



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a new school term. I do hope that the beautiful Easter weather enabled you to enjoy the break from the busy school routine. It has been lovely to see the children return happy and filled with the excitement of seeing their friends, teachers and the hope and promise of what lies ahead.

The Power of Yet

A new term brings the opportunity to look with fresh eyes to our goals and what we hope to achieve and improve. During these first weeks our teachers are talking with the children about the concept of 'Yet'. As learners we continue to grow and increase our knowledge. Developing concepts takes time and practise. So when we encounter something new we don't fully understand it 'Yet'. Realising this can free our anxiety by using the phrase - ***I don't know it yet***. This phrase

implies that it is ok to not know it yet and that there is work and learning to happen before you do.

Have a conversation with your child about the idea of 'Yet'.

- ~ Talk about something at the moment that you are trying to work out.
- ~ Talk about some of the things you don't know how to do 'Yet'. It might be something in Maths, with reading, writing or even PE.
- ~ Discuss how you can move past the not knowing things 'Yet'. It might be practise, trying Harder, breaking the steps down or looking for different examples.

The power of 'Yet' is knowing that we are on the journey towards knowing. We are not expected to know everything all at once and that it takes a bit of time and effort to move past the 'Yet'.

This term is already shaping up to be a challenging one in relation to staffing. Our teachers, just like you, have family care responsibilities, leave entitlements and get sick. When they are away we usually employ a casual teacher to cover them. We continue to be significantly impacted by the shortage of casual teachers. Our priority is to ensure continuity for our students and are fortunate that on many occasions our Diversity Staff step out of their usual role to teach a class for the day. However, this is not the ideal nor always possible, resulting in the need to split a class. We ask for your continued patience and understanding that this may occur and that there may be occasions where communications or things happen that are not the normal way we do things at OLMC. We do the best we can and our priority always remains what is the best for the children.

I look forward to a positive term with much to celebrate and be grateful for.

Olimpia Pirovic

Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 1:

Thur: NO WORKOUT TODAY

Uniform deliveries

3:10-4:00pm Band Practise for

CONCERT Band students in Music room

Fri: Netball Clinics

Week 2:

Mon: 9am Assembly: Prayer KB

Cumberland Youth Liaison visiting Year 5 & Year 6

Tue: Uniform Orders due before 4pm

Wed: Cumberland Council Reconciliation Day event - Student & Colour Leaders, SRC

Thur: 2pm Star Wars Maths Day

3:10-4pm Concert Band Practise

Fri: Netball Clinics

NOTES HOME

THIS WEEK

- Mother's Day Breakfast Invitation
- Yr5 Personal Development Parent/Child Session
- Cumberland Council Reconciliation Day - Year 6 Leaders & SRC

THURSDAY WORKOUT BEGINS THURSDAY 4 MAY

PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN SYNOD

Announced by Bishop Long on 5 March, the Diocesan Synod will gather clergy, consecrated people and the laity across our Diocese to listen, discern, and respond to the Holy Spirit through voices of the People of God in Western Sydney and The Blue Mountains. Our parents are invited to participate in the Synod and can find the Bishop's invitation at the end of the Newsletter.

To prepare members of the faithful across the Diocese to share their stories, the Synod Committee will be hosting two information sessions via Zoom on Thursday 27 April from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and again on Friday 28 April from 6pm to 7pm. Click [here](#) to register. More information is available at the dedicated Diocesan Synod website parracatholic.org/synod2023, in this [Catholic Outlook article](#), and in the following short videos:

[Bishop Vincent's Invitation \(Video\)](#)

[What does 'Synod' mean? \(Video\)](#)

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The PRC is in full swing at OLMC! All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 have received their 2023 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) username and log in to support families in 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 [PRC List](#) and 10 of their personal choice)
- Students from Year 3-Year 6 must read a total of 20 books (10 from the [PRC List](#) and 10 of their personal choice)
- Challenge closes for student on Friday 18 August 2023 so **LET'S GET READING**



STAR WARS MATHS DAY - MAY THE 4TH

At OLMC we love Mathematics. We enjoy any opportunity to apply our skills and mathematical knowledge.

This year we are holding a special Star Wars themed Maths Day on May the 4th.

Our parents are invited to join in the fun. The activities get started at 2pm and will conclude at 3pm. The teachers have planned many fun activities and we hope you are able to join us.



MOTHERS DAY @ OLMC

Families are welcome to join us on Friday May 12th for our Mother's Day Celebrations.

An invitation will come home with your eldest child today, Wednesday 26th April.



PROJECT COMPASSION FINAL TALLY

Please see below the final numbers for donations to Project Compassion. Your generosity has helped to transform lives and build a brighter future for those in need.

Gilroy / Blue House - \$420

Elijah / Red House - \$420

McAuley / Gold House - \$321

MacKillop / Green House - \$412

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

SPORT UNIFORM DAYS

In each grade, the children wear their sports uniform on the day they have Physical Education lessons and their Sport Lesson. There will be occasions where these days may change due to timetable changes. When this occurs, parents will be notified with a note or via the newsletter. The following schedule indicates the days students need to wear their sports uniforms.



| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Kindergarten | Monday and Thursday |
| Year 1 | Thursday and Friday |
| Year 2 | Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday |
| Year 3 | Tuesday and Thursday |

| | |
|--------|----------------------|
| Year 4 | Tuesday and Friday |
| Year 5 | Monday and Wednesday |
| Year 6 | Wednesday and Friday |

PE UPDATE

This term we have a new Flt Futures Physical Education Specialist Teacher working with our children. Today we welcome Ms Rachel Zarb who continues to develop the skills of our children.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

A reminder for our parents that applications for the sacrament of Confirmation close on Friday 5 May. For those children already enrolled, *all Sponsor and/or Confirmation names are due now!* For further information, please email ocarmswenty@gmail.com, visit our [parish website](#), our parish [Facebook page](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)

Please note the Parish new email address is **ocarmswenty@gmail.com**

PARENT FORMATION OPPORTUNITY



CSDP are offering a Virtual Pilgrimage for Parents. Please find the [program, brochure and promo clip attached here](#). "Called to be an Easter People" is a fortnightly Virtual Pilgrimage for parents who wish to journey with the Spirit by wandering through the Holy Land and key passages that steer us towards living out our Easter calling.

It will be held on Wednesday evenings via Zoom in Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of Term 2.

Please contact Mrs Diaz for more information at amagtanong3@parra.catholic.edu.au

SAFE DRIVING

Let's start the term the way we want it to continue, with Safe and Respectful driving by parents and carers. The safety of every OLMC child and their families is everyone's responsibility.

The construction happening this term is going to make things a bit more challenging so it is even more important to follow all the road rules.

Here are some things to remember:

- Don't double park or overtake
- If you can't pull into a parking spot, drive on and come back. This helps to keep traffic flowing and cars to move out of parking spaces
- If you are going to stay a bit longer to have a chat and catch up, park in a side street and walk to school.
- Always cross the road at the zebra crossing in front of the church or near the roundabout on Smith St.
- Always speak politely to other parents, no matter how frustrated you are.

P&F NEWS



Welcome Back

Welcome Back to school. We hope all our families enjoyed a lovely and well deserved break. We look forward to seeing you all during the upcoming events.

Mother's Day Stall

A reminder that the QKR! App for the Mother's Day stall vouchers has been live since Thursday, 6th of April. Please ensure that all Mother's Day stall vouchers are purchased and finalised before the **closing date of Tuesday, 2nd of May**, as no IOU's will be provided. Please also note that families with multiple children attending OLMC are required to purchase separate vouchers for each child wanting to purchase a gift at the stall.

Save The Date

Our next P&F General Meeting will be on Tuesday 16 May at 7pm. Be sure to add this to your calendar to join us for supper, to meet other parents and find out what's happening at OLMC.

This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute, please email olmcpandf@gmail.com and attention it to P&F Communications.



Easter Hat Parade



In the last week of Term 1 the children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 had a great time making Easter hats.

On the last day of the term we held an Easter Hat parade where the children showed off their beautiful creations to the rest of the school and their parents.

The children also had a special visit from the Easter Bunny who came to hand out Easter Eggs.





Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

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24 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience as our Synod team has been busily undertaking preparations for the upcoming Synod. The team, led by Qwayne Guevara, is about to finalise a multitude of resources, promotional material as well as confirmation on logistics on the Synod process and the lead-up to the event in October.

As you are aware, this is the first Synod for our Diocese, and I would like to hear from as many people as possible. This means input and support from clergy, consecrated, families, young people, and those on the margins.

The theme that I have chosen for the Synod is Isaiah 43:19 "Behold! I am doing a new thing." These are the words of the prophet Isaiah calling his people to embrace a new future out of the long exile. We too are being called today to embody anew God's transforming power in the world.

My hope is that our Synod gathers the fruits of the Spirit grown in various fields, including the recent Plenary Council, and invigorates us for greater participation, communion, and mission in the life of our local Church.

As Principals, I need your assistance to help make the Synod a success. I personally invite you to organise, lead and encourage your community of teachers, students, and families to participate in a local consultation or create a submission online.

In the coming days, you will have access to resources and information in preparation for submissions opening in May and continuing through to the end of July. The team is here to support you, and I encourage you to get in contact with Qwayne and her team at synod2023@parracatholic.org

The Synod will be formally convoked on Sunday 28 May 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Pentecost Sunday. I invite two representatives from your school to attend.

Below is a brief timeline for you to understand the process up until the Synod event in October and your involvement. Applications to attend the Synod event in October will open in August, and I encourage you to consider creating an application for yourself or encourage someone from your school to apply

I thank you for your time and patience as we embark on a new chapter of listening and discerning what the Holy Spirit is calling our Church to be.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv.
Bishop of Parramatta