



St Oliver's Primary Newsletter

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Term 4

Week 2

2014

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Dear Families of St Oliver's,

Welcome back to the final term for 2014! It seems amazing that we welcomed our new Kindergarten children for 2015 to the transition program this week. I am sure that you will welcome any new families you see in the school grounds in the next few weeks. I know that most children remember their experience at transition and recall funny little anecdotes that have stayed in their minds throughout their years at school.

Most commonly these memories are about feelings and the way people interacted with them rather than what they actually did. We know that our new group of Kindergarten students will have many happy memories and meet many new friends. Often for parents, the families they meet when their child starts school will remain friends for life. We are very pleased and privileged to share this journey with the children and their families.

Just as our new Kindergarten students are beginning a very important journey in their lives, so to is one of our teachers! I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Tripodi and her fiancé, Matthew, the best of luck with their upcoming wedding on 1 November. Miss Tripodi will be on leave from Monday, 27 October until Monday, 1 December when she will return as Mrs Iovannella.

Peace and best wishes,

Mr Anthony McElhone,

Principal

Dates to Remember!

Friday 17th October
Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day

Monday 20th October
Coffee 'n' Chat

Wednesday 22nd October
Diocesan Basketball Gala Day

Friday 31st October
Meal Deal

3rd – 14th November
Swimming Program

Friday 28th November
Meal Deal



This month, don't miss a unique celebration of the first Feast Day of St John Paul II (22 October 2014)

Courtesy The Catholic Weekly

Artes Christi in association with the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Family & Life Office present

THE JEWELLER'S SHOP
A play by St John Paul II on the Sacrament of Marriage

~ One Performance Only ~

Sunday 26th October at 3pm
Parramatta Riverside Theatre

Decades before he was called to the global stage, Karol Wojtyla was a playwright and actor in the Rhapsodio Theatre, a secret underground company strictly prohibited by the Nazis. With no props, theatrical lights or sets, these plays came to rely entirely on the power of "the word".

The Jeweller's Shop is the most famous of all the Rhapsodio Theatre plays and is itself a profound insight into St John Paul's understanding of human love, relationships and marriage.

"A totally captivating piece of theatre."

Tickets: \$30 adults, \$25 concession, \$20 for groups of 8+

Presented by Artes Christi

Proudly sponsored by Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Family & Life Office

For tickets and further information visit WWW.THEWORD.ORG.AU

SCHOOL NEWS

Coffee and Chat

Please come along on Monday 20th October after assembly to have a coffee and chat and discuss the events happening in Term 4 and hear the feedback we have received about the new sports shirt. Everyone is welcome and if you haven't been before please don't feel shy – we are always grateful for parent interest and support and new ideas.

Christmas Raffle

It's not too early to start thinking about our Christmas raffle! Each year we have a raffle that is drawn on the night of the Christmas Concert. If you are able to donate a gift for this raffle we would be very grateful. In the past this has been a very popular event and we have been able to offer great prizes thanks to the generosity of our families. This year our Christmas Concert will be held on Friday, 5 December. **Please note - if you have not returned your permission to send home raffle tickets note you will not receive any raffle tickets this year.**

Canteen News

We are desperately in need of volunteers to help out in the canteen on Wednesdays! Our canteen is run by a small dedicated group of parents who graciously give of their time. Without volunteers our canteen will close! If you are able to assist please contact the school office.

Upcoming event – Sausage Sizzle Meal Deal on 31 October. More details to follow.

Swimming Program

The St Oliver's Swimming Program is starting soon. The program will be run from Monday, 3 November until Friday, 14 November at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. The students received notes regarding this last term and all permission slips must be returned to their class teacher by no later than Friday, 24 October. Swimming is a compulsory requirement of the NSW Board of Studies curriculum and it is expected that all children will participate fully. Please see Ms Sandersan if you have any questions or concerns about your child attending the program.

Exemption from Attendance at School

It is imperative to obtain paperwork from the school office if your child will be absent from school for a period of more than 3 days (*this does not apply if your child is sick*) in any one period e.g. family holiday. We would appreciate if this documentation could be returned to school at least **2 weeks prior** to the leave being taken. This form must be completed, signed and returned to the school office with copies of relevant travel documentation (if applicable). Approval will then be discerned by the Principal and you will be provided with notification. The relevant application for exemption can be obtained in a hard copy from the school office or on our school website.

Change into Summer Uniform

Students should have transitioned to summer uniform. Please ensure that your child complies with all aspects of our school uniform policy.

Families not returning to St Oliver's in 2014

As a requirement of the Board of Studies, we ask that if your family will not be returning to St Oliver's in 2015, you complete the slip below and return to school as soon as possible (this does not apply to families in Year 6). This process will assist us with accommodating students who are currently on our waiting list.

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO ST OLIVER'S IN 2015

FAMILY NAME _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ CLASS _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ CLASS _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ CLASS _____

Reason for leaving _____

New address (if applicable)

Contact number _____

New school attending _____

Parent signature _____

Date _____

The Great Banquet: God's Invitation

Gospel: Mt 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.



Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

Reflection:

As incredible as it may seem, some people turn down the invitation to the kingdom of God. This is the case, both in the parable and in our world today. The first guests are God’s Chosen People, and the prophets are the ones delivering the invitations. But the sinners and outcasts of society are the ones who end up sitting at God’s table. We learn that as Christians, just showing up is not enough. To be a guest at the table means that we must have the character that marks the Christian life. In the parable, that character is symbolised by the wedding garment.

This invitation seems much less interesting than a sports event, the latest movie, or some social affair. So much of our time and energy is spent either climbing the economic ladder or just trying to keep our heads above water. Even if we are interested in the banquet, we do not seem able to afford the time and energy that it might require. And so we send our regrets: I cannot come.

We seem to have forgotten that everything is about what will happen at the end of our life; all of our plans, interests and distractions will cease. Only the banquet will remain. All God asks of us is that we receive the blessings that have been prepared for us. We need not work for them. In fact, we cannot work for them on our own. All we can do is enjoy them. Enjoyment of fulfilment is open to all, but guaranteed to none.

Our total dependence is on God. God spreads the banquet table and invites the guests; God punishes those who are indifferent to or antagonistic toward the banquet; God supplies whatever we need in whatever circumstances we find ourselves. We do not have to bargain with God, or make reservations. All we have to do is accept what God has to offer. In our life we must care about what we say and do, the values by which we live our lives at home, at work, at play and in the way we relate to each other is how we show that we mean what we profess.

Prayer:

Dear God, help me to be a faithful servant to spread my faith to others so we can all join in partaking of your heavenly feast. Amen.

InfoZone

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

ST OLIVER'S CELEBRATE!



Congratulations to Arthur Sadek, runner-up in the prestigious Diocesan Voice of Youth Grand Final! We are so very proud of him. Arthur impressed everyone with his outstanding speech, his presentation skills and confident delivery. He has set a standard for St Oliver's students for the future!



SKOOLBAG APP



If you are using the St Oliver's Skoolbag app and have upgraded any of your devices to iOS8 you may be experiencing some compatibility issues. Please be assured that will be rectified within the next few weeks.

For those who have not yet downloaded Skoolbag please visit the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. It's a great way to receive up-to-date information from the school. To search for our app use the terms **St Oliver's Skoolbag**. Ipad users please search in iPhone/iPod apps.

KINDERGARTEN LIBRARY BORROWING



Kindergarten children will have a **CHANGE** of borrowing day for 3 weeks only. Children will borrow on **MONDAY** 27th October, 3rd November and 10th November (weeks 4, 5, 6). Kindergarten Library borrowing will continue on Tuesdays for all other weeks.

MOVIE MAKING

Stage 3 enjoyed a day of learning with an Apple educator. They used ipads, iMovie features, Tellagami and a green screen app to make a short movie. They have big plans for a special project.



Mrs Lesley Quinn
Teacher Librarian



Scholastic Book Club

The closing date for orders for issue 7 is Tuesday 21st October; please make sure all orders are on a full and complete order form.