



St Oliver's Primary School

Newsletter

33 Wigram Street, Harris Park
Email: stolivers@parra.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 8633 8300
Website: www.stoliversharrispark.catholic.edu.au

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 4

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

28th October 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER

Friday 5th
October - Crazy
Sock Day



THE JOY OF SCHOOL

Dear St Oliver's Parents and Carers,

What a joy it was to welcome all students back last Monday, 25th October. After a long wait of over 10 weeks, the staff at St Oliver's were keen to welcome back their students with open arms.

The beaming smiles were contagious and although reminded to maintain social distance where possible, students were seen embracing each other as they entered the school gates. The teachers were so excited that all of them joined the children on the playground for a chat and the opportunity to catch up and reconnect.

Like a child heading off for their first day of school, I too was excited about the prospects of meeting students and parents on arrival. Thank you to those who introduced themselves and for the warm welcome. It was refreshing to put a face to the names, parents and students alike.

I also had the opportunity to spend a considerable amount of time in the learning spaces with the students throughout the day. I observed some passionate learners who were keen to write or to take part in Literacy games such as Boggle. It seemed, the buzz on the playground had travelled into the classroom. It was great to see the collaborative interactions between peers, as well as between teachers and students.

For more than 10 weeks our students experienced the online learning environment and whilst effective for some learners, the interaction between teacher and student in person cannot be overstated. The digital classroom has made it challenging for collaborative learning and critical thinking to occur. Students experiencing social interactions with peers and rapport with teachers is an important aspect within the realm of their academic education. The physical presence of the teacher was certainly keeping students stimulated.

I wish to take this opportunity to once again thank all parents for supporting us in providing Remote Learning to our students. Thank you for your patience, flexibility, openness to try new online portals and for your persistence when I am sure some days were testing. Most importantly I wish to thank you for your time. Managing a household, remote learning and your own work is no easy feat. Our ability to work together over this period has been pivotal to our students' continued progress and for this we say, THANK YOU!!

Stay safe,

Pascale Joseph



Mission Sunday

Gospel - **Mk 10:46-52**

Living the Gospel – Bartimaeus, a model?

Bartimaeus is a man who has almost nothing in life. His blindness has made him outcast and he is reduced to begging on the side of the road. When he is called to Jesus he jumps up and casts off what may well be his only real possession – his cloak. Yet what he does have in abundance is faith and hope. When asked what he wants Jesus to do, his answer may seem obvious, but his desire to see goes beyond physical sight. He asks for the sight of one who truly believes and to whom the truth of Jesus is revealed. In this way, he is a model to all who would be disciples.

© Greg Sunter

SOCKTOBER - CRAZY SOCK DAY

NEXT FRIDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER

This month has been Mission Month. Last Sunday we celebrated Mission Sunday. To conclude mission month next Friday, 5th November we invite the students to wear CRAZY SOCKS (with their sports uniform) for SOCKTOBER and donate a gold coin. Parents can send in coins or donate via our new cashless app Qkr (details to download the app and how to pay via Qkr are below).



This event will be a fundraiser for Catholic Mission.

PBS4L - Focus - We are safe



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

You can help your child by:

- reassuring them that it is okay to feel anxious
- explaining that all children are returning to school
- 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

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

ST OLIVER'S IS GOING CASHLESS!

All schools across the Diocese are now going **Cashless**. For St Oliver's this means that we will also be going cashless. We will have a phase in period this year, but as of next year, no more cash will be accepted by our school. Payments can still be made by Eftpos (this is available over the phone), in person at the school office or parents can use our new cashless app Qkr.



Qkr Mobile Phone Payment App

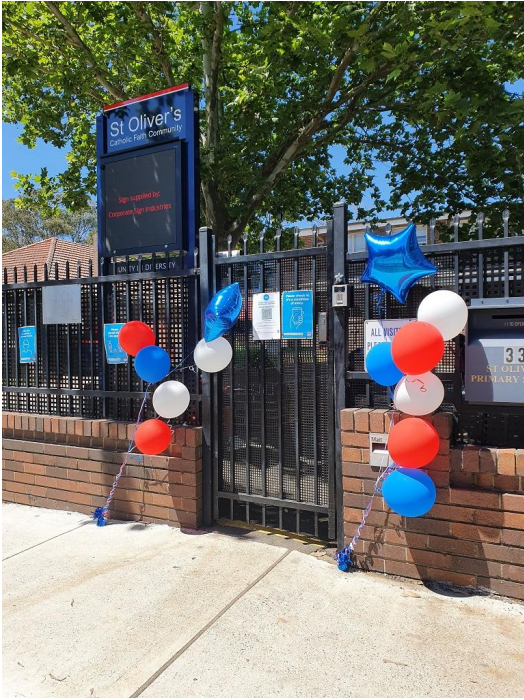
St Oliver's are offering a new easy online payment service through Qkr by Mastercard. Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') is a mobile phone application and is suitable for both iPhone and Android Smartphones.

Please click on this link for easy instructions for how to download Qkr to your phone [How to use the Qkr App](#)

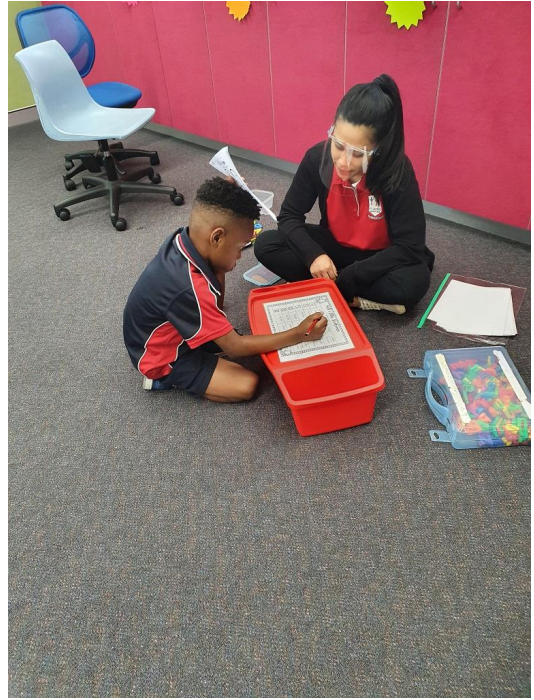
Our Socktober fundraiser is already listed ready for parents to donate!

Events, excursions, fundraisers etc will be set up in Qkr by the school for easy access for parents. Information will be sent home to parents as events or fundraisers happen. The service is not available for school fee payments.

RETURN TO SCHOOL PHOTOS



Celebratory balloons



Miss Raech 1-on-1



Welcome signs



Year 2



Year 2



Year 3



Year 3



Year 4



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6

InfoZone

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

LIBRARY RETURNS



Thank you to everyone who has returned their Library books after a long time at home. For Covid safety all returned books are being disinfected and quarantined. Please also return any home readers. Overdue notices will be sent out next week.

KEEP READING!

Our school eLibrary is always available! [St Oliver's Library](#)

BOOK FAIR!

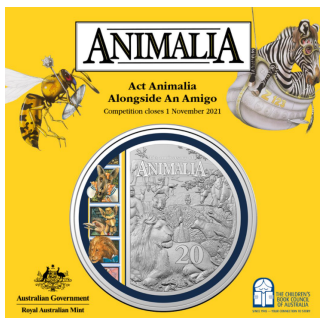
Good news! Our Scholastic Book Fair will take place later this term. It will operate a little differently so we can maintain Covid safety - but there will be the usual range and choice of books.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2021-2022

- Enjoy summer reading
- The competition starts on 1 November 2021 and ends on 25 February 2022
- 1st prize - two \$500 JB Hi-Fi vouchers (one for Primary and one for Secondary).
- 30 gift vouchers of \$30
- Further details will be available next week!

ANIMALIA COIN COMPETITION



To celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Animalia, the CBCA in partnership with the Royal Australian Mint are inviting classrooms and families from across Australia to participate in a competition for the chance to win Animalia Library Bags with a 35th Anniversary of Animalia Coin inside.

View Graeme Base talking about his book and the competition - just scroll down to the 2nd video.

[Graeme Base "Animalia"](#)

Be quick - there's still time to enter!

READING ALOUD TIPS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Mem Fox has written more than 40 children's books, including Possum Magic. Her tips for parents:

1. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read. Or the same story a thousand times!
2. Read aloud with animation. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
3. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child's name and yours, remembering it's always a fabulous game.

Mrs Lesley Quinn, Teacher Librarian