



St Oliver's Primary School

Newsletter

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At St Oliver's we are called to unite in service by living out our Mercy Values and striving to be quality learners who contribute positively to our community.

Term 1 Week 8
2020

<http://www.stoliversharrispark.catholic.edu.au/home>

19th March

Joke of the Week: Why was the maths book sad? It had too many problems.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

8th April
Easter raffle drawn

8th April
Last day of Term 1

9th April
Pupil Free Day
Staff Development Day

27th April
Term 2 commences

August

Thursday 13th
Whole School Photos

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for the very calm and professional way that you have all coped with the challenges presented by COVID-19 (coronavirus).

As always the health and wellbeing of our school community remains our top priority.

In line with medical advice, school is operating as usual. There is no reason why those who have not travelled or been in close contact, should not be at school.

We have a number of procedures in place at St Oliver's to ensure the health and wellbeing of everyone, including social distancing and cancellation of any gatherings of students and families.

Barbara Young

Whole school procedures in place until further notice

Before school

-Every day from 8:30am, children will go straight to their classroom

Recess and lunch eating and play

-Only half the classes will be on the playground for recess or lunch

-The other half of the classes will be inside

-All classes will have either recess or lunch on the playground each day (except for wet weather)

-No basketball games due to it being a close contact sport

Monday morning assembly - Cancelled until further notice

Cross Country 23rd March - Cancelled

School Photos 25th March - Postponed. **New date Thurs 13th August**

Friday assembly 27th March - Cancelled

-Learner Quality awards will still be awarded

90
Celebrating 90
years of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020

SKOOLBAG APP: We will be keeping families updated with the current regulations regarding COVID-19. Please keep an eye on your Skoolbag notifications as this is the easiest and quickest way to make contact with you. If you do not have access to Skoolbag, please subscribe today. Instructions are in today's Newsletter.

From the REC

At this hour we are reminded of our humility and the fragility of human life.

Currently we are focused on ensuring we keep at the front of our mind our daily hygiene practices, hourly and on the minute to ensure the safety of ourselves, family and the community.



Also, let's turn to God during this time of human fragility. I feel God knows the present and the future. God's gift to us is that we can have a share in his life. On Sunday, we listened to Jesus sitting at the well. The woman protested when Jesus asked her to give him a drink. Jesus said "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink', you would have asked him and he would have given you living water (*John 4:10*). Prayer allows us to share in God's life giving water (*Tweeting with God, Michel Remery, 2015*).

Right now during these unprecedented times it may feel as though God is silent and the water isn't life giving. We can look to the saints to help us here at this moment. Many of the saints experienced much difficulty in their faith journey, but God's love was most important to them. Prayer can start here with God's love and when you ask him for guidance he is sure to give it.

Anthony Matthews
Religious Education Coordinator

Student prayer

Dear God, thank you for the trees, plants, wildlife and a roof over my head. Please help me to be more compassionate to others. Amen. Elijah B, Yr 5

PBS4L News

Star Class

Congratulations to Year 4 for using whole body listening



We are safe with our equipment and belongings.

Thank you Year 1 for teaching us how we can be safe with our equipment and belongings.



NAPLAN Online Practise Testing Week 9

NAPLAN will be online again this year with computer-based assessments. NAPLAN online will begin in May this year. The benefits for NAPLAN Online includes better assessment as it will be tailored to each student with more precise results, quicker reporting of results and testing which will be more engaging for the students.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online 2020, all CEDP schools will complete a NAPLAN Online Readiness Test. The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online and so that the students and teachers are familiar with the process. **The school readiness test is not an assessment of student ability.**

Next week, Week 9, Year 3 and Year 5 will participate in NAPLAN Online school readiness tests.

More information will be given closer to the date regarding NAPLAN Online for Year 3 and 5.



SEESAW IS FOR CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF LEARNING ONLY

Seesaw is a program set up for **classroom learning** only. Any questions not related to your child's learning should not be posted on Seesaw, but sent through to the school office.

- ALL questions must be via
 - School email stolivers@parra.catholic.edu.au
 - Office phone 8633 8300

END OF TERM 1 - WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - THURSDAY 9TH APRIL

EASTER RAFFLE

Easter raffle tickets have been sent home this week.
Please return them by Friday, 3rd April.
Easter raffle will be drawn 8th April.

We still need more Easter eggs for our raffle.
Please send them into the office.



CEDP Primary Sport News

ALL DIOCESAN SPORT temporarily ceased until further notice

The Parramatta Diocesan Primary & Secondary Schools Sport Councils have received notification on 16 March 2020 from Catholic Schools NSW Sport Services that a range of sport events, including MacKillop and NSWCCC selection trials, have temporarily ceased until further notice due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

A status overview of events scheduled is current as at 1.00pm, 16 March 2020, on the CEDP primary sport facebook page.

SCHOOLS REMAIN OPEN (Australian Govt response)

- At this stage, our school is open as usual.
- If there are school closures, there will be learning available via Google Classroom. This will only be available to students if and when schools are closed.
- Information about how to access your child's Google Classroom will be coming out soon via Skoolbag and a paper note sent home to families.
- If your child is sick, please notify the school office in the morning of the sickness by phone or skoolbag.
- If you have chosen to isolate your child, please inform the school office in the morning via email or phone.

Below is the latest advice from the Executive Director, Mr Greg Whitby regarding schools & COVID-19



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

GBW:cs

18/03/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to share key information about the Australian Government's response to COVID-19. The Prime Minister's announcement today addressed the following important matters:

- Schools will remain open at this time.
- Non-essential indoor gatherings of more than 100 people (including staff) will no longer be permitted from Wednesday 18 March 2020. An indoor gathering refers to a gathering within a single enclosed area (i.e. an area, room or premises that is or are substantially enclosed by a roof and walls, regardless of whether the roof or walls or any part of them are permanent, temporary, open or closed). There are some essential services that are exempt from this restriction.
- Outdoor events of fewer than 500 attendees may proceed; however, there is a range of protocols that must be followed.
- Social distancing protocols apply. This includes being able to maintain a distance of 1.5 metres between people.
- The advice level for all overseas travel has been raised to the highest level. That advice is that all Australians regardless of the destination, age or health should not travel overseas at this time. There is also updated advice on domestic travel.

As you know, health and safety are our priority, and we are closely following the advice of the relevant authorities. We understand that the measures listed above mean significant change at a school level. Our staff are working hard to make the appropriate adjustments and really appreciate your support at this challenging time.

In the event that school closures are required at a later date, we are well prepared to respond. This includes a strong commitment to working with schools and families to ensure continued learning using means that are appropriate to each community.

The [Australian Health website](#), [NSW Health](#) and [Smart Traveller](#) are the government information sites. We will continue to keep you updated including through the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website and Facebook page.

Yours sincerely



Gregory B Whitby AM KSG
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD

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