

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 1 Week 8

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

17th March 2022

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **MARCH**

Friday 25th March Stage 2 Mass 9.15 -10.15am

**Friday 25th March** Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### **APRIL**

Friday 1st April Finger Foods Friday 3.30 - 5.30pm

Friday 8th April
Term 1 concludes

Tuesday 26 April
Term 2 commences



## **Catholic Schools Week**

March 6 - 12

Every year during Catholic Schools Week we celebrate and give thanks for Catholic Schools, especially our own school St Oliver's Primary, here at Harris Park. This year we began our celebrations with a moving Liturgy. Our Principal, Ms Joseph, welcomed and addressed the community over Zoom. The Liturgy was led by Mrs Dib, our Religious Education Coordinator and the Yr 6 Mission leaders. Stage 2 led us in the Prayers of the Faithful followed by some of our Year 1 students performing a Liturgical movement.

Despite the heavy rain on Tuesday morning it was quite exciting here at school as we had a great number of parents attend the 'Catholic Schools Week Liturgy.' It was the first time this year that we welcomed our parent community back on site. Also, it was a wonderful opportunity for them to witness the wonderful learning and teaching in our classrooms.

During the Liturgy we acknowledged and thanked all who work together in the service of Catholic Education. We strongly believe that as a school community 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. We are immensely proud of our Catholic heritage, and are committed to offering children in our schools the opportunity to follow Jesus as members of the Catholic community.

After the Liturgy we had open classrooms so that parents could witness the great things that take place in our school every day, and celebrate the many achievements of our students. Unfortunately we couldn't go ahead with the scheduled School Picnic due to the poor weather conditions. However, we are planning further opportunities for that to happen.

When parents are asked the reasons for wanting to send their child to St Oliver's parents usually say that they want a real spiritual and religious dimension for their child. They know how important this dimension is in life and feel that here in our Catholic school we teach and nurture faith. Christian spirituality is about consciously living our lives in relationship with God, empowered by the Holy Spirit and following the way of Jesus. Thank you parents for choosing to send your children to a Catholic school, namely St Oliver's, and thank you for trusting us as educators to nurture your child's faith while providing a comprehensive and extensive education. Thank you for playing an active role and helping us live out our school motto- 'Unity in Diversity'. It was a great celebration of Catholic education in our school. I have included some photos of the day on the next page.

## **Catholic Schools Week**

March 6 - 12















Kind regards, Kareena Starr

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Lk 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

#### **REFLECTION**

The Second Sunday of Lent celebrates the epiphanies of God, the ways in which God's divine presence is revealed. The first divine epiphany is the manifestation of God as one who initiates a covenant, an intimate relationship with human beings. Not only does God initiate this agreement, but God also seals it with blood, making it official. Although we ritualise our relationship with God in a religious setting, the call to enter into the covenant can come in the ordinary events of life. The important thing to remember about this covenant is that God enters into our lives and initiates the relationship. No life is too simple; no life is too busy. Human history in all of its contours is the setting for the encounter with God.

The glory of God is revealed in the transfigured Jesus, the one who discussed his suffering and death with Moses and Elijah. Lent is a time for us to enter into this suffering, not merely through reflection, prayer and penance, but concretely, by sharing in the suffering of the body of Christ. We see this suffering all around us.

God is revealed through women and men who live lives of Christian commitment. In those whose integrity strengthens us, in those whose religious sentiments inspire us, in those whose endurance gives us confidence. God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see.

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#### **PARISH BULLETIN NEWS**

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES Tuesday to Friday: 7:00 a.m.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday: Vigil 5:30 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Mrs Jaquelin Dib

Religious Education Coordinator (Acting)

# Project Compassion Second Sunday of Lent 12 & 13 March

**Biru 30,** lives in a rural village in Jharkand State in India's east. He lost mobility in one of his legs, after contracting polio as a child, which makes it difficult for him to walk. With your generous support, Biru was able to access an entrepreneurship and livelihoods development program, run by Caritas Australia's partner, Caritas India. He gained the skills, support and encouragement he needed to establish his own bicycle repair business.

Now, Biru is able to provide a good life for his family – and an essential service to his community. He has discovered a sense of pride, confidence and hope which has inspired others living with a disability and paved the way *For All Future Generations*.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help people living with disabilities in India gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to build a better future for all.



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting <a href="lent.caritas.org.au">lent.caritas.org.au</a>, or by calling 1800 024 413.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Whole School Assembly

Friday 25th March - 2.30pm

Finger Foods Friday (instead of Welcome BBQ)

Friday 1st April 3.30pm - 5.30pm

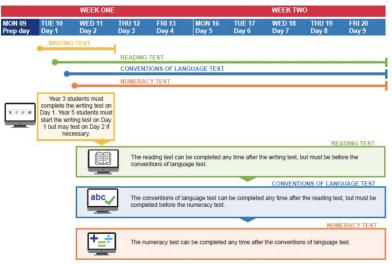
#### Congratulations!!

We would like to congratulate Mrs Taylor Scott (previously known as Miss Laporte, after her recent nuptials a fortnight ago) on her new appointment at Springwood High School. Mrs Scott has been working at Springwood High on Fridays this year and they have offered her a full time teaching position commencing Term 2, 2022. Mrs Scott has shared her gift of languages with our school as the Japanese teacher since 2021. Although short, her time with us has been fruitful for the students who have acquired new skills and a passion for other cultures. We wish Mrs Scott all the best for her journey with HSC students. CONGRATULATIONS!!

#### **NAPLAN 2022**

This week all Year 3 and Year 5 families received information regarding NAPLAN 2022. Please see the timetable below:

Years 3 and 5 test schedule - 10 to 20 May 2022





Although NAPLAN is now administered in an ONLINE platform, please note that Year 3 students do the Writing test on paper. Students in Years 3 and 5 will have the opportunity to sit for the Practice Test next week. This will provide the students with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the online assessment platform and processes. The practice tests will include a *Practice omnibus* test (combination of reading, conventions of language and numeracy questions) and a *Writing practice* test, both approximately 40 minutes in length. Year 3 students will only participate in the *Practice omnibus* test.

#### **ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

On Monday 28th February, St Oliver's was represented at the Cumberland and Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival. We had three boys who attended: Pierre (Year 5), Keith (Year 6) and Erik (Year 6). Although we were small in numbers, we were big in spirit. Each of our participants swam with everything they had and their efforts should be commended. Congratulations to our swimmers!



#### **ENROLMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN 2023**

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2023. If you have a child who turns 5 before 31st July 2023, they are eligible to enrol. Please let any family or friends know that enrolments have commenced.

# InfoZone

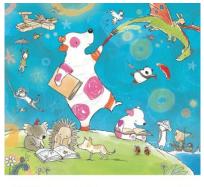
Welcome to the Library and Technology section of the St Oliver's Newsletter!

#### ACCESSING ST OLIVERS ELIBRARY

- 1.To access via the school website please click St Oliver's Primary: Catholic Primary Schools You will find our Library under the Learning tab. Scroll down to select Access our eLibrary.
- 2. Select eLibrary from students' classm8 page <a href="classm8">classm8</a> page <a h



#### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE





All the booklists are available at this link: **NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2022: Home** 

All PRC passwords are not yet available but this does not stop the students from reading and recording their books on the paper copy of their Reading Log!

There is no urgency for students in Kindergarten Year 1 and Year 2 to have their passwords. In fact, we are happy to enter the books online from the paper copy of the Reading Log. This does not need to be done until August. The vital element of the Premier's Reading Challenge is that the children read books. Children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 may have the books read to them.

#### **ESAFETY**





### eSafetyCommissioner

The eSafety Commissioner's website has sections for Parents, Students, Seniors and Diverse groups. There are many tips and suggestions. The section for Parents includes skills and advice, downloadable resources and even tops for children under 5. <a href="https://www.esafetv.gov.au/parents">https://www.esafetv.gov.au/parents</a>

Mrs Lesley Quinn Teacher Librarian



## Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolling Now for Year 7 2023



Contact the school on 9849 9100 or visit our website for an enrolment pack.

Applications close 25th March 2022 for first round offers. For enrolment criteria please refer to our school website.

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

