

Our Lady of Mount Carmel



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

I think like all of you, I am amazed that we have completed another month and are now so close to the fast approaching end of the year. Throughout the year, our Catholic faith marks the passing of time with the prayerful focus on significant figures in our faith such as Mary the mother of Jesus and other faithful figures like saints.

The month of November is one of those important times in our church. We celebrate the twin feasts of All Saints Day (1 November) and All Souls Day (2 November). All Saints Day is a time when we remember the lives of those exemplary people of faith and commitment who have been recognised as saints. As Catholics we consider the Saints to be models of virtue and faith to follow and aspire to emulate. We demonstrate this commitment to living a saintly life by taking on the name of a saint when we receive the sacrament of Confirmation. *Do you remember your chosen saint? What was it about this saint that you admired*?

All Souls Day is a day that Catholics hold particularly close to their hearts as we remember those we love who have died. When someone we truly love has died there can be an emptiness in the pit of our stomach, and it is hard to pray. Sometimes God seems as absent as the one who has died.

But as St Paul says, 'Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.' (Romans 5:5) It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the gift of hope to hang on to. It is not deceptive.

And so we can continue to pray with confident Christian hope.

'Day is Done, but Love unfailing dwells ever here, Shadows fall, but hope prevailing calms every fear, God your Maker, none forsaking take your heart of love's own making, watch your sleeping, guard your waking, be always near.' Endless light shine on those we love, O Lord. May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Olimpia Pirovic Principal



The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 4 Thur: Morning Workout 8:15am Fri: Year 6 Reflection Day 2021 Band Continuers Survey due

> OLMC Sport Fun Day - Friday 4 December Note the changed date

Week 5 Mon: Assembly Second Hand Uniform Shop OPEN 2:45pm - 3:10pm Tues: Cooking Day - Yr 3 - Yr 5 Wed: Cricket Clinics K - Yr 6 Thurs: 2021 Kindy Orientation Morning Workout 8:15am

NOTES HOME

Last Week

- OLMC Christmas At Home Concert
- End of Year & Yr 6 Farewell Mass (restricted numbers due to COVID)

MERIT AWARDS KΒ Joseph • Alana 4R Estelle - Bryson KG Akins • Deepali 4G Eknoor - Erinn 1B Ariah - Ithayan 5B Sai - Eva 1G Patrick • Olivia 5G Mia - Saxon 2B Olivia - Sam 6B Rouba • Marie-Jose 2G Arkyn • Kyla 6G Gabriella • Michael 3B John-Paul - Zahara CA Katrina - Amelia ΡE 3G Anthony - Vinnie Arkyn • Misha

STAR CARD REWARDS

Gold Awards: Malek • Jayden • Justin • Shivani • Katrina •

Opal Awards: Abraham • Liyana • Thomas • Amelia • Arkyn • Alessandro • Steven • Varsha • Charlize • Sanoshan • Amelia •

Platinum Awards: Joaquin • Misha • Rajan • Isabella • Leah • Jerrick • Jada • Eknoor • Yasemin • Ethan • **Principal's Awards:** Matteo • Owen • Ithayan • Ariah • Catherine • Deepali • Isabelle • Tiana • Alana • John • Thea • Amalia • Lakshara • Joanne • Sienna • Shanaya • Ethan • Magdalene • Jacob • Sri Harika • Alanna • Navya • Marcus • Anthony • William • Sam • Akins • Karthik • Rishaan • Eren • Rohan • Noah • Michael • Julian • Kruti •

Diamond Awards: Sanaa • Eli • Aakash • Joshua • Hayden • Abbey • Alexia • Reis • Mia • Anuj • Isaac • Kiara • Emma • Clara • Logan • Rhianna • John • Alexis • Pravi • Lucinda • Michael • Jose • Daniel •

MATHS OLYMPIAD

We are very proud of our strong 2020 Maths Olympiad team who have worked brilliantly throughout the year to solve some extremely challenging Mathematical problems. The children from Year 5 and Year 6 also worked through four mathematically mind twisting competition papers to earn much deserved certificates and medals. We hope that they continue to be passionate about Mathematics and apply all of their knowledge and skills to solve future challenges.

Congratulations to our team: Serena, Sanjana, Joel, John Justin, Michaela, Sylvana, Luke, Jerome, Marcus, Julian, Lachlan, Celeste, Luke, Myra, Manav, David, John and Saadhana, Srayu, Sai, Kruti, Harish, Bhakti, Caitlyn, Aleisha, Charlotte, Tony, Jieke, and Jasmine.

5 Medal Recipients: Highest Overall Scores: Serena and Sarayu Increased Enthusiasm For Mathematics: Julian and Charlotte Providing Help To Other Students: Joel



2021 BAND AND INSTRUMENT PROGRAM

This year we have transitioned to having a Band and Instrument program coordinated by Captivate. With the interruptions and restrictions that have occurred it hasn't been able to run in a manner as originally intended. We are beginning to plan for 2021. The first stage of the planning process is to determine the students who will be continuing with the program in 2021. Parents of current Band students are asked to complete this <u>Google Survey</u> to indicate their intentions for 2021 by **Friday**.



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.

OLMC FUNDAY

On Friday 4 December, Kindergarten to Year 6 OLMC students will participate in a FUNDAY! Please note there has been a change in the date due to a clash with Year 7 Orientations.

Events will focus on speed, agility, stamina, focus, strategy, teamwork and most importantly, sportsmanship! We know that this year has been challenging with all sporting events cancelled, so we can't wait to provide this physical funday to our students. We'd like to thank Mr Jones for organising this mammoth event.



STUDENT ILLNESS - COVID RESTRICTIONS STILL APPLY

During the past week we have had a number of children who have come to school and been sent home as they are unwell. We are still required to operate under the protocols that were advised in August. We understand that some children may suffer from seasonal hay fever or allergies and these symptoms can present as covid symptoms. If this is the case for your child, parents are asked to obtain a clearance letter from their doctor for their child to attend school.

We understand these processes may be frustrating, however in order to protect the health and safety of all we are required to follow them. Parents are also asked to be respectful to school staff who call to ask for a child to be collected as we are following the procedures expected of us. It is not appropriate to take out your frustrations on school staff.

Please refer below to the information shared to families on 19 August 2020 that is still in place.

- Currently, no student should attend school if they are unwell. That still applies but now, each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home because they have flu-like symptoms **must have a COVID-19 test**
- Students are not able to return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free
- A negative COVID-19 test result must be provided to the school before a student can come back to school. The
 test results can be a NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre letter, SMS or email and/or a medical certificate
- These same protocols apply to school staff.

GET READY FOR 2021: <u>NEW</u> CHILD PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

Earlier this year, families were informed of the NEW child protection requirements that ALL volunteers need to complete to assist with any school based events. While volunteers haven't been required this year, we are hoping that 2021 will be different. Further information on the new online form and training module can be found at <u>www.parra.catholic.edu.au</u> under the 'ABOUT US' tab. Within the form you will also find help sheets and a video tutorial to assist you. **ALL volunteers** must complete these new requirements, **even if** you had recently completed any of the child protection components.

P&F NEWS

Parents and Friends' Annual General Meeting - Monday 2nd November

their time as fundraising coordinators. We hope you enjoy your final year at OLMC.

Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for our Parents and Friends AGM via zoom on Monday night. It was lovely to see you all again and reflect on what has been a tumultuous year. As always, all parents are encouraged to come along to the Parents and Friends and find out more about what is happening in our school and find ways to support our children in their learning. Many thanks to those who volunteered their time for positions in our team in 2020. We are grateful for your willingness to be involved and for the things we were able to do together at the beginning of the year. Special thanks to Diana Khoury and Linda Khoury who are finishing

Congratulations and thank you to the committee for 2021

President: Karly Jouni	Vice President: Samuel Vecchio	Treasurer: Mary Nehme	Publicity Officers: Karly Jouni
Secretary: Danielle Gardner	Second Hand Uniform: Kelly Hughes	Book Club Coordinators: Karly Jouni & Sukanya	Danielle Gardner Ruth Nelson

We are seeking people to assist with the coordination of the Mothers' and Fathers' day raffles in 2021 as fundraising coordinators. We are also looking for more people to help organise the distribution of the Scholastic book club orders next year, which can be a one day commitment each term.

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.

Year 6 Planetarium Experience

On the 21st of October Yr6 had a planetarium experience. It included a big blow up hemisphere which had a tunnel that we used to get in and out of it. When we first got in, it was very dark and took a while for your eyes to adjust. The first thing that we did when we got inside was to look around and see the stars and some planets that projected around the planetarium.

We learnt about:

- The difference between orbiting and rotating
- Constellations
- Planets
- Dwarf planets
- Supergiants
- Exoplanets

We all tried to find the constellations first and then were showed where the constellations were and drew lines connecting the stars. Two of the most famous constellations are Scorpius (Winter constellation) & Orion (Summer constellation).



Another constellation is the southern cross which is only visible in the Southern Hemisphere. The southern cross is the smallest constellation and is on our flag.

Overall it was an amazing experience where we got to learn many new things about our galaxy.

By: Serena & Sylvana

Year 5 & 6 Rhythms of the World Drumming Experience

Another experience that Yr5 and Yr6 have been lucky enough to have is participating in a range of different games and activities involving rhythms of different cultures. We learnt how to say hello in many different languages, for example,

Hola (Spanish), Bonjour (French), Ciao (Italian), Marhabaan (Arabic), Aloha (Hawaiian) and Konnichiwa (Japanese). We also learnt what sounds the different parts of the drums made such as on the outside of the drum the tone of pitch was high but as you got closer to the middle it became deeper.

We were able to play two different types of drums and got to learn many new skills that most of the students didn't know. The name of these drums in Arabic is called darbuka but it depends on where you come from.



My favourite part of this experience was the call and response, which is played in two teams and one leader calls a pattern like 'clap, click, clap' and the team repeats it. Sophia Ghanem

My favourite part of this exciting experience was playing the drums and being able to play different rhythms on this particular percussion instrument from my culture. Celine El-Sioufi

Thank you to our wonderful teachers and staff for making this wonderful experience happen!