

## OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

#### 1 December 2023

www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest:Fr. Peter-Damien McKinleyPrincipal: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

Our Lady's is a Child Safe School

## Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 16: 24

#### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Sun 3 Dec 1st Sunday Advent Wed 6 Dec 6.00pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass & Disco Fri 8 Dec Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass at 11.00am

**Mon 11 Dec** Yrs 1-6 Orientation 12.00-1.30pm

**Fri 15 Dec** End of Year Mass 9.00am, Christmas Raffle drawn at Assembly. Students finish 2023 at 1.00pm.

Mon 18 Dec Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day) Hand over day for Staff Tues 19 Dec Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day)

#### 2024

Mon 29 Jan Staff return Tues 30 Jan Getting to Know You Day 1 for Yrs 1-6 (appointment only) Foundation Session 8.45-1.00pm Wed 31 Jan Getting to Know

You Day 2 for Yrs 1-6 (appointment only) Foundation Session 8.45-1.00pm

**Thur 1 Feb** Classes start at 8.35am for all

Dear Parents,

A big thank you to all of you who bought tickets for the Trivia Night Raffle. There were 470 tickets sold and therefore another \$940 raised to go towards our new playground which will be built in 2024.

The Trivia Night Raffle will be drawn this afternoon during the Friday Aussie of the Month Assembly. Congratulations to all those lucky winners. The prizes are pictured below.









I would like to thank the Parents and Friends Committee members who have given up their time to provide fun events for the students of Our Lady's while at the same time raising money. In 2023 they have raised a total of \$11,415 so far. It would be great if you could consider joining the Parents and Friends Committee.



In 2024 we will need more parents to help the current committee members continue to do their good work. Please make a note of the next Parents and Friends meeting which will be at school on the 28th of February 2024 at 7.00pm. I will be advertising it in next year's newsletter, please consider joining it is a great way for you to connect with other parents.

#### **Building Update**

Most of the formwork pillars have been filled with concrete which is great considering the amount of wet weather we have had this



week. Although the pouring of the concrete has been interrupted by the wet weather the builders are still on schedule, they are hoping to pour the slab before Christmas. The builders will have their holiday break from the 22nd December to the 10th of January when building works will recommence.

#### Advent Prayer



Advent is a time to get ready to celebrate Christmas. It is a special season to show care to others.

Dear Jesus, It is the season of Advent and we are full of hope.

We are getting ready in our hearts and our lives to celebrate your birthday at

Christmas.

Help us live in your love and share that love with others in your name during this holy season.

May we remember all that this time should be as we wait in joyful hope. Amen

#### **REMINDERS**

Next Wednesday the 6th of December we will be holding our Year 6 Graduation Mass (6.00pm-7.00pm) followed by a disco in the Mariana Hall. This is such an important time in the lives of our Year 6 students and is a time where we come together as a whole school community to celebrate this wonderful milestone in the lives of our Year 6 students.

Just a reminder...

We will also would be delighted if all Year 6 parents could stay after the Mass as

we will be organising snacks for you to enjoy as well as tea and coffee in the school hall. We hope that this will give the Year 6 parents a chance to relax, chat and mingle with other parents as they wait for the disco to finish at 8:30pm.

We have important whole school Masses coming up and would love for you to join the children in the church. The first is our Feast Day Mass where we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception after which our school is named. The Mass will be held at Our Lady's Church on Friday the 8th of December at 11.00am. As it is our School's feast day the students will all receive a free bag of popcorn and a frozen tube.

The end of the year Christmas Mass will be celebrated at 9.00am on Friday the 15th of December and we are hoping that as many parents as possible will join us. Please put it in your calendar.

#### **School Fees**

Thank you to all the parents that have paid their school fees. If you have not done so I ask you to please settle your accounts as soon as possible. If you are currently experiencing financial hardship please make an appointment to see me by ringing me on 93122230.

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Yours sincerely, Patrizia Bertani

Ms Patrizia Bertani Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au



**FJ** Ryan B, Katarina B, Eli L **1L** Minh-Dzung N, Joseph L

2M Sophie N, Francis T

2N Jayden Y

3E Simon L, Mika P, Oliver S

**3F** Joanne H, Lincoln H

**4G** Stephanie D, Thien N, Hiyab A

**4H** Anthony B

**5C** Bailey H, Holly B

5D Tracey L, Will P, Henry A, James N

6A Mila K, Chelsi L, Lucas D, Natania P

**6B** Jonti M

Staff Mrs Carabott, Ms Gina



#### YEAR SIX LEADERSHIP BADGES

"The greatest among you will be your servant." Matthew 23: 11
"For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve others" Matthew 20:28



The Year Six Student Leadership Badge is awarded to students who show leadership based on the Servant Leadership Model as lived by Jesus, serving others before self. This model has been lived out by the saints, including Mary MacKillop who said, "Never see a need without doing something about it."

The Leadership Badge is awarded for consistent, sustained and purposeful leadership within the classroom, on the playground and in all school activities such as interschool sport.

#### Congratulations to:











Grace C

Ava H

Stephanie T

Landen T

Rati V

# Festive Family Fun Day Rrightage 2023

Brimbank City Council is proud to present this year's Festive Family Fun Day, happening this Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December from 11.00am-3.00pm at Green Gully Reserve.

This free-entry event features an exciting array of activities, entertainment, food and photo opportunities. Bring your family for a fun-filled day at the park.

#### **Event highlights include;**

- Santa's making a list and checking it twice.... have your camera ready for when it's your turn meet the man in red in our festive cave
- Immerse yourself in the fun and colour of the circus with Hayley Hoopla! Think spinning plates, lots of merriment and laughter for everyone
- Enjoy the mesmerising beauty and movement of roaming bubble artists
- Get a pic with the Jolly Giant Candy Canes who will be watching over festivities and roaming the park
- Free face painting will transform smiling faces
- Help our chalk artist transform the pathways into festive works of art

For more information please visit

https://www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/news-and-events/festive-family-fun-day-green-gully-reserve

#### **PREPARATIONS FOR 2024**

As we are finalising our preparations for 2024 we ask that parents let us know as soon as possible if their child/ren are <u>not</u> returning to Our Lady's next year. We have had many inquiries about places for 2024 and we need to let these parents know if there are places for their children.

If your child is not returning in 2024 (NOT OUR CURRENT YR 6 STUDENTS) please complete the form below and return it to the office. It is vital that you return this form as soon as possible.

Children NOT re	eturning to Our Lady's School in 2024
Family Name:	
Child/children's names:	
1	2023 Grade:
2	
3	<b>2023</b> Grade:
	and if moving addresses:
	(Parent)
Please return thi	is form to the office as soon as possible

### parenting \*ideas

#### INSIGHTS

#### **Growing up is not straight-forward**



The pandemic has delivered change and upheaval to families on an enormous scale. However upheaval is not new for some children, particularly those who've experienced illness, a loss of a loved one or who've moved home and changed schools. Each change requires acceptance, adjustment and an attitude realignment to help them fit the new circumstances. Every change is an opportunity for a child to grow and develop, if they are supported, and they're not overwhelmed by the experience.

#### The twists and turns of development

A child's pathway to adulthood, and the accompanying journey of their parents, is generally viewed as linear. Growing up is seen as a straightforward march from infancy, early childhood, childhood, adolescence, post-adolescence to adulthood. If COVID has taught us anything it's that a child's journey is full of twists and turns.

While your child has a developmental clock that keeps ticking over, it's their experiences that determine their maturity and their ability to reach fully-fledged adulthood with the resilience, grit and adaptability needed to thrive. These experiences that develop maturity and coping capacities fit into two broad areas – challenging experiences and positive experiences.

#### **Challenging Experiences**

The challenging experiences that a child encounters enable them to build their coping capacities and develop their emotional resources that contribute to their maturity. These challenges include:

#### **Conflict**

Disagreements, arguments and rivalry is part of growing up. Whether it's a dispute with siblings or a fallout with a friend, negotiating conflict is a developmental task.

#### Rejection

Rejection by a friend or group is hurtful and feels horrible, but it also builds a level of social smarts and judgement necessary for navigating relationships in later life.

#### Loss

This takes many forms including a friend moving away, the death of a pet or the passing of a family member. Loss is the cause of sadness, grief and heartbreak that can feel overwhelming. However, with time and support kids learn to cope and get on with their lives.



#### Disappoint ment

Losing a game, not being picked for a team, not receiving a gift they wanted are unpleasant but character-building experiences that help kids develop perhaps the most treasured resilience capability of them all – acceptance.

#### Failure

Mistakes are seen in three ways. They are activities to be avoided, signs of failure, or opportunities for further learning. Resilient learners know that mistakes, even initial failures, are part of every learning process so the risk of failure doesn't hold them back. Children and young people grow from these experiences as coping and recovery generally build character, confidence and resilience

#### **Positive experiences**

Though children and young people will inevitably experience challenging experiences, positive experiences help to balance the experience ledger by building a child's identity, wellbeing and emotional collateral.

#### Love

Knowing that a child is loved and loveable is at the core of their self-worth. Self-esteem and identity built in adolescence needs a solid foundation of self-worth.

#### Friendship

Making and keeping friends is an essential life task linked to many aspects of happiness and wellbeing.

#### **Contribution**

The ability to belong to groups through contribution fulfils a basic need. It allows children to experience real gratitude and feel needed, which builds self-esteem.

#### **Excitement**

Fun, joy, excitement! Any activity that shifts a child's emotion from unpleasant, low energy to pleasant and high energy is a good thing.

#### Play

Involvement in enjoyable activities such as hobbies, interests, sports, music, games, creative and performance arts are central to healthy wellbeing. Activities that are fun, freely chosen and create flow (the ability to lose track of time) fit the criteria of play.

#### In closing

A child's age and related milestones is a recognised marker of their development. However, their life experiences, as much as the number of birthdays they've had, contribute to their maturity, resilience and readiness for the wider world.



#### **Michael Grose**

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

## Watch out and be ready! 1st Sunday of Advent, Year B During Advent one way we can prepare for the arrival of Jesus is by helping others. Draw yourself helping another person.

## Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



## **Let's Get Ready**

Complete these sentences

I get ready for church by

I get ready for school by

I get ready for bed by

I get ready for Christmas during Advent by