Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term Two! I do hope that the beautiful Easter weather enabled you to enjoy the break from routine! The children certainly seem refreshed and enthusiastic about the learning possibilities that lie ahead of them throughout the term. Please see the back page of this newsletter for an exciting initiative we commenced on Monday and how you can help your child(ren) develop a rich vocabulary to assist them with their learning.

As we began Term Two there are many past and current events that remind us of how complicated and difficult life can be for us as parents.

During Holy Week, we walked with Jesus and were reminded of how extremely difficult emotionally it must have been for Him and His family. Imagine as a parent kneeling beneath the cross on barren ground and seeing your son (child) dying with excruciating pain whilst you are helpless.

What faith and trust in God Jesus and Mary displayed!
Do we as parents today display this same faith in God?

Last Friday, all Australians stopped to remember ANZAC day and recall the sacrifice of many lives that have been lost fighting for freedom. Again, we were reminded as parents about how helpless we can feel when our children leave our close proximity. Some were not too much older than our year 6 students.

Out of these two emotional challenges for parents there is always hope and the importance of never giving up.

Sometimes all we can do as parents is prepare our children to pray, be safe and respectful, and never take peace and harmony for granted.

Best wishes to all members of our community for a “hope filled” Term Two full of many exciting events.

Steven Jones
Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful
CHILDREN’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Confirmation Practise: All Children, sponsors and Altar Servers are asked to please attend the Confirmation practise on Thursday 15 May at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. This will be the only practise session available to everyone who is involved in the Confirmation celebrations. Please disregard any previous dates and times offered and I apologise for any inconvenience.

First Reconciliation: Thank you to all the families who have enrolled in the First Reconciliation program. Enrolment forms are due by this Friday 2 May 2014. The Parent Information Evening will be held on Monday 12 May 2014 and one parent from each family is asked to attend.

Paola Yevenes-OLMC Parish, Wentworthville

PROJECT COMPASSION

Thank you to students and parents for donating your time and money for Project Compassion for the people in Sudan. You have helped us reach our goal, which was $2,000 and we managed to raise $2,155. This amount is our best ever!! Also thank you to Mrs Meares for the extra $7.00. Congratulations to Year 3 and Year 1 for collecting the most amount of money.

The Total Fish:

Year 6: 5 fish Year 5: 5 fish Year 4: 4 fish Year 3: 10 fish

Year 2: 5 fish Year 1: 10 fish Kindy: 6 fish

Kind regards
Year 6 School Leaders

A GREAT EVENT IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

On Sunday 27th April we gained two new saints of the Church. Blessed Pope John XXIII and Blessed Pope John Paul II were canonised in Rome and the event was broadcast live to the world.

Blessed John XXIII was responsible for calling the Second Vatican Council. During late 1968 and 1969 the council changed the Latin Mass to English, or the language of the country in which Mass was celebrated. The documents of the council are still being researched today and the changes still being implemented. Sacrosanctum Concilium was the most well known document released and set out how the Mass and Liturgies of the Church were to be celebrated. This council is responsible for bringing the Church into the 20th century.

Blessed John Paul II is better known as the people’s Pope, he is best remembered for instigating World Youth Days. He had a great love for young people and saw that they are the future of the Church. At the time of his death there was a great outcry of “Santo Subito” .. sainthood now. Pope Benedict allowed his cause for canonisation to proceed. Pope John Paul II lived in Krakow, Poland and affiliated himself and fully supported the workers of Poland during a time of upheaval and change.

PRINCIPAL’S HOLIDAY READING CHALLENGE

Tomorrow will be the last day for students to submit their Principal’s Holiday Reading Challenge sheets. To date we have had 131 forms returned.

CHILD PROTECTION

Just a reminder that it is a Diocesan system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school (assisting at carnivals, on excursions…) and revisited every second year for existing volunteers. This must be done even if you have completed child protection checks in other work/volunteer locations.

An online training module for use by volunteers is available to ensure this requirement is met. Please note this module cannot be completed on an ipad. To use the module:

2. Open the module by clicking the Start link under For Volunteers.
3. Read through the presentation.
4. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes (maximum).
5. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
6. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

This module must be completed every 2 years. If you are unsure as to whether your status is current or not, please ask at the school office or email the school.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seth DSouza, David Deguara</td>
<td>KB</td>
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<td>Jerome Brien, Sophia Ghanem</td>
<td>KG</td>
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<td>Ayi Majak, Luca Odello, Michael Gebrael</td>
<td>1G</td>
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<td>Francis Silvayogabala, Tu Tran</td>
<td>1B</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Toma, Zac Michael</td>
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<td>Maya Kobialka, Thomas Zebec</td>
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<td>Meilan Nguyen, Natalia Nehme</td>
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<td>Duang Majak, Logan Libreri</td>
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<td>Sarah Cullen, Miriam Epenian</td>
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<td>Abhidi Pradhan, Mark Khoury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chanel Joseph, Bradley Farah</td>
<td>5B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariah Sahyoun, Michael Hadchiti</td>
<td>6G</td>
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<td>Stephanie Raitropolous, Nicholas Hanania</td>
<td>6B</td>
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This module must be completed every 2 years. If you are unsure as to whether your status is current or not, please ask at the school office or email the school.
Thank you to the many organised parents who ensured their child(ren) came to school yesterday dressed immaculately in full summer uniform. Don Wood photography spoke very highly of the students’ behaviour and respectfulness.

All students are to commence wearing winter uniform at the beginning of next week, Monday 5 May. Should your child not have their full winter uniform they may wear the full summer uniform for next week only. Please note that students are to wear either the summer or winter uniform, not a combination of both (e.g. girl’s summer uniform with tights)

Year Six students are to wear sport uniform tomorrow.

Just a reminder that all students are expected to be at school by 8:55am ready for the commencement of the school day. Towards the end of last term and the beginning of this term we have had an increasing number of students arriving after the school gates are closed at 9am.

Last term notes were sent home regarding the English, Mathematics and Science competitions. If you would like your child to participate but have not returned the forms, please send them in by this Friday 2 May 2014.

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**PUNCTUALITY**

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**ADDITIONAL PE LESSON YEAR 6**

Year Six students are to wear sport uniform tomorrow.

**WINTER UNIFORM**

**ICAS COMPETITIONS**

Last term notes were sent home regarding the English, Mathematics and Science competitions. If you would like your child to participate but have not returned the forms, please send them in by this Friday 2 May 2014.

**OMLC NETBALL CLUB**

Playing times for Round 4 on Saturday 3 May are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Versus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11's (OLMC1)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Regents Park 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10's (OLMC2)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Holroyd Hotshots 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rising Stars (OLMC3)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Guildford Knights 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Set Go</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
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</tbody>
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Please be at the courts 30 minutes before your game to warm-up with your team.

Just a reminder that our club has ground and canteen duties next week Saturday 12 May. It would be much appreciated if you could volunteer at least 30 minutes to help out. Please see your team manager to schedule a suitable time.

For enquiries please phone Margaret Nolan 0405 509 253, Paula Epenian 0406 515 782 or Alycia Koulouris 0414 513 448.

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

**Movie Night — This Friday Night 2 May**

Don’t forget the P&F outdoor movie night is this Friday 2 May at 6pm. We will be watching *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2* on the big screen. This is a non-ticketed event so to cover some of the cost we are asking each person who attends to please make a gold coin donation. We will be having a sausage sizzle before the screening.

Meal deals consisting of a sausage sandwich, a packet of chips and a drink can be pre-purchased for $5 (or $6 on the night). Hot chocolate, tea and coffee will also be available for $1 each.

Don’t forget to bring a rug or some chairs and maybe even a picnic. Hurry and send in your RSVP if you haven’t already done so!

**Help Needed For Mothers’ Day Stall**

If any parents are able to come and help with the Mothers’ Day stall next Wednesday 7 May, it would be very much appreciated. The stall will run from 9am till 1pm so any help is welcome, even if it’s for just one hour. The stall will be held in the Parish Hall and morning tea and refreshments will be provided. If you can help please contact Sonia Farah on 0431 692 960 or Joanne Sakr on 0418 623 867.

**Hey Kids! Save your pocket money for Mothers’ Day stall and raffle next week!**

Our annual P&F Mothers’ day stall is on next Wednesday 7 May. Children are encouraged to bring some money to buy great gifts for their well deserving mums, grandmums and mother figures.

Gifts range from $1 to $10 and each student will be allowed to purchase as many gifts as they wish. On the day we will also be selling raffle tickets to win some great prizes for our mums!

**Mothers’ Day Raffle**

This year, we have had some wonderful donations for our Mothers’ Day raffle from our community and surrounding businesses. All our mums would be happy to win any of the prizes! Raffle tickets will be sold on Wednesday 7 May at the Mothers’ Day stall. Tickets are 50 cents each or three for $1.

The prizes are as follows:

**1st Prize:** 3 month membership valued at $207 from TLC Health and Fitness Toongabbie, donated by Mario and Norma Touma

**2nd Prize:** voucher valued at $100 from Johnny’s Elegance Hair and Beauty Wentworthville, donated by Mary Chahine

**3rd/4th/5th prizes:** voucher valued at $100 from TYH hair designers in Wentworthville (for four foils, blow dry and paraffin hand treatment)

**6th Prize:** Four adult tickets to Manly Sea Life Sanctuary valued at $96, donated by Jihad and Sonia Farah

**7th/8th prizes:** voucher valued $45 from Fred Mancuso Remedial Massage Clinic in South Wentworthville (for a 30 minute remedial massage)

**9th/10th prizes:** voucher valued $40 from Sonya’s Beauty Spot in Merrylands West for an express pedicure

**11th prize:** voucher valued at $30 from Michel’s Patisserie Wentworthville (for 30 to spend in the café)

**12th prize:** Box of Favourites chocolates, donated by Michelle Anderson

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the individuals and business who have donated prizes for our raffle. Your generosity is very much appreciated.
Talk Homework

Talk is our language on paper. The better we can talk, the better we can write! The more words we know and the richer the words we have, plus our confidence in using language to effect, influences how well we write.

The children will be writing about The Epic Citadel in class on Monday and we are asking you to have a conversation about the topic at home over the next few days. Together, you might come up with some WOW words (unusual, interesting, or big words that they may not come up with on their own) and interesting ideas to include in their story.

They do not need to write their story at home. This is a talking activity only! The purpose of your conversation together is to generate ideas and build on what they already know! They will have the opportunity to write their story in class.

Watch the trailer for the Epic Citadel [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmZNx7Zdhs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmZNx7Zdhs) (or talk about the still pictures from the clip)

Discuss what you might see? Hear? Touch? Feel? Smell? Who does the kingdom belong to? Where is it? What is it called? What used to happen in these empty streets? What could have caused all the people to disappear? Who were they? What did they do? Who used to live in the tents? Why were they banished? What’s beyond the walls? What era is it? What are some objects/events/people specific to this era in history?

What are some interesting adjectives you could use to enhance your story?

Remember to try and be as descriptive as possible as you want to create the ‘best’ piece of writing next Monday! You are only limited by your imagination!

Happy conversation!