



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Well, just as quick as we went on holidays, we have returned, and it's amazing to feel the spirit return to the school grounds once again. The first day of term is always exciting, however, the beginning of this term means much more. Term 1 and 2 were plagued with Covid-19 disruptions, fears and anxieties - some of which have not left us just yet. These may revolve around the continued fear for our vulnerable family members or the time lost at school for our young students. One thing we must keep in mind, and something made clear by the situation unfolding in Victoria, is that we must not become complacent. Now facing 6 weeks in extreme lockdown, I'm sure Victorians would have been more cautious knowing the fate they now face. Premier, Daniel Andrews has made some very clear statements that I think is a timely reminder for all of us as we return,

- 'Pretending that it's over because we all want it to be over is not the answer'
- 'We all know someone who has not been following the rules as well as they should have'
- 'We can't pick and choose the rules we follow... We've all got to do the right thing'

Therefore the following procedures will continue into Term 3,

Morning Drop off

- Parents/carers need to be aware of social distancing and personally monitor their own movements to ensure adequate distance at all times.
- Parents/carers will drop the children at the gate. No parent or carers will be allowed to enter the front or back playground.

Afternoon Pick up (3:10pm)

- Parents/carers need to maintain social distance and be particularly aware when entering/exiting the grounds
- Parents/carers must collect their children and leave straight away. This is not a time to socialise.

Sanitising and handwashing procedures for students set during Term 1 and 2 will continue into Term 3.

The beginning of this term signals the refocus of both teacher and student goals. More than ever, our focus continues to be on student growth and responding to the needs of our students, ensuring our students receive what they need, when they need it. These needs may be academic, social, emotional or spiritual in nature. As a whole school, we are continuing our journey of developing Assessment Capable Learners and nurturing flourishing relationships.

This Friday, we look forward to celebrating the feast day of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Considering the health and safety of our community, Kindergarten to Year 5 students and all families will be able to celebrate our special day through our Facebook Live stream of Mass, beginning at 10:15am. Year 6 students will be attending Church as it will be their last Feast Day at OLMC. Families will be able to engage with student prepared digital learning, placed on the steps of the Church at 1pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Lauren Anderiesz

Acting Principal



The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Term 3 Week 1

Thurs: Work Out with Mr Jones
8:15am sharp
Kindergarten 100 Days @school celebration
Parent Prayer Group:
Postponed
Fri: OLMC Feast Day: Students only

Week 2

Mon: Second Hand Uniform Shop OPEN 2:45pm - 3:10pm
Tues: School Banking
Thurs: Work Out with Mr Jones **8:15am sharp**
P&F Executive Meeting

NOTES HOME

Last Term

- ICAS Competition (sent home 24.06.2020)
- 5 Blue Change of Teacher Days
- Year 1 Healthy Harold

This Week

- **NEW** Child Protection Requirements for Volunteers
- Year 1 & 2 World Of Maths
- Training Band Lesson
- Year 5 Personal Development Session - ZOOM
- Year 5 Dignity to Others

Friday Feast Day Mass: Facebook Live Streamed from 10:15am

MERIT AWARDS

KB	Isabelle ▪ Magdalene	4B	Riya ▪ Bryson
KG	Aayan ▪ Sienna	4G	Erin ▪ Eknor
1B	Henry ▪ Isabella	5B	Osean ▪ Eva
1G	Abbey ▪ Zoe	5G	Jake ▪ Winona
2B	Sam ▪ Joseph	6B	Tristan ▪ Claudia
2G	Anabel ▪ Yara	6G	Lucas ▪ Myra
3B	Mary ▪ Reuben	CA	Jac ▪ Charlotte
3G	Aibel ▪ Sari	PE	Kira ▪ Antoine

STAR CARD REWARDS

Gold Awards: Myra ▪ Serena ▪ Abbey ▪ Alexia ▪ Mridun ▪ Joanne ▪ Isabella ▪ Pranav ▪ Eli ▪ Sri Harsha ▪ Vishvassha ▪ Thea ▪ Anthony ▪ Jada ▪ Kruthi ▪ Chad ▪ Jacob ▪ Olivia ▪ Lakshara ▪ Shanaya ▪ Sri Harika ▪ Lucas
Opal Awards: Sanoshan ▪ Vincent ▪ Ava ▪ Prasadi ▪ Anthony ▪ Sarayu ▪ Neha ▪ Mason ▪ Taliah ▪ Adison ▪ Alana ▪ Daniel ▪ Havishaa ▪ Isabelle ▪ Jack ▪ Lucinda ▪ Luke
Platinum Awards: Angelina ▪ Anthony



PARENT PRAYER GROUP

Due to further advice, the Parent Prayer Group, scheduled for Thursday afternoon has been postponed until further notice. Sorry for the inconvenience.

ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION

When your child is away you are required to notify the school about their absence by a note to the teacher or a Skoolbag notice. If we don't receive notice within 7 days we are required to record the absence as unexplained. **If your child has been absent recently and you have not notified the school please do so before the end of the term.**

PRINCIPAL'S WINTER HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

We have already received an array of carefully and creative designs for the OLMC Comic Con ticket. Please make sure that all your entries for the Principal's holiday challenge are returned by this Friday.

2020..THE YEAR OF FLEXIBILITY

As the Covid-19 situation continues to change, so will our plans. As a school within a System, we seek advice from multiple sources to ensure our decisions are made with the most up to date advice, maintaining our focus on the health and safety of all concerned within our school community. This ultimately means that as a community we must be flexible. As a school we will communicate these changes within a timeframe that is reasonable, and we thank our parent community for your patience and understanding.

WE NEED PICNIC BLANKETS NOW!

If you have a picnic blanket that you're happy to lend us please place in a plastic bag and send in with your child. They will be returned when our Feast Day event is over. Please make sure your blanket is labeled with your family name and grade.

ICAS ASSESSMENTS

Reminder that registration for the 3 ICAS Assessments for year 3-6 closes on Sunday 26th July. Visit the link <https://shop.unswglobal.com.au/pages/pps> with our school code which is **RIE895** to register your child/children for the Assessments.

NEW CHILD PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

All volunteers are now required to complete the NEW child protection requirements outlined in the letter that went home today. It is vital that ALL volunteers complete this new process, **even if** you have recently completed any of the child protection components.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the 16 children, who completed the challenge over the holiday break. That brings our total up to 120.

Kinder: Isabelle M

Year 1: Sanna B, Joaquin P, Zoe S,

Year 3: Shivani G, Samyel J, Alana N, Paige R & Jeremiel Y

Year 4: Kinjal K, Erinn S,

Year 5: Emma F, Antoine K,

Year 6: Michaela M, Sylvana M & Sanjana V.

Your child's online reading log can be accessed via the [Student Site](#)

The last day for the challenge is the 28th August



TRAINING BAND UPDATE & DISABLED PARKING

In Term 3, it is planned that the training band will begin their band lessons. The training band will be for all the children who began the band program this year. It is planned that this lesson will take place on Wednesday afternoon from 3:10 - 3:50pm. A note will be sent home with the children with further details.



Beginning this term we ask that parents **do not park in the disabled parking on a Wednesday afternoon from 2:00pm** onwards. We have a music tutor who requires this parking spot to access the school so that she can conduct an after school music lesson with our training band children. Your support in ensuring this space is available is appreciated.

PARISH NEWS

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION. We are delighted to be able to celebrate the childrens' first sacrament of Holy Communion. While we need to take into consideration various restrictions due to COVID-19, we are hopeful that all eligible parish children will be able to celebrate on 17 October. So, if your child has been baptised in a Roman Catholic church, is in Year 4 or above, and would like to receive Holy Communion, please email Paola at paola.olmc@gmail.com for an application form or pick one up from the school office or church.

P&F NEWS

Welcome Back to Term 3!

We hope everyone has had a chance to rest and recuperate during the holidays. The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel occurred last Thursday and we would like to wish our Carmelite Community every blessing on their Feast Day. The Parish community celebrated on Sunday and our school community will be celebrating this week with some very special things planned. We hope you all enjoy yourselves and we share the prayer that is our school motto.

FUN FAIR ZOOM MEETING

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Fun Fair Zoom meetings on Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July. There is great excitement in the community. If you would like a copy of the notes from the meeting please email us at olmcpandf@gmail.com
We look forward to working together with you to make FunFair 2021 a huge success!

Sub Tuum Praesidium

We fly to your protection, O Holy mother of God. Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, But deliver us as always from danger, O glorious and blessed virgin Mary.

Gratitude During A Pandemic?

If anyone told me during Week 8 of Term 1, that I may eventually feel some gratitude for Covid-19, my face, very clearly, would have given the answer. What positives could Covid-19 bring...to anyone!

During the first week of the holidays, as I packed my car to drive into work, my neighbour stopped me for a chat. She was looking radiant and I quickly let her know how wonderful and relaxed she looked. Her response of, 'I love Covid-19' shocked me. Instantly, my face screwed up and she quickly explained how much more time she had with her two growing daughters, how her relationship with her colleagues had strengthened and that she had finally started her veggie boxes.

Our conversation stayed with me for a while and during the break I thought about what benefits Covid had brought me. I connected with many of the things my neighbour had mentioned, but the one thing that I will be forever grateful for, is my now deeper understanding of the reach of our Priests. Even though my family have always been well connected to our Parish and I have worked within the Catholic System for many years, I now know that my understanding of the reach of priests was very very shallow. During Covid-19, Father Martinho took the opportunity to visit the school more regularly. It was during one of these visits that I asked him what he would 'normally' be doing. He laughed and said that it was this question that most of the students asked him when he visited classrooms (he didn't realise he was comparing my knowledge base to that of a child- that's another story). During the holidays I took the opportunity to interview both Father Martinho and Father Denis about their responsibilities (apart from celebrating mass) and thought it would also be great insight for our families,



-Being a Carmelite means working within the community and with the people – Our days need to be flexible so that we can respond to the needs of parishioners.

-Respond to sudden phone calls and unexpected visitors to the parish office. This happens often.

-Counsel people in need via phone call or walk in. This happens all the time and you need to give people time.

-Meet regularly with the Parish Team, Parish Finance Committee, Parish Pastoral Program, Liturgy Committee, Children's Sacramental Team and the Leadership Team at our Parish Primary school.

-Visit parishioners at their homes, nursing homes or hospitals.

-Multiple blessings – car, house, child, baby etc, as well as anointings - which can happen at any time.

-Continue to build connections with the school: classrooms visits or church explorations

-Celebrating masses and providing spiritual support to Catherine McAuley and Parramatta Marist schools.

-Help our neighbouring parish of Westmead with Masses when the Parish Priest is away.

-Supporting our parish ministries through regular meetings, prayer and guidance, including the Youth Group, Liturgy Committee, Catholic Women's League, Music, Altar Servers, etc, ensuring we help them to also grow in their faith through their active participation in Church and community life.

-Organising and supporting Australia's commitment to East Timor within the community

-Work with St Vincent DePaul to reach out to the community.

-Preparing our people and then prayerfully celebrating the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion), of healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick), and of service (Matrimony and Holy Orders); ensuring that all the correct paperwork is up-to-date, and that we're abreast of the latest practices.

-Preparing funerals; working sensitively with grieving families, as well as with funeral directors – this can't be rushed

-Ensuring that we are accountable and transparent to the many governing bodies; Births, Deaths and Marriages, Parramatta Council, Parramatta Diocese, ATO, Office for Safeguarding, Carmelite Province, etc.

-Attend a wide range of meetings to stay on top of the latest developments for Parish Pastoral Council, Finances, WHS, Safeguarding Professional Learning, Parramatta Diocese, Central Deanery and CEDP.

-Reinforcing our commitment to the safety and security of the staff and parishioners(eg: WHS, Professional Standards), school (eg: through Office for Safeguarding) and church buildings (eg: maintenance inspections).

-Maintain Church grounds, buildings and facilities issues.

-As a Carmelite, we live as a family. Therefore, we are responsible for ensuring the wellbeing of the other members of the community, especially to those who are vulnerable. We are also responsible for the older Priests that live here to ensure they receive the care they need.

-Father Denis and Father Martinho are both on the Carmelite Provincial Council. Meaning they attend 4 meetings a year in Melbourne, lasting 3 days each. The Council has responsibility for all the Carmelites in Australia and East Timor and all the ministries such as parishes, schools and spirituality centres that they conduct.

-Supporting the spiritual direction of other priests and mentoring newly ordained priests.

-Conduct the Liturgy of the hour – special prayers for those in need.

Gratitude is a state of mind and it's up to you to find the silver lining, the rainbow after the storm, the lemonade or even the new leaf of Covid-19. For me, it was gaining a deeper understanding of how I can support the far reaching responsibilities of our parish priests as many hands make light work.