Dear Parents

Whatever troubles may be before you
Accept them cheerfully
Remembering who you are trying to follow
Do not be afraid.

Love one another, bear with one another,
And let charity guide you in all your life.

On Monday Catholics remembered and celebrated the remarkable life of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop ~ an Australian woman who devoted herself to caring for the poor and defending the rights of all people. Her tireless trust in God inspires all Australians and many people throughout the world. Mary’s example was followed by other women and at Monday morning’s assembly Year 2Gold led us in prayer as we celebrated and remembered her life.

Sisters of St Joseph and other religious orders continue her good work today.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop…
… A woman with a compassionate heart.
Who has shown you the compassionate face of God?

… A woman with a heart full of trust.
What keeps my heart full of trust when I am facing difficult situations?

… A woman with a forgiving heart.
Who are the people in my life that God is inviting me to forgive at this time?

… A woman held in the hospitable heart of God.
In what ways has God shown love to me in my life?

… A woman with a heart for Mission.
In what way is God calling me to bring the good news to those who are poor?

… A woman with an open heart.
With whom is God inviting me to keep an open heart

… A woman with a courageous heart.
How have the crosses of your life called forth courage within you?

All the very best for the week ahead.

Mr Steven Jones
Principal
CHILDREN’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Enrolments for this celebration have now closed. Thank you to all the families who have responded. It’s very important that a parent/carer for each child attend the Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 18 August at 7pm. During this evening we confirm all details: (names, spelling, dates, etc) and you decide which workshops you and your child will be attending. Any further enquiries please phone Paola on 0414 947 799.

Paola Yevenes-OLMC Parish

WYD UPDATE NO. 3 FROM MRS BRACKENBURY

On Friday 29 July we went to catechisis in the big tent for a morning session lead by Archbishop Christopher Powse from Canberra. He linked the theme of Mercy to Mary. Some points of reflection...

1. Mary the woman of faith. God sends us on a mission.
2. Mary the woman of silence. Put a smile on your face and lead by example.
3. Mary the woman of intercession. God always wants us to move on - out of the comfort zone.
4. Mary the woman of compassion. God wants us to be compassionate and to suffer with others.
5. Woman of Pentecost. Mary will support us on our journey.

In the evening went to Blonia Park to pray the Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis. It was raining again, so the ponchos were very handy, but like before, all stopped before we began in prayer. There was a lady making some of the station pictures out of sand. It was amazing how she changed them in front of us.

The big day arrived and we set off just around 9 o’clock for the long walk. I think we walked around 15km to get there. It was very hot. Lots of stops for water and sunscreen. On arrival lots of pilgrims were making their way to their sections. The crowds were ginormous. We got into our section and set up. The buzz was incredible. Later that night we had the amazing opportunity to go to section S. This was right in front of the altar and the Pope was coming for adoration. Still very far away but in the same section. During adoration all pilgrims were given a candle. They lit a couple and then passed on the light. It was a beautiful sight. This was followed by a concert. That evening we slept in the open. I had a reasonable sleep as I was very tired after the walk.

At 6am the next morning we were woken by the start of a new concert to get us up and ready for mass. Mass was great with Pope Francis but the heat and the sun didn’t let up. Time for more water and sunscreen. After mass ended we started on the walk back. We walked around 8km before getting a tram the rest of the way.

What an amazing experience to share with our group and the rest of the Parramatta Diocese group!

MERIT CERTIFICATES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erica, Ojas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1B</td>
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Congratulations: Gold Award

The following children have worked really hard towards receiving 75 Star Cards


Congratulations: Opal Award

The following children have worked really hard towards receiving 90 Star Cards


Congratulations: Platinum Award

The following children have worked really hard towards receiving 120 Star Cards

Lucas KG, Sajeeth 4B, Taliah KG, Weaton 3G, Ayden 4G, Anne 4G

Congratulations: Principal’s Award

The following children have worked really hard towards receiving 150 Star Cards

Sajeeth 4B

STUDENT BANKING UPDATE

There are currently two promotions available to our student bankers. If you make 15 or more school banking deposits in 2016 by the end of Term 3, you will automatically receive an entry into the Wildlife Adventure Holiday Competition, and if you make three or more school banking deposits during Term 3 you will be automatically entered into the Prize Lights in the Outback Sky competition. School Banking takes place every Tuesday at OLMC.

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL : THANK YOU!!

A big thank you to Kayleen Deguara, Aida Almeida, Sindy Taouk and Danielle Gardner for their wonderful assistance at the Zone Athletics Carnival. Your help was most appreciated and we could not have done it without you!
This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child's school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child's gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation and parental education. This information is disclosed to ACARA under the ACARA Act 2008 for one or both of the following purposes:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and
- assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party. If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice. Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.

**CHICKENPOX ALERT**

We would like to notify parents that there has been a child diagnosed with Chickenpox in Kindergarten. Please have your child examined by the Doctor if they are showing symptoms such as high temperature, sore throat and aches, spots/rash, loss of appetite.

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

During the last week the Kindergarten teachers submitted the books that they had read with their children. This means that all of Kindergarten have now completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge. We now have 243 children who have completed the challenge with 140 children left to complete the challenge. The children will have access to the Challenge website until Friday 19 August. The challenge will officially end on August 26.


**BOOK WEEK CELEBRATION DAY**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be celebrating Book Week on Friday 19 August. This is always a fun day for the children and teachers. The theme for Book Week this year is ‘Australia Story Country’. The children will be able to come to school dressed as a book character. Perhaps the children could come dressed as a character from an Australian Book like Mr McGee, the cranky bear, a green sheep or any other book character. We encourage children to come as a book character rather than superheroes or film characters.

**BOOK SWAP**

This year we will also hold a Book Swap during our Book Week Celebrations. To participate in the Book Swap the children will be asked to contribute a few books they no longer want, that are still in good condition, and swap them for a new pre-loved book. As well as the books we will be asking for a gold coin donation to help raise funds to support the work of The Indigenous Literacy Foundation. This foundation runs a number of programs to develop the literacy skills of children in remote indigenous communities across Australia. The money we raise will go towards the goal of sending 40,000 new books to 230 remote indigenous communities and organisations. We will collect the books from tomorrow. Books can be dropped into the library or in the children’s classrooms. If you would like to learn more about the work of The Indigenous Literacy Foundation you can visit their website using this link http://www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

**Fathers’ Day Stall – Wednesday 31 August**

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. Anyone willing to help on the day, even for an hour, please save the date in your diaries and contact us; Sonia Farah on 0431 692 960 or Joanne Sakr 0418 623 867.

**Fathers’ Day Raffle**

The P&F is in the process of coordinating its annual Fathers’ Day raffle so we are grateful for the support of our families who have donated prizes so far. If you work for or own any businesses and would be able to contribute prizes; anything from store vouchers to products such as tools, appliances and aftershave, please contact Sonia Farah on 0431 692 960 or Joanne Sakr 0418 623 867. Please ensure that when you drop off prizes at the school office, you include your name and contact details.

**Next Parent Representative Council Meet**

The term 3 PRC General Meeting will be held on Monday 22 Aug 2016 at 7pm at College Library, Nagle Girls' Catholic College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown Sth. The meeting will include a presentation by Anoushka Houseman, Clinical Psychologist/Lead Counsellor; Well-Being & Behaviour Team, Catholic education Diocese of Parramatta.

The topic will be: Helping Your Child Manage Anxiety

If you are interested in attending please contact: Parents, Representative Council, Parramatta Diocese via email: prcparrasecretary@gmail.com

**P&F General Meeting**

Thank you to everyone who attended the P&F General Meeting last night. The minutes of the meeting will be available on request from the school office shortly. The next P&F meet will be the AGM in term 4 and this is scheduled for 1 November 2016.

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.
PRINCIPAL’S TERM 2 HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the winners of the Term 2 Principal’s Holiday Challenge...
Siddh Parikh – Kindergarten
Sarayu Vangala – Year 1
Joel Jaimy – Year 2
Chloe Elias – Year 3
Shuban Golkonda – Year 4
Meilan Nguyen – Year 5
Alannah Elias – Year 6
Disha Awasthi – Overall

Number of days read per grade

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Type of Books Read

- Picture Books
- Novel
- Comic Book
- Magazine
- Informative Text
- Newspaper
- Other

SOME OF THE WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS CARDS DESIGNED BY OUR TALENTED STUDENTS & PARENTS

Stay tuned for the announcement of the winners from each grade & parents.