



St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 2

Week 5

2016

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Gospel John 16:12-15A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whatever the Father has is mine. The Spirit will receive what I give and tell you about it.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.'

IN BRIEF

- God delights in us.
- Praise God's name.
- God loves us through the Spirit.
- The Spirit is our guide.
- Father, Son and Spirit are one.



Reflection

Last Sunday we celebrated the feast of the Holy Trinity. We know things about God through what we have been taught and through Scripture. But how do we know God? What takes us from knowing things to what is really important – our relationship with God? It is the presence of the Spirit within us. In the Gospel of John it helps us understand the role of the Holy Spirit. The disciples felt lost at the thought that Jesus was leaving them. Jesus, in saying farewell to these friends, promises to send the Spirit of truth to continue teaching and guiding them. It is not until after the Resurrection that the disciples will begin to understand Jesus' message. They will need the Spirit to help them understand what Jesus was really all about. The Spirit continues the bond between God the Father, Jesus and the People of God.

Praise: Dear God, Glory to you for showing us how to love others through your son Jesus who brings us everlasting life.

Repent: I am sorry for the times I forget about the Holy Spirit in my life.

Ask: Please help me to listen to the Spirit of truth and live it by loving others each day.

Yes: I will listen to the Holy Spirit, pray to Jesus and glorify God by my words and deeds. **Amen**

Mary Help of Christians feast Day on 24th of May

The infant church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. No priests were sent to the colony in its early days and Mass was not allowed except for one brief year until 1820. It was largely the Rosary in those early days that kept the faith alive. The Australian Catholic community remained faithful to Mary and Australia was the first nation to choose her under the title, 'Mary Help of Christians' as principle Patroness.



Australia also became the first country to have a cathedral dedicated in Our Lady, Mary's name. St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney was dedicated in her honor by the Irish pioneer priest, Fr John Therry who arrived in Sydney in 1820.

Franca Bonserio Religious Education Coordinator

First Holy Communion – Please keep the children of St Oliver's in your prayers, who are receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion over the next few weeks.





The Parent Representative Council – Diocese of Parramatta welcome all parents/carers, teachers and school leaders to join us for our 2nd General Meeting of 2016.

This is a great opportunity to find out what the other schools in the Diocese are doing in teaching and learning, social events, parent and friends committees and to keep up to date on what's happening! We encourage you to come with questions and provide feedback so that we can provide you with the support you need!

Date: Monday, 30 May 2016 at 7:00pm

Located at: Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC), Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St (Ground Floor), Blacktown NSW 2148 ([View Map](#))

Topic: Special Needs Classes in our schools including ASPECT Western Sydney School Satellite classes

Presented by: ASPECT Western Sydney School

A little about our presenters this week...

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is Australia's leading service provider for people on the autism spectrum. Our specialised, evidence informed schools program is the largest in the world, with additional services that include information and advice, diagnostic assessments, behaviour support, parent and family support, and adult programs.

Autism is a lifelong condition that affects about one in 100 Australians, or 240,000 people. The word spectrum reflects the diversity of experience of people on the spectrum.

Our services provide people on the autism spectrum with the opportunity to realise their unique potential, as well as providing much needed support to their families, carers, friends and colleagues. Aspect's vision is to provide the best possible opportunities for people on the spectrum. We believe that people on the autism spectrum area *different brilliant*.

SAVE PARRAMATTA & HERITAGE PRECINCT POOL

COMMUNITY RALLY

SUNDAY 5 JUNE 11AM
It's not too late!!
Bring your family and
walk to Save OUR Assets

Meet at the Parramatta Stadium Carpark at the north end of the Parra pool



College Open Morning Tour Monday 6 June 2016 at 9:15am

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal – At St Oliver’s, we demonstrate our Mercy for the needy by offering blankets, scarves, beanies and gloves and present these at our **Sacred Heart Mass** for the donation of Saint Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. This is a great opportunity to show our love for others and particularly for those less fortunate than ourselves. We are asking families for donations of new blankets, beanies, scarves and gloves. These can be sent to the classroom or the office. Thank you for your continued generosity.

What is anaphylaxis? Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to any allergen (such as food or insect bites). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can include – welts or hives on the body, swollen eyes, breathing difficulties and in the worst cases, death. Parents are asked **not to** send their children with peanut butter, Nutella like products, muesli bars with peanuts or any other foods that may contain traces of nuts. This will help to protect the safety of the children with the allergy. We also ask that the children wash their hands, face and brush their teeth before coming to school each day. Thank you for attending to the matter.



Playground Supervision - A reminder that teachers are not on duty until 8.30am in the morning. Students who arrive at school prior to this time are unsupervised and are required to sit under the shade cloth and wait quietly. For many students this means that they are sitting in the increasingly cooler weather on cold concrete flooring for a considerable period of time. Parents of these students are reminded to consider booking your child into COSHC where they will be supervised in a safe, warm and stimulating environment up until playground duty commences at 8.30am.

Parent Meetings - A reminder that teachers are happy to meet with you to discuss your child’s learning or wellbeing at any time throughout the year. Please phone the office to organise a suitable appointment time. Please be aware that teachers are not available to talk with parents on the playground prior to or directly after morning assembly. At this time their duty of care is with the whole class and the priority is getting all students safely to the learning space ready for the days learning. Notes regarding day to day concerns can be handed to the class teacher by your child or messages can be relayed via the office.

ICAS Science Competition – Some children will be sitting this exam during school time on Monday, 30 May 2016. They are to come to school as normal and will be directed by a teacher.

Lunchtime eating – It has come to our attention that there has been a lot of food being thrown away. Please make sure you send the appropriate amount of food that your child can eat at lunchtime. The children are given 10mins to eat their lunch. Thank you for attending to this matter.

Dates to Remember

May

- 29th First Holy Communion Mass @ 10am
- 30th ICAS Science Competition
- 31st After School Sports for Infants

June

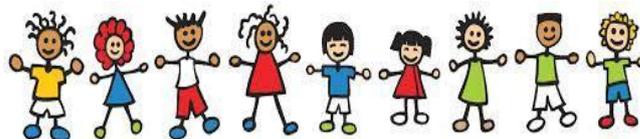
- 3rd Whole School Mass
- 5th **“The Most Sacred Heart Mass”**
First Holy Communion Mass @ 10am
- 7th After School Sports for Infants
- 9th **Soccer Gala Day - Stage 3**
- 10th Year 3 and Year 4 @ Parish Mass
- 14th After School Sports for Infants
- 16th *Mass of Installation of Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen*
- 17th Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 @ Parish Mass
- 17th Whole School Assembly
Kinder @ 2:30pm
- 21st After School Sports for Infants
- 13th **PUBLIC HOLIDAY – no school**
- 21st Half yearly reports go home
- 24th Year 5 and Year 6 @ Parish Mass
- 27th Student/Parent/Teacher conferences begin this week
- 30th **Soccer Gala Day – Stage 2**

July

- 1st **Staff Development day – no school**
- 18th Term 3 begins

PRC representatives – Vanessa Ross and Juliana Daryawish will attend the PRC meetings which happen once a Term. These meetings are open to all parents.

Focus On Learning



Staged Learning in Agile Learning Spaces

This week we address some common questions that arise when discussing contemporary education. At St Oliver's (as in most primary schools across the Parramatta Diocese) we work in agile learning spaces where two grades are grouped together and work as a Stage under the guidance of two class teacher's. This approach reflects the organisation of the NSW Syllabus documents which are also organised across stages and recognise the need for students to have 2 years to work towards achieving the intended outcomes.

Agile Learning Spaces, why do we have them?

Agile Learning Spaces promote student learning and enhance teacher practice. When teachers work together sharing their expertise on teaching and learning, reviewing data and sharing the responsibility of students, they are continuously improving their instruction. Children who have access to this improved practice and instruction are more effectively supported in achieving their individual learning goals.

Agile Learning Spaces, how do we personalise the learning?

Personalised learning is the way in which schools tailor education to ensure that every student achieves to their potential. At St Oliver's our agile learning spaces provide for a highly structured learning approach that places the needs, interests and individual learning styles of our students at the centre. With two or more teachers working collaboratively with each other they can effectively support each student's progress along a personalised pathway that reflects specific goals, strengths and motivations. Agile learning spaces allow for the teachers to be flexible in the delivery of educational pathways to meet the specific learning needs of each of our students.

Agile Learning Spaces, what about my child? Will they be missed?

Every child has their own needs, interests and learning styles. In an agile learning space all teachers share in the responsibility for the teaching and learning of every child. Teacher's work together to develop effective teaching and learning relationships in order to ensure each students individual learning needs are catered for. In an agile learning space there are at least two teachers monitoring each child's learning - what a unique opportunity to ensure your child is never missed!

Agile Learning Spaces, what are the benefits for my child?

Your child accesses a contemporary learning environment.

Our children are growing up in an environment where there is instant communication, intricate social activity and limitless potential for new knowledge. Agile Learning Spaces are flexible, engaging and stimulating contemporary learning environments that integrate technologies and engage students in ways that extend beyond the classroom.

Your child is making greater learning gains.

In Agile Learning Spaces teachers are co-teaching, that is they are working together to provide a unique learning experience for your child. Teachers collaborate to share their expertise, skills and student responsibilities. Because there is more than one teacher present in the learning space to address learning needs and to provide alternative teaching instruction, students are making greater learning gains.

Natalie Mifsud
Assistant Principal