



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY

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15th March 2023

Dear Parents, teachers and students,

After our many interruptions from covid last year, we are reorganising a number of our current routines. Over the course of last year we noticed that there were several messages being sent on a weekly basis, to keep parents informed of significant and often sudden changes. COMPASS has helped with being able to send direct messages either by email or SMS. This year we have decided to send the newsletter out towards the end of each month and this will be our March newsletter as we have a lot to celebrate.

After our last P&F meeting, parents mentioned that they were hoping to get as many dates as possible sent in advance so that we can plan around our busy work schedules and we have listed dates for the year below. Important dates and information is also available on our website: www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au and this includes the **parent calendar with upcoming dates that also appears on your COMPASS portal**. While the dates below have been confirmed at this stage, in the normal course of the school year, there can be changes that need to be made and we will do everything we can to let parents know in a timely fashion.

Last week we had an Open Day for kinder 2024 and it was very well attended. We have had several inquiries about holding another session and so we will hold another Kindergarten Open morning on Tuesday March 28th at 10.00am. Kindergarten enrolment applications close Friday 31st March. You are welcome to collect an application form from the school office, or download the form from the school website should you wish a younger sibling to enrol into the school. Any enrolments received after this date will be placed on the waiting list.

School Fees

School fees are due 15th March. If you have not made payment or arrangement for 2023 fees, please contact Nicole in the office.

Last week we also celebrated Catholic Schools Week and we learnt about the role of Catholic schools in the mission of our Church. The COOL School afternoon was also very well attended and lots of parents were able to visit our classrooms. COOL School will be held again as part of our Mothers Day and Fathers Day celebrations.



Upcoming Dates

21st March Harmony Day
28th March Kindergarten Open Day 2
6th April Holy Thursday- Last day of Term 1
7th April Good Friday
9th April Easter Sunday
24th April Term 2 begins
25th April Anzac Day Public holiday



Tony Merlino

We received the very sad news over the weekend that Mr Merlino's wife, Rose, passed away suddenly late last week. Mr Merlino is our maintenance support person and has been at OLQP for 20 years. Some of our staff will attend the funeral on Thursday at 10.30 am at St Patrick's Guildford. I know you will join us in keeping Mr Merlino and his family in our prayers.

Travelling to and from school

Families travelling by car to and from school are aware of the high level of traffic around school. Your co-operation with using Kiss and Ride correctly is important for the safety of everyone in our school. Please ensure that your child exits the vehicle on the passenger side and walks directly into the gates. Parents, **please don't get out of your vehicle when using the Kiss and Ride** as this slows the whole flow of traffic. Please be conscious of local residents and **do not park across driveways**. Safety remains our most important consideration.

Harmony Day and Easter Hat Parade

Information has already been sent home regarding Harmony Day on 21st March. The importance of this day is to celebrate our diversity and be proud of our cultural and historical backgrounds. The children have been asked to wear something orange and bring a gold coin to support the devastation that has occurred in Turkey and Syria.

Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having an Easter Hat Parade on Monday 24th April and parents are invited. This year their buddies from Year 6 will be helping Kindergarten to make an Easter hat at school. Further information will follow.

NAPLAN

This week our Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in NAPLAN. On occasion some children have become anxious about NAPLAN and it is important to reassure them that it is one way to show what great learning they have done to date. It is just one part of their school program and that they just need to try their best. Class teachers can provide a more comprehensive picture of your child's overall progress and this will be discussed with you at the end of next term at the half yearly interviews.

Coffee and Chat

This week we had our first session of Coffee and Chat with Anne Hines. Anne is the Parish Pastoral Coordinator (Life in Faith Enrichment). At each session parents are able to chat about their concerns and their celebrations in an informal setting. The group is then able to pray together with their personal intentions in mind. This is a great connection with our Parish and the next session is at **8.45 am on May 2nd**.

Holy Week Celebrations

We are fast approaching the celebration of Holy Week. Holy Week is the most important week in the Church's year. It is a time when we celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. OLQP will celebrate the events of Holy Week as a school community in week 11 of term 1 and week 1 of term 2. All liturgies will take place on Area C at 9:15am. Parents of the grade presenting the Holy Week event are invited to attend the liturgy. Times and dates are as follows:

Date Time	Monday Week 11 3rd April 9:15am	Tuesday Week 11 4th April 9:15am	Wednesday Week 11 5th April 9:15am	Thursday Week 11 6th April 9:15am	Monday Week 1 Term 2 24th April 9:15am	Wednesday Week 1 Term 2 27th April 9:15am
Grade	Kindergarten	Year 1 Year 2	Year 4	Year 5	Year 3	Year 6
Holy Week Event	Palm Sunday	Jesus Washes the feet of His disciples Year 1 The Last Supper Year 2	Garden of Gethsemane	Journey to the Cross and Crucifixion	Resurrection	ANZAC Day Liturgy

Important Dates for the Year
(Please note these dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances)

Term 1 holiday Friday 7th April to Monday 24th April 2023

Term 2 Dates

Wednesday 15th to 27th March - NAPLAN

Monday 27th March Parent Participation Workshop 2.00pm

Tuesday 28th March 2nd Open Day for Kinder 2024 parents

Tuesday 28th March Sports Meeting 7.00pm

Monday 24th April First Day of term 2- Easter Hat Parade (Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2)

Tuesday 2nd May Coffee and Chat

Sunday 7th May Choir singing at OLQP Parish 10.30am

Tuesday 9th May Mother's Day Stall

Wednesday 10th May Diocesan Cross Country

Friday 12th May Mother's Day Liturgy

Monday 22nd May to Friday 26th May Well Being Week

Monday 29th May School Band Performance

Friday 2nd June Stage 3 Soccer Girls (Years 5 & 6)

Sunday 4th June Choir singing at OLQP Parish 10.30am

Wednesday 7th June Stage 3 Soccer Boys (Years 5 & 6)

Friday 9th June Pupil Free Day

Monday 12th June King's Birthday public holiday

Tuesday 13th June MacKillop Cross Country

Wednesday 14th June Feast of Sacred Heart Mass

Thursday 15th June School Photos (Winter uniform)

Friday 16th June Siblings and catch up photos

Monday 19th June OLQP Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 21st June Reports sent out through Compass

Thursday 22nd June to 30th June Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 27th June Stage 2 Soccer (Years 3 & 4)

Term 2 holidays Monday 3rd July to Friday 14th July 2023

Term 3 Dates

Monday 17th July First Day Of Term 3

Wednesday 26th July Grandparents Day Liturgy

Tuesday 1st August 100 days of kindergarten

Sunday 6th August Choir singing at OLQP Parish 10.30am

Tuesday 8th August Cumberland Zone Athletics

Friday 18th August Kindergarten 2024 Sibling Interviews

Monday 21st August Kindergarten 2024 Sibling Interviews

Friday 25th August Diocesan Athletics

Monday 28th August Father's Day Stall

Tuesday/Wednesday 29th & 30th August Music Viva

Thursday 31st August Father's Day Liturgy

Friday 1st September Pupil Free Day

Friday 15th September Stage 2 Touch Football (Years 3 & 4)

Friday 22nd September Fun Run

Book Week and Book Parade to be confirmed



Term 3 holidays Monday 25th September to 6th October 2023

Term 4 Dates

Monday 9th October First Day of Term 4

Tuesday 31st October Kinder 2024 Parent Evening

Sunday 5th November Choir singing at OLQP Parish 10.30am

Monday/Tuesday 6th & 7th November Kinder 2024 Orientation

Monday 13th November to Tuesday 14th November Year 6 trip to Canberra

Monday 20th to Tuesday 21st November- Year 5 trip to Vision Valley

Monday 4th December 11.30am Closing school Mass

Friday 8th December School Swimming Carnival (Tentative Booking)

Monday 11th December Year 6 Graduation 7.00pm

Wednesday 13th December- Year 6 Big Fun Day



Last Day of Term 4 Friday 15th December 2023

This year we are continuing to work with our students focusing on understanding our faith and living out the message of the Gospel - being the best person we can be. Our learning is based on the development of reading skills, being numerate and being able to express ourselves orally and in written form. Our goal that is displayed in every learning space is:

“I can think about and explain my learning”

As teachers we strive to help the children develop independence and responsibility and we do this work in conjunction with your family values. If we are giving our children the same message - home and school - then we are letting them know that we care and that we are working together.

As we move towards the Easter break, I hope that you can take the time to talk to your children about the significance of Easter - **Easter is the joyous greeting of “Christ is risen” and a response of “He is risen indeed!” It reminds us that Jesus is alive and in our midst and he welcomes us in a new life with him.**

I also hope that we are all able to take time and enjoy the holiday with family and friends. Mass times at OLQP Parish can be found on the website: <https://www.olqp.org.au>

Enjoy the holiday

Michael Hopley
Principal