Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past three weeks many of you may have watched or heard about the Tour de France like myself and been in awe of the incredible feats and achievements of the riders. One of the amazing things during these 22 days was the remarkable commitment of each rider to completing the 3,497km race. Furthermore, the commitment of each respective team member towards their number one rider with little regard to their own result displays tremendous character. They truly honour their commitment to the number one team member, using their skills and talents.

Andrew Mullins in his book, “Parenting for Character”, urges us to, “Teach your children to honour commitments, to keep their word, to face up to consequences of the simplest actions, otherwise, when commitments become adult sized, their good intentions may not last the distance. If they lack the necessary habit of commitment, intentions can unravel when life picks away at them.”

Being able to honour commitments has a lot to do with having a good strong character and “good character” in our children does not just happen; it is the outcome of the consistent efforts of parents and teachers over many years. Aristotle made the observation that, “Good moral behaviour comes about as the result of habit: we become just by doing just acts, brave by doing brave acts.” We are not born with character. Character is a learned behaviour.

When we encourage our children to be the best possible persons they can be, we are encouraging them to strive for excellence, to develop their given gifts, those talents that enable them to become fully the person God means them to be. When we encourage our children to be of strong moral character, we are asking them to exercise the capacity God gave them for goodness and the ability to love other people in a way that reflects God’s love – to be of the character of Christ.

By providing loving relationships, being good models, setting high expectations, upholding firm and fair discipline that holds our children accountable to themselves, we provide an environment that supports the development of good character.

All the best for the week ahead.

---

### UPCOMING DATES

**TERM 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Tues 31/7</th>
<th>ICAS English Competition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Tues 7/8</td>
<td>7.00pm P&amp;F Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 8/8</td>
<td>Cumberland Zone Athletics Blacktown 2.30pm Mary MacKillop Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri 10/8</td>
<td>9.15am Stage 1 Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Week 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 13/8</th>
<th>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 14/8</td>
<td>ICAS Maths Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15/8</td>
<td>10.00am Mass Assumption Of Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 17/8</td>
<td>Stage 2 Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES SENT HOME

**THIS WEEK**

1. Stage 3 Voice Of Youth Excursion  
   Note
2. Parents as Educators

---

Jesus, we ask to see as You see,  
to act as You act,  
to love as You love,  
to be of Your character.
PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
2012

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
COMMITMENT CEREMONY

This weekend, the children who will be celebrating their First Holy Communion, along with their families, will be asked to come forward for a Commitment Ceremony. In turn, we - as one community - commit to supporting these families, as part of our baptism challenge. Please remember to keep all these children and their families in your prayers, as they prepare for their friends for the next four weeks.

ICAS ENGLISH COMPETITION

The ICAS English Competition will take place in Week 3 on Tuesday 31 July 2012.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

The next Staff Development Day will take place on Monday 13 August 2012.

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS COURSE

Coming home this afternoon with the newsletter is a note regarding the “Parents as Educators” program that will take place next Friday 3 August (11:30-1pm) in the parish hall. The purpose of this program is to help parents feel confident assisting their child/ren at home and/or in the classroom and to ensure common language is being used by teachers and parents.

MORNING DROP OFF, NO PARKING ZONES AND AFTERNOON PICK UP

During the past week a number of alarming and dangerous incidents have been reported and observed by many in the community. Please ensure the following:

When driving your child to school and dropping off in Bennett street, please remember that you cannot park in the designated “Drop-Off” zones. Do not stop your car in these zones and leave it or stay parked for a length of time as other parents are waiting to use the same area to drop off their child/children. Parking in the “Drop-Off” zone poses a risk to children as parents are double parking and becoming irate. You may also risk a fine by the Parking Officers who regularly patrol the school.

In the afternoons it can get quite chaotic in Bennett street as parents try to park as close as possible into the school gates to collect their children. We ask that parents be particularly mindful of children who might be crossing the road and also we must request that parents do not double park under any circumstances or cross double yellow lines. This poses a risk to other drivers and to our children. Remember there is always parking available in adjacent streets.

Complying with these requests assists in ensuring the safety of all our students. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Mr Steven Jones
Principal

MERIT CERTIFICATES

NAME                      CLASS
Alexander Singh          Early Stage 1
Lara Boustan               (Kindergarten)
Eleni Koulouris
Jared Marasigan

Raphael Hernandez         Stage 1
Orlando Lonie                (Years 1 and 2)
Adriana Sahyoun
Sophia Incognito
Klara Sakr
Timothy Ang
Marcus Doren
Cheyenne Baqial

Sara O’Reilly             Stage 2
Joanne Cooke                (Years 3 & 4)
Raisa Ibarra
Johnny Khoury
Kasey Salvo
Olivia Achmar
Jessie Agwuncha
Tanya Khattar

Eva Radisavljevic         Stage 3
Alexandra Dela Cruz     (Years 5 & 6)
Elias Saba
Erin Bortoluzzi
Eliana Saba
Brayden Nohra
Jaycee Borg
Majak Majak

CONGRATULATIONS

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

Community Service Awards:
Samuel Saba ES1, Elizabeth Touma ES1, Rebecca Saad ES1, Alannah Dore ES1, Olivia Achmar 2B

AMENDED BUS TIMETABLE FOR BUS ROUTE 8008

Commencing Monday 30 July 2012, Hillsbus Route 8008 morning school bus will have a change to the timetable.

The amended timetable shows a time change to Route 8008 which will now depart Catherine McAuley school at 8.20am instead of 8.22am. This timetable was distributed to the affected students last week.

RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA
Parenting After Separation
Focus on Kids

To make a booking, or for more information about any of our workshops or groups, please contact our Westmead office by phone on: (02) 9806 3203

Dates: Wednesdays, 1st August to 5th September
Pre-group interview: Wednesday, 25th July
Duration: 6 Weeks
Time: 9:30am — 12.00pm
Location: Level 1, 149 Hawkesbury Road, Westmead
Cost: Fees based on a sliding scale according to income

This group helps parents to understand, focus on and respond to the needs of their children after a separation. It looks at ways to support children and address their issues constructively even when there is ongoing conflict between the parents. Parents attend separately from their former partners.
Playing times for Round 14 on Saturday 28th July are as follows -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Versus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11’s (OLMC1)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>Guildford Knights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9’s (OLMC2)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Guildford Knights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8’s (OLMC3)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>St Johns 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Set Go (OLMC4)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please be at the courts 30mins before your timeslot to warm-up with your team. The web address is www.panansw.netball.asn.au For enquiries please phone Margaret Nolan on 0405 509 253.

This Saturday 28 July, Parramatta Auburn Netball Association (PANA) will host a fundraiser for the Hahea family (from the St Johns Club) who tragically lost their father and husband a few short weeks ago. All proceeds from the BBQ, Cake Stall, Jelly Bean Guessing Competition, Face Painting, Massages and a Raffle, will go to assist the family. Or make a cash donation, or bring along some treats for the cake stall. For further information and to see the complete list of raffle prizes, go to the ‘Hahea Family Fundraiser’ on the PANA website.

Entertainment Book
This is the last opportunity to purchase the 2012/2013 Entertainment Book. 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 alley's and movie theatres. To order please bring your money to the school office by Tuesday 31 July in an envelope marked “Entertainment Book”. A percentage of each sale goes back to our school.

Woolies Earn and Learn
The Woolworths Earn & Learn program has been extended to Sunday 12 August 2012. This week and until Tuesday 31 July you can earn double the amount of stickers if you spend more than $10.

So far our school has collected an amazing 56,601 stickers and we’re now aiming for a new goal of 75,000. So please don’t forget to ask for the stickers at either the checkout or the self-serve registers.

Please label and send completed sticker sheets with your child, to be placed in the box at the school office. Extra sheets are available at the school office, Woolworths checkout or can be printed from the Woolies website.

Parents Representative Council (PRC) General Meeting – Raising kids that cope
The next PRC General Meeting will be held on Monday 20 August with a special presentation - Raising Kids that Cope; Building an optimistic mindset in children. The presentation will look at practical ways to help foster optimism in children based on the Resilience Doughnut Model (www.theresiliencedoughnut.com.au).

Meeting date: Monday 20 August
Time: 6.30pm for a 7pm start
Venue: Aengus Kavanagh Centre (AKC)
Railway Street, Mt Druitt (behind the hospital)

Feast Day Celebrations
It was wonderful to have such a great community celebration for Grandparents Day and our Parish Feast last Friday. The church was full and everyone enjoyed the morning tea afterwards. The P&F also hopes all the children enjoyed their feast day surprise morning tea last Friday when they returned to class.

Parents needed to help out at OLMtC
As their youngest children move on to high school, our Parent Representative at the PRC meetings (Parent Representative Council, Parramatta Diocese), Juliette Subramaniam and our second-hand uniform volunteer Lauren Stenning graduate from Our Lady of Mount Carmel this year.

The role of Parent Representative means attending a PRC meeting each term and then reporting back to our P&F meeting once a term on events, seminars and other initiatives that benefit our children and school community.

The second hand uniform shop needs the volunteer to open the shop just the one day per fortnight and record sales. Lauren will be happy to train someone for the role. Please contact the school office if you would like to become involved in this way in our parent community.

Lost dolly
One of the children dropped a Monster High doll on Monday outside the school gate. It has blue skin and leopard print pants. If you found it, please drop it into the office. Thank you.
Last Friday we celebrated both our Feast Day and Grandparents Day together with the Parish. There was great excitement and the children sung beautifully. The Grandparents enjoyed the reflection song “My Guiding Light” sung by Emma Humber with the accompanying pictures from Early Stage 1.

After Mass, the parishioners, parents, grandparents and other visitors were invited to celebrate together with a morning tea. Thank you to Alyson Hanson, Barbara Aboud and Judi Cundy for organising the morning tea. It was lovely to see the community come together at this special event.