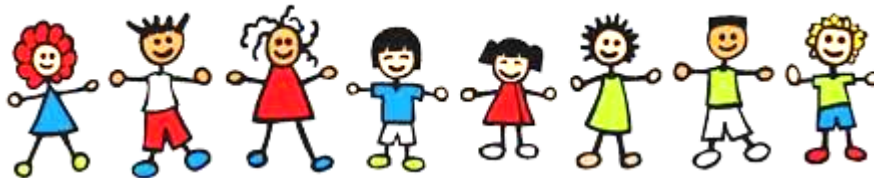




Student Handbook



Welcome

Welcome to our school community. We hope this handbook helps you to learn a bit about our fantastic school.

We have lots of staff at OLSC. Some are teachers, some are learning support, some work in the office and some keep our grounds safe.

One thing that is unique about our school is that we call all our staff by their first name.

We hope you enjoy your time here and make many precious memories.

School Vision

Our Lady of the Southern Cross Catholic School community recognises the central place of Faith and Gospel values.

Collaborative partnerships between students, staff, parents and the wider community build an environment that is welcoming and inclusive, where each person is valued for their individuality and encouraged to strive for excellence.

Members of our community are life-long learners and our students aspire to being innovative and progressive citizens who contribute positively to society.

School Motto

Where every child is valued.



Our School Name and Image

The name of our school, Our Lady of the Southern Cross acknowledges Mary, the mother of Jesus, as standing before the cross of Jesus and watching over him. We believe that Mary also watches over us and guides our school.

The image of Mary of the Southern Cross shows Mary as a rural woman standing with the child, Jesus, in a field. The child is dressed in a romper suit, as any child today might be. Mary is wearing a simple brown dress. Mary's face is serene, yet possessing great strength. It could be the face of an Aboriginal woman, or even the face of a European migrant.

Behind the picture of Mary the shadow of the cross can be seen. It is as if her shadow and the shadow of the cross are one. The Southern Cross, a sign of hope, has hung in our sky since before any person walked this ancient land. The Southern Cross is a pointer of direction just as Mary was a pointer to her Son. The colours of the painting, olive greens and ochre reds, are similar to the countryside that surrounds the Werribee area.



Our School Song

CHORUS:

Our Lady of the Southern Cross

This is our place, this is our faith

Together we stand in our Great South Land

The Cross of Stars showing us God's way

1. You answered yes when you heard God's call

A journey of faith, God's will be done

May we trust and say yes to God

And may we grow in the heart of God's love

2. You walked with Jesus and prayed with him

Beneath the cross you cried for your Son

May we follow his footsteps hand in hand

As we learn and grow may we live in his love

3. You wept with joy as your Son rose

You carried his joy to all the earth

May we be a disciple like you

And be his voice, Good News for the World!

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School Values

At Our Lady of the Southern Cross, we have 3 main core values that students are to display at school.

Respect:

'Love one another. As I have loved you, so also you must love one another.' John 13:34

Be kind to one another

Use manners

Use a quiet and calm voice

Listen to one another

Follow instructions of all staff members

Responsibility:

"...I say to you, they who believe in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will they do..." John: 14:12

Take ownership of our actions

Take care of our and others belongings

Clean up after ourselves

Resilience:

"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of... love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7

Have a growth mindset

Always try your best - never give up

Have a go

Bounce back

Learn from our mistakes

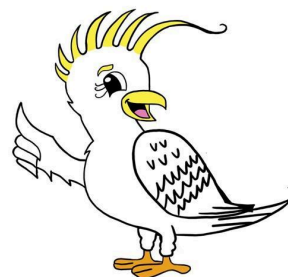
Positive Behaviours

At OLSC we have Positive Behaviours for Learning. These are the expectations for how we need to behave and treat others. This makes our school a happy and safe place to be.

Positive Behaviours for Learning <i>Under the Southern Cross we shine when ...</i>					
We show...	Everywhere	Indoors	Outdoors	Wider Community	Digital
RESPECT <i>'Love one another. As I have loved you, so also you must love one another.'</i> <i>(John 13:34)</i> <i>'May we follow his footsteps hand in hand As we learn and grow, may we live in his love.'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We use our manners We use a quiet & calm voice when speaking with one another We use kind words and actions We listen to all opinions We are aware of the personal space of others We listen to and follow the instructions of all staff We think before we speak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are patient We use an inside voice We allow others to learn We respect other people's belongings We speak using appropriate words and tone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We move to our line calmly and on time We line up and follow instructions We use equipment appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We use the school crossings We actively participate in all school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We report damage or breaks to a teacher We ask permission before taking photos or videos of another person We take and use photos or videos for learning only We delete photos or videos from the device when we have finished using them We use our Google Suite account (including email address) for learning only
RESPONSIBILITY <i>'...I say to you, they who believe in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will they do...'</i> <i>(John: 14:12)</i> <i>'This our place, this is our faith... May we be a disciple like you And be his voice, Good News for the World.'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We take care of our belongings We look after our learning spaces We take ownership of our choices We wear the correct school uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are ready for our learning We stay on task We get permission before leaving any learning space We put resources away when we are finished using them We walk when inside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We follow the rules in games We are sunsmart We wait for the teacher before entering any space We move in a safe way We keep our hands and our feet to ourselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We walk to the pick-up bay and sit quietly We walk with our bike and scooter on the school grounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We keep passwords and personal information private We only access appropriate sites and apps online We store ICT equipment correctly We hand our mobile phone in to our learning group teacher each day We charge our devices each day (school devices at 3pm and personal devices at home)
RESILIENCE <i>'For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of... love and self-control.'</i> <i>(2 Timothy 1:7)</i> <i>May we trust and say yes to God And may we grow in the heart of God's love.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have a growth mindset We always try our best We have high expectations of ourselves and others We accept the consequences of our actions We learn from our mistakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We include others We work cooperatively We never give up when things get hard We seek solutions to solve problems We accept challenges and work hard to reach them We always try to improve by setting goals for ourselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We let an adult know if we are feeling unsafe We show good sportsmanship We talk through our disagreements with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We look after our own belongings We represent our school in a positive way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We use technology as a tool for learning We report anything that makes us feel uncomfortable to an adult We try different strategies when technical difficulties arise

Sam is our PBL Mascot: he reminds us we can be a **STAR** if we...

Show Respect
Take Responsibility
Always be
Resilient



Teachers give out GOTCHA cards to students who try really hard to be a STAR. Students write their name on the card and place it in the Gotcha card box in the learning space. Fridays after lunch each learning group teacher draws a Gotcha card out of the box. The lucky student comes to the Wellbeing Hub to the rewards box and chooses a prize.

Houses

At OLSC we have four houses that are named after important people or places.

Our house colours are:



Andrew (Blue)

This is named after our parish which is the foundation of the faith community for Werribee.



Heaney (Yellow/Gold)

Named after the first Parish Priest of St Andrew's Parish.



Kavanagh (Green)

Named after the Josephite Sister who was the Pastoral Associate of Wyndham Vale.



Yowangeet (Red)

The name of the Wathaurong clan who were the original custodians of the land where Manor Lakes now stands.

Throughout the year students earn points for their house through sporting activities, showing school values and during specialist classes. At the end of the year the shield is awarded to the house with the most points.

Whole School Assemblies

At OLSC we have whole school assemblies twice a term. The assemblies are run by our student leaders. Families are welcome to come to our assemblies.

At assembly we celebrate all the great things that have been happening at our school. Each assembly we give an award to a student in each learning group for being an effective learner and role model. These students follow our school values and always try their best.



The Aussie of the Month award recognises students for their contribution to our school community.

Aussie of the Month Award winners are students who:

- Are role models for others
- Show consideration and respect for others
- Are inclusive: live our school motto: where every child is valued
- Offer a helping hand to those in need
- Show pride in themselves as well as our school
- Take ownership of their choices: think before they act
- Always do their best
- Are honest & sincere
- Become involved in whole school activities
- Have a positive attitude and
- Have a polite & friendly nature



We are Here for You

At OLSC all staff are here to support and help all students.

If you are worried about something, have a problem, feel unsafe or need help in any way, you can talk to:

- ◆ Your Learning Group teacher
- ◆ The leader in your learning centre
- ◆ Staff on yard duty
- ◆ Sandy, our Deputy Principal
- ◆ Justin, our Principal

Remember, a problem shared is a problem halved.

Play Areas and Yard Duty

There are five different play areas at OLSC.

- ◆ Junior adventure playground
- ◆ Grass area outside LC3
- ◆ Sportsfield
- ◆ Basketball Court area
- ◆ Senior adventure playground

There is a teacher plus learning support officers on yard duty in each area for every break. The staff wear yellow fluoro vests so they are easily seen.

House captains give out sports/play equipment at the beginning of each break.

First Aid

All staff at OLSC are trained in first aid. If you get hurt when playing outside the yard duty teacher will send you inside to the first aid room.

If you feel unwell at any time, talk to your teacher, who will send you to first aid. The office staff will look after you and ring your parents if needed.

Outdoor Spaces

We have many areas to play at OLSC. Each play area is supervised by teachers during our break times.

Junior Adventure Playground

This is used by Prep - Year 2 students.



Senior Adventure Playground

This is used by Year 3 - Year 6 students.



Multicultural Garden

Our Multicultural Garden and mural were created in 2022 to show all the cultures that make up our school community



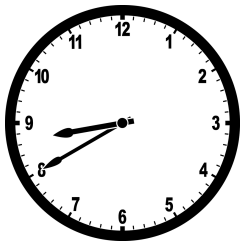
Junior Garden

This area is home to our chickens and our vegetable garden.



We have a Gardening club that meets once a week and looks after these gardens.

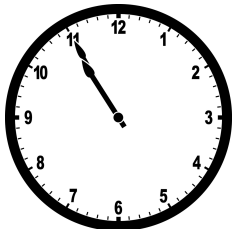
The School Day at OLSC



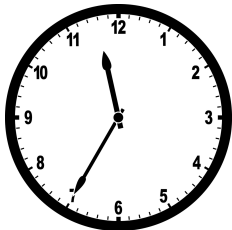
Home Group
8.40am



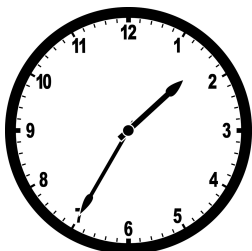
Session 1
8.55am



1st break
10.55am



Session 2
11.35am



2nd break
1.35pm



Session 3
2.15pm



Home Time
3.15pm



At OLSC we are in Learning Centres.

- We also have a Performing Arts room and a Visual Arts room.

[illegible]

Extra Fun Activities

We gather as a school community in the hall to celebrate together. We have:

- ◆ School Liturgies
- ◆ School assemblies where students receive awards
- ◆ Learning Expos
- ◆ Multicultural day
- ◆ School Feast Day



Throughout the year our teachers, student leaders and Parents & Friends team plan lots of fun things for us to do such as:

- ◆ Excursions
- ◆ Incursions
- ◆ Camps for Years 3 – 6
- ◆ Sports days
- ◆ Book Week
- ◆ Casual Clothes days
- ◆ Special lunch days
- ◆ School disco



Or Year 3 - 6 students represent our school and compete against other schools in the area in events such as:

- ◆ Winter & Summer Gala: team sports
- ◆ Athletics
- ◆ Cross Country
- ◆ Hoop Time



OLSC Uniform

All students at OLSA are expected to wear the correct school uniform. We have a uniform for summer, winter and sport. Our uniform can be bought from the uniform shop at school.



Boys Winter

Long navy cargo pants, orange long or short sleeved polo shirt, navy windcheater or sleeveless polo fleece, navy socks & black school shoes

Girls Winter

Navy pinafore or pants, orange school polo shirt, navy jumper or bomber jacket, navy socks/ tights & black school shoes.

Boys Summer

Navy cargo shorts, orange school polo shirt, navy jumper or bomber jacket, navy socks, black school shoes.

Girls Summer

School dress, navy jumper or bomber jacket, white socks & black school shoes. Girls may also wear the skirt with an orange polo shirt. Girls may wear navy blue short-shorts under their dresses.



Sports Uniform Boy/Girls



Sports polo shirt for child's sports team
- Red, Gold, Green or Blue
Navy shorts / skorts
School tracksuit pants
Runners and white socks
Students participating in Inter School sport such as Cross Country will wear the orange school polo shirt. For team sports the school has a set of jumpers/tops in the school colours

School accessories

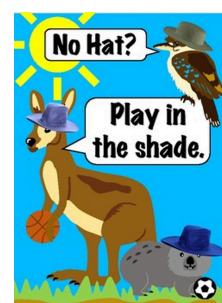
All students must have a school hat, book bag & school bag. These can be also be bought from the school's uniform shop.



Sunsmart

We are a sunsmart school. All students must wear a hat when outside from 1st September until 30th April. Students who do not have a hat will be asked to stay in the shade.

School hats are available from the uniform shop.



Leadership Roles at OLSC

The Year 6 students have a chance to be leaders of our school by writing an application and having the courage to read a speech to the year 5/6's and staff. These are the leadership roles:

School Captains & Vice Captains
SRC - Student Representative Council
Social Justice
House Captains
Technology
The Arts
Sustainability

Leadership Day

Early term 4 all year 5 students are involved in a Leadership Day. The theme of the day is 'The Leader in Me.' The learning intentions for the day are to:

- Define what a leader is
- Recognise effective leaders in our lives
- Identify the qualities, skills and behaviours of effective leaders
- Identify our personal leadership skills and behaviours
- Build resilience and leadership skills

The students work in groups, list responses to the qualities & skills of effective leaders & write a quote or motto about leadership.

Our current school captains & vice captains talk about what being a leader at OLSC means to them.

The final part of the day the students are led through the process of applying for the many student leadership positions for the following year.