



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

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Our Lady's Primary School is a child safe school. All students enrolled, and any child visiting, have a right to feel safe and be safe.

NEWSLETTER NO. 5 TUESDAY MARCH 1ST 2022

Loving God,

As we enter into Lent this year may we remember the words of the psalmist
'if today you hear his voice harden not your hearts' -Ps 94:8

Open our eyes and ears Lord,
so we may see and hear the goodness that surrounds us and the needs
of your most vulnerable.

Most importantly, open our hearts, so we live more like you not only in
these Lenten days but each day.

We ask these prayers through Christ our Lord,

Amen.



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SHROVE TUESDAY

Today all students enjoyed pancakes and participated in a significant tradition within our Catholic Church. This festival is celebrated in many countries across the globe. Shrove Tuesday falls on the Tuesday before the beginning of Lent - a period of around six weeks leading up to Easter. Traditionally, Shrove Tuesday was a way of using up foods before entering a fast for Lent. It is a time where we remember when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to fast and pray. Whilst our Shrove Tuesday looks a little different to the past, all students were able to enjoy a pancake made by Mrs. Walsh and her team of helpers. Thank you to all families for sending along a gold coin donation to help with Caritas - Project Compassion fundraising. Our students have been learning about what Caritas does to assist countries around our world in need.

FOUNDATION STUDENT REST DAYS

All Foundation students will have a rest day at home every Wednesday up to and including Wednesday March 9th.

NEW ADMIN EMAIL

We have set up a new school admin email address:

admin@olwangeratta.catholic.edu.au

This will be used to send all correspondence to families from now on (when Julie remembers to switch over that is!). If you need to send an email please use this new address as it can be accessed by both Julie and myself which will be handy if Julie is away at any stage.

HAT REMINDER

In order to best protect our students from the sun, hats are required during the school day for any outside activities. If your child does not have a hat, they sit in a safe, shaded area of our school. This can be challenging for our students so please ensure they have a hat. Hats are available from school office for the cost of \$10-00.

DUTY OF CARE – CHANGES TO BEFORE SCHOOL

Children arriving early to school are now required to enter the school and wait in the classroom until a teacher goes out on yard duty. This change is in relation to our duty of care of the students. It is not safe for students to be playing in the yard unattended. If your child needs to be at school prior to our 8.30am start time, please contact the office (if you haven't already done so this year).

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible **on the day of absence**, by emailing admin@olwangeratta.catholic.edu.au or calling the school on **(03) 5721 3783**. Notifying the school of your child's absence either prior to, or on the day that they will be away, helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and will fulfil your legal responsibility.

All Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

This system also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

Our Lady's Attendance Policy which outlines the school's processes and procedures for monitoring, recording and following-up of student absences is available on our website <https://www.olwangeratta.catholic.edu.au/attendance-policy>.

LATE TO SCHOOL

Any students arriving at school **after 9.00am** are asked to come through the office to check in. We are currently in the process of trialling a new system to record student roll information called SIMON. This requires us to sign any late students into school via an iPad in the office. Parents would normally need to accompany children into school to do this but given the evolving situation with COVID, we are happy to check your child in for you.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS

It has been announced that the Rapid Antigen Testing will continue until the end of Term 1. More Rapid Antigen Tests have been sent home today with the eldest in each family. We have had great success with this testing, which has seen the number of cases identified quickly. I continue to thank parents and carers for supporting us with this program. I know it is not the most pleasant thing to ask your child to do but it is working. Rapid antigen tests will be sent out again this week.

We are asking families to complete a test prior to coming to school on;

Monday & Wednesday

Reminders have been set into the school stream app to help remind busy families on testing days. Students who have recently recorded a positive COVID test will not be required to undertake rapid antigen testing for 30 days. This is due to inaccurate results and the likelihood of testing positive again.

If your child returns a positive test result, please email or call the school directly through principal@olwangeratta.catholic.edu.au and then report this through the Department of Health on <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests#report-a-positive-result-on-a-rapid-antigen-test> and follow the latest advice at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests>.

We are here to support you with this so if in doubt, please call.

Students who report a positive test **must isolate for 7 days** and not attend school during that period. Students must refrain from returning to school after the 7 days if they are still displaying cold or flu like symptoms.

We will notify you if a student or staff member has returned a positive COVID19 test result and has attended the school daily, if required.

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IT'S A GIRL!

Congratulations to Sarah Higgins & Matt Ryan on the safe arrival of Kora last week. Kora is a baby sister for Ariaah in the Bridging Centre and Connor in the Discovery Centre.

ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

With COVID-19 presenting us with some challenges coming together to celebrate, we met as a school community via Google Meets on Monday.

The Making Jesus Real focus for this week is all about having a positive attitude:

What do you say to yourself when things get hard?
When you're stuck and want to quit?
What can we say to ourselves to change the way we think about the situation?
How can we maintain a positive attitude?

When things got hard for Jesus when He was on earth, He prayed. Jesus taught us to pray when we need help. We can change the way we think with God's help.

This week in Positive Behaviours we are learning to demonstrate the following:

Do your best: by planning for healthy eating that supports our learning, by organising low waste food or nude food and by eating only in the areas we are asked to

Respect your school: by using a peaceful voice, by sitting down to eat, by leaving only when you have finished eating or when asked and by getting sports equipment after we have been asked to leave the eating area

Help others succeed: by using our manners, by thanking anyone who prepares our food and by placing waste in the correct bins

Our Power Play Focus this week is:

Students who manage eating at school positively

Congratulations to Cadel Everett who was the winner of last week's PowerPlay Raffle.

Cassie

DATES TO REMEMBER

WEDNESDAY	MARCH 2 ND	Foundation Rest Day
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 9 TH	Foundation Rest Day
MONDAY	MARCH 14TH	Labour Day Public Holiday
Friday	April 8 th	End of Term One

Wangaratta Table Tennis Assoc. Inc

Autumn Competition commences this Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at the Wangaratta Showgrounds.

Junior players from 7 years old – come and try every Wednesday (during school terms) at 6.00pm.

Senior competition - Wednesday 7.00pm.

Enquiries:

Juniors- John 0400 182553

Seniors- Robert 0407 228280

All Welcome

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Receive school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone



How to download your **FREE** app

- 1 From your mobile device go to the **App Store (iPhone/iPad)** OR **Google Play (Android)** search for **School Stream** and download the app to your phone
- 2 Make sure you agree to **push notifications**
- 3 Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search **THEN** select your school

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