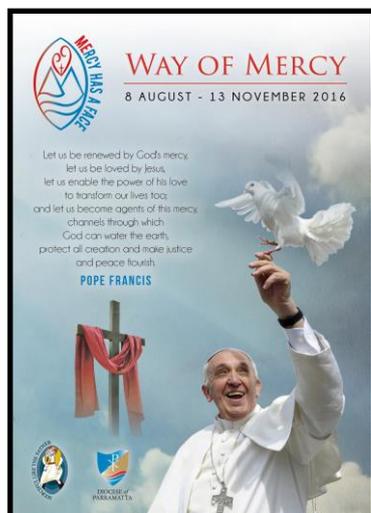


Mercy Cross and Relics



During this 'Jubilee Year of Mercy', Pope Francis has invited our Church to celebrate God's mercy in a special way. To honour this invitation a four-metre high Cross of Mercy and two Relics are journeying through the Parramatta Diocese between 8 August and 13 November - calling people from all walks of life to join in prayer and celebration, and inviting us to consider how we are agents of mercy.

Next **Tuesday, 9 August** the Mercy Cross and Relics will be visiting St Oliver's. To celebrate this very important occasion we will be having a special **'Way of Mercy' Liturgy**. Our liturgy will take place in the Church at **9am SHARP**. The bell will ring 10 minutes early to ensure we are ready to start on time.

All members of our community are encouraged to join us for this special occasion.

In addition, St Margaret Mary's Parish, Merrylands will be hosting the Mercy Cross and Relics on the weekend of the 13 and 14 August. At this time communities from the surrounding parishes are invited to gather and celebrate as one community. Further details can be obtained from the St Margaret Mary's parish team.

Year Two Assembly Prayer by Maria-Kayla

Dear God,
 Thank you for creating a beautiful world with different kinds of animals and plants.
 Thank you for giving us life and making us your children.
 Thank you for giving me a happy family.
 Bless my family always dear God.
 Amen.

Dates to Remember

August

- 5th Multicultural Day
- 8th Book Fair – Library open 3pm – 4pm
- 9th Book Fair – Library open 8:15am – 9am
- 9th Zone Athletics Carnival
- 9th Way of Mercy Liturgy @ 9am in the church
- 11th PRC paper copies return to school
- 12th Assembly @ 2:30pm Whole School – Stage 2
- 16th ICAS Maths Competition
- 19th PRC closes Stage 3 @ Parish Mass
- 22nd **BOOK Week begins**
- 23rd Netball Gala Day Stage 2 & Stage 3
- 25th Book Character Parade 9:15am
- 26th Stage 2 @ Parish Mass
- 29th David Legge visit Australian author/illustrator
- 30th Father's Day Stall

September

- 1st Father's Day BBQ at 8am and Liturgy at 9am
- 2nd Stage 1 and ES1 @ Parish Mass
- 9th **Staff Development Day – NO SCHOOL**
- 16th Stage 2 @ Parish Mass
- 17th Bunnings BBQ – fundraiser
- 23rd Stage 1 and ES1 @ Parish Mass
- 23rd LAST DAY OF TERM 3**

CENSUS DAY – TOMORROW 5 AUGUST – ALL STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Friday, 5 August is our Census Day.

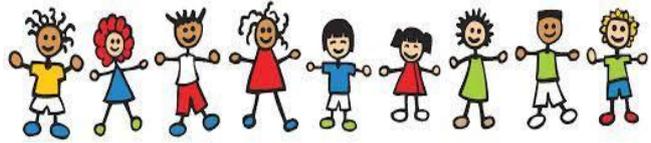
Our school has to account for all students at school tomorrow.

We are asking that all children be at school to make our student count easier.

We also must account for all students who are away from school on the day.

If your child will be away, please ensure that you phone the school, send an email or send a note via the Skoolbag app on the day. Thank you for your co-operation.

Focus On Learning



This week we celebrate Multicultural Day at St Oliver's. A timely reminder to each of us of the importance of not only accepting, but EMBRACING each other's differences!

Tolerance: a vital ingredient for your child's success

By Michael Grose

Kids who accept differences in others are setting themselves up for success in the world of diversity that they will enter.

Want your child to be successful way past the confines of the school gate? Then you need to make sure your child is tolerant of individual differences and accepting of children and adults who look and act differently to them.

There's no doubt that success in today's world depends on the ability to understand, appreciate and work with others. The child who is open to differences is likely to have more opportunities in school, in business and in life in general.

Schools are diverse places

Walk into any school ground in Australia and you'll witness diversity firsthand. You're likely to see children from many different cultural, racial and family backgrounds. You'll also see kids with different needs and diverse ways of expressing themselves. Some kids will wear their hearts on their sleeves, while others will be taciturn and quiet. Tolerant kids are accepting of these differences. They make friends with children and young people who may look and act differently to them.

Intolerance breeds bullying

Intolerance, or prejudice, is at the heart of a great deal of the bullying that occurs among children and young people. Kids who look and act differently or who are more isolated often experience bullying for no apparent reason other than the fact that they are 'different'. Whole-hearted acceptance and even appreciation of differences is a preventative bullying measure that we can all support.

Tolerance starts at home

Kids learn attitudes such as tolerance from those around them. Children in primary school usually reflect the attitudes of their parents. While adolescents are strongly influenced by their peers, parental attitudes still have a significant impact on their attitudes to other people. In short, if you want your child to be accepting of differences – whether they are racial, cultural, behavioural or in sexual orientation – then make tolerance a family trait.

Here's how:

- Help your child feel accepted, respected, and valued. When your child feels good about himself, he is more able to treat others respectfully.
- Model acceptance. Kids learn what they live so make sure you welcome differences in others, and be sensitive to cultural or racial stereotypes. It also helps on a practical level to discuss prejudice and stereotypes when they occur in the media.
- Challenge prejudice or narrow-minded views. Sometimes kids, knowingly or unknowingly, can say the cruelest things about others. As a parent respectfully remind your child or young person about the impact that a narrow view can have on his or her own behaviour as well as on those it may be directed towards. Intolerance of diversity is an attitude that parents should make a stand against.
- Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. Teach your kids that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- Respect individual differences within your own family. Your ability to accept your children's differing abilities, interests and styles will go a long way towards establishing an attitude of tolerance in the children themselves. By valuing the uniqueness of each member of your family you are teaching your kids to value the strengths in others, no matter how diverse.

Modern Australia is such a wonderful culturally-rich place. This diversity is part of its magic. One way to make sure our children fully appreciate this richness is to fully embrace tolerance in everything we do.

STAGE 3 CANBERRA EXCURSION

On the 21st of July at 6:45am, Stage 3 woke up extremely early to head off to Canberra to learn more for our History unit and to enjoy a getaway. We took a Murray's Coach and our driver's name was Des. He was an excellent man. - **Zoe**

At first glance the Australian War Memorial was an amazing structure and the more I looked, the more amazing it became. Visiting the Memorial made me feel selfish for taking all the things our soldiers fought for for granted and yet grateful for their sacrifices. - **Miranda**



I loved the planes at the Australian War Memorial. They had a video at the second post and it made you feel like you were taking off in the planes. - **Adam**

The planes were cool, but nowhere near as amazing as watching real life soldiers marching back and forth with their rifles. They even marched at the same time guarding and following orders - **Francine**

When we started going through the areas in the War Memorial, World War I was the place that fascinated me the most. **Nehal**

As part of camp we went to the Australian Electoral Office. We learnt how to vote and we got to vote ourselves. - **Layla**

We saw the voting systems in the old days or years and we thought it wasn't fair. Then our tour guide taught us how to vote and gave us tips on voting - **Joseph K**



While I was at the old Parliament and new Parliament, I discovered that maybe I should become a politician because there's so much to learn and do. **Leyot**

My favourite part was going to Parliament House. It was the best because we got to do a senate role play and I got to be the minister. - **John-Paul**

The AIS (Australian Institute of Sport) was amazing. It was really fun, especially the fun zone. - **Adriano**

On the second day of Canberra our last stop was a place called Questacon. It was a Science museum that had lots of different areas. Questacon was hands on and very fun. - **Eloise**

When I was holding on the bar of the slide at Questacon I had sweaty hands. The person counted "3,2,1." I let go. Now I just want to go again. - **Jonas**

There was a lightning strike room in Questacon. Huge electricity bolts made a massive sound and a pretty impressive light show. - **Don**

I went to the room that tells you how the earth works. I liked the lightning strike, but luckily it was fake. - **Kaleah**

Canberra provided us with an amazing entry event for our current PBL unit. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education.



To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding for each student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program. We thank them for their support.

Our school prayer says, “So many hearts build a school”. Sometimes it only takes a few strong and willing hearts to build a school.

During our holidays we had carpet installed in our Stage 1 Learning Space. On the first and the last Saturday of the holidays a few members of our community generously gave their time and energy to help move furniture, take up carpet and return the furniture. Their efforts saved the school approximately \$2000. This money will be used to buy resources for the learning space.

On behalf of the Stage 1 children, I would like to thank these wonderful people for giving their time to help make our school a better place. Our thanks and appreciation go out to; Mrs Manuel Jeyaraj (Philemon Yr 5), Mr Ross (Jarrod Yr 1), Mrs Haiek (Samuel Yr 2 & Charlie Yr 1), Mrs Mifsud, Mrs Jean-Louis, Mr Mangion, Mr Ziebowski, Miss Buttigieg, Ms Sarina and Alex (parishioner).



Stage One’s new carpet

Stage One was fortunate enough to have new carpet laid in our space. It has made such a difference to the Stage One space as it now looks very smart and fresh.

Our sincere thanks must go to Mrs. Haiek and Mr. Ross as well as Mrs Manuel Jeyaraj (Philemon’s mum from Stage Three). It is with their help and that of the teachers who gave up their holiday time, that the space was cleared, carpet painstakingly pulled up, and furniture returned all before Day One of Term Three.

Here is what the Stage One students think about the carpet.

My mum helped take up the carpet and she pulled out the nails too. Charlie.

I like the new carpet. It’s soft and it smells good and there are no holes now. Ann.

The carpet feels like a smooth, soft pillow. Our carpet makes our space look fabulous. Ethan.

The carpet smells fresh and we don’t drop any rubbish on the carpet. Maria-Kayla.

The new carpet makes our space look new and inviting. Annette.

It is wonderful to have new carpet. It makes our space look bigger and better than before. We have to be very careful with our new carpet. Adya.

My dad helped to take the old carpet out of my classroom. Jarrod.

