From the Principal...

Dear Parents,

Last week we held our first meeting of the Parent Association for the 2016 school year and it was wonderful to see so many parents in attendance. Our Association continues in the dual roles of fund raising for our school and organising social events for parents, students and teachers.

Congratulations to our 2016 Association office holders.

President - Georgie McElligott assisted by Rachel Misitano
Vice President - Franca James
Treasurers - Diana Capuana assisted by Lara Denes
Secretary - Aislinn Breen

A continued thank you to the many parents who make up the committee of the Association for the expertise and energy they bring to this most important group in our school community.

School Closure

A reminder that this Friday is a student free day. The Prep/Junior teachers will be working with Michelle Bailey a curriculum advisor on our Junior Mathematics structures and the Senior/Middle teachers will be working on streamlining the planning structures across our school.

Regards,

Alan Sweeney
Principal
YEAR OF MERCY
The year of Mercy is a special jubilee year called by the church to explain how Jesus Christ, in his words and actions, reveals the mercy of God. The year of Mercy began on the 8th of December 2015 and concludes on 20th November 2016.

The following prayer for the year of Mercy was written by Pope Francis. This prayer will be prayed throughout parishes and schools in the year ahead. The staff at St. Oliver’s will include this beautiful prayer as part of their reflection and prayer before staff meetings. If any parents or grandparents would like a copy of the prayer please don’t hesitate to contact me.

PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful
like the heavenly Father,
and you have told us that whoever sees you sees him.

Let us hear,
as if addressed to each one of us,
the words that you spoke
to the Samaritan woman:
“If only you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face
of the invisible Father,
of the God who shows his power
above all by forgiveness and mercy
let us - the Church - be your visible face to the world;
you are our Lord risen and glorified.

Send your Spirit and consecrate
every one of us with his anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy
may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your church, with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.

We ask the intercession of Mary,
Mother of Mercy.
And we make these prayers
through you who live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit
for ever and ever.

Amen

Trish Segrave
Religious Education Coordinator
HELP PLEASE

Thanks you to the families who have supported our families in need. I have a family who is currently in need of support. If any families can help out with providing a few meals for a family of 5, your support would be greatly appreciated. Please email me at lsheedy@soapscoevale.catholic.edu.au if you can provide assistance at this time.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

At St Olivers each year we celebrate Ride to school day. This year we will celebrate this day on Friday 4th March. We will also have buddy riding activities across the school throughout the day. Fruit and a box juice will be distributed to each child.

Libby Sheedy
Wellbeing Coordinator

SPORT NEWS

The Seniors have made a great start to interschool sports. On Friday 12th February we played Coburg West at home – All students showed great sportsmanship and teamwork and are looking forward to playing more matches throughout this summer season. The results are posted below:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BAT TENNIS</th>
<th>SOFTBALL</th>
<th>BASKETBALL</th>
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<tr>
<td>BOYS</td>
<td>WIN</td>
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<td>GIRLS</td>
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Good luck to Marcus Delcampo (MB), Jack Capuana (MB), Tianna Romeo (MD), Stephanie Skouris (MB), Cristina Vigiano (SM), Lauren Boato (SG), Sinead Sheehan (SM), Lara Cutajar (SM), Ruby Pratkin (SM), and Giorgia Franzoni (SM) who will be representing our school at the SSV – Coburg District Swimming Trials today at Elite Swimming Pool in Pascoe Vale

Good luck also to Lucas Russo (SD), Ethan Hall (SG), Max Carr (SG), Xavier Said (SG), Alannah Gabrielle (SG), Isabella Tenorio (SG) and Alannah Bell (SD) who will be representing our school at the SSV – Coburg District Tennis Championships this Wednesday at Merlynston Tennis Club.

Miss Cecilia Garden
Sport Coordinator
What’s happening around the levels...

SENIORS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: This week we will discuss the baptismal promises and how Confirmation is a renewal of the promises made at Baptism.

WRITING: As a class we will look at the features of a narrative by planning and drafting a class narrative based on a given topic. In Independent Writing students will work on their own personal writing goals. Our Writing workshops begin and students will attend lessons based on their needs and personal goals.

READING: We will continue reading and responding to our new serial novel ‘Wonder’ by RJ Palacio. Students will read their own books, focusing on using their thinkmarks to record interesting quotes or words. Some students will be reading individually with teachers to determine our future reading groups.

MATHS: Our focus for Maths is Number and Place Value. Students will continue working on place value concepts in their groups.

INQUIRY: This term our Inquiry Unit is called “Eureka”. We will be investigating significant people in Australia’s history by compiling fact files about their life and actions.

REMINDERS:
Just a reminder... If students can bring in two tissue boxes each into the classroom that would be great. Thank you to those who have already done so.

MIDDLES

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will be starting our Lent unit “Alleluia He is Risen”. We will be making Lenten promises, focussing on making a commitment to going beyond themselves this Lent, such as acts of kindness.

WRITING: We will begin looking at the Narrative structure and we will be starting a draft for a whole class Narrative. Students are encouraged to bring in seeds from home to work on.

READING: We will continue reading and responding to our new serial novel ‘Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing’ by Judy Blume. Students will continue reading their own books, focusing on using their thinkmarks to record interesting quotes or words. We will discuss text to text responses, and students will be making their own on Tales of a Four Grade Nothing.

SPELLING: We will be looking at our spelling goals for the year and many of the different strategies we will be using to become better spellers, including using dictionaries to help spell difficult words.

MATHS: Our focus for Maths is Place Value. Children will work in their maths group focusing on skip counting, using place value charts, expanded notation, bundling, odd and even numbers and number lines.

INQUIRY: This term our Inquiry Unit is called “St Ollie’s Rules”. We will start by discussing what it means to have a fair go, as well as make a list of rules and laws that we know.

Just a reminder... If students can bring in two tissue boxes each into the classroom that would be great. Thank you to those who have already done so.
JUNIORS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: This week in our unit ‘Lent and Holy Week’ we will look at the story of ‘The Poor Widow’. We will act out the story using godly play and then focus on its important message. We will encourage the students to make connections with their own lives as well as the wider global world.

READING: During reading sessions we will focus on home reading practices and the regular changing of books. We will also set up the children’s personal reading boxes and continue to explore the choice of ‘good fit’ books.

WRITING: We are continuing to investigate a variety of transactional text types, such as postcards, invitations and thank-you cards. We will explore the audience, purpose and structure of these text types and encourage the children to experiment with writing their own examples.

MATHS: We are exploring the different aspects of place value by making, reading, writing, ordering and recognising a variety of numbers. Various concrete materials will be used to support the student’s understandings.

INQUIRY: This week we are continuing our topic of ‘TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More!’ We will discuss and list the variety of groups the students belong to including school, class, sport, interest and friendship groups. We will look at who belongs to these groups, the particular features of these groups and the various roles and responsibilities of group members.

PREPS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will introduce the children to the class prayer table and talk about the special items that we place on it. We will discuss the importance of prayer.

READING: The children have been learning the sounds/letters through the Jolly Phonics program using actions, songs and identifying words with these sounds. This week we will be learning the letter sounds: c/k, e, and h.

WRITING: The children have been introduced to the concept of writing through thinking. We will be continuing to show our thinking through writing and drawing.

MATHS: In maths will be looking at our number triads 0-5, practising to match the number and a small collection together. The children will also be introduced to the written number word, i.e. 2, two, **.

INQUIRY: Our Inquiry unit this term is ‘Safety Rules’. This week the children will listen to a guest speaker, teaching us about how to be safe around roads.

REMINDERS...

- Remember to continue to practise the jolly phonics sounds at home each night with your child, and return the book as well as their reader bag to school each day.
- Remember to bring in a jar and a photo of your pet.
- This Wednesday 17th February is the children’s last Wednesday off. As of next week, the children will begin full time.
GENERAL NEWS

STATE EDUCATION ALLOWANCE
Applications for the Camps, Sports and Excursion annual payment (CSEF) of $125.00 are now available from the school office.

To be eligible for this payment, a parent of legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non government Victorian primary or secondary school must:
On the first day of Term one or the first day of Term two:
1. Hold a Centerlink Health Care Card, Veterans Affairs Card or Pensioner Concession Card
2. Be a temporary foster parent

Applications are due by the 26th February 2016

FAMILY DETAILS UPDATES
It is important that we have accurate student & family information, particularly home, work and mobile numbers of both parents and emergency contacts. Please inform the office if there are any changes to any of these details.

SUNSMART POLICY
A reminder that all children as part of the school summer uniform children are required to wear their SCHOOL broad rimmed HAT during recess and lunch times, as well as during physical education/sport lessons, during terms one and four. NO HAT, NO PLAY!

STUDENT AWARDS
Week 2
Harry Dixon, Juliette Stella, Max Forgione, Cartia Fragapane, Sophia Scira, Giordano Manca, Madison Rumoro, Michael Stevenson, Steven King, Ava Jakimov, James Hatzievangelou, Olivia Mantarakis, Gabriel McKeon, Alexa Drury, Nicola Gravina, Phillip Pannunzio, Sienna Fragapane, Jett Florence, Sophia Pagotto, Callum Fitzpatrick, Oscar Hubbard, Isabella Longano, Matthew Pagnin, Samantha Ayers, Sienna Romeo, Ronan McElligott, Zachary Iapozzuto, Talia Pitruzzello

Week 3
Michael D’Alberto, Mia Laurie, Dante Mammoloti, Stacey Baltas, Varkey Kurian, Ryder Driscoll, Gabriel Ragona, Ellisse Baviera, Thomas Kittelty, Zara Fox, Ryder Wermuth, Edward Lovrek, Grace Daniele, Zac Izzard, Flynn Hall, Estelle Tabet, Isabella D’Alberto, Adam Scira, Lola Ferrante, Luka Morabito, Luca Sebastian, Christina De Filippis, Aaron Frattasio, Connor Cometti, Olivia Mirenda, Andre Tona, James Astuto, Isaac Marchionni, Harrison M, Leah T

CANTEEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>Silvana Ciccarone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19 February</td>
<td>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22 February</td>
<td>Rebecca Cataldo &amp; Pagona Drury</td>
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Please click HERE for a copy of the Canteen Menu

Please direct enquiries to Di Tabone  dtabone@ozemail.com.au  or 0423 596 221
SCHOOL BANKING.....TUESDAY
The reward system for 2016 includes
- Flying snake Tail & wildlife writer set (term 1)
- Mud Splat Handball & Outback Pat Bag Tag (term 2)
- Backtrack Eraser Pen & Jump/Skip Rope (term 3)
- Bush Fly Fan & Wriggly Glow Worm (term 4)

Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!
This year School Banking is giving students a chance to win a family trip for up to 2 adults and 3 children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi & Robert Irwin.
Students who make 15 or more deposits by end of Term 3, 2016 will automatically enter the draw.
So start banking & Good Luck!

We are always looking for helpers with the school banking program. If you are able to volunteer your Tuesday mornings (2 hours) to help process these transactions please contact Diana Capuana on 0419 331 966 or Lisa Guarino 0403 300 469

PRELOVED UNIFORM PROGRAM
A donation basket is located in the school office foyer. All donations must be clean and have no rips. The second hand uniforms will be available for purchase at our last assembly for term 1

GRADE 6 JUMPERS/SHIRTS
Grade 6 jumpers/shirts arrived last Friday. We trust that everyone received what they ordered. Thank you to our uniform supplier NOONE IMAGEWEAR for another great supply of Grade 6 shirts. Thank you also to our Parent Association member Naomi Bank for organizing this apparel.

AGM RESULTS
Last Wednesday we held our AGM. The results are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Georgie McElligott
Co-PRESIDENT: Rachel Misitano
VICE PRESIDENT: Franca James
TREASURER: Diana Capuana assisted by Lara Denes
SECRETARY: Aislinn Breen

Congratulations to all that have taken on a role in the committee and welcome to our new members. We look forward to the year ahead

TERM 1 EVENTS
- Feb 22nd – Cadbury Chocolate Drive
- March 9th – Subway Lunch Day
- March 24th – Easter Raffle
- March 24th – Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea
St Oliver Plunkett

Last week at OSCH

Plenty has been happening at OSCH already, with new children integrating beautifully into the group. Craft activities included tissue paper flowers for Valenties Day, bead jewellery, and scratch art. Lots of large and complex Lego creations were made, while outside cricket and One-Touch remain favourites. The senior girls cooked chocolate cupcakes (which were delicious despite missing one ingredient) and there was a cubby game that was all about hiding from and fighting off zombies!

Better Buddies Welcome Program

We have made a start on our Better Buddies Welcome Program for the year. The program is linked to the Alannah and Madeline Foundation, and is designed to reinforce positive values such as caring for others, valuing differences, kindness, respect, and inclusion, to prevent bullying and create a positive culture.

So far for the program we are working on making our space welcoming to everybody. We made a birthday wall display, and new children are making self-portraits to stick on the wall. We introduced the two teddy bears which are the mascots for the Better Buddies program, had a discussion about what makes a good friend, and some children began working on making the bears a house. Looking forward to further changing up our space in the weeks to come!