



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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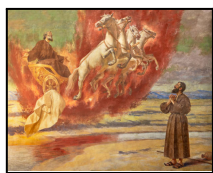


## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

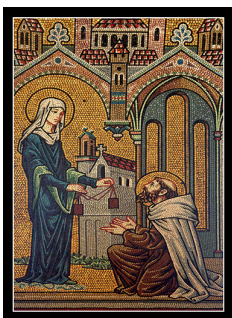
The first week of a new school term is always exciting. Children, parents and teachers are happy to see each other and hear about the holiday adventures. Everyone feels positive about the shiny fresh start of a new term. We set new goals and are keen to accomplish them.

For our school community the start of Term 3 is made extra special by the celebration of our feast day. This year we celebrated our Feast Day with a whole school Mass on the first day of term. This week the children are also engaging with learning to deepen their knowledge of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the traditions and significant people associated with our Carmelite community. The children will be learning about these significant association:



**The Prophet Elijah** - Elijah is a minor prophet in the Old Testament, he was alive around 900 BC for a period of some 50-60 years. Elijah means "My Lord is Yahweh". The story of Elijah can be found in the first Book of Kings, Chapters 1 and 2. In the New testament at the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mt Tabor, Elijah and Moses were also present. Elijah as a connection with the Word of God, Moses as a connection with the Law of God and Jesus as the new covenant promised as Messiah. Elijah used the caves on Mt Carmel to live in and pray in. Elijah is the major patron of the Carmelite Order.

**Mount Carmel** - Mount Carmel is a well known ridge in Palestine. Mount Carmel is not mentioned in the New Testament but is often referenced in the Old Testament. There are many caves in the Carmel Range and these caves were used by hermits to become closer to God. Today Mt Carmel rises above the modern city of Haifa, the Church of Stella Maris sits atop the mountain and inside the Church is one of the caves believed to be where Elijah prayed. About ten minutes away are the ruins of a 12th century Carmelite monastery.



**Carmelite Saints - St Titus Brandsma** - was born in the Netherlands in 1881. He is the most recent Carmelite saint and was canonised as a martyr in May 2022. During the second world war he was openly critical of Nazi ideology and what was occurring. He defended the freedom of the Catholic press. He was arrested and sent to Dachau concentration camp where he was executed.



**St Simon Stock** - was born 1165 in England. It is said that when he was twelve years old he began to live as a hermit in the hollow trunk of an oak and later to have become an itinerant preacher until he entered the Carmelite Order which had just come to England. Under the leadership of St Simon Stock the Carmelite Order had significant growth across Europe. Mary, the Mother of God appeared to St Simon Stock and gave him the brown scapular to increase devotion to Her Son across the world.

**The Brown Scapular** - the brown scapular is a part of our rich Catholic tradition. It is a sign of the devotion of Carmelites to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and her Son; and it is a sign of Our Lady of Mount Carmel's love for and protection of the order that honours her as sister, mother, and queen. The brown scapular is worn under our clothing as a personal act of devotion.

**During this special week, we particularly ask Our Lady of Mount Carmel to guide us in all we do to honour our God.**

*Olimpia Pirovic*

Principal

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

## UPCOMING DATES

### Week 1:

**Thur:** 8:15am Morning Workout

**3:10pm-4pm Band Practise - All Bands**

### Week 2:

**Mon:** Assembly: 5B Prayer  
7pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tue:** Yr2 In-School Experience  
Uniform Orders due before 4pm  
7pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Thur:** 8:15am Morning Workout

**3:10pm-4pm Band Practise - All Bands**

**Fri:** Carmel Impact Crisis Appeal Mufti Day

## NOTES HOME

### THIS WEEK

- Yr2 Chemistry Capers In-School Experience
- Yr4 Personal Development & Health
- Yr6 About a Diverse & Connected World Excursion

### LAST TERM

- Yr3, 4, 5 & 6 ICAS 2023
- K-6 Book Week

## STAR CARD AWARDS

**Gold Awards:** Joshua • Kiyaan • Tanishi • Isaac • Liam • Nysa • Emily • Felizia • Amber • Isabel • Maria • Amelia • Aanya • Annalisa • Samaira • Neev • Arshnoor • Alexa • Violette • Elijah • Anupriya • Joanne • Karthik • Eli • Isabel • Rishaan • Arianah • Mariam • Jonah • Palash • Charlotte • Patrick • Leah • Gia • Viaan • Maliyah • Zoe • Joaquin • Kristopher • Sanoshan • Chanel • Benjamin • Ethan • Elouise • Vincent • Myra • Mary • Anthony • Olivia •

**Opal Awards:** Victor • Siya • Alanna • Owen • Rishaan • Arianah • Luca • Zoe • Matthew • Reis • Aayan • Rajveer • Sophie • Olivia • Joseph • Chad • Sakrit • Jordan Jeffrey • Aarush Agarwal • Henry Khoury • Rosario Ianni • Elouise • Alexander • Elijah • Emily • Victoria • Lucas • Hunter • Hayden • Sienna • Adam • Dennis •

**Platinum Awards:** Levi • Elijah • Amelia • Isabel • Eliana • Senali • Elijah • Mansi • Olivia • Aakash • Jad • Lucas • Liya •

**Principal's Awards:** Sebastian • Marco • Veronica • Benjamin • Rohan • Giorgio • Kayana • Isabella •

**Diamond Awards:** John-Paul • Daniella • Arya • Hannah •



## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - EVERY DAY COUNTS

Regular school attendance is an important factor in helping our children to be successful learners and build strong friendships within their peer group. Good attendance patterns established in primary school carry over into high school.

Students who attend school regularly are away less than five days a term or twenty days over a year. Absences can quickly add up, without realising it. There are usually very valid reasons for student absences and the terms over the Winter period are ones where we normally see student attendance dip due to illness. It is important to be aware of absences to prevent negative impacts academically and socially for the children.



At the end of Term 2 our student attendance rate was 76%. We are aiming for regular attendance for all of our students, which would be an attendance rate of 90% or higher. Let's work together - parents, students and staff - to improve our attendance rates.

## A HISTORIAN IN OUR MIDST



On the 31st of March, Cumberland Council workers visited our year six students. They explained their jobs in the council and how they made changes to the Cumberland area. They encouraged students to participate in various competitions. One of our students,

Aarush Rangoonwala participated in the HistoResearch category, where he researched our local history.

"I entered the competition with a video, explaining the different, significant places in the Cumberland Council, and a timeline, stating significant information from every year since the council was established until 2020."

As you can see he was successful in winning the runner up for his Cumberland History Timeline.

## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The PRC is in full swing at OLMC. 8 students have completed their challenge, with 72 students on the way. **We would like to congratulate Lucinda B, Sophia F, Aayan S, Isabella N, Hayden R, Amalia R, Kiara K & Mary P**

Challenge closes for student on Friday 18 August 2023 so **LET'S GET READING**



## GIA'S BIG CHOP

Over the break, Gia's from Year 4 chopped over 40cm of her hair to donate to WigsforKids. WigsforKids is an organisation which provides wigs to children experiencing hair loss due to a medical condition. We thank Gia for her selfless action to support children to feel and look like themselves while battling illness



## CHILD PROTECTION MATTERS FOR PARENTS

Each term we run a Child Protection Briefing for our parents who would like to help out at school. The key messages we share during these sessions are important for all of our parents to know.

- We all have a responsibility to ensure that all children are safe and work to reduce the risk of harm.
- When your child enters our school grounds each day, their teachers take over the duty of care from you.
- Any problems, misbehaviour or issues that occur between children will be managed by school staff. NO PARENT IS ALLOWED TO APPROACH ANOTHER CHILD TO REPRIMAND THEM. If you observe a problem or your child reports a problem, you must report it to a staff member for them to deal with.
- If a child discloses something concerning, you should report it to their teacher, who will follow our system protocols as mandatory reporters.
- The privacy and confidentiality for each child and staff member is paramount. Student behaviours and learning needs should not be discussed with other parents.

We always advise parents that before they step in to handle a situation on their child's behalf to consider **'how you would feel if another parent did this to your child.'** You are your child's advocate and rightly so, however the school grounds are a safe place for all the children and when a parent approaches another child, no matter how well meaning, the child always feels intimidated or threatened. Oftentimes when parents don't allow staff to manage student problems the result is broken parent friendships. Some problems between children take a longer time to resolve as we work with children to understand the causes and change habits and behaviours. This also requires patient and respectful support from parents.

## HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT LETTING YOUR CHILD CATCH A BUS TO SCHOOL?

I know that many of our families feel frustrated at drop off and pick-up times. Parents waiting in queued traffic, losing patience with those who don't do the right thing. Did you know that a way to reduce this stress in your life is considering the use of school buses. We have a number of school buses that our families can access in the morning and afternoon. Primary school students are eligible to apply for a [School Opal Card](#). For children in K-2 there is no distance limit, for children in Yrs 3-6, the minimum distance is 1.6km straight line or 2.9KM walking. If you decide to give the bus a go, get in touch with the school and we will support your child and you through the process. Catching the bus is a great way for children to build their independence and resilience in a safe environment. The school buses listed below are not public bus routes, but school specific. Click on the links below to see the specific maps and times for each bus route.

Morning Buses travelling to OLMC from:	Afternoon Buses travelling from OLMC to:
<a href="#">7015</a> , <a href="#">7004</a> - Merrylands area (Transit Systems) <a href="#">7019</a> - Greystanes area (Transit Systems) <a href="#">8005</a> - Darcy Road -Constitution Hill -Wentworthville (Hillsbus) <a href="#">705</a> - Parramatta Station - Westmead (Hillsbus) <a href="#">8021</a> - Girraween - Wentworthville (Hillsbus)	<a href="#">7515</a> - to Merrylands Station (Transit Systems) <a href="#">7520</a> - Sth Wentworthville to Walpole St (Transit Systems) <a href="#">2570</a> - to Westmead (Hillsbus) <a href="#">2535</a> - Wentworthville - Old Toongabbie -Toongabbie (Hillsbus) <i>*timetables are attached to the last pages</i>

## BOOK WEEK 2023: READ, GROW, INSPIRE

Join us for our annual book week celebration this term! On **Monday, August 7th**, students are encouraged to dress up with the theme of 'READ, GROW, INSPIRE.' Let your creativity shine with homemade costumes inspired by a book. Students are encouraged to bring a physical copy or picture of the book that their character is from. We have an exciting addition this year – parents and carers are invited to dress up and join in the fun too! Let's make it a memorable celebration together.

## BAND UPDATE



Our Training Band is now ready to begin playing together. From the first week of Term 3 both the Training Band and Concert Band will have after school practise on Thursday afternoon between 3:10-4:00pm.

## PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

We will be celebrating the first sacrament of Reconciliation next Monday and Tuesday at 7pm. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they experience the love and mercy of our friend, Jesus.

For information regarding the sacraments, please visit our website [olmcwenty.org.au](http://olmcwenty.org.au) or email [ocarmswenty@gmail.com](mailto:ocarmswenty@gmail.com).

## P&F NEWS



### Feast Day

It was lovely celebrating the Feast Day Mass of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Tuesday. The P&F provided popcorn snacks for each student to enjoy. May Our Lady of Mount Carmel bless you and your family always.

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



# OLMC ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2023

Our Annual Athletics Carnival was held on Friday Week 9 of Term 2 and what a wonderful day it was. It was so great to see all of our students from all year groups getting involved and cheering on their colour houses throughout the day.

A big thank you to all of the parent helpers who assisted on the day! It wouldn't be possible without you.

Another big thank you to all of the Colour House Leaders for your efforts in assisting with the organising of the carnival in the final days of Term 2 and in creating your wonderful house cheers to perform on the day of the carnival!



I like the 800 metre race because it pushed my limits and it was also like a challenge for me.

**Marcus and Sam**

What I liked most about the sports carnival was having a fun day with my friends and dressing up with them. This was my last year with the sports carnival in OLMC and it was probably the best one we have had.

**Sienna**

What I enjoyed most about the Athletics Carnival was the cheers. It was very funny to see everyone dress up and eardrums blowing to hear them shout for their team.

**Aarush**

What I enjoyed most about the sports carnival were the cheers. It was really fun to have everybody dress up and cheer for our team.

**Olivia**

As sports leaders, we really enjoyed dressing up all in gold and leading the cheers. As this was our last Athletic carnival, we honestly think it was our best one yet! We are very proud of everyone for participating and trying their best!

**Angelina and Grace**







# Crisis Appeal

Extreme flooding in Timor Leste has destroyed homes, crops and roads.



**Help our team on the ground respond to the devastation & looming food shortage...**

**You'll help us:**

- Purchase and distribute food and clean drinking water along with non-perishable food items and kitchen utensils for cooking
- Equip communities with the materials needed to rebuild homes, buildings, roads and other infrastructure
- Provide clothes, sanitation items, and other material aid for those in temporary shelters
- Respond to the long-term needs of the communities in the coming months

**Donate today.**

[www.carmelimpact.org.au](http://www.carmelimpact.org.au)



# MUFTi DAY

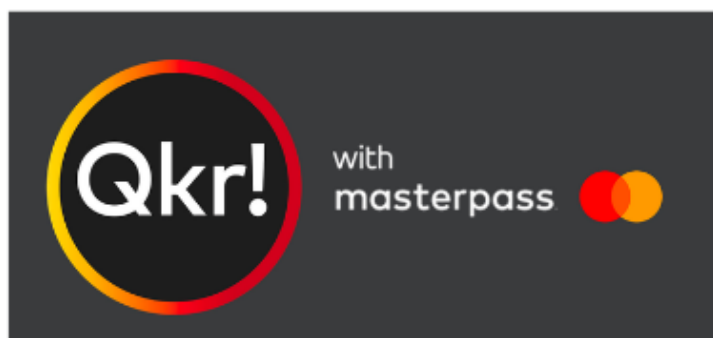
## In support of Carmel Impact's Crisis Appeal

On **Friday 28th of July**, we will be holding a Mufti Day to support the Timor-Leste communities affected by flooding. Families are invited to make a donation by:

1. Accessing Carmel Impact's Crisis Appeal page via the QR Code or visiting <https://www.carmelimpact.org.au/take-action/critical-response-appeal/>
2. Donating via the School Qkr App

**NOTE: No cash donations can be accepted by the school.**

In the spirit of our Feast Day, and on behalf of Carmel Impact, we thank you for generosity and greatly appreciate your prayers for the Timor-Leste community.



Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear that is suitable for their usual daily activities

