



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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Newsletter
Term 3 Week 9

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

We all know the special role parents play in a child's life. All you have to do is bring your child to school to know that you are not alone in your parenting journey. Conversations with other parents will soon confirm that most parents are on a learning curve. Even the so called "experienced parents" comment that they don't have all the answers. However, you can be sure that at some point during a conversation, two important words will be mentioned: "At home..." There is no place more important to a child than the home they share with their parents and siblings. It's not the size or material comforts that the home provides, it's the nurturing and supporting environment that really matter. I recall how the family home I grew up in lost its warmth when my mum moved to a retirement village. When I first visited my mum in her new apartment it instantly felt like home, because that was where her nurturing and loving presence was.

During His years of ministry, Jesus made use of parables as a gentle, yet thought provoking way of teaching people. One of the best known parables we heard as part of last week's Gospel is the Prodigal Son, which is often used to illustrate God's loving care and willingness to forgive. Nowadays, it could very well be the parable of most relevance to modern day parents, for it is the parable of great hope. In the parable, we find a parent, broken-hearted to see a child take what he owns and leave home to pursue a lifestyle that is quite opposite to that of his family and having all the signs of leading to disaster and self-destruction. Even though there was great disappointment, the parent never gives up hope for the child and is ready to accept the child back into the loving care of the family. When the child did reach 'rock bottom', and all seemed spoiled and lost, the thought of home was the sole ray of light in an otherwise dark future.

The father, rejoicing at his son's return, would have seemed a ridiculous folly. Because of his actions, the son completely shamed himself and his father. The father's expected and justified response would have been to turn his back on his son and banish him forever. To welcome him back would have been unthinkable to Jesus' audience. In an echo of God's ridiculous and unbounded loving forgiveness, the father welcomes his son with open arms and reclaims him as his own.

Events, which occur between a parent and children, need not be as dramatic as the parable. However, events do happen quite frequently on a smaller scale and differences can be aired quite strongly, especially as our children get older. On some occasions, it can be helpful to be selectively deaf or blind and very helpful to have a resilient sense of humour. Sometimes, we might have to accept what our children have to offer us, take it on board and gently reshape it with their assistance so that the outcome is a positive experience for both parties. Parenthood brings many challenges, yet much joy and reward.

Olimpia Pirovic
Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 9

Thu: 8:15-8:40am Morning Workout
1:40pm Mission to Busk - K, Yrs 1 & 2;
ICAS - Maths
Fri: Star Card Reward Day - Yr 2
(Pyjama & Movie Day)

Week 10

Mon: Assembly - 6G
3:10-3:30pm Garden Club Stall
Tue: Voice of Youth Grand Final - Yr 6
Thu: 8:15-8:40am Morning Workout
Bennett St gates - 8:15am sharp.
Fri: Touch Gala Day - Yrs 5 & 6

SUMMER UNIFORM - STARTS TERM 4

See Uniform information below.

NOTES HOME

Monday

- PG Movie Permission - Yr 4
- Rouse Hill Farm Excursion-Yr2
- Stage 3 Touch Gala Day
- Farm Day Excursion - Yr3
- Skyworks Planetarium - Yr6

Today

- Term 3 Reward Day - Yr6

MERIT AWARDS

KB	Reis ▪ Luca	4B	Bhakti ▪ Zien ▪ Siya
KG	Alexander ▪ Mariam ▪ Luca	4G	Tony ▪ Kruti
1B	Lily ▪ Emilio	5B	Natasha ▪ Tomos
1G	Steven ▪ Aerabella	5G	Yasemin ▪ Joel
2B	Olivia ▪ Samyel Jugilon	6B	Iziah ▪ Marisol
2G	Gabrielle ▪ Katrina	6G	No awards presented.
3B	Georgia ▪ Kaur	CA	Paul - 1B ▪ Tunga
3G	Massimo ▪ Makanaka	PE	No awards presented.

STAR CARD AWARDS

Gold Awards: Shivani ▪ Sebastian ▪ Matteo ▪ Alanah ▪ Serop ▪ Thabeesh ▪ Winona ▪ Lucas ▪ Kashvi ▪ Yasemin ▪ Jorja ▪ Bridie ▪ Lila

Opal Awards: Luke ▪ Sophia ▪ Liya ▪ Saadhana ▪ Mishti ▪ Joel ▪ Savannah

Platinum Awards: Varsha ▪ Sara ▪ Zachary ▪ Luke ▪ Charlotte
▪ Alexis ▪ Simona ▪ Elizabeth ▪ Zainah

Principal's Awards: Thomas ▪ Serena ▪ Riya ▪ Benjamin ▪ Bracston



SUMMER UNIFORM

All students will be required to wear their Summer uniform from the start of Term 4. Orders should be placed through Oz Fashions via the QKR App. Orders placed before 4:00pm on a Wednesday will be delivered to the school on the next Thursday. Orders will be sent home with your child. If you need to try on uniforms for sizing, you can do so at the Office before and after school. Bookings are not required. Label all items of clothing clearly with your child's name.



SCHOOL FEES

Term 3 school fee accounts are now overdue for payment. Please ensure your account is finalised this week unless other arrangements have been made. Families who are experiencing financial difficulty are encouraged to contact the school office to arrange a confidential appointment with Miss Pirovic. There are no school fees accounts sent to families in Term 4.

LET US KNOW

Please be aware that a full term's (10 wks) notice is required if your child will be leaving the school. All notification must be in writing and addressed to the Principal to avoid a full term's fees being payable. Refer to <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Policy-Central> for more information.

DROPPING OFF AT CHURCH

Just a reminder to parents that is unsafe to leave children in the Church unsupervised in the morning before school. School gates open at 8.30am. If you desperately need to drop children at school before this time please make other arrangements or contact our COSHC, where children are safe and supervised.

SICKNESS ALERT

This is another reminder to all families that parents keep their child/ren home for at least 24 hours after vomiting or consistent diarrhea. We don't want your child, or any other children sick, so please give them the appropriate time to rest and rid their body of any infection, before returning to school.



GARDENING CLUB MARKET STALL

On Monday 23rd September the Gardening Club will be holding a Mini Market Stall to sell our freshly grown produce. The stall will be open from 3:10-3:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there. Bring your own shopping bag.

TEACHERS ARE LEARNERS TOO

Last Friday our staff continued their professional learning of the Religious Education Framework. We joined two other schools and System Leaders, to focus on our formation and deepening our specialist knowledge and understandings of the new framework. We were 'critical friends' in giving and receiving feedback on these cycles that will be implemented during Term 4. The three schools will collaborate once again in Term 4 to reflect and evaluate as the units progress.

MISSION WEEK

In weeks 1 and 2 next term the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Mission Week. This year Pope Francis has asked that we celebrate "an extraordinary month of mission". As usual our focus for Mission month will be the Carmelite parishes of Raimea and Zumalai where our sister school is located. The children have been very excited by Our Mission to Busk opportunity and auditions are being held this week. Busking licences will be issued and then on Friday 1st November between 1.40-2.30pm the buskers will perform around the school. Donations made will be our contribution to Mission Week and will go directly to our Carmelite family.



SPOTLIGHT ON RE

Next term all grades will be exposed to a Learning Cycle from the new RE framework. The cycles last for 10 weeks and there are 6 foundations on which these cycles are built. They are student voice, Jesus centered, connecting life experiences with our Catholic tradition, deeper learning using an inquiry approach and formation of staff as witnesses to their faith. Children first and foremost have a say in what they want to know about each of the cycles and teachers guide children through an inquiry process to find the answers. Stage 3 have been using the framework since the beginning of term 2 and are seeing a greater depth of understanding in children's responses. To find out more and to see children being interviewed visit <http://bit.ly/2kpztR5>

COMMUNION

Children from our Parish are completing their workshops for First Communion and they are getting very excited. Next **Tuesday 24th September at 3.30pm OR 7.00pm** children have an opportunity to "Taste and See" the hosts and wine before receiving the consecrated bread and wine that will be transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ on the day of their First Communion. The bread and wine used at these taste and see sessions has not been blessed or consecrated and does not take away from the importance or spiritual significance of their First Communion. Parents must accompany the children and it is a personal decision if children taste and see. **Practice sessions** will be on **Thursday 17th October OR Thursday 24th October at 3.30pm or 7.00pm** in the Parish Centre. **First Communion will be celebrated on Saturday 19th October at 6pm, Sunday 20th and Sunday 27th October at 10.30am Mass.**

P&F NEWS

At our Parents and Friends meeting held on 13th August, we were able to present the final figures for the Fete and the Fete Spin Off. The total profit made from both events was \$30,510.74. A cheque for \$20,340.25 was presented to the school and a cheque for \$10,170.25 was presented to the Parish. We would like to thank everyone for their support of this major fundraiser. We would especially like to thank Pauline Epenian and Donna Bonnicci for their coordination of this event, Norma Touma for her work in calculating all the figures and our dedicated team of counters from the Parish. Special thanks once again to our sponsors Laing and Simmons, Studio 1000, AWS Architectural Work Systems, CK Designs, GRK Group Civil and Concrete constructions, Access Valuations and Epcon constructions.



This column is compiled by the P&F. If you have any queries or wish to contribute, please email olmcwenty@parra.catholic.edu.au and attention it to P&F Communications.

Voice of Youth

Voice of Youth is a competition where Year 6's have to write a speech on whatever topic they choose. Their speeches can be entertaining, persuasive or informative. All the kids get about 5 - 6 weeks to work hard on their speeches and practice presenting them. Some of the popular topics that kids wrote about were bullying, climate change and saving our earth. Once they finished writing their speeches they present to the class.

The stages are

- Grade Final
- School
- Cluster Final

Students presented their speeches in front of year six in the grade final and 13 students were selected to participate in our school final where they had to present in front of years 3,4,5 & 6. Our judges then selected our top two finalists - Violet & David who represented our school at the cluster final.



We had many interesting speeches like living with and over dramatic mother, challenges, living in a big or small family and of course, David's winning speech, "How to Get In and Out of Trouble". Overall everyone's speeches were amazing and creative. Everyone in Year 6 worked really hard through the 5 weeks while giving 110% and complete determination. Voice of Youth is a really challenging thing to do and takes a lot of time and effort. Congratulations and good luck to David in the grand final!



Tournament of the Minds

Tournament of the minds was a really fun experience for us! 7 students from year 5 and year 6 were chosen to represent our school in the tournament. Those students were, Luke, Serena, Yasmin, Ann, Aurelia, Claudia and Chloe. We got to express our creativity by thinking outside the box and creating costumes, backdrops and props for our play. Our play was based on Australia and the story of the Wizard of Oz. It was a humorous play about a group of people who have to follow the yellow brick road to overcome their greatest fears in the weirdest ways you could possibly think of. It took a lot of team effort but we got it done in the end.

After the play, we were faced with a spontaneous challenge. Teamwork was very important at this stage because we had to work together to come up with a great answer to why a group gathered, why the room went silent and what happened next. We were successful with this. Overall, this tournament of the minds experience was very fun and a great challenge for us to express ourselves a little more.

