



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

It has been such a delight to welcome the children and teachers back to a new school year. I also welcome our new staff members Miss Nicole Jacka (6Blue), Miss Deborah Osei-Adomako (4 Gold) and Mrs Renee Khattar (5 Blue on Thursday) and hope they quickly feel a part of our special community. The beginning of a new year is always one full of promise and hope. The transition to a new class can also create some anxiety which soon fades as the children become more comfortable and settled into new routines.

As a parent, this time of the year can be challenging and emotional. One of the greatest challenges can be sending your child off to school, be it for the first day or for their thousandth day. You are entrusting your child to their class teacher and hoping that they will care for your child just as you do. When you drop your child off at the gate each morning, your thoughts are in part informed by your own experience of school. Sometimes this can lead to feeling anxious about the experience your child will have. Be mindful that your anxieties don't become your child's anxieties too.

This year we return to school in the aftermath of a unique Summer of extreme heat and ongoing bushfires. These events have had an enormous impact on our country in so many ways. As our communities continue to deal with the aftermath of cleaning up, re-building and finding balance, we look to ways that we can provide support. During the past months overwhelming financial support has been pledged by Australians and our friends further afield. It truly demonstrates the value of loving your neighbour. As the term progresses we will look at ways that we can continue to provide support as a school community.

So as we begin this new year full of hope and possibility, I wish the children every success as they strive to meet their goals in relation to their academic, social and spiritual learning.

***God of Wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers.
Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;
Give wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding,
Give peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.***

Olimpia Pirovic
Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful

UPCOMING DATES

Week 2

Tue: 7pm Kindy Info Night

Wed: Yr6 Camp (Collaroy)

Thu: Yr6 Camp (Collaroy)

Fri: Yr6 Camp (Collaroy), School Census

Week 3

Mon: School Photos

Wed: Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival

Fri: 5:30pm Welcome to School Dinner

NOTES HOME

Today

- Welcome Dinner Invitation
- Ice-block & Movie-Yr4

OPENING SCHOOL MASS - NEW DATE

All families are invited to attend the opening school mass and commissioning of our 2020 school student leaders.

FRIDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2020

10:00AM - 11:00AM

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Please notify the school if you have changed address or any contact details such as emails or phone numbers. It is vital that we have correct information in case of emergencies and to ensure accurate billing information. This can be done via the Skoolbag App under e-forms.

CORONAVIRUS

Many parents will be aware through the media of the current situation regarding the Coronavirus which is a severe flu virus. Yesterday two notices were sent out from CEDP with the current advice available. The advice is the following:

Parents whose children have travelled to mainland China or Hong Kong in the past two weeks are now asked not to send them to school. These students should be kept at home until after the 14-day incubation period for coronavirus has ended. Media coverage can cause us to become overly anxious and panicked about the situation. It is important that we are mindful to not overreact but consider the best advice available. The risk for our students is low. The advice from NSW Health is to monitor children for a fever. Further information is available at the [NSW Health website](#).

EXTENDED LEAVE

All holiday leave consisting of two (2) or more days must be approved by the Principal. A leave form can be obtained from the school office or website. All leave must be submitted as early as possible with a minimum of at least two weeks prior to your intended leave. This leave cannot be submitted through Skoolbag.

ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Please ensure that the school is notified if your child is absent from school. The preferred method is to complete the absence form via Skoolbag. You can also contact the school office by phone or send a note to your child's teacher on their return.

PE LESSONS AND SPORT DAYS

In each grade the children wear their sport uniform on the day they have Physical Education lessons and their Sport Lesson. There will be occasions where these days may change due to timetable changes. When this occurs, parents will be notified with a note, through the newsletter or with the skoolbag app. The following schedule indicates the days students in each grade should wear their sport uniforms.

Kindergarten	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 1	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 2	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 3Blue	Monday and Friday

Year 3Gold	Thursday and Friday
Year 4	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday and Friday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday



Due to Year 6 Camp in Week 2 there will be a swap with Year 5 and Year 6. Year 5 PE Lessons for Week 2 will be on Thursday and Year 6 PE Lessons will be on Tuesday.

LABELLING ALL ITEMS

Please ensure that all personal items (clothing, lunchboxes, bags, etc.) are clearly labelled with your child(ren)'s name. Each year there are numerous items of clothing, especially hats and jackets that have no names or identification in lost property. Already there are various items, including new jumpers in lost property with NO NAME on them.

NO NAME = difficulty to find the OWNER

SKOOLBAG

At OLMC our main communication channels to parents are:

~ **Weekly Newsletter**

~ **Skoolbag App**

~ **School Website**

Each Wednesday our newsletter is emailed to our parents and distributed via the channels stated above. Don't forget to make sure that you have the Skoolbag app on your phone. You can use the app to receive notifications and inform the school of your child's absences or change of details.

PRINCIPAL'S SUMMER HOLIDAY CHALLENGE 2019/2020

Don't forget to complete your entry for the Principal's Summer Holiday Challenge. I have already received some interesting art creations today. All responses need to be submitted by Friday 7 February to be in the running.



FIRST CHALLENGE

The first challenge is **READING**. I wonder how many books you can read during the summer holidays. For each book you read please complete the reading log details in the Google form. Please use the link below or see the school website or Skoolbag. Reading log link -

<https://forms.gle/fpua9iRezJspTEYQA>



SECOND CHALLENGE

The second challenge for the holidays is to be an *artist*.

I want you to **get inspired and create an artwork**. It could be a drawing, painting, sculpture, photo series, short film or anything else you are inspired to create. You might be inspired by a location you visit on your holiday or something you see. When you return to school you can bring in your artwork in or a photo or it to display in our **Holiday Art Exhibition** in the library.

PLUS don't forget to go [online](#) to enter the **Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge**.

WELCOME TO OLMC

We are very fortunate and excited to welcome 3 new staff members to our OLMC community. Our year 6 students had the chance to interview Miss Jacka, Miss Osei-Adomako and Mrs Khattar to help our community get to know our new teachers.

Name: Miss Nicole

Jacka

Grade: 6B

What inspired you to be a teacher? I wanted to help people learn

What is the best part of your job? Making new friends with my students

How do you relax? I like to read and play sports

Do you have any pets? I have two big dogs

How many siblings do you have? I have 2 brothers and 2 sisters

What is your favourite food? I love chocolate

If you weren't a teacher, what career would you have? I would want to do something outdoors, like a diving instructor.



Name: Mrs Renee

Khattar

Grade: 5B

What inspired you to be a teacher? I have a love of learning and helping others learn.

What is the best part of your job? Getting to know different students.

How do you relax? I like to go to the beach

Do you have any pets? No

How many siblings do you have? I have 1 brother and 2 sisters.

What is your favourite food? I love pasta.

If you weren't a teacher, what career would you have? A fashion designer.



Name: Miss Deborah

Osei-Adomako

Grade: 4G

What inspired you to be a teacher? My past teachers helped build my confidence and be strong.

What is the best part of your job? I love my students and their families.

How do you relax? I love going to the beach and eating new foods.

Do you have any pets? I have a dog called Diego.

How many siblings do you have? An older sister and a younger brother.

What is your favourite food? Banana Waffles

If you weren't a teacher, what career would you have? I would work in a place where I can still work with kids.



P&F NEWS

Welcome to the fantastic year of learning that is 2020! We hope you are feeling refreshed and eager to do your best this year.

Welcome Dinner - We warmly invite every member of our school community to grab their picnic rugs and chairs and come along on Friday 14 February to celebrate the new school year at our Annual Welcome Family Dinner from 5:30 – 8:30pm.

Please email your RSVP with number attending and dietary needs to olmcpandf@gmail.com

Save the Date - The next Parents and Friends meeting will be held Tuesday, 18 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: Karly Jouni, President, through the school office or email olmcpandf@gmail.com.

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.

2020 SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY EVENTS

TERM 1		TERM 1 & 2		TERM 2 & 3		TERM 4	
January		4	Relics of St Terese and her parents (more info to follow)	19	OLMC School Athletics Carnival (TBC)	October	
28	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY Staff Return (Office Open) Maths Assessment Interviews by Appointment Kinder to Year 6 Uniform Shop Open (Appt only)	5	9:30-10:30am Open Morning 2021 Kindergarten & Prospective Enrolments	26	Semester One Reports Sent Home Book Fair Commences	12	School Resumes Term 4 (Summer Uniform)
29	School Resumes for Yr 1 to Yr 6 Maths Assessment Interviews by Appointment for Kindergarten 2020	20	National Day of Action Against Bullying - Mufti Day	29	Parent/Teacher Interview Week Book Fair Continues until 2 July	19	Diocesan Basketball Gala Day
30	Maths Assessment Interviews by Appointment for Kindergarten 2020	25	9:30-10:30am Open Morning 2021 Kindergarten & Prospective Enrolments	July		22	2:10pm P&F Executive Meeting
31	Kindergarten Commence 9-10.30am New Parents Tea and Tissues Morning Tea	April		3	Last Day Term 2	23	World Teachers' Day
February		3	OLMC Cross Country Carnival	TERM 3		27	7pm Kindergarten 2021 Information Evening
4	2:10pm P&F Executive Meeting 6:30pm Kindergarten Info Night	6-9	God Day Holy Week Reflection Walks	20	School Resumes Term 3	28 & 29	Year 4 CARES Excursion
4	NRL Blitz Visit	9	Last Day of Term 1	24	9am Open Classrooms 9:30am Smoking Ceremony 10am OLMC Feast Day & Grandparents Day Mass	November	
5-7	Year 6 Camp (Collaroy)	10	Good Friday	30	2:10pm P&F Executive Meeting	2	Parents & Friends AGM
7	School Census (TBC)	13	Easter Monday	August		12	9:15-10:45am Kindergarten 2021 Orientation Day Group 1
10	School Photo Day	TERM 2		4	Cumberland Zone Athletics	13	9:15-10:45am Kindergarten 2021 Orientation Day Group 1
12	Zone Swimming Carnival	27	School Resumes Term 2 (Winter Uniform)	8	Feast of St Mary MacKillop	17	Yr 4 2021 BYOD evening
14	5:30pm Welcome to School Picnic	May		11	6:30pm Child Protection Briefing 7pm P&F General Meeting	19	9:15-10:45am Kindergarten 2021 Orientation Day Group 2
18	6:15pm Child Protection Refresher & Briefing- Parents 7pm P&F General Meeting	5	Diocesan Cross Country Carnival	15	Feast of the Assumption	20	9:15-10:45am Kindergarten 2021 Orientation Day Group 2
20	Diocesan Swimming Carnival	6	9:30-10:30am Open Morning 2021 Kindergarten & Prospective Enrolments	21	Diocesan Athletics Carnival	30	Swimming Program Starts
21	10am Opening School Mass	7	Mother's Day Stall (TBC) 2:10pm P&F Executive Meeting	26	Netball Gala Day	December	
26	Ash Wednesday - Mass (TBC)	8	8am Mothers' Day Breakfast 9:15am Mothers' Day Mass	2	Fathers' Day Stall (TBC)	1-11	Swimming Program continues
28	Staff Development Day	10	Mothers' Day	September		3 & 10	Yr 6 Surf Awareness Program Yr 5 Surf Awareness Program
March		12-22	NAPLAN Testing Weeks	4	8am-9am Fathers' Day Breakfast	8	6pm-8pm Christmas Story & End of Year Awards (TBC)
1-7	Catholic Schools Week	19	6:30pm Child Protection Briefing 7pm P&F General Meeting	4	9:15am Fathers' Day Mass	14	Swimming Carnival (TBC)
2	2021 Kindergarten enrolments commence	June		6	Fathers' Day	15	1:30pm End of Year Mass 6pm Yr 6 Graduation Dinner
2-6	Meet the Teacher Goal setting Meetings (late night 3 March)	8	Queen's Birthday Holiday	25	Last Day Term 3	16	Last Day of Term 4

