



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart International School

Governor's School of Excellence
Continuing the Mission of the MSC Sisters
Celebrating 60 years of Outstanding Education

acara
AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM,
ASSESSMENT AND
REPORTING AUTHORITY

Term 2 Week 1 Issue: 09

Thursday, May 7th, 2020

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Principal:
Ms Judeline Wadhvani

Head of Religious Education:
Mr Raymond Rangatin

Head of Administration:
Mr Patrick Baiwan

Head of Secondary:
Mrs Fiona Burain

Head of Primary:
Mrs Grace Savitas

Registrar:
Mrs Norah Sevian

IMPORTANT DATES - 2020

MAY

REFER PAGE 3 & 4

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Bank South Pacific
Account Name: OLSH International School
Account no: 1013245293
Westpac Bank
Account Name: OLSH International School
Account No 4700735201

From the Principal: Ms Judeline Wadhvani

Welcome to our first Newsletter for Term 2. What a different world we are currently living in compared to a couple of months ago. The words "coronavirus" or COVID-19 hitherto unknown to us have changed our world and the lifestyle in most countries drastically. We only have control over our response to do the right thing in the way of following social distancing regulations and mindfully practicing increased hygiene measures at every step.

I am writing to you from Melbourne. In the state of Victoria, we are still in Stage 3 of lockdown which means I am advised to only leave home to purchase groceries, for medical reasons and for some open air exercise not too far away from my neighborhood. I cannot socialize or visit family and friends. I speak to my only child, my daughter living in Sydney, over the telephone. I cannot visit her at present.

I am pleased to observe that at OLSH, it has been a reasonably smooth transition back to school with over 90% attendance being recorded at this time of the week. All of the boarders except one have

returned to school. Lessons are in full progress and we aim to be on target to make up for the lost learning time in Terms 1 and 2. I have written to every student in Years 8, 10, 11 and 12 as three of these years are examinable years in 2020. I am regularly in contact with Mr. Douglas Tsang, Chair of OLSH Board of Management and with the school's Leadership Team, conducting meetings via WhatsApp and follow up correspondence via email. What a wonder is technology!!

Before I continue with school updates, I would like to inform the OLSH community and extended community of the passing of Bishop Rochus Tatamai's beloved mother earlier in April. The loss of a parent is a deep and grievous experience to bear. As the OLSH learning community of faith, we offer Bishop Rochus our deepest condolences at his loss and pray that he will find comfort in the knowledge that his mother is at her eternal rest. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen

NEW NORMAL ARRANGEMENTS

Daily Thermal Scanning of all students and staff occurs from 7.30 am daily. Although I originally wrote to parents about the 8.00 am start to this procedure, I was informed by the Leadership Team that students and staff had started lining up outside the gate by 7.30 am. Hence we decided to make an earlier start to the Thermal Scanning procedure in order

to get as many students as possible into classrooms for the 8 am start to the school day. The daily timetable at Primary and Secondary School has been modified to ensure optimum learning time. Please refer to the Primary and Secondary School timetables published again, further in this newsletter. In addition, changes have been made to the Term 2 calendar. These changes reflect the later start to the term and are aimed at providing sufficient time for high quality Learning-Teaching prior to Assessment, especially the Year 10 National Exam as well as the Year 10 and Year 12 Mock Exams. All gathering of students and staff in Assemblies, Friday Morning Mass, Sport and Year 9 Camp as well as Year 7 Reflection Day have been cancelled until further notice. As well as these events, the larger school events like Production and Athletics Carnival to be held late in June, have been cancelled. Classrooms in Primary School have been changed depending on class size to provide for adequate Social Distancing. In Secondary School, classes have been changed to accommodate social distancing for the larger numbers at Years 9 - 12.

Measures around the school for personal and campus hygiene have been enhanced through the providing of liquid soap dispensers in the toilets and wash basin areas, the daily wiping down of desktops and cleaning of toilets, classrooms and gathering areas using detergents. Please feel welcome to provide your child/children with their personal soap and covered soap container. The Canteen is selling only dry food items in sealed packets and drinks in sealed bottles and cans. We believe we have done our best to comply with the COVID-19 regulations and monitor the implementation of our measures on a daily basis. If there are suggestions for improvement, please feel welcome to convey these in my physical absence at the school, to Mr. Patrick Baiwan Head of Administration, or to the respective Head of School: Mrs. Grace Savitas and Mrs. Fiona Burain or to our Head of RE, Faith and Mission, Mr. Raymond Rangatin.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are many people to acknowledge and thank for their active support in responding to the challenges posed by COVID-19 and I run the risk of leaving people out nonetheless I will do my best.

Firstly to our wonderful students P-12 who have shown great resilience to withstand the uncertainty of the past 6 weeks and return to OLSH full of courage, hope and renewed energy to apply them to their learning every day in every lesson. To the P-12 teachers who have been working tirelessly since 21 April to ensure a smooth return for our students and follow all the guidelines and instructions in various government circulars and media statements. OLSH brought its staff back one week ahead of other schools in Papua New Guinea based on earlier notice that schools would reopen on Monday 27.

Our teachers and ancillary staff work very hard to make OLSH the beacon school it is in New Ireland Province. To all the ancillary staff for supporting the school with ensuring the majority of structural changes that needed to be made before 4 May were accomplished. I especially commend and thank the Maintenance Team for their dedicated effort.

To the Leadership Team for their exemplary leadership of the School in my absence and for regular follow up conversations and emails to me. We are leading the daily running of the school in a manner that we had never envisaged we would have been called to do.

To our vital partners - all the parents for their support in word and in deed. Parents have donated cartons of soap and the thermometer for Thermal Scanning as well as vinyl covering for the desks in Prep and Grade 5 classrooms. I sincerely thank these parents who do not wish to be named.

To the New Ireland Provincial Government for providing a startup kit of masks.

We ask our living, loving God to bless our health and our efforts to do our best every day in every lesson. We have the faith to believe we can. In this month of May, the month of the Rosary and devotion to Mary our Blessed Mother, I end with an excerpt in the beautiful prayer from Pope Francis, sent to me by Bishop Rochus Tatamai:

"We fly to you Mother of God and our Mother and seek refuge under your protection.

Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them risking their lives to save others.

Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences on the economy and employment. Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health. Amen."



May the month of Mother Mary.

APRE NEWS LETTER: Term 2 week 1 2020

CATHOLIC CHURCH CALENDAR: Week 4 of Easter Year 'A' 2020.

WEEK REFLECTION.

READING FOR THE WEEK: John 10: 1 - 10

Message: "I came so that you might have life more abundantly.

Jesus the gate: He is the saviour who leads us to the kingdom of God.

Jesus, the Shepherd: He is our leader and saviour to lay his life down to save us from sin. Jesus is our shepherd, and is always concerned about us. He knows each of our names and he loves us. He is faithful to us and we must try to be faithful to him. Jesus the good shepherd who gave his life for us, is risen!

Welcome back to each and every one to OLSH International School for term 2 of the education year 2020.

Hope you are all well rested from the 6 weeks lock - down during the State of Emergency. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has created new ways for us to live life in a lot of different ways.

For the moment some rules and regulations under the National Government of Papua New Guinea's State of Emergency have been minimised.

Having church services was never stopped by the National Government but Social Distancing was stressed as a must to be exercised in all church gatherings. Friday School Mass is on hold at the moment due to all these changes. However the daily classroom prayer life of the school still continues in all classes.

It is now the month of May!! The month of Mother Mary. *Pray the Rosary during the month of May every day for God to stop the work of Covid -19 and for the souls of those who have died of the disease and for the comfort and peace for those who have lost their loved ones because of covid-19. May God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit with the grace of Holy Mother Mary continue to protect us from Covid-19. God bless you all.*

Mr R. Rangatin