



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on surviving the first full week of Learning From Home!!

During this past week we have been able to connect with families to see how you were doing. We have heard about the great learning spaces set up at home and of how families have established the expectations for learning and working at home. One of our Learning From Home students has designed a logo and name for their school, complete with a motto.



It is clear that parents are working hard to continue the learning according to the plans provided in the learning packs. My message to all the parents is **YOU ARE DOING A GREAT JOB!** There are times you may not be feeling this, but all your efforts, big and small make a difference. The staff are here to help you. Starting this week the teachers will be calling each family to check in with how you are going, they will talk to the children and remind them of their responsibilities during this period.

Our staff miss seeing the children each day and have been uplifted by all the messages of thanks that have been sent via the learning packs, cards and emails. We are all reflecting on the changes we have made to our lives to ensure the health and safety of our family and wider community. We are being impacted in ways we never could have imagined. It is important that we don't lose hope. We are grieving the things we have lost but our hope is in the knowledge that this situation is temporary. There will come a time soon when we can run outside with our friends, embrace and hold hands, attend school and our workplaces, again.

Yesterday I received a letter from Sr Mary Louise, the congregation leader of the Mercy Sisters. In her letter she wrote..

Each day is an opportunity to rediscover the wonder of creation - finding new depths in ourselves and those closest to us; being amazed that, while humanity needs to isolate, our natural world is still there giving us new reflections of the face of God and all the elements continue to give the Light, Air and Water to assure us of nourishment and life.

She has invited all Mercy communities across Australia and the world to join together at 6:30pm each day to pray Catherine McAuley's Suscipe to encircle our world in a spirit of solidarity and compassion. Your family may take comfort in this communal Prayer (Page 2). You might like to light a lantern or candle just as our Mercy Sisters are doing.

[To support our planning please click on this link and complete the survey for each of your children.](#)

Olimpia Pirovic

Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 11

Mon: Pick up 'Learning From Home' Packs

Thurs: Holy Thursday

Fri: Good Friday

Sat: Easter Saturday

Sun: Easter

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - REQUEST FOR HELP

Throughout our community we are faced by challenges during this Covid-19 crisis. There are a number of our parents who have lost their jobs and face an uncertain future. To support these families, we are asking for donations of gift vouchers for Coles or Woolworths that can be distributed to our OLMC Families in need. If you are in a position to help, please drop off the vouchers at the school office or send them to school in the children's learning packs, when they are returned next week. Thank you for your support.

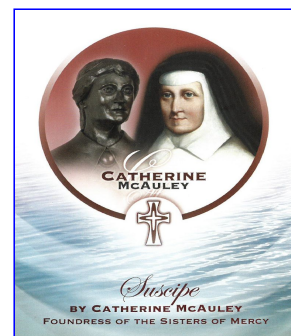
SUSCIPE by CATHERINE MCAULEY

My God,
I am yours for time and eternity

Teach me to cast myself entirely into the arms of your loving providence
With the most lively, unlimited confidence in your compassionate, tender pity.

Grant me, o most merciful redeemer,
That whatever you ordain or permit
May be acceptable to me.

Take from my heart all painful anxiety;
Suffer nothing to sadden me but sin;
Nothing to delight me but the hope of
Coming to the possession of you, my God and my all,
In your everlasting kingdom, Amen.



STAY CONNECTED AND SHARE YOUR LEARNING FROM HOME

To help our families stay connected we are setting up a temporary [OLMC Learning From Home Facebook](#) page. Should you wish, you will be invited to share your working from home story. You will be able to share pictures of some of your creative tasks or tips on how you have stayed focused on your learning. Parents may like to share hacks they have come up with to cope. This will be a managed account where comments will need approval to post by an administrator. Our acceptable use policy still applies to this account.



WEBSITES

Our Grade websites have so much information and fun activities for our families.

[Kindy](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[\(Yr3 4 5 & 6\)](#)



ATTENDANCE

During this Learning From Home period the teachers are still required to mark attendance rolls. The children are still expected to complete their work to the best of their ability.

We have been instructed that if there is no evidence of the children attending to their school work, that we are to mark them as absent in school attendance rolls. This would be the case if learning packs are not collected or students have not completed any work. If your child has been sick, please mark this on the learning plan or let your child's teacher know when they call you.

TEACHER CHECK INS

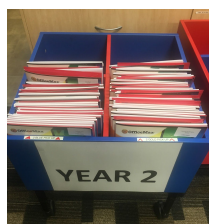
This week our teachers have begun making phone calls to check in with how parents and children are coping with Learning From Home. Some of you may have already received a phone call. This is a way that we can remain connected and provide some extra support to our families. Be aware that if you get a phone call from a private or unknown number it may be from your child's teacher. Parents and children are also able to send emails to the teachers, these details were shared via Skoolbag this week.

STAFF BEGIN WORKING FROM HOME

From today our staff have begun working in rotation with groups of teachers working at school and from home. For the time being the teachers will be rostered at school according to the following timetable:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Working at School	All Teaching Staff	K, Yr5, Yr6, Mrs Laus	Yr3, Yr4, Mrs Noble, Mrs Laus	Yr1, Yr2, Yr5, Yr6	Yr3, Yr4, Yr1, Yr2,
Working at Home	Miss Mikhael, Mrs Kirby, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Hanson	Yr1, Yr2, Yr3, Yr4, Miss Mikhael, Mrs Kirby, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Hanson, Mrs Noble, Mrs Haddad	K, Yr1, Yr2, Yr5, Yr6, Miss Mikhael, Mrs Kirby, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Hanson, Mrs Noble, Mrs Haddad	Yr3, Yr4, Mrs Noble, Mrs Laus, Miss Mikhael, Mrs Kirby, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Hanson, Mrs Noble, Mrs Haddad	K, Yr5, Yr6, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Hanson

LEARNING FROM HOME PACKS



On Monday you will have collected your child's **SECOND Learning From Home** pack. Next Monday the packs will be ready for parents to collect from the playground between 8:00-11:00am. They will be collected from an outside location and we ask that parents wait until your trolley is clear before you approach to collect the work, remembering to maintain appropriate distances. Exact details will be sent out via Skoolbag on Monday morning.

Please use these packs as a communication point for between your family and school. Make sure that you check the pack each week for your child's learning plan, printed resources and any notes from school.

You might even like to send an email message to Miss Pirovic or post to our new [OLMC Learning From Home Facebook](#) about how you are going with your learning from home. Let the school know if you are struggling with obtaining stationary supplies or learning devices.

CONFIRMATION: SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be postponing this year's Confirmation preparations and celebration. It is, however, the parish's intention to celebrate next year.

Would you please let Paola Yvannes or the Parish Office know if you would like to:

1. remain enrolled and postpone the celebrations next year,
2. cancel your enrolment.

If you select option 2, please specify how you would like to be reimbursed (cash via the school mail, or you can send Paola your banking details so that she can direct deposit into your account). If you would like to keep updated about Masses and church activities, please visit the Parish [website](#), especially the page regarding the [COVID-19 updates and resources](#), or follow us on [Parish Facebook Page](#). Wishing you and your families all the best during this very difficult time, and we look forward to sharing many happy times with you later on this year.

DO YOU HAVE SKOOLBAG?

It is vital that parents have the Skoolbag app on their phones or devices. The app is available for iPhone and Android phones. This is our key mode of instant communication with parents.

CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen is Still Open

While the school remains open our canteen will continue to operate. The children will be able to order their lunches and purchase snacks from the canteen. Please place your order in the usual manner. Unavailable items may be substituted.

KINDERGARTEN 2021 ENROLMENTS - FINALISE SIBLING ENROLMENTS NOW

If your child is turning 5 next year and is ready to start school we invite you to collect an enrolment form from the school office. OLMC Parents who have younger children due to start are asked to finalise their enrolment applications **before the end of Term One** to assist with the process. For those parents who missed out on attending our open day a [Virtual Tour](#) is now available on our school YouTube Channel.

P&F NEWS

Mothers' Day Raffle - Thanks to everyone who has returned their raffle tickets, both sold and unsold. We are very grateful.

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

OUR PROJECT OF COMPASSION

During Term 1 OLMC ran several fundraising activities to support St Mary's Star of the Sea Primary School in Milton - who were severely affected by bushfires.

Some of the fabulous activities included:

A drink stall in Parramatta Park set up by our very own Year 5 students: Bhakti, Siya, Sai, Chivonne and Chiara which raised \$150



A whole school mufti-day where students were able to wear comfortable clothes in exchange for a gold coin donation.



A 10 cent coin trail where grades competed to make the longest 10c coin trail. It was an amazing effort by all grades, won by Year 5 who were closely followed by Year 3. The results of the coin trail are as follows:

Kindy	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
14.23m	12.5m	10.6m	22.7m	16.9m	26m	20m

Thank you to everyone who donated to assist the families in need at St Mary's Star of the Sea Primary School. Together we have raised over \$1000

