



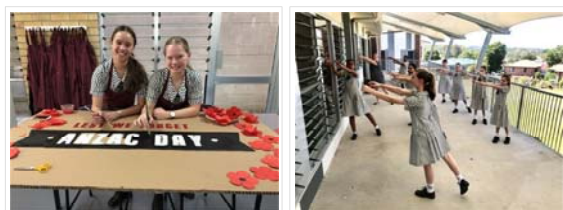
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24 April 2020

Principal's Message



Welcome to Term 2 in what is a very different learning environment for us all!

We particularly welcome two new teachers to our staff:

- Ms Mary Green who will be working closely with Year 9 and 10 students as Pastoral Leader.
- Ms Cherie Anderson who is our Academic Leader for HPE and Sport during Term 2.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, I am proud and pleased to see the generous sharing of knowledge, not just from schools to their communities, but also between schools. It is inspiring to see how something that could be forcing us apart is instead bringing the educational community and Our Lady's College together – albeit in different ways.

I would particularly like to thank the many parents who have taken the time to send positive emails of support. I have shared these with our staff and they are grateful for your acknowledgement of their efforts. There are many positive messages about what COVID-19 is teaching us, including the importance of family and home life. The time we have now is allowing us to strengthen our family units. Another thought is about how we can choose to share, give and help others or hoard and just look after ourselves. We can choose the way that we engage and respond to any given situation.

Gratitude and positivity are all around us.

We have had some students working from school and this week Mrs Ellis, Assistant Principal for Student Wellbeing,

reached out to the girls working from home to get insight into the remote learning environment. We have had 175 responses.

Girls were asked things like:

1. What are you enjoying about working from home?
The most frequent response was 'getting to eat whenever I want', sleeping in because not travelling so early, and staying with a subject at their own pace for longer if it was needed.
2. What are you finding most challenging about working from home?
Girls indicated that they missed the social interaction and keeping up with work schedules, not having the teachers right there motivating you, and distractions that impact on the ability to maintain focus.
3. What strategies have you put in place that we could share with other students to help them stay organised for online learning?
4. Students listed using the school timetable at home, making a daily to do list and taking regular breaks as effective strategies for learning at home.

There have been a number of initiatives shared with the students across the week via audio conversations in the TEAMs environment and the OLC Wellbeing Weekly created by Ms Anna Wallace, Guidance Counsellor, and Mrs Kay Holmes, Campus Minister. There are many great tips about staying positive. The School TV channel has also focused on the theme of gratitude. Please check in via the link below.

<https://ourladyscollege.qld.schooltv.me/>

Best wishes for the week ahead. I will continue to provide updates via email and students will receive advice about next week in the coming days (as per the teacher's advice in the email last week).

Stay safe and well,

Paula Goodwin
Principal

Teaching and Learning

Welcome to Term 2 and Alternative Education Provisions. You have no doubt heard that across Queensland, the beginning of Term 2 came with a few technical glitches. Our Lady's College was not immune to these. Whilst our aim was to have plans and programs from 30 teachers for over 120 programs offered across the school to students by morning tea, the systems we used struggled to deliver this efficiently. We thank the parents, carers, students and staff for their patience and understanding during this process.



Term overviews

By now, all students and their parent/carer should have received a document from every one of her subject teachers outlining the term's key learning intention, topics, modes of communication and assessment details for the subject.

We are not expecting parents or carers to provide resources or teach from this document, this is our job. However, we encourage parents and carers to use this as a conversation starter and check in with their daughter over the next five weeks.

Weekly work

Each week the students will receive details of the expected learning for the week. This will be sent either the Friday prior or the Monday morning via the communication method specified in the term outline for that subject. The weekly work may include (but is not limited to) reading activities, book work, online work, check-ins and quizzes. Each teacher has set up ways to monitor your daughter's engagement with the subject and we will let you know if we have reasons for concern.

Communication concerns

If the information above has not been received or if there are any ongoing issues with the receiving of communication, please contact the college via email so that we can ensure communication details are current, and information is readily available. Similarly, please let us know if you suspect your daughter is struggling with working under the Alternative Educations Provisions. Like Hogwarts, help is always available.

Term 2 parent/teacher/student interviews

It is tradition that Parent/Teacher/Student interviews be held early in Term 2; however, due to the current health crisis this will not be the case this year.

As communicated via email at the end of Term 1, and if conditions allow, we are postponing this event until 1st June. A separate note closer to this date will be sent detailing booking information.

Kate Brims
Acting Deputy Principal
Teaching and Learning

Community Matters

Welcome to a new term and a new way of learning for the first half of this Term 2.

We would like to remind students of the importance of organisation and being mindful of maintaining their own wellbeing during this time.

What is organisation?

Organisation involves the ability to establish what is it that you want to do, to know where to begin the task, to understand the sequence in which to carry it out (including pulling together the necessary materials), to problem-solve in the event of a challenge, and the ability to persist with the task to completion (and within an appropriate time frame).

Organisation skills include:

- Self-care skills (getting dressed, eating, relaxation and leisure time)
- Planning and sequencing skills (following routines and knowing how and what to do next)
- Academic task performance (e.g. completing homework, project planning)

Why is organisation important?

- Organisation is an important aspect in academic performance, language, social interaction, personal management.
- Organisation is typically a skill that needs to be specifically modelled, supported by sensible structures (such as diaries or visual charts, labelled folders) and reinforced by realistic routines (pack away one subject's materials/task before commencing another).
- Organisation is important to develop a structured and consistent approach to tasks at all times, but is even more important for those who struggle with planning and sequencing, language challenges, attention difficulties and learning difficulties.

If your child is having difficulties with organisation, you may notice:

- Your child is generally 'disorganised' (lacks awareness of time frames, the materials needed for a task).
- Struggles to get themselves ready for learning.
- Struggles with motivation.
- Has difficulty organising the content from emails
- Has difficulty putting multi-step tasks together (e.g. construction).
- Appears lazy and not completing work when in fact they may not know how to start the task.
- Gets distracted easily or shows poor attention to the task.
- Has difficulty getting thoughts down on paper.

- Has difficulty using language in an ordered and logical way to give instructions, tell a story, to re-count an event or express ideas and thoughts.

Remember, to encourage your child to spend some time relaxing and enjoying a leisure activity within their days so that a sense of balance will help them maintain a positive feeling of wellbeing.

Tina Ellis
Assistant Principal
Student Wellbeing

In the Tradition

While we missed the opportunity for communal celebrations this Easter, the message of Easter Sunday remains very relevant in our current situation. I have included a section of Archbishop Mark Coleridge's homily for Easter as a reflection.



We speak these days of a pandemic, and rightly so. The word "pandemic" (from the Greek) means something for "all the people". Well, COVID-19 is certainly a threat to "all the people", but Easter is a far greater promise to "all the people". COVID-19 may be the virus born from hell, but Easter is the vaccine born from heaven. It's the pandemic of God.

In raising Jesus from the dead, God shatters all our expectations and fears and brings to birth a hope and a joy which nothing and no-one can dispel. The power that raises Jesus from the dead, the great earthquake of God which changes everything, is called love, self-sacrificing love. It's the only power stronger than death, and nothing can keep it out or hold it back.

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/articles/easter-homily-2020/>

School Photos

PC and individual photos are being held over until Term 3 at this stage. There is no need to send in forms or money at this stage. Any money or orders processed will be held over. Further information will be sent out closer to the date.

Linda Brandenburg
Assistant Principal
Faith and Mission



Campus Minister

Easter

It was an unusual Easter this year in that church celebrations were conducted via Facebook or Zoom as we accessed celebrations from our homes. Hopefully the digital gathering of the Christian community at this sacred time can still be a source of reflection and connection. May our hearts be filled with the gift of hope that comes from the risen Jesus' triumph over the cross.

International Mother Earth Day

International Mother Earth Day was celebrated this week on 22 April, a day to recognise the responsibility we have to promote harmony with nature and the Earth to achieve a balance between economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations. The words of Pope Francis in Laudato Si reinforce this message:

"... our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us." (para 1) Let us take some action to express our commitment to promoting harmony and balance in our lives and with nature.

ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day will also look a little different this year. Instead of attending the dawn service or watching the march, the RSL invites us to gather in our driveways, in the loungeroom or on our balconies and united in spirit to remember those who have served and sacrificed for the lifestyle we enjoy today. Visit RSL Light-up-the-Dawn for details and to hear the service at 6am. I'd love to see some photos of OLC families participating in this event.



Wellbeing Weekly

The PC co-ordinators have sent each student the first edition of the OLC Wellbeing Weekly filled with activities and information to support the girls' spiritual and mental health. They will find prayer, mindfulness and meditation activities, opportunities to connect with the Our Lady's community and the wider world, and ways to get creative and physical. This week there is a suggestion to make candle holders from milk bottles for the Light-up-the-Dawn ANZAC Day commemoration. The girls who are at school took ten minutes out of their day on Wednesday to do the IN THE NOW activity, becoming mindfully aware of the bounty of nature even here at school!





Project Compassion

The conditions for our Project Compassion collection were less than ideal this year – early holidays and interruption by a certain virus. Nevertheless, the girls managed to raise over \$500 from the Shrove Tuesday pancake stall and through the classroom collection boxes. Thank you for your generosity. MacKillop House takes the honours for collecting the most – McKnolly points have gone your way. Congratulations!

All our contributions have been sent to Caritas who will especially appreciate the help as they support those even further disadvantaged by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Prayer's Please

With tomorrow's commemoration of ANZAC Day, let us remember in prayer those whose lives have been claimed in war, and pray for a culture of peace to permeate our hearts, and thus our world.

May the blessings of Easter be yours throughout the season.

Blessings,

Kay Holmes
Campus Minister

Guidance Counsellor

Welcome back to Term 2! We have made it through the first week of online learning. It is understandable if students have felt overwhelmed at times this week working out how to study effectively and managing their time. This is new for everyone – students, teachers and parents- and we have been on a steep learning curve!

The Conversation website recommends a number of great strategies for learners working from home in their article [So you're going to make school online - here are 6 ways to make the most of it](#). One of the most important strategies is to organise your learning time. Good time management skills are

essential in this new learning environment. Some ideas to help do this are:

- Start the day by creating a plan or timetable of which subjects you will study and what tasks you need to complete. It might help to make this plan visible to others in the household so study time will be respected and they can help you keep on track. Many students are finding it best to work from their school timetable - spending a chunk of time (30-45mins) on one subject before moving on to the next subject. Other students may find a more flexible approach suits them, focussing on completing a task before moving on to something new. Experiment and work out how you will learn best.
- Stand and stretch after you have been sitting for 30 minutes. The movement breaks that usually occur between classes need to be scheduled in at home.
- Make time for exercise, relaxing and connecting with friends and family. This is all important for maintaining good mental health.

I wish everyone all the best for this next week of learning!

Wellbeing Resources

Kidshelpline is a free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for 5 to 25 year old's.

Contact Kidshelpline by calling 1800 55 1800 or through webchat or email. Phone is the fastest way to get through to talk with someone. If you think you might be interested in emailing or chatting online, check out the links so you know what to do.

Headspace provides online support and counselling for 12-25 year olds for free.

Beyond Blue has some very helpful information about managing wellbeing in these uncertain times.

Career Resources

Please access the latest Options Career Bulletin on the Parent Portal for all the latest career related news and information.

Anna Wallace
Guidance Counsellor

Ad Altiora Place

Library and tech support while learning online

The library is fully staffed from 7.30am and is open to students who have technical issues with their laptop. Unfortunately, we aren't able to help a lot with the current situation with Teams, apart from recommending patience and calmness. If you do experience a hardware issue with your computer, emailing beforehand might allow us the opportunity to let you know how long a repair might take, and if it turns out we need to keep your laptop for a couple of days, just like any other time, we will provide a school hot swap as a temporary replacement.

We are also open for students to return and borrow books. While this is encouraged, students are not to linger. It's all about

getting in, finding resources, and moving on quickly. If a student is aware of the book(s) they would like, they can email me with the title(s), and I will have them ready to take immediately.

I am also available to answer other questions via email, such as helping with locating resources, or any research question. I hope that our virtual library, databases and links through the Oliver home page is assisting with some of these needs.

Past pupil finalist in prestigious literary award



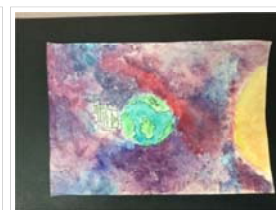
Congratulations to OLC dux of 2007, Maree Spratt, who was shortlisted for the 2020 Australian/Vogel Literary Award, the richest and most prestigious award for an unpublished manuscript in Australia.

Maree's manuscript *The Falling* was one of only four to be chosen, and although she didn't ultimately take home the prize, it is exciting for her that her writing is being recognised and celebrated. We congratulate her on this success and wish her all the best for the future.

showcased at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Concert Hall, in early March.



Visual art students have also been busy creating with Mr Sauvage. In Years 7 and 8, understanding the elements of Art and being inspired by stories such as *The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan have been the focus, where students produced works such as this:



Years 9 and 10 have explored the conventions of Pop Art in their studies. Here are some assessment items that have been completed thus far:



Although lots of our major events were cancelled, Our Lady's College did end the term with a bang, with one final showcase of celebration for Harmony Day on Friday 20 March. This lunch-time concert was such a positive and supportive atmosphere where our choir, cultural dance groups and Eisteddfod teams showcased what they had been working on in Term 1.

Thank you to the student leaders for organising some fantastic artistic events throughout the week, from colouring in activities, to chalk drawings on the pavements, to wearing orange accessories with proceeds going towards Caritas, all in order to promote and celebrate our cultural diversity.

We look forward to coming back together and celebrating our students' talents and creativity as we return to school. Our annual Open Day will be one to look out for later in the year – with a myriad of performances and art works to display and showcase.

Marie Ferguson
Curriculum Leader Arts and Culture

Middle Leaders Report

"Before a child talks, they sing. Before they write, they draw. As soon as they stand, they dance. Art is fundamental to human expression." Phylicia Rashad

During these unprecedented times, we find ourselves turning to our creative outlets as we isolate with our families. From listening to and/or playing music, from singing and dancing, perhaps learning a TikTok or two, or escaping through drawing/painting or the like; we have passed the time being creative. I'd encourage our students to continue with this outlet, either at a curriculum level or just for fun, fostering the wellbeing of the mind, body and soul.

Term 1, began with a myriad of opportunities for OLC students, with an Arts Tour planned to Sydney to a number of performance opportunities to represent the college. However, no one could have predicted what was to occur worldwide and, as we know, the Arts industry was hit hard.

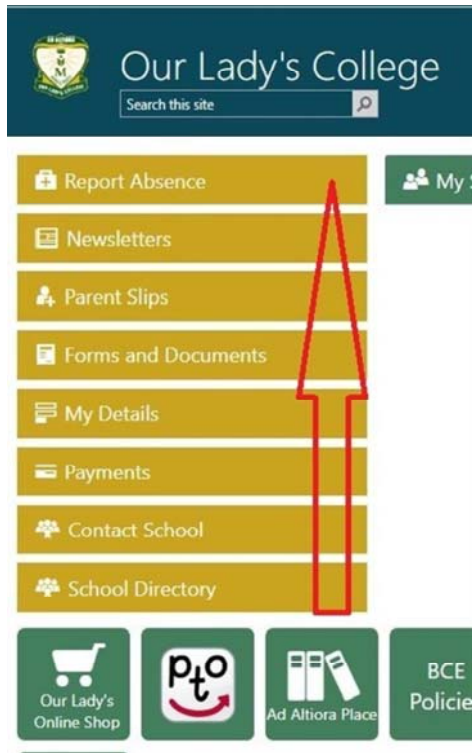
Luckily, our Year 12 students got to experience live theatre before things shut down, and viewed *The Neighbourhood* at LaBoite Theatre, in February. This show was inspirational, not only to their upcoming assessment, but was an authentic piece of work that resonated with many, connecting the stories told, to their own lives and experiences.



Our music students in Years 9-12 were also privileged with the opportunity to see the Queensland Symphony Orchestra Education Concert with Mrs Johnston. *Musical Sorcery* was

Parent portal

Did you know that you can report your daughter's absence by simply clicking on the Yellow Report Absence tile on the left-hand side of the Parent Portal landing page?



Have you downloaded the BCE Connect App to your mobile phone yet? By downloading this free App and logging in you will unlock all the features, including access to the Parent Portal.

If you need assistance with either setting up a BCE Connect Account or logging on to the Portal, please contact the College office.

College Newsletter and 2020 Calendar

Access our College Newsletter and 2020 College Calendar via the College website below:

<http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au/>

Important Dates and Deadlines

Our Lady's upcoming events/activities have been postponed due to COVID-19.

Absentees

Please Phone: 07 3426 8095 prior to 9.00 am daily

Email Link: www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au

Absentee Email: absenteeOLC@bne.catholic.edu.au

Or via the Parent Portal