



OLQP Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10 2019



Dear Parents, students and teachers,

This is our final newsletter for the year. There has been a great deal to celebrate in 2019 and following is some information in preparation for 2020.

Dates

- **The last day of school for 2019 is Wednesday 18th December.**

For 2020 –

- **Parents will be asked to book a time for MAI testing. The website will be accessible on**

Monday 13th January 2020. Testing will take place on Wednesday 29th January (and

some other days depending on the class teacher).

The online booking site is: www.schoolinterviews.com.au The code is: a8cxf

- **School begins for all grades, including Kindergarten, on Thursday 30th January.**

A special congratulations to Mr Delany and Ms Buhagiar who announced their engagement last week. We wish them all the best in the future.

Farewell and Welcome

Our heart felt thanks go to those teachers and friends who are leaving us this year. Mrs Maunder, Ms Fenech, Ms O'Brien, Ms Jozic, Mrs Khoudair and Mrs Pintos from the Parish.

We welcome our new staff members Ms Burgin, Ms Gibbs, Ms Talarico, Ms Adeline, Mrs Chamount, Mrs Kelly, Mr Tyszkiewicz and Mrs Shelton.

Open Learning Classrooms

As you are aware our new building is moving along well. The estimated completion of Stage 1 will be August 2020. These classrooms are purpose built for 2 classes of 30 children working together in a large space. Your child may have already indicated that some of our classes will be working very closely together in the new year. Our teachers are constantly learning, planning and developing new ways for children to learn. Our goal next year is to focus on developing independent learners who can locate, organise and communicate information in a variety of ways. Education in the 21st century is constantly changing to reflect the changes in our society. Information sharing has become a significant part of the requirements of our current and future workforce. Early next year we will organise a P&F information evening to discuss how our learning spaces are being used to enhance your child's education.

Uniform and Haircuts

At OLQP we believe that school uniform is an important part of school readiness. Please refer to the Parent Handbook and the Uniform Shop list for the correct uniform items to be worn by students in 2020. Wrist-bands, earrings, nail polish, necklaces and other accessories are not part of the uniform.

Next year, we will implement a change to the school's policy about correct sport shoes. As of 2020, students will no longer be required to wear predominantly white sport shoes. Instead, students will be allowed to wear suitable sport shoes of any colour. This change in policy has come about due to parent feedback we have received about the challenges of maintaining white sport shoes.



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FACEBOOK

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday 18th December

Last day for 2019

Thursday 30th January

-School commences for 2020
for all Grades

Wednesday 29th January

-Mai testing



Appropriate haircuts are also part of the uniform code and should reflect an attitude of being prepared to learn. Hair styles that include lines or uneven lengths are not suitable for school. Please ensure that your children's haircuts are even as we commence our school year in 2020.

Parent Helpers Workshop

Every year we organise a Parent Workshop for those parents who wish to help in our classrooms. The workshop outlines how parents can support reading and writing in the classrooms as well as listing other ways to help. It is a great opportunity to show students just how important their education is when parents are able to contribute as well. Please complete the volunteers Child Protection course (<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/en/About-Us/Building-Child-Safe-Communities>) so that you are ready to begin in term one.

P&F Committee

This year's P&F committee was very successful in coming together each term to discuss issues and plan for improvements. Many of the school's initiatives have come from these discussions. At the beginning of 2020 I will organise a meeting and invite anyone who would like to be part of this committee. There are no structured positions but lots of opportunity to discuss the business of learning at OLQP.

Library Books and Readers

Our library books are an important resource in our school. It is vitally important that the library is well stocked, and the books are maintained. Please check with your child/ren to make sure that all library books are returned as soon as possible.

Likewise, home-readers are a very significant resource in teaching reading. If your child has a home-reader, please return it to school so we can complete our stock take.

Christmas Thoughts



2019 Christmas Celebrations
at
Our Lady Queen of Peace
Greystanes

Festival of Carols
Saturday 7th December
5:00pm - Mass in Camilleri Hall
6:00pm to 6:30pm - Sausage Sizzle
6:30pm - Carols in Camilleri Hall
Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus through songs, reflections and a Christmas pageant. Santa visiting at 9:00pm

Reconciliation
Saturday's 7th & 14th December
9:45am - 10:30am & 5:00pm - 5:30pm

Christmas Mass Times
Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December
6:00pm - Family Mass
8:30pm - Youth Mass
12:00am - Midnight Mass Carols 11:15pm
Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December
7:00am 8:30am 10:00am
No evening Mass

Christmas to New Year Mass Times
Thursday 26th December
No Masses
Friday 27th December to Friday 10th January
9:15am - Weekday Mass only
Normal Mass schedule resumes after 12th January
6:30am Mass resumes on Tuesday 14th January

Our Lady of the Holy Land

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A special thank you to Mrs Grella and Mrs Kuchta and Mrs Dwyer for organizing all of our end of year celebrations.

The past few months have seen significant problems facing our friends and fellow Australians with drought and bushfires. The leaders of our world seem reticent to acknowledge that the changes in our climate could seriously affect our lives and the lives of our children. At this time of Advent leading to Christmas it seems that we need to consider the precious nature of our world and all the people who share it.

I hope that you will be able to attend our Parish celebrations over the Christmas period so that we can pray together for these intentions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents, our teachers and our students for great year. I wish you all a happy and Holy Christmas. I hope the holidays are a peaceful time for you when you can take the opportunity to be together in the spirit of love and hope that comes with celebration of the birth of Jesus.

