Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope that families had a chance to renew and recharge with the beautiful spring weather and took the opportunity to reconnect with one another. Thank you for ensuring that the majority of children returned to school dressed neatly and tidily in their summer uniform. The children certainly do look ready for learning. It would be wonderful if all could adhere to the expectation next week.

Term 4 is always a busy term that before we know it, flies past. We have numerous school events. Parents and Friends Movie night, school photos, school reports, gymnastics, swimming lessons and swimming carnival, Christmas concert, end of year Mass, welcoming next year’s Kindergarten families and farewelling and congratulating our Year 6 students to look forward to throughout the term. Each of these events is significant in the life of many within our school community. Of course, on top of this families have many end of year commitments and events to attend. I look forward to celebrating the above opportunities with you.

During this time of the year, as parents we need to ensure that we are feeling calm and relaxed within ourselves, we will have to take time to notice other people, we need to not be “on edge” all the time, and not allow ourselves to be so busy and caught up within the busyness that we don’t appreciate the now and those we share it with. We need to ensure that we have time to share with our children and our children will truly feel that they are loved and appreciated. What’s more, because we have made ourselves available to our children, we might even find it to be a relaxing and stress reducing experience.

God our Father
May Your Spirit that dwells with me,
Prompt me to cultivate my senses
So that I become fully alive,
My body and soul being as one.

All the best for the week ahead as we begin the final stage of 2012 and all that it brings.

Steven Jones—Principal
Chess coaching will be available in Term 4 on Thursday Afternoons after school. All children are welcome to attend the coaching sessions, whether beginning or experienced chess players. New chess students are very welcome in Term 4.

Dolphins Chess Academy will provide the supervision and equipment for the children. Chess is an optional after school activity.

Cost: $48.00 Full payment is due by Wednesday 17 October 2012.

Time: Thursdays 3.15pm-4.15pm (after school) Chess will commence on Thursday 18 October 2012 and conclude on Thursday 6 December 2012 (8 weeks).

If you would like your child to participate in the chess program please complete the form that was sent home this week and return it to school by Monday 15 October 2012.
OLMC NETBALL CLUB

Our Club Presentation Picnic will now be held on Sunday 28 October from 10.30am to 2.00pm in the Parish Hall. Please complete the tear-off section of the flyer, which was emailed to all members, and return with payment by Wednesday 17 October. For enquiries please phone Margaret Nolan on 0405 509 253.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub order forms were sent home this week and are due back to school next Wednesday 17 October 2012. Please note due to financial auditing procedures, we cannot accept cash payments before this date. Cash orders sent to school before this date will be returned.

Parents need to fill out the order forms, placing their child’s name and class at the top of the form. It is preferable for payment to be made with credit card or cheque. Cash is acceptable, but please enclose the correct amount.

NEW UNIFORM ORDERS

For processing of new uniform orders please submit your uniform order on a Monday for the order to be filled by the end of the week. As Judi (our Uniform Coordinator) is in the office only for a limited time each week it is necessary to allow a week for processing. At this time of the year there is always an influx of orders, so please allow for this when considering submitting your next uniform order.

EVENTS

The major events for Term 4 are:

Gymnastics Program (ES1 & Stage 3)
Every Wednesday, Weeks 1-9 Term 4

Swimming Lessons (Stages 1 & 2)
Weeks 2 & 3:
Monday 15 October until Friday 26 October 2012

Awards & Christmas Concert (ES1 to Stage 3)
Wednesday 5 December at 6.30pm

Year 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner
Tuesday 11 December at 6.00pm

End of Year Mass
Friday 14 December at 10.00am

OLMC Swimming Carnival
(Stage 2, Stage 3 & competent Stage 1)
Monday 17 December 2012

OLMC Dry Carnival (ES1 & Stage 1)
Monday 17 December 2012

PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN GYMNASTICS COMPETITION

The Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastics competition will be held on 2 November 2012 at Penrith. Students who compete in gymnastics who are interested in entering, please contact Mrs Meares by next Tuesday 16 October 2012. Entry fee is $8.00 and parents must transport their own child.

P&F NEWS

Outdoor movie night next Friday 19 October

The P&F outdoor movie night will be held on Friday night, 19 October 2012 at 6.30pm.

We will be showing “Horton Hears A Who” on a giant outdoor screen at the top playground. Don’t forget to bring a blanket or rug to sit on and picnic food if you wish. Beverages (Juice, Water, Soft Drinks, Tea, Coffee) and Pancakes will be sold on the night.

The evening promises to be great fun for your family. (Please note this event is for Parents, Teachers, Students and Siblings only).

Time: 6.30pm gates will be open from 6pm.
Place: Top playground, entry via Bennett Street
What to bring: Rug, blanket, food and refreshments
Cost: $5 per family payable upon entry
RSVP: please return the note sent home by Monday 15 October 2012.

“HORTON HEARS A WHO”

Animation/Family/Comedy, Rated G, 86 Minutes
(Featuring voices of: Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Seth Rogen, Carol Burnett)

When Horton the elephant hears a faint cry for help from a tiny speck of dust floating through the air, he is keen to save anyone who needs his help. He discovers that the speck of dust houses the entire city of Who-ville, which is home to the microscopic Whos, lead by the Mayor. While Horton is ridiculed by his animal friends at his determination to save the particle and its invisible inhabitants, the Mayor is facing problems of his own; he can understand the impending serious threat but the townsfolk do not, and cannot understand his reluctance to proceed with Who-ville's Centennial celebrations.

P&F General meeting

The next P&F general meeting will be held in about four weeks’ time. Every parent and carer in the school is invited to attend. If for any reason you cannot come and have something you wish to have discussed at the meeting, please feel free to put it in writing and send it to the school office before Friday 2 November so that we can address it.

PRC events

Parents Representative Council, Parramatta Diocese (PRC) are pleased to announce that the topic for its Term 4 General Meeting is:

“To Tweet or not to Tweet: Facebook, Twitter - unlocking some mysteries that can open our learning journey”.

Guest speaker this time around is Paul Meldrum, Team Leader, Catholic Education Office, Parramatta. The meeting will be at 7pm on Monday 12 November 2012 at the Aengus Kavanagh Centre, Railway Street, Mt Druitt.

Everyone is welcome.

SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

Twice a year the Solo Parent Ministry runs the “Recovery” Program which is an excellent seven week process aimed to assist those who are separated or divorced to work through some of the issues and agenda that come up as a result of this very traumatic and difficult event in their lives. It begins on Wed 17th October. 7.30pm at Blacktown. $70.00. Register with Sr Eileen Quade Ph 99330205. eileen.quade@ccss.org.au
During September about 60 children from our parish received the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. This is a significant event in the life of children, their parents, their family and our school community. Children and parents had participated in workshops in preparation for the reception of the Sacrament and when their "big day" arrived the excitement and joy was clearly evident on their faces. May we pray that these children continue to grow in the love of God and receive Holy Communion often.

A few weeks ago I had my First Holy Communion. I was very nervous at first but after a few minutes I felt better.

By Harrison Cotton

At my Holy Communion we got to drink the wine and eat the bread which is called the Host and we drank from the Chalice. After mass we got certificates.

By John Sayyad-Yaghobi

On my Holy Communion I was very excited and nervous at the same time. At the church I was very happy to finally receive the body and blood of Jesus. We had a small party to celebrate.

By Teresa Lawlach

On my Holy Communion I got to church and Paola told me what to do when mass starts. When mass started I was really nervous but I stood up and I did all we had to do.

Then it got to the Eucharist part and I had the bread. It tasted okay then I tasted the wine, it was really sweet and really bitter.

At the end of the mass we got our certificates and I was really happy.

By Olivia Achmar