



OUR LADY'S COLLEGE

ANNERLEY

newsletter

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5 June 2020



Principal's Message

Parent connection is valued at Our Lady's College!

Educational research has long held that parent connection with schools leads to effective school communities and successful students. Dauber and Epstein (1993) state that *"children are more successful students at all grade levels if their parents participate at school and encourage education and learning at home parent involvement is important for children's learning, attitudes about school, and aspirations."*

The success of learning from home for our girls is tribute to this partnership. Our Lady's College also enjoys wonderful support from our parent bodies – who whilst unable to meet face to face, have still connected via electronic means during the COVID restrictions for the benefit of the school community.

P & F Committee

Our P & F committee met recently and endorsed funding for beautifying the Deck Café area for the girls. The inclusion of screens in the café preparation area and potted plants on the Deck are amongst the generous contribution of the parent community for the benefit of the girls this year. The final payments for the air conditioning in Ad Altiora and the shade sail between Alma and Barr-Smith Blocks will also be received this year allowing the parent body opportunity to consider the next best spaces to support to enhance our school environment. We are very grateful to the P & F for their ongoing support of the College.

College Board

Last week, our College Board met to discuss and endorse policies that contribute to the governance of our College. Three policies were reviewed and have been published on the Parent Portal:

- Assessment – particularly pertinent with the new QCE requirements;
- Fundraising; and,
- School Behaviour Support Plan

Father/Carer/Daughter Breakfast – date claimer

While we are awaiting advice from the Queensland Government and Queensland Health in relation to the lifting of restrictions for gatherings, the College remains hopeful that the **Father/Carer/Daughter breakfast scheduled in September** will proceed. At this stage, **please calendar claim Thursday 3 September from 7am to 8.30am**. We will need to work within the prescribed numbers and bookings will be available on a first come, first served basis via the online shop. There will be further details following the school holidays.

We look forward to being able to gather together again in the near future.

Shalom,

Paula Goodwin
Principal

Teaching and Learning

Examinations and Assessments

Last week, the College Board endorsed the updated Assessment Policy that is now active for all students. This update provides an opportunity to align the implementation of the latest technologies, such as TurnItIn (activated in the new TEAMS environment), QCAA's new AARA requirements and other timely changes. Please look for this in the yellow "Forms and Documents" section of the Parent Portal.

Year 11 students are completing their own FIA1 and FIA2 assessments. Whilst these do not contribute to final results for ATAR calculations, they are a good practice for the Internal Assessments that will begin from Term Four. For many students, this is a challenging time as they face the reality of the new curriculum syllabuses and the rigour of the senior subjects. In times of stress, our first instincts tend to head towards a “fight or flight”. Instead of running away from a challenge, we encourage a considered “meet the challenge head on” approach. It has worked for our COVID strategies in Queensland and there is a lot to learn about being realistic, calm, and quiet persistence based on a positive growth mindset.

QCAA confirmation of assessments

As mentioned in the last newsletter article, the confirmation process for QCAA is still happening for Year 12 IA1 summative assessments for some schools around the state. The processes have been concluded for Our Lady’s and our feedback from QCAA has been extremely positive with the accurate marking and assessment of student work within the new system. Information has arrived since the last newsletter that the results for all students in IA1 across the state are due to be published on 19th June via the student accounts in the QCAA Portal. Confirmation of other results will occur early in October before the External Exams.

Reporting

This is a reminder of the information provided in the last newsletter...End of Semester usually provides an opportunity to report on assessment results that have been cumulatively collected over the previous two terms. With the disruption to learning, the focus for the semester reports in June will be to provide educational advice on the available information from terms One and Two. We look forward to having a much more comprehensive set of data for the end of year reporting cycle.

Enjoy the weeks ahead.

Anthony Stevens
Deputy Principal
Teaching and Learning

Community Matters

Wellbeing

With all of the OLC students back at school now, some students may find the pressure of maintaining a good study regime, keeping up with deadlines, commitments at home doing chores and other demands a bit too overwhelming. It’s important to keep the body and mind in balance so that you take the time to look after your mental health and wellbeing.

There are many simple ways to look after your mental health on a daily basis. We are all different and what works for one person may not work for another. There are little things you can do daily that may help.

1. Do things with others. Spending time with family or friends, meeting new people and getting involved in activities can make a difference to how you feel.

2. Do something creative. Activities or hobbies can keep you distracted, have a positive impact on your sense of mental health and wellbeing and can help increase your confidence and self-esteem.
3. Invest time in relationships. Connecting with people is important for your mental health. Get in touch with people who you trust or feel good around.
4. Focus on strengths. Having positive thoughts can help you feel better.
5. Take time out. When you relax, you give yourself permission to let go of worries for a while. Relaxing gives your mind and body time to recover from the stresses of everyday life.
6. Sleep well. We cannot function without sleep. Sleep helps us to repair and restore our bodies and minds.
7. Keep active. Your physical health plays a key role in keeping you mentally healthy. It will improve your mood and reduce stress.
8. Eat well. Nutrition and eating well can make a difference to the way you feel, and in-turn may improve your mental health.
9. Mindfulness. Practicing mindfulness can help you feel better and reduce stress. It’s easy to fit into your day. You can do it one minute at a time.

These are just some strategies that may help reduce the pressure on our students at this time.

Year 10 Immunisation in Term 3

Parents and carers please be aware that our Year 10 Students will be receiving their Meningococcal ACWY Immunisation on Tuesday, 18 August 2020. Forms have been sent home, please make sure the forms are handed in at Student Services promptly, so they can be processed. If your child’s form has not been returned, this will result in your child not being immunised on the day.

Attendance

Our Lady’s College is committed to promoting the key messages of the BCE initiative Attendance Matters and maintain that all children should be enrolled at school and attend school all day, 90% of the time. Attendance is everyone’s responsibility, it is important that students, staff and parents/carers have a shared understanding of the importance and value in attending school. A valued partnership between the College staff, students and parents and carers is a priority to ensure all students meet the school expectation of 90% or above attendance and zero unexplained absences. Pastoral Leaders will meet with students who have frequent attendance concerns to discuss improvement strategies.

Punctuality

The school day starts at 8.40am each morning Monday to Friday, and it is an expectation that students will start the day at this time. If your child arrives late to school, they are expected to report to Student Services with their diary and ID card to sign in. A note explaining their lateness must be given to the Student Services Officer on the occasion of their late arrival or

the very next day. Students will be required to meet with their Pastoral Leader to discuss lateness particularly if it is regular, unexplained or unapproved.

Tina Ellis
Assistant Principal
Student Wellbeing

Campus Minister/In the Tradition

Calendar changes – Community Week

Due to COVID-19 restrictions a number of events programmed in Community Week have been rescheduled. Year 7 and Year 10 will have their annual Reflection Day on 3rd November with Project Hatch while Year 8 and Year 9 will be on the 1st and 2nd December respectively. As well, the Year 11 Social and Year 11 Leadership Day have been rescheduled later in the year.

Reconciliation Week

Held annually between 27 May and 3 June (anniversaries of the 1967 referendum and the 1992 Mabo decision), this event encourages all Australians to celebrate the culture and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Our Lady's students showed their commitment to reconciliation for all Australians by adding their name to the Rainbow Serpent image painted by the Justice Committee.



World Environment Day

June 5 is World Environment Day, which is hosted each year by a different country to consider a pressing global environmental issue and encourage affirmative environmental action at all levels. In 2020, Columbia, in partnership with Germany, wants to inspire positive change in the area of *biodiversity*.

The Justice Committee acknowledged World Environment Day by raising awareness of topical issues in morning notices. A *biodiversity* quiz, information on energy overuse, a challenge to bring a 'litterless' lunch and a kaboodle competition all increased our awareness and understanding of how we can choose to interact more sustainably with our environment.

Try the quiz yourself to learn more about the intricate services nature provides us.

Take the quiz

Prayers Please

As we celebrated the coming of the Spirit last Sunday, the church marked the end of the Easter season and the beginning of Pentecost.

May this feast of Pentecost enliven again the whole world, especially the world in this time and place; and may the heart of each one of us feel again the youthful joy of the gifts of faith, hope and love.

Blessings,
Kay Holmes
Campus Minister

Linda Brandenburg
Assistant Principal Faith and Mission

Middle Leaders Report

It is great to have the students back in class and have the Home Economics building whirring with activity and the sounds of happy students. I was very impressed with the way they worked during remote learning, particularly the junior classes. You may have seen the photos of their food and textile creations. The Year 9 and 10 students created recipes using ingredients that were available at home. While the year 8 Design Technology class demonstrated great innovation to produce some quality drawstring backpacks.



Before schools were shut down the Year 9 and 10 Food Technology students were learning to make coffee. They designed and produced some very tasty signature beverages as part of their assessment. Since they have returned to school, they have cooked muffins and biscuits. Their assessment this term involves designing, producing and packaging a range of biscuits for sale at the Deck Café.

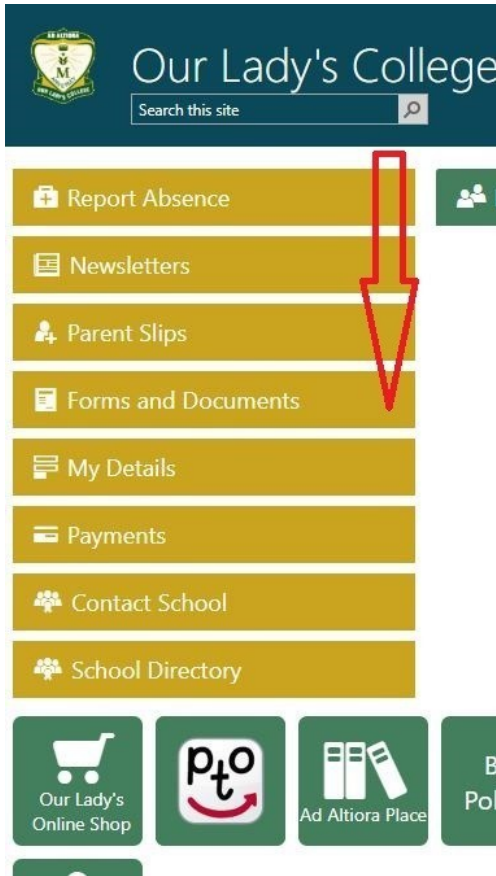
A very dedicated group of Year 9 and Year 11 students were running Tuesday morning breakfast in term 1 it is hoped that will return in term 3.

A new group of Year 7 students have recently started their unit on Healthy Eating where they not only learn about nutrition, but how to work safely and hygienically when preparing food.

Marion Holland
Home Economics/Hospitality Middle Leader

Parent Portal Facts

Did you know that you can access forms? For example, Medication Form and Request for Extension, as well as other important documents and policies by simply clicking on the yellow 'Forms and Documents' 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

www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au%20

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