

# **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families.

As we start Term 3 we find ourselves continuing to live our lives within restrictions. I'm sure you all felt, just as I did, hopeful that the end of the holidays would mean we might be able to return to our 'normal' routine. However this has not been the case. Instead we begin the term with multiple mini OLMC campuses across our local area.

This return to Learning from Home has been met with a variety of feelings. Some of us are eager to get on with things, while some of us are feeling very anxious or uncertain. We know this is not the ideal and the preference would be to have all the children at school. However, this measure is required to keep our family and wider community safe.

Yesterday I was listening to the radio and people were calling in to describe their experiences. One dad said he felt like he was a warden in a maximum security prison! I certainly hope this isn't your experience. Our advice to parents is to not put too much pressure on yourselves. You are not a trained teacher and 'homeschooling' is a very diff

pressure on yourselves. You are not a trained teacher and 'homeschooling' is a very different process to our current Learning From Home . Your role is to support them to work as independently as possible, help them stay positive and plan what they are going to do and then have a go. It's ok if the work is not perfect. Your child's teachers will provide work for your child and there is the expectation that they complete as much as possible. Don't forget to build in brain breaks, physical activity, creative activities, reading, down time and family time.

It is natural for you or your child to feel a bit overwhelmed. Learning from Home means they don't have the on hand social connections to their friends and support and skill and knowledge of their teacher to support them. This is an opportunity for your children to show you that they are independent learners who actually know their stuff! If you or your child are struggling, get in touch with us via email or phone the office.

The safety of our community is our top priority and consistent with Premier Berejiklian's strong message that everyone who can should stay at home. Just like all workplaces, we are also required to minimise the number of staff on-site each day. This means our staff will also be on a roster of teams working at school and teams working from home. Supervision will continue to be provided at school for families who need this support (essential workers, vulnerable students, or those who are not at home and have no other supervision options). We ask for your support in only sending your children to school if you fall in the above categories.

As we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel,
We ask Our Mother Mary to intercede for us to....
Keep all members of our school community safe and in good health,
Give us strength to face and work through the challenges of this period,
Enable us to welcome all of our children back to school when it is safe to do so.

Olimpia Pirovic

Principal

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful



# **UPCOMING DATES**

# Week 1

Fri: OLMC Feast Day (Celebrations postponed)

**11:45am:** Miss P & Mrs A Welcome Back ZOOM Meeting Id: 440 563 5257 Passcode: 393762

# Week 2:

Classes & Grades
begin regular ZOOM
sessions with students:
Please continue to
check your email for
further information

# **NOTES HOME**

# This Week

- Welcome To Term 3 (emailed/Skoolbag)
- Wk1 ZOOM Grade Schedule (emailed/Skoolbag)

# **Last Term**

- Yr 6 Parramatta Mission Excursion
- K 100 Days of Kindergarten
- Principal's Winter Holiday Challenge
- Yr2 School Items
- Yr 3-6 SORA e-library Information

PLEASE KEEP YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE WITH THE SCHOOL OFFICE - address, phone numbers & email

FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO SEND 1 PHOTO TO MRS ANDERIESZ TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR LEARNING FROM HOME FOR THE WEEK IN REVIEW

# **STAR CARD REWARDS**

These children earned these Star Card Awards during the last week of school. Certificates will be presented when the children return to school.

**Gold Awards:** Joshua • Jada • Samyel • Eknoor • Amelia • Sebastian • Ethan • Scarlett • Harshi • Madisen • Ariana • Nicholas • Evelina • Jaden • Sukhmani • Noah • Matthew • Ghaith • Charlize • Alec • Ruhee • Kyra • Riya • Leah • Luther • Kiara • Grace • Olivia • Lakshara • Deepali • Aayan • Anthony • Jacob • Luke • Alana • Ruhi • Aakash • Thomas • Reis • Michael • Chelsea • Annalise • Charlotte • Armaan • Abeer •

**Opal Awards:** Sanaa • Logan • Eli • Mason • George • Paige • Vincent • Pravi • Chad • Leon • Emad • Kayana • Aiden • Sameet • Jerrick • Alessandro •

<u>Platinum Awards:</u> Cyril - Sanoshan - Candace - Summer - Liya - Matthew - Lucinda - Daniel - Tiana - Elizabeth - Ava - Georgia - Kinjal - Isabelle - Lucas - Michael -

Principal's Awards: Chanel - Olivia - Ethan -

Diamond Awards: Kiara •



# **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL FEAST DAY**

This coming Friday we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. While we wait until we are able to celebrate this day together as a community, the students will continue to unpack and investigate our Carmelite and Mercy traditions while they learn from home. As we anticipate this day, families are invited to join the Carmelites as they pray for the people of the world and communities affected by the pandemic:



Mary, you are always with the brothers and sisters of your Son.

We entrust ourselves to you in the midst of all that is happening to us.

Help us to protect and look after each other.
Be with those who mourn and those who are sick,
those who have lost jobs and hope.
Be with us in our fear and uncertainty.
Don't let worry and anxiety overcome us.
Be our source of hope.
Lend your strength to all those helping others and those who

are caring for the sick.
Help us to end this disease.
Intercede for us with your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

# **BAND**

The Band tutors have prepared video lessons for the children to access online. All of the children have received an invitation to join a Google Classroom via their school email. This will enable the children to continue to practise their pieces and build their skills. It also gives them another activity to incorporate into their daily routine.

# SCHOOL UNIFORM DELIVERY

Due to covid restrictions and to reduce any further risk to many of our communities, there will not be any uniform deliveries this week or until further notice. We apologise for any inconvenience caused, but, the health and safety of the wider community must be our priority.

# **FURTHER PARENT INFORMATION**

As we move forward in this period of remote learning we assure all families that we will continue to ensure equity for those students learning at home and/or at school. This means that some of our planned experiences must be cancelled and hopefully rescheduled for a later time in the year.

#### Communication

The school will regularly keep you updated with information regarding changes that arise. These will be sent to parent emails and via the Skoolbag app, FACEBOOK & COMPASS. It is essential that all parents read this information carefully. Before calling the office to ask a question, check the previous communications you have received as the answer is often there.

Families are also able to email their child/ren's teacher directly, however, do not expect an immediate response. Our teachers have many responsibilities during the day and will require time to respond. We also ask that you are mindful of the time you email staff. An email after 5pm may not be responded to until the following day.

# Student Engagement with the Community

Students engage with the community for a variety of reasons. These include providing alternative learning opportunities, enhancing the presentation of content and/or sharing in faith.

- All In-school experiences and excursions have been postponed
- All extra curricular experiences such as choir, morning workout, Rock and Water, Gardening Club have been postponed until further notice
- Beginning from Wk 2 Music and PE lessons will not occur so as to not disadvantage those students learning from home. Students will still receive some form of physical exercise and creative arts experience from the teacher supervising them.
- Band Tutors have provided online lesson

# Responsible Behaviours When Out in The Community

The lockdown during the break and now the remote learning period have demonstrated that we need to be even more vigilant to support a quick return to less restrictive living. These are some reminders for our essential worker families who are still accessing the school site

# **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 are asked to stay in the car, let their child out and watch them walk into the school. A teacher will be on duty and waiting for them from 8:30am.
- No parent or carer is to enter the school site
- Families who walk, we ask you to stop before approaching the front gate, and allow your child to walk into school on their own.
- All adults must wear a mask

# Afternoon Pick up

- Pick up remains at 3:10pm
- Parents/carers need to maintain social distance and be particularly aware when entering/exiting the grounds or waiting for the gate to open.
- Parents/carers must collect their child/ren and leave straight away. This is not a time to socialise
- If you need to speak with your child's teacher you need to contact them to arrange a phone conversation, you are not able to speak to them while on lines.
- All adults must wear a mask

# **Learning Booklet Pick Up**

- Parents/carers of students in K-3 are expected to pick up Learning Booklets every Monday
- Parents/carers must sign in using the NSW QR Code provided so bring your phone
- All adults must wear a mask

While this situation continues to force us to take necessary precautions, we do so willingly to support the safety, wellbeing and learning of all. As always, we endeavour to communicate any changes within a timeframe that is reasonable, and we thank our parent community for your patience and understanding.

# **PRC UPDATE**

**153 students have completed the PRC & 73 students are on the way!** Keep encouraging your child/ren to read a range of texts, including those listed for the Premier's Reading Challenge. Students can maintain their reading log via the <a href="PRC link">PRC link</a>, using the log in details provided at the start of Term 2.

Congratulations to the following students who completed the PRC over the break

Kinder: K: Alec P, Georgia K & Luther W Year 1: Cooper H Year 3: Jolenta, Amalia K & Samuel L Year 4: Gabrielle M &

Angelina S **Year 6:** Mrunal K

# **FEEDBACK ABOUT LEARNING**

Feedback is an important part of the learning cycle for children. For our children this takes a number of forms, written, verbal, individual and through class goals. Feedback can be given by the child themselves when they reflect on the Learning Intention or Success Criteria to judge how they are doing. Feedback can also be given by the teacher or peers.



No matter the form of feedback there are a few criteria that make it worthwhile.

- 1) Feedback has to be given as the learning is occurring so that the student can understand the link between their learning and the feedback given. Feedback days later is useless.
- 2) Feedback needs to be about learning, not behaviour.
- 3) Feedback needs to be given on one or two success criteria, it can't be about everything.
- 4) Learners need to be involved in the discussion so that they can use the feedback to understand their position in the learning process and set new goals for themselves.

When our children are required to Learn from Home they won't be able to get feedback about their learning in the same way they do when at school. The main form of feedback the children will receive will be through their reflections on the provided learning intentions and success criteria for each task or subject area. The learning intentions and success criteria will also enable parents to know what to



discuss with their child about what they have learnt and to what extent they have been successful. Take some time to talk to your children about their work that day. Ask them what challenged them or what they found easy. Talk about how they worked out the answer or the word they were reading. Ask them what they could have done better or differently.

For some of the work completed online, the teachers will be able to give feedback or they will provide feedback to the class through Google Classroom. When teachers connect with the children via zoom they will also be able to give some verbal feedback specific to discussion occuring.

# **P&F NEWS**

# **Welcome Back to Term Three!**

We wish to welcome parents back to term 3 home learning. We hope you are all coping with the current restrictions and managing to stay safe and remain at home. We thank those in our community who are essential workers, for keeping things moving. We pray that this period will be over soon and we ask everyone in our community to do their best to make that happen. Please reach out to a member of the staff or parents and friends committee if you need support.

# **Happy Feast Day!**

We wish our Carmelite Fathers a very happy Feast Day for this Friday. Unfortunately we will not be able to celebrate Mass as a Parish and school community, but we ask you to remember our priests in a special way in your prayers on Friday. Once again, our Parish will need our support during this extended lockdown while the Churches remain closed. Perhaps you would like to mark Friday by making a donation to the Parish. If you would like to make direct contributions, our Parish banking details are:

**BSB:** 067 950

**Account Number: 00602** 

Account Name: Wentworthville Catholic Church

Please mark your EFT as 'DONATION'

As always, if you need to contact the Parents and Friends for whatever reason our email is <a href="mailto:olmcpandf@gmail.com">olmcpandf@gmail.com</a>
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.

