Dear Parents and Children,

**Senior Camp**
The senior camp last week was most successful. At St Olivers we believe that school camps offer a unique opportunity for children to experience a wide range of outdoor educational activities that are not available in the normal school setting. On camp children develop a little more independence as they deal with day to day living without the immediate support of their parents. They are also given an opportunity to interact with their teachers and peers in a setting vastly different from their classrooms.

The reality is that the camp could not take place without the generous efforts of a number of staff who volunteer their time to ensure that the experiences provided at camp are available to your children. Caring for around 90 children on camp is a huge responsibility and certainly no holiday! The teachers were on duty from before sunrise until well after midnight when the last homesick or over excited child(ren) settled. I know many parents expressed their thanks on Friday and on your behalf I thank our staff who volunteered to attend the camp to ensure that your children could participate in the camp experience. Many thanks to the Parent Association for their continued financial support. This on-going support allows the school to keep the cost of the School Camps as low as possible.

**Family Football Competition**
A reminder that it is not to late to join our school football tipping competition. If you are interested in joining please register on line as per the last week’s instructions, or if you have any questions contact Fiona Brugaletta at school. Registrations will be open for a few weeks but the first round of AFL continues this weekend so if you are interested in participating in a friendly tipping competition against other families please register as soon as possible.

**Prep Interviews 2013**
The prep interviews for 2013 have been running over the last two weeks. If you are aware of any families who are looking to enrol their children for 2013 please remind them that they need to return their enrolment forms as soon as possible.
End of Term Assembly

Please note that our final Assembly for the Term will be held on Friday morning.

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

A reminder that on Friday the children will be dismissed at 1.00pm and the first day of second term is Monday 12th April.

Wishing all families a safe and happy Easter holiday break.

Regards,

Alan Sweeney
Principal

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

On Wednesday March 28 St Olivers will be closed to enable teachers to participate in a Professional Learning day. These days are an important aspect of school life as they allow teachers to keep abreast of current educational practices and issues. The day will be facilitated by Marita Richardson, the Northern Regional School Advisor for Learning and Teaching. Our focus will be to further consolidate our understandings and practices with regard to Personalised/Contemporary Learning approaches. We will be building on the knowledge gained through our professional learning in 2011, where we focussed on the exploration of personalised learning, goal setting and the development of pedagogical practices that promote effective teaching in contemporary learning environments.

The following intended outcomes from our School Improvement Plan will be addressed:

- That staff learning is improved.
- That student engagement is improved.
- That students’ independence in learning is improved.
- That staff understandings and pedagogical knowledge of contemporary learning will be developed.

The staff will be provided with the opportunity to affirm our current strengths and explore strategies to further enhance our Learning and Teaching practices.

Regards,

Mary Kearney
Deputy Principal / Learning and Teaching Coordinator