Dear Parents,

On Monday night many parents took the opportunity to attend the Parent Information Meetings. This was a wonderful opportunity to receive information about the term’s program of work and each teacher’s expectations for the coming year. It is most important to keep the lines of communication open between home and school so that your child can have a successful year. I thank the teachers for giving up their time and putting their own families on hold to run the meetings.

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Year 6 Buddies

For the first two weeks of the term the Year 6 students buddied up with a Kindergarten student to ‘show them the ropes’. This buddy time included showing the Kindergarten students toilets, eating areas and play areas. The Year 6 students gave up both their recess and lunchtime to be a Kindergarten buddy. Thank you Year 6 for being selfless and thinking of others.

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**WELCOME ASSEMBLY**

Each year it’s always a joy to welcome new members to our school community.

This year we welcome our new Kindergarten children and new students in Years 1-6.

We also welcome our new staff member

**Mr. Luke Campbell**

Our Welcome Assembly will be held on

**FRIDAY 14 MARCH at 9.30am** in the 
**MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

Year 6 will be leading this assembly and we extend a warm invitation to all family and friends (especially our new families) to join us for this special celebration.

After the Assembly there will be a morning tea for parents in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Helen Rose  
Acting REC
CHILD PROTECTION – DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA
PARENT VOLUNTEERS

It is a Diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the CEO Online Child Protection Module. This training is available online at http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au and MUST be completed every two years.

Click on child Protection Training
Click on For Volunteers
Read instruction and click on start the module.

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School Bags
A new supply of our school bags have arrived. New price is $40.00 bags are available for purchase from the office.

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Reflection:

A Brief Reflection

It’s never too late …

to hope

Hope is part of our life force.
Never surrender hope.
We know life comes in cycles.
And an upturn can be just around the corner.
Hope helps us struggle through the desperate times.
It guides us through the dark.

God Bless,

Glean Patchell
Principal

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ENROLMENTS 2015

Enrolment Forms for Kindergarten 2015 are now available from the office.
## TERM 1 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>20 February</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival ~ Riverstone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.15pm Merit Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Diocesan Swimming Carnival—Riverstone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.15pm Merit Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>2.15pm Merit Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>9.30am Welcome Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.00 Bully Show—K-3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.50pm Bully Show—Yrs. 4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>9.30am Primary Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00pm Parents &amp; Friends Meeting—Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>2.15pm Merit Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>2.15pm Merit Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass—Yrs. 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>10.00am Student of the Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17 April</td>
<td>HOLY THURSDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>19 April</td>
<td>EASTER SATURDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>20 April</td>
<td>EASTER SUNDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHOOL RESUMES ON MONDAY 28 APRIL

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**NEWSLETTERS DATES FOR TERM**

- Wednesday 5 March
- Wednesday 19 March
- Wednesday 2 April

Please look for the newsletters on these days. The eldest child in each family will be responsible for taking it home.
# MERIT CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to the following students

## KINDERGARTEN
- Hayley Gunnion
- Ruby Black
- Gabriel Paul
- Micaela Sibucao
- Cypher Dela Cruz
- Dominik Pino-Undzillo
- Lucy Ciappara
- Samuel Hogan
- Ethan McIntyre
- Adelle Hogan
- Bianca Madrid
- Matthew Buttigieg

## YEAR 1
- Josef Plquero
- Sabine Escueta
- Avria Bergado
- Isaac Xuereb
- Vallen Payne
- Sandra Gorgees
- Alexis Vella
- Ethan Micalleff
- Sophia Madrid
- Enrique Rindfleish
- Angelica Mallet
- Sienna Tecala

## YEAR 2
- Lasuba Aggrey
- Joshua De Abreu
- Deborah Angolo
- Mia Javier
- Shayna Fernando
- Dean Ocampo
- Cyanne Dela Cruz
- Alexandra Prokhorov
- Eon aniano
- Anastasia Prokhorov
- Hunter Black
- Leisel Lacson

## YEAR 3
- Mariam Ghannami
- Carl Aringo
- Chastynne Callos
- Vya Perez
- Benjamin Filippi
- Berend Slager
- Jayden Turner
- Sophia Pastoral
- Jake Sta Maria
- Jayden Ramia
- Vincent Crisostomo
- Andrea Batula

## YEAR 4
- Jonathan Buttigieg
- Sophia Escueta
- Czar Williams
- Nirvana Prasad
- Jaiden Castro
- Memphis Carinula
- Jasmine Jacaca
- Marc Aduacyen
- Shanelle Gumogda
- Jayden Norris
- Chelsea Oliver
- Kirollos Philips

## YEAR 5
- Christina Baik
- Brannen Filippi
- Aidan Micallef
- Thomas Menezes
- Aldexandra Gorgees
- Jacob Bayada
- Charlotte Sta Maria
- Nathaniel Sicat
- Francis Fronteras
- Fritziz Serrano
- Caitlin Gunnion
- Thomas Hogan

## YEAR 6
- Felicity Xuereb
- Michaela Debrincat
- Ben Matchett
- Alyssa Perez
- Pranay Singh
- Shaun Mulinoi
- Noah Nourdine
- Leonelle Torres-Rodriguez
- Alysha Sinclair
- Suzan Angelo
- Georgia Sultana
- Holly Pham
ANAPHYLAXIS
A LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY
Throughout our school we have several children with life threatening allergies to various forms of food. This is a serious issue the school must address and we have implemented various management strategies to cater for these children.

In order for our school to continue to be allergy aware we ask that you consider not including nuts, eggs, yoghurt or foods cooked in peanut oil as part of your child's recess or lunch.

Thank you for considering the special health needs of these children.

FEES ACCOUNT
Accounts have been posted out by the Catholic Education Office Fees are payable by 7 March. Please contact Mrs. Fletcher, before the due date, if you are unable to finalise your account.

All families should have received their Term 1 School Fee Account and would be aware that attached to your Tax Invoice/Statement was a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) and an explanation note on the front of your account offering you two options in paying your account.

If you would like to accept this offer please complete the Direct Debit Request Form or the BPAY Form and lodge with Catholic Education Office before the 21st February 2014. Preferred payment is Direct Debit, however alternatively you may elect to use BPAY but you would need to set this up via your Bank so the first payment occurs by the 7th March 2014.

Payment of fees can still be paid by Eftpos, Bpay, Postbill, Cash and Cheque.

CLOTHING POOL ~ Open every second Monday
The clothing pool will be open on Monday 24 February 2.30pm - 3.00pm operating from the old canteen.
We are in need of any of the girl’s summer uniform, especially the smaller sizes.
Thank you Mrs Frendo for coordinating the clothing pool.

COMMUNITY NEWS
OLMC Parramatta Open Day - Sunday March 2
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to its 2014 Open Day on Sunday March 2, 2014. Discover the College's rich tradition and cutting edge education, enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' and join in the celebrations as we mark 125 years of Mercy Excellence at OLMC in 2014.

Sunday, March 2 10am – 2.00pm. Principal's welcome at 10.00am and 12.00 noon.

Reservations can be made by visiting www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.
Parents & Friends News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Thursday</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>School Banking books to be submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 7</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:30am</td>
<td>Fruit Market food preparation (Years 4, 5 &amp; 6 donate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 21</td>
<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday April 4</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Easter raffle tickets and donations due back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday April 7</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Easter Raffle wrapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday April 10</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Easter Raffle will be drawn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We had a great turn out to our first meeting of the year! It was wonderful to meet some new parents to the school along with some dedicated parents who have helped at numerous events throughout the past year. We were just missing some dads – we’d love to see more men around the table sharing ideas. If you can make it to school early on a Friday afternoon, please be sure to pop into the staffroom and join us.

**School Banking – Every Thursday**
Banking Day is Thursday. Children will hand their yellow bank book to their teacher for the office box in the mornings.

Any parents who wish to start banking for their children can open an account at any branch of the Commonwealth Bank: you just need to take their birth certificate with you and then send their yellow bank book to school with them each Thursday.

Children who have earned 10 tokens will receive a certificate to acknowledge their achievement and their reward choice is to be returned on the next banking Thursday. Ordering will be done in weeks 3 and 8 each term for those children.

**Fruit Frenzy Friday - March 7**
To help with the relaunch of Crunch n Sip for 2014 we will be hosting our first pop-up Fruit Stall of the year. Years 4, 5 and 6 are encouraged to donate seasonal fresh fruit to this stall to be held on March 7. More details will follow next week.

Our experience from previous stalls confirms that we need many volunteers to make this a success. **Please put this date in your diary to come along and help from 9am-11:30am.**

**Easter Raffle – Drawn Thursday April 10**
With the Lenten season fast approaching, we are preparing to run the Annual Easter Raffle. Every year we are very fortunate to have great support for this fundraising event. Students from all classes are asked to donate a chocolate Easter egg to be collated into prizes for the raffle. This year we are continuing to raise money to purchase new pin boards for classrooms. While all rooms K-2 have had new boards installed from our fundraising last year, there are more vertical surfaces that teachers would like to use to display student’s work.

Raffle tickets will go home in Week 6. They will be 50 cents each or three for $1.00.

**Diary Date – Monday April 7**: we will be wrapping the egg donations into prizes. This is always a mammoth task. If you could set aside some time between 9-11am on this date, your help will be most appreciated!

**Next P & F Meeting – Friday March 21 at 2pm - Staffroom.**

Linda Hogan
*P & F Secretary*
0430 511 373