



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. 15 TUESDAY MAY 31st 2022

Dear God,
we abound in hope by the power of Your Holy Spirit.
Fill us with all joy and peace as we believe in You.
Holy Spirit, empower our lives to produce
Your fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
Amen.



MASS

Tomorrow, Wednesday, June 1st, we have a whole school Mass led by the Grade Three/Four students. Mass will be held in Our Lady's Church commencing at 9.00am and everyone is welcome to attend.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUNDRAISING

We raised \$267-00 from last Friday's casual clothes day and cake stall. Thank you to everyone who supported this event – particularly those families who sent in baked goods for cake stall. We have purchased blankets with the funds raised and will donate them to the Wangaratta St. Vincent de Paul group.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING

The Victorian Government will continue to provide Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) for use by students and staff for the remainder of Term 2. We will continue to be provided with the same weekly quantity of RATs and distribute those as they are needed.

As from last Monday 23 May 2022, it is recommended RATs are used by students and staff only when symptomatic. RATs are also required to be used for 5 days if a student or staff member is a close contact of a confirmed case and they are attending or working at a school.

From Monday 23 May 2022, we do not recommend that non-symptomatic students or staff conduct RATs twice a week in mainstream schools and 5 days a week in specialist schools. Students and staff must continue to notify the Department of Health and the school if they return a positive RAT result.

MASK WEARING

We thank all families who have notified us when children have been identified as close contacts. Your encouragement of your children to follow the rules, wear their mask, etc. has minimised the spread of COVID-19 in our school. Our children are incredibly resilient and are proactive in the area of keeping others well.

ILLNESS & INFLUENZA A

Over the past week, we have had a few notifications of students testing positive to Influenza A. We thank those families for being proactive, notifying us, keeping your children home and protecting the rest of us here at school. We also thank all families who are keeping kids home, testing for COVID-19 at the first signs of illness and keeping the channels of communication open with us. We appreciate your ongoing support and care for the wider school community.

We do need to emphasise though that if your child is sick, please keep them home.

Whilst we empathise with ongoing absences and the impact on families, it is essential for the health and wellbeing of our student and staff community that students are kept home when unwell. When children are sent to school when they are unwell, they are spreading their illness within our school. Indicators of cold and flu include; coughing, sneezing, headaches, lethargy, congestion, aches & pains.

As a staffing community, we have been lucky to be able to manage ongoing staff absences throughout this year, however options are limited to replace our teaching staff due to the ongoing crisis we have found ourselves in. We are only just approaching the winter bug season and are concerned about the spread of germs already in our school. Please help us to keep our community thriving and well.

Our Lady's Primary School is committed to child safety and the inclusion of all children.

Ultimately, we can only stay open if we take precautions now to keep everyone safe. There are a number of schools in Victoria that have been forced into remote learning due to absences - we do not want to be in this position. To avoid this, we all need to work together.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

If you are aware that your child is going to be away from school, please notify us. We have a legal obligation to chase up any unexplained absences on a daily basis. If you have not notified us of your child's absence by 9.10am, we will attempt to call you and if we can't make contact with parents or guardians we will then try to contact any nominated emergency contacts for your child/children.

TERM TWO PUPIL FREE DAYS

We have two Pupil Free days this term:

This Friday June 3rd – will be a Professional Development Day for staff

This coming Monday June 6th – Semester Two Report Writing Day

COVID-19 and the continued pressure on staff have increased teacher workloads this year. We would normally try to avoid having two closure days so close together but given the year we have had so far, it has been unavoidable. On Friday the 3rd of June, staff will be given time and support to work on documentation. On Monday the 6th of June, we will be working on our Semester Two reports.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday June 13th is the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

This Thursday, June 2nd, our Grade 5/6 FIRE Carriers are heading to participate in a Reconciliation Mass as part of Reconciliation Week. These students will be representing our school community at this Mass in Wodonga.

Next Thursday, June 9th, our Grade 3-6 students will be heading to the Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre to watch the Australian Ballet. This is an exciting opportunity that I am sure the students will enjoy.

Permission notes for both events have been sent home with students who will be participating – please be prompt in signing and returning them to their class teacher.

GRADE FIVE/SIX – YOUNG/HUTCHINSON

As a part of our Inquiry Unit this year called 'Think Global Act Local' the students in 5/6YH are trying to improve the recycling program at Our Lady's School. Students have formed groups of three and will spend time in each class teaching them about recycling and how we can work together to reduce our waste.

All of the 5/6YH class have created keynotes to present to their given grade. They will teach the students for 10 minutes each day to help them understand what the meaning of recycling is. We have formed a new soft plastic recycling bin which students will hopefully use to put their soft plastics in. We will have nude food days and prizes for the students who have the best lunch box.

Hopefully your child will come home and talk to you about this program and try and support your own home recycling efforts. It's something we can all do together as we 'Think Global and Act Local' to support our planet.

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ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

The Making Jesus Real focus this week is all about ‘Saying thank you’.

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

Do your best: be thankful

Respect your school: moving through the carpark with an adult

Help others succeed: using our manners

Our Power Play Focus this week is:

Students who are thankful

Demonstrating gratitude is a powerful state of mind that can help with our mental health.

Congratulations to Henry Castagnetti who was the winner of last week’s PowerPlay Raffle.

Cassie

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday	June 1 st	Whole School Mass led by Grade 3/ 4 Our Lady’s Church at 9.00am – <i>All Welcome</i>
Friday	June 3rd	Pupil Free Day- Staff Professional Development Day
Monday	June 6th	Pupil Free Day – Report Writing Day
Thursday	June 9 th	Grade 3-6 to WPAC for Australian Ballet performance Depart 10.30am Return 11.45am
Monday	June 13th	Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Wednesday	June 22 nd	Celebration of Learning
Friday	June 24 th	Whole School Mass – Sacred Heart of Jesus Our Lady’s Church at 9.00am – <i>All Welcome</i> End of Term Two 2.10pm
Monday	July 11 th	Start of Term Three 8.45am
Monday-Friday	July 25 th to 29 th	Book Fair
Wednesday	July 27 th	Grandparents Day (includes Performing Arts presentation and Art Show) -time yet to be determined

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