Dear Parents

This week I continue to share The Stations of the Cross which have a profound message for each of us, every day.

**Station 8: Jesus speaks to the Daughters of Jerusalem** – “In this remarkable scene, I witness Jesus halting his journey briefly to stand up for the needs of women – not only in that culture but today as well. On the road to Calvary, Jesus pauses to explain one reason he is saving the world – and me. He is obtaining for me the graces I – and mothers and children – need to thrive spiritually and physically.”

**Station 9: Jesus Falls the Third Time** – “Lord, I praise you for your example of courage in your darkest hour on the road to the cross. I love you for winning for me the spiritual power to face my own demons and move beyond them because of your gift to me. I am learning to trust you, and realise more and more how profound is your all-embracing love form me and all the world.”

**Station 10: Jesus is Stripped of His Clothing** – “When I am vulnerable and wounded, I often strike back with insults, betrayals, and sights. When I hurt Christ, he forgets the wounds and tries to heal me, the hurter. Jesus welcomes me as a sinner into the chamber of his heart and lets me thrash about with my unruly passions. Then he offers me the love that would cure me of my irrational evil.”

**Station 11: Jesus is nailed to the Cross** – “In my contemporary world I am called to adore a crucified God and not dilute the cross by smothering it with roses or pleasant thoughts, making its meaning and value vanish. I need the shadows of Good Friday to appreciate the full possibilities of the Easter mystery. The most distant objects I can see on a clear day is the sun. But on a dark night I can see the stars, millions of miles farther away. Darkness has its spiritual value.”

**Station 12: Jesus Dies on the Cross** – “As he is dying, Jesus gave his life calmly and lovingly to God, for that was how he lived. He didn’t leave any money. He left an incomparable testament: divine mercy, future life, and sustaining hope. His deathbed provided the most profound lesson in dying the world has ever seen and will ever see. With this in mind, I pray that my last moments, my dying, will be filled with the same grace.”

**Station 13: Jesus is Taken Down From the Cross** – “While countless mothers have held their sons in their arms and mourned desperately their loss, my faith tells me that at death, life is changed, not taken away. I carry the seed of eternity in my immortal soul. Like Mary, who was profoundly saddened by her son’s death, I mourn Jesus yet believe in his promise of resurrection.”

**Station 14: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb** – “I find the rites of Christian burial to be essential ways of surrounding the loved one with a spirit of faith, a belief in the future, and a way to grieve with a believing community.”

Enjoy the week ahead, as we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord.

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**UPCOMING DATES**

**TERM 1**

**Week 10**
- Friday 1/04  School Photos-Summer Uniform

**Week 11**
- Tuesday 5/04  Confirmation-Parent Information Night
- Wednesday 6/04  2:30-3pm Second Hand Uniform
- Thursday 7/04  OLMC Cross Country at school
- Friday 8/04  9:15am Stage 1 Mass

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR TERM 1**

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**NOTES SENT HOME TODAY**

- Photo Envelopes
- Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6 ICAS Notes
CHILDREN’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

CONFIRMATION: Just a reminder that our Confirmation Parent Information Evening will be held next Tuesday 5 April at 7pm in the Parish Centre. A parent/carer of each child enrolled in the program is expected to attend.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: Thank you to all the parents who have enrolled their child into this process. Celebrations for Wednesday 15 June are now closed. The alternative date, Tuesday 14 June is still available.

FIRST EUCHARIST: Celebrations for Sunday 16 October is now closed. Other dates available are Saturday 15 October at 6pm and Sunday 23 October at 10:30am.

For further information about any of these sacraments, please contact Paola on 0414 947 799.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Congratulations on your generosity and compassion in giving so generously to our Lenten Appeal. At the moment we have raised over $1200. We will be finalising this appeal on Friday after we have all the disco money collected.

EMAIL CONTACTS FOR OLMC WENTWORTHVILLE

SCHOOL NOTES

As mentioned at the beginning of the school year at the commencement of Term 2, 2016 the school will be sending all correspondence via email and Skoolbag only. In preparation for this change, please ensure the school has an up to date email for both parents by completing the survey. Whilst we do have many email addresses, we want to ensure we have the most up to date information. Permission notes will continue to be sent home as a paper copy as well as electronically until further notice. Please complete the survey http://goo.gl/forms/gfuXKQDAw4. The link has been sent by email to existing email addresses the school currently has on file and via Skoolbag. If you do not receive an email then the school doesn’t have a current email address for your family.

EARN & LEARN

Next Monday morning the Store manager from Woolworths will present the school with their Earn and Learn certificate. We have received the items from last year’s Earn and Learn campaign late last week. Watch the newsletter for photos of the unpacking.

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

Thank you to 20 families who completed the survey from 60 selected families. The results will provide data from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community and will assist us to focus our efforts for improvement by building on our successes to date. If you haven’t completed the QCS survey please complete the paper copy and return it to school in the envelope provided by next Friday 1 April 2016. Alternatively, the online survey by same date.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Just a reminder that daylight saving time ends this Sunday morning at 3am. Don’t forget to turn your clock back 1 hour.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

This Friday, 1 April will be school photo day. ALL students are to wear full summer uniform on this day. We would request that ALL parents make a note of this, as some grades normally wear their sports uniform on this day.

Hairstyles should reflect how your child normally wears their hair to school.

Envelopes with various packages have been sent home today. Every student who is ordering a photo package must present their own envelope, even if payment is in another sibling’s envelope.

Spare envelopes and family portrait envelopes can be collected from the school office counter.

PLANNING DAYS

At the centre of any successful activity is planning. Each term classroom teachers are provided with grade planning days as per their award. These days are essential in allowing teachers to meet together to maximise the future learning opportunities for all of our students. During these planning days trained professional relief teachers are employed. We would ask that you remind your children that these teachers are respected and that expectations remain the same. These planning days are another way that we can support the dedicated and professional staff at OLMC, to provide the best learning and teaching experiences and opportunities for your children.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL KITCHENETTE

Commencing next week, the kitchenette in the Parish Hall will be refurbished as part of the preparation for a Catholic Out of School Hours Care facility to be established. At present the commencement date for this facility is still the beginning of the 2017 school year.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinjal, Ojas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myah, Tristan</td>
<td>6G</td>
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MACKILLOP SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We wish Emily Shumack, Amirah Roach, Claudia Sammut and Rebecca Saad all the very best at this Thursday’s NSW/CPS Mackillop Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park. A tremendous achievement to be swimming against the best swimming from all the Catholic schools in NSW.

SAFE DRIVING

Parents will have noticed that during the past weeks council rangers have been on Bennett Street monitoring our parents for safe driving. While we may not like the job rangers do in issuing fines for unsafe driving, they have an important role to play in helping to keep our children safe on the street. Last week I spoke to the rangers about what they have been observing. They noted:

- The majority of parents were doing the right thing and following road rules
- During the morning some parents were parking their car and leaving it unattended in the morning “no parking zone” outside the school.
- Many parents helping their children get out of the car and quickly moving on
- Some parents doing an illegal u-turn on Bennett Street
- Some parents being abusive towards the rangers

As a community we have an expectation of being safe and respectful. At pick up and drop off times each day it is vital for the safety of everyone that we follow road rules, demonstrate patience and consideration of others. Consider what model you are providing to your children? Is your model one that shows you respect rules or one that shows the rules don’t apply to you?

TERM TWO DATE & WINTER UNIFORM

Term One ends on Friday 8 April 2016. Term Two commences on Tuesday 26 April 2016. Please note that children are to return to school in Term two in full winter uniform.

PRESCRIBED MEDICATION NOTES

Prescribed medication notes were sent home last week and were due back today. If you have not returned the note please forward it to the school office as soon as possible. Please note that even if your child has no health condition or health concern the note still needs to be returned to school and the appropriate box ticked and the form must be signed by a parent.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second Hand Uniform shop will be open next Wednesday afternoon from 2:30 until 3:00pm.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

A blessed and Happy Easter
We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter long weekend and was able to reflect on the hope and salvation this season brings.

Amazing God Day
We would like to thank Mrs Nolan and Mrs Brackenbury for facilitating the first God Day for parents on Friday 18 March. We now have a greater appreciation of the process our children go through to create their reflections and the huge amount of work involved.

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity and was very grateful to take a break from the hustle and bustle of everyday demands and to pause and prepare spiritually for Holy Week.

Tiny Tots Playgroup

Tiny Tots Playgroup will resume this Friday however we will be meeting at Wentworthville Leagues Club play area from 9:15am. Each family can purchase morning tea from the café as no food is allowed in unless it is for babies or for children with allergies.

Playgroup is a fun way for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers in our community to meet every week, get to know each other as they grow and spend some time playing and making craft. This is also great for the parents of course, providing an opportunity to meet socially with other parents in the community and school.

Playgroup is usually held on Fridays during the school term from at 9:15am in the Parish Hall (Smith St playground, on the school grounds). The cost is $2 per session or $20 per term. Tea/coffee, bikkies and a chat are provided for the adults! Children need to bring their own, nut-free morning tea from home.

This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute, please email olmcwenty@parra.catholic.edu.au.

OLMC NETBALL

Playing times for Round 1, Saturday 2nd April

<table>
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<th>Team</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 1 (12s)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Holroyd Hotshots 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC 2 (11s)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Newington 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 3 (10s)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Holroyd Hotshots 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 4 (8s)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Holroyd Hotshots 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Set Go</td>
<td>4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
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Remember hair must be tied back, nails need to be clipped and no jewellery is permitted.

We understand that playing times for some teams are earlier this year, we ask that you please be at the courts no later than 20 minutes before your game to warm-up with your team. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

If you have not yet done so, uniforms can be ordered at sydneynetballshop.com. Outstanding fees will need to be finalised by round 2, 9 April.

All girls playing netball turning up to age 10 this year can also participate in NetSetGo at no extra cost. Please let Paula know if your child is interested. For enquiries please phone Paula Epenian 0406 515 782 or olmcnetball@gmail.com
Our reflection is based on the contentment that Jesus had in surrendering himself....
Mira Aboud, Danielle Gardner, Pauline Raad, Rana Sawaed, Therese Touma

Father forgive them... but the Scripture must come true.
Coretta and Isabella Dias and Andre Saad.

Jesus showed great courage to preely accept
God’s will...
Caterina Dockmagian, Sonia Ghanem, Serna Mathavan, Kirti
Kiwalker, Pradnya Date, Margret John, Lee Xiao.

The parents found
God Day:
~ Challenging
~ Enjoyable
~ A great chance to discuss
our faith as parents
~ A good opportunity to learn
how the children learn
~ It was a chance for us to
spend time together
~ An opportunity to meet new
people and to work together

On that night Jesus
knew what was ahead
of Him....
Jodi, Ha Sheller and Aida