Dear Parents

There are some very strong links for us between the Gospels the last two Sundays (Luke 11:1-13 & Luke 12:13-21), which I offer for your reflection over the next week.

Two weeks ago…

“Lord teach us to pray…”

The disciples’ request of Jesus was answered with the words of the Our Father…

A prayer we all know well and which challenges us to action.

“... as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

A challenge to act on the forgiveness
- offered by Jesus
- to forgive those who hurt us
- modelled by Jesus

“Father forgive them, they do not know what they are doing”

“... and give us this daily bread.”

A challenge to accept and to trust that whatever comes our way is what we need in God’s eyes.

In last week’s gospel we heard:

“A person’s true life is not made up by the things he owns...those people are not rich in God’s sight”.

A challenge to act by placing value on the gifts that cannot be brought nor sold
… our children’s love
… our partner’s commitment
… our friend’s trust
… the quality of our community’s life.

What a contrast to that which confronts us daily through the media and often our own self interest. Our community’s ability to focus on what unites and nourishes is the greatest gift we give to each other so that…

“Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”.

Mr Steven Jones
Principal

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Thank you to all the parents who have handed in their enrolment forms. Please remember that the Parent Information Evening is on Tuesday 16 August at 7pm. At least one parent/carer for each child MUST attend that evening. For further enquiries please phone Paola on 0414 947 799.

Paola Yevenes-Pastoral Assistant

SPOTLIGHT ON RE

This year as well as discovering the meaning and context of Scripture passages related to units being studied, teachers have been busy planning a developmental sequence of the language of Religion. Talk to your children about their Religion word walls, or while you visit classrooms look for yourselves to see the language your children are being exposed to and the discussions you could have with them.

Year Four have been studying Scripture around the Forgiving Father and planning their visual representation and reflection as Part B of the Diocesan Religious Literacy Assessment.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gabriel, Dillon</td>
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<td>Lucas, Sameet</td>
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<td>Markos, Celine</td>
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<td>Dylan, Harini</td>
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<td>Ayden, Eleni</td>
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<td>Joseph, Aleena</td>
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<td>Ann Maria, Mary</td>
<td>6B</td>
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<td>Francis, Maryaa</td>
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WYD UPDATE NO.2 FROM MRS BRACKENBURY

I visited Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial & Museum on a self guided tour. Visiting sends a powerful message of the important issues about the camp and what happened there. Thinking about the people who were sent there and what they went through was very moving. Then we went to Kalwaria Zebrzydowska to attend mass. The basilica was awe inspiring. The amazing artwork and statues are outstanding. I only had a short time after mass, so I walked up a very steep hill to see the stations of the cross. My heart was racing and I was very much out of breath, but it was worth it. The chapels were an amazing tribute to Jesus and what he did for us. The scenery was beautiful and very green. This was another great experience and one that will stay with me forever.

I visited the Divine Mercy Sanctuary. On arrival the Angelus bells were ringing. We stopped and I lead our group in the Angelus. I felt very blessed to have this experience. The grounds were immaculate as well as the chapel. Mass was happening while we walked through with the rest of the pilgrims. The respect shown by all was amazing. It was raining and everyone was wet but they still entered in silence and prayed as they walked. We also went to the Saint John Paul II Sanctuary. This was my favourite, with the main area in the middle and little rooms around the outside for personal or small group prayer.

Start of WYD 2016… We started as a country together. All Australians gathered in a big arena to join together to celebrate in prayer and song. I was very excited as Parramatta created a flash mob dance to end the gathering. In the afternoon I travelled to Blonia park to attend the opening mass. It started to rain, so on went the ponchos from the WYD backpacks, very handy. We arrived at the park, it was still raining, then with mass about to start...no rain. Our prayers were obviously answered. It was a beautiful mass said in Polish. I turned around at peace be with you and it was amazing. Just in our section we had thousands of people. There were many sections and they all had an enormous number of people, many waving their national flags. I could not imagine that many people joining together from all over the world to have a public expression of their faith. It was a true vision of the universal church in action.

As for our fitbit kids. Mrs Brackenbury is averaging over 20,000 steps a day. Lots of walking!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (PUPIL FREE DAY)

Our next Staff Development Day will be on Monday 5 September 2016. Please mark this date in your calendars. There will be no school for students on this day.

SCHOOL FEES: Term 3 school fees accounts have now been sent to your mailing address by the Catholic Education Office. These accounts are due for final payment by Monday 22 August. Our office is happy to accept EFTPOS, cash or cheques during school hours, otherwise payments can be made by Bpay or at Australia Post Offices. Parents who have been paying their accounts by Flexible Payment Plan should be aware that all payments should be finalised by the same date unless other arrangements have been made with Mr Jones. Please contact Maree Murphy in the school office should you have any queries regarding your school fees account.
Congratulations Justin, Logan, Disha, Emily, Matilda, Violet, Jacinta and Finbarr who completed the challenge this year.

We are trying to achieve a goal of every child completing the challenge this year.

Census Day This Friday 5 August 2016

If you know your child will be away on Friday 5 August an absent note must be sent to the school on next school day via Skoolbag. Email or handwritten note stating the reason for the absence, the date of absence and return date along with the parent’s signature.

The Census data is directly related to Government funding for our schools and the requirements outlined above are set by the Department of Education.

We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge comes to an end in mid August. We now have 189 children who have completed the challenge and there are 194 children left to complete the challenge. We are trying to achieve a goal of every child completing the challenge this year.

Congratulations Justin, Logan, Disha, Emily, Matilda, Violet, Jacinta and Finbarr who completed the challenge in the past week.

Census Day This Friday 5 August 2016

If you know your child will be away on Friday 5 August an absent note must be sent to the school on next school day via Skoolbag. Email or handwritten note stating the reason for the absence, the date of absence and return date along with the parent’s signature.

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Parents & Friends

Fathers’ Day Stall and Call for Donations

The Fathers’ Day Stall is coming up on Wednesday 31 August. This is an opportunity for the children to buy a gift for their father, grandfather or father figure. The P&F is in the process of coordinating its annual Fathers’ Day raffle. We are calling on any businesses or families who would be able to contribute prizes. This could be anything from store vouchers or vouchers for a service or an experience to products such as tools, appliances and aftershave. If you can help or if you need more information, please contact Sonia Farah on 0431 692 960 or Joanne Sakr 0418 623 867.

Getting Our Fete On!

As you may know by now, our fete has been scheduled for Friday 24 March 2017. This is our major fundraising event and we are calling on anyone who is able to help by:

- taking up a role either on the fete organising committee or as a stall holder. You may like to help or even job share a position with a friend.
- donating raffle and chocolate wheel prizes or vouchers.
- volunteering during the fete, even if it is for an hour.

We are still looking for coordinators for the following stalls:

- Fruit salad marquee
- Drinks and snow cones
- Sippah Milk booth
- Trash & Treasure
- Dunk Tank
- Pick-a-number bottle stall

If you can help in any way, we would love to hear from you. Please email us at olmcfete@gmail.com.

Calling all Our Family Businesses to Sponsor Our Fete 2017

Our fete committee is calling all businesses in our community, particularly those owned by our families to contact us if they are interested in supporting our Fete 2017, either by donating products, vouchers or by sponsoring through a monetary contribution. We are seeking donations for the major raffle, as well as our chocolate wheel and we would greatly appreciate any gift certificates and/or new products that you may be able to provide. Alternatively, you may prefer to sponsor in return for some great advertising. Please email us at olmcfete@gmail.com and we will provide you with details regarding the great publicity opportunities for your business if you support our fete.

P&F General Meeting

The Parents and Friends Meeting is taking place on Tuesday 9 August at 7pm in the school library. Please mark this date in your diary and join us. If you have anything you would like to discuss please feel welcome to attend the meeting, or place the matter in ting and send it: Attention: Pauline Raad, President, through the school office. There will be a Child Protection briefing at 6:30pm before the P&F meeting.

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

OlmC Netball

Playing times for Round 14, Saturday 6 August 2016

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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC 1 (12s)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Holroyd Hotshots 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC 2 (11s)</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC 3 (10s)</td>
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<td>Regents Park 10</td>
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<td>OLMC 4 (8s)</td>
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<td>Guildford Knights 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Set Go</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
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Last Thursday Year 4 and Year 5 enjoyed an in school performance of Rhythms of Africa. The performance was presented by two African men who played fantastic music on the drums and a range of other instruments. They taught us that drumming is used to communicate things like names, ages, messages, announcements, invitations to meetings and parties as well as a whole range of other things. Students and teachers were invited up to play some instruments with the performers. We also had a fun 'dance off' at the end.

It was great getting to see how they communicated with drums.
Ruby 5G

It made me think of Africa.
Andrea 4G

The dancing was like I've never seen before.
Joseph 5B

It was the best beat that I ever heard
Tim 5B

You could feel the music.
Arden 4G

It was fun learning about the African culture.
Sacha 4B

It was great to hear and see dancing and music because it made you feel like you were in Africa.
Feliciano 5G