



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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Newsletter
Term 1 Week 3

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

On Friday we will come together as a school community to celebrate our Opening School Mass where we will commission our 2019 Student Leaders, Sport Leaders and Student Representative Council members. The celebration of Mass as a community is one of the defining features of a Catholic School and all are welcome to attend at 10am.

One of the things I do when I attend Mass is to reflect on the blessings in my life and give thanks to God for those blessings. In this weekend's Gospel we will hear St Luke's retelling of the story of the Sermon on the Mount, which we more commonly know as 'The Beatitudes'. St Luke's was writing for Greek communities formed by rich and poor people but those who came to see Jesus were the poor and ill. He says:

***Blessed are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now: you shall laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse and denounce you,
on the account of the Son of Man.
Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven.***

Jesus is so different from us. We can sometimes relate to the poor in a condescending way. Even when we love them we do it pityingly, we call them "disadvantaged" or "less fortunate than ourselves," we want to "do things for them", even to "pray for them." Right through his life Jesus did the opposite. In the presence of those his society considered poor – the "little ones," "sinners", "tax-collectors" – he felt inspired, was filled with awe, and he told them so. "Yours is the kingdom of God," means that they are the ones who have the wisdom and the courage to make the kingdom a reality in the world. These words speak of a way to live with hope. This reading challenges us to look at the people around us in the way that Jesus did.

During his last supper Jesus called on his disciples to share a meal with him. This meal is central to our celebration of the Eucharist. The sharing of a meal is an opportunity to connect with others, give our attention and care to those at the table. On Friday our Parents and Friends Organisation will be hosting a meal for us all to share in, at our annual Welcome Picnic. We look forward to this occasion to reconnect with friends, welcome new members to our community and form new connections. Our strength as a Catholic faith community is in the relationships we have with each other and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Olympia
Acting Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 3

Fri: 10 am Opening School Mass,
5:30 pm Welcome to School Picnic

**All Principal's Holiday
Challenge Entries Should be
Returned By This FRIDAY.**

Week 4

Tue: 6:20 pm-7pm Child Protection
Briefing in Library
7pm P&F General Meeting
Wed: 9am Child Protection Briefing in
Library

NOTES HOME

Today

- Term Overview

Friday.

- School Banking Program
- Self-Defence Karate
- Stage 2 Gala Days
- Stage 3 Gala Days

MERIT AWARDS

1B	Jeyaan, Kyla	3G	Ava, Michael
1G	Thomas, Miranda	4B	Emma, Veer
2B	Malek, Angelina	4G	Charlotte, Roman
2G	Rohan, Alanna	5B	Damon, Jerome
3B	Hannah, Dillon	5G	Luke, Manav

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Last week the students in Year 2 to Year 5 voted for their Student Representative Council members. The following children were elected by the class to represent them and they will be commissioned as SRC leaders at this Friday's Opening Mass:

Year 2

Rohan
Kiara

Year 3

Stella
Gabriel

Year 4

Charlotte
Isabella

Year 5

Luke
Rohan

SAFE DRIVING

Parents are asked to be considerate and patient during pick-up and drop-off times. At the moment there is a particular problem with queued traffic that blocks the flow of traffic on Station Street in the afternoons. Parents are asked to follow these practices:

1. Keep the flow of traffic going by moving on quickly;
2. If you cannot park and someone is not leaving within half a minute, please continue around the block until the next available parking space;
3. If you plan to stay for a chat, park a little further to allow parents making a quick pick up to get in and out as soon as possible;
4. Park on a surrounding street and walk to the school to collect your child;
5. If a school bus is coming up the street behind you, keep moving unless you are parking immediately;

We understand that these times of the day are frustrating however we have to work together to ensure the safety of the children and all road users.



SCHOOL CENSUS DAY

The 2019 February School Census will take place on Monday 18 February. To assist in the smooth and accurate completion of the School Census, please ensure that all letters of absence for Monday and any other days are sent to school via a note, email or Skoolbag with the following information...

- child's name
- date(s) absent

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FAQs: What to wear? At OLMC, we do not require any specific clothing to be worn, and we certainly don't obligate families to spend more than what they feel comfortable spending on the celebrations. At the Parent Information Evenings, we help parents discern what would be appropriate for the occasion. Sacramental forms are available now from the school and parish offices, in the parish centre, and online at www.olmcwenty.org.au and can be returned to parish office or emailed to paola.olmc@gmail.com

- reason explaining the absence

CHILD PROTECTION

It is a system requirement for adults who volunteer in schools to complete the online 'Child Protection Training' module and attend a child protection briefing every two years. Click on the link to complete the [Child Protection Module](#).

Please see 'Upcoming Dates' for information regarding the two Child Protection Briefings being held next week.

LIBRARY ASSISTANCE

Mrs Lauren is searching for parent volunteers to assist in the general organisation of the library. If you are available an hour or so after morning drop off or before afternoon pick up and are able to assist, please contact Mrs Lauren.

All volunteers must be up to date with their Child Protection training.

OVERDUE BOOKS

If your child has any library books that have been at home for a while, they are most likely overdue. Having multiple overdue books may prevent your child from borrowing and prevents other children from enjoying the books you have at home.

The library is open everyday at lunchtime for students to borrow or return.

P&F NEWS

Welcome Picnic

We warmly invite every member of our school community to grab their picnic rugs and chairs and come along on Friday 15 February to celebrate the new school year at our Annual Welcome Family Picnic from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. It is not too late to RSVP. Please see the flyer that came home for extra details and click on the link to [RSVP](#).

Thanks to everyone who has responded already. It promises to be a great night. If you have indicated that you would like to make a salad, there are foil trays available for your convenience in the school office.

Save the date

Parents and Friends meeting will be held Tuesday 19 February at 7:00pm. The agenda will come out shortly. If you have anything you would like to discuss please feel welcome to attend the meeting or place the matter in writing and send it Attention: Paula, President, through the school office or email olmcpandf@gmail.com.



Fete News.

The fete will soon be here. Friday 22 March is only 37 days away!!!! Take some time over to consider how you can become involved in making our fete great!

Our next fete meeting is **Wednesday 27th February at 7pm** in the Parish Centre. Please come along and help make our fete fantastic.

Thank you to the many people who have volunteered to assist with the fete. We are extremely grateful.

We are **urgently seeking people to help** by becoming a stall coordinator. We have many exciting stalls such as Rides ticket sales, Baskets, Dunk tank, hoopla, Quick bites, arts and crafts, book bazaar and trash & treasure. Coordinate your own, or work with a friend. It is a fun and easy way to become more involved in the major fundraiser for our school and Parish. Training, equipment and support will be provided. For more information email olmcfete@gmail.com.

We are asking everyone from our community to get behind our fete and volunteer an hour of their time. To ensure you get the stall and time that best suit you click on this [SignUp link](#) to see how to can help and sign up today!

We have amazing prizes to be won in our major raffle for only \$2 a ticket! We have prizes for the families that sell the most raffle tickets, as well as weekly prizes for sending your tickets in before 15th March. Make sure to start selling your raffle books to be in the running for these fabulous prizes. If you would like more raffle tickets tickets in addition to the books sent home this week, please see the school office.

This column is compiled by P&F Communications. If you have any queries or wish to contribute, please email olmcpandf@gmail.com and attention it to P&F Communications.

ON DEMAND WRITING

This week saw our very first writing stimulus for 2019, and what an adventure it turned out to be!

Our students were immersed in four adventure zones through the use of multiple visual and audio methods. All zones created excitement and enthusiasm and allowed students to either entertain, inform or persuade an audience.

Students were taken on safari by expert guides, their teachers! The roaring sounds of wildlife spread throughout the school and created an intense and authentic experience. This zone was hands down the most popular zone, with some students even trying on the costumes. This zone sparked conversations about animal facts, geography and climate.

The roaring sound of fire, the rain trickling through the canopy and crickets chirping, transported our students into a calm and peaceful zone. One which many were just happy to sit on the logs and swag to ponder... what type of traveller would want to experience this type of holiday?

The beach zone was beautifully blissful. It could have easily been the setting for a film or the location to delve into a juicy novel. The sounds of children splashing and laughing in the water engaged our students to help them inform their classmates about their own beach experiences.

Our fishing zone was the family zone. It was the zone where the majority of our students connected to the personal time their family spent together. It was wonderful to hear their stories and amusing to hear that some parents were very talented at catching things, other than just fish.

Writing tips for you at home:-

- Use your own adventures as stimuli for your child (their interests, admission tickets, a recipe, foreign money, photos, pamphlets you pick up while visiting places)
- Creating a love of writing does not start with 'spelling' (it actually kills it). Focus on what they want to say and who will be reading it.
- Get your child to be the writer at home (Birthday cards, shopping lists, text messages, the weekly menu)
- For gamers...write a review of their favourite game/TV show/characters. Create a new character for their game and write a backstory.
- For reluctant writers...highlights, gel pens, scented markers and whiteboards go along way.



Happy Writing
Mrs Lauren



