



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  
2019

<http://www.stoliversharrisparke.catholic.edu.au/home>

28th February

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### MARCH

1st

Stage 3 Parish Mass  
9.15-10am

5th

Catholic Schools Week  
Celebrations

9.15 -Liturgy  
10am -Open classrooms  
11am -Picnic

6th

Ash Wednesday  
Mass - 9.30am

7th

2020 Enrolments Tour &  
Information morning  
9.30am - 11.00am

8th

Stage 2 Parish Mass  
9.15am - 10am

15th

Stage 1 Parish Mass  
9.15am - 10am

18th

Cross Country-Yrs 3-6  
Robin Thomas Reserve



Religious Education News

Sunday's Gospel **Luke 6:27-38**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

In Sunday's Gospel we learn about the challenge for true discipleship of Christ.

Perhaps one of the most difficult lessons to learn is forgiveness of those whom we consider our enemies, those who have wronged us. As challenging as this may be, the Gospel calls us to a very high standard: we must be merciful as God is merciful (Dianne Bergent)

### Scriptural context – Compassion

The compassion of God is a very strong theme that runs through the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the gospel, the compassion and mercy of God is emphasised and a defining feature of the gospel is the number of healings and parables that relate to people who were regarded as the outcasts of society. In this gospel, Jesus is the embodiment of God's compassion. Jesus wants all people to experience first hand the abundant love God holds for them. Today's gospel passage is a reminder that when we experience God's compassion we are also called to show it to others.

© Greg Sunter

The challenge of true discipleship is to love even when we find it very hard to forgive.

Can we open our hearts to receive God's Grace?

Anthony Matthews  
Religious Education Coordinator

### Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday **6th March** we begin Lent with Ash Wednesday. We are invited in this time to examine ourselves before we undertake the works of mercy.  
Mass will be celebrated at **9:30am** with all students.



### Student Prayers

Dear God, Thank you for all the food, friends and family you have given throughout our life. Please help those who struggle and the needy to make them free and happy. We pray for the children in our school to live happily and fill them with wisdom and love.

(Nithin Yr 6)

Dear God, Thank you for my family, friends, teachers and school. Please help the poor and the homeless by giving them food, water and homes. Please help me to show compassion to other people.

(Anthony Yr 4)

Dear Lord

I pray for you to help the people in need.

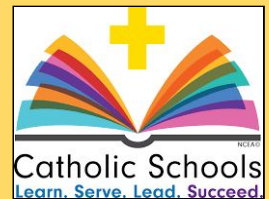
I thank you for our world and my family and friends. Amen.

(Pierre Yr 2)

### Catholic Schools Week 2019

You are invited to join us  
Tuesday, 5th March 2019

CSW liturgy at 9:15  
Open Classrooms at 10am  
BYO Morning Tea with your children at 11am



*TRANSFORMING LEARNING: Curiosity to Clarity*  
Catholic Schools Week

### St Oliver's Primary School Open Day for new enrolments

Thursday, 7th March 2019

from 9:30am to 11am

Expressions of interest for enrolment for 2020.



### PBS4L News

This week we continue to focus on being safe by moving safely around the school.

#### Star Class

Congratulations Kindergarten for remembering "We are Safe".

*Oliver visits Kindergarten this week. What a Safe environment for him to visit!!!*



# InfoZone

Welcome to the Library and Technology section of the St Oliver's Newsletter!

## LIBRARY BORROWING

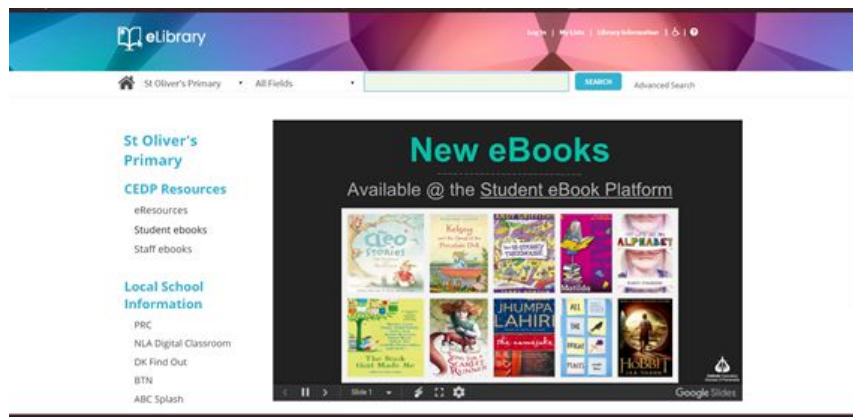
Children have one main borrowing day each week when their class visits the Library. The class teacher will notify you of the day for your class. Library borrowing on other days is always available at lunchtimes. All students need a cloth Library bag. St Oliver's Library bags are available for \$12 in the School Office.

## ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

In order to access technology at school all students must return their signed Acceptable Use Policy each year. Thank you to the families who have already done this.

## ST OLIVER'S eLIBRARY

The St Oliver's eLibrary is available via Classm8 both at school and at home. Students use their school log-on to access. This also gives them access to the CEDP Online resources including the borrowing of eBooks. Suitable weblinks are available from the home page.



Mrs Lesley Quinn  
Teacher Librarian

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING: YOU'RE INVITED 7.00 pm on Thursday March 14 2019.

Nine days before the next NSW election, join 2000 leaders and citizens at Sydney Town Hall to stand together for the common good. Together we will be seeking clear, concrete commitments on affordable housing, household energy and rental reform from both state and federal politicians.

Parramatta Diocese Social Justice Office, Vinnies NSW, Sydney Alliance and the Everybody's Home Campaign are jointly hosting the Assembly. Register now to be part of making a difference for the Common Good..

If you would like to join this assembly register at  
<https://register.eventarc.com/41575/march-2019-assembly>

St Oliver's Year 6 students will also be engaging in a direct inquiry into this, and joining as leaders of the school at the assembly.

# Focus On Learning



## *The importance of drawing*

In our last Focus on Learning we shared some of the wonderful work the Kindergarten children have been doing in their Play- Talk- Write sessions.

Today we want to reinforce the importance of drawing for children- there are many reasons why all children (and adults) should keep drawing- even if they are proficient writers.

Drawing:

- helps children organise their thinking and satisfies a need for personal response to the world.
- is another important form of communication. You can gain an insight into your child's thoughts and feelings through their drawings.
- enhances your child's motor skills - helping them improve their hand and eye coordination, while fine-tuning their finger muscles.
- develops children's problem solving skills - when drawing, a child is faced with multiple decisions - e.g. 'How do I draw an animal and connect one part of its body to another?' All these questions require them to solve problems.
- lets their imagination run wild! - drawing enables your child's imagination to become more active. Each time they draw they access their imagination and make physical representations of what's in their mind.
- is one of the early foundations of logical thinking or abstract thought.

Drawing even helps in your child's comprehension of what they have read-

- When children draw a picture about a story, they have to think about all of the important parts of the story, then choose the part that seems most interesting. This, although it may sound simple, is the essence of reading comprehension—the ability to look at all of the information and pick out the important parts. Children learn even more when they draw and write about a story or an experience.

The next time you read to your child, you might think about asking your child to draw a picture about the story you read. It would be even better if you drew a picture, too, and then you and your child could talk about your drawings.

Adapted from:

Revisit, Reflect, Retell (2009) by Linda Hoyt. Updated Edition. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann  
and <https://www.minilabstudios.com/why-drawing-is-important-for-your-childs-development/>