Dear Parents and Children,

Congratulations to all of our students for making Friday’s school sports so successful and thank you to all of the parents who assisted on the day. Many thanks to Marita Mannix and Jaki O’Halloran for their wonderful behind the scenes organization and to all of the staff who assisted in setting up the rotations early on Friday morning.

Following tomorrow morning’s assembly parents are invited to the staffroom to share a ‘hot cross bun’ morning tea that is being organised by the Parent Association.

The solar cells that we were able to purchase with the 2012 Australian Government Solar grant have been installed on the roof of our Junior building and the new fences that we are installing around our bike shed should also be completed this week.

As we end our first term I’d like to thank all of the staff for their continued professionalism and their hard work. Good luck and thank you to Sarah Daly as she leaves us to move to central New South Wales.

To every child and member of staff I hope you have a well deserved rest and I hope all parents have the opportunity to spend some extra time with your families over the Easter break.

A reminder that on Thursday the children will be dismissed at 1.00 and second term commences on Monday 15th April.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Easter holiday break.

Regards

Alan S.
This Wednesday 27 March, the Junior students will be leading the Easter Paraliturgy in the church at 12:00. They will be re-enacting the main days of Holy Week and leading the whole school in a meaningful and prayerful celebration. Parents are welcome to attend and journey with the children on this day. The prep classes will lead us in prayer for the Resurrection reflection at our assembly on Wednesday 17 April.

There is a faith development and information evening for the parents of the grade three students receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation this year. The meeting is on Monday 22 April at 7:00, in the large multi-purpose room. The meeting is for the parents only.

Trish Segrave Religious Education Coordinator

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT’S VISION STATEMENT

The fourth belief in our school Vision Statement that we strive towards is to:

*Ensure that students have a broad and comprehensive education that equips them to be life-long, independent and active learners.*

We believe that we offer a broad education for students at St Olivers incorporating a wide range of Curriculum. We offer the core subjects of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Humanities (economics, geography, history), Science, Civics and Citizenship, Health and Physical Education, Information and Communication Technologies, and The Arts. We also offer specialist classes in Physical Education, Music, I.C.T., Italian (gr 3-6), Bounce Back (prep – 2).

Running concurrently with our classroom practice is a very comprehensive and focussed support programme that further caters for the individual needs of our students. Our support programmes are targeted in both literacy and numeracy and our creative thinking classes allow the opportunity to extend and develop children across all learning domains.

The staff at St Oliver's provide every opportunity for children to express their learning in their preferred learning style. We use strategies such as De Bono’s six thinking hats and Gardener’s multiple intelligences to explore concepts and big ideas.

The final statement of our school Vision Statement that we strive to reach is to:

*Cater for the individual needs of all our children through a varied curriculum that recognises learning as a continual and developmental process.*

At St Olivers we respect the differing needs of our children. We test our children in a variety of areas to inform us of what is most needed to move each child to the next point in his or her development. We acknowledge that children learn in different ways and at different times and we structure our classes to ensure that children have a sense of achievement and success. Whilst we accept that much of what we teach is compulsory we aim to be creative and vary the way we offer the curriculum in the hope of reaching all children. We welcome children into our prep classes at the beginning of the year knowing that much learning has already taken place. We say goodbye to our year six children at the end of the year hoping that they leave with a sense that much has been mastered but that there is a long life ahead of learning to follow.
What’s happening around the levels...

SENIORS

Wow! What a busy and action packed term!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Being Holy week, students will be involved in many activities linked to this festive celebration. In our classrooms we will be focusing on how Jesus showed generosity through his sacrifices made in the events of Holy week.

WRITING: Students will begin to plan their own persuasive piece, whilst continuing on with their own personal writing.

READING: We continue to read, the Cay and reflect on how the two main characters friendship has developed, using quotes to support our opinions.

MATHS: Students will be working on a variety of subtraction algorithms, including simple problems, solving with zero’s and investigations.

INQUIRY: Students will complete the research of their inquiry action and present these to the class.

Just a reminder...

- Homework is due on Wednesday 27th

Click here for a copy of the current Senior Homework Grid

MIDDLES

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Our unit is called ‘Lent and Easter- A Journey of Hope’. We will complete this unit in preparation for Holy Week at the end of the week. We will be going to the Easter paraliturgy on Wednesday.

WRITING: This week we are continuing our Writing Goal Meetings. We are looking at dictionaries and thesauruses and how these can help us in our Writing.

READING: We will reflect on all we have learnt about Reading Routine this term. We will make Reading goals in our Reflection Journal for Term Two.

MATHS: Our focus for Maths is still TIME! This week we will finish the unit off with our post assessment for our Profile Books.

INQUIRY: Our Inquiry Unit is ‘The Culture Club’. We will reflect on Harmony Day last week and all we have learnt about our unit.

Just a reminder... We need two packets of tissues from each child so the students need to bring them in as soon as possible.

Click here for a copy of the current Middles Homework
JUNIORS

RELIGION: As we focus on the events of Holy Week, the Juniors have been finalising their class presentations in readiness for Wednesday’s Paraliturgy. This will be held in the church at 12.00pm. We look forward to seeing parents there to support their children.

READING: This week during reading sessions we will continue to engage the children in shared reading practices with a focus on the use of different punctuation conventions used by authors.

WRITING: This week the children will be focussing on the editing and publishing of their recounts. They will focus on the final presentation of their work and how it can be enhanced by supportive illustrations.

SPELLING: We will be revising the sounds covered this term and using various games and activities to reinforce the onset and rhyme patterns studied.

MATHS: This week the Juniors will be completing “I can do maths’ tasks and using the Easter theme as a focus for maths based activities.

INQUIRY: We are continuing the Inquiry unit ‘Cultures Galore’. The children are recording their information on their chosen countries and exploring different ways to represent their understandings in the form of pictures, drawings, statements and captions.

PREPS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: The children will continue to practise their Easter song ‘Jesus is Alive’. We will also be re-enacting the story of the Last Supper through the use of Godly Play.

WRITING: The children will be linking their writing to the books we read and the Easter story.

READING: The children will continue their Jolly Phonics letter sounds. This week’s letters are z and w and the children will also be introduced to vowel pair’s ee and or. They will also be revising and blending the letters learnt so far.

MATHS: In Maths will be revising 2D shapes and the numbers 1-5 which we have learnt this term.

INQUIRY: We will be going over St Oliver’s school rules and getting the children to role play different scenarios of children following these rules.
Ride To School Day
Thankyou to all the children who rode or walked to school today, it was fabulous to see so many active families and so few cars on Landells Road. Our breakfast was a great success. Thanks to the support of many staff and parents. Continue to ride throughout the holidays and enjoy the magnificent weather we are having.

Michael Grose- Parenting insight
Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning. Michael suggests this is how we nurture our child’s thinking skills.

Parade College
Parade College has invited boys and girls from years 5 and 6 to participate in their Semester 1 enrichment program. The program operates for 5 weeks starting on the 24th April. The cost of the program is $20. For more information please contact Dr Anna Pollard on 9468 3300 or Dr Edison Shamoail on 9416 6500 who are the coordinators of the program.

Pascoe Vale Girls College
Pascoe vale Girls College invites prospective students (year 7 2014) and their parents to attend an information session at the college. The information sessions will occur at 11.00am on Tuesday 30th April and Thursday 2nd May. An evening session is also available commencing at 7.00pm on Wednesday 1st May. Bookings are essential; please phone the college on 9306 2544 to reserve a place.

Community Support Program
Thankyou to the parents who have put their name down for this program. Your roster will be out week one term two. Your support is always appreciated.

Libby Sheedy
Wellbeing Coordinator

The members of the Student Representative Council met recently to plan the school fundraiser for term one. The money collected in the project compassion boxes is being donated to Caritas the Catholic social services agency. We are hoping to raise enough money to improve the drinking water services in Papua New Guinea and provide water filters to improve the quality of the water in Cambodia.

As a way of engaging all the students in the school, on Wednesday 27 March, the children will attempt to line the running track with the coins that have been donated. We will also be having a technology free afternoon. This experience is to highlight how well resourced we are and technology dependent. It is hoped that it will create a sense of empathy with those people who live on a day to day basis without the technological advancements that we enjoy.

Please return all project compassion boxes by Wednesday 27 March.

Trish Segrave
Student Leadership Coordinator
GENERAL NEWS

SCHOOL ATHLETICS SPORTS

What a fabulous day had by all last Friday for our school sports carnival! Congratulations to the children on their participation, behaviour and overall enthusiasm throughout the day. Along with the lovely weather and terrific support from our parents and teachers, a great day was had by all. It was fantastic to see all children supporting their teams and participating at their best. Congratulations to RED team who were victorious on the day! A special ‘Thank you’ to the many parents who were able to assist with our sports on Friday, your help enabled the day to run smoothly. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated by both the staff and students of our school.

Marita Mannix  Sport Coordinator

FAMILY DETAILS UPDATES

For the safety of your children, it is important that we have accurate student & family information, particularly home, work and mobile numbers of both parents and emergency contacts. If there are any changes to any of these phone numbers, please let the office staff know as soon as possible or alternatively return the slip that was sent home.

SUNSMART POLICY

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

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property is located in a cupboard outside the Sick Bay. If your child is missing any items of clothing we would encourage you to check this area. To ensure there is not such a collection of lost property in the future, please ensure your child’s clothing is clearly labeled.

CANTEEN  Diane Tabone  0423 596 221

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PLEASE NOTE: Mon 25th March is the last day for canteen this term, the canteen will re-open for Term 2 on Thursday 18th April
School Banking has arrived at St Oliver Plunkett School!

School Banking at St Oliver Plunkett School!
St Oliver’s School Banking days are Tuesdays. We currently have 148 bankers—well done students.

Businesses of the week
Businesses on our website this week are O’Heas Bakery, Pascoe Pizza & Pasta, Pascoe St Fish & Chips and Pascoe Vale Central. For information on the businesses please check out the school website or refer to the St Oliver’s Business Directory.

Preloved Uniform Program
A donation basket is located in the school office foyer. All donations need to be clean and have no rips/tears. Preloved uniform will be available for purchase on the last Wednesday of term 1 alternatively if you need something earlier please contact Georgie 0405435770.

Cadbury Chocolates
All unsold chocolates and money were due back two weeks ago on Wednesday 6th March. It is very important to finalise this fundraiser before the end of term 1. For further queries please contact Diana Capuana on 0419 331 966.

Easter Raffle
Raffle books for our Easter raffle were sent home last week. We are asking each child to donate Easter eggs to the raffle. Each class will have at least 1 hamper prize to win… maybe even more prizes depending on how many donations we get. We also are seeking hamper baskets. If you have any that you can donate please send into the school office. Please see the flyer attached for more information.

Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea
With the wonderful generosity of O’Heas Bakery we have been able to organize a Hot Cross Morning Tea for the parents. This will take place after the last school assembly of the term on Wednesday 27th March. All are welcome.

St Oliver’s Business Directory
Application forms for our 2nd Edition of the St Oliver’s Business Directory 2013/2014. Existing advertisers would have already received their renewal forms. Applications for this edition close on April 30th. For further information please contact bd@sopascoevale.catholic.edu.au or click HERE to download a registration form.

FETE NEWS
Date to book on the calendar……Sunday October 27th 2013.
Click HERE to find out how to be a sponsor and advertise at our ‘Funtastic’ school fete.

Thank you
Parent Association
PREP ENROLMENTS 2014

PREP ENROLMENTS
Will be opened from 15 April, 2013

OPEN DAY
Tuesday 23 April 2013
9.00am to 12.00pm

Enrolment application forms may be collected from the school office between 9.00am and 3.00pm

Completed forms need to be returned to the school by Wednesday 8 May 2013 with a non refundable enrolment fee of $20.00

Interviews for prospective families will commence on Monday 13 May.

When enrolling your child please provide both original and photocopies of your child’s birth, baptism and immunization certificate along with an original copy of your rates notice and a utility bill.
Nurture your child’s thinking skills

Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning.

How can you nurture your child’s thinking life in the pre-primary and primary years? The purpose is not so much for your child to excel at school, but to instil a desire to learn and the ability to think for themselves and be resilient enough to resist following the crowd in thoughts as well as actions.

Children spend more time at home than at school yet parents often feel most children’s learning occurs behind the classroom door. Learning is natural and has no boundaries and can happen anywhere.

Parents teach their children both implicitly and explicitly. Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning. If your child sees you reading and taking an interest in a myriad of subjects he or she will be more interested in reading and more than likely develop a sense of curiosity as well.

Curiosity may be the most important learning behaviour that your child develops. Bake a cake with your child and see it rise. Make a model plane and see it fly. Help your child dismantle a broken clock. Ask questions of yourself and of your child. Curiosity needs to be fed by experiences and they don’t have to be expensive or externally provided. They can be provided at home by parents.

It is worth considering how your home environment fosters a sense of curiosity and enquiry in children. Consider the following:

- **Spaces for doing and thinking:**
  Look at your home through the eyes of a child and his or her learning needs. Do you have spaces that invite your child to explore, create and think? Do you have a quiet place for reading and drawing? Do you have a space for kids to be creative and messy? Do you have a place for noise and music? Do you have a space for kids to be tactile with plenty of textures (this can be outside or inside)?

- **Materials:**
  Look at the materials available that can stimulate the senses of a child. These include art materials, books, costumes and masks, sketch pads, construction materials, puzzles and games. Take a minimalist approach. That is, the more bells and whistles that a toy has the less opportunity a child has to be creative with it. Kids don’t need much to be creative.

- **The role of television:**
  Some specifically designed children’s programs such as Playschool are great but much of television promotes a spectator mode of consciousness and suppresses active thinking. Don’t let the TV dominate your child’s free time.

- **Teachable moments:**
  Be on the lookout for teachable moments. These are the opportunities to explain, question and prompt exploration with your child. Looking at insect wings, ants walking in a line or moths flying around the lights can provide teachable moments as long as you are lead by your child and don’t get too heavy handed with the ‘lessons’ learned. Sometimes the experience is enough.

Nurturing in children the ability to think openly about their world starts with their own environment. It involves a mixture of free, open exploration on their own and interactions with adults that stimulate discussions and prompt them to explore new ideas and think. It is these types of experiences that can foster in kids a love of learning and thinking that can help them succeed at school and beyond.

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www.parentingideas.com.au

PO Box 167 Balmarring VIC 3926  P. 03 5983 1798  F. 03 5983 1722  E. office@parentingideas.com.au

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REMINDER: MONEY IS DUE BACK

This year we are selling Cadbury Chocolates again. This is our largest fundraiser for the year so please help the school by selling what you can and have your money back in on time.

This box contains a variety of 50 Cadbury Chocolates that are to be sold at $1 each

Total of box $50

All Unsold Chocolates and money should have been returned to school on Wednesday 6th March 2013.

For any further queries or if you are able to sell more than 1 box of chocolates please contact

Diana Capuana 0419 331 966

Thank you from the Parent Association
LOT OF EASTER EGGS WANTED!!
It is that time of year when we call for

Donations of Easter Eggs (and baskets)
And send home tickets for the

EASTER RAFFLE

Every child will receive a raffle book.  
Every class will have their own Easter egg baskets to raffle.  
Please send your donations to school via your child’s classroom teacher.

Tickets are 50c each or $5.00 a full book.  
Tickets are due back Tuesday 26th.  
Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 27th March at assembly

Thanks once again for your support and good luck!!
The Parent Association

NB: We really need baskets too. If you have any baskets please send them to school.

Thanks
Join Pascoe Vale Auskick in 2013

Registration Day and First Session
Saturday 13th April
9.00 am – 11.00 am
Hallam Reserve
Cnr Landells & Boundary Roads

Register and pay on-line at
www.aflauskick.com.au

Get an awesome backpack jammed full of gear on Registration Day

www.pascoevalesc.org.au
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<td>Saturday 13 April</td>
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<td>Saturday 6 July</td>
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<td>Saturday 13 July</td>
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<td>Saturday 27 July</td>
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All Auskick sessions will be held at Hallam Reserve, Cnr Landells Rd and Boundary Rd, Pascoe Vale. For more information contact Chris Mackenzie on 0412 464 823 or Sam Scrollo on 0418 105 863 or visit www.aflauskick.com.au
OSHC NEWS

Camp Australia has opened a before care program which will run daily from 7:00-8:45am. The program includes breakfast, games, active sports and crafts feel free to ask me about it. OSHC has a new Mob. Number. Please call 0431 722 459. thanks

How to get started before using our programs register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaustralia.com.au

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

Save on Care You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

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www.campaustralia.com.au