Our Lady of Lourdes

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OUR VISION

A welcoming community of Many Minds and One Heart in Christ

OUR MISSION

With Christ as its inspiration & guided by Gospel values, the school strives to promote the education & development of the whole child. Our Mission is to provide a high quality education that will inspire an ongoing love of God and embrace our core values:

INTEGRITY  RESPECT  JUSTICE  COMPASSION  COURAGE

Newsletter No 39  Week 9 Term 4  10th December 2015

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 11th December
Last Day of School for students
Reports issued

Monday 1st February 2016
First day of Term 1 for students

Integrity

What is Integrity?

Integrity is standing up for what you believe is right, living by your highest values. It is being honest and sincere with others and yourself. You are integrous when your words and actions match. You don’t fool yourself into doing what you know is wrong. You fill your life and your mind with things that help you to live a good, clean life.

How do you practice Integrity?

You practice integrity by thinking about the virtues that matter to you and doing your best to live by them. When you make a mistake, you clean it up. You don’t follow the crowd. You think for yourself. You don’t say one thing and do another. You do the right thing even when no one is watching. Even when it is hard to do the right thing, you stand strong.

God of wisdom,
We thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year.
We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.
As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.
We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace.
We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.

Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers/Revised Edition. USCCB

Dear Parents,

I was thrilled with the wonderful community spirit that was evident last night at our Graduation Mass and Awards night as we thanked God for the many blessings our school has received, and offered our prayers and thanks for our graduating students.

These evenings are a demonstration of what we strive for in our community. The behaviour, response and involvement of the students was exceptional. Congratulations to all award winners, and to those who were elected to leadership positions. I would like to thank everyone who contributed in some way to the running of the evening, especially Fr Joseph for celebrating the Mass, Miss Natalie Dillon for the preparation of the Mass and Mrs Leanne Depiazzi for the organisation of the Awards Ceremony.

Special thanks must also go to our graduating students for their leadership on the evening and throughout the year. In acknowledging the Graduates last night and wishing them well for the future, one student who spent most of his
Primary years at OLOL was not acknowledged. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ben Taylor for his leadership in the Sustainability Portfolio this year and wish him the best of luck as he moves into High School next year.

Nativity Assembly
Congratulations and thanks to our wonderful Year One class for such a beautiful nativity play this morning. Retelling, through song, the story of the Birth of Jesus was a most suitable way to complete our assemblies for the year. Thanks must go to Miss Dillon and Ms Maslin for preparing the play and supporting the students. It was wonderful to see so many parents and community members present to support the children.

P&F Reminder
Thanks again to those who have returned the Events Planner so that the P&F can begin preparations for next year. If you haven’t done so, can you please fill in and return your Planner before the end of term. If you have misplaced your planner, please see the front office.

Professional Development Days for 2016
Last week I listed the term dates for next year to assist families with holiday plans. Please note that the following dates are set as Staff Professional Development Days – there will be no classes for students on the following dates in 2016:
- Tuesday, 26th April (After ANZAC Day)
- Friday 3rd June (before WA Day Public Holiday on the Monday)
- Friday, 1st July (End Term 2)
- Monday, 18th July (Start Term 3)
- Friday, 23rd September (End Term 3)
- Monday, 10th October (Start Term 4)

Thanks to all staff for the guidance, support and encouragement they provide for all students at all grade levels. This excellent achievement is a result of much work and communication by the students, staff and parents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to our school this year.

I would like to wish everyone a holy, safe and joyful Christmas and a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

God’s blessing to you all

Luke Godwin

Acting Principal

Some photos from this morning’s assembly! Well done to the Year One class.
Third Sunday in Advent

Luke 3:10-18
John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

The theme of the season of Advent is sometimes described as a period of waiting for the birth of Jesus. However, today’s Gospel reading suggests something different. John the Baptist did not tell the crowds to wait for the Messiah. He told them to prepare for the Messiah through acts of repentance. If Advent is a time of waiting, it is not the sitting in the doctor’s office kind of waiting. It is a busy time of preparation, more like the waiting we might do when preparing for dinner guests. Our challenge is to not make this season a frenzied time, but rather a time of joyful anticipation and making ready for God who comes to dwell among us and changes our lives with the gift of salvation.

As you gather as a family, talk about the preparations your family is making during the season of Advent. Reflect together on these activities, not only on what you are doing but why you are choosing to do these things. Consider how Advent is a time for making ourselves ready to receive Jesus in our lives. Could your family make some changes in your Advent activities so that each person is well prepared to celebrate the gift of salvation at Christmas?

The Nativity

Christmas has come to be associated as a season of peace. This association and our familiarity with the Christmas story sometimes make us forget about the difficult circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. Recall that the manger you see in the nativity set is not in a house, but a stable. The animals you see might have been noisy and may even have smelled unpleasant. Joseph and Mary were far from home in a city that was crowded and under the occupation of foreigners. The shepherds may have been unclean from their time in the fields. Invite each family member to say one thing about the Christmas story that makes an impression upon them.

What a busy week! We reflected today on the true meaning of Christmas with the Nativity play. Thanks to the year 1’s for helping us remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Farewell to Father Joseph as he moves to Lake Grace. We wish him all the best at his new parish.

Have a happy, holy and safe Christmas.

Miss Natalie Dillon

APRE
What an amazing graduation ceremony last night. Congratulations to ALL award winners!
School Canteen Volunteers 2016

If you would like to help within our canteen next year please call Clare Clements (2016 leader) on 0435 930 018.

Altar Servers this Week

Saturday 12th December
E Barbetti & A Gelmi
Dardanup

Sunday 13th December
A Godwin & H King
Boyanup

UNIFORM OPEN DAY 2016

The uniform shop will be open on Wednesday 27th January.

To avoid long wait times we ask that families come in at the following times:

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<tr>
<th>Surnames</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A – B</td>
<td>9.30 – 10.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>C – G</td>
<td>10.15 – 11.00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>H – M</td>
<td>11.00 – 11.45 am</td>
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<td>N – Z</td>
<td>11.45 – 12.30 pm</td>
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Please Note:

- Pre ordered uniforms can be collected at anytime between 9.30am and 12.30pm.
- All orders placed on this day will be as per the new 2016 price list.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

A few book club orders arrived without names on them. If you are yet to receive your order could you please see the office. Thank you

SCHOOL FEES

School fees are now overdue. As the end of the school year is drawing near we would appreciate all accounts to be finalised. If you are having trouble with payment, please contact the office.

Congratulations and thank you to the Students who were Altar Servers in 2015