



## Newsletter Term 1 Week 6

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,  
We continue on our Lenten journey towards Easter. On the second Sunday of Lent each year the event of the Transfiguration is presented to us so that in pondering this mystery of Jesus' glorified humanity, we may be brought into a deeper awareness of his divinity. During the first two weeks of Lent we are presented with the two natures of Christ: humanity and divinity.

During my personal Lenten journey, I have been using a publication called *Triumph*, which is a Lenten program from the Wollongong Diocese. I thought I would share an interesting reflection with you from Mother Hilda Scott who is a Benedictine Sister.



Olimpia Pirovic  
Principal

#### *The greater things*

Our road to *triumph* this week shows us a little more of God and ourselves.

I once heard someone say all truth is God's truth. Therefore, if something is true, it is God's. Vatican II confirmed this in the document, *Nostra Aetate (Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions)*: "Likewise, other religions found everywhere try to counter the restlessness of the human heart, each in its own manner.... The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions." In this spirit, today I invite you to join me in turning our eyes to a story from the Buddhist tradition.

It is said that the Buddha was making his way to a distant land. There was a mountain to cross, and he simply took himself over the mountain. Needless to say, he was very exhausted when he had completed his feat. He was a portly sort of person, well-endowed you might say! He took some refreshing water from the cool clear stream and sat on a sturdy rock under a shady spreading tree. He closed his eyes and began to meditate. It happened that a trim, stately young soldier came by and seeing this overweight figure sitting on the rock, he scoffed, "You look like a pig!" The Buddha opened his eyes, looked kindly at the soldier and said quietly, "And you look like God!" Caught off guard, the soldier asked the Buddha: "Why do you say that I look like God?" "Well," the Buddha replied, "I have just walked over the mountain and I thought of God, I saw him in the majesty of the place. I came to the cool waters of the stream and I thought of God, I saw him in the comfort and refreshment the waters brought me. I sat on this comfortable rock and I thought of God. I saw him in his care and concern for my wellbeing. I closed my eyes in prayer and I thought of God. So, when I opened my eyes and saw you, then it seemed to me that I was seeing God. You saw a pig. I wonder, what have you been thinking about?"

**God has his own transfiguration every day because he thinks of you, and everywhere he looks, he sees you.**

Isn't it true? Let's ask ourselves, what have we been thinking about? Have you ever watched a truly frightening film before bed and had it replay itself in nightmares as you slept? Whatever fills your life comes out. I knew a little boy once, "Jacksin" [sic], whose home life was utterly awful. As a little lad of five, the other children in the class were wary of him. He treated them the way he was treated. He spoke to them as he was spoken to. What filled his little life was lived out in word and deed every day. As a result, the sight and experience of kindness had no effect, he could not see past his own life.

Peter, James and John went up a mountain with Jesus and saw a vision that they knew belonged to, and was of, God. They saw that vision because the greater things had now filled their consciousness. They saw what was already within them, and they did not know it was there. You and I need no such mountain. We need only to fill our lives with what is good, be people who talk with God, and we will see God, without any mistake.

Here is a little-known fact as well: God has his own transfiguration every day because he thinks of you, and everywhere he looks, he sees you. He doesn't need to climb a mountain either—it's enough to think of you.

Perhaps this week you might just make an effort to think gracious thoughts, and you will be in line with God who only thinks gracious thoughts about you.

MOTHER HILDA SCOTT OSB

**We need only to fill our lives with what is good, be people who talk with God, and we will see God, without any mistake.**

***The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful***

## UPCOMING DATES

### Week 6:

**Thur: Morning Workout  
Cancelled (Cross Country set up)**

**9am Cross Country Carnival**

**Fri: SDD (NO STUDENTS)**

### Week 7: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

**Mon: 9am** Assembly: 2B

**11:30am** Catholic Schools Week: Open School Activities

**1:30pm** Family Picnic Lunch

Uniform Orders due before 4pm

**Tue: 9:15am SHARP** Open Morning Tour for 2024 families

Zone Swimming Carnival (selected students only)

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (SDD): FRIDAY 3rd MARCH**

**NO STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL**

## NOTES HOME

### THIS WEEK

- K-6 PRC login details

### LAST WEEK

- Kindy, Yr1, Yr2, Yr3, Yr5, Yr6 Technology Contract
- Yr1 Reward Day Term 1
- Yr2 Home Readers Note
- Project Compassion
- Catholic Schools Week Invitation
- K-6 Grade Overviews
- Kindergarten Sight Words

## MERIT AWARDS

KB	Coopoer • Hunter	4B	Sanaa • Zoe
KG	Victoria • Annabelle	4G	None presented
1B	Amber • Alexander	5B	Thomas • Jessica
1G	Aarush • Annalisa	5G	Miranda • Benjamin
2B	Elijah • Sukhmani	6B	Ethan • Zahara
2G	Georgia • Matthew	6G	Liya • Greta
3B	Sophie • Chad	C.A	Jordan • Alexander
3G	Kayana • Naksh		

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion officially runs from Week 5, 22nd February to Week 11, 6th April. All donations will need to be submitted through the Qkr app. Children are encouraged to "earn their donation" by completing tasks at home. All donations will contribute to the colour house tallies. Our Week 5 tally as of Thurs 23/2/23 -



**Gilroy / Blue House: \$20 in donations**  
**McAuley / Gold House: \$20 in donations**  
**Elijah / Red House: N/A**  
**MacKillop / Green House: \$25 in donations**

Thank you for your generosity and compassionate spirit during this Lenten season.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATIONS WEEK 7



**MONDAY, MARCH 6TH**

LITURGY 11:30AM

FAMILY GROUP ACTIVITIES 12:00PM

PICNIC LUNCH 1:30PM - 2:10PM

OLMC BACK PLAYGROUND

Catholic Schools Week begins on Monday 6th March and runs until Sunday 12th March. To mark this occasion, we will be holding a number of events during the week including opportunities for families to connect and share in prayerful experiences with their children. We invite families to

**SAVE THE DATE for Monday 6th March 11:30am - 2:10pm.**

The events on this day will include a liturgy, family group activities and a picnic lunch.

Families are asked to provide their own picnic mats/baskets and lunch. The canteen is available for any families who would like to order their lunch or buy a treat.

## MEET THE TEACHER BOOKINGS

All families received a Meet The Teacher booking information sheet and questionnaire. Please ensure you **complete and bring the questionnaire to your meeting** as that will form the basis of your discussions and support the teaching team to construct effective teaching/learning programs.

The teachers will also share with you the goals that your child will be working on during Semester One.

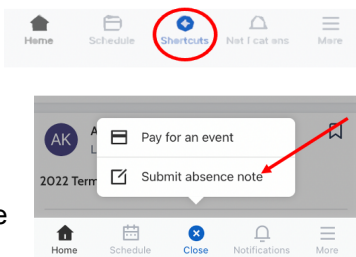
Book via [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Code: jwqkh



## SUBMITTING ATTENDANCE THROUGH COMPASS

DID you know.... that parents can submit student absence notes via COMPASS. When you log into COMPASS, you land on the parent home page. Simply select 'Shortcuts' plus then choose 'Submit absence note' and then choose the child who will be absent. Absences can be entered the night before or the morning of absence.



## KINDERGARTEN 2024 ENROLLMENTS

We can't believe that we're here already! The 2024 Kindergarten enrolment period has commenced with enrolment packs already being taken, completed, returned and interviews with Miss Pirovic or Mrs Anderiesz already being made. Please do not wait as official offer letters start being sent out before the end of Term 1. If you have a child who has turned 5 or will turn 5 in the first half of 2024, now is the time to inquire as to your child's readiness. Please note that if one of your children already attends OLMC and you want to enrol your next child, the process and documentation is the same as new families to our community. So don't wait, inquire today!



## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The 2023 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) began this week and we are again encouraging all students to participate! Students received their PRC online login details today in support of families updating their child's reading record. **For our parents with children in K, 1 or 2, your child's reading log is updated by Mrs Anderiesz from the books they experience with their class over the course of the challenge period.**



### Rules

- Students from Kinder-Year 2 must read a total of 30 books (20 from the [Premier's Reading Challenge list](#) and 10 of their personal choice)
- Students from Year 3-Year 6 must read a total of 20 books (10 from the [Premier's Reading Challenge list](#) and 10 of their personal choice)
- Challenge closes for student on Friday 18 August 2023 so **LET'S GET READING**

## TYPING PRACTISE

With NAPLAN Online just around the corner and our world rapidly relying on digital efficiency, typing is an important skill. The more comfortable students are typing, the more they can focus on the quality of what they are trying to achieve. <https://www.typingclub.com/> is a free typing program that students can use to improve their keyboard familiarity. Typing messages, shopping lists and reminders can also help their fluency.

## WINTER UNIFORMS

Families are encouraged to organise winter uniforms for their child/ren as early as possible. We are unable to provide try-on sizes at school but a size guide is at the end of this newsletter. All orders for uniforms should be placed using the Qkr app by 4pm on Tuesdays so that delivery can be made each Thursday. The last day for ordering this term will be Tuesday 4 April. Students must wear their winter uniform from the beginning of Term 2. **Please update your child's 2023 class on the app.**

**DON'T FORGET TO LABEL jackets, jumpers and hats**

## P&F NEWS

### Donations for Mother's Day Raffle

We have already received some donations, thank you to those families for their generosity towards the 2023 Mother's Day Raffle.

*This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute, please email [olmcpanf@gmail.com](mailto:olmcpanf@gmail.com) and attention it to P&F Communications.*



**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
WENTWORTHVILLE**

**ENROLLING NOW FOR  
KINDERGARTEN 2024**

Scan to watch a Virtual Tour of OLMC School

**Applications DUE Monday 3rd April 2023**

olmcwenty@parra.catholic.edu.au  
Bennett Street Wentworthville  
Tel. 8032 1100  
www.olmcwentworthville.catholic.edu.au

# SAFER INTERNET DAY 2023

Why it's important to  
**Connect. Reflect. Protect.**  
this Safer Internet Day



## Almost half

of children were treated in a hurtful or nasty way online in the past year<sup>1</sup>

## 26%

of children have treated someone in a hurtful or nasty way online in the past year<sup>2</sup>

## 1 in 10

children have been the target of hate speech online<sup>3</sup>

## 30%

of teens have been contacted by a stranger online<sup>4</sup>

## 47%

of 14 to 17 year olds have received a sexual message from someone in the past year<sup>5</sup>

Many parents of 14 to 17 year olds aren't aware their children have viewed potentially

## harmful content<sup>6</sup>

## 67%

of adults have had a negative experience online in the past year<sup>7</sup>

## 30%

of LGBTIQ+ Australians experience online hate speech — double the national average<sup>8</sup>

## 32%

of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples<sup>9</sup> also experience hate speech — double the national average<sup>9</sup>

During Term 1, we place a significant focus on setting up the year in the manner we wish to end. This includes both students and staff understanding their rights and responsibilities as learners within a safe and respectful community. One of our big focus points is how to be safe digital citizens. So, what does it mean to be a safe digital citizen? Our students explored 3 key concepts.

1. Connect safely and with purpose – by keeping apps and devices secure and using social media in positive ways.
2. Reflect before we act – by taking a moment to consider how what we do and say online may affect others.
3. Protect ourselves and others by taking action – by telling family, friends or colleagues about eSafety and how we can help

As parents and educators, the conversation is not a one off. It is a continuous conversation that is both proactive and responsive. We encourage all parents to be proactive and discuss these issues with their children, no matter how old they are, and also encourage families to be responsive when issues arise. While many issues will be small during your child's primary years, if not dealt with, bad habits can be formed and



## HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

2024 may seem a long time away! However, if you have a child who is due to commence High School in 2024, Now is the time to collect enrolment packs and submit them. All Catholic Schools in the Parramatta Diocese formally commence their enrolment period during Catholic Schools Week (6-11 March 2023). Our local high schools are already accepting enrollment applications for 2024 and beyond. This is a good time for Year 5 parents to attend open days or school tours to explore options.

Many of our families consider the following Catholic High Schools for their children:



**Catherine McAuley**  
2 Darcy Road, Westmead  
98499100  
[www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au)



**St Pauls Catholic College**  
198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes  
8868 3700  
[www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au)



**Parramatta Marist**  
2 Darcy Road, Westmead  
9848 7100  
[www.parramarist.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parramarist.catholic.edu.au)



**Delany College**  
Granville

**Delany College**  
Grimwood Street Granville  
8633 8100  
[www.delanygranville.catholic.edu.au](http://www.delanygranville.catholic.edu.au)

**Cerdon College**



**Cerdon College**  
74 Sherwood Rd, Merrylands West  
8724 7300  
[www.cerdonmerrylands.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cerdonmerrylands.catholic.edu.au)



## Enrolling Now for 2024

Come and see our school! School tours will run during Catholic Schools Week on Tuesday 7th March, Wednesday 8th March and Thursday 9th March.

All tours begin at 9.15am and finish by 11am.

Book directly for a school tour by visiting our website under Enrolment/Visiting Our School.

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2024 (First Round Offers) are due by mid March 2023. Applications for other years may be submitted at any time.

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | [www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au)



## OLMC PARRAMATTA OPEN DAY

Sunday, 5 March | 9.00am – 3.00pm

Courageous Advocates. Limitless Possibilities.



*Many Gifts -  
One Community*

## OPEN DAY

SUNDAY, 12 MARCH | 11:30AM - 2:30PM

- College Tours
- Lesson Demonstrations
- Parents & Friends Association
- Staff and Students available to answer your questions

### CONTACT US



02 8868 3700



St Pauls Catholic College,  
Greystanes



spaulscollegegreystanes



[www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au)

