Dear Parents and Children,

2012 School Sports
Last Thursday afternoon we were advised by the Moreland City Council that due to the ongoing resurfacing works we will not have access to the Raeburn Street Oval for the next four weeks. We immediately investigated the possibility of moving our School Sports to Cole Reserve or to the Coburg athletics track. Due to a number of factors beyond our control we now have to postpone the school sports until Friday, April 27.

Our disappointment in the late notification of cancelling our oval booking has been communicated to the Moreland Council Parks, Gardens and Sports Department. Hopefully they will consider our bookings when making decisions about future oval works.

Prep Enrolments 2013
A reminder that this Wednesday we are holding our School Open morning from 9.00-12.00. Current parents and the prospective families of the 2013 preps are invited to come along to St Oliver’s and spend some time with the classes as they go about their normal day to day work. Parents will be led on tours of the school and a number of staff will be available to provide information and answer questions. Enrolment forms are available from the school office.

School Banking
At tomorrow morning’s assembly (weather permitting) Olympia from the Commonwealth Bank will speak to the community about the school banking program that we are introducing at St Oliver’s. Please note that we will not be holding an assembly next Wednesday.

O.H.S.P.
The patronage of our after school program continues to grow. In response to parent requests and survey expressions of interest we have also introduced an onsite before school program. Detail of this program can be found on the Camp Australia website.

School Opening Ceremony

Opening Ceremony
Our school Opening Ceremony will be held on Friday, March 9 at 9.00 am. At this assembly the Honorable Kelvin Thomson, Member from Wills, will officially open our school buildings. Following the assembly parents are invited to a morning tea that will be served in the staffroom. For catering arrangements could you please advise the office staff by note or phone call if you attending this morning tea by next Wednesday, 7 March.
Future School funding

The final report of the Gonski review was released on 20 February. It contains detailed proposals on how schools could be funded in Australia.

The report has recommended a new model for schools. At this time the implications in Victoria for Catholic school funding and parent fees are unclear.

We will keep you fully informed of any changes that are likely to affect our school.

The review called for the injection of an additional $5 billion in school funding. The Australian Government has responded cautiously to this proposal.

Prime Minster Gillard has stated that 'indexation will be an element of any new arrangement'. We will wait to see whether this meets the Catholic education position that funding be indexed to keep pace with government school costs.

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) will work with schools to ensure they are well represented in any government consultations.

Regards

Alan Sweeney
Principal

Diary Dates 2012

February
29 School Open day 9:00 – 12:00

March
4 Confirmation Commitment Mass 10:30am
8 School Sports Day postponed
9 BER Opening ceremony 9.10
12 Labour Day Holiday
13 Preps commence full week
14 School Photos
16 Return date for Prep enrolments close – 1st round
   Confirmation 7pm
21 Seniors School Camp
22 Seniors School Camp
23 Seniors School Camp
28 School Closure Day- Contemporary Learning
**SENIORS**

**WRITING:** This week students will continue focussing on their writing goals through Writer’s Notebook. We will model some ‘sizzling starts’ to stories and share strategies with the students to ensure they provide the reader with an interesting start to their writing pieces. We will also use DeBono’s Thinking Hats to provide a scaffold for expanding a writing seed.

**READING:** We continue reading, ‘A Ghost in my Suitcase’ this week, focussing on how the author creates excitement or suspense, through the use of creative language. The students will continue with reading and responding to chosen texts, as well as using various graphic organisers to assist their comprehension of non-fiction texts. This week these texts relate to the Parliament of Victoria and How laws are made.

**SPELLING:** The students will brainstorm contractions eg. can not = can’t. We will determine the role of the apostrophe and practise expanding and contracting words.

**MATHS:** This week we will be focussing on mental and written strategies for solving subtraction algorithms. We will discuss subtraction as meaning the ‘difference’ between two numbers.

**INQUIRY:** We have staff from The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) visiting us this week. They will provide the students with information about preferential voting and how a government becomes elected.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Grade 6 students and parents attended a meeting facilitated by Father Elio Capra on Monday evening, to learn more about the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Sunday sees the first year level Mass for the Senior students, with all families invited to attend. Grade 6 students will be making their commitment to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

*A few reminders...* Camp forms are now overdue. Please return your permission, medical and dietary form by tomorrow, if you haven’t already done so. A ‘What to bring list’ will be sent home shortly. Every family should have received their invoice for camp and are reminded that payment is due by 16th March. Remember that every Thursday is ‘hand in diary day’ – signed and with reading recorded.

**MIDDLES**

**WRITING:** We will begin to examine the structure of Persuasive texts and identify the major language features. The students will continue independent writing during Writer’s Notebook time.

**READING:** We will continue the ‘The BFG’. The students will be exposed to models of various responses to texts. These will include writing about connections between the text and themselves, the world or another text. The students will continue to read and respond independently during our Reading Routine.

**SPELLING:** Our sound focus for the week will be ‘r’ controlled vowel sound, in meaning we are looking at the prefix ‘im’ and we will continue to focus on using mnemonics as visual strategy to help the student spell unfamiliar words.

**MATHS:** This week is our final week in our place value unit. The students will continue to read, write, order and represent 3,4, 5 and 6 digit numbers in various ways. At the end of the week the students will complete an assessment task on this topic.

**INQUIRY:** Our Inquiry Unit is ‘A Fair Go for Everyone’. In groups the students will plan and role play various scenarios and as a class we will discuss the fairness of each situation and the rules and laws that may be involved.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We will complete our topic ‘God’s Holy Spirit in Action’. The students will continue to discuss how the Holy Spirit is present in our lives. They will complete an assessment piece on this topic.
**JUNIORS**

This week in the Juniors, we are covering the following:

**RELIGION:** continuing our topic ‘Alive in the Spirit’ by sharing and discussing the messages we find in St Patrick’s prayer and brainstorming the kinds of gifts that we see in people around us.

**READING:** further development of independent learning and literacy skills through the use of a variety of learning centres and establishing guided reading groups and routines.

**WRITING:** using time connectives to link events when writing recounts and personal writing.

**SPELLING:** building word lists with the sound *ap* (map) and continuing to revise the Jolly Phonics songs, actions and sounds.

**MATHS:** continuing to explore number and place value by making and representing numbers showing bundles of tens and ones. The children will also revise the months of the year by relating months to special events in their own lives.

**INQUIRY:** sharing items and photos brought in by the children to help them make connections to their cultural heritage and help them appreciate similarities and differences in various groups. The children will continue to build up an understanding about the groups they belong to in our unit ‘Working and Playing Together’.

**PREPS**

**WRITING:** This week we will introduce the children to Writer’s Notebook to stimulate their thinking in writing. The children will continue to engage in focus groups to encourage their sounding out of letters and words.

**READING:** The children will continue their Jolly Phonics letter sounds. This week the letters are: u, i, f, and b. We will continue our Big Book reading sessions each morning with the focus of speech marks.

**MATHS:** We will work on number and colour patterns in Math’s this week. The children will also work on matching numbers to the correct amount of dots.

**INQUIRY:** In our Inquiry Unit ‘We Belong to Saint Oliver’s School’ the children will draw on comparisons between St. Oliver’s and home life. Are there similar rules?

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We will begin a new unit called ‘Following Jesus, Loving and Serving’. In this unit we will look at different Bibles and explain the importance of caring for the Bible and displaying Reverence.

*Just a reminder...* if you have not done so already, please return the website permission slip to your class teacher.
**FAMILY DETAILS UPDATE**
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 girls in the office know as soon as possible.

**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!

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**
EMA application forms need to be completed each year. They do not automatically carry forward from precious year. A fresh application has to be made. We encourage all card holders to apply for this benefit. Closing date for 1st installment is tomorrow 29th February.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**
Confirmation Parent Meeting
Thank you to all the parents who attended the Confirmation parent evening last night. A reminder that the finished piece of calico and Confirmation card is due 6 March. If you do finish it earlier please return it to the school so the sewing of the banner can commence
This Sunday 4 March at 10:30 is the commitment mass for the Confirmation candidates. It is also the Senior Level Sunday Mass so all grade five and six children are invited to attend and participate in the liturgy.
Trish Segrave Religious Education Co-ordinator

**STUDENT AWARDS**
Congratulations to the following students:
Stefan Hatzievangelou, Serena Peccar, Anthony Guarino, Stephanie Skouris, Jett Ryder, Olivia Fragapane, Maximus Ong, Eva Cartwright, Jessica Gugliemi, Ethan Hall, Jack Cook, Grace Elias, Oliver Burch, Carla Martins, Eva Ryan, Damon Iapozzuto, Emily Asta, Jack Pelosi, Elley Gravina, David Graser, Alessia Vigiano, Claudio Balzarini, Emilia D’Aquila, Thomas Barker, Liam Ellul, Alyssa Russo, Emma Monaco, Laura Manduca

**LITERACY PROGRAM – PARENT HELPER WORKSHOP**
I hope you and your children have had a great start to the year. We, the Literacy Team at St. Oliver’s, are looking forward to working with you and helping your child develop a love of reading and writing.
For those who have already had experience as a Classroom Literacy Parent Helper there will be a workshop for you on Thursday 1st March at 9.00 in the Staffroom. You will be able to place your name on the roster at the conclusion of the workshop.
Welcome to our new parents! On Wednesday 7th March, you are invited to come to the Staffroom to learn about the importance of the initial few weeks at school for your child’s literacy journey, and for an introduction to the Literacy Program at St. Oliver’s. The workshop, which will last about 45 minutes, will begin at 9.00. You will also be offered the opportunity to join us as a Classroom Parent Helper. Looking forward to seeing you
Barbara Olanda Junior Literacy/ Reading Recovery

**ART**
Just a reminder that all students are required to bring an art smock. It is a requirement for the whole year. In the case that your child does get paint on their uniform try the following method ; Soak the garment in cold water and add either ‘Napisan’ or ‘Martha Gardiners Wool Wash.’ Soaking in hot water sets the stain.

**PARENT ASSOCIATION**
Cadbury Chocolates
Last week we began our Cadbury chocolate fundraiser. The box sent home contained 50 chocolates priced at $1 each. All unsold chocolates and money need to be returned to the school by March 9th.

‘Meat’ & Greet The “meat and greet” night for dads is on this Thursday Night.
School Banking has arrived at St Oliver Plunkett School!
The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program is here!

The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a **silver coloured Dollarmites token**. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. **Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.**

School Banking is a great way to help teach children to save, which is a great way to empower them for success in the future. There is an exciting new Rewards Program with great merchandise up for grabs and children can redeem their tokens for amazing rewards. They are rewarded for consistent saving - not how much money you bank but how regularly you bank it.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program. **Taking part in School Banking is easy.**

• If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

• If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address to start banking at school.

Pru is coming to our school this Wednesday February 29th, 2012 to talk to us about the exciting Commonwealth Bank School Banking program. Parent Information packs will be sent home later this week.

**Remember, School Banking day is every Tuesday as of March 6th, 2012.**

If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply for your child’s Youthsaver account online.

Important information: Terms and conditions issued by Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 for Youthsaver Account are available from the Bank and should be considered before making any decision about the Youthsaver Account.

**PLEASE NOTE:** When opening a new bank account, relevant documents like birth certificates and or passports need to be supplied.

Georgie McElligott President of the Parent Association

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<td>Wed</td>
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<td>Thursday 1st March</td>
<td>Cleo Fogale &amp; Ginella Russo</td>
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<td>Friday 2nd March</td>
<td>Rosanna DiGrazia, Carmela Ramonetta &amp; Anita Propadalo</td>
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<td>Monday 5th March</td>
<td>Deb Roberts &amp; Marisa Lombardi</td>
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Help our school win $350-$1000 of sports gear!
The Premiers Active Families Challenge is on again, and our school has the chance to win up to $1000 of sports gear and sports clinics with high profile sporting personalities. All you have to do is get active and have fun with your family!
Take the challenge and do 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days between 19 March – 30 April. The more students who register from our school, the more chances we have to win.
Just by registering you and your family will receive special offers, including:
- 15% off at Rebel Sport
- 20 free YMCA passes
- One free child pass to National Sport Museum
- One free child pass to Melbourne Aquarium.
- Plus go in the draw to win Rebel Vouchers and iPads!
Anyone can register, so get your friends and family to take the Challenge too.
Get more active more often, spend quality time together and have fun. It’s free, it’s easy, and there are plenty of chances to win!
Register online at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/challenge or call 1800 463 684, and remember to include our school’s name when you register.

New South Wales University - ICAS Assessments
The ICAS competitions are on again this year and children from years 3 to 6 are welcome to enter as many competitions as they wish. There are six subject areas that are covered. The Computer Skills paper is the first one and entries need to be in by April 20th. The cost of this assessment is $7.70
Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics will follow. Keep an eye on the newsletter for closing dates for enrolments for these assessments.
Please place your child’s name, class, subject area and amount paid on the envelope and the children can place these in their office bag.
For more information on these assessments please log onto http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/etc/icas/australia

National Ride to School day falls on Friday the 23rd of March. As our seniors will be on camp we will celebrate this day on Thursday 29th March. So get your wheels ready. Pump up those tyres, we are looking forward to lots of bikes and scooters arriving at school on this day.

Libby Sheedy          Student Wellbeing Coordinator
You are invited to join the Principal, Mr. Chris Blake, on an informative tour of both the Year 7 & 8 Junior Campus and Years 9 – 12 Senior Campus

**GLENROY CAMPUS – JUNIOR CAMPUS**
(35 William Street, Glenroy), Friday March 9th 9.00am - 10.30am

**BROADMEADOWS – SENIOR CAMPUS**
(29 Gibson Street, Broadmeadows), Tuesday March 20th 9.00 – 10.30am

Come and see each Campus in action. Tours will conclude with morning tea.

**YEAR 7 – 2013 ENROLMENTS – Closing soon…**
If you would like your son or daughter to join our Community, to avoid disappointment complete and submit an enrolment form before the deadline Friday March 2nd

For further information or to state your interest in attending or obtaining an enrolment form, contact our Registrar, Mrs. Dawn Daws on 9301 2777.

Enrolment forms also available via the College website

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**Strathmore Secondary College Tours & Application Process**

College Tours will run during the period 19th March till 18th May 2011 and commence at 9am sharp. It is essential to telephone the College on 9379 7999 to make a booking as the Tours fill very quickly. We do not run open days.

**Documentation :** The College gives priority to children who reside within our designated area and you are required to provide proof of permanent residence before an application will be considered. This can be done by providing :

- A current rate notice or a valid lease agreement from a real estate agent covering the whole of the school year for which you are applying (2013) – in the full name/s of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s)
- Plus other documentation in support of your proof of residence at least three pieces(including utility bills etc). Note: we do not accept Drivers Licence or phone bills as proof of residence.
- Full birth certificate for your child (showing parents names)
- Passport and valid visa where relevant

Any enrolment based on false information will be withdrawn.

You can view the map on our website at [www.strathmore.vic.edu.au](http://www.strathmore.vic.edu.au) - click on Enrolments then Neighbourhood Boundary. You must live inside the designated area.

**Curriculum Grounds and Music Scholarship** - Each year we offer a Music scholarship and that will be advertised in our local papers and on the Strathmore Secondary College website in the middle of March 2012.

Students who live outside our zone can lodge an application on Curriculum Grounds, those forms will be available on the website by the middle of March 2012.

If you have any enquiries please contact Dianne King at the College via email : king.dianne.f@edumail.vic.gov.au or telephone 9379 7999.

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**Secondary School Enrolments**

The return date for enrolments for 2013 for **Santa Maria College, Mercy College** and **St Aloysius College** is March 2nd 2012.

**St Aloysius Talk & Tour days**

Please refer to the school notice board for information regarding St Aloysius’ Principals Talk & Tour Schedule for 2012.
A big congratulations to past St Oliver’s student Olivia Windsor who graduated from Mercy College in the top 10% of her year. We are delighted by her success and wish her all the best for her future endeavors!

School Website  http://www.sopascoevale.catholic.edu.au
If you have not returned the note to grant permission for your child/ren’s photo to appear on the school website, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like another copy of the note, please contact me or download a copy from the News and Events – Permission Notes section of the website.

Don’t forget to visit the website to check for recent updates!
Fiona Brugaletta
School Community Coordinator

OSHC NEWS
Camp Australia has opened a before care program which will run daily from 7:30-8:45am. The program includes breakfast, games, active sports and crafts so come along and have some fun 😊

WHAT’S ON THIS WEEK
The children will be exploring the world of Ancient Egypt with lots of fun activities.

REMININDERS
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.