16 February 2017
Term 1 Week 4

We had a good roll up yesterday but we did lose our senior dancers from last year. We need some older dancers as they make great leaders for the rest of the group.

P & F Association: The first meeting for the Association in 2017 will be held on Monday 27th February at 7pm. At this meeting, we need to elect a new president, treasurer and canteen co-ordinator. The smooth running of the P & F Association needs these positions to be filled. If you would like to, or know someone who would like to fill any of these positions please let us know.

Homework Club: Our Homework Club in the afternoons is taking off slowly. Sr Anna is available to supervise the children each afternoon for any parents who have commitments after school time. Sr Anna is available each afternoon from Tuesdays – Fridays from 3-6pm. Parents may make a permanent booking or if something comes up, you can ring the school and book your children in for a casual afternoon. The cost is a $10 donation for each child each afternoon and they will have to supply their own snack if they want one.

School Fees: Fee statements for Term 1 were sent home last week. Only families who have not provided email information received a paper copy of the fees. If you have not received a statement of fees via email or paper, please contact the school office ASAP.

The Catholic Schools office allows discounts of Tuition fees for Health Care Card, Pension or Veterans cardholders. If you have not received a discount that you believe you are eligible for, please forward a copy of your entitlement card to the office. If you think the fees are going to cause financial burden or hardship please make an appointment to see Mr Vandermaat. Leaving fees until last minute when they have become unmanageable is often more difficult. Arrangements made early help both the school and the fee payer.

Diocesan Pastoral Contribution: With your fee accounts, parents would have received a form indicating whether or not you wish to contribute to the voluntary Diocesan Pastoral Contribution. With our newsletter today, is a flyer, outlining what this contribution is for. It is important that parents return this form indicating their intention. If we do not receive it, it will be understood that you are willing to pay the contribution. Please read the information flyer and return the form as soon as possible.

P & F meets 4th Monday every month.

15 Lovell Parade, Shortland NSW 2307 • Phone: 4951 1003 • Fax: 4955 8730
Web: www.shortland.catholic.edu.au • Email: admin@shortland.catholic.edu.au
Facebook: We have a communication page for parents to be involved in. This is a closed group so it is private to members only. The wish is for it to be an avenue for pro-active discussion, event announcements & reminders. We would love for you to be involved. Please join us. A form was included with last week’s newsletter and is also available on the school website for your convenience.

SkoolBag App: Our Lady of Victories subscribes to the Skoolbag app. All newsletters, reminders and announcements are broadcast via the Skoolbag App. You can install the Skoolbag app on your phone or tablet device. The download instruction was sent home with last week’s newsletter. The instructions are also available on our website for your convenience.

Library News
Library borrowing began last week. Students need to have an appropriate library borrowing bag. Library bags are available from the office at a cost of $10.00. Library books are to be returned each Wednesday in the library bag. It would be ideal if library books were returned to the library bag each night/morning after reading. This will protect books from being lost or damaged. Lost and damaged books will need to be paid for. Happy reading.

Canteen: A temporary roster has been created for the canteen. At this stage it will be open on Mondays only. If you are able to help out once a month (or more often if you like) please return the purple note or see Nicole in the office as soon as possible. We would like to get a more permanent roster together quickly. Do you know any relatives or friends who might be interested?

Notes: Have you missed out on a Newsletter, Permission Note or Nomination form? Copies of all notes sent home are available from the bookcase under the television in the office, from our website www.shortland.catholic.edu.au or in the files section of the Facebook page and skoolbag app.

Save the date...

The Special Needs Working Party in conjunction with the CSO Teaching and Learning Unit is pleased to again be presenting an opportunity for parents and carers who have children enrolled in our schools with additional needs an opportunity to hear about the support available to them and their child in our Catholic schools.

These dates are to be held as follows:

ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL MUSWELLBROOK
✓ Tuesday, 14 March 11.00am – 1.00pm

ST JOSEPH’S PRIMARY SCHOOL TAREE
✓ Tuesday, 21 March 11.00am – 1.00pm

ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL KOTARA SOUTH
✓ Tuesday, 28 March 11.00am – 1.00pm

Please RSVP to:
Cath Garrett-Jones
P: 4979 1303
E: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au

School Buses: Parents are reminded that if they wish their children to travel on the buses to and from school, then they will need a valid OPAL pass. These need to be applied for on-line at https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students! all the relevant details for the application are available from this site.

Class News:
What's happening in your child's class?

Kinder
It has been a week of new beginnings in the Kinder room: we have begun library borrowing, we have begun to learn about how to read and create continuing patterns, we have begun to learn about prayer time and the story of Jesus and we have begun our first week of homework. We are growing with each and every new day and we continue to learn about ‘good choices’ at school. I wonder how many gotchas your child has...

Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to the Kinder information afternoon last Wednesday. It was a great opportunity to meet you all and discuss daily school life here at OLV! If you weren’t able to attend, I created and sent home 2 letters last week that includes all the information that was presented. If you did not receive one, please let me know. Also, a note will be sent home on Friday that details your child’s results in the Best Start assessment that was conducted during week 1. It provides useful information on their progress and possible activities they could partake in to assist them at school and at home.

Have a great week! 😊

Year 1/2

In Religion we are beginning to learn about parables. A parable is a simple story used to convey religious truths. Jesus used parables effectively when teaching his listeners about the Kingdom of God because they were easily relatable and understandable. In Literacy this week Yr 1 and Yr 2 have been using different texts to develop their comprehension skills. Both classes have been learning how to find the information they need from a given text and to structure their answers in full sentences. In Spelling, Yr 1 have been working on the patterns ‘ee’ and ‘oo’ and Yr 2 have been learning words with a variety of patterns including ‘af’. This week in Maths we have been working on Addition and Subtraction. Year 1 have been using manipulatives to model adding two numbers together and also adding numbers using a number line. Year 2 have been learning about fact families and how addition and subtraction are related. Altogether, we have been enjoying playing the dice game to add two numbers. In History we have been learning two songs related to our theme - ‘Grandma Rides a Harley’ and ‘The Aeroplane Jelly, Vegermite and Skippy Medley’. We have enjoyed viewing the old Aeroplane Jelly and Vegermite advertisements online and discussing the differences between TV ads from the past to the present.

Year 3

This week year 3 has been applying our number skills as we develop our understanding of number patterns. We worked on some fun activities including the number of handshakes that can be made with groups of people and determining the rule for this pattern. We also presented our home explorer science activities and started defining the characteristics that are true for all living things such as requiring nutrition, being able to reproduce, having the ability to
move and breathe. In religion we are continuing to learn about the Jewish groups in Jesus’ time such as the Essenes, Sadducees, Pharisees and Zealots. We worked on our writing skills, in particular, developing our ability to write interesting, well planned and edited narratives. In history we discussed why preserving ancient languages is so important in order to maintain an understanding of history and culture. In sport we are preparing ourselves for the upcoming carnival.

Year 4

In Religion this week, we have been learning about Jewish beliefs around ‘sickness’ in the time of Jesus. We have also been reading some of the healing stories of Jesus and making note of ‘who’ Jesus healed, ‘where’ healings took place and the ‘affect’ the healings had on people’s lives. In Maths, we have been looking at patterns in multiplications when zero is put with the number. We also have been calculating if the numbers on each side of an equals sign are equivalent, eg. does 3+6=3x3; does 17-4=12+1. In English, we have continued reading ‘The Tale of Despereaux’ by Kate Di Camillo. We are learning heaps new vocabulary, eg. capacious, watercress, beckoning and concocted. We also learnt the word ‘haiku’ - a poem that focuses on syllable in words. We each wrote a Haiku about the character Despereaux. Here are a few of them:

“Despereaux is small
he has very large ears and
he is a French mouse.”
(by Jodie)

“Despereaux is small
lives in a lovely castle
and he loves music.”
(by Elise)

Despereaux breaks rules
Despereaux talks to humans
and he likes the light.”
(by Nic C.)

Year 5

This week in Religion, we read a book called Because of You and identified all the ways someone can make a difference by being a role model. In English, we explored the character of Elise in our novel. For a character who doesn’t speak, her actions and responses tell us a lot about her. In Maths we have continued to work on factors of whole numbers and will look at multiples too. In Science we discussed why there was water in the bags in which we had our leaves for a week. We did an experiment to determine whether large leaves or smaller leaves lose water the fastest and discovered that smaller leaves do not lose their water as quickly as larger leaves. It was fascinating! - Mrs McGann

In Religion we jotted down our thoughts about the term, ‘role model’, shared them with class mates then discussed our ideas before we wrote a class definition. After doing this we wrote about how we each can be a role model to others of Jesus’ qualities. In Maths we concluded our current work on number patterns by exploring how diagrams and number lines can help us to represent fraction number patterns. One of our English activities involved each of us skimming through different pages from our class novel, ‘Bunting: The Secret Friend’, to locate common and proper nouns used by Jackie French to create an effective setting for the story. In History we learned how Captain James Cook claimed the east coast of Australia as a British territory based on the concept of ‘terra nullius’ (land belonging to no one). - Mr Hammond

Year 6

In Religion we have talked about Jesus’ mission on earth to proclaim God’s Word and we brainstormed, then defined, the terms ‘Kingdom’ and ‘Good News’. We also discussed the times in which Jesus lived, in Palestine under Roman occupation, and discussed the difficulties he faced. In English we are all publishing our stories using the laptops. We are planning to start sharing them with the class by Friday. In Maths we had some fun studying length with Mrs McGann on Tuesday. We measured our biggest strides against Usain Bolt’s average stride when he runs. WOW! No wonder he wins! We are also studying patterns and algebra and had some fun with interactive games on the internet and challenging activities in class. In Bounce Back, we read the story, The Places You’ll Go by Dr Seuss. It is a fun story with a great message reminding us that life has its ups and downs but we can bounce back! Everyone enjoyed the activities we participated in with the University of Newcastle Research Survey team on Monday. We took part in some fun games and most of us were pretty tired when we finished! Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the Parent Information Meeting on Wednesday afternoon. Year 6 have made a settled start to the year and are working well.

SPORTS CORNER

Athletics Carnival

Our school carnival will be held on Thursday 2 March at Glendale Sports Centre. The children will be able to participate in a number of activities for their team. All children should have received a nomination form to indicate in which events they would like to compete. Please have these returned to school by next week. Athletics carnivals always need more helpers than swimming, so please consider helping out as an official on the day if you are planning to come along on the day.

Regional Swimming Carnival

Our children represented the school today at the Regional Swimming Carnival. They performed admirably, in both performance and behaviour. Great job to all these children for their enthusiastic and respectful representation.

Lexia awards go to:

- Tahlia B Level 4
- Nicholas H Level 10
- Georgina H Level 9
- Julian A Level 10
- Congratulations girls and boys!
- Keep it up!
- Mrs McCallum

May you be in heaven 5 minutes
Before the devil knows you’re dead.

Kind regards, Gerry Vandermaat - Principal.
Canteen Roster – This is a temporary roster until volunteers are confirmed. More volunteers are desperately needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20/2/2017</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kerryn Cavallaro Mary Williams</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/2/2017</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Nicole Warburton</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/3/2017</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Naomi Brown Nicole Warburton</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/3/2017</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Shantelle Cradell Kaylene Cangiano</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/3/2017</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mel Bennett Cassie North</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These advertisers support us, please support them.