



Newsletter

Term 4 Week 6 Thursday, 11 November 2021

Principal's Message

principal@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents,

Today is Remembrance Day, a day we recognise the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to serve and protect our wonderful country. As a school we observed a minute's silence and participated in a commemorative service run by the RE team.



School Address

53 Macedon St
Sunbury 3429
9740 7344



A few weeks ago, I made mention of some great achievements by past OLMC students. I heard some more great news from Salesian College this week that Claire D'Couto was the year 8 Student of the Term recipient. Congratulations, Claire. We are very proud of you.

As I have mentioned, under the new MACs governance we are required to establish a new School Advisory Council for 2022. Please consider sending me an expression of interest to join the council. It is a great way to become involved in the school and to have the ability to work with me, and the rest of the leadership team, as we make plans for our school community. A short email is all that is needed.

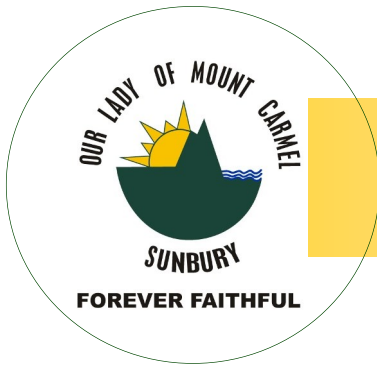
This week we welcomed our 2022 class of preps for their first orientation session. It was lovely to see how excited they were to be here and how well they settled in for the hour. The new preps will have another 3 orientation sessions to help them become familiar with the school and at the next session they will meet the 2022 prep teachers!



It has been so exciting getting everyone back to school over the past couple of weeks. We are doing everything we can to minimise the risk of Covid infections within the school, including the wearing of masks indoors, opening windows and doors, social distancing and keeping the classes in bubbles. It is essential that everyone plays their part. Most of the schools in Sunbury have now had classes and staff in isolation.

Something else that is exciting is making plans for 2022. Each year, as a leadership team and then a whole staff, we look at our enrolment numbers across the school to determine the class structures the following year. My ability to employ and allocate staff relies solely on the funding we receive which is based on the number of enrolments. For many reasons, including a number of families moving overseas and interstate, our numbers are quite a bit higher in years 4, 5 and 6. If we keep the current class structures, we would have 32 students in each of our 5/6 classes, which is above the number permitted and not equitable when there are class sizes of 16 further down the school.

We do not have enough enrolments to employ an extra teacher and we also do not have another room to be used as a classroom. There are so many factors to take into account. We have juggled the numbers to find the best scenario and as a result we will move to the following structure:



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2 x prep classes

3 x 3/4 classes

2 x year 1 classes

2 x year 5 classes

2 x year 2 classes

2 x year 6 classes.

We also want to ensure that classes within a level are located together in the same part of the school. This means some classes will be in different areas of the school next year. We will let you know once this is all confirmed. I know there are some parents who are concerned with composite classes. I spent almost all of my 25 years of teaching in multi age or composite classes. As we use student data to inform our teaching and to plan learning, for us it is less about that year level the child is in and more about teaching them to their point of need. We have had composite classes at OLMC for many, many years, across various levels.

While I have had some conversations and emails with parents regarding considerations for placing children in classes for next year, please be aware that the teachers make the final decisions, based on what is best for each child. Sometimes being with your best friend is not best for your learning. It is also important that to note that we do not accept 'teacher shopping'. Sometimes there are good reasons a child should or should not be with a particular teacher. One child's experience with a particular teacher can also be very different for another child. It is a huge jigsaw puzzle for us to put together so, while we will do our very best please be aware it is not possible to accommodate every single consideration.

Happy birthday to the following children who are celebrating this week



Alexander Mitanidis

Ambrosia Caruana

Milana Borgese

Gasem Elshafie

A number of our students will be receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time next Tuesday. We wish these children all the very best as they take the next step in their faith journey. We are very excited that this celebration can go ahead. A reminder for those attending that it is a State Government requirement that everyone who is attending and is over the age of 12 must be double vaccinated. This will be checked at the door. Please use the QR code to sign in.





Confirmation will be held next year. Year 6 parents, please be on the look out for an email regarding registration.



We are working on plans for the year 6 Graduation. Please note that for us to be able to have parents onsite they will need to show proof of being double vaccinated. I will let you know how we will celebrate this exciting event in the coming weeks. The date is the 13th December.

This week we celebrate the 33rd Sunday in November.

Gospel

Mark 13:24–32

The stars will fall from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

God bless,

Julie

IMPORTANT DATES

November

11th November – Year 4 parent information session for year 5/6 lap top program – 7pm (Google Meet)

15th November – Information session for 2022 prep parents - 7pm (Google Meet)

16th November – First Eucharist Masses – 5pm and 6:30pm

18th November – Prep Orientation session 2 – 9:30-10:30

December

2nd December – Prep Orientation session 3 – 9:30-10:30

13th December – Prep Orientation session 4 and whole school orientation 12pm – 1pm

13th December – Year 6 Graduation – to be confirmed

15th December – **Students finish at 1pm**

Canteen will resume on Friday November 12th. Please note : Limited menu will only be available

School Absences : absent@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au

SPLASH PUPIL OF THE WEEK AWARD



Class	Pupil of the week	Has demonstrated the 3 R's
Prep JF	Molly O'Callaghan:	For showing the 3Rs so wonderfully at school - during learning tasks and playing with class members! Excellent efforts Molly!
Prep MR	Frankie Tan	For showing the 3 R's of resilience, responsibility and respect in everything she does. Thank you Frankie for being such a positive member of our class.
1 H	Holly Strant	For always working hard to improve her spelling and being resilient when working collaboratively with others.
1 R	Bernice Mayom	For showing determination and persistence to improve the presentation of her work and her handwriting. Keep up the amazing effort Bernice, you're a star!
2 A	Lila Debono	For showing responsibility in all that she does. It has been so great to see her become a leader amongst her peers and teach others math strategies that she has mastered. Great work Lila.
2J	Alissa McKay	For displaying the disposition of self-motivation and driving her own learning.
3BC	Mason Marinelli	For reflecting on feedback to improve his focus on learning tasks, especially when reading and summarizing a text!
3 CC	Tahlia Bekker	For displaying resilience and determination when returning to on-site learning by applying herself into her learning. Keep up the effort Tahlia!
4 PS	Lachlan Kiss	Lachlan is a very inquisitive student who demonstrates great enthusiasm for his work. Lachlan has a wonderful sense of humour and always looks on the bright side of life. Keep up the great work Lachlan.
4 ST	Jai Santos	For always being a responsible & respectful class member who tries hard every day
5/6 C	Liam McKay	For successfully solving number problems involving decimals and being able to explain how he got his answer.
5/6 MT	Ayvah Miniwah	For her positive start back onsite and her willingness to put effort into her learning. Great job Ayvah!
5/6 R	Connor Harris	Since returning to onsite learning, Connor has demonstrated excellent behavior, both inside and outside of the classroom. He has worked increasingly hard to draft a narrative text this week.

Sunbury Catholic Parish
School Fee Policy for our Parish Primary Schools

There are now three primary schools in the Parish of Our Lady of Mt Carmel. The Parish established the first two schools through the generosity of parishioners, and their continued support enables the Parish to sustain pastoral and financial assistance to our whole school community.

2022 School Fee Structure & Schedule

Family Fee cost \$2270.00

In order to support our families during the COVID-19 pandemic there was no increase of School fees for 2021, and so we have not been able to avoid a small increase for 2022 to \$2270.

This fee is charged annually per family. Billing is done at the start of the year for the full year and this account is required to be paid in full by the end of July. Payment may be made by Cash, Cheque, Credit Card or Direct Debit. *Payment by instalment can be arranged with the office before the end of February.*

Per Student Fee cost - \$360.00

In order to support our families during these difficult times we have not made any change to the Curriculum Levies charged for 2022. Each student is charged a curriculum levy in November/December \$360 for 2022. This fee must be paid mid December 2021 so that resources can be purchased and distributed. There are additional costs for Sacramental classes (charged by the Parish) and school camps (usually Years 3-6). Interscholar Sports can be an additional charge (Years 5 & 6) notified at the time.

One to one Laptop Program Year 5 & 6 Students only

Every student in year 5 and 6 has the opportunity to participate in a one to one laptop program, whereby all students are allocated an Apple Mac Laptop for their use at School and also at home (with controls) and Parents are billed (with school fees) for the rent of the machine whilst at OLMC in years 5 and 6. The cost for 2022 for the Laptop rental is \$490 for year 6 students and \$463 for year 5 students. At the end of Year 6 each family has the option to purchase the Laptop their child has been using for an extra buyout fee.

The three primary schools of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish receive limited funding from government sources. Parents who choose to send their children to our Parish Primary Schools are therefore obliged to pay school fees in order for the schools to repay loans, running costs, salaries and educational requirements. Parents will also be expected to participate in and support fundraising activities, which assists in the areas of maintenance, playground amenities and additional resources in curriculum.

It is a matter of justice that all parents are meeting their obligation and therefore the school fee policy has been developed to assist all parents.

Process for Collection of Fees

1. At the end of previous year, the school will inform parents of the fees, when due and payment options. Payments are to be made by the due date.
2. If there is a difficulty with fees at any stage, *onus is on parents to communicate with school* and contact the Principal who can negotiate a reasonable fee depending on circumstances. Also, some people, for budget purposes, need to pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly. The school can accommodate time payment plans, **but requests are to be made at the beginning of the year.**
3. Parents will be issued an account as shown below, and reminders throughout the year

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Sent Out</u>	<u>Due</u>
Book box, Stationery, resources, excursions, etc.	Early November	December (paid in advance)
Yearly Fee (Full Amount)	February	End of July*

**Unless payment plan is in place.*

4. If full amount is not received by the end of July, an Account Rendered is sent as a reminder.
5. One week later the Principal (or an agent of the Principal), will contact the parents. Arrangements are to be kept confidential between all parties.
6. If the agreed course of action is not implemented, a final letter will be sent one week later informing parents that the matter has been passed on to the Debt Collection Agency / Legal Team. In the event that the customer is in default of the obligation to pay, and the overdue account is then referred to an agency for collection, *the commission payable and legal costs incurred shall be added to the amount outstanding and form part of the debt.*
7. The Principal is to follow up the matter with the Agency. This will take place at various times during the year.

OLMC Christmas Raffle



The Christmas raffle is fast approaching

Our Christmas Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 7th December

Casual Clothes Day, donations and raffle tickets due Thursday 2nd December

Children can wear casual clothes on Thursday 2nd December. On this day instead of a gold coin donation we ask that the children bring in a gift for our Christmas hampers and also the return of the raffle tickets and money.

Tickets

Each family will be given 10 raffle tickets and these will be given to the eldest child. Tickets are \$1 each. These need to be returned by Thursday 2nd December.

Ideas for Donations

Grade	Theme	Ideas
Prep	Christmas Decorations	Christmas decorations, lights, baubles, tinsel, wrapping paper
1 and 2	Holiday Fun	Water accessories, games, cards, outdoor games
3 and 4	Food and Wine Indulgences	Wine, Champagne, Beer, Nibbles, Chips, Lollies and BBQ Condiments.
5 and 6	Home Decor and Relaxing	Pamper items, Sunscreen, Moisturiser, Puzzle Books, Books, Magazine, Craft, Candles, Table Wear.

Lets make this a success for our kids

Thank you

School Banking update from Commonwealth Bank

For 90 years, our School Banking program has helped children learn about money, reinforced the importance of regular savings and provided structure for parents to support their children to save.

Though the program continues to have strong support from schools, parents and teachers, recent decisions by some state and territory governments because of a review by the corporate regulator mean we are unable to continue providing programs in schools, and we have had to make a difficult decision to close our School Banking program for all government and non-government schools across the country.

Our School Banking program was established in 1931 at a time when having a bank account was not commonplace, and since then we have helped more than 15 million Australians take their first financial steps. This would not have been possible without the wonderful support we have received from schools like yours, including all the parents and volunteers, and for this we are deeply grateful. Thank you.

Even though this is a sad time, School Banking has taught so many young Australians, past and present, the value of money and we believe this should be celebrated. We have created a place for you to share your stories, fondest memories and lessons learnt through the program. To share your story and access our financial education resources, please visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.

Even though the CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to your school after this year, you can continue to make deposits into your child's Youthsaver account through online transfers or at any CommBank branch. If you need further information please phone 132 221 or visit your local CommBank branch.

Literacy News



Dear parents and caregivers

Just to bring you up to date with Scholastic:

There is an issue 8 on the Loop. You can have this order delivered to your home for an extra \$7.50. This looks like it will be the last order for the year, as the closing date is 8th December.

However I would be careful of ordering anything at the present, as the postal service is very much overwhelmed and I would hate you to order something for your child's Christmas and it not arrive in time.

We have recently got a subscription to Story Box Library for our students, which you can use at home. Hundreds of beautiful picture books read by actors and authors.

Story Box Library

<https://storyboxlibrary.com.au/login> User name: OLMCSunbury

Viewer Password:OLMC#2021

As the children are on screens a lot of the time at the moment, you may wish to use this as a treat or use it more often when we return to school.


I also want to thank all the wonderful parents who are working in partnership with us to teach the children. I would like to acknowledge that it has been a difficult and long time but we will get there, if we all work together.

Take care and stay safe, we are all just waiting to see our beautiful children again.

Cheers Evelyn









24/7 Mental Health Services



Is it an emergency?

If you or someone you know is at immediate risk of harm, call **triple zero (000)**

<h3>Suicide Call Back Service</h3> <p>Anyone thinking about suicide</p> <p>  suicidecallbackservice.org.au  1300 659 467 </p>	<h3>Lifeline</h3> <p>Anyone having a personal crisis</p> <p>  lifeline.org.au  13 11 14 </p>
<h3>Beyond Blue</h3> <p>Anyone feeling anxious or depressed</p> <p>  beyondblue.org.au  1300 22 4636 </p>	<h3>Kids Helpline</h3> <p>Counselling for young people aged 5 to 25</p> <p>  kidshelpline.com.au  1800 55 1800 </p>
<h3>MensLine Australia</h3> <p>Men with emotional or relationship concerns</p> <p>  mensline.org.au  1300 78 99 78 </p>	<h3>Open Arms</h3> <p>Veterans and families counselling</p> <p>  openarms.gov.au  1800 011 046 </p>



School Uniform News

School Hats (\$10) & Bottle Green socks (\$5) are available for sale from the school office.

Correct money appreciated please. Cash only.

A reminder to label all school uniform items especially jumpers & rugby tops and food/drink containers with your child's name. This will help stop the vast amounts of these items that end up in lost property.



ABN: 53 317 404 573

AGS Pty Ltd
Wholesalers of Quality Schoolwear & Uniforms
In house Design & Printing
www.aplusschoolwear.com.au

ADDRESS: 133 BAKERS ROAD
NORTH COBURG
VIC, 3058

PHONE: 03 9354 8345
FAX: 03 9354 5777
E-MAIL: info@agsprints.com.au

OLMC RECYCLING CENTRE



PENS, TEXTAS AND WHITE OUT PRODUCTS, USED BATTERIES, PLASTIC BREAD BAGS AND ORAL PRODUCT PACKAGING CAN ALL BE RECYCLED AT OLMC.

We are actively recycling a number of products to reduce the impact on our planet. Please continue to send your recyclable items to the School Office.

The boxes are located in the School Office Foyer



THE WONDER BREAD RECYCLING PROGRAM HAS NOW ENDED BUT PLEASE CONTINUE TO RECYCLE ALL SOFT PLASTIC, INCLUDING BREAD BAGS BY COLLECTING THEM AND PUTTING THEM IN THE REDCYCLE BIN AT COLES AND WOOLWORTHS SUPERMARKETS. LOCATED NEAR THE CHECKOUT.

