



OUR LADY'S COLLEGE

ANNERLEY

newsletter

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26 March 2021



Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that the conclusion of Term 1 is almost upon us.

Easter

Next week is the holiest week of the Church's year. In the lead up to Easter, many churches will focus liturgies around the Stations of the Cross. Why do we honour the journey that led to the Cross when it is a way of sorrow and pain, a journey that includes the crucifixion of Jesus?



This Way is pictured in Catholic churches everywhere illustrating events along the path Jesus journeyed. Stations are stopping places – to pause or change direction, to rest or refuel, to stop and remember. Jesus stopped to rest under his heavy burden, to connect with loved ones, to accept help. Jesus stopped to refuel physically and spiritually along the Way of the Cross so that he could move closer to what seemed impossible. Jesus' Way creates a map for our own Ways of the Cross. Life's journey may be plagued with pain, darkened by the death of our hopes, yet brightened by new life as the final destination.

Catholic Education in Australia

Mary MacKillop, too, knew the darkness of death of hopes as she encountered difficulties with the Church hierarchy and her own short-term excommunication. This year marks 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. While Mary MacKillop contributed to the education journey later, her vision along with Fr Julian Tenison Woods, painted the landscape for the model of Catholic schooling. "Little did either of them then dream of what was to spring from so small a beginning." From the humble beginnings of bringing education to poor rural children in Penola has sprung a Josephite congregation that now ministers throughout Australia, New Zealand, Peru, Brazil, Ireland and East Timor.



Uniform Shop

Please remember that the Uniform Shop has now ceased trading at the College. On the return to school for Term 2, mornings can be chilly. Please be prepared by ensuring that your daughter has the College jumper (Years 7-9) or the College blazer (compulsory for Years 10 – 12). School locker is located:

The Zone Oxley, 2118 Ipswich Road, Oxley
(07) 3725 2500
oxley@theschoollocker.com.au

We wish all in the Our Lady's College family a blessed Easter. This is an important time for our students to re-energise – but also a time for our students in Years 11 and 12 to review work to date in readiness for assessment that arrives quickly in Term 2.

School resumes on Monday 19 April.

Shalom,

Paula Goodwin
Principal

Teaching and Learning

NAPLAN Online

On Thursday this week, students in Year 7 and Year 9 completed the NAPLAN Online TRIAL tests. The practice test helps to ensure that, when the actual tests are conducted in May, students will be well-prepared and all systems ready to conduct a very smooth exam process. Many thanks to Mrs Brims and her team for ensuring that the rooms, computers, files and students were all ready for this important event.

Term One Work Practices Reports Online

Term One Work Practices Reports will be available as of Friday 2 April 2021 (Good Friday). This secure site ensures that parents have access to their daughters' reports (as a family) in one location. While the Parent Portal will store previous reports for parents to view, a copy of the report should be downloaded and stored or printed for more permanent record keeping by parents. Further details outlining the purpose and publication of these reports will be sent to all families at the end of Term One via the parent/carer's documented email address. Please alert the College of any changes in email address to ensure open and timely communication between home and the College.

Term Two

Students in Year 7 will change elective cycles from the beginning of Week 4 next term. Other electives in Years 8, 9 and 10 will change over at the end of the semester in June.

This Easter break offers a wonderful opportunity to rest and recharge. As the tail-end of COVID continues to add unexpected complications to simple events, we all need a good break, more than ever, to reconnect with family and friends – away from a Teams or ZOOM environment if possible.

Wishing you all a safe and blessed Easter,

Anthony Stevens
Deputy Principal

Community Matters

Attendance Matters

Attendance can have significant impact on student progress, achievement, wellbeing, and their future success in work and in life. At recent year level assemblies, students were presented with certificates for high attendance throughout term 1. We look forward to once again celebrating high student attendance at the end of Semester 2.



Karen Chandler
Assistant Principal
Student Wellbeing

In the Tradition

Project Compassion

Thank you to the community for supporting our recent Caritas Sausage Sizzle. We raised an additional \$300 for our Project Compassion Collection. Next week is the last for this campaign. Thank you for your support.



Holy Week

On Thursday 1st April, the school will celebrate Holy Week with a special liturgy at the end of the day. The liturgy involves the Liturgy Committee, volunteer performers and the choir. It is an opportunity to explore key themes of the important events in our faith life and take time to reflect on the meaning of Jesus' sacrifice.



Earth Hour

Earth Hour is an annual environmental campaign that brings attention to the effects of climate change by asking people to switch off lights at homes and businesses for an hour at 8.30pm on Saturday 27 March.



By switching off your lights for one hour, you can make a substantial difference in energy consumption and can help reduce the effect of global warming on this planet...showing your concern and support for our planet.

This year you can take part in the first ever Earth Hour “Soptlight” by watching and sharing a video through your favourite social media site. More details here.

Easter Celebrations

Many are looking forward to celebrating Easter again this year after church services were suspended last year. You can find a southeast Queensland Catholic Mass or service here by entering details of place, language etc. Online registration will likely be necessary for Easter ceremonies. St Stephen’s cathedral Easter Vigil (and other celebrations) will be web cast live here on Saturday night.

May you be graced with the Easter blessings of joy and hope.

Linda Brandenburg
Assistant Principal
Faith & Mission

Kay Holmes
Campus Minister

Guidance Counsellor

Assisting Your Daughter Through Periods of Change

Change is an inevitable part of life. Whether it is starting a new job, moving to a new house or a shift in family dynamics, change can be welcome, or it can be unexpected and daunting. Adolescence is a time of constant change – transitioning to high school, studying new curriculum, changes in friendships/relationships and then the ultimate change - finishing year 12 and leaving the safety and familiarity of school. With the uncertainty that continues with COVID, our teenagers are constantly living with the threat of unexpected change.

Reachout.com is an online service for young people and parents that provides practical, evidence-based advice on mental health and wellbeing. According to Reachout.com, parents and educators can assist young people to navigate periods of change in several ways:

- Acknowledge the change and name it directly when speaking about it.
- Check in, ask your teenager how they are feeling about what has happened or what is about to happen.
- Normalise and validate any emotions your teenager is feeling. Let them know it is ok to feel a range of emotions and it ok to not know what to do with them. As adults it can be easy to dismiss what your teenager is going through with the wisdom of hindsight! Remember, this may be the first time they are experiencing these emotions and how they feel must be validated as important.
- Help your teenager to work out what is within their control and out of their control.
- If your teenager cannot change the situation, assist them to change the way they think about it to be accepting of the situation. Acceptance can assist them to move on faster.

- While being accepting, continue to find the positives and focus on the good things– are there positives in the change? What are the good things happening in their life? Write these down in a journal or use an app such as *Three Good Things – A Happiness Journal* to record these.
- Reflect with your teenager what strategies and behaviours have worked, or what could they do differently next time?
- Be a role model – reflect on how you handle change yourself and what you are showing your teenager. Model self-care, taking care of your mental and physical health, and seeking assistance from friends, family, or a mental health professional for further support.

For further information please contact Mrs Watson or go to the Reachout website.

Jenny Watson
Guidance Counsellor

Ad Altiora Place

St Elizabeth students visit the OLC book club



The Our Lady’s College student book club meets once a fortnight to share our reading with one another. It’s also an opportunity to preview new books coming into the library with the keenest readers. Students are also encouraged to write reviews to share with their peers.

We are fortunate enough to have a strong reading partnership with St Elizabeth’s Primary School. Each year we have approximately six girls who come over and spend a lunch hour with us. This occurred last week. Girls brought in the books they are currently reading, and everyone had an opportunity to talk about it and share what reading means to them. Mrs Goddard and I are constantly amazed by their passion for books, and the articulate way they speak about them.

We hope to have another chance later in the year to reconnect.

Trish Buckley
Teacher Librarian

Community News

Yeronga station to close during rebuild



From late April, Yeronga station will close for approximately six months while being rebuilt as part of important Cross River Rail works.

This is the first in a series of rolling station closures between Fairfield and Salisbury stations.

To help customers during the upcoming closures, we're introducing route 109 – your StationLink between Moorooka train station and Boggo Road busway station.

StationLink will service bus stops close to Yeerongpilly, Yeronga, Fairfield and Dutton Park stations, and run at a similar frequency to the Beenleigh line.

More information including specific stop locations, will be available in coming weeks.

2021 Next Step survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2020. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between April and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the *Next Step survey in 2021*.

Further information on Next Step, including results from previous years, is available online at the link below or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

<http://www.qld.gov.au/nextstep>

College Newsletter and 2021 Calendar

Access our College Newsletter and 2021 College Calendar via the College website.

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

Important Dates

01 April – Thursday	Term 1 finishes
19 April – Monday	Term 2 starts
20 April – Tuesday	Spirit Day
21 April – Wednesday	Cross Country
22 April – Thursday	Year 7 Camp

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