Year of Mercy – Merciful like the Father!

The Church is currently celebrating the Holy Year of Mercy, a time of grace, peace, conversion and joy. It is meant for everyone: people of every age, from far and near. There are no walls or distances which can prevent the Father’s mercy from reaching and embracing us. This grace-filled moment is for all people. Pope Francis encourages us to take an active part in this celebration and to realise that each of us is a child of God (cf. 1 Jn 3:1). It is also a wonderful time reconnect with our faith regardless of the reasons why we may have drifted away for just as the father welcomed home the prodigal son (cf. Luke 15:11-32), God the Father welcomes us back with open arms.

Throughout the year, I hope that we will explore the theme of Merciful like the Father as a school community.

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee
Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: “If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

**From the Principal**

Dear Parents,

Wow! What a great start to the new school year. I have been very impressed with the way all students have settled back into school. Classrooms are peaceful places of learning, the students (and teachers) are happy, the changes to procedures implemented this year seem to be working well and have been positively accepted. Our new Kindergarten students are very keen and seem to be loving school (though they are extremely tired by the end of the day). I congratulate everyone on their commitment to our school and to being the best learners they can be. Hopefully this will continue throughout the year.

**Opening School Mass**

Families are invited to join us in celebrating our Opening School Mass with the students and staff of OLR. Mass will commence at 11:45 on Wednesday 10th February (Ash Wednesday) at Our Lady of the Rosary Church. At this mass we will welcome our new students and staff as well as blessing our Leaders for 2016 and presenting them with their badges. It is also an opportunity to ask our God to bless our school and all who are part of our community over the coming year.

**School Improvement Plan**

Each year, schools in our diocese are asked to develop School Improvement Plans that outline their goals for the year. This Year the leadership team at OLR have decided to focus on one goal that will guide all that we do throughout the year.

*To develop a culture of positive behaviour that enhances learning.*

Our Mantra throughout the year will be: **My Behaviour Impacts the Learning of Others!** This applies to the whole school community: students, teachers and parents – everyone’s behaviour can have either a positive or negative impact on the learning of those around them.

In next week’s Community Memo, I will break this goal down further and how we can all have a positive impact on the learning of others.
Awards
This year we have also introduced a new whole school award system that sees students striving towards achieving OLR Star Points through their learning behaviours, commitment to learning as well as respecting and caring for others.
Ten OLR Star Points result in an OLR Medallion that can be exchanged for a special ice block from the canteen.
Three Medallions result in a Bronze Award, which will be presented at a morning assembly and awardees will be celebrated in the newsletter.
A further three medallions will result in a Silver Award, which will be presented at a school assembly and awardees will have a special morning tea with Mrs Miller.
A further three medallions will result in a Gold Award, which again will be presented at an assembly and awardees will be invited to a special Gold Award Lunch with Mr McGilvray.
These levels will continue to grow over the whole 7 years of schooling at OLR, as it is our belief that every student should be able to achieve a gold award. Though some students may achieve these awards quickly and others may need more time to reach these goals, we can all strive to become better and should celebrate our learning.

Kinder Parents
Our new Kindergarten students have had a great start to the year and have settled into classroom routines extremely well. We would now like to have a short meeting with the kindergarten parents to share with them how kinder will work this year and to answer any of those little (or not so little) questions that you might have.
Therefore, we will be holding a Kinder Parent Information Afternoon on Tuesday 9th February at 2:10 in the Kinder Blue classroom. I would encourage all parents to try and make this afternoon session so that everyone hears the same information. We promise to be finished by 3:00 so you are in time for you to collect your child.

Parent Community Network (PCN)
Our Parent Community Network is a great way for parents to support our great school and to be involved in the life and mission of OLR. The PCN is designed to allow people to work in teams where they feel they can contribute the most. Our 4 teams this year are:

• Catholic Discipleship Team; (Looking at how we live out our faith as a community and ways to develop the faith life of our families)
• Family Engagement Team; (Looks at how we engage families in the educational life of the school and fundraising)
• Pastoral Care Team; (Supports families and individuals who are struggling and doing it tough)
• Working Bee Team (Helps ensure that the grounds and buildings remain in great shape for our students)
• Class Parent team. (Supports class teachers and parents in a variety of ways)

I would encourage parents to reflect on how they are involved in the school and consider joining one of these teams. If you are interested in helping out, just contact the school office.
OLR School App

Great News, the school has a new smart phone app available from both the App-store and Google Play AND IT’S FREE for all parents! Simply search OLR, The Entrance then download the App, use the set up guide and you are ready to go.

Stay up to date by downloading the app, choosing their child’s classes and receiving automatic alerts leading up to the date of all events and when newsletters or notes are uploaded. All event dates for that students’ classes as well as school wide events appear in the app and users can conveniently synchronise these dates onto their smartphone/tablet calendar AND receive regular alerts leading up to the event date.

*Synchronisation on Android occurs through your google calendar which then syncs to your smartphone calendar.

We will also commence uploading the newsletter, notes for parents, canteen details and school contact details…and the best part…all parents are sent an automatic reminder when these forms are uploaded!

Parents can use the Report Absences function to alert the school when their child is away from school, without having to ring the school or send in a written note. (Please ensure you include your child’s class not just the grade)

Good news for people who have already downloaded the app – the update from apple is now available.

1. **Parents MUST update from today to receive any new data we upload or messages we send. With all the new functionality a new database has been created and migrated all our previous data across BUT any new data will go to the new database and updated app - NOT the old one.**

2. **Parents will need to re-add their children. This is not an issue as you need to this in January anyway when school returns but parents will need to set the app up again from the beginning. Note that when you update you will not receive anything from the app until this is done.**

Nut Allergies

OLR has a number of children with nut allergies which could lead to life-threatening anaphylactic shock. For this reason we ask parents to be aware of what they are placing in their child’s lunch box and to try not to send their children to school with peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches, peanuts, or other nut products. Eating nut products on the bus going home is also a risk to some children! Likewise, our canteen does not sell any nut products.

While all care is taken to keep our school nut-free, we cannot guarantee that nut products will occasionally come to school and the school actively seeks to work with parents and students to ensure their safety.

God Bless
Gerard McGilvray
Principal
Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School - The Entrance

*Material in the newsletter is not to be reproduced without the permission of the School Principal.*
Do you know our school motto? ‘Celebrate Community’

We will have many opportunities to celebrate Our Lady of the Rosary Community this term as we settle back to school. We have all chosen to be a member of this community. There are mutual expectations within the community between staff, parents/guardians and students but at the centre is the expectation that we are all committed to learning as Christians. Pope Francis has said that the foundation of our learning is the Gospel which is a source of great joy and Christians should celebrate this together. We all need to participate at some level in the many activities that help with building this joyful and Gospel focused community. It can be our new year’s resolution for beginning the school year! Be careful not to fall into the trap of saying ‘I’m too busy’. If something is important enough to us we will always make time and opportunity. A simple way is to stay informed so check the Newsletter every fortnight with your children and discuss what is going on within the OLR Community then join in some of the activities that are offered for parents/guardians, come along to the Liturgies and Assemblies and attend meetings that help to build our school community. Speak positively about our School and don’t participate in disgruntled gossip. If something is worrying you speak to an appropriate person. We are all in this together so let’s build a community based on the joy of the Gospel.

FROM ‘WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY’ to ‘WASTE FREE WEEK’

It is wonderful to see how many new Kinders have nude food lunch boxes. Over the past couple of years we have had a focus on encouraging the use of lunch boxes without wrapping on food each Wednesday. We have also encouraged children to have re-usable plastic water bottles instead of plastic disposable ones. Our environmental commitment this year is to promote the ‘WASTE FREE WEEK’ so the new Kinders are off to a great start! Disposable plastic is an environmental menace and the students will be engaged in Environmental Education to develop knowledge and behaviours that make us responsible Environmental Caretakers. Again, we urge you to reduce the amount of disposable plastic your children bring into the school.

CHAPLAIN’S DAYS

I am available for a chat on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. Please ring the Office for an appointment or contact me directly on (02) 43325594.

Kay Taylor (Chaplain)
Welcome back to the new year.

This week all the Kindy students received Commonwealth Bank Packs, please see the note below regarding this.

Year 3 will receive an Internet Agreement which will need to be signed and returned to school as soon as possible.

OPAL cards: most students who had a Bus Pass last year have received their Opal Cards this week. If your child is new to the school or has gone from Year 2 to Year 3, you should receive the card in the post. If you have not received the card over the next week, please collect a brochure to go online and order the card.

All school communication is now done by email, please ensure all your details are up to date by emailing the school or sending a note in. It is also extremely important that we have current contact numbers in the case of an accident or illness.

Please note:

- If your child arrives late, a parent/guardian must come into the office and complete a Late Arrival Note which your child must take to class with them.
- If you are collecting your child early, you must complete an Early Departure Note and take this to the classroom to collect your child.
- If someone other than the parent/guardian is collecting your child from school, a note must be sent to the teacher.
- If your child is being collected early by someone else, you must contact the school to give permission for this to happen and the person collecting must report to the office and complete an Early Departure Note after speaking to the office staff.
- If your child is going to be away sick, please enter this on the Parent Planner, email or phone the school. An Absent Note will then be completed for you. If you do not contact the school, you must send an Absentee Note (found in each Newsletter) in when your child returns. If you use the Parent Planner, please ensure you put your child’s Full Class Description eg 5Blue, KRed, not just the year, this enables it to be sent to the correct teacher.
- All visitors to the school, class helpers, library helpers, those attending playgroup etc must come and sign the Visitors Book in the office foyer and wear a Visitors badge. You will then need to sign out and return the badge when you leave.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office at anytime if you have any questions. We are here to help.

Mrs Lucy Thornley          Mrs Tracy Hawkings
Senior Admin Officer       Admin Officer
### Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Cathy T, Frances O’S, Frances O’S, Claire K</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Renee T, Melissa C,</th>
<th>Claire K</th>
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<tr>
<td>04/02/16</td>
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<td>11/02/16</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Susan Sm, Kylie B, D Allen</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Alexandra M, Jessica J, Susan Sm</td>
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<td>05/02/16</td>
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<td>12/02/16</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>Gillian R, E Butler</td>
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<td>Joanne M, Natasha V</td>
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<td>08/02/16</td>
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<td>15/02/16</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Christine E, Ria B</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Jane H</td>
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<td>09/02/16</td>
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<td>16/02/16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Desley G-B, Jaclyn B, Joan CR</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Melanie R, Sarah A, Kelly G</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/02/16</td>
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<td>17/02/16</td>
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Thank you for the great start to 2016, I am loving being in the canteen.

The canteen has a New Price List which is on our website. Please follow the link below to the Parent Portal and click on the Canteen page to check changes and prices.


Meal Deal Order Forms will go home on Friday for the Infants students to enjoy whilst the big kids are at the swimming carnival. Please return them by next Tuesday.

Remember to use our online canteen ordering system.

Log on to [www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au](http://www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au) sign up and away you go. You can also purchase the reusable lunch order bags from the canteen. These can be used for online orders or if you send in a lunch order for your child, replacing the need for paper bags.

*Healthy Eating  Amber Trench  Canteen Co-Ordinator*

### OLR Playgroup News

The OLR Playgroup runs each Wednesday morning from 9.10am—11am in the VSR.

This Playgroup is run for siblings at the school and all are welcome. Please come along if you have pre-schoolers, this is a great way to get know other families and for your children to meet other children that they may be at school with later on.

Looking forward to seeing some new faces.
Student Banking News

OLR School Banking is every Tuesday.
Kinder students received the application packs this week. If you have not banked in the past and would like to start, please collect a pack from the school office.
A reminder that the Deposit Slip MUST be filled in correctly.
Happy saving.

OLR Parish News

Mass & Devotions in Ordinary Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Masses</td>
<td>Saturday Vigil 6:00pm, Sunday 8:00am &amp; 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekday Masses</td>
<td>Monday - Thursday 9:00am, Friday 11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament of Reconciliation</td>
<td>Saturday 9:30am &amp; 5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liturgy of the Hours</td>
<td>Saturday 8:40am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosary</td>
<td>Monday - Thursday 8:35am, Friday 11:20am, Saturday 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cenacle</td>
<td>Wednesday 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Meditation</td>
<td>Group Friday 10:30am Muldoon Room</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE
For all your devotional needs...

The Gift Centre has a wide variety of devotional items and gifts for Weddings, Birthdays, Baptisms, Holy Communion, or just plain thoughtful gifts. All are welcome to come in for a browse. We are open after the Sunday Masses for your convenience. You'll find the Gift Centre behind the Church carpark, corner of Ashton and Copnor Avenues.

Open:
Sunday 9am-9:30am & 10:30-11am
Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 1:30pm
Phone/Fax 4332 5997
Michael Grose is Australia's leading parenting educator and author of 8 parenting books. Michael appears regularly on television, radio and his popular ParentingIdeas website discussing relevant issues for modern parents and professionals.

Raising and teaching kids to become resilient, confident and self-sufficient is just some of the expert advice you can expect to receive from Michael! In fact he’ll even have you working towards redundancy! ... as a parent that is!

Tuesday
23 February
7 pm

OLSS Catholic Primary School
Serpentine Road, TERRIGAL
All Welcome - No Cost
OLR Community News

On behalf of the OLR School Community at Our Lady of the Rosary, we would like to welcome you back for the 2016 school year and a big welcome to all of our new families and staff members.

A big thank you cheer to all the parents, friends and carers that were able to lend a helping hand at our welcome to 2016 Tissue, Tears and Cheers. It was a great success.

Upcoming Events
We encourage everyone who is a part of our wonderful school community to get involved in whatever small way they can. Please contact the office at your earliest convenience if you are able to assist with any upcoming events.

The OLR Community are organising the morning tea for Staff and Volunteers at our Swimming Carnival at Mingara on Thursday 11th February. It involves purchasing some snacks at the supermarket and distributing them at the carnival.

Mother’s Day is also fast approaching and we invite you to become a part of the Mother’s Day Team. Please contact the office at your earliest convenience if you are able to help coordinate this great event as gifts will need to be ordered very shortly.

Thank you for your continued support;
The OLR Community Team
Fundraising to improve the quality of our children’s education
Standard Collection Notice

July 2015

1. The school and the diocese both independently and through its schools collects personal information, including sensitive information about students and parents or guardians before and during the course of a student's enrolment at the school. This may be in writing or in the course of conversations. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable the school to provide schooling for your son/daughter and to enable them to take part in all the activities of the school.

2. Some of the information we collect is to satisfy the school's legal obligations, particularly to enable the school to discharge its duty of care.

3. Laws governing or relating to the operation of schools require certain information to be collected. These include education, public health and child protection laws.

4. Health information about students is sensitive information within the terms of the Australian Privacy Principles under the Privacy Act. We may ask you to provide medical reports about your child from time to time.

5. If we do not obtain the information referred to above, we may not be able to enrol or continue the enrolment of your son/daughter.

6. The school from time to time discloses personal and sensitive information to others for administrative and educational purposes including to facilitate the transfer of a student to another school. This includes:
   • government departments, government agencies and statutory boards
   • the Catholic Schools Office
   • the Catholic Education Commission NSW
   • the Diocese of Broken Bay and its parishes
   • systemic schools within the Broken Bay Diocese and other schools
   • NSW Board of Studies and the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA)
   • medical practitioners
   • people providing services to the school, including specialist visiting teachers, (sports) coaches, volunteers and counsellors

7. Personal information collected from students is regularly disclosed to their parents or guardians. On occasions information such as academic and sporting achievements, student activities and other news is published in school newsletters, magazines and on our website. Photographs of student activities such as sporting events, school camps and school excursions may be taken for publication in school newsletters, magazines and websites and for Diocesan Schools System publications and website. The school will seek parents' permission to use student photographs in this way.

8. Parents may seek access to personal information collected about them and their son/daughter by contacting the school. Students may also seek access to personal information about them. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, where access may result in a breach of the school's duty of care to the student, or where students have provided information in confidence.

9. The school from time to time engages in fundraising activities. Information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. It may also be disclosed to organisations that assist in the school's fundraising activities solely for that purpose. We will not disclose your personal information to third parties for their own marketing purposes without your consent.

10. If you provide the school with the personal information of others, such as doctors or emergency contacts, we encourage you to inform these parties that you are disclosing that information to the school and why, that they can access that information if they wish and that the school does not usually disclose the information to third parties.

11. The school utilises service providers to provide certain services to the school and its staff and students. The school may provide your personal information to those service providers in connection with the provision of these services. The school's service provider may store personal information in the “cloud” which may mean that it resides on servers which are situated outside Australia. The school's email service provider may store and process emails outside Australia.

12. The Diocesan Schools System Privacy Policy also sets out how to make a complaint about a breach of privacy and how the school will deal with such a complaint.
Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School, The Entrance

STUDENT ABSENTEE NOTE

We are required by law to record all absences for children enrolled in our school with an accompanying note.

My child ____________________________ of class __________ was absent from school on the following date/s:
__________________________________________________________

Please sign below to indicate that your permission was given for this/these days absent.

I ____________________________________________ verify that my child was absent from school with my permission on the dates above.

Reason:_____________________________________________________________________

Signature:____________________________________________ Date:__________________

PLEASE DO ONE NOTE PER CHILD. EACH TEACHER NEEDS A COPY FOR THEIR FILES

Register to Play Rugby League in 2016

Ages 5 to 17 with modified rules up to 12 years for fun safe play

Cost only $130 and players receive Polo Shirt, Shorts, Socks and they get to keep the Jersey at the end of the year.

Go to our website for detail www.tetigers.com.au