Dear Parents/Carers

Dinner! Come to the table!"

Do you remember your mother or possibly your father calling out that very statement when you were a child? Do you remember running down the stairs or from the backyard to familiar smells and rushing to take your place at the table?

The family dinner table is a place of communion, fellowship and a means of reconnecting with those we care about most. Over a simple dinner of leftovers on toast or a more elaborate family roast, important stuff happens. Relationships are realigned. The news of the day is exchanged and coming events are discussed. More importantly, memories are made for both adults and children. One day, your child(ren) will look back on all those dinners around the family table with fondness. One day, you will look back wistfully, actually missing the chaos of trying to get everyone to the table while the meal is still hot! And at a reasonable hour! I know as my boys (now adults) have got older balancing work commitments, university commitments, training schedule and other commitments has meant that having the five of us at home at meal time is a sacred moment in the week.

The family dinner table is not such a strong feature in many homes today. We have sacrificed our family table for all manner of activities and way too often our meals are situated around or near the white glow of an LCD screen, TV, computer or iPhone. Conversation might be limited to “pass the sauce” or strong silence, while the glare of the screen fills the room.

But actually making the meals is a big issue. People are busy, tired, exhausted and overwhelmed with responsibility. Making menus to post on the refrigerator doesn’t happen much anymore because there is “no time”. Rushing to supermarkets on weekdays after work often means going without a list and throwing a stack of prepackaged/premixed stuff into the trolley because dinner needs to be easy and fast.

How about making up a menu for the fridge…and not just of the food and meals we’ll eat during the week, but of the times we will consciously connect with each other? It might sound a bit contrived but the simple act of “menu-making” each week not only helps us provide some structure to the family dinner time, it might also draw us deeper into a sense of communion with each other. I wonder if we might come to a new appreciation of the beauty and dignity of each other as we share simply around the table. Not to mention the literacy and numeracy skills being developed.

Enjoy your meals together over the coming week.

Mr Steven Jones
Principal
CHILDREN’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: A reminder that one parent/carer for each child is asked to please attend the Parent Information Evening on Monday 20 July at 7:30 pm in the Parish Centre.

FAMILY MASS: Our third and final Family Mass will be held on Sunday 16 August at 10:30 am. We particularly invite families of children in Year 5 and Year 6 to participate. Forms are available on our website (www.olmcwenty.org.au), at the church or in the office.

For further information on any of the above, please phone Paola on 0414 947 799.

Paola Yevenes-OLMC Parish

SCHOOL HOURS

Supervision on the playground commences at 8.30am each morning. Our school day then commences at 9:00 am. Children should be ready for class at this time. Recess is 11am – 11.30am Lunch is 1.30pm – 2:10pm Final dismissal time is 3:10pm. Supervision finishes at 3.30pm and all children should be collected by this time. Please ensure you have collected your child(ren) by this time as staff have various meetings and planning after school. If you are running late for pick up, please contact the school office.

TERM 2 PRINCIPAL’S HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

Thank you to the many students who have already returned their portrait of a person who inspires them and/or their reading log for the holidays. All portraits and reading logs need to be submitted by this Friday to go in the draw.

ACCESS TO CLASSROOMS

At the end of last term it was noted that parents and children were entering the classrooms before and after school without the presence of a teacher. Child Protection procedures require that classrooms are not entered unless a teacher is in attendance. If your child forgets something the parent or child needs to speak to a teacher and if possible return to the classroom with the teacher. Child Protection is the responsibility of all in our community and we need all adults to follow correct procedures.

CONGRATULATIONS

MAYA, RUBY & DAMON

Congratulations to Maya, Ruby and Damon on being selected as Australian Finalist in the Colgate “My Bright Smile” Global Poster Competition. Their artworks were three of the twelve selected to represent Australia and have been sent to New York to compete with other finalists from many countries from around the world.

MRS COOKE’S FAREWELL MORNING TEA

If you would like to attend a morning tea for Mrs Cooke’s farewell please RSVP for catering purposes by returning this slip to the school office.

Name: ........................................... □ I will be attending No. of people .........
**OLMC NETBALL**

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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
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<td>Holroyd Hotshots 8</td>
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<td>OLMC 2 (11s)</td>
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<td>OLMC 3 (10s)</td>
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Remember hair must be tied back, nails need to be clipped and no jewellery is permitted. Just a reminder that our club has ground and canteen duties this Saturday. It would be much appreciated if you could volunteer at least 30 minutes to help out. If you have not yet collected and wish to participate in our clubs Cadbury fundraiser please contact Paula to arrange a collection. Thankyou to everybody who has already done so. We understand that playing times are earlier this year, we ask that you please be at the courts **no later than 30 minutes** before your game to warm-up with your team. Your cooperation is much appreciated. For enquiries please phone Paula 0406 515 782 or Alycia 0414 513 448.

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**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

The holidays were a great time to catch up on reading for the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Many children added the books the read for the Principal’s Challenge to their online Premier’s Reading Challenge Log. We had 24 children complete the challenge in the holidays bringing our total complete to 76 children. That’s almost a third of the school. I know many of the teachers have been recording the books they have been reading with their class to add to the children’s lists. Remember that the closing date for the challenge for our school will be Wednesday 19 August, That’s five weeks away!

Congratulations to the following children who completed the challenge during the holidays: Roman, Harish, Siya, Sai, Serena, Sophia, Tomos, Myra, Isabella, Aliannah, Harini, Andrea, Elyce, Meilan, Sophie, George, Alisha, Saxon, Jorja, Chaneel, Tanya, Johnny, Kasey and Ashleigh.

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**PARENTS & FRIENDS**

**Welcome Back**

Welcome back to the second half of the school year. We hope that the holiday break has left you feeling rested and reenergised for the second semester of the school year. We hope that you have taken some time and reflected on what you have achieved this far and that you have reassessed your goals and renewed your commitment to work towards them during the rest of this year.

**“SUCCESS” AND “FAILURE”**

Father, into your hands we place our successes. Into your hands we also place our failures, and we pray that, through your Spirit, we may face the challenges of life with courage and determination. Help us to think anew and see things more broadly than in terms of “success” and “failure”, but focus more on “faithfulness”. Lead us always to trust and place ourselves confidently in your hands. Amen.

**Entertainment Book**

The 2015 Entertainment Books are still available for purchase through the school office. For $65 you will receive over $15,000 worth of offers from a fantastic variety of restaurants, arts, attractions and much more such as bowling alleys and movie theatres.

All books are $65 and a percentage of each sale goes back to our school. You can also order a digital version of the book for your apple or google device. We can only accept the right money through the office and we apologise for any inconvenience.

**Feast Of Our Lady Of Mount Carmel**

This Friday we meet as a faith community to celebrate Our Lady as the patron of our school. We are also saying farewell to Mrs Pam Cooke, who has decided to retire after her dedicated service to our School community. Mass will be celebrated at 9:15am. At the end of Mass each child will return to their classroom to receive a packet of smiths chips and a prima popper from the Parents and Friends.

If your child has dietary requiriments or allergies, please let the school office know so that we can cater for them. Parents are invited to stay for morning tea in the Parish Centre to farewell Mrs Cooke.

**P&F General Meeting**

Everyone is invited to attend the Parents and Friends Meeting on Tuesday 4 August at 7pm in the school library. If you have anything you would like to discuss please come along, or place the matter in writing and send it Attention: Danielle Gardner, President, through the school office. A light supper will be served at the meeting and all are encouraged to come along and find out more about our school and community.

This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute please email olmcwenty@parra.catholic.edu.au and attention it to P&F Communications.
The Red Shoes  Xavier Kindergarten
The red shoes went to a zoo because the shoes wanted to get a crocodile to be their pet.

The Magical Shoes  Jerome Year One
There was a boy that had magical, silver shoes and they were mysterious because they could walk by themselves. The boy liked to wear them every time when he was at the park. He started to wear them to school...

All About Sport Shoes  Michael G Year Two
Sport shoes are good for a lot of running also good for doing sport. They are also made of leather. They are good for football, soccer, tennis and boxing. They are also good for lots of other sports. They can have Velcro and laces. The shoes feel very comfortable on the inside and outside so you can keep on running and not stop. That’s why you wear these shoes for sport.

The Stunning Shoe Robbery  Jared Year 3
When the score was 0-0. Only seconds left in the match, when the final whistle was about to blow, a boy named Harry scored! The commentator said “that was outstanding! Infenal team 1, Western Wolves 0!” The crowd was going ballistic, except one person. The most greedy person in the world. Charles Robber. Charles said in an evil voice “I need that soccer boot!” When Harry was cheering, he heard a noise on his feet. The boots were talking! Harry said surprised “How can you talk?” The boots answered “we’re magic!”...

The Great Escape  Jacinta Year Four
The clock struck one and a car parked in front of the Treasure Trunk antique shop. A girl walked through the door and a little bell rang – ring, ring!

The girl walked to the counter. She looked adventurous. Her name was Ranger and she was looking for some shoes. She said she needed them for something called the great escape. Luckily the store had just the thing. They were brown, ankle leveled boots with little wheels at the bottom. Ranger bought the boots. They were a perfect fit!...

The Unwanted Shoes  Naveena Year 5
“Pick me!” I yelled. “Pick me! Pick me!” I yelled again. No one paid any attention. They just walked past and decided to ignore me. Why does everyone do this to me? What is so bad about a bright yellow shoe? I am very beautiful! I guess. It was very wet and moist outside. I was kept in a showcase as a display. I was in a shopping centre named ‘Famous Shoes’. Life was so boring being stuck in a place like this and not getting bought.

Suddenly, a young lady approached the entrance door. She came to me and stopped right in front. I was shocked! She then went to the counter, told something to the shop owner and started pointing at me! What is happening? Am I dreaming? In a quick second, she came back to me, and purchased me! Wow! This is incredible! I decided to pay more attention on what she was going to do next. She took off the shoes she was wearing and threw them in the bin. Several seconds later, she was bringing me close to her feet. What is she going to do?...

A Day in the Life of a Shoe  Stephen Year 6
Dear Diary,
Today, Granny Linda gave me a pair of shoes. They are brown, patched, dirty and torn. She said something about them being Grandpa’s. I understand they mean a lot to her, but in a realistic conclusion, they are 100% hideous! I told mum I didn’t want them. But she made me keep them. I was furious. They were just cheap, old shoes. What sentimental value did they have to me? I threw them into my wardrobe. I hope none of my friends see them...

Dear Diary,
Granny Linda gave us to Harry today. He didn’t like us. He threw us forcefully into his wardrobe. It’s really dark in here and we’re lonely, so we decided to write in his diary. Hope he doesn’t mind...