



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 4 Week 2

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

14 October 2021

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### OCTOBER

**Monday 18th**  
Kindergarten & Yr 1 students return to school for face-to-face learning

**Monday 25th**  
Yr 2,3,4,5 & 6 students return to school for face-to-face learning



## TRANSITIONING BACK TO SCHOOL

Dear St Oliver's Parents and Carers,

Over the next fortnight we will see the transitioning of all students back to school. Whilst sentiments about returning to school are mixed and varied, the wellbeing of all students as they transition back to face-to-face learning continues to be our priority.

Please find below some advice that we hope will assist families, children and parents alike, in transitioning back to school in the COVID-19 era.

### Reassure your child that it is safe to go to school

To help your child feel safe, have a conversation with them explaining that:

- the decision to return to school is based on medical advice
- everyone at school is working hard to make sure that children are safe
- anyone who is unwell will stay at home
- reassure your child that it is normal to have mixed emotions such as excitement, relief, worry and anger
- discuss what they are looking forward to and what they are worrying about
- reinforce good hygiene practices

### After school, it will be important to:

- talk to your child about their day, including what they enjoyed, what they felt worried about and what they are looking forward to tomorrow
- schedule extra family time as your child is likely to have missed being at home with you
- schedule quiet activities to recharge, as your child may feel more fatigued

### Prepare your child for changes to usual school routines

Some changes have been made to our usual routines at school, e.g. Recess and Lunch breaks will be staggered for different grades. To help prepare your child:

- talk to your child about upcoming changes - the more they understand the changes, the more comfortable they are likely to feel about them. Please let your child know that our Recess and Lunch breaks will look different as cohorts of students are kept separate for health and safety reasons.
- write social stories with your child about changes to routine
- ask your child what will make their transition back to school easier and see if they can be accommodated by your child's teacher

**Parents will not be permitted on our school site as per COVID guidelines.** This may make it harder for some children to separate from parents. Prepare your child for this by:

- discussing what might be different about the drop off and pick up procedures and how you will manage it as a family
- talk through the new procedure and role play or write social stories
- reassure your child that there will be plenty of staff to help take them to their classroom
- ask your child if there is anything that will make this easier for them, such as arriving at school with a buddy or taking a special item that helps them feel 'brave'.

### **Returning to school before siblings**

Our Kindergarten and Year 1 students will be returning to school earlier than other family members and some children may feel disappointed that their siblings are continuing with home learning or may feel disconnected from the family. You can help your child by:

- reassuring them that is ok to feel disappointed
- explaining that all children will be returning to school soon
- allowing your child to pick a fun activity to complete when they get home from school so that they have something to look forward to
- avoid scheduling any 'fun' activities with other family members or friends whilst your child is at school.

As children readjust to the pleasures and challenges associated with school it's important to remember that this is a readjustment phase and should improve with time. You know your child best. Should you need any extra support or clarity regarding our return to school, we invite you to contact your child's teacher so that, together, we can best support your child's transition back to school.

Keep safe,

Pascale Joseph

### **‘We’re all one body in Christ, We all MATTER’**

#### **As parents you’ve had to:**

- Adjust to new work routines
- Juggle home learning AND home teaching
- As well as manage the cognitive load and stress that comes with restrictions and a pandemic!!!!

As restrictions ease and we connect again as a learning community we all matter and are all here to walk alongside you.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Mission Month - October is Mission Month**

Over the course of the next two weeks students will begin entering into contemplation on 'What is Hope?'.

**Pope Francis describes hope beautifully here:** *We are people of the Resurrection, called to a love that propels us to a living hope. A hope so great that love becomes the purpose of our being.*

**October - Month of the Rosary** - This month each class will experience and lead a mystery in the Rosary. When we pray the Rosary, we contemplate with Mary the life events of Jesus marked out in the Scriptures.

## Diocese of Parramatta update on the coronavirus

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

The NSW Government has recently updated its pathway out of COVID-19 lockdowns.

### Wedding and Funerals

As the 70% double vaccination rate has now been achieved, from Monday 11 October 2021, up to 100 fully vaccinated people can attend funerals and weddings (previously it was 50 people).

At weddings with those who are unvaccinated, a maximum of 5 people may attend.

For funerals with those who are unvaccinated, a maximum of 10 people may attend.

At the 80% double vaccination rate, choirs of up to 10 people can perform in places of worship but all performers must be vaccinated.

### COVID-19 Safety Plan and ventilation

For parish priests and parishes, now would be a good time to review and update your COVID-19 Safety Plan ahead of the reopening of churches for public Masses once the 80% double vaccination rate is achieved.

The NSW Government has provided the following information about ventilation and how ventilation issues can be managed by places of worship. Please see here for more information:

[www.nsw.gov.au/form/covid-safety-plan/places-of-worship](http://www.nsw.gov.au/form/covid-safety-plan/places-of-worship)

Thank you for your support during these troubled times.

Yours in Christ,

Very Rev Peter G. Williams

Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

PBS4L - Focus - We are safe



Upcoming **Lowes 20% off Sale** which includes Schoolwear and everything in the store for 3 days on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2021**. Parents will need to be a Lowes Card holder (either Zero or Rewards) to receive the discount but you can apply instore on the day or online. The Sale is both instore and online.



### WELCOMEEASY

Dear Parents and Carers  
From Term 4, this year, Welcomeasy will cease providing the lunch service to schools. This is due to a change in business direction. They were very easy to deal with and their thank you is below:



*"We thoroughly enjoyed preparing and delivering our meals to St Oliver's and wish to thank you all for your help in the past 2.5 years." Welcomeasy*

# back to school

Kindergarten & Year 1

Monday, 18th October



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE  
YOU!!!



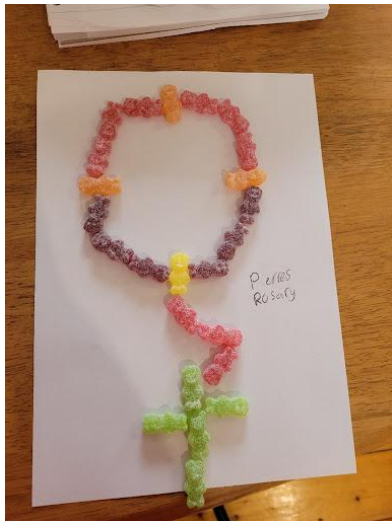
## SOME GREAT REMOTE LEARNING PHOTOS



Stage 3 Jamboard on Hope



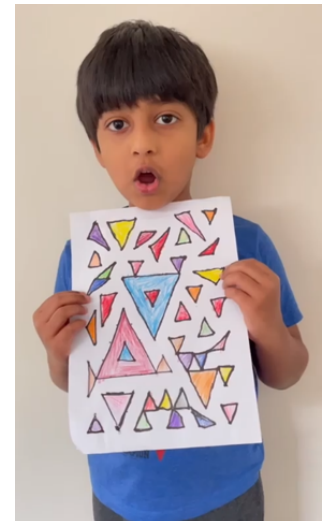
Jaden, Y4 Philippines



Pierre, Y4 Rosary



Rene, Yr 4 Rosary



Ishaan, K Triangles

**Leadership !**

**Benchmark:**

Leadership means the action of leading a group of people.

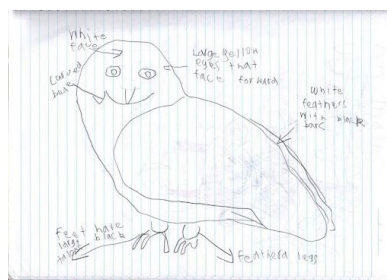
A good leader always shows all the mercy values ( Compassion, Justice, Dignity, Excellence, Hospitality, Stewardship and Service ) to others.

Also good leaders show the learner qualities to help others. ( learner qualities – Compassionate Collaborative Inquisitive Reflective Responsible Resilient )

Some current qualities our school leaders have are showing younger students the right path in doing things, showing respect to others, and just doing the right thing like helping other students and that stuff.

Our leaders (Our current leaders) can show Good communication skills and decision-making capabilities. Also a good leader can teach others and They are self-aware of what might happen the next day or in a few minutes.

Kripa, Y5 Leadership



Diego, Y2 labelled animal

**iving Question:**  
w can we create an electronic kit which challenges children to make and create circuits rich can be used as a toy?

ate knows and Need to knows based on the Driving Question

KNOWS	NEED TO KNOWS
know that a red wire connects to a red	I need to know which wire connects to which other wire for example a green wire
To build a simple circuit, you will need a lower source, 2 insulated wires, a light bulb, and a light bulb holder. A lower source can be any type of battery or battery pack.	I need to know how to assemble a circuit like where the wires connect to for example a light bulb or a battery.
	What age group are we making it for like 10+ or 3+?

Mann, Y5 Science



Devansh, Y2 inspired by Jackson Pollock



William, Y2 art inspired by Jackson Pollock



Eva, Y1 art inspired by Jackson Pollock

# InfoZone

Welcome to the Library and Technology section of the St Oliver's Newsletter!

## LIBRARY BORROWING AND RETURNS



We are looking forward to having you back in our Library!

As the children return to school please return all library books to the circulation chute. All books with a St Oliver's barcode on the front cover should be returned - including Home Readers and Library books.

Please leave any book repairs for the Library staff. Do not use self-adhesive tape for repairs; this can damage the book further.

## CBCA 2021 BOOK AWARDS

<https://cbca.org.au/news/announcing-the-2021-cbca-book-of-the-year-awards>



The 2021 Book of the Year for Younger Readers is *Aster's Good, Right Things* by Kate Gordon. Aster is an anxious young girl who feels her mother has deserted her because she isn't good enough. The CBCA judges described the story of Aster's journey to greater self-worth as pitch-perfect with gentle humour and a sophisticated plot.

Mother and daughter writing team Libby Hathorn and Lisa Hathorn-Jarman created a rhyming cautionary tale in the Book of the Year for Early Childhood, *No! Never!* Illustrated by Mel Pearce, the book is eminently age appropriate and delightful to read aloud for both adults and children, according to the CBCA judges.

The Picture Book of the Year, *How to Make a Bird*, written by Meg McKinlay and illustrated by Matt Ottley, is a paean to creativity. A story based on the wonder of migratory birds, CBCA judges described it as a detailed, delicate and gently philosophical story.

The Eve Pownall Award for non-fiction was awarded to *Dry to Dry: The Seasons of Kakadu*, written by Pamela Freeman and illustrated by Liz Anelli. The engaging text and illustrations transport readers to Kakadu National Park as the seasons come and go.

Zeno Sworder was awarded the CBCA Award for New Illustrator for *This Small Blue Dot*, the story of a young girl welcoming a new sibling into the world. The judges said Mr Sworder used an array of mixed-media messages to illustrate concepts around life, ecology and sustainability for child readers.

## READING AND MORE!

At home or at school, in lockdown or not, our eLibrary is always available! [St Oliver's Library](#)  
Our Library includes links to many resources!

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Stay tuned for exciting details about this competition which opens on 1st November. This year there are some great new prizes!

Mrs Lesley Quinn, Teacher Librarian