



St Oliver's Primary School

Newsletter

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At St Oliver's we are called to unite in service by living out our Mercy Values and striving to be quality learners who contribute positively to our community.

Term 1, Week 5 <http://www.stoliversharrisparra.catholic.edu.au/home>

1st March 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER

March

2nd

Caritas Mufti Day - gold coin donation
Stage 1 at Parish Mass 9:15am

7th

Catholic Schools Week Liturgy @ 9:15am
followed by

Celebration of Learning - open classrooms
Picnic Morning Team
Caritas bake sale

8th

Open Day 9:30am - 11am for new
enrolments

13th

School photo day - all children are to
come dressed in the normal school
uniform.

NO sport uniform on this day.

19th

Cross Country - 8 years and over
@ Robin Thomas Reserve

28th

Easter Raffle draw @ 2:30pm

30th

**Good Friday - public
holiday**

APRIL

1st

Easter Sunday

2nd

Easter Monday - **public holiday**

3rd

Return to school
Easter Hat Parade



Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ's transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God's future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

Gospel Mk 9:2-10 A reading from the
holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John.



Literal Sense Throughout the gospel of Mark, it is important to look at the stories that lie either side of important events to pick up the subtlety of the gospel writer's message. In this instance, the passage that immediately follows the Transfiguration is a story of the disciples trying unsuccessfully to heal a boy and Jesus having to intervene. It reinforces the message of the mountaintop in which the disciples still only partially understand Jesus' purpose and presence. They still haven't fully mastered who Jesus is and so they have not fully mastered the ability to heal.

Spiritual Sense Throughout the Bible there are instances of important encounters with God on mountaintops. Even this week's first reading, the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham, occurs on a mountaintop. It is not the potential sacrifice, but the new relationship between God and Abraham that is a mountaintop moment. In modern language, we often speak about 'peak experiences' - moments of exceptional clarity, intense emotion or extraordinary accomplishment. Sometimes, like Peter, we are tempted to try to remain 'in the moment' rather than using the peak experience as a motivator for when we go back down the mountain to our normal (if perhaps changed) existence.

Application

- Q. Why might Jesus have only taken three of his disciples up the mountain with him?
- Q. Why were the disciples frightened by what they saw?
- Q. Why might Jesus have warned the disciples to tell no one what they had seen?
- Q. Have you ever had a really pleasant experience that you wished could keep on going?
- Q. Why was it important for Jesus and the disciples to go back down the mountain?

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Focus On Learning



It's all about the learning - Part 4

How do we, at St Oliver's, cater for the learning of our students? Below is our continued outline of the many and varied ways we cater for each student's learning journey.

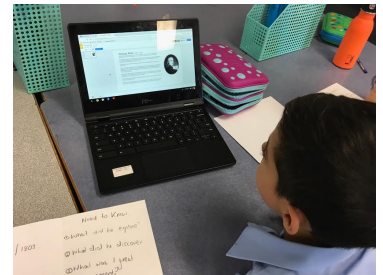
Initiatives to Promote Deep and Transferable 21st Century Learners

Project Based Learning (PBL) is student-centred learning that is relevant and authentic. The students learn syllabus content and skills while being challenged to work in teams, meet deadlines, be able to present and justify their viewpoint (both in written and verbal format) and to think creatively. At St Oliver's Stage 3 participate in PBL and this style

of learning will now be introduced in Stage 2.



Learner Qualities - This year the learner quality posters are displayed in every learning space. These qualities are used in each learning space to give feedback to the children to guide their learning. At our whole school assemblies, the children will receive awards based on the learner qualities they are using in the learning space and/or on the playground. These learner qualities are also reported in the Semester 1 and 2 reports.



PBS4L - With the support of the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, St Oliver's staff are developing a new, shared, positive and proactive framework to build positive behaviours to support learning. This process is a whole school approach with an emphasis on teaching. We believe that our school pastoral care is to be approached through defining, teaching and supporting appropriate behaviours which lead to creating positive school environments. Positive Behaviour Systems for Learning have begun to be implemented this term.

Student Leaders - To build leadership qualities in all our Year 6 students, last year we introduced leadership roles for all Year 6 students.





Prayers of the Week



Dear God Thank you for everything. I ask you to make me a better person than I am now. Please help me to love, share, listen and care. Amen. **Eleanor Year 2**

Prayers for Very Rev Christopher DeSouza

We might take an opportunity to keep Fr Chris in our prayers and to ask the Lord to watch over and bring his healing presence.



Caritas Fundraising is an opportunity to raise awareness about important issues, and a chance for the community to take part in a social justice action. On Friday our Social Justice leaders in Year 6 visited each space using the story of Rattanak from Cambodia to help raise awareness through merciful action.

This Friday we will have a **MUFTI DAY** to continue our fundraising for Caritas.

We invite you to please donate a gold coin on this day.



RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation

This Thursday, Fr John will be leading the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Year 6.

Mercy Values - Justice

This semester St Oliver's has begun it's new year with fresh hope and is standing by one of our Mercy Value 'JUSTICE'.

Mercy makes God's love visible and is reflected in who we are and how we touch the lives of others (Dennis Horton).

St Oliver's is a community which is responding to our Bishop's message for Lent. St Oliver's is a place which we can seek refuge and warm our hearts.



Through student learning, mercy work, and initiatives this year St Oliver's will stand strong in it's sense of Social Justice as Mercy is the Yoke and Justice is in our work.



YOU ARE INVITED



Catholic Schools Week Celebrations

When: Wednesday, 7th March 2018

Where: St Oliver's Primary School

Order of Events:

9:15am Catholic Schools Week Liturgy

10am Celebration of Learning - open classrooms

11am Picnic morning tea with the children

Caritas bake sale from the canteen
Tea and coffee provided.

