

OLC Principal's Report 2021 for AGM 24-11-21

It is a privilege to work in an environment where our OLC school values of Compassion, Appreciation, Respect and excellence are displayed on a daily basis.

School Advisory Council

Thank you to our dedicated School Advisory Council members who always act with the highest integrity and have the best interests of the whole school community at the forefront when making decisions. This year we have been led by Craig Saunders. Craig has done an outstanding job of displaying dedication, hard work and support for our school. I have enormous respect for people who commit to a broader purpose than their own self-interest. The amazing effort in the initial planning for our OSHC facility, Capital Development Plan, number plate fundraiser and recently our new year 1-6 playground. To all our board members, Flic, Caron, Damon, Reece, Gary, Matt, Fr.= Francis and two Assistant Principals Mrs Amie Meyer and Mr Adrian Torrese, thank you. You do an amazing job. I would like to thank our two retiring members, Damon Eastaugh and Gary Hodge for their time, wisdom, knowledge and support.

P&F

Thank you to our President Paul Richardson, secretary Honor Putland (who can ever forget the amazing "Bogan Bingo Night") treasurer Annie Mussell, Matt Armstrong (especially for his amazing ability to extract funds out of corporate bodies) and their team of merry workers on the school P&F. They have raised an abundance of funds to support the students, staff and parents in our school community. Honor Putland has been outstanding with her enthusiasm and extremely high work rate for our school.

To the volunteers who have assisted Misty and Sara in the canteen and Adriana who voluntarily run the uniform shop for every family in the school.

The construction of the new Indigenous Playground is a real asset to the school. The valuable funds raised by the P&F and volunteer labour has meant that this incredible asset has been totally organised by some very giving parents. Excellent example of MJR in action.

Staff

We are staffed by dedicated, caring people who consistently place the needs of the students first. I would like to thank each of our staff for their dedication and ability to gain the best out of our students on a daily basis. The support of the school and extras that you do are often not acknowledged but they are appreciated. Special mention must go to our two Assistant Principals, Mrs. Amie Meyer and Mr. Adrian Torrese on leading our school by continual support of our staff, parents and students. Amie does an outstanding job of leading the faith development of our students and staff while Adrian leads all the curriculum development and data analysis within the school. This is done to the highest level and hence our national testing results have been well above the national averages. Thanks to Amie our students are able to recognise those special "God moments" that occur in our lives every single day.

To our front office staff who have had to deal with the introduction of a new AOS software system along with dealing with the many challenges that COVID-19 provided. We are fortunate to have Mrs Fran Marrell as the front window to our school. Fran makes everyone feel special and is always so

accommodating to all who enter the front office or rings the school. As part of our succession planning, we now have Kaya Jecks in the office two days per week and Sandra O'Leary to make sure the books are balancing correctly. Sandra is held in the highest regard by everyone in the finance departments at CEWA, especially in these very challenging financial times. Thank you for your dedication and very high work rates to all our admin staff.

FYI Our very *popular and highly skilled grounds man/maintenance/can do anything man, Robert has been an incredibly valuable acquisition to our team at school. We are extremely fortunate to have Robert with us at OLC.*

Faith

We thank our Parish Priest, Fr Francis for all the spiritual support that he gives our school community. The sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation and whole school masses are a real highlight of our school year. It is a real bonus that Fr. Francis is up at school every Friday greeting the staff and students sharing the love of Christ to all who he meets. There is always huge support for the Australian Catholic Missions, Life Link, Caritas-Project Compassion, St Vinnies appeals, our mission day/school feast day fete to show the great level of giving in our school community.

We wish our graduating students and their families all the very best for the future and wish them all the very best of health and happiness.

Our departing staff members will all be missed from our community next year. Mrs. Brigid Bradley is leaving after supporting our students for many years. We farewell our canteen manageress Sara after many years of outstanding service to our school. We all wish Mrs. Ricciardone all the very best on the impending arrival of their new baby.

The following items have supported the ways that we are pursuing the strategic directions of our 2019-2021 strategic Plan

Inspiring Christ Centered leaders

- Our Sacramental classes, Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation were all able to participate in their child/parent workshops and sacraments. Thank you to Mrs. Amie Meyer for weaving your magic to make this all happen in this very tricky COVID year.
- All students attending our limited School Masses and participated in the mission markets to raise funds on our school feast day (\$2,300) for Caritas
- Several students have been Baptised during the year.
- Our year 4 classes spending a day at McKillop Catholic College to have a snapshot of life in a Catholic Secondary school.
- Our year 6 Camp was to Fairbridge Village in Pinjarra. Thank you to our dedicated staff who gave up their precious family time to allow our students this wonderful experience.
- Hosting Peter Mitchell at OLC for the MJR (Making Jesus Real) Conference
- 12 Altar Servers from OLC were inducted into the Parish to serve at weekend and school Masses.
- All staff thoroughly enjoyed a PD Day with Fr. Tony Ciera on Friday June 4.

A Catholic School of Excellence

- Our learning focus from our School Improvement Plan was to improve our skills with differentiation. The staff have made great progress in this area creating learning environments for students with a vast range of learning abilities.
- The continuation of Growth meetings for teaching staff and Education Assistants took place in term one this year.
- Congratulations to all our staff on assisting students to achieve outstanding PAT (Progressive Achievement Testing) and NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) results this year.
- Our curriculum team continued to really enhance that crucial part of our school, thank you to Penny King, Sandy Ricciardone and Adrian Torrese for leading our school in this area.
- Our Friday assemblies continued to be held on Friday afternoons to allow another uninterrupted learning time for our students in the morning.
- We continued our professional learning in mathematics with Ben Saulsman from CEWA on March 2.
- The teachers have all had their well-being follow up meeting with Gary Tester to share and discuss data after the student wellness survey.
- Several of our students achieved outstanding results in the state cross-country championships.
- Our students performed exceptionally well in the interschool athletics sports.
- Mr. Torrese and the curriculum team led the staff in introducing a new reporting system. Parents are sent work samples frequently during the term.
- We introduced support in mathematics for the junior years.
- We introduced the “Challenge Academy” for the senior gifted and talented students in our school.
- The ‘Believe Academy” with Jack Eades proved extremely popular with students from kindy to year 6.
- Senior students performed at the Bunbury Dance Festival.

A Catholic Pastoral Community

- Developing the emotional wellness of students was continued in the school this year with Dr Garry Tester and Sports Challenge Australia. This will be followed up in the final days of the school year.
- Introducing different playing options during lunchtimes during this year. Wheels After Meals, chess club, dance before school, choir, and the year 6 students taking lunchtime activities for younger students.
- We continue to include an article in the Parish Bulletin every week to improve links between the Parish and School
- The uniform committee presented the option of girls wearing trousers during terms two and three and shorts during terms one and four.
- Funds raised from selling “Worm Wizz” to families raises money for “Wheelchairs for kids”.

- Our school choir performed at the RAC function in Dunsborough to formally open.....
- Laura Allison spoke to our staff about personal wellness on Tuesday 8 June.

An accessible, affordable and sustainable school

- Part of our CDP has been approved by CEWA Commission. Two new GPLA's will be constricted in 2022.
- The total staffing costs have been reduced to the CEWA recommended 75% of our total budget.
- The Walky, Wheely, Waste Free Wednesdays have been a huge success.
- Our school library was relocated to the fire bunker. Many thanks to Mary Lee Kemp on coordinating this for our school.
- Children's crosswalk attendant, Wilma, commenced at the beginning of term 2.
- The verandah was installed during the term 2 holidays.
- We all continue to be vigilant with hygiene due to COVID-19
- We had two attempts to sink a bore at school, unfortunately both were unsuccessful.
- Our Capital Development Plan has been accepted by CEWA and we await approval in 2021 after a visit from the selection panel.
- After School Hours Care (OSHC) is currently being investigated for next year. We have approval from CEWA and now it is with the government department, (ECRU) Educational Care Regulation Unit
- New staff commenced this year. Anita Hurst in year 6, Holly Lombardi in (3) and Isobel Christie (1). Ellie Haines commenced teaching dance, Emily Laurino in learning support, Chrissy Casella as an Education Assistant.
- Our August census figures were that we had 376 students. At the same time last year, we had 349 students. We currently have 404 students.

Thank you to all in the OLC school community for your valuable contributions during this rapid time of growth in the 2021 school year. It is a pleasure coming to work each day to be involved in such a warm caring and nurturing environment.