



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 2 Week 3

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

14th May 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

90
*Celebrating 90
years of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020*

Dear Families,

This week, groups of children have been invited back to school if parents have felt comfortable with this. It has been such a pleasure to greet the different groups of children and parents every morning at the front gate. I have loved seeing their smiling faces.

It has been a number of weeks since I have seen many of the children, aside from their face during the Zoom meetings. I am amazed by how much they have grown during this time.

A very big thank you to all our parents and carers who have worked with their children, run a household and for many of you, carried out your own work commitments.

Barbara Young



Dev (Kindy)



Joshua (Kindy)



Eva (Kindy)



Alexander (Kindy)



Stage 2



Stage 2



SCHOOL FEE HELP

We are aware of the financial strain that COVID-19 is having on some families and its impact on their capacity to pay school fees.

School fee relief is being offered to families who have been adversely affected by COVID 19. Please go to our school website:

- Complete the online application
or
- Complete the Fee Relief Request (rather than providing your details online) then email it to cl@parra.catholic.edu.au
or
- Call into our school office and collect a paper copy of the form, complete and drop back to our office and we will send it in for you.

There is no deadline for completing the forms and your information will be treated in strict confidence. It will also be treated in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles and our Privacy Statement.

If you wish to reduce, suspend or cancel your current direct debit arrangements, please send an email to cl@parra.catholic.edu.au. Of course, if you would like to have a confidential conversation about any of these matters, please contact either Mrs Small or Ms Young via the school office.

Sick children

Due to COVID-19 protocols, please do not send your child to school if they are unwell
eg: cough, sore throat, runny nose.

If your child is unwell at school, we will be contacting parents to pick up their child. Any child who presents as sick are sent to sickbay and isolated.

We appreciate your understanding during these difficult times.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

From this week until the end of Week 5 (Friday, 29th May) students may return to school on their allocated day. The timetable was sent to all families via Skoolbag. If you feel comfortable that your child will be safe, you can send them to school.

Teachers are delivering face to face learning and monitoring the online learning for those students learning at home. Online learning will be checked at least twice a day.

Please remember, if you need to send your child to school on days other than their allotted day you can.

School uniform

All students need to return in winter uniform.

Play equipment

There is a limited amount of play equipment at recess and lunch. The equipment that is put out is disinfected at the end of each play period.

Children are encouraged to bring a handball to play with during these weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.

Easter raffle results

Congratulations to the following winners:

1st - Gabrielle A Yr 6

2nd - Ryan R Yr 3

3rd - Adrian P Yr 6

4th - Mia A Yr 1

5th - Carson H Yr 1

6th - Isaata C Yr 3

7th - Alex B Yr 2

8th - Yun Chien C Yr 1

9th - Elisa F Yr K

Raffle prizes will be under lock and key until they are collected.



Updated morning and afternoon procedures

Morning procedure

Parents will need to drop their children off at the front gate on Wigram Street. A teacher will be present at the gate from 8.30 am to greet the children and let them into the school.

If parents need to access the school office the teacher will chaperone them, ensuring that there is minimal social contact.

Afternoon procedure

Kiss and Go

Parents are recommended to use Kiss and Go. Kiss and Go will now operate as normal with parents reminded to not pull out to the road until the car in front has left. Please remember to display your child's name.

Pick Up

If parents choose to pick up their child, they are to *wait near the Wigram Street gate and adhere to social distancing*. A teacher will bring your child to the gate.

These procedures have changed due to the increased number of parents at pick up and the need for adults to still social distance.

As mentioned in the Return to School letter, please remember, St Oliver's is open and learning starts at 9 am. If you are comfortable with your child's safety, and you need to send your child to school on any day, do so.

Dear Families,

This year in 2020 the world came together as the people stayed apart for Easter (Jennifer Wagner, 2020).

Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God,

behold our sorrowful condition:

comfort your children and open our hearts to hope,

so that we might feel your Fatherly

presence in our midst.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and

reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,

for ever and ever. R.Amen

HAPPY EASTER

Easter is normally a time of gathering and celebrations. This year, it may have been more quiet and still for your family. Seeking stillness in Easter may have been a difficult change, nice change or could have even been the same.

As Jesus rose on Easter Sunday let us reflect:

Each day that we are alive we have much to celebrate. Life is a great gift from God, and we show our love for our creator by the way we live our one wild and precious life. So, get up, life has conquered death, shout for joy and get busy living!

What are the stones we need to roll away in our life so we can live it more abundantly?

Weekly Prayer by the Marists 2020

No. 5 21st April

ANZAC DAY 2020

On Saturday, 25th April we also experienced what may have been a first. The commemoration of ANZAC Day was celebrated in the home driveways, in stillness across our nation. This reminded me of a song I would listen to with my Grandpa. 'The band played waltzing matilda', Eric Boyle

"And now every April I sit on my porch"

This line always intrigued me as my Grandpa used to also choose not to march, but sit on ANZAC Day like all of us did this year. My Grandpa was a veteran and someone I am very proud of. Below is a tribute I wrote when I was in primary school that I wanted to share with the community.

*"Bill Matthews is my dad's dad.
He fought in World War 2 in Papua New Guinea.
He wasn't there for long because he attacked a machine
gun bed and got shot in the leg and had to get his leg
chopped off. He was mentioned in dispatches and won
many medals for being in certain places at certain times.
My Pa doesn't march in the city on Anzac Day,
I don't know why, I think it's because he doesn't want to
remember, or just because he doesn't want to walk that far,
but he goes to the RSL Club.
I don't know any stories because Pa doesn't like talking
about it and I'm not game to ask."*

By Anthony Matthews, 6B

Extract from St Agatha's Primary School 1997 Year Book

Lest we forget

WORSHIP

During this pandemic we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist. Therefore, school liturgy, mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation is on pause from a group and gathering stand point. Although, we can still experience God's closeness and tenderness, and I feel it is in pain, in suffering, in solitude and in fear that God is closest.

St Oliver's is a community of passion, compassion and welcome. We are apart, but we are united like we are united in our diversity.

It was tremendous to see so many families join the ZOOM liturgies in Week 1 for the Anzac prayer service and Easter prayer liturgy.

Mother's Day

In Week 2, the community had planned to come together for our traditional Mother's Day Breakfast and liturgy. This did not happen physically this year. Instead, a reflection was put together and placed on Seesaw. I

Sports News - ALL SPORT temporarily ceasing until further notice

[The Parramatta Diocesan Primary & Secondary Schools Sport Councils have received notification on 16 March 2020 from Catholic Schools NSW Sport Services that a range of sport events, including MacKillop and NSWCCC selection trials, have temporarily ceased until further notice due to the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) situation.](#)

Due to these developments, CEDP has advised that Diocesan level events will also cease effective immediately until further notice.

Parents that have made a payment (levies and representative apparel) via the Catholic Schools NSW Sport Portal will receive a refund in due course if events do not proceed.

The Parramatta Diocesan Primary & Secondary Schools Sport Councils will endeavour to hold representative events once the temporary ceasing is lifted, if possible.

Updated event information regarding further events will be distributed as we are notified of new dates.

What does this mean for St Oliver's

- School cross country is on pause
- School athletics carnival is on pause
- All gala days are tentative

Like all sporting communities, we are awaiting notification and Government advice on health and sport gatherings. When restriction levels are changed and we receive guidance from Parramatta Diocese Primary Sport, a new plan will be devised accordingly.