Greetings!

I hope that Mother’s Day was kind to all our mums. Thank you to our Kindergarten teachers and children for helping us celebrate mother’s Day with all those who could make it last Friday. Thanks again to all the Mother’s Day gift organisers and helpers.

This week we celebrated the feast of the Ascension and this week we are remembering that although Jesus is not physically with us we are his eyes, ears, hands and feet. Our focus is on how we can be the Body of Christ to others.

The prayer of St. Teresa is our prompt

Prayer of St. Teresa
Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes
Through which he looks with compassion
On this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks
To do good.
Yours are the hands with which he blesses
All the world.
Yours are the hands.
Yours are the feet.
Yours are the eyes.
You are his body.
Christ has no body but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through
Which he looks with compassion
On this world.
Christ has no body now on earth
But yours.
Amen.

It would be a help to us if you could encourage some home discussion on how we can live this prayer at school and home. What would be the simple things that we can to do to be the Body of Christ to those around us; classmates, brothers and sisters.

MARIAN COLLEGE ENROLMENTS
It has come to my attention that a number of OLR Year 6 students have not yet submitted their Marian College applications. As applications have officially closed, I ask that you contact Marian College directly on 9654 6700 if you still wish to enrol your child.

Please be aware that applications submitted after the closing date will not be given priority. Last year Marian College received more applications than positions available.

I hope this week is gentle for you.

Best Wishes

John Spradbrow

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is an annual national assessment that provides parents, schools and policy makers with an important snapshot of information about how well students are performing in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. NAPLAN provides valuable information on student performance and enables schools and teaches to identify how they are doing and where there is room for improvement.

This will be the sixth year NAPLAN testing has taken place. States and territories conducted their own assessments for years prior to the introduction of NAPLAN and in some cases, such as NSW which previously held annual Basic Skills Tests, literacy and numeracy testing has gone on for decades.

NAPLAN takes just a few hours out of a few days every year, and has become a routine part of the school calendar. NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another day in schools.

In itself the testing of literacy and numeracy skill should not contribute to a narrowing of the curriculum. In fact ACARA believes that the best way to prepare for NAPLAN, beyond familiarisation with the test format, is for schools to provide a broad, well-rounded curriculum. Students should not stress about NAPLAN – while the test provides valuable information for parents, schools and others, it is low-stakes for each student. Basic familiarisation with NAPLAN is appropriate, but beyond that NAPLAN is not a test for which students can or should “cram”.

IMPORTANT DATES 2013

TERM 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 28 May</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 17 June</td>
<td>Pupil free day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19 June</td>
<td>Kindergarten Enrolment Meetings with Fr Joe 10am &amp; 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 27 June</td>
<td>Enrolment Meetings with Fr Joe 10am &amp; 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28 June</td>
<td>Term 2 2013 Ends</td>
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TERM 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 July</td>
<td>Term 3 2013 Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20 September</td>
<td>Term 3 2013 Ends</td>
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</tbody>
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TERM 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8 October</td>
<td>Term 4 Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th Dec</td>
<td>Last day for Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th Dec</td>
<td>Last day for Staff</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion is on again.

Earlier this year we took delivery of lots of maths, science and music resources that we gained from the promotion last year.

Please send your stickers in if you are a Woolworths shopper. We have arranged for a school box at the Kellyville shop as well as a box in the school office.

To download the “Earn & Learn” sticker summary sheet go to:

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

YEAR 7 ENROLMENTS (with Fr Joe)

Year 7 Enrolments will be over five sessions in the new OLOR hall.

For Marian College only, the following 4 dates are available:
(1) Wed. 1 May at 10am and (2) at 7.30pm
(3) Thurs. 16 May at 10am and (4) at 7.30pm

For Marian College and all other high school enrolments there will be a session on Thurs. 30 May at 7.30pm

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS (with Fr Joe)

For Kindergarten 2014 at OLOR all families must attend one of the 4 following meetings:
(1) Wednesday 19th June at 10am or (2) at 7.30pm
(3) Thursday 27th June at 10am or (4) at 7.30pm.

Parents are to take their “Record of Enrolment Applicant’s Interview with Parish Priest Form” with them to this meeting.
SIBLING ENROLMENT INTERVIEW

Sibling Kindergarten Interviews for 2014 will be held on Wednesday 29 May. We currently have a number of interview times available with our Kindergarten teachers.

Please go to the website address
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
then enter the event code: BUYXJ
Next enter your details, select a Kindy teacher (Mrs Bamford, Mrs Gilmour or Mrs Cain) and choose an available interview time.

We would appreciate if you could complete this process as soon as possible so we can finalise details. Thank you

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2013 (for children in Yr 6 only)

The Confirmation Ceremonies this year will be as follows:
Tuesday 4 June (5.30pm & 7.30pm)
Thursday 6 June at 7.30pm
Friday 7 June (5.30pm & 7.30pm)

PENTECOST SUNDAY – 19 MAY

To conclude the “Year of Grace” and in thanksgiving for this blessing, our Parish will have a multicultural celebration with Mass and lunch on Sunday 19 May. You are invited to come to 11am Mass dressed in national costume. We are looking for people to assist with cultural dances and national dishes. Please put your name on the list in the Church foyer. Thank you for your support.

CONGRATULATIONS

OLOR Kellyville would like to congratulate Lily Murphy (3DR) on her very brave decision to cut off almost half a metre of her lovely hair (48cm to be exact!) and donate it to the Beautiful Lengths campaign
which donates wigs to women who have lost their hair to cancer treatments.

Breast cancer has touched many people in the OLOR Community and we couldn’t be more proud of Lily for making such a selfless contribution.
The new “do” looks gorgeous on her.

What does the NSW school funding agreement mean?

New South Wales is the first state to sign on to the Australian Government’s Better Schools plan, agreeing to invest $5.6 billion in education over six years from 2016 and commit to a three percent increase in school spending over the period.

What we know so far

- Both the state and federal governments will contribute funding to the new model
- For every extra dollar the NSW state government invests in schools, the Australian government will effectively invest two dollars
- Funding to Catholic schools for 2014 and 2015 will remain frozen at 2013 levels
- Catholic schools operate on average at only 90% of the total government expenditure

As at 7 May, no other states or territories have agreed to the Australian Government’s Better Schools plan and it remains to be seen what will come of the agreement. Federal Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, has stated that the Coalition will only support the plan if all Australian states and territories are on board. The Federal Government has until 30 June to secure the agreements.

What we still don’t know

For Catholic schools in New South Wales, there is still uncertainty around the exact details of the school funding model including:

- What the exact amount of the allocation will be to Catholic schools from the Federal government using the new funding formula
- The precise impact the NSW state government funding freeze will have on Catholic schools during 2014 and 2015 until the new agreement commences in 2016
- The impact on the NSW agreement and funding levels if/when other states and territories sign up with differing agreements
- Ensuring that the current 10% resource gap between government schools and Catholic schools does not widen further and that accurate levels of funding for Catholic schools will be provided in the coming years

We urge you to continue to speak with your local state and federal members about the need for ongoing and increased funding to Catholic schools. More information can be found at
www.parra.catholic.edu.au/schoolfunding

WALK IN WEEK – END FUNDRAISING

Cancer is something that will touch many of us in some way throughout our lives. On the weekend of 9-10 November this year, we will be walking 60km in an effort to help fight this terrible disease. In the Weekend to End Women’s Cancers, benefitting Chris O’Brien’s Lifehouse at RPA, we will be walking through the streets of Sydney to help bring an end to all women’s cancer.

If anyone is able to help us raise much needed funds for this cause, either by a personal donation, or if you know of any businesses you can forward the details onto, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see the link below to donate.

http://sy13.endcancer.org.au - click on Donate, type in our team name Darling Hearts, and search. You can either donate online or print out a donations form.

With Many Thanks, Tracy Hunt and Helen Gilmour

OLOR KNITTING CLUB 2013

During the last three years OLOR has been involved with Social Justice Issues. The knitting club has been one way of raising awareness and helping others in need.

The Knit Club has made woollen blankets for the homeless and donated these to St Vincent De Paul. Once again we are inviting students to become part of the Knit Club.

If you are interested in participating in the OLOR Knitting Club please contact Mrs Davison.

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OLOR SCHOOL WORKING BEE
SATURDAY 18TH MAY, 2013

Dear OLOR Parents,

As most of you will be aware Stage 1 of the Grounds Improvements was completed over the School Holidays, I think we can all agree that it is 100% improvement already. We do, however, need to call on the fabulous Community Spirit that is so much a part of our school, to help us with Stage 2. This is a reminder to all parents that we will be having a working bee on Saturday 18th May 2013 to help get the area ready to put in our new seating and play equipment.

We need dads (and mums!) to come with Tools, Wheelbarrows and their sleeves rolled up to get the area prepared.

If anyone has any of the following items could you please bring them along:

- High pressure cleaner (for cleaning concrete surface under the shade sail & school hall area)
- Angle Grinder
- Hammer Drill with drill bits
- 12mm spanners (for removing old seating, building and installing new table settings)
- Buckets (for both cleaning table settings and mixing cement)
- Trowel
- Cleaning cloths/rags
- Detergent
- Wheelbarrow

The aim for the working bee is to remove the current seating and fill in any gaps with Quick Dry Cement. Construct and Install the new Table Settings and we will hopefully be installing the additional playground equipment with a couple of surprises.

If you can spare an hour or two on Saturday 18th May 2013 between 9.00am and 4.00pm, your children will really appreciate it. Unfortunately, the kids won’t be able to be on school grounds on this day due to Occupational Health and Safety reasons.

Please let us know ASAP your availability and what tools/skills you can assist with.

Please email or call us ASAP: Carolyn Modafferi 0414 655 652 at: clehrle@hotmail.com or Monika Walter at monika.walter@yahoo.com.au