (near Foundation and Yr 4 classes)
G-L ☀ Afternoon Pick Up (Station Place)	
3:05 → 3:14	Main entrance (near office) - Station place & Station Place gate (near Foundation and Yr 4 classes)
Wednesday only 2:50 → 2:59	

M-R ☀ Morning Drop Off (Victoria Street)	
8:20 → 8:45	Back gate on Victoria Street (near Yr2 classes) & Church gate (near canteen)
M-R ☀ Afternoon Pick Up (Victoria Street)	
3:15 → 3:25	Back gate on Victoria Street (near Yr2 classes) & Church gate (near canteen)
Wednesday only 3:00 → 3:10	

S-Z ☀ Morning Drop Off (Station Place)	
8:20 → 8:45	Main entrance (near office) - Station place & Station Place gate (near Foundation and Yr 4 classes)
S-Z ☀ Afternoon Pick Up (Station Place)	
3:15 → 3:25	Main entrance (near office) - Station place & Station Place gate (near Foundation and Yr 4 classes)
Wednesday only 3:00 → 3:10	

To make pick ups easier, the eldest child must collect their brothers/sisters so they can leave together.



Don 4G
Pharrell A 3F
Alisha L 5D

Alyssa D FJ
Rhys N 3F
Zoe A 5D

Grace N 3E
Sophia P 3F

Prayer of Compassion

We are to be compassionate to others. In this we follow Jesus.
Father of us all, we ask your help in living as the kind of people you created us to be.

May we show compassion to those who need us.

May we share your love with all people.

We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen



PREPARATIONS FOR 2022

As we are beginning our preparations for 2022 we ask that parents let us know as soon as possible if their children are not returning to Our Lady's next year. We have had many inquiries about places for 2022 and we need to let these parents know if there are places for their children. We currently have a waiting list for Prep and several of the other year levels are full, with enrolment enquiries coming in. **If your child is not returning in 2022 (apart from our current year 6 children) please complete the form below and return it to the office. It is vital that you return this form as soon as possible.**

Thank you.

Children NOT returning to Our Lady's School in 2022

Family Name: _____

Child/children's names

1. _____ 2021 Grade: _____

2. _____ 2021 Grade: _____

3. _____ 2021 Grade: _____

Name of our new school: _____

And / Or

Our new address: _____

Signed: _____ ***(Parent)***

Please return this form to the office as soon as possible



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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 or 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.



Be generous and selfless like the poor widow



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Jesus praised the widow for her generosity because she gave everything she had even though she was poor. What are some ways we can be generous like the poor widow?



Gospel

Mk 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

Spot the difference

Can you spot the seven differences between these two pictures?

