



St Oliver Plunkett
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

CANNON HILL



newsletter

Term 4 Week 9

strong FAITH • *dynamic* LEARNING • *welcoming* COMMUNITY

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St Oliver Plunkett Primary School
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DATE CLAIMERS

**End of Year School
Community Mass**
Friday 1 December

Last Day Term 4
Friday 1 December – 12 noon

First Day Term 1 2018
Tuesday 23 January

2018 School Dates

Term 1: Tuesday 23 January
– Thursday 29 March

Term 2: Tuesday 17 April –
Friday 29 June

Term 3: Monday 16 July –
Friday 21 September

Term 4: Monday 8 October –
Friday 7 December

From the Principal

Hi all, a warm welcome to our final newsletter for the 2017 school year.

As we run through all the end of year activities - Year 6 Thanksgiving and Farewell, end of year celebrations of learnings, excursions, the exchange of Christmas cards and gifts and the all-important clean up - can I thank and acknowledge every one of you and the contributions you have made to our school community this year. 2017 has been another amazing, exciting and engaging one for the school community; one in which we can all feel blessed to have played our part in the development of each and every child in the school.

At this time of year, we always sadly say goodbye to a number of students, family and indeed staff. We will do this formally at Friday's end of year mass. We wish all students and families who are moving on all the very best for the next stage in their educational journey. We will also say goodbye to a number of staff members at the end of year. We will thank and farewell *Gerard Hogan, Peter Gibson, Trent Thompson and Jane Weule*. We thank each of these staff members for everything they have given to our community in their time here and wish each of them all the very best for 2018 and beyond. We also wish *Anne Bovey*, a private speech pathologist who has worked within our community, all the very best as she transitions into retirement.

As we turn an eye towards 2018, it gives me great pleasure to share with you the 2018 Class Teachers. They are as follows:

Prep: Danielle Baker, Terrienne Bottesini, Kathryn Buckley, Katrina Kokoris
Year 1: Maree Ryan, Amy Warrilow, Kaitlyn Peddie, Linda Porter
Year 2: Dianne Simmons, Lisa Reid, Jeanette McCoustra, Nicky Edwards
Year 3: Sam Young, Kylie Tippins, Rebecca Boysen (new)
Year 4: Maureen Neal-Young, Mike Maguire, Helen Exley
Year 5: Lisa Bates, Tom Kirby (new)
Year 6: Dianne Penman, Mike Burnett

Class lists are now finalised and each family will have received an email sharing their child's class teacher. Today all children will spend the morning session with their 2018 class and teacher as part of transition. 2017 Semester Two reports are now available through the Parent Portal. If you have any difficulties accessing reports, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the lovely ladies in the office.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will have a bit of action at school over the holidays. The Pool Oval will receive a revamp with the returfing of the area. This is scheduled to start today, but with the rain it may be delayed. But the hope is that we can give the new grass a good couple of months for it to take

hold before the start of the 2018 school year. In addition, our Year 2 classrooms will receive a major facelift over the break, with new carpet, lighting, fans, painting, cabinetry and furniture work being completed over the break - this will take to four year levels that have been refurbished in the past few years.

It also gives me great pleasure to share with you that our BGA application for the construction of 4 new early years classrooms has been successful. BGA stands for Block Grant Authority, which is a State government funding program for the construction of new facilities in schools. Now that approval has been received, we can move to the planning phase and hope that the project is sent out for tender in April/May and construction begins in Term 3. We would then hope that our new classrooms are ready to move in to at the beginning of the 2019 school year.

Can I finish by again thanking all of you for your contributions to the school this year. I acknowledge the dedication and commitment of our amazing St Ollie's staff who continue to go 'above and beyond' for your kids each and every day. I wish everyone a happy, safe and holy Christmas and whatever, and wherever, you go over the break, enjoy this special family time together. Keep an eye out if you're on the road this Christmas as the Blinkhoff's are embracing their inner Griswald's in attempting a 6 week camping road trip through southern Australia... Port Macquarie, Bateman's Bay, Canberra, Mt Kosciuszko, the Great Ocean Road, Mt Gambier, Dubbo Zoo and Tamworth are all on our radar... Will see how we go :-)

All the best for the break :-)

Paul Blinkhoff

Principal

The Greatest School in the World!

From the APRE

St Ollie's Christmas Concert

Last Wednesday 22nd November we celebrated our annual Christmas Concert in our school quadrangle. It was a wonderful occasion and all year levels sang beautifully! The night started with a family BBQ at 5.00pm followed by the Christmas Concert at 6.30pm. It was wonderful to see so many of you join with us for this special celebration! On the night, we had a special guest, John Burland who beautifully led the children in singing. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful teachers who prepared all the children to sing as well as they did! The children did a magnificent job! Thank you also to our narrators Emily and Brylie who spoke so well throughout the concert. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Chris Hobson (father to Bridgette – 1B) and Brendan McAndrew (father to Nina – 5B) who kindly offered to pick up and return the choir stands generously lent to our school by St Laurence's College.





Prep and Year One Excursion

Last Friday 24th November all the children in Prep and Year One were treated to a special excursion to the movie theatre to see 'The Star'. 'The Star' is about a small but brave donkey named Bo who yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free, and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a lovable sheep who has lost her flock and Dave, a dove with lofty aspirations. Along with three wisecracking camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his new friends follow the Star and become accidental heroes in the greatest story ever told - the first Christmas. All the children had a wonderful time!



Year 6 Thanksgiving (Completion of Primary School)

As we go through life, we come to major 'milestones' – significant events and moments that may be marked by a party, a ceremony, or, for Christians, a particular service in the Church. These are known as 'rites of passage'. The graduation ceremony is a solemn event that marks this most important rite of passage of our students' young lives.

On Tuesday 28th November, we gathered together for a special occasion where we acknowledged and thanked our current Year 6 student leaders for their time at St Ollie's before they move on and continue their journey into high school next year. This ceremony took place in St Oliver Plunkett Church. We thank Marianna Moes who led the children in singing throughout the Liturgy.

We take this opportunity to thank all our Year 6 parents for supporting their son or daughter throughout what has been challenging and rewarding years. We especially thank a very dedicated group of Year 6 students under the leadership of Mrs Nicky Edwards and Mrs Lisa Bates throughout this year. We wish every blessing upon these students as they journey into their next chapter of their schooling years.



Year 1B and 1C Assembly

Unfortunately our whole school assembly was cancelled yesterday afternoon due to the wet weather. The children in Year 1B and 1C had worked very hard in preparation for leading prayer so they invited the Year One parents of 1B and 1C to come and watch their special prayer. As part of their prayer, Year 1B and 1C focused on how Christmas is a special time where we celebrate Jesus' birth. They did a brilliant job of highlighting the extraordinary gifts of Christmas including love, peace, life, friendship, forgiveness, kindness and family.

The children then sang the beautiful song 'A Gift to You'. Well done to Miss Warrilow, Miss Peddie and all the children in Year 1B and 1C for leading prayer so beautifully this afternoon.

Thank you

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of two wonderful men in our school community. John Lacheca and Michael Muller (grandfather to Ava Flopp in Year 2C) generously give of their time every Tuesday to cook sausages on the BBQ for the students to have at lunch at St Ollie's! On behalf of all the students, staff and parents we thank John and Michael for the wonderful job they have done!

We would also like to thank Michelle Hall (mum of Lucinda and Sophia) for generously volunteering her time and her hard work in the Second Hand Uniform Shop.

End of Year Community Mass

At 9.00am on Friday 1st December we will join with the Parish as a whole school community to celebrate Mass as our final School gathering for 2017. We invite you to join with us for this special celebration. Friday 1st December is the last day of the school year for 2017.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

We have been overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity in the gifts we have received so far for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal this year. Many of gifts were placed underneath the Christmas tree at the School Christmas concert on Wed 22nd Nov. The gifts and food items will go to families and children in need. The Christmas hampers will be presented to a representative from SVDP at our end of year school mass on Friday, 1st December.

We thank you for joining with us to support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal this year.

The Season of Advent

Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, before Christmas. The season of Advent, the time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas and the start of the liturgical year in the Roman Catholic Church, begins on a different date each year.

Advent begins this Sunday, 3rd December 2017.

Advent is a countdown. We see shopping centres, television advertisements and supermarkets reminding us how many shopping days until Christmas. Children count down until the great day of 'presents' dawn. We as Christians prepare for Christmas by counting down the weeks until we celebrate the birth of Christ with advent candles.

In this season of Advent, let us be reminded of the sense of waiting that the season brings. Advent is such a beautiful season. It is a time for renewal; it is especially a time for forgiveness because God brings forgiveness to us in the shape of his Son. Over the next few weeks we will travel once again the road that leads to Bethlehem. We will follow the cautious young couple along their arduous journey and remember their disappointment over being kept out of the inn. We will once more enter the stable, smell the odours and watch the manger being prepared. And along with the people in the village, the shepherds of the field, the angels, and the magi, we will focus our eyes of adoration upon the child in the crib and the star in the sky.

During this season of Advent we are meant to be startled, to be awakened to almost infinite possibilities, and claim our souls for the work of recreation, restoration and deep transformation.

Advent Prayer while lighting Advent Candle

God of Hope,

As light comes to us from this Advent candle, May the blessing of your Son, Jesus, be with us; warming our hearts and brightening our way. During this Advent Season this candle is a beacon of hope as we prepare for the coming light of Christ, who brings forgiveness and healing to our world,



Amen.

May you have a peaceful holiday full of JOYFULNESS!

All my blessings,

Sally Hyde

From the APA

As our year draws to a close, we have the opportunity to reflect on our amazing journey throughout 2017. Our students have not only grown a little taller, but have also become a whole lot wiser! All of our students have demonstrated amazing progress in their learning, with staff being incredibly proud of their achievements throughout the year. We hope this holiday provides all of our families with an opportunity to celebrate your children's growth, and prepare them for another fantastic year in 2018.

Thanking you all for your support and enthusiasm throughout the year. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, and a wonderful holiday!

Kate MacArthur

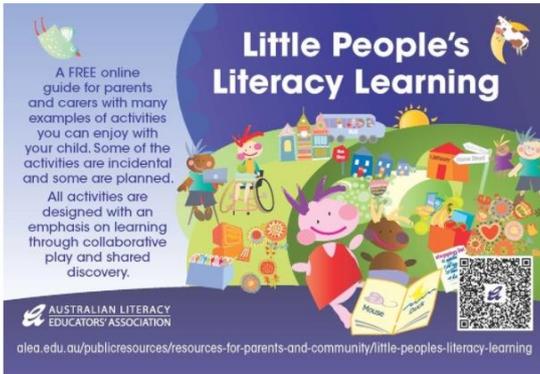
From the PLL

Dear families,

What a year it has been! I cannot quite believe how quickly the year has gone and am very happy to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year in the St Oliver Plunkett School community.

Our students have made remarkable progress this year and we are so proud of their efforts and achievements. We would like to thank you for your support with the many hours of reading with, by and to your children, practising sight words and helping with homework! Education is a partnership and when the school and home work closely together, students are more likely to be successful. We are looking forward to working with you again in 2018, which I am sure will be another remarkable year.

As we look forward to welcoming 100 new Prep students to our beautiful school, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you a *brilliant resource for parents* in regards to little people and literacy learning. It has 18 modules, which cover everything from similarities and differences, speaking, listening, reading, writing, spelling, memory and the list goes on! It is a very practical guide to giving your child the best head start. I strongly encourage you to take a look! <https://www.alea.edu.au/publicresources/resources-for-parents-and-community/little-peoples-literacy-learning>



Little People's Literacy Learning Modules

- Module 1: Learning the names of body parts
- Module 2: Exploring Fine Motor Development
- Module 3: Similarities and Differences
- Module 4: Orientation
- Module 5: Relationships between Objects
- Module 6: Speaking
- Module 7: Reading and Learning
- Module 8: Writing
- Module 9: Spelling
- Module 10: Organisation
- Module 11: Gross Motor Development
- Module 12: Listening
- Module 13: Reading
- Module 14: Learning about Books
- Module 15: Visual Discrimination
- Module 16: Developing Memory
- Module 17: Word Recognition
- Module 18: Rhythm

Over the holidays, be sure to rest up, recover and READ! Unfortunately, “children who fail to read over long holiday breaks from school will often see their reading ability decline.” (<http://theconversation.com/how-to-keep-kids-reading-over-the-christmas-break-50395>). For more information in regards to top tips for reading over the holidays, please click on this link: [Reading in the Holidays-OxfordOWL](#)

Lastly, I would like to wish you and your families every blessing this Christmas. May you find peace and joy this festive season and into the new year.

Which book will you read tonight?

Angie

Lost Property

If your children are missing any clothing or other items can you please ensure they check lost property. Any unclaimed items at the end of term will either be taken to the Second Hand Uniform, St Vinnie's or disposed of.

Basketball Training

Thank you to all my basketball players who committed to early morning training to start our St Ollie's basketball team this year. A big thank you to super coach to Paul Johnston for taking the junior team. Have a well earned break and we will continue in 2018. Training times and age groups will be given early 2018.



P & F News

2017 IN REVIEW - The P&F would like to thank all parents and friends of the school for their support throughout 2017. Through our fundraising activities (discos, trivia night, and your help, we have raised more than \$40,000 this year, including more than \$34,000 through the fete (quite an achievement given what a wet day it was!). All money raised directly benefits our school and our students, assisting with classroom resources, IT equipment, general student activities plus much more.

We wish our families and the staff of St Ollies a happy and holy Christmas and New Year. Have a wonderful holiday break and see you in 2018!

2018 FETE ART CALENDARS - Calendars will be distributed via nominated student from today.

School business directory launching early 2018 - If you own/manage/work in a local business and would like to be part of a St Ollie's Business Directory, we'd love to hear from you! If you would like to participate contact Melanie Clout (melanie_clout@travel-associates.com.au) so we can start a St Ollie's Business Directory, where other families can look first to support our own community.

Save the date - 2018

4 February 3pm - Welcome BBQ (for new and existing St Ollie's families)

6 February 7pm - P&F Ordinary Meeting.

Like us on Facebook! "Like" us and stay in touch with our news and upcoming events - <https://www.facebook.com/StOlliesPandF/>

The P&F can be contacted at stolliespandf@gmail.com for any enquiries during the school year.

Community News

RAFA IS BACK
#BRISBANETENNIS

brisbane international
PRESENTED BY SUNCORP

OUR BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL TENNIS CLINIC IS BACK!!

An action packed day which is sure to be a highlight for the school holidays!
Enjoy some on court fun at Emerson Tennis Centre in the morning and then travel by train from Milton Station to the Queensland Tennis Centre to watch the stars of the Brisbane International. Fully supervised and run by our experienced coaching team.
Join us for the best of tennis these school holidays!

LIMITED SPACES – BOOK NOW
Great idea for a Christmas present

3 Days of Action
9am – 3pm

Sunday 31st Dec
\$65 / day

Monday 1st
\$85 / day

Tuesday 2nd
\$85 / day

All 3 DAYS
\$200

Enrol online now at morningsidetennis.com.au or call our friendly staff on **3899 8110**

tennis gear

Holiday Clinic

Dates: 4th - 22nd December
8th - 19th January

Venue: Morningside Tennis Centre

Join our high performance coaching team for a mix of fun, technical, and physical activities that cater to all players aged 4 to 17 years. For more information and to enrol online please visit our website or call us on 3899 8110.

* \$55/half day, \$40/half day if booked before November 12th November.
* Does not include one off \$18 membership fee necessary for non members

\$65.00
full day*

\$50.00
half day*

Fun Day Friday

Come along on any clinic Friday for your chance to compete in some fun games, tournaments and be in to win our clinic winner trophies!

Full day clinic: 9am – 3pm - \$65/day

Monday 4th Dec – Friday 22nd December
Monday 8th - Friday 19th January
15 days of action packed tennis fun. Choose between 1 or 15 days. Book 5+ days across the clinic and receive \$10/day discount per day.

****NEW PROGRAM****

Half Day Clinic: 8am – 12pm - \$50/day

Monday 11th – Friday 22nd December
Monday 8th - Friday 19th January
10 half days of tennis. Stay out of the Midday heat and give tennis a go these school holidays. Great for 1st timers and our younger tennis stars.

****Got a big family? Call now for our family discounts****

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OR CALL US ON 3899 8110

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Morningside Development Association
and the local community are proud to host

find us on
Facebook



Carols in the Park

BBQ
from 5.30pm

Carols
from 6.00pm

Santa visits
6.30pm

Concludes
8.30pm

Saturday 9th December 2017

Joyce White Park, Morningside
Cnr Thynne Rd and Rogoona St

Supported by Morningside Uniting Church and
The Rotary Club of Balmoral

Bring a chair or
blanket and your
best singing voice!

For more information please contact:
Morningside Ward Office Ph: 3407 8200 or www.morningside.org.au

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