Dear Parents,

Staffing News

Please be advised that Sarah Daley, Aydan de Graff and Carol Raffoul will not be returning to St Oliver's in 2013. Sarah is moving to northern NSW, Aydan is travelling overseas and Carol who was due to return to the school in 2013 from her maternity leave has resigned from her full time position. Together with Fiona Brugaletta I thank these wonderful teachers for all they have contributed to our school.

I’m pleased to announce the appointment of three new staff to St Oliver’s. Lisa Cadman joins our senior team, Veronica Jack joins our middle team and Giulia Ferella will teach one of our 2013 prep classes. Lisa is currently a senior classroom teacher at St Fidelis, Giulia currently teaches junior class at St Marys Thornbury and Veronica has taught in the United Kingdom and as an emergency teacher at St Oliver’s. We welcome all of these teachers to our 2013 staff. In next week’s newsletter we will publish our full 2013 staffing list.

Thank you to all of the staff and the children during the school ‘lock in’ yesterday afternoon. The police search and presence in the local area was related to a house burglary that occurred in one of the houses across the park from our school.

Our staff has been involved in a number of meetings over the last two weeks and our regrouping process of the 2013 classes is now finalised. The full regrouping process was explained in the week 7 and 8 newsletters. Through these newsletters parents were invited to offer any information that they felt may assist our teachers as they worked through this time consuming process of placing all of our children in 14 balanced classes.

A reminder that our Newsletter is the weekly communication that our school has with you as parents and I encourage all families to find a few minutes each week to keep up to date with the news around our school community.

Next Thursday all parents are invited to our School Carols Night that will commence at 7.00 pm in our northern school yard. All classes will be performing and the evening is a great opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate Christmas and the end of our school year.

Regards,

Alan Sweeney
Principal
LEARNING AND TEACHING

CLUBS AT ST OLIVER'S

I would like to thank all the teachers who ‘went beyond the call of duty’ this year and gave up their lunchtimes to run a clubs programme. The clubs were extremely successful and gave the students the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular learning activities that were solely based on student interest. On behalf of the students who participated I’d like to thank the following teachers:

Sarah Daly – Choir
Liz Finlayson – Art Club
Libby Sheedy – Music Club
Sue Leighton – Computers Club
Sue Carey – Gardening Club
Kathy Lalor – Craft Club
Barb Olanda – Story Telling Club

Some of the members of our Gardening Club – from seedling to vegetable!!!

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to our Seniors Hooptime team, ‘The Pirates’, who played in the State Finals for basketball on Friday. The students played very well throughout all the finals to reach this stage and made it to the semi-finals of this day. As a result the team finished 16\textsuperscript{th} out the 723 teams entered.

Throughout the tournaments, our team relied on their parents to transport them to Dandenong. Thank you to these parents and to Lorenzo Lingenti, Rob and Visantha Kot and Vita Mezzatesto who assisted with coaching and scoring.

An amazing effort to reach this stage.

Well done to the following students: Stefan Kot, Gianni Polimeni, Matthew Carr, Andrew Capuana, Rebecca Arena, Alissa Miano, Pia Taylor, Zavia Lingenti and Alex Georgiou.

Marita Mannix
Sport Coordinator
**SENIORS**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** This week the students will use the Jesse Tree symbols as a visual stimulus to begin an exploration of the stories of the prophets.

**WRITING:** The students will be working on their writing for their Writer’s Gift.

**READING:** We will continue to discuss and analyse our class novel, *Black Snake*, with a focus on the author’s craft and core level thinking. Students will continue with their independent Reading Routine, reading and recording their thinking in response to their novel.

**MATHS:** The students will work on a revision grid to revise concepts covered throughout the year.

**INQUIRY:** This week the students will finish summarising a significant event from the past, providing a summary of the event and identifying what values and contributions this event has made to Australia today.

**A few reminders for parents and students...**

- Remember that Thursday is hand in diary day – signed and with reading recorded. A reminder that those students who fail to hand in their diary, record their reading, or get their diary signed, may miss out on Friday afternoon’s Activities.
- Senior B will visit Dorothy Impey this week (hopefully!).
- Big Day Out Notes to be returned by Tuesday 11th December.

**HOMEWORK** – Australia’s Story homework is due this Thursday (Senior S next Monday). Please encourage your child to ask for help if they need support with any of the activities.

Click [here](#) to see the Seniors’ Homework. Australia’s Story homework is due each Thursday. Please encourage your child to ask for help if they need support with any of the activities.

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**MIDDLES**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** This week we will begin our final Religion unit called Emmanuel - God is With Us. Students will look at the different Bible stories about the Infancy Narrative.

**WRITING:** We will continue to work on our Writer’s Gifts. This is where the students collate all of the writing they have done for the entire year. We will be publishing some writing throughout the week as well.

**READING:** We are looking at a Venn Diagram as a reading response for non-fiction text. We will be researching one of the student’s wonderings from the beginning of the unit and taking time to find out the answers.

**SPELLING:** This week we will review spelling lessons of need from throughout the year.

**MATHS:** We are bringing all of our maths learning from the year together and having a week on problem solving. We are examining all of the different strategies we can use to solve problems.

**INQUIRY:** This week in “We Come from a Land Down Under” we are coming to the end of our unit. Students will continue to research some of the wonderings they came up with at the beginning of the unit.

**SCHOOL CONCERT:** Over the next two weeks we will be preparing for the School concert on Thursday the 13th of December. Look out this week for a note regarding the costume your children are wearing.

**Christmas Box** - We would like the students to bring in an old shoe box or something similar covered in Christmas paper and clearly labelled with your child’s name. This can be somewhere they can keep any goodies from the next 2 weeks.
What's happening around the levels...

JUNIORS

RELIGION: We will continue with our unit, 'Advent and Christmas', by exploring the important aspects of Jesus' birth. We will then work in groups to create 'raps' that illustrate the Christmas story and perform them for the class.

READING: This week we will engage the children in shared reading practices that focus on revising punctuation examples. We will look at how this punctuation supports our understanding of the texts we read.

WRITING: During writing we will reflect on the many new and wonderful things we have learnt in the various curriculum areas this year. We will use these examples to complete our individual self-assessments.

SPELLING: We are exploring the various ways the sound 'ar' can be formed as in: (shark, palm, raft) and using various spelling activities to reinforce the correct spelling of these words.

MATHS: We will continue to focus on measurement activities by estimating and measuring the mass of various classroom objects using balances and scales. We will also investigate the area of a number of items using books, newspapers and unifix blocks.

INQUIRY: This week we will finalise the ‘action’ part of our unit, ‘The Good Old Days’. Our time capsules can now go home and be placed in a safe place ready to be opened sometime in the future!

Click here for a copy of this term's Junior Homework.

PREPS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will continue our rehearsals for the Naivety performance.

WRITING: This week the children will be summarising writing presentation to include correct starting point, writing on the line, correct letter formation and finger spaces.

READING: The children will revise reading strategies used throughout the year such as, stretching, blending and most frequently used words.

MATHS: In Maths we will explore fractions focusing on halves and whole shapes.

INQUIRY: The children will revise the school rules and how people are hygienic.

ST OLIVER’S SCHOOL RULES

To ensure the safety and happiness of all children we

1. Follow directions
2. Keep hands and feet to yourself
3. Move safely
4. Listen to the speaker
5. Speak and act appropriately
6. Take care of property

James 2:11
The season of Advent began last Sunday with the lighting of the first purple candle on the Advent wreath. The children who attended the children’s Liturgy had a special activity that focused on Advent and The Jesse Tree. Over the next four weeks the children will be making and decorating symbols to place on the Jesse Tree during the Mass.

**Christmas Giving Tree**
A reminder that all donations for the parish giving tree need to be returned by **9 December** to the church or the school.

**Graduation Mass** for the grade 6 students has been changed to **Wednesday 12 December at 7:00.** The whole school **End of Year Mass is Friday 14 December at 11:45.** Any families leaving our school will be presented with a certificate at the Mass and the junior students with the school choir will be leading the singing for the Communion reflection. All parents are welcome to attend.

Trish Segrave  
Religious Education Coordinator

**La Befana : An Italian Christmas Folktale** will be playing at La Mama Courthouse 349 Drummond Street, Carlton from 11am - 2:00pm on the following dates: Friday 4th January, 2013, Saturday 5th January, 2013 Sunday 6th January 2013

For Bookings ring : 9347 6142 or email www.lamama.com.au.  Tickets : $12.00 Adults and children

Last year's single performance was lots of fun and due to popular demand, this year there are 3 performance dates on offer. The story of La Befana, the Italian Christmas Witch, began a long time ago in Italy and arrived here with Australia’s Italians. On the eve of the Epiphany, the last day of Christmas, when the three wise men arrived at Bethlehem, children would hang out their socks. In the morning of the 6th January, they would find simple home-made gifts, put into them.

Writer / Performer/ Director : Carmelina Di Guglielmo

Special guest star James Liotta, and a talented cast of Fairies, Elves and Bush Spirits.

Dalida Piovesan  
Italian Teacher
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.

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!

STUDENT AWARDS

MORELAND CITY COUNCIL PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
The Holiday Program will operate from Monday 7 January – Friday 25 January 2013. There are 4 venues 8am to 6pm available. For further information contact 9240 2427 or visit the web site at www.moreland.vic.gov.au Enrolments are now open. Applications are available at the school office and must be in at the council no later than 5pm on Friday 23 November

CANTEEN Diane Tabone on 0423596221

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<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th December</td>
<td>Jo Conlon &amp; Anna Romeo</td>
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<td>Friday 7th December</td>
<td>Georgie McElligott Jodie Keane &amp; Annitta Siliato</td>
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<td>Monday 10th December</td>
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Canteen is Closed Monday 10th December.
Last Day for canteen 2012 is Friday 14th December
SCHOOL BANKING AT ST OLIVER PLUNKETT SCHOOL

St Oliver’s School Banking days are Tuesdays. We currently have 105 bankers--- well done students

BUSINESSES OF THE WEEK
The Businesses that feature in the St Oliver’s Businesses of the Week are Good Year Autocare, Grech Panels, Hadfield Dental Group, Helen Donato Reiki Master, Homeguard Locksmiths and Idlewild. For information on these businesses please check out the school website or refer to the St Oliver’s Business Directory

PRELOVED UNIFORM PROGRAM
In term 4 we are introducing the Preloved Uniform Program. We plan to have a routine opening time (first and last Wednesdays of each term). If this time does not suit you we will have a contact person available for you to arrange an appointment to view the clothes. More details will follow next week.

We are asking parents to donate any pieces of uniform that they don’t need. There will be a drop off box located in the school office.

This program is designed to make use of good uniforms without the expensive price tag. Uniforms being donated need to be of good quality…no rips, tears or stains… only donate that which you would be happy to put your own child in.

Thank you for your support

XMAS RAFFLE
The raffle tickets are coming home tonight. Each class has been given a theme to fill their hamper. Please see attached flyer for more information.

PARENT ASSOCIATION XMAS DINNER
Il Portabello’s has been booked for this Wednesday 7pm for the committee members to come together and celebrate another successful year.

FETE NEWS
Date for 2013 fete has been selected. Sunday October 27th 2013.

Thank you
Parent Association
A SPECIAL INVITATION

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT’S CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Monday 24 December 2012
CAROLS at 6:20pm
MASS at 7:00pm

The first Christmas Mass in our parish is the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. All families, especially those with young children, are warmly invited to celebrate the eucharist for the feast of the birth of Jesus.

As Fr Paul reads the gospel, the children will re-enact the Christmas story. Any child who wishes to participate in this re-enactment as a character in the story must attend a special practice in the church on Saturday 22 December from 9 am until 10.30 am.

Every child at Mass is encouraged to dress as a character in the Christmas story and will be invited to gather around the altar after Holy Communion to sing *Away in the Manger.* (No practice necessary)
All of our classes have been very busy putting together Christmas Hampers. Each class will then take their hamper to another class to be raffled.

The hamper themes for each class are as follows:

- **Kitchen & Bathroom**: Junior C, Middle M & Senior B
- **Indulgence**: Junior D, Middle D & Senior J
- **Family Fun**: Prep H, Junior R, Middle S, & Senior S
- **House & Garden**: Junior L, Middle H & Senior M
- **Party/Christmas**: Prep D

Some ideas include:

**Party/Christmas**- balloons, party plates/cutlery, party food, napkins, lollies, decorations, puddings, bonbons

**Indulgence**- wine, chocolates, glasses, candles, bath salts, moisturizer, bath oil

**Family Fun**- picnic equipment, movie vouchers, popcorn, Frisbee, beach towels, outdoor games, party food

**House & Garden**- candles, placemats, vase, bbq equipment, garden hand tools, picture frames, chocolates, wine

**Kitchen & Bathroom**- Napkins, Bath Salts, detergents, pantry food, paper towels, condiments, shampoo, conditioner, cutlery

Raffle tickets must be returned to class by **Tuesday 18th December** along with your item for the hamper for your chance to win. Due to the fact that the hampers will be left in the classroom, we ask that all perishable food not be brought in until 17th/18th Dec.

Ticket prices $1 each—5 tickets in a book. Remember you have to be in it to win it. **Raffle will be drawn on Wed 19th at assembly by Santa!!!**

**Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas**

**Thank you from the Parents Association**
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

**REMINDERS**

**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](http://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.

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**AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

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<th>MONDAY</th>
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<tr>
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