### OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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### Newsletter

13 February 2013  Term 1  Week 3

### UPCOMING DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 1</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Wed 20/2 | Mercy Summit  
Yr 6 Leaders @  
St Kevin’s  
Eastwood  
7:00pm Fete  
Meeting |
| Thurs 21/2 | Cumberland  
Zone Swimming  
Carnival @  
Parramatta Pool  
9:15am Stage 1  
Mass |
| Fri 22/2 |  |

| **Week 5** |
| Tues 26/2 | 3:30-9:00pm  
Meet the teacher  
and goal setting |
| Fri 1/3 | Diocesan  
Swimming  
Carnival |

### NOTES SENT HOME

#### THIS WEEK

1. **Fees Note**
2. **Zone Swimming**  
Carnival note
3. **P&F General**  
Meeting Agenda  
AGM Agenda  
P&F Nomination  
form

Dear Parents/Carers,

Jesus spent 40 days in the desert to prepare Himself for His mission of love. Today, on Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent.

If you were to do a word association with “Lent” what would emerge from your story?

- Fasting ~ 40 days
- Giving up ~ doing without
- Abstinence ~ repentance
- Observance ~ praying
- Church ~ purple vestments
- Penance…

So many times we confuse the practice and its intended goal. We need reminding. Jesus reminds us of God,

**The God of Love,**
**Truth,**
**Forgiveness.**

Constantly Jesus goes off to a lonely quiet place to be with His God, to grow in relationships, renew His spirit and come to clarity.

The heart of Lent is making space for our God. That means loosening our control (scary?) and being open to what needs to come into our lives. What a huge challenge!

The season of Lent reminds us to focus on what is essential to everyday life and we need 40 days of constant reminding. It is a matter of priorities – a few minutes, a few moments to attend to the essentials, not as a chore but as time to be cherished. This is a wonderful time to start again, with a renewed sense of commitment – to turn our hearts and minds back to God through our good deeds and prayerful solitude.

Lent is a time to learn to travel light,  
To clear the clutter  
From our crowded lives and  
Find a space, a desert.

Deserts are bleak;  
No creature comforts,  
Only a vast expanse of stillness,  
Sharpening our awareness of ourselves and God.

Regards

Mr Steven Jones  
Principal
We are trialing a Skoolbag smartphone App for parents and students of OLMC for the next month. This is an app that communicates directly to your smartphone and allows the school to keep you up to date with the latest news, notices, alerts, newsletters etc. You can check the skoolbag app at anytime to see the latest updates and information. At the moment it is only available on iphones. If the trial is successful we will roll it out for android users also. To download the app simply go to the Apple app store and search "Our Lady of Mount Carmel Primary School" on your phone PC or Mac and install. If you have any feedback on the app please email or speak to Miss Pirovic.

During the first five weeks of this term the teachers will be conducting one on one interviews with every child in their class. The interview focuses on understanding the children’s knowledge in counting, place value of number, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. An important part of these interviews is that the children explain the thinking and strategies they use. The teachers will be analysing all the student interview results so they have a clear picture of how to target the areas of need for each child. As the term progresses we will be sharing our key findings of these interviews.

As most payments made at the school office are by Eftpos and due to Auditor’s requirements, we do not keep change in the office on a daily basis. Therefore we ask that if you are making any payments by cash that you please have the correct money available.

If paying cash for a new uniform order, please ensure that you have the correct amount of money. The Uniform shop does not keep a lot of change as most payments are made by Eftpos.

The school gates open every morning at 8:30am, when Teacher Supervision commences and at 3:10pm every afternoon, regardless of the weather. The last teaching block of each day finishes at 3:10pm. Dismissal is 3:15pm. Please ensure your children are collected on time.

The school gates close at 3:30pm each afternoon. Please ensure that your children are adequately supervised before or after school opening and closing times.

A whopping 25 boxes of new school supplies was delivered by Modern Teaching Aids yesterday. Thank you for all your hard work collecting Earn and Learn stickers last year! We were one of the top achieving schools in our local area, so keep an eye out for a story about our success in the local paper. We can’t wait to get all the resources unpacked and into our new learning spaces!!

Dear Parents,

Here is the price list of items sold in the Second Hand Uniform shop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer dress</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter tunic</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter blouse</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long pants</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short sleeve shirt</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long pants</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long sleeve shirt</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>$1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track suit pant</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track suit jacket</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloppy Joe</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hats</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School bag</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Second Hand Uniform shop is open on Monday mornings from 8:30 until 9:30. Between times if you need to make an order you can do so through the office.

Please make sure to bring exact change when you are coming to purchase uniforms, as we don’t hold large amounts of money in the shop according to the school regulations.

Thank you

Mrs Lucita Rajaratnam
OLMC Netball Club will be holding registrations for the 2013 season on Wednesday 20 February 2013 from 3.10 to 3.30pm at school, in the front playground. Our Club belongs to the Parramatta and Auburn Netball Association (PANA). We play each Saturday morning at the NSW State Netball Courts at Auburn. This year’s competition commences on 27 April 2013. Training is held for one hour, one afternoon per week at the school court. For enquiries, please contact Linda Wykes 0414 591 010, Margaret Nolan 0405 509 253 or Leonie Barnes 0408 410 790.

Parish Fete meeting - Wednesday 20 February at 7pm
A fete meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th February at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. If you are able to assist in any way and to ensure a successful Fete you are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

For more information watch out for the first issue of the “Fete News” which will be circulated shortly.

Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 20th February at 7.30pm
The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association will be held on Wednesday 20th February at 7:30pm immediately following the fete meeting in the library space. An agenda for our general meeting and annual general meeting will be sent home.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting. Items for discussion at the meeting may be forwarded, in writing, to the P & F President (via the School office) no later than Friday 15 February 2013.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the election of the 2013 Committee will take place. If you wish to nominate for a position on the 2013 Committee, please send it in writing to the school office. A detailed description of all positions are available on the school website or from the office.

We would like to ask all parents or carers to consider volunteering for the P & F in some capacity. Any assistance is always very much appreciated. Just remember, we're doing it for the kids!

Welcome BBQ - Friday 8 February at 6pm
Thank you to the 100 or so people who braved the heat and came out to our welcome BBQ on Friday evening. Everyone seemed to have a lovely evening. Thank you to the staff who stayed to meet the parents. It was greatly appreciated.

A special thank you to all the people who helped with the preparation for the BBQ and the setting up and packing away on the night. Thanks to Michael Odello for coming to our rescue with his gas bottle - we would have starved without you. Thanks also to Ana Chawa, Judith Sukamar, Teresa Maldigri and Damien and Danielle Gardner who helped with the preparation on the night and to Enzo Maldigri and Naim Mantoufeh for the cooking of the BBQ. Also thank you to Sue Mantoufeh for the beautiful food she provided for our celebration and to Fiona Johnson-Grech for her help with the cleaning up.

Parents Representative Council
The Parents Representative Council is hosting an evening of information on Tips for the Teenage Tightrope: How to Navigate and Negotiate the Adolescent Years on Monday 4th March at 6:30pm for a 7pm start. All parents are welcome to attend this informative evening at the Aengus Kavanagh Centre Railway Street, Mount Druitt.

OLMC NETBALL CLUB – 2013 SEASON

When submitting Book Club orders please ensure that your child’s name and class are at the top of the order form and also that forms are filled out correctly. If you have any questions regarding the completion of the order forms please contact the office.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

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POST-SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM
CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry offers a number of Programs for those who have experienced the loss, sadness and trauma following the breakdown of a marriage or the death of a spouse. On 27th Feb a seven week evening “Post-Separation Recovery Program” commences at the CCSS Centre in Parramatta. This has proven to be an excellent Program that offers input, opportunities for small group sharing and personal reflection on topics such as dealing with intense emotions, searching for a new identity, grief, learning from the past, leaving behind a victim mentality, goal-setting and more. For further information and registration contact Solo Parent Ministry Ph.99330206 or soloparentministry@ccss.org.au.
Ash Wednesday

Today is Ash Wednesday- the beginning of the forty days and nights of Lent. In this time we prepare ourselves to celebrate and receive the gift of Jesus’ resurrection.

We can prepare our hearts and minds in many ways. We can strengthen our faith and become closer to God.

Help us to change our hearts and our world by putting others before ourselves.

Help us to change and follow Jesus’ example more faithfully.

Help us to grow closer to God by praying more often

Help us to grow in patience and love.

Help us to be more giving to the poor and needy

Help us to be more giving of our time and love to others.