**From the Principal...**

Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome all children and parents to our 2016 school year. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year period and that you all feel well rested and ready for the year ahead. A special welcome to all of the new families who have joined our community this year!

I would also like to welcome back all of our current and new staff. I'm confident that all of our staff will make great contributions to our school community and to the education of your children.

Congratulations to our staff member Giulia Mazzarella and her husband Frank on the birth of their baby girl Alissa. Giulia and Alissa visited our school today and both mum and bub are doing well.

As always there are a number of housekeeping items that need to be shared at the beginning of the year.

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**DIARY DATES**

**FEBRUARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Family WELCOME Evening 5:30pm – 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Confirmation Parent Info Evening 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Parent Association Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Opening school Ash Wednesday Mass 11.45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Background Interviews 1.50pm – 4.50pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Background Interviews 3.40pm – 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>School Closure Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Staff Commissioning/Confirmation/Commitment Mass 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Preps at school full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29–3</td>
<td>Srn. Camp at Sovereign Hill</td>
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</tbody>
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**MARCH**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>National Ride to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Reflection Day Yr 6 at Holy Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Whole School Confirmation Celebration 11.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Holy Thursday Easter Assembly &amp; Morning tea at 9am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Term 1 ends at 1.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
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**APRIL**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Wednesday assembly**

Click [HERE](#) to view the roster for term 1.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Class Mass roster for term 1.

Masses are on THURSDAY at 10.00am.

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Newsletter day will remain on a **Tuesday** this year. The newsletter is available online on our website and via our phone app which is our preferred method for you to access. The benefit of this method is that you can click on the links and it will navigate you to that area e.g. your child’s homework or particular rosters. If you don’t have access to the internet you can receive a hard copy if you wish. If so please notify the office and a hard copy will be sent home with your eldest child. The Newsletter is the main form of communication that our school has with you as parents so please find a little time each week to keep up to date with school happenings.

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We will be having a School Assembly every Wednesday morning commencing at 9.00am (weather permitting). This will be an opportunity for us to gather together and to share a prayer/reflection and any news from around our school.
Think **SAFE**

Be **SAFE**

The ‘drop off zone’ at the front of the school is **not** a parking area! It has been designed to ensure that as many children as possible can be delivered and picked up from school in a safe manner.

The school yard is supervised from 8:40am in the morning and after school until 3.45 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and until 3.30 on Wednesday afternoons. Please be aware that outside these hours parents have the children on the property at their own risk. If on any occasion you are running late collecting your children just notify the office and your children can wait near the office until they can be collected. If you wish to collect your child early on a hot day, please feel free to do so. Parents are however required to sign the children out from the School Office.

I have also attached a copy of a document called Let’s Talk It. This is the protocol that I would encourage you to follow with regards to any concerns that may need to be clarified.

Looking forward to a wonderful year together.

Alan Sweeney
Principal

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**LET’S TALK ABOUT IT…..**

From time to time in any school parents may have a concern or an issue about school life which they may need to resolve. The following steps outline the appropriate process to follow if you find yourself in this position.

**STEP ONE**

Speak to the class teacher or specialist teacher concerned about your issue or problem. (If it is important make an appointment so that teachers are not interrupted during valuable class time). Simple matters can usually be sorted out at this level.

**STEP TWO**

If you are unable to find a satisfactory solution to your problem make an appointment to see the Principal to discuss the matter further.

*Please note:*

*At no time is it acceptable for a parent to directly confront a student as a means of resolving the issues they have*
LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

2016 Staffing

Leadership

Principal: Alan Sweeney
Deputy Principal/Wellbeing: Libby Sheedy
Religious Education: Trish Segrave (M-W,F)
Teaching and Learning Leader/Student Services: Liz Finlayson (M-Th)
I.C.T.: Sue Leighton (M-Th)
Mathematics: Jaki O’Halloran (M-Th)
English: Anne De Cata (T)
Sport: Cecilia Garden
Data Analysis: Lisa Michielin (W)

Classroom Teachers

Prep H: Shelley Hardingham
Prep P: Ria Phegan

JB: Jane Bayley
JL: Kathy Lalor .8 /Ann Marazita .2 (Th)
JP: Adriana Protetto
JR: Matthew Rantall
JW: Meagan Warby

MB: Elise Barrett
MJ: Jessica Trimming
MD: Doris De Lisio
MT: Jessica Toniolo

SD: Anne De Cata .8/Melissa Mercuri .2 (T)
SC: Lisa Michielin .8/Melissa Mercuri .2 (W)
SG: Cecilia Garden
SM: Robert McKenzie
LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

SPECIALIST TEACHERS

ART        Shan Marshall (P-6) (M, T)
I.T.       Sue Leighton (P-6) (M, T)
L.O.T.E.    Elizabeth Puglisi (3-6) (M)
P.E.        Brian Booley (P-6) (M, T)
MUSIC      Ann Marazita (P-2) (T)

CURRICULUM SUPPORT

English/Mathematics Caryn Inglis
English Trish Segrave .4
Mathematics Jaki O’Halloran .4
Creative Thinking Sue Leighton .2 (W)
Data Analysis Lisa Michielin .2 (W)
I.T. Support Sue Leighton .2 (Th)

Teacher Aides/Library Kerrie Weller
Sylvia Van Meel
Teacher Aides Tash Zampogna
Melanie Mazloum
Anastasia Sotiralis

Administration Katherine Darmanin
Bernie Ryan .4 (Tu, W)

Maintenance Denis Rohan

Canteen Di Tabone
Loretta Conboy
CONFIRMATION INFORMATION MEETING

There is a parent information meeting for the children in grade six who will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation this year. The meeting is for both the parents and the children and will be held in the church on Monday 8 February at 7pm. This meeting is an important part of the preparation for the sacrament and either one or both parents may attend along with your child. On the night there will be information regarding the sacrament itself and details of the celebration of Confirmation on Friday 18 March at 7:00. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please let your class teacher or myself know as a Confirmation pack will be distributed.

If there are any parents who will be able to assist with the sewing of the Confirmation Banner could you please contact me as soon as possible.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is 10 February. The students in grades 3-6 will be attending Mass at 11:45 and parents are welcome to attend. The students in the junior grades have a paraliturgy at 2:15 in the church. The grade prep students will receive the Ashes on Friday 12 February at a prayer service in the hall.

Trish Segrave
Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING AND TEACHING

WELCOME BACK TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR...

A warm welcome to all our families, especially our new students and of course our prep children. I’m hoping that everyone has had a wonderful and restful break and ready for a productive and exciting 2016. The prep children have settled into school life amazingly well, as have all the children across all levels.

Next week our ‘What’s Happening around the levels’ section of the newsletter will commence. Each area (prep, junior, middle and senior) will contribute a short synopsis of the teaching and learning foci in their level for that week, as well as any special events that may be occurring. We will also be sending home a curriculum overview in the next few weeks that will provide an outline of the term focus in all curriculum areas.

Parent Teacher Background interviews will be held on the Tuesday 16th February 1:50- 4:50 and Thursday 18th February 3:40- 6:30. For our new families more information regarding the interviews and booking process will be in next week’s newsletter. Online bookings will be available next week.

Home school links are a valued aspect of school life at St Oliver’s. We acknowledge that parents are the primary educators of our children and we anticipate that this ongoing communication will assist you in supporting your child on their journey through school.

Wishing you all a fabulous week!

Liz Finlayson
Learning and Teaching Leader
Twilight Family Welcome Evening

I hope by now you have all received notification of our welcome family night this Thursday 4 February. This will be a great chance for you to meet teachers, catch up with old friends and meet some new friends. Your children have all been allocated buddies and it will be a great opportunity for you to meet them and their family on a very informal evening. The weather is looking great so bring along your dinner, some drinks and something to sit on and enjoy the night.

A note went home yesterday letting you know that sausages and soft drinks can be purchased for $1 each. Looking forward to catching up with many of you.

First Aid

First Aid is a high priority at St Olivers. If your child has any medical needs that we are not aware of please email me at lsheedy@sopascoevale.catholic.edu.au or make a time to catch up with me.

Each year the children’s asthma plans need to be updated. This year we are using an orange plan. These should come home with your children today. No doctor’s signature or photo is required. If you have not received a new plan these can be collected from the office foyer.

Libby Sheedy
Wellbeing leader
GENERAL NEWS

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!

CANTEEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 4 February</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 February</td>
<td>Lisa Blaney, Ruth McColl, Michelle Pagotto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8 February</td>
<td>Betty Fazzari</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
CLICK [HERE](#) FOR THE CURRENT PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**SCHOOL BANKING…..TUESDAY**
The reward system for 2016 includes
- Flying snake Tail & wildlife writer set (term 1)
- Mud Splat Handball & Outback Pat Bag Tag (term2)
- Backtrack Eraser Pen & Jump/Skip Rope (term3)
- Bush Fly Fan & Wriggly Glow Worm (term4)

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.

**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

**ST OLIVER’S BUSINESS DIRECTORY**
The new edition of the St Oliver’s Business Directory was distributed out in 2015. We hope you find this a useful booklet and remember to mention where you saw their advert when utilizing it.

**PARENT ASSOCIATION 2016**
The Parent Association is a group of parents (mums & dads) who organise fundraising events to raise money for the children’s needs at school. Throughout the year we hold various events, profits from which go directly back to the school in the form of books, sports equipment, subsidizing excursions, camps, graduation and communion parties. All of the efforts are done with the expectation of keeping our school fees low and giving our kids a wonderful educational experience.

Having said all that we need [MORE PARENT HELPERS]!! If we do not gain more volunteers this year, it will be a bleak future for this parent driven organisation. Please be aware that without a Parent Association, our sense of community within St Oliver’s would decrease and our school fees would significantly increase to maintain the high level of standard in equipment and services already provided.

Our meetings are conducted on the second Wednesday of every month during the school term only (about 8 or 9 times a year) from 7.30pm till 8.30pm, in the school staffroom. Our AGM is scheduled for **Wednesday 10th February**. This is the perfect meeting to discuss our potential events for the year. Possible fundraising at St Oliver’s in 2016 include mothers & father’s day stalls, kids disco, sportsman night, Bunnings BBQ, Bogan Bingo Night and Funde Voucher booklets. We are open to new ideas and welcome them.

**PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES 2016**
- Feb – Wednesday 10th
- March -- Wednesday 9th
- April – Wednesday 13th
- May – Wednesday 11th
- June – Wednesday 8th
- July – Wednesday 13th
- August – Wednesday 10th
- October – Wednesday 12th
- November – Wednesday 9th including Xmas planning and dinner
The annual meeting for volunteers and those wishing to become involved in St Oliver's parish Children's Liturgy will be held on:

**Monday, 15 February at 7.00pm**

**St Oliver’s Parish Centre**

*(next to the church)*

This will be a short informal meeting to plan our **Children’s Liturgy Program for 2016**. At the meeting we will explain how this very successful program works at the 10.30 Sunday Mass and show some of the resources and assistance available, especially for any new volunteers. We will also be filling in the roster for the year so you will have the chance to choose your preferred dates.

If you are able to attend the meeting please RSVP to Aislinn Breen on 0402 182 642 or aislinnbreen@hotmail.com

If you have helped in the past but are not able to this year, please let Aislinn know.

Looking forward to seeing lots of you there. Thanks again for your commitment.

Aislinn Breen and Joanne O’Sullivan

*Children’s Liturgy Co-ordinators*
St Oliver Plunkett

JOIN THE FUN
Don’t forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs these school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program:

How to get started
Before using our programs register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy.

Once registered
You can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day.

Save on Care
Save 50% or more on Before and After School Care with the Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343

Healthy Snacks
Afternoon tea is served daily. Menus are tailored to children’s tastes, developmental and nutritional needs. Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and fruit. Children may also engage in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile
www.campaustralia.com.au