Dear Parents,

Welcome
Welcome back to Our Lady of the Way School for 2012. A special welcome to all new families to our school community. Being new myself to Our Lady of the Way, I am looking forward to working with students, staff and families in my role as APRE. A little about myself; this is my second year in Brisbane. Before then I lived in the Northern Territory for 19 years, working in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs. I must say that I am very much enjoying the more temperate climate here in Brisbane.

Ordinary Time
At present we are in a part of the Church’s Calendar known as Ordinary Time. It is timely then to reflect on what this means. First the word ordinary is not meant in the sense of nothing special but that in this time there is a set order to what is read in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. The colour of this time, green symbolises hope and growth as we listen to the Word of God presented to us I a certain order so that we can participate and live into the challenges of the Gospel as members of the Body of Christ. In Ordinary Time we focus on one of the three Gospels - Matthew, Mark and Luke. This year is year of Mark often referred as “the gospel in hurry” due to its brevity and the pace of events that are recounted about Jesus’ life. Mark’s gospel is dated as the first gospel written—around the year 60 - 70 AD. It was written for a predominantly non Jewish community possibly in Syria. Ordinary time allows us to immerse ourselves in the life of Jesus and as we do this we allow ourselves to be open to where, what and who we are called to be in the relationships and events of our daily life.

Our School
At the beginning of the year it is timely to reflect on who we are as a school community. Our Lady of the Way is a catholic parish school. We are part of the wider community that is the faith community or parish of Petrie. As part of the community our school enriches the life of the parish and the parish enriches the life of the school. We are in the fortunate position where the Church and school are physically situated in very close proximity to each other so that we have numerous opportunities to witness to our school motto “United in Faith” The name of our school - “Our Lady of the Way” reminds us that it is through the life of Mary that we learn what it is to be a follower of Jesus. Mary models for us what it is to be open and trusting of God. She is also for us a model of strength by the way in which she supported her Son Jesus in His mission even to the point of being with her son when all others had abandoned him and when he was put to death because of His fidelity to God’s message of love. As members of Our Lady of the Way community, we are called to imitate Mary in her love and fidelity to Jesus and like her to be open to the power of the Holy Spirit acting in our lives.

Have a wonderful beginning to the school year.
Kind Regards
Bill Bemelmans
APRE

Scripture of the Week
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
"This is the time of fulfilment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."
(Mark 1:14)

OLW SCHOOL PRAYER
Our Lady of the Way,
Lead us in our Christian mission.
Guide us through prayer to faith.
Teach us to honour the diversity in our community.
Inspire us as we learn each day.
Be with us as we walk together, united in faith.
Holy Spirit sisters, pray for us.
Our Lady of the Way, pray for us.
Saint Mary of the Cross, Pray for us. Amen
FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Dear Parents,

Welcome all, and a special welcome to all our new families in 2012. It is with great excitement that the year begins, for the children, for you their families, for the staff and for me personally. It is a year fresh and new and filled with endless possibility for each of us.

I am privileged and honoured to lead the school from the role of Principal for the year. I wish to thank you for choosing Our Lady of the Way for the primary school education of your children and I hope that you and your children have a wonderful year as part of our school community. I commend to you our dedicated and professional learning team of teachers and school officers, and know that positive relationships focused on the learning of your/our children will develop between yourselves and ourselves throughout the year.

We welcome Mr Bill Bemelmans to the APRE role. Bill has accepted the acting position for the 2012 year. Bill comes with much experience in religious and school leadership, most recently in the Northern Territory.

We also welcome Mrs Kim Harding to our school as Year 2 teacher, and as her teaching partner we welcome Miss Cassie Devine. Cassie joins us as Mrs Rebecca Caddy travels north to join her husband in a Darwin work odyssey for 2012.

In our learning enrichment centre we have three new school officers joining the team whom we welcome: Sonya Lombardi, Helen Ryan and Karen Robinson.

This year as a school our priorities include the implementation of the Australian Curriculum English and History; and continuing the implementation of the Australian Curriculum Maths and Science that were begun in 2011. We will also review our literacy practices as a whole school to ensure good literacy practice and continue work to improve numeracy of our students implementing Maths blocks across the school.

Some general reminders:
School starts at 8.30am and finishes at 2.50pm.
Our car park is a joint facility between parish and school.
We are a nut free school (and as our anaphylaxis trainer said yesterday:
‘The only nuts in our school are the teachers!’)
Please read our school policy statements they are all available on our website and give you a clear understanding of our values and beliefs with regard to aspects of education and schooling.
Please check our school uniform policy, one item that we regularly talk about is the requirement of black leather shoes - these shoes can be multipurpose black leather shoes serving the purpose of formal and sport uniforms
Please read the jewellery and hair policy statements.

I trust your children will have an exciting and wonderful start to the year, and that through your tears, or joy, you will too. I hope to see you at our Parent Teacher Information Night on Wednesday 8th February at 7pm.

Yours in education,

Jo Scott-Pegum
Principal

SCHOOL DATE CLAIMERS
Parent Teacher Information night  -  Wednesday  8th February
**TUCKSHOP - ROSTER/NEWS**

Tuckshop starts back tomorrow Wednesday 25th January.
Volunteers are needed. Please drop in and see the ladies and let them know when you can offer any assistance even an hour in the morning is a help.

Fri 26th Jan     Mon 30th Jan     Wed 1st Feb     Fri 3rd Feb
..........................................................HELPERS NEEDED..........................................................

**Tuckshops new menu and price increase for 2012.**
Over the holidays the tuckshop prices were reviewed and due to a lot of items being under cost price and also having received the 2012 suppliers price increases, we have had no option then to increase our prices.

The new menu showing new prices will be sent home via your eldest child’s school bag by the end of this week. The new prices will take affect from Monday 30th January.

Thank you
Jacqui Cooper
Cath Tonks

---

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Hours of Trade
Wednesday 2-30pm to 4pm Friday 8-00 to 9-30am
Other times by appointment
Email: olwuniformshop@gmail.com Phone 3285 2977 ext 7
After hours 0409 493 826 (Kim)

---

**DID YOU KNOW??**

**FEES:** Term 1 school fees will be sent out by the end of next week via your eldest child’s school bag. We would like to encourage each family to use the Direct Debit facility to pay school fees. This is a great way to pay your school fees and an efficient way for the office to process your payments. Please contact Helen Low for a direct debit form. **Please note:** a new direct debit form needs to be completed each year.

If you’re experiencing financial hardship, please contact Helen Low (Finance Secretary) on 3285 2977 Option: 3 to discuss payment plan options.

2012 School Fee information can now be accessed from the school’s website. Click on this link http://www.petriecatholic.com/school/content/view/97/149/ or go to www.ourladyoftheway.qld.edu.au click on **Parent info** and then **School fees**.

---

**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE**

Can you please contact the office if you have changed any of your contact details: mobile and home phone numbers, work numbers, home address, emergency contacts (if not you) please let the office know ASAP.
**LIBRARY NEWS wk 1**

Welcome back. The children will start borrowing in week 3. The borrowing days do have to be finalised and I will list these when they are known. We want children to use the wonderful books that are in the library and they will need a library bag to protect the books.

There is a very enjoyable display at the State Library on children’s Picture Books. Big people and little people would find it interesting.

Happy Reading Sandra Driver

---

**School Banking**

Just to let you know, School Banking will continue to be on Tuesday and will start again next week. All you need to do is send your deposit book to me in **Tuesday morning’s Internal Mailbag**.

School Banking is designed to encourage saving and every time you deposit some money you get a token – once you get the right amount of tokens you can trade them in to redeem a reward.

The School also benefits by receiving a commission on deposits made. I will send out the 2012 Reward Redemption Cards when they arrive to all pre-existing bankers when they come to hand and if you would like to know more about the programme you are welcome to collect an Information Pack from the Office.

Happy Banking!
Jean Power – School Banking Co-ordinator

---

**Keen for your daughter to play a team sport?**

**Strathpine Scorpions**

**Netball Club**

**SIGN ON!**

**SATURDAY 28th JANUARY**

9am – 5pm

**WESTFIELD STRATHPINE**

(Outside Mega Choice, near Aldi)

If you can’t make it, check out our website

**www.strathpinescorpions.com**

**BUT BE QUICK!**

---

**Zumba Classes.**

Due to teachers being unavailable there will be **no** Zumba classes after school on a Wednesday this Term.

I will let you know at the end of this term about Zumba classes for term 2.

Thanks
Amy Hutchinson
Dance teacher.
YOU ARE INVITED
TO JOIN US FOR A MASS, CELEBRATING
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS SCHOOL
75TH ANNIVERSARY (1937-2012).

Date: Sunday 19th February, 2012
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Our Lady Help of Christians Church,
Cnr. Manson Road & Bowman Street, Hendra

Please join us after Mass for a barbeque and spend some time catching up with old friends.

R.S.V.P to Sue Williams (AP-RE) – 3rd February 2012.
Our Lady Help of Christians – 3268 3070
swilliams@bne.catholic.edu.au
Please include your name and contact details.

KIDS LOVE DRAMA
PARENTS LOVE THE RESULTS!

Our unique drama system develops confidence and communication skills in children and teenagers.

Dynamic and structured, our programme covers speech, movement, creative drama and language development with all students participating in an end-of-year production.

Our acclaimed drama programme is implemented by dynamic teachers who work enthusiastically to bring out the very best in your child.

Affordable Fees! No Hidden Costs!

Lower Primary (5-8), Upper Primary (9–12) and Youth Theatre (12–18).

Helen O’Grady Drama Academy
Please phone the Principal Margaret Treuel B.A., Dip. Ed.
3353 0555

PADUA COLLEGE

Enrolments are being accepted now for Year 5 in 2017 and Year 7 in 2019.

Interviews soon for Year 8 2014.

www.padua.qld.edu.au

or PH: 3857 9999

Padua College
SCHOLARSHIPS
25 February 2012
Two Academic scholarships are offered for
Years 8, 9 & 10/2013-2015.

and
Two Academic scholarships are offered for
Years 11 & 12/2013-2014
Registration via our website –
www.padua.qld.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships
Cost: $105
Closing Date: Monday 6 February 2012