



St Oliver's Primary Newsletter

Term 2

Week 10

2016

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we draw to the end of another busy and successful term, I am mindful of the extremely dedicated and hardworking staff we have leading our students at St Oliver's.

Each day the staff generously give of their time and skill to ensure the children in their care are afforded the best education possible.

During Term 2 and into Term 3 there is often a great deal of illness about, our staff are not immune from such bugs. On the occasion where staff have to take sick leave, most of them are still marking work or planning units of work for the students in their class.

After reading over 150 school reports, I note that many students are achieving at their level. With those students who aren't achieving at the expected level, they are receiving as much support as is available to assist them. It is important that we recognise and accept that for some children learning is very difficult. We need to be mindful of their efforts as well as their achievements. Most parents would see a tiredness creeping in, the daylight and cold mornings along with much illness means the students are looking forward to a well-deserved rest.

I wish to once again acknowledge the very active and engaged parent community we have here at St Oliver's. I thank you for the positive way you have supported the staff and students this term in meeting our educational and community objectives.

We truly have a wonderful partnership – long may it continue. Please enjoy a break from the routine of school in the coming week, we look forward to seeing you all again in Term 3.

Peace and best wishes

Ms Barbara Young
Principal

St Oliver's Feast Day –
You are invited to attend the St Oliver's Feast Celebrations this Sunday, 3 July. There will be mass at 10am and it will be followed by a bbq.



Dates to Remember

June

30th Soccer Gala Day – Stage 2

July

1st **Staff Development day – no school**

18th Term 3 begins

20th Parent Meeting @ St Patrick's Cathedral for Sacrament of Confirmation

21st Stage 3 – Canberra overnight visit.

27th Healthy Harold

August

2nd ICAS English Competition

5th Multicultural Day

9th Zone Athletics Carnival

12th Assembly @ 2:30pm
Whole School – Stage 2

16th ICAS Maths Competition

22nd **BOOK Week**

Save the Date – Multicultural Day at St. Oliver’s on **Friday, 5 August 2016**. Whole School Mass followed by our traditional lunch. More information to follow next term.

First Day of Term 3 – Monday, 18 July 2016

Thank You – Stage 3 would like to thank the school community for donating cakes, biscuits, slices and lemons for our stall. We were able to raise sufficient funds to help subsidise our Canberra excursion.

Thank You – We have raised \$425 through our fundraising efforts for our technology department. The money raised will help with purchasing and maintenance of our technology equipment. Thank you to the mums who ran our Stage 2 Cake Stall.

Staff Development Day – Friday, 1 July 2016. Staff at St Oliver’s will be attending an all-day meeting off site. There is no school on Friday.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE



Congratulations to those children who have already completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge! They may continue reading and add even more books to their *paper copy of the Challenge*.

There is still plenty of time to complete the Challenge. It does not close until **18 August**.

All children at St Oliver’s read every night – Holiday time is a perfect time to read from the Premier’s List which is available at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

Congratulations to Mateo, Gabriel, Nelson, Molly, Adrian, Harper, Karen, Daniel, Serena, Joseph, Rashid, Joseph, and Eloise who enjoyed morning tea with Ms Young on Wednesday.

Why did my teacher choose me?

I think I am here because I have improved in my English. (Joseph Yr 6)

I believe I was picked because I have been showing the Mercy values to my classmates and my teachers. (Eloise Yr 6)

I was chosen because I am doing my Eddy Emu and I helped a boy get yogurt off his shirt - compassion. (Rashid Yr 5)

I think I got chosen because I have been working hard and I am always respectful to others and I show the Mercy values. (Serena Yr 4)

I think I’ve been chosen because I do good work. (Joseph Yr 4)

I think I was chosen because this term I am more focused. (Karen Yr 3)

I’ve been chosen because I’ve been showing the Mercy value of excellence. (Daniel Yr 3)

I was chosen because of my persistence in Maths and for showing Mercy values. (Adrian Yr 2)

I was picked because I showed great focus in class. (Harper Yr 2)

I was chosen because I work independently. (Molly Yr 1)

I was chosen because the teacher thinks I’m cool and I do nice work. (Nelson Yr 1)

I am a good boy. (Gabriel K)

I know why I am here. I am a good boy. (Mateo K)



COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacraments of Initiation Program – St Patrick’s Cathedral Parramatta and St Oliver’s Harris Park

To be eligible for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time your child should be 10 years of age by 30 June 2016. Parent Meeting at St Patrick’s Cathedral will be held on **Wednesday, 20 July 2016 at 7:30pm**. For more information phone: 02 8839 8400 or email: sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au

Seminar – Understanding Family Law – Two Sessions

CCSS Solo Parent Services are holding two sessions for our Seminar on “Understanding Family Law”. The seminars on the following dates will cover the topics below:

Wednesday 20th July – Understanding the Family Law Act – Focus on Divorce/Separation and Children’s needs.

Wednesday 27th July – Understanding the Family Law Act – Focus on Property /Settlements.

Venue for both Seminars: DAC, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown **Time:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm **Cost:** \$7.00 per session. **Registration Essential:** Solo Parent Services - Rita - PH: 8822 2222 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

CCSS Solo Parent Services’ Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age whether you are a parent or not. **Next gathering:** Tuesday 21st June. **Please note new Venue:** DAC, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Social Anxiety in Youth – Rotary Club of North Ryde and The Centre for Emotional Health is please in invite our community to a **FREE** seminar: For more information phone: 02 9850 4084 or email: barb.corapi@mq.edu.au.

Event information

Date: Thursday, 21 July 2016

Time: Doors open 5.30pm. Event 6.00pm

Venue: Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre
16 University Ave, Macquarie University NSW

Parking: Free parking from 5.30pm in X3 and W4 car parks. All people who register will be emailed a parking permit.

RSVP: Bookings are essential as places are limited.

Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children - 2-12 years old

- Learn:**
- ✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
 - ✓ How to sort behaviour
 - ✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
 - ✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
 - ✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
 - ✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive: A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook (cost \$10 payable at first session)

Venue	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Phone to register
Corpus Christi, Cranebrook	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 9 th August 2016	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 16 th August 2016	6pm – 8pm (Tues) 23 rd August 2016	02 4729 0696
St Michael’s, Blacktown South	1 – 3pm (Wed) 17 th August	1 – 3pm (Wed) 24 th August	1 – 3pm (Wed) 31 st August	9622 9910
St Bernadette’s, Lalar Park	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 31 st August	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 7 th September	1pm – 3pm (Wed) 14 th September	9622 3535
OLOR, Kellyville	6pm – 8pm (Wed) 7 th September 2016	6pm – 8pm (Wed) 14 th September 2016	6pm – 8pm (Wed) 21 st September 2016	9629 2566

Registration Fee? The course costs \$10 (per parent or per couple) which covers the cost of the Parent workbook Register for this course by contacting the school office at the venue of your choice.

Gospel Luke 9:51-62 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you will go.



As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

Reflection

Jesus is telling us how hard it is to be a follower. Sometimes we have to make sacrifices and give up part of our life. Sometimes we will have no place to rest our head because our schedule is so intense or because we are not among friends. Following Jesus is a radical commitment. To do so with fidelity to our call we have to give up our past for an uncertain future, trusting that Jesus will guide us on our journey to Jerusalem, the journey to God.

What do you think it means to be a follower of Jesus? What hardships might it entail?

Is anything worth these hardships? Who could dedicate their life to anything so demanding?

Do you think Jesus was exaggerating to make a point?

Religious life, marriage, parenting and certain careers make incredible demands on one's life. What do you think are the most demanding life choices? How so?

St Oliver's Parish Feast Day - On **Sunday, 3 July** is St Oliver Plunkett Parish Feast Day Mass at 10am. It would be great to see as many students and parents celebrating Mass on this special day.

What would you be willing to make life-sacrifices for? What sacrifices would you make?

SAINT OLIVER PLUNKETT was born in Loughcrew, County Meath in the midlands of Ireland on November 1, 1625. At that time in Irish history, Catholics were being persecuted for their faith. Many were evicted from their homes and forbidden to attend Mass. Priests were hunted down and persecuted. Many fled to the continent of Europe. Archbishop Plunkett went into hiding, suffering a great deal from cold and hunger. His many letters showed his determination not to abandon his people, but to remain a faithful shepherd. Oliver Plunkett publicly forgave all those who were responsible for his death. He was executed in London on July 1, 1681. In 1920 he was declared a martyr for the faith and was canonised on 12 October 1975. His feast day is July 11.



P: Thank you Jesus, for recognizing that it is hard to take our cross and follow in your footsteps.

R: For the times I give up when life is challenging and for complaining, I am sorry.

A: I ask that you help me to recognise that, although it is hard to be truly Catholic, You are by my side helping me along the way to have faith and demonstrate a sacrificial life for others just you did.

Y: I want to have strong faith and demonstrate a sacrificial life for others just as you did when you carried your cross.
Amen.