Dear Parents,

“A dad is a person who is loving and kind,
And often he knows what you have on your mind.
He’s someone who listens, suggests and defends.
A dad can be one of your very best friends.”

Children who write poems like this are saying that they feel that they really matter and are important in the lives of their fathers. A father can do a lot for a child but it is the emotional bond that the child feels, that their dad is really there for them and that their welfare and progress socially, intellectually and emotionally really matter to their dad.

Fathers are a huge source of strength for a child. The innocent eyes of a child perceives their father as all-powerful, most knowledgeable, truly affectionate and with a child’s mother the most important person in the family. For daughters, fathers are the first man they adore. While for sons their fathers are the strongest person they know and someone they aspire to emulate. Even for grownups fathers are someone whom they look up to for the most experienced and honest advice that is always in the best of our interest.

Children blessed with a loving father should consider themselves fortunate. For they have someone to take care of their needs and interests. Someone to stop them when they are diverting to a wrong path and guide them on a road to success. For many of us, fathers have always been there to solve mathematics and science problems and explain the same formula hundreds of times or better still, until it is understood by us.

“Thank you, dad, for listening and caring for giving and sharing’ but, especially, for just being you. Happy Father’s Day!”

We look forward to seeing many fathers, grandfathers and father figures at this Friday’s breakfast and Eucharistic celebrations. We hope all our fathers have a day filled with love, laughter and loads of fun on Sunday. I’m sure you will enjoy the presents purchased at the Fathers’ Day stall. Thank you to the many mums, grandmothers and one dad who made the Fathers’ Day stall possible.

We ask for God, our Father’s blessing for each and every dad on such a special day.

Mr Steven Jones
Principal

The Community of
OLMC is
Safe and
Respectful
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION  Rehearsals for the celebrations are on Thursday 11 and 18 September at 3:30 pm and/or 7 pm in the Church. Also, photography permission slips are due now, so would all parents please tick, sign and return them, along with any money, to the Priory or the OLMC School office ASAP. It is very important that we receive the permission slips back. Please understand that the only type of photography permitted during these celebrations is that of the professional photographer.

FAREWELL

Father Michael will be leaving our parish and school community at the end of September and retiring to Melbourne. We would like to wish Father Michael many blessings as he begins this next stage of his life and thank him for his presence in our community. Father Michael we will miss you.

Premier’s Reading Challenge: We have achieved our school goal of having all children complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge in 2014. Well done to all our students and the teachers and parents who have supported and encouraged them to achieve this goal. Congratulations to the final group children who completed their challenge by last Friday: Emily, Orlando, Kathiravan, Feliciana, Amirah, Anok, Roshni, Raphael, Ndifreke, Logan, Duang, Harshil Marlon, Owen, Saxon, Ricky, Emilio, Margerita, Sarah, Jade, Karl, Achol, and Royel.

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Parents are reminded that teachers are always available to discuss any area of grievance provided an appointment time has been established through the Office Staff or a note given to the teacher from the student. Please remember the first point of contact should be with the Class Teacher. If there is still a point of issue then please follow the school guidelines which outline the avenues of communication to follow. The Teacher, the Stage Coordinator, The Assistant Principal, The Principal, to the Diocesan Office where there is also an order of avenues to follow.

PAVe-PREVENTING ANXIETY & VICTIMISATION THROUGH EDUCATION

Thank you to all the parents in Grades 3 and 4 who have returned the consent form for the PAVe project, an exciting new research project taking place in NSW and WA primary schools. The purpose of the project is to evaluate two interventions that enhance students’ social and emotional learning and foster the prevention of bullying behaviours (Friendly Schools Plus and Cool Kids: Taking Control). Grades 3 and 4 students are being invited to participate by completing a confidential survey on four occasions over the next three years. Our school will implement Cool Kids: Taking Control. For those families who haven’t returned the consent, we would request that they be returned asap.

NAPLAN

All parents of Year 3 and 5 students will receive their child’s NAPLAN results on Friday. During the upcoming weeks staff will be analysing the NAPLAN results with other data collected by the school and developing school and individual plans. If you have any questions or queries regarding your child’s NAPLAN results please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noah, Michaela</td>
<td>KB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerome, Rebecca</td>
<td>KG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurelia, Adam</td>
<td>1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sian, Luca</td>
<td>1G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew, Jemma</td>
<td>2B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephrem, Claudia</td>
<td>2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana, Shane</td>
<td>3G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaydon, Luis</td>
<td>4B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver, William</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natalia, Luke</td>
<td>5B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra, Ricky</td>
<td>5G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julius, Tiama</td>
<td>6B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara, Jacinta</td>
<td>6G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations Gold Award

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

Noah KB, Myra KB, Bridie KG, Sophia KG, Lara KG, Alannah 2B, Claudia 2G, Damon KG, Clara KB, Chloe 1G, Jared 2B, Rhianna KG, Peter 2B

Congratulations Community Service Award

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

Serop KB, Hayley KB, Simona KB, Angela KB, Yasemin KG, Maddison 2B, Praveena 6B, Samuel 2G, Anne 2G, Marisselle 5B, Harrison KG, Luke KG, Jorja KG, Jonathan KB, Rohan KB, Roubu KB, Claudia KB, Matilda 1G, Emily 2B, Rachael 2B

Congratulations Principal’s Award

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

Michaela KB, Michael KG, Sylvana KG, Jerome KG, Georgia 2B, Sacha 2B, Alanna KG, Riley KG, Ayden 2G, Rebecca 2G

CONGRATULATIONS

SCHOOL BAND PERFORMANCE

The Children would like to invite all parents, friends and relatives to come along to our Showcase Evening for our school band.

Date: Tuesday 9 September 2014
Time: 7:00pm in the School Library
BI-ANNUAL PARENTS CONTRIBUTION
(FUNDRAISING LEVY)

Thanks to the Bi-annual parents’ contribution (fundraising levy) the school has recently...

- purchase two portable shade structure and flag
- outdoor lighting of the front playground
- painted line markings–handball courts, hopscotch, chessboard, alphabet snake, 120 chart, blank number line around the school.

At the Term 1 Parents and Friends meeting it was voted and agreed to purchase and/or install these items using these funds. Our students are appreciative of the parents financial support.

HELP!!!

We are asking for any CLEAN, unwanted socks that you no longer need. Early next term our focus will be on mission and we want to

SOCK IT TO POVERTY.

Please leave your socks at the office or give to your child’s teacher.

VOICE OF YOUTH CLUSTER FINAL

On Monday August 25 three of our Year Six students represented our school in the Wentworthville Cluster Final of the Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition. Madisen Azar spoke about “Ugly Parent Syndrome”, Teresa Draybi gave us an insight into the thoughts of a person affected by online bullying “Lizzie Velasquez” and Jessica D’Souza told the story of the hardships faced by children forced into terrible working conditions “Child Labour”. They faced some very tough competition from students who were representing Our Lady Queen of Peace, St Anthony’s and Our Lady of Lourdes. The three girls confidently presented speeches that fulfilled many of the criteria set out for the competition. They were supported by the students of Year Five and Year Six who travelled along with their teachers and Mr Jones to the finals at O.L.Q.P. parish hall. We were delighted when Jessica was awarded second prize for her efforts. She will also be ‘reserve’ for the next level of competition, the Eastern Division Semi-Finals should the winner be unable to compete.

DIOCESAN ZONE CARNIVAL-
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who represented Our Lady of Mount Carmel at the Diocesan Zone Carnival: Jessie, Micheal, Luke, Joseph, Olivia, Anthony, Tiarna, Mitali, Marinelle, Achol, Rachelle, Joseph. They represented our school with pride and displayed sportsmanship at all times.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Fathers’ Day Stall

As people drove down Smith Street this morning they would have seen the flurry of activity in the Parish Hall, with mums unpacking gifts and setting up for the Fathers’ Day stall today.

A big thank you to everyone who coordinated and helped with the stall today; without the help of our parent community we would not be able to have these wonderful fundraising opportunities that benefit our school and our kids.

Fathers’ Day Breakfast and Mass this Friday 5 September

Fathers and Father figures are invited to celebrate their special day with a breakfast and mass on Friday 5 September at 8am. The day will begin with breakfast provided by our P&F Association at 6:00am at the Parish Hall at the rear of the school grounds.

This will be followed by the celebration of Mass at 9:15 in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Wentworthville. Families are invited to sit together in the Church. Please take your children to place their bags on the front playground on their lines and then take them into Church. If you are able to help out with the breakfast, please contact P&F President Mrs Danielle Gardner on 0414 607 180.

Fathers’ Day Raffle Tickets

Thank you to all the parents who have sent back their Fathers’ Day raffle tickets during the past few weeks. A lot of children also bought some additional tickets at today’s Fathers’ Day Stall. We are very grateful for the level of generosity and enthusiasm, from everyone involved with the raffle. We are truly thankful to all our sponsors.

The Fathers’ Day raffle prizes are:

1st prize: Ryobi ONE+ Four piece kit including one compact drill, one impact driver, one circular saw, one angle grinder and storage bag. Valued at $600
   (donated by the P&F)
2nd prize: 3 month TLC Gym membership Toongabbie
   (donated by Sarkis & Roslyn Khattar)
3rd prize: Hamper valued at $250
   (donated by Glenn Haigh Financial Services)
4th prize: $100 Bunnings voucher
   (donated by Simon & Tanya Azar)
5th prize: $100 Sports voucher
   (donated by Ziad & Dianne Gebrail)
6th prize: 200ml bottle of CK be perfume
   (donated by Simon & Sonia Elias)
7th prize: Pendopad 7” tablet
   (donated by Officeworks Wentworthville)
8th prize: $60 dinner voucher at Miliones Baulkham Hills
   (donated by Mario & Norma Touma)
9th prize: Car kit hamper
   (donated by Super Cheap Auto Wenty)
10th prize: Hilti lunch pack hamper
   (donated by Jihad & Sonia Farah)

The raffle will be drawn on Friday during the Fathers’ Day breakfast. Winners will be notified by phone if they are not at the breakfast. Make sure tickets are returned before Friday morning.

Dr Lee’s Visit

Last week Dr Geoff Lee, the Federal member for Parramatta, came to visit our school and to speak with the Year 5 students who are studying government. The same students also met Dr Lee at his workplace in State Parliament yesterday.

We would like to thank Angelo and Sarina Sciamanna, from Michel’s patisserie on the Highway (parents of Giulio 4G) for helping us cater morning tea for Dr Lee when he visited last week.

This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute please email olimcowenty@parrar.catholic.edu.au and attention it to Mary-Anne Boustany.
We wish all our fathers, grandfathers and father figures a happy fathers' day and hope many of you are able to join us for breakfast and mass on Friday morning. We hope you have a wonderful day on Sunday.

My Dad’s Hands

Bedtime came, we were settling down,
I was holding one of my lads.
As I grasped him so tight, I saw a strange sight:
My hands....they looked like my dad’s!
I remember them well, those old gnarled hooks,
there was always a cracked nail or two.
And thanks to a hammer that strayed from its mark,
his thumb was a beautiful blue!
They were rough, I remember, incredibly tough,
as strong as a carpenter’s vice.
But holding a scared little boy at night,
they seemed to me awfully nice!
The sight of those hands - how impressive it was
in the eyes of his little boy.
Other dads' hands were cleaner, it seemed
(the effects of office employ).
I gave little though in my formative years
of the reason for Dad’s raspy mits:
The love in toil, the dirt and the oil,
rusty plumbing that gave those hands fits!
Thinking back, misty-eyed, and thinking ahead,
when one day my time is done.
The torch of love in my own wrinkled hands
will pass on to the hands of my son.
I don’t mind the bruises, the scars here and there
or the hammer that just seemed to slip.
I want most of all when my son takes my hand,
to feel that love lies in the grip.

David Kettler