### NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 8

19TH MARCH 2014



## Our Lady Queen of Peace School

Braeside Road, Greystanes NSW 2145
Phone: 9631 1500 Fax: 9636 2312
Website: www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au
Email: olqp@parra.catholic.edu.au

#### **ENROLLING NOW FOR 2015**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**March 2014** 

#### Thurs 20th:

- Uniform shop 8.30-10am
- Year 3 at Parish Mass 9.15am

#### Fri 21st:

Year 4 at Parish Mass

#### Sat 22nd:

Uniform shop 8.30-10am

#### Tues 25th:

 Feast of The Annunciation

#### Wed 26th:

Year 5 at Parish Mass

#### Thurs 27th:

Year 6 at Parish Mass9.15am

#### Mon 31st:

Cross Country for Year 3-

#### **April 2014**

#### Fri 4th:

- Kindy at Parish Mass9:15am
- Dance Fever starts @4:30pm

#### Wed 9th:

P& F meeting @ 7:30pm

#### Fri 11th:

•Last day of Term 1

Dear students, parents and teachers,

We are now in week 8 and a busy period for teaching and learning.

I am very pleased to introduce a new administration assistant to our office. Mrs Olga Caristo will be working on reception beginning this week. She comes to us having worked in a Primary School in Haberfield and I know you will make her feel welcome.

We are now formally accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. We hope to start interviewing early next term so it is important for all families to submit their application as soon as possible. Enrolments close on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May and any applications received after this date will be placed on a waiting list. If you have a child of school age or know of someone who does, please contact the school and ask for an enrolment form. Alternatively you can download a form from our website.

This year the official date for wearing the school winter uniform will be Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May. It will be important that the children are all in the winter uniform as we will be having our school photos taken the following week on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Just a reminder, that running shoes, worn on sports days, need to be predominantly white. Some reminder letters have been sent home to families this week. Sports shoes can be purchased from the uniform shop. For details on uniform shop opening hours in the school holidays please visit our school website <a href="https://www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au">www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au</a>

Last week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. We began with a special liturgy and lots of classroom discussion on the role of our Catholic Schools especially in Western Sydney. Fr Bob and Fr. Suresh visited classes during the week and spoke about the role of priests, our Bishop and the Pope. We concluded the week with open classrooms and lots of families visited the rooms on Friday afternoon.

Our next **School Mass** in the Parish will be held on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am**. I hope that lots of our families will be able to attend as our children have been invited to participate in the choir, greeters, collectors, readers and the offertory procession. This is a great way to enhance our Parish community.



#### **Principal's Message Continued**

Over the next few weeks we are hoping to organise some workshops for parents who would like to work in our classroom with reading, writing etc. This is a great opportunity for parents to help with the learning program particularly as children require lots of practise when they are learning how to read. For those parents currently working in classes it is important to remember that information regarding **the children needs to be kept confidential at all times.** 

One of the priorities for our playground space over the last 2 weeks has been cleanliness. Teachers and students have been made aware of the need to use rubbish bins and to keep our hands clean. Please reinforce these ideas at home. Parents can also help by unwrapping many food items placed in the child's lunch box.

This week also we have sent home an invitation to the **Dance Fever** Showcase to be held at the **State Sports Centre at Homebush** on **4**<sup>th</sup> **April**. Over the next two weeks the children will be practising for the event and they are all looking forward to participating.

At our last P&F Meeting Mrs Garzaniti spoke about the introduction of the new National English Syllabus. She also talked about how families can support their children at home with how they learn and develop their reading skills. It was a very well received information evening with nearly 50 families in attendance. Our next P&F Meeting will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm with another guest speaker to be announced.

This week students from years 5 and 6, all staff and a group of parents randomly selected by the Catholic Education Office, will take part in a Quality Catholic Schools survey. This survey is taken every year and is an opportunity to hear from the community regarding areas such as Catholic culture, teaching and learning, communication, parent participation etc. The results of the survey will be returned to us in June for analysis.

Have a great week.

#### Michael Hopley

#### Active Kids are healthy Kids.....

#### 5 Ways to a Healthy Lifestyle

There are five simple ways for your family to lead a healthy lifestyle:

1. Get active each day



3. Eat more fruit and vegetables



4. Switch off the screen and get active



5. Eat fewer snacks and select healthier alternatives





For more information, visit www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

### More Than A Great Education!

Last week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. This is an annual event enabling us to celebrate our strengths and distinctiveness. It increases public awareness of the wonderful opportunities that Catholic schools provide, and allows us to celebrate our rich history and many wonderful achievements that make Catholic schools unique.

OLQP is a truly wonderful community to be a part of and we pray that together we can continue to strive to make it an even better place!

#### Dear Lord

Catholic Schools Week is a special time in the year when we celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our Catholic schools. It is a time to give thanks for the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place each day in every classroom. We acknowledge and thank all who work in the service of Catholic education to create the opportunities for students that allow them to grow and thrive.

We thank you for the wisdom and understanding of teachers, the enthusiasm and energy of students, the leadership of school Principals and executive staff, the skill, care and commitment of administrative and support staff, the guidance of our pastors and religious leaders, the support and partnership of parents, carers and local communities.

We pray that each student's learning journey be inspired by a search for your wisdom and truth.

We pray that we never take for granted the learning opportunities that we have all been given, and that we use the gifts of learning wisely and responsibly.

We ask that we use what we have learnt to create a better world for all people, particularly the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen

Blessings for a wonderful week,

Rebecca Lloyd REC

Our next Children's Mass will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10am. Please return your child's note ASAP if they are interested in a specific role on the day.

## Sacrament of Confirmation 2014 Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Greystanes

We would like to advise that our Parish is currently accepting enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation for 2014 and we invite all students in Year 5, Year 6 or above, to continue their Sacramental Process. To receive an enrolment form or any further information, please contact our Sacramental Office on 8863 1827 or email <a href="mailto:sacraments@olqp.org.au">sacraments@olqp.org.au</a>

OFFICE NEWS

#### **SCHOOL FEES**

School fees are now overdue.

If you have not made arrangements already please contact Nicole in the office to do so.

#### STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND EXEMPTIONS

If students are going to be absent from school for any period of time it is compulsory that the school be notified in writing. For short absences due to sickness, appointments, family matters etc., a letter to the teacher explaining the absence is acceptable. But in the case of absences for the purpose of holidays the school must be notified in writing in advance



and an Application for Exemption from Attendance at School Form must be completed and returned to the office for approval by the Principal.

These forms are available from the school office and must be completed prior to the absence.

These guidelines have been set by the Catholic Education Commission in conjunction with the Education Act 1990

#### STUDENT BANKING



A reminder that Student Banking is up and running again this year.

Every **Monday** parents from the **P&F** will be located outside the office where students can bring their banking in for processing.

All students and siblings are encouraged to open an account with **CBA Greystanes Branch**, as our **P&F** receives a percentage of all funds banked with CBA, which inturn helps our school.

**HAPPY BANKING....** 

#### **COLLECTING CHILDREN EARLY**

To avoid unnecessary disruption to the classrooms we ask that parents try to avoid the need to collect their child/children early, especially after **2:45pm** as this is the time of the day when teachers are handing out notes and organising students for dismissal. If you know in advance that you need to collect your child from school early please send a note with your child to the teacher in the morning so that the teacher can ensure the student is in the office ready. This saves the office staff from having to constantly interrupt the classrooms.

It is preferred that medical or other appointments be made before or after school hours to avoid disruption to student's learning.

#### **Sports Trials**

We would like to congratulate the children that have represented OLQP at the recent sports trials. Last week, Hayden Shaw and Chris Rutherford trialed for Softball at the Mackillop trials. They demonstrated some outstanding skills and will now travel to Lismore in September to represent MacKillop at the NSW Schools Softball trials. We would like to wish them all the best!!

Last week Damien Khattar, Adam Abi-Arrage, Nicholas Bilokapic, Ethan Oldridge and Katarina Bonovas all participated at the Parramatta Soccer Trials. We would like to congratulate all the children for their participation and courageous spirit. We would like to especially congratulate Katarina, Ethan and Nicholas who were selected to represent Parramatta at the next level of soccer trials in Canberra on the 9<sup>th</sup> May. Good luck and all the best in Canberra!

#### **Cross Country News**

Our annual Primary Cross Country will be held at Daniel St Park on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March. We are looking forward to a fun day and ask that your child's permission notes are returned as soon as possible. If you are able to assist on the day could you please contact the office. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

#### **Swimming News**

We would like at acknowledge the students that represented the school at the Diocesan Championship at Blacktown 2 weeks ago. All of the students performed exceptionally well and many performed personal best times. (Please see the attached photo of the team.) We would like to wish the following students all the best at the up-coming Swimming Championships at Homebush Aquatic Centre on the 28<sup>th</sup> March and we look forward to hearing about their experience.

The Junior Boys- Joshua Madeleine, Logan Fowler, Michael Vicic & Daniel Pedavoli

Junior Girls Relay – Bianca Bezzina, Trisha Castelino, Breeanah Khoury & Christina Callaghan

Carl Sorensen- 12yrs/ Senior 50m Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breaststroke, 100m Freestyle, 200m IM

Sarah Denniss- 11yr 50m Butterfly

Breeanah Khoury- 9yr 50m Freestyle

Trisha Castelino- 10yr / Junior 50m Butterfly, Freestyle, Backstroke & 200 IM

**Melinda Gray** 

#### **LITERACY**

I would just like to thank everyone who came along to the session on Literacy at last week's P&F Meeting. For me it was a great opportunity to meet some of our OLQP parents and to hear what they would like support with in the area of Literacy. Following on from this session I would like to offer some workshops to assist parents to support their children in the areas of reading and writing. If you would be interested in attending any of these sessions please let me know by going to the following link:

#### http://tinyurl.com/oxpvlcb

Thanks once again for making me welcome!

Mrs Frances Garzaniti

**Assistant Principal** 



#### **SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**

OLQP has a few avenues of communicating with our families.

- Hard Copy— Important notes, excursion notes & permission slips will be sent home with students.
- Website/Email—Important alerts and the fortnightly newsletter are issued via the E-News subscription. To subscribe to E-News go to the school website www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au and click on Subscribe to E-News.
- Skoolbag—This is an app for iPhones and Android phones. See the information below about how to install Skoolbag onto your mobile phone.

#### **NEWS**

#### **OLOP VEGETABLE GARDEN**

Attention all Green thumbs!





this project and need your help. If you are able to **donate** any **vegetable seedlings** for the garden, could you please contact the office and leave a message for **Mrs Kelly** or **Miss Moses** about your donation.

#### **PARKING CONCERNS**

We are still getting a number of complaints from residents in **Lloyd Street.** 

We ask Parents to be mindful with **all** our local residents and not park or stop in front of drive ways causing unnecessary stress to those residents trying to enter or exit their homes!!!



#### A BIG THANK YOU

to all that have supported our fruit and veg box drive this term. Your orders will be delivered the week starting Monday 31 March and Aussie Farmers Direct will be in contact.

An order form will be going out shortly to get fresh Hot Cross Buns in 4 flavours ready for Easter! The buns will be \$5 for a pack of 6 large yummy hot cross buns. Correct Money will need to sent into the office with your order form no later then the Friday 28th March and will be sent home with your child on the Wednesday 9th April.

In 2013 the spending break up of the \$50,000 we raised was as follows: \$18,000 on laptops and iPads \$12,000 on refurbishing mainly year 5 class rooms and the remaining \$20,000 has been set aside into an investment account ready for the soft fall on the passive area.

In 2014 we would love to donate the same again with your help. This year \$30,000 will go toward the soft fall area and the balance will be used on flat screen televisions for some class rooms and up grading and adding to our fleet of laptops.

Because you donate every child in the school benefits!!!

Thank you for your continued support.

Melissa Gini

P & F President

#### T-BALL

A number of students from OLQP play in the Cumberland Nepean T-ball association for the Greystanes Giants. On Saturday 15th March the grand finals were held at Stanhope gardens. The Giants U9 girls team were victorious with 2 of our students Rhianna Gerardis (3G) and Hope Cini (3H) both from year 2 being an integral part of this team. Well done girls on your success.



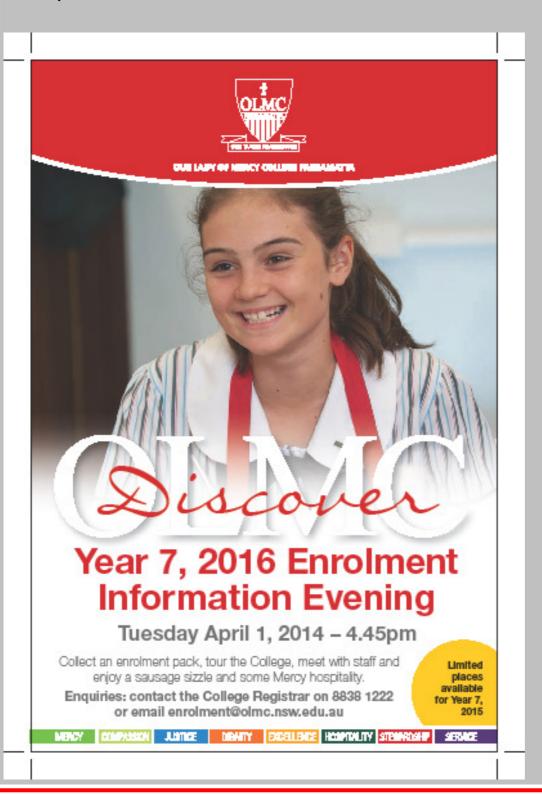
Melissa Cini

#### DISCOVER WHAT A MERCY EDUCATION CAN DO FOR YOUR DAUGHTER -

Year 7, 2016 Enrolment Information Evening

*Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta* invites prospective families to the Year 7, 2016 Enrolment Information Evening at **4.45pm** on **April 1**. Tour the College, collect an Enrolment pack, attend an information session, meet the Principal and College staff and enjoy a BBQ with the OLMC P&F. For enquiries, please contact the Registrar on **8838 1222** or email <a href="mailto:registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au">registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au</a>.

Limited places available for Year 7 2015





## The Transition to High School: Helping your child to build resilience and navigate change

#### Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 26 March 2014 DATE:

7pm (Doors open 6.30pm for TIME:

tea & coffee)

LOCATION: : St Paul's Catholic College.

198 Old Prospect Road,

Greystanes

Booking: prcparraevents@hotmail.com

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www.prc.catholic.edu.au

About the presenter ...

Melissa is a counsellor and occupational therapist private Northwestern practice Sydney. Melissa enjoys speaking to parent & student groups and is passionate about equipping parents with tools they can use with their children in a practical way. The Resilience Doughnut is an exciting and practical tool for parents to use to build strengths and resilience.

Find out more about Melissa at our website

mbining Strengths to Thrive

For parents and carers with children in Year 6, 7 and 8 who are looking to enhance their child's early high school experience.

#### Topics include:

- Working with changing relationships between family, teachers and peers.
- Helping parents build strong, resilient, resourceful and confident teens.
- Tools to assist teens through difficult or challenging times.

Website: www.theresiliencedoughnut.com.au

#### **CANTEEN ROSTER**

#### Thursday 20th March:

Liz Cusbert, Susan Kizana, Therese Kazzi,

Cathy Grew

#### Friday 21st March:

Amanda Heimann, Wilma Paolini, Vicki Youisph, Gaye Dennis, Julie Rush

#### Monday 24th March:

Nicole Denniss, Margaret Elcham

Vivianne Russell

#### Tuesday 25th March:

Margurite O'Connor, Kim Nuner

#### Wednesday 26th March:

Sandra Wilson, Ally Tsalikis, Cynthia La Rosa

#### Thursday 27th March:

Rebecca Simari, Faye Abdel-Ahad, Teresa

Rota, Cara Pedavoli

#### Friday 28th March:

Carol Sioufi, Effie Bonovas, Maggie Sabbagh, Joanne Lee

#### Monday 31st March:

Sandra Merrick, Talene Hanna, Sonia Asmus

#### Tuesday 1st April:

Maree Callaghan, Eleanor D'Souza, Rebecca Bezzina

#### Wednesday 2nd April

Diane Galea, Anne David, Kalyn Wong

#### HELP WANTED.....

We need some Kindy parents to assist with selling ice blocks to Kindy at lunchtime.

Please let Kim know if you are available to assist.

#### **LUNCH WALLETS**

The lunch wallets are now available through the canteen at a cost of \$12,00.

Please send lunch orders in a lunch wallet or a LARGE paper bag. Do not stick tape or staple the lunch bag.

Pizza is not on the MENU. This is a MEAL DEAL item only. Please do not order outside this offer.

A full menu is available on the School website to download, or please see the office or canteen for a hard copy. We also ask parents to please have the correct money (50c) to buy ice-blocks, as this speeds up the selling process and ensures that nobody misses out. Thank you.

#### BIRTHDAY BUCKETS

The canteen has introduced......

#### **ICE BLOCK BIRTHDAY BUCKETS**

The Ice Block Birthday Buckets are a great alternative to cup cakes, they are a great for children with allergies and they are fuss free—just pre order from the canteen and Kim will deliver them to your child's classroom where they can hand them out to their classmates.

There are 4 options available:

- \* Lemonade Icy Twists
- \* Calippos
- \* Ouelch Fruit Sticks
- \* Juices



The buckets will have a special birthday message for the Birthday Girl or Boy but the buckets must be returned to the canteen.

If you would like to order a Birthday Bucket for your child/children please see Kim in the canteen.



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