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

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 8th Feb - Year 4 Class Meeting 3.15pm
- Year 3 Class Meeting 3.30pm
Tuesday 9th Feb - PP Class Meeting 3.30pm
- Year 2 Class Meeting 3.15pm
Wednesday 10th Feb - Ash Wednesday Liturgy 11.00am
- Year 5 Class Meeting 3.15pm
Thursday 11th Feb - OLOL Feast Day Mass (Yr2-6) 9.00am
Friday 12th Feb - Year 6 Leadership Retreat
Monday 15th Feb - Year 6 Class Meeting 3.15pm
Tuesday 16th Feb - P&F Meeting 7.30pm
Thursday 18th Feb - MUR Assembly
Tuesday 23rd Feb - Board Meeting
Thursday 25th Feb - Year 5/6 Mass 9.30am
Thursday 3rd March - Year 2/3/4 Liturgy 9.30am
Monday 7th March - Labour Day Holiday - NO SCHOOL
Friday 8th April - Last day of term for students

Newsletter No 1       Week 1 Term 1       4th February 2016

Beginning a New Year

A new year begins with all its hopes and dreams
Its fears and trepidations
Life’s never what it seems!

I approach a little unsure, but confident
In the plans and preparations already done;
Ready for the challenge of the days ahead
For the mundane, the surprises, the inevitable unknown!

Something in me looks forward with joy
With excitement for new things to come.
Something in me is tentative, anxious
Knowing it all won’t be fun.

But I do know there’s growth and opportunity
Awaiting me each new day.
I know that the God of my hoping and believing
Walks with me all of the way.

So I welcome this New Year with confidence
With faith in my God and my friend.
And I pray this year will be special
From this day unto year’s end.

And if through weakness we should go astray
Bring us back and heal us – don’t let us turn away.
We ask this of you God our creator
And maker of all that is good.
Amen.

We Value:

Courage

When facing difficult choices, choosing good actions, despite the possible consequences or the opinions of others

We show this by:
- Asking for help
- Doing what is right even if it is difficult
- Going ahead even when you feel like giving up
- Saying sorry and owning up to your mistakes
- Trying new things
Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome back to the start of the 2016 school year and a warm welcome to new families joining Our Lady of Lourdes School community. Hopefully, you all enjoyed a relaxing break with your families. This year we welcome new students Finn and Lachlan in Year 1; Drew, Yulana and Louella in Year 3; Shelby in Year 4 and Noah in Year 5. It was lovely to see the excitement on the faces of the students as they came to school on their first day of the new school year. A special welcome to our new Kindergarten class.

Our Lady of Lourdes is a wonderful school and community. This is due to positive relationships between families and staff working together to support students. I encourage all families, as the first educators of their children, to continue to work in collaboration with teachers to ensure the best outcomes for our students.

Congratulations to Mrs Abbey Thompson who is expecting her fourth child in July. Congratulations, also, to Mrs Haylea Harris who is expecting her new arrival in April. Exciting times ahead for both families!

Congratulations to the Hutton family on the arrival of their new daughter and sister, Eliza. She is beautiful! Another beautiful addition to our Kindy 2020 class is Adeline Ellis. Congratulations to her parents and big brother and sister as well.

Please take the time to look at the school calendar, accompanying this newsletter. The Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day Mass on Thursday 11 February at 9.00am is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our faith together at the commencement of the school year. Please keep an eye out for information in the school newsletters and make note of important dates as opportunities for further developing the Our Lady of Lourdes community spirit. The P&F Welcome Sundowner will be held on Friday 26 February. More details will be available soon.

School Values
Over the course of this term, we will revise and focus on our school values, in order to raise awareness, learn about what is important to us as a school, and have a common understanding, language and goals. Each newsletter will feature an elaborated definition that was compiled by the school community last year.

Newsletters
As a trial, our newsletters will be published fortnightly. As in previous years, there are three options to receive your newsletter, as outlined on the family update form. Please indicate your preference on this form.

School Times
8.45am Start of school day
10.30-10.50am Morning recess
12.30-1.10pm Lunch
3.00pm End of school day for Kindy
3.05pm End of school day for Pre-primary to Year 6
Staff duty of care for students begins at 8.30am. We request that children do not arrive until 8.30am, unless in exceptional circumstances and with prior arrangement with the Principal. Early arrivals will need to be seated on the benches outside the Assistant Principals’ office until 8.30am.
Car Park Safety
Please refrain from parking on the brick paved island at the entry to the car park, or on the roadside immediately beside the exits. This cuts down visibility for those turning out of the car park. Students should not enter the car park without a parent with them. Please be aware of our in-car pick up routine, should you choose to use this service. Remember to return your in-car note, sent home on Tuesday.

Classroom Policy information and Parent Teacher Interviews (Pre-Primary to Year 6)
Next week, at class meetings, parents will receive information from their child’s teacher outlining their teaching philosophy, classroom policies, routines and expectations. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in Weeks 8 to 10.

Sacramental Dates
First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 29 May.
Confirmation will be celebrated by the Bishop on the weekend of 20/21 August.

A special welcome to Fr Wayne, our new Parish Priest.

Medication
A reminder to parents that if your child requires medication to be administered during school hours please provide written detailed instructions as to when the medication is to be taken. All medication will be stored in the school office or fridge, as required. With children who regularly carry asthma puffers, these need to be kept in their own school bags.

Annual Updates
Please complete family and student annual update forms and return them to the office. It is of great importance that your address, phone and emergency contacts are accurate and remain up to date. Please remember to inform the office if your details change throughout the year.

Permission to use images of students
From time to time photos of students are used in school newsletters, website and community publications such as the Grapevine and local media. If you do not consent for your child/children’s images to be used, please notify the office in writing.

Health Care Card Holders
Parents with Health Care Cards are reminded that they need to come to the office in order to upgrade their details on our system. Discounts are available on school fees for Health Care Card holders. We need to take a photocopy of your card for our records.

Student Attendance Monitoring Process
Each morning at 9:15am the attendance register will be checked by classroom teachers, and recorded through Seqta. If your child is absent and we have not received either a phone message or written notification as to the reason for the absence we are required to contact a parent or guardian. This contact will be by text message or phone call. A reminder to parents, that we must always receive a written note for every absence on the child’s return to school. If your child is late to school, parents must come to the office and complete a late arrival form, and the parent must deliver their child, along with the note, to the classroom teacher. If you need to collect your child before the end of the school day, please sign them out at the office.

Uniforms
The students wear their school uniforms with pride and this helps to instil a sense of belonging. The students look very smart in their uniforms. Thank you to parents for making an effort to support the school uniform policy.
Just a reminder that long sleeved sports jackets are only to be worn with the sports uniform. The woollen jumper is worn with the formal uniform.

Thank you to all the teachers and staff for the hours of preparation that went into making the school year begin so smoothly. Thank you to staff, parents and students for the warm welcome that I have received as I joined your vibrant community. It is a pleasure to be here working alongside you all.

Have a wonderful week!
May God bless you

Mrs Angela Hegney
Welcome back to the new school year!

A huge warm welcome to Father Wayne Bendotti, who has replaced Father Joseph. We look forward to sharing many liturgies and experiences on our faith journey.

Thank you to each and every one of you, who took the time before school began to show the “Spirit of Jesus” in our community, by donating and helping to box up all the wonderful stationery and items we collected for the school children of Yarloop. An overwhelming response and the reason I am so proud to be a part of this community. Thank you.

Miss. Natalie Dillon
Assistant Principal

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Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 10th Feb- Ash Wednesday, Liturgy(PP-6), School Hall 11am

Thursday 11th Feb- Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day Mass (Yrs 2-6), 9am, Church

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Religious Education News

Gospel Reading

February 10, 2016

Matthew 6:1-6,16-18

Jesus teaches that almsgiving, prayer, and fasting should be done in secret.

The season of Lent presents families with an opportunity to examine our family life and to re-commit ourselves to the Christian practices of almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. Each of us is invited to do these things as individuals, but we can also do one or more actions as a family. Ash Wednesday is a good time for families to pray together and to plan the family's Lenten practices.

Remind yourselves that Jesus expected that his disciples would give alms, pray, and fast and that he gave instructions that when we do those things, they should not be done for show. Determine one way that your family will give alms during Lent to share what you have with people in need. Decide upon one way that your family will pray together during Lent and choose one thing that your family will give up during Lent as a reminder of your love for God. Agree to encourage one another in whatever Lenten promises each has made individually. Pray together that God will bless your family's Lenten promises by praying together.

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Fasting:

Fasting is about more than avoiding certain indulgent foods, like chocolate or ice-cream.

Eating is just one of many activities in which we are prone to over-indulge. Try these ideas to increase the impact of your fasting:

- Take half serves- for one day, let hunger really bite; pray for those for whom hunger is constant
- Give up gossip- let the bad news stop at you
- Quit blaming others- practise acceptance and responsibility

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Bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake this week. We ask you to strengthen us all to share the wonderful gifts you have given to us.
**Kindy**

We had an exciting start to Kindy, but were all very tired at the end of the day. There are lots of new friends to meet and routines to learn. We look forward to getting involved in creating amazing works of art and exploring our environment together.

**Pre Primary**

What a fantastic start we have had to our year in Pre-Primary! We have all settled in so well and have amazed our teachers with how well we just go with the flow. We have enjoyed our first Computing lesson and are looking forward to visiting the library this week. In T&E we made boats with Miss Dillon. Come and check out the photos of our efforts! We have already begun learning our sounds and we have read and discussed lots of books as well. Ask us which one is our favourite! We will certainly be tired by the end of the week and will be ready for a well-earned rest over the weekend.

**Year 1**

We have had a busy and interesting start to Year 1 with many emotions felt on the first day, from both students and their parents. The students have been adjusting well to the different rules and routines in the Year 1 classroom and are enjoying sitting in their own desks and using their own stationery. We have started our Schoolyard Safari unit for Science and really enjoyed exploring the school grounds looking for different critters. In Mathematics we have started an investigation on birthdays and will be using this data to construct tallies and bar graphs. In Literacy, we have been practicing our sight words and have started our first unit in our Soundwaves book. We have started reading the story of ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory’ and are enjoying comparing similarities between the book and the movie. We are looking forward to a wonderful term in Year 1.

**Year 2 News**

We have already been working hard in Year 2, with lots of writing and maths. We will be taking a journey 'Around the World' this semester, and learning all about different countries. We welcome Miss Michelle to our class, who will be helping us with our reading and writing.

**Year 3 News**

The Year 3’s have started the year off with a bang! You should see the stunning display of Australia Day fireworks decorating our room, and our cute surfer dudes. We welcomed three new classmates on Monday and to help everyone make new friends we wrote "Friend Wanted" advertisements. We can't wait to dive into the wonderful world of Roald Dahl and of course to start playing our new recorders!!

**Year 4 News**

The first week in Year Four has been fabulous! There were a few nervous students but nerves dissipated fairly quickly. We have welcomed Shelby into our class and we hope she loves our school as much as we do. Everyone has been working really hard and we have all settled into Year Four beautifully. We are travelling around the world this semester, and will be studying many different countries during our travels! We are using Class Dojo this year, and we have accumulated lots of positive dojos because we are working so well in all areas. We are aiming for 400 points as class this week! Lots of smiles this week which has been fantastic to see.

**Year 5 News**

In year 5 we are excited about integrating technology into our learning. In Maths we are using the "Mathletics" program to reinforce our learning on focus topics. We have also started using the "Reading Eggspress" program which will assist us in our reading comprehension, as well as spelling and grammar skills. Students are busily earning points on our "Class Dojo" program. This program helps to motivate students in the classroom as they are rewarded for following class rules and for completing work to a high standard. All the students in Year 5 have returned with great enthusiasm and I’m really looking forward to working with them to help them reach their potential.

**Year 6 News**

It has only been four days in Year 6 and we have already learnt so much. Mrs Leach has so many more tricks to show us, we can’t wait to learn.
The School Canteen will commence operation in Week 3 - Friday 19th February.
If you can help in the running of the canteen please return the form to the office that was sent out earlier this week. Thank you

**Uniform Update**

There is a delay with our supplier for SPORTS SHORTS, in sizes 8 & 10.
We are aware that payment has been made for these garments. Once they arrive they will be distributed immediately to all families waiting on orders.
We anticipate they will arrive in March, but will update you if this changes.

Book club pamphlets will be sent home today. If any orders could please be returned by NEXT Thursday, the 11th February.
Thank you

**First Day of School—Monday 1st February 2016**

Here are some photos of our first day...
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
AN EVENING WITH

Martin Mazinga

Martin Mazinga is the National Programs Coordinator of the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Caritas Australia’s local partner.

Martin began working with CADECOM in 2012. He brings a wealth of experience in project management, community engagement, capacity building and research from his roles at the Women’s Legal Resources Centre, the University of Malawi, and the Catholic University of Malawi.

Martin and his team at CADECOM ensure that Caritas Australia’s programs create meaningful and sustainable development opportunities for the most marginalised communities. With a focus on food and water security, Martin’s work tackles inequality at its roots, empowering people to develop livelihoods, earn an income, to learn new skills and access education.

Martin is passionate about working at the grassroots. To him, Malawi has some of the richest communities in the world. Through Caritas Australia’s partnership with CADECOM, Martin works with communities to harness their unique strengths, skills and natural resources and to realise their vision of a just and equal world.

Martin will be the guest speaker at
St Patrick’s Cathedral Parish Hall, Bunbury
on Sunday February 21st.
Mass will be held at 6pm followed by a shared supper in the hall at 7pm
(Please bring a plate to share)
After supper, Martin will give a short talk
followed by the opportunity for questions and discussion.