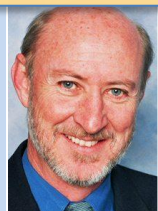




Our Lady Queen of Peace

Newsletter – Term 1 Week 4, 2015



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:



Dear Students, Parents & Teachers

This week's newsletter contains a great deal of information about upcoming events. We are very pleased to be able to advertise a number of events for the Parish including a guest speaker, a movie night and special Sports Mass. I hope that many of our families will be able to attend some of these events and support these parish initiatives.

I would like to direct your attention once again to our school website www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au. Our website should be the focal point of communication for our school. Important announcements will be posted on the front page, along with information about the uniform, Child Protection, calendar events and links to our Parish. News items on the website will also include photos and video clips. Newsletters can also be accessed from the front page. I would encourage all our families to subscribe ("Newsletter Sign Up" on the front page of the website) to the newsletter so that you can be notified of its availability each fortnight.

The Child Protection icon allows parents to apply for Child Protection clearance to work with children in our school. This is necessary even for attending excursions or helping with sports teams. Parents need to complete the online volunteer's course and the school is automatically notified of your clearance.

The latest addition to the site is the new enrolment form that will be used mainly for enrolling Kinder students for 2016. **Our formal enrolment period this year will be Monday 9th March to Friday 29th May.**

Skoolbag is an SMS program that we use to text urgent messages or for reminders of significant upcoming events. Skoolbag can be downloaded from Itunes for Apple devices or from Google Play for android devices. It also connects directly to our website.

Tomorrow we will be sending home **two very important documents that need to be signed and returned to school as soon as possible**. One is a consent form that allows the school to publish pictures and children's work for school purposes only. This may be on our website or in our newsletter.

Principal's Message (cont'd):

The other is permission to accept raffle tickets to be sent home and sold by you. Raffle tickets will not be sent home often (possibly twice this year) and there is no imperative to have to sell them. The completion and return of these forms is very important as both are NSW legislation requirements for all schools.

Our new dismissal procedures have resulted in some changes to how parents are picking up their children in the afternoon. The most important part of this process is that all children move to the correct area under the supervision of a teacher. As we have a very large number of children being picked up by car it is important parents do not leave via the Blue Room and avoid the area where children are waiting. If you are picking up your children from Kiss and Ride, they will be at the back of line and you can access the area from the single gate at the front of the school.

I hope that the hustle and bustle of the first few weeks have now settled into a pattern of good learning. Our partnership of parents and teachers remains the most effective way of ensuring growth in our children's learning.

Michael Hopley

Principal

Lifelong Learning

At OLQP we pride ourselves on advocating that our students become lifelong learners. We value and promote reflective thinking as a way of life, encouraging all students to constantly think about the impact of their actions for themselves and upon others.

It is those with various forms of power that have the capacity to have the greatest influence on our society ... but it is what they choose to do with that power that can make a huge difference to the current inequality in our world.

"Those people who develop the ability to continuously acquire new and better forms of knowledge that they can apply to their work and to their lives will be the movers and shakers in our society for the indefinite future."

(Brian Tracey)

Morning Drop Off

Thank you to all parents who are using our Kiss 'n' Ride bay to drop their children off in the morning. This works most effectively when your children have already kissed you goodbye, have their bags ready on the seat next to them and quickly pop out of the car once you have stopped. Unfortunately, there are some parents who are still having conversations with their child, looking for lunch money to give children or getting out of the car to get bags out of boots, etc. This is impacting on others, who are queuing behind and becoming impatient! Longer term, it is impacting upon other students, who are queuing for so long that they are arriving at school late! It is crucial that all children arrive at school before the 8:55 am bell!

Could we all please be more considerate of those around us. If your child has difficulty alighting from your car perhaps Kiss 'n' Ride is not the best option for your child.

Thank you also to all the boys and girls that are arriving at school in their full school uniform, including their hat on their head to protect them from the strong morning sun.

Playground Manners

Once again I would just like to comment on how wonderful it is to walk through the playground or classroom spaces at various times of the day. Your children consistently demonstrate good manners, greeting visitors with a friendly smile and a "Good morning, how are you today?" It takes such a small amount of effort to create such a huge feeling of happiness in others. I would like to share a quote from Maya Angelou, which speaks volumes for us and our actions as Catholics, because our actions and words impact on how we make others feel:

*I've learned that people will forget what you said,
People will forget what you did,
But people will never forget how you made them feel.*

OLQP Greystanes receives \$40 000 cheque form Mr Tony Issa MP

In 2014 the Parents and Friends Committee of Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes submitted an application to the State Government, through the "Community Building Partnership Program", for funds to improve our school environment. We were successful in attaining a generous grant that will be used to establish a multi-purpose court. This area will also be used by the Pre-School students, St. Paul's College students, local netball and basketball teams and a local Fitness Company (ROAR 24) that caters for children and adults. It is a much needed playground area for our Primary School students who will be using it constantly for their sports programs. We would like to thank Mr Tony Issa MP who supported our application.

Last Monday (9th February) Mr Tony Issa presented a cheque to our school for \$40,000. We would also like to thank the State Government for their grant initiatives and Mr Kieron Maye, our P&F representative, who submitted the application.

Mark 1:13 (CEV)

¹³He stayed there for forty days while Satan tested him. Jesus was with the wild animals, but angels took care of him.

Today, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of Lent. The season of Lent goes for forty days and is a time for Catholics to prepare for Easter. Lent is usually a time of fasting and repentance, as well as a time for reflecting on Christ's suffering and sacrifices for us.

Our senior students attended the parish Mass this morning to receive their ashes, whilst the rest of the school reflected through private liturgies in their classrooms. Children in all grades will be spending some time over the next few weeks thinking about their Lenten promises - what will they give up (denial), what they will do for someone else in need (almsgiving) and what they will say to Jesus to help them become better people (prayer).

Parent Lenten Prayer Groups

Beginning tomorrow, parents are invited to join with others in spending time reflecting on the scripture during this time of Lent as we prepare for Easter. As a group, we will read the scripture reading for the following Sunday and reflect on what it means for us in our lives, in the lives of our family and in our world today. These groups will take place every Thursday from the 19th of February until the end of term at 9:15am-10:15 am in the music room (behind the library). Colouring and DVDs will be available for toddlers, who are most welcome to come along.

For any further information please contact:

Jenny Godwin – Religious Education Coordinator – 9631 1500

Narelle Khoury – Sacramental Coordinator – 0414 396 186

Lisa Bright – 0419 418 547

We hope you will be able to join us.

Children's Masses

Last week, notes went home about our first Children's mass on Sunday 8th March. The children really enjoy being part of these masses and having their families involved as well. We hope to have a great response from all families and look forward to a lovely mass.

Jenny Godwin

Religious Education Co-ordinator

OLQP Parish - Notes for your Diary

- ***Sacrament of First Reconciliation / First Communion:***
Year 2 students and above may enrol in October.
- ***Sacrament of Confirmation:***
Year 5 students and above
Confirmation will take place on 15th, 16th and 17th September, 2015.
(Enrolment letters will be sent closer to these dates – to enrol and to advise of meetings)

ALL NEW 2015 MISSION EVENT

PRESENTED BY **THE CATHOLIC GUY**

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
CATHOLIC PARISH**

198 OLD PROSPECT ROAD, GREYSTANES, NSW

18-24 MARCH 2015



**DISCOVER FOR YOURSELF THE
MISSION EVENT THAT HAS CHANGED
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE**

BE CHANGED ...BE RENEWED

...BE INSPIRED

**FREE
ADMISSION**



THE CATHOLIC GUY
inspiring you to dream

TheCatholicGuy.com

5 Inspiring Sessions:

Session One

Wednesday 18 March

7:30pm

Thursday 19 March

10:00am

Session Two

Thursday 19 March

7:30pm

Friday 20 March

10:00am

Session Three

Friday 20 March

7:30pm

Monday 23 March

10:00am

Session Four

Monday 23 March

7:30pm

Tuesday 24 March

10:00am

Session Five

Tuesday 24 March

7:30pm



Office News:

School Fees

There has been a delay in sending out the school fee statements. If you don't receive your statement by Friday 20th February, please contact Nicole on 9631 1500.

A reminder that school fees are due on the 6th of March, 2015.

Other News:



We focus on family, healthy living, developing young people and those less fortunate.

Other News:

Lara Griffiths (2P) ***Showcase Australian*** ***Dance Championship***

Lara took part in this national dance competition, held on the Gold Coast, during the school holidays. She did extremely well, coming home with a number of trophies. Best of all, she took out first place in Tap, making her the current National Champion for tap. Well done, Lara!

OLQP BULLDOGS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

OLQP Bulldogs RLFC was formed for local children wanting to play rugby league from Under 6 to Under 11 age group. We play in is the Parramatta District Convents competition on Sunday mornings.

We are currently taking online registrations for the following age groups:

- *Under 6*
- *Under 7*
- *Under 8*
- *Under 9 (limited spaces)*
- *Under 10 (CLOSED - no more registrations)*
- *Under 11*

2015 REGO FEES

- *1st Player - \$90*
- *2nd Player - \$70*
- *3rd or more – Free*

To register please go to our website: www.olqpbulldogs.com and follow the registration links.

Please note that all new players must provide a birth and baptism certificate at our first training session – to be held on Wednesday 25th February from 6pm at Roberta Street Park.

If you have any enquires please contact Michelle on info@olqpbulldogs.com



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FREE OUTDOOR CINEMA

Saturday 28th February

Outside Camilleri Hall,
Old Prospect Road, Greystanes
Gates open 7pm.

(Entrance from Church carpark)

Movie starts at dark.

Buy your BBQ Sausage Sizzle for dinner
or BYO picnic and snacks.

Don't forget your Picnic Blanket &
invite your family and friends!

Please note this is an outdoor event so please prepare accordingly.

Visit the OLQP Parish Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/OLQPGreystanes>



An initiative of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Parish, Greystanes
We strive to Grow as a Community in the Likeness of Christ.
Please visit www.olqp.org.au for more information.

Movies cannot be advertised due to licensing agreements.



Sports Mass
Saturday 28th February, 2015 6pm

Fr Paul would like to invite the OLQP Soccer, Rugby League & Netball members to celebrate Mass for the opening of the 2015 Sports Competition.

All members are encouraged to wear their sporting apparel representing their team.

After Mass, all invited to attend the Free Open Air Movie on the soft fall area outside the Parish Hall. Bring your picnic blankets, snacks and make a night of it with friends and family.

All welcome!

P&F News:



Search: OLQP Primary School P&F Greystanes NSW

Please join us on Facebook and Share with other Parents.

The next P&F Meeting is Tuesday 10th March at 7:30 pm in the Library so come along.

Hot Topics: **Fete vs Fundraising Levy? What do you want Parent Info Sessions to be about?**

Do you have ideas or questions about what goes on in and around School? Come along to learn more.

Attention Kindy Parents

Do you have 15 minutes for a cuppa and a chat once you've dropped the kids at School? Jennifer Lackersteens, a new Kindy Mum, will be hosting tea and coffee in front of the canteen next Tuesday (24th February) and Kieron Maye will be hosting the same on Friday 27th February. Drop by the canteen from 8.45am onwards, meet other Kindy parents and share your experiences.

Sports News:

Zone Swimming Results

Jack Meredith - Junior Boys - runner up

Trisha Castelino - Under 11 girls - runner up

Hannah Khoury - Senior girls - runner up

Breeanah Khoury - Junior Girls - champion

Sarah Denniss - Senior Girls - champion

Senior Girls' relay broke the relay record by 8 seconds!



Library News:

Library Book Sale

In Weeks 5 and 6 the Library will be selling books that have been culled. The library will be open between 8:30 - 8:50 am and 3:00 - 3:20pm - Monday to Thursday - for sales. All books will be sold for 50 cents each. The money raised will be used to purchase new resources. As we cannot put out all the books at the same time, different titles will be added each day.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Deborah Wood

Canteen News:



