Prayer

Prayer for our neighbours affected by the Nepal Earthquake

Loving God, Father of all,
We pray for our sisters and brothers in Nepal.
We ask that, through the power of your love,
You bring comfort to those who need your help.
Give hope to those who do not have shelter,
And give courage to those who help and support.
Amen

OLMC Calendar Important Dates

- 8th May – Mary Mother of Jesus Whole School Mass 9am
- 8th May – Tuckshop
- 8th May – Mother’s Day Stall
- 10th May - Mother’s Day
- 12th May-14th May – NAPLAN Testing
- 18th- 22nd May – Communion Week
- 22nd May – Yr. 3/4 Assembly

‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’
Dear Parents, Friends and Students

Welcome to the commencement of another term. I hope that you have managed to achieve many of the goals that were planned over your break, and that you have a sense of accomplishment. Holidays are hoped to be a time to catch up with loved ones, do the chores and niceties that have been put off and maybe have a rest from the grind of a busy life. If you are anything like me, the school term is sometimes easier to deal with rather than achieving all of our goals listed for the school holidays.

I would like to thank everyone in our school and Parish community for welcoming me into the Mullewa fold with open arms. So many smiling faces with offers of friendship have been a heartwarming experience. It has been rather hectic moving house and re-establishing after eight years of living in Carnarvon. Mark, my husband, has arrived with the furniture which is a good thing, not happy about all of the boxes of ‘school stuff’ that I have accumulated over time, but here and happy as well. He brought the rain with him as he was travelling through Geraldton and Mullewa last week. The farmers were happy though the gear on the trailer was not as forgiving.

There was a great attendance for the ANZAC march and ceremony on my official first weekend in town. This year being special because it commemorates 100 years since the landing of our ANZACs on the shores of Gallipoli. We remember all Australians and New Zealand men and women who have given of their lives for our country. We remember the Spirit of the ANZACs and the Spirit of Australia which is talked about so proudly by Graham Edwards, one of our ex-serviceman and MPs who delivered a heartfelt address at the Centenary of ANZAC Commemoration Service.

This excerpt is taken from his address –


These troops, thousands of them ................... forged the ANZAC legend.
It’s not all they forged.
They also gifted us a set of values to live by.
Values as significant today as they were a century ago: courage, sacrifice, love of country and a heritage which speaks of mateship, compassion and a fair go.
They gave us cause to be proud to be Australian and proud to have inherited a Spirit of Australia.
We are all a part of one big country.
Though we are a diverse nation in terms of culture we should be united as one in our love of the freedom, safety and the security in which we are privileged to live. We should resolve as one to protect that freedom at all times and to honour those who have fought to secure it.
We the current generation and custodians of the Spirit of the ANZACs.

It is this care for others and loyalty to protecting what is important to us that I find easy to connect with. In my daily life I am striving to find ways to improve who I am and what my purpose for being here is. God works in mysterious ways and the winds have blown me in the direction of Mullewa for his intention. We are provided with opportunities to grow and be challenged and to share our gifts as well as to learn from others. I still need to listen to the readings at Mass on Sunday to help chisel my focus, Father Robert does I might add; and take away where it all fits in my life and what I can become from it. Last week we had the story of the vine and the branches. If the branch is unproductive and wilting it will be removed, but

‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’
if it is taking food and being nourished it will produce a beautiful crop. We too need nourishment in what we do and we need to be put to good use. I hope that I will be put to good use here in Mullewa and add to the flavor of the fruit by my being here.

I am not sure if I am as tough or as strong as many of you from the farming community but I will work on it! We departed the memorial beside our church and walked behind the marchers all the way to the town hall. As we neared the memorial we were greeted by the sound of bagpipes being played by Rod Messina, and a beautiful sound it was. Mrs Docherty marched the whole way! We assembled at the town hall and witnessed a wonderful service prepared by members of our community. Many thanks to the staff who helped prepare the children and thank you to Jay Critch, Bella Critch, Tyler Messina, Mia Fulkner and Saxon Flannagan for taking part in the service with a reading of several poems and the laying of wreaths.

This was followed by refreshments and an opportunity to view the displays arranged in the Town Hall of the ANZACs particularly close to our community. There was also a display of the artwork which was entered into a competition regarding the ANZACs. Thank you to Alison and Kylie for organising this and coming out to the school last week to present certificates to the children.

Saxon’s artwork received a special award by being transferred onto silk and being made into a flag. What a fantastic memory and a proud moment for Saxon!

This week you will have received your survey via the children. Please do take the time to complete this questionnaire. It provides valuable feedback to our school and staff and provides direction and recognition of what is working well and what can be improved. Your time and your input is greatly valued. Please hand it in by this Friday. If by chance you have not received one and would like to add to our survey – which is anonymous – please see Miss Bec or Mrs Swift in the office.
Next week the students from Years Three and Five will be taking part in the NAPLAN assessments. This is a National Assessment which helps all schools in Australia to see where our kids are at compared to each other. One of the key reasons for implementing a National Curriculum is so that all states will be teaching students ‘at grade level’ no matter what part of our country we are in. We want to be assured that we are teaching what our children need to know according to the rest of the state and Nation. Some students may find it difficult and some may not. We all know as a staff and school how our children are performing and this is another tool to gather this information. We are always striving to do our best and learn from every experience. Please try to stress that this is still a test which needs to be taken seriously and that it will help to demonstrate what they do well and need help to more about. If you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN, feel free to discuss this with your class teacher or myself.

Our thanks go to Miss Mariah for encouraging the students to add an entry into ‘The Shaun Tan Award for Young Artists’. The Shaun Tan awards will be judged on their originality, concept, technique and choice of materials. We look forward to seeing how well our students fare.

I have visited all of the classrooms over the weeks and found the children to be quite independent and focused on their learning. As a staff we have undertaken some professional development in the area of Visible Learning and what this looks like. It presents itself in different ways and can be a shift of focus from old school thought. We are encouraging the children to discuss what they have learnt rather than what they have done. There is a marked difference. If I did not know how to add two large numbers before and now I do – then I have learnt something new. Sometimes this takes some teasing out for the children to realize that they are actually learning every day. We do not want them to take this for granted. This is why we come to school – to learn. Every minute, every hour, every day! Learning can be hard work. Nothing good comes too easy. Why do we learn? So that I can be a better person and do the things that I need to do as well as the things that I want to do.

We encourage you to ask the children what they have learned today, this week and celebrate that they are improving all the time!

God bless

Di Nyman
Principal

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”
— Mother Teresa

‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’
All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers. Grandmothers and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.

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Congratulations to the following students on receiving merit awards:

**Kindy – Pre/Primary**
- Archie Docherty
- Clayton Swift
- Riley Keeffe

**Year 1/2**
- Angus Critch
- Lachlan Rowe
- Laney Critch
- Latoya Buck

**Year 3/4**
- Jayliesha Hamlett
- Kiarbroe Hamlett
- Khyesha Comeagain
- Lochlain Park
- Saxon Flannagan

**Year 5/6**
- Adam Petering
- Isabella Critch
- Shannon Harris
- Sienna Harris
- Thomas Strange

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**Birthdays**

A very happy birthday to the following students and staff

- Josh Papertalk - 23\(^{rd}\) April
- Graham Sandy - 29\(^{th}\) April
- Shannon Harris - 2\(^{nd}\) May
- Okuhle Mseleku - 10\(^{th}\) May
- Mrs Rachel Swift - 10\(^{th}\) May
- Aidan Wilson - 12\(^{th}\) May
- Xander Wilson - 12\(^{th}\) May
- Antoine Curley - 15\(^{th}\) May
- Laney Critch - 17\(^{th}\) May

‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’
During the week commencing May 18th, the school will be celebrating Communio Week. ‘Communio’ is a concept introduced to the Geraldton Diocese by our Bishop, Justin Bianchini. ‘Communio’ is a latin word which translates to making links and connecting with others. During Communio Week the schools in our diocese focus on raising the students’ awareness of the Catholic caring services available to them in the Geraldton diocese - services which have assisted our Mullewa community in times of need. The students also contribute by fundraising for these agencies.

The theme for this year’s Communio Week is “Hearts Rejoice”. Throughout the week the students will be focusing on ways they can answer Christ’s call to those in need within both our school community and the wider Mullewa community.

On Tuesday, 19th May, the students from Years 3-6 will be viewing a webcast which will be our first ‘Polycom’ from the Geraldton Catholic Education Office. Bishop Justin will be answering questions that have been written by some of the students in our diocese. This is an exciting event for the students in our school as they eagerly listen during the webcast, to see if any of their questions are read out. The students get to hear many interesting and sometimes amusing facts about our Bishop Justin.

The Spiritual Ministry from Year 5/6 will be planning some events in support of Communio Week and will be sending out more information next week.

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P&F Notices

**Mother’s Day Stall**
There will be a Mother’s Day stall at recess time Friday 8th May, so Dads please remember to send some money in. Gifts range in price from $3 to $8.

**Rodeo**
The P&F will again be holding a Sausage Sizzle at the Rodeo which is fast approaching so please let Jenna or Tim know if you are able to help out cooking sausages.

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‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’
Uniform Shop

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN

Wednesday 8.30am to 9am and 3pm to 3.30pm
Thursday 8.30am to 9am and 3pm to 3.30pm
Now located in the hall.
Order forms can be sent home with your child on request.
Rebecca Dreghorn is your uniform co-ordinator.

FUNDRAISING AND FRIENDRAISING is the theme of this year’s AGM and mini conference, being held at St Peter’s Catholic Primary School, 103 Wood Street, Inglewood on Wednesday 27th May 2015 from 5pm-8.30pm.

We have Mandy Weidmann, CEO, The Fundraising Directory coming from Queensland to speak to us on how creative fundraising builds strong communities. The Fundraising Directory book will be complimentary for each parent who attends the evening.

We also have Allan Blagaich, CEO, School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA), coming to outline the changes to the curriculum from pre-primary to year 12. Allan is a wonderfully engaging speaker and is very happy to answer any questions you may have. We promise to squeeze the formalities of the AGM between our two guest speakers.

Light supper and drinks will be provided and there is plenty of on-site parking available. For more information and to register please go to http://pffwa.eventbrite.com.au/. Registration is free for parents of affiliated schools, however everyone is welcome to attend. Please register for catering purposes by Friday 22nd May.

We look forward to seeing you there!

103 Wood St
Inglewood, WA

9271 5909

‘Love one another, as I have loved you.’