



Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School

NEWSLETTER TERM 4 WEEK 7 2014

DECEMBER

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Swimming Carnival for
Year's 2— 5 only @
Auburn Swimming Pool

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Nursing Homes
Christmas Concerts from
10am to 11am

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Children's Mass @ 10am

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Year 6 Graduation Mass
@ 7pm

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Talent Showcase @
9:30am in the school hall

WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER

- ⇒ End of Year Mass @
10:15am
- ⇒ P&F Meeting @ 7:30pm

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Year 6 End of Year
Celebrations

WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Last Day of Term for all
Students

THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER

- ⇒ Staff Development Day
no school for students



UPCOMING EVENTS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents and Teachers,

I am happy to announce that **Mrs Senior** will be returning to us in **2015** and she is preparing to have her first baby. Mr and Mrs Senior are very excited about having their first child and I know you will join me in congratulating them.

I am also delighted to announce that **Mrs Jennifer Godwin** has been appointed to our school as **Religious Education Co-ordinator** for **2015**. Mrs Godwin has had a great deal of experience in this area and a breadth of teaching experience in our Diocese. We are very fortunate to have someone of her calibre to join our community.

Ms Danielle Smith from 2S has chosen to return to full time study commencing 2015. She will be involved in a Special Education course as she has a passion for working with children with special needs. We wish her all the best in the future in what will be a very challenging and rewarding career path.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are currently organising our classes for next year. Many of our teachers have been receiving requests from parents for different teachers to work in various grades or to have children separated for their classes next year. I would ask that you refrain from asking this of our teachers. The teaching staff and I will decide the classes for 2015 and the placement of teachers. The classes for 2015 will be announced on the first day of term for 2015 – **Wednesday 28th January**.

We have now opened our new **soft-fall area** and children have been using the area at recess and lunch time. Our ceremony of acknowledgment last week included parents and students as well as representatives from the **Council** and the **Board of Directors of Wenty Leagues Club** as well as **Mr Bourne**, Principal of St. Paul's College. We began with an Acknowledgement of Country and a blessing from **Fr. Paul Marshall**. I was then able to formally acknowledge the donations of our **P&F Committee**, **St Paul's College** and **Wenty Leagues Club** that made the project possible.



PRINCIPAL'S MSG CONT:

Last week the **P&F** held the Primary Disco which was very well attended. The children had a great time and danced with some of the teachers who also attended. Our thanks go to the members of the P&F who organised the afternoon entertainment for the children.



Last week we also had our **AGM** meeting of the P&F Committee. I was handed a cheque of **\$44,000** from all our fundraising activities this year. This is a wonderful achievement and I know the whole staff join me in thanking our families for their generous donations. This money has been marked to be spent on our soft-fall area and to purchase technology for the classrooms. I would like to say a **special thank you** to **Dianne Santos, Wendy Tointon and Belinda Carr** who worked so well together on the many activities throughout the year. They were a great team and made all our meetings enjoyable. A very special thank you to **Melissa Cini** who, as president of the committee, lead us all and inspired us to be active members of our community. I will miss working with her particularly on the learning projects and our outreach program. My congratulations to the new committee and I look forward to working closely with them in 2015:

President - Mrs Jodi Gerardis

Vice President – Mrs Dali Pavlek

Secretary – Mrs Anita Meredith

Treasurer – Mr Kieron Maye



Yesterday **Mr Warren Hopley**, retired Principal from **Sydney Diocese**, spoke to our Year 5 and 6 children about a project involving building a school in **South Sudan**. He brought with him **Mr Johnson Derang** who lived in Sudan and came to Australia as a refugee. The project has begun with the purchase of land and the building of one classroom and a teacher's residence. Less than 1% of girls in Sudan have access to secondary education. This is a special project as it involves my brother working to build a school under very difficult circumstances but more importantly it is a very practical way in which our children can help other children in need. More information is available on the website: www.sseg.org.au



Unfortunately we have once again had a serious incident with the improper use of Social Media. When issues do arise in this area they are outside the confines of the school and need to be dealt with by the parents. **Merrylands Police** can assist with any inquiries that are made regarding **Cyberbullying** or related problems. I would urge parents once again to not allow children to use Social Media unsupervised. Facebook and other applications have a **12 year old** registration requirement which means none of our students should have accounts. We need to remind children that anything that is commented on or posted on Social Media can be identified and tracked even after deletion. These applications are a great form of communication if they are used appropriately and with parent supervision.

Many of our children have now completed their **first Reconciliation**. **Congratulations** to these children who have attained a Sacrament of initiation in our Catholic faith. We will soon be publishing the dates for next year's Sacramental programs.

Have a great week

Michael Hopley

Principal

The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25: 14 – 30)

In this weekend's Gospel we hear yet another example of how we cannot be passive and sit back and do nothing if we are to be true followers of Christ!

In the Parable of the Talents the master entrusts different amounts of money to his three servants according to their varying abilities. Two of these servants realise that the master wants a return on his money, so they invest it and each double it. The master does not expect to get the same amount back from the two men because they started with different amounts. But they both received exactly the same praise because they both gave him a one hundred per cent return on his investment.

The servant of least ability, on the other hand, buried the money for fear of losing it. Instead of praising him for being conservative, the master was outraged! I'm sure we would all be outraged too if we had invested some money only to find out that years later it had not grown at all.

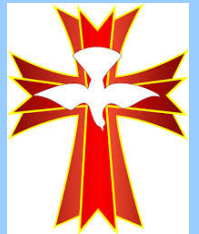
The master was angry because the servant had allowed fear to paralyse him. He was so afraid of losing money that he did not even take the very modest risk of depositing the money in the bank!

The Lord has entrusted lots of things to us: money, natural talents, spiritual gifts, the saving truth of the Gospel. He expects us not just to conserve these things but to grow them. Whatever work we are involved in, be it economic, family or friends, the goal should be to develop, increase, and grow what God has given us, for his honor and glory. This involves taking risks and not letting the fear of failure stand in our way!

Let us express our gratitude to God for all that He has given us by making it grow.

Blessings for a wonderful week,

Rebecca Lloyd REC



Please pray for our students who have made their First Reconciliation this week. May they feel the loving arms of our God, the Good Shepherd, as he welcomes them back to a life following him.

Our next Children's Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 7th December at 10am. Please mark this date on your calendar so you are free to join us for this beautiful celebration. Encourage your children to be actively involved by signing up for one of the special jobs in the Mass. A note will be sent home shortly.



Please join us for our End of Year Mass on Wednesday 10th December at 10.15am in the Church.

PARISH UPDATE:

Christ the King Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 23rd November at 10am. During this mass Flags from various countries will be flown and therefore require flag bearers. If your child is interested in being a flag bearer for this occasion, please leave your name and contact details at the church office.



MUSIC NEWS :

After **seven weeks** of auditions involving over **150** children in over **80** acts, we are now finalizing the acts for our end-of-year Showcase.

In order to have more children performing, we have decided to combine a number of items into medleys. The children are busy rehearsing and looking forward to sharing their talents with the school community on **Tuesday 9th December** in the Hall.

Our school choirs are also busily preparing for a variety of performances, including **Christ the King Mass** on **Sunday at 10am**, Parish Carols by Candlelight, Seniors Christmas Concert, Showcase and our End-of-Year Mass.

We are very lucky to have such an array of talent in our school.

Mrs Grella and Mrs Mahony



HOLIDAY NEWS :

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Attention: Go4Fun Project Officer

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If you would like these put into class bundles please let us know the class sizes
- ☐ An electronic version of the Go4Fun Program advertisement
- ☐ Go4Fun A4 posters, number of copies _____ (max 10)
- ☐ Go4Fun A3 posters, number of copies _____ (max 10)
- ☐ Go4Fun article for your new sletter (Please indicate approx. word length) _____
- ☐ Childhood obesity /Go4Fun presentation to staff and/or parents
- ☐ Go4Fun information stall at your school
- ☐ Other suggestion. We're happy to work with you to discuss other ways we can help children be healthy & active. _____

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Phone number:	_____
Email:	_____
Date:	_____



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A message from Fr. Paul ...

"I am not a Christian because "it makes sense" or because someone sat down and diagrammed it for me. I am a Christian because I have been loved deeply and unconditionally by Christians. Some of them troubled me with hard questions. But all of them loved me when I did not love them...Reason is a wonderful tool, but it is a weak force for deep change in human beings. Faith, hope and love are not tools; they are virtuesand more efficacious than reason for changing lives."
(Paul Wallace, *Why I am a Christian* 8 May 2012.)

Culturally, as Australians, we are extremely private about our faith and we really need to be empowered and encouraged (I speak as a priest, too) and literally schooled in basic evangelisation techniques. **Sherry Weddell**, author of the book **"Forming Intentional Disciples"** will propose some really concrete measures for this to help dynamise the latent talent of our parishes:

1. In our Catholic faith we talk endlessly about the Church but so seldom about Christ as a person with whom we are in relationship
2. To explain and show the need to break the silence about our faith and equip us, as parishioners, to integrate these methods, not only in the public forum of our lives but in our daily conversations with others on various matters
3. The real need to turn existing ministries into evangelisation opportunities-re-thinking how we do groups in the parish
4. As Group leaders, above all, to show to our parishes and communities the need to 'Expect God to work' and to move our mindset into discerning how to work with the Holy Spirit.

We can also expect, as leaders or potential leaders of faith, that Sherry Weddell will further equip us to talk more intentionally about our faith and form in our minds a deeper appreciation of what it means to be 'a disciple.'

When? Saturday 22nd November 9.30am-12.00 noon

Where? Our Lady of Mercy College Hall, Parramatta

Why? To understand and grow and share our discipleship and finding language to talk and deepen our relationship to Christ.

If you would like to "Come and See" (and you won't be disappointed). Cars leaving OLQP, Greystanes at 8.30am Saturday 22 November 2014.

Fr. Paul



CANTEEN NEWS:

WEEK 7 UPDATE...

For those who have indicated that they are attending our fantastic **CANTEEN XMAS PARTY** night on the **27 November**, please finalise your payment **ASAP**. Cost is **\$30** to be held at the **Jasmine** at **Wenty Leagues Club**. This is open to anyone who has helped in any way, its still not to late to book your seat, please see Kim.



The **2015 Roster** is still being prepared I ask that you please let me know your availability for next year if you have not indicated already. I would also love to see some new faces, please if you have any time available let me know, as many year 6 mums will move on this year, leaving lots of empty spaces to fill.

A flyer was sent home last next week asking for help, please consider joining this wonderful team of volunteers, it's with your support I am able to offer the great **Canteen** we have here at **OLQP**.

With **Xmas** fast approaching, if you have a child that would like a **BIRTHDAY BUCKET** between now and Christmas please order this **ASAP**, as stock will be run down shortly in preparation for the end of year clean up.



CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 4 2014

MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER	TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER	WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER	THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER	FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER
Belinda Carr Dianne Sherry Lisa Barker	Margurite O'Connor Kim Nuner	Sandra Wilson Alison Tsalikis Lisa Sly	Rebecca Simari Sarah Barden Teresa Rota Cara Pedavoli	Felicia Papadatos Nej Henein Kylie Yaako Tracey Carpenter Anne Nott
MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER	TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER	WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER	THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER	FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER
Sandra Merrick Rebecca Bezzina Sonia Amus	Maree Callaghan Diane Galea Anne David	Cynthia La Rosa Anita Meredith Elizabeth Banks	Deborah Terracciano Miriam Gibson Melissa D'Angola Lisa Gladdish	Mary Sarafoglou Amy Hill Liz Scott Allison Sorensen
MONDAY 1 DECEMBER	TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER	WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER	THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER	FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER
Nicole Dennis Margaret Elcham Vivianne Russell Year's 2-5 Swimming Carnival	Natalia Tisano Alison Hammond	Anne Cilia Julie Wahba Sandra Wilson	Cathy Grew Eleonora Gambacorta Christine Borthwick	Carol Sioufi Effie Bonovas Maggie Sabbagh

GET YOUR SUMMER BODY ON !!!

OLQP's P&F PRESENTS.....**ROAR 24**

1 off BOOT CAMP / \$10 per entry

**(in the school grounds access via Old Prospect Road
Staff Car park entrance)**

DATE: Thursday 20th November

TIME: 7PM

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RSVP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 9631 1500

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NAME: _____ **CONTACT NUMBER:** _____



The **Eighth Greystanes Charity Craft Market** and **Antique Valuation** is on **Saturday, 22 November** from **8am** to **2pm** in **Camilleri Hall**. It is one month before Christmas, so be assured the Market will have special gift ideas.

There are over **35 stalls** from all over Sydney, selling quality gifts, baby wear, home-made décor, kitchen goods, edible treats, scarves and bags, jewellery, violets and plants and much more. A unique drawcard of the **Craft Market** is the professional **Antique Valuations**, available from 8.30am.

Everyone is encouraged to bring along special treasures or family heirlooms and paintings to have them valued. Instead of bringing large paintings with you, the valuation can be done from a photo of the painting and artist signature. **Each valuation costs \$5.00.**

This is a great social day out for the whole family with **traditional Devonshire teas** and a **fantastic sausage sizzle** serving **breakfast** and **lunch** from **8am**.

All profits from the Craft Market will be donated to CareFlight

For further information please contact:

events@olqp.org.au

www.facebook.com/OLQPevents

www.olqp.org.au

The CareFlight logo is displayed in a large, bold, blue font. The word "CareFlight" is written in a sans-serif typeface. A stylized white and yellow graphic element, resembling a wing or a stylized 'F', is positioned above the 'i' in "Flight".



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