

# Newsletter

Term 1 Week 1 Thursday, 3 February 2022

## Principal's Message [principal@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au)

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year! It is great to be back and the children and staff have returned very refreshed and with a positive mindset. There were no tears in prep and they have settled in beautifully already. The start of a school year can be challenging as students navigate different class groups and teachers, so please give your child time to settle back into the school routines before becoming too concerned. Some friendships can change as well. How we respond to our children when they come home with concerns is vital to how they will be able to deal with the situation. You will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher in week 3. Booking details will be released soon.

This year, we are taking on The Resilience Project and the students will participate in sessions each week based on gratitude, kindness, empathy and emotional literacy. They will each have their own journal to record their thoughts and feelings and I hope they come home and talk to you about their experiences. We will involve the parents so look out for more information.

Welcome to our new families who have started at OLMC this year. We have 32 prep students and another 16 students across the school who have joined us. We welcome you to our school community and look forward to working in partnership with you.

I have sent out a great deal of information to you over the past week or so. Please keep up to date as things change very quickly when it comes to Covid and we want to ensure that we minimise risk as much as we can. If you do not yet have access to Seesaw please contact your child's teacher. Teacher email addresses were sent to all parents of students in years 1-6 when I emailed you about your child's appointment time for Monday. Communication between home and school is vital. I use both email and Seesaw so please let me know if your email address has changed.

A reminder that you need to contact the school if your child is absent for any reason. You can call the school on 97407344 or send an email or Seesaw message to your child's teacher. Please include your child's name, class, date of absence and the reason. We are mandated to follow up on any unexplained absences.

I will continue to inform the school community of any Covid cases within the school. So far our community has been very supportive and I really appreciate everyone's concerns and offers of help. Our community is also been very mindful of people's privacy and I thank everyone for your part in this.

Please ensure you keep on top of school dates. I sent you a copy of the 2022 dates that we have so far and they are also in the newsletter for the weeks ahead. These include school closure and Sacramental dates.

I have emailed you the protocols of what to do if your child tests positive for Covid. You are welcome to email me after hours to inform me of a case. That way I can send out information to families before school and give you the opportunity to monitor for symptoms and use the Rapid Antigen Tests. If your child does have symptoms and is unwell but tests negative, they should not be at school as they need to rest and recuperate.

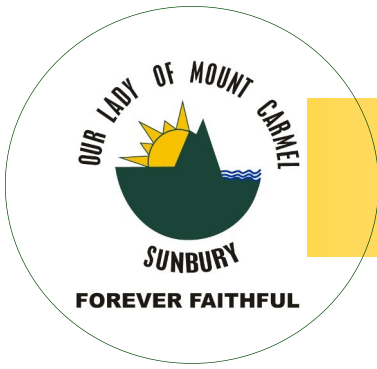
Unfortunately we have had to change our Opening School Mass to a liturgy on the green as we can gather briefly outside. We will present School Captain badges at this liturgy.

### School Address

53 Macedon St  
Sunbury 3429  
9740 7344

### School Closure Day - Term 1

Mon 28th  
February



# Newsletter

Our first assembly of the year will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February. We will gather outside on the green at 9:00am. Parents of children who are receiving a splash award will be able to attend if they meet the vaccination requirements. Please enter through the church gates and do not come via the office or school buildings.

In the coming weeks I hope to hold a Parents and Friends meeting to organise events for the year. This may be a Google Meet. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend to help support this aspect of our school.

We wish the following children a very happy birthday:



## *January Birthdays*

Vincent Xerri	Boston Ferguson	Lucille Caruana
Robby Mand	Phoenix Phipps	Michael Kupresanin
Jaden Johny	Hudson Gatt	Ronnie Kaminski
Charlie Dixon	Amelia Wadden	Mason Kupresanin
Olivia Laird	Samuel Plummer	Nina Felice
Liam McKay	Addison Ridington	Jaida Kelly
Jack Debono	Nash Kelly	Lily Munslow
Lacy Urbon		

## *February Birthdays*

Murray Billinghamurst	Mason Pedder	Leo Plummer
Blake Brincat	Olivia Lethlean	Luci Commber
Hunter Stott	Ben Letzis	Audrey White
Olivia Cortese	Zac Francis	Mia Levey
Zac Hills	Sebastian Jensen	Asta Derriman
Harley Bridger	Ruby Lane	

I look forward to a great year, filled with learning, faith and joy.

God bless,

Julie

## Our Catholic Identity

Hello and welcome to a new and exciting year at Our Lady of Mt Carmel! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Nelson Graham and I join Julie and Mark as the new Deputy Principal at the school. My area of focus is the Religious Dimension of the school along with the community aspects of all the things that makes us who we are. Combined together, these responsibilities come under the banner of Faith and Mission. I am honoured and incredibly excited to begin this work here at OLMC, and alongside all the staff, I look forward to emerging from the darkness that has surrounded us all over the past two years.

In this section of the newsletter, I will share with you some important dates and events happening at the school, but will also share with you some reflections relating to the various religious aspects of the Liturgical Year and the things that shape our Catholic identity.

I am excited for the year ahead and look forward to meeting you all. Come and say hi!

### Gospel Reflections

It seems as though it were like yesterday that we were preparing to celebrate Christmas, but we now find ourselves already into the new Liturgical Year at the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Luke's Gospel reading from this coming Sunday, we hear of the story where Jesus, standing by the lake, gets sight of two men, his soon-to-be disciples, who are fishing. After spending some time teaching the crowds, he then sailed out with the fishermen. Weary, two men had been out all night trying to catch fish, and much like most



of my attempts as a fisherman, had struggled to catch anything. Jesus then told them to throw their nets into the water in a different part of the lake, where it was a little deeper. Exhausted and reluctant to do so, the men followed Jesus' instructions. To their amazement, as they pulled in their nets, it overflowed with fish (no fishing licences were needed in those days!), more than they could haul into their own boat. They had to call their friends to help them bring it in! Astounded in the presence of Jesus, the man who we now know as Simon Peter, (yes, that same Simon Peter who denies Jesus three times) does not feel worthy enough to be anywhere near Jesus. Jesus, knowing the work that he was sent to do, sensed Simon Peter's fear and reassured him that from then on, he would no longer be catching fish, but people instead. Immediately, Simon Peter left everything he knew and followed Jesus. This was the beginning of something new!

When I hear this story, I know that it's something that happened thousands of years ago, but it's so uncanny how much this story reminds me of what's happening in our world today. Well before 2020 happened, many of us found ourselves in regular routines, doing things only in the ways we were used to, only for it to be shaken up with the uncertainty of the pandemic. After spending a tedious night fishing in the same way they always did, the disciples, empowered by Jesus, changed their approach, resulting in an abundance of fish.

This makes me wonder, what things are we still stuck doing in the same old way, and is that way still bringing us success? What do we need to do to approach our lives from a different perspective? Who is the Jesus-like figure in our lives who points towards a more prosperous future?

Jesus tells Simon Peter that from then on, he would be 'catching people' instead. As we head into the second month of this new year, a new beginning for all of us awaits. Let's ask ourselves, what small changes can we make to take on the challenges our world continues to throw our way? Ultimately, what are the small and simple things we can do to make a positive difference to the lives of our families, friends and loved ones?

[Lock it in:](#)

*Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February **OR** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 6:30-7:30pm*- Family Faith Evening for last year's Confirmation Candidates (in Yr 7 this this year) and parents at St Anne's Church

*Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March*- Shrove Tuesday

*Wednesday 2nd March*- Ash Wednesday: **Lent** begins!

*Friday 4th March 7pm*- Celebration of Confirmation for 2021 students at Salesian College

May God continue to guide us all.

**Nelson Graham**

### Upcoming Dates: February

3rd - Lap top collection for year 5s

4th - Opening School Mass 12pm

7th - Year 3-6 swimming trials

15th and 16th - Parent/teacher chats

24th - Interschool swimming carnival

28th - School closure day - Staff PD

### Term Dates 2022

**Term 1:** 28 th January—8th April  
(Easter 15th April—18th April)

**Term 2:** 26th April —Friday 24th June  
(Monday 25th Anzac Day)

**Term 3:** 11th July—16th September

**Term 4:** 3 rd October—16th December

School Absences : [absent@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au](mailto:absent@olmcsunbury.catholic.edu.au)

### School Uniform News

New sock supplies have arrived— \$5 per pair

Limited sizes in school hats—new stock arriving soon \$10 per hat

**A reminder** to label all school uniform items especially rugby tops/school jumpers and food & drink containers with your child's name—Thank you !

## Literacy News

Hello parents and caregivers. It is so exciting to be back at school and watching the faces of our children as they learn and develop. I hope you are reading to your children, taking turns, discussing the latest book or film and just increasing their thinking and vocabulary. Success in life can be measured by the size of our vocabulary and our vocabulary increases by the amount of books we are exposed to, read or have written to you. You would all be glad to see the children return to school so that you can return to parenting. We are all so glad because we can get back to the job we love, being with and teaching the children.

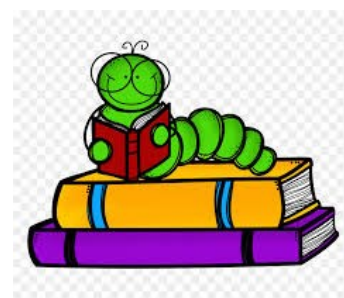
Scholastic Books have sent out their new catalogue and I would like to remind you that you can purchase the books by using their "Loop" and pay by card which is so much easier for us all. The kids were so excited to get their catalogues today. Do not forget we get new books for the library as part of their reward system.

We also have Story Box Library at <https://storyboxlibrary.com.au/login>

**User name:**OLMCSunbury **Viewer password:**OLMC#2021

Great Australian stories read with Australian voices

Please use this site with your children and enjoy



**Evelyn Pickering: Literacy Leader**

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Canteen Roster—Term1 2022

4th Feb	Sylvana Doricic Tracey Kilkenney	11th Mar	Caroline Dillon Cathy Carter
11th Feb	Irene Wishart Erin Thompson	18th Mar	Emma Clements Shelley Spark
18th Feb	Nat Grant Louise Vasey	25th Mar	Alex D'Agostino Kelly Xerri
25th Feb	Belinda Falzon-Pout Emma Clements	1st Apr	Danielle Wadden Jade Grech
4th Mar	Antoinetta Preston Simone Fawcus	8th Apr	Simone Fawcus Fran McKay

Thank you for volunteering to help in the canteen, it would be impossible without you!

Please arrive at the canteen at 10.00am, your assistance will be required until around 2.30pm. If you have long hair please tie it up and remember to sign in at the office with your WWC before coming to the canteen. We will now be working under COVID restrictions which means, you must be double vaccinated, wear a mask and social distancing. If you are unable to attend on your rostered day please ring Sally on 0400384403 as soon as possible so a replacement can be arranged.

I look forward to seeing you all.

**Sally Hewitt-Tacey**

# OLMC RECYCLING CENTRE



PENS, TEXTAS AND WHITE OUT PRODUCTS, USED BATTERIES, PLASTIC BREAD TAGS 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.**

