Dear Parents and Students,

Many thanks to Libby Sheedy our Wellbeing Coordinator for organising the Ride to School event last week. The morning was a great success and enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Good luck to the senior children who head off to Arrabri Lodge, Warburton East for their school camp tomorrow. I’m sure they will return to school on Friday tired but ready to share stories of their camp experiences with their families.

As the children will be leaving for Camp on Wednesday morning we will not hold our normal Assembly this week.

Regards,
Alan S
Principal

From the Principal...

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St Olivers Ride To School Breakfast
What a fabulous morning we had last Thursday for our ‘Ride to School’ breakfast. The weather was kind to us and students and their families attended our breakfast in droves. Muffins, pikletes, fresh fruit and juice were consumed and enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to our ‘Active travel leaders’ and our ‘Sustainability leaders’ who ably organised and ran the morning. Special thanks to Julie Dramis and Julie Bell who came along and helped out early to ensure everyone was fed.

To our wonderful teachers who helped out bright and early a big thank you. Your support is vital and truly valued.

We had more than two thirds of the students actively getting to school on this day. Landells Road must have been very quiet that morning. Thanks to all the families for your attendance, it is always great to see the community spirit that makes St Olivers a great place to be.

Libby Sheedy
EDUCATION IN FAITH

PROJECT COMPASSION / TERM 1 SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Thank you the parents who have been so generously donating to Project Compassion. The school hopes to raise enough money to provide families with water systems in the Philippines. This would enable them access to constant safe drinking water. Could all Project Compassion boxes be returned to the school by the First of April. We are also very happy to receive any donations before this date. If any parents need a receipt please fill out the slip at the top of the box.

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER TUESDAY FIRST OF APRIL

At a recent meeting of the Student Representative Council, the children discussed the fact that in many developing countries, the children walk many kilometers with school bags on their back to get to school. To gain a sense of empathy of this situation it was decided that each class could spend some time walking a few laps of the oval or running track with the children carrying their school bags. The children are also hoping that the St Oliver's School Community through their generous donations to Project Compassion, will support the efforts of Caritas around the world.

TRISH SEGRAVE
Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING AND TEACHING

READING - PREP TO YEAR TWO

During the early years of literacy acquisition we endeavour to give children not only the tools they need to become efficient readers and writers, but also a love of literature and a curiosity about what we can learn through reading.

Reading Hour begins with the whole class sharing a text –this could be a Big Book, a book on the interactive whiteboard, a poem, song or other item where the print is large enough to be seen by the children. The teacher reads to and with the children, and as she does so she addresses the focus that the children need at particular stages of their reading development. For example she may model and articulate her thinking about tracking from left to right, using strategies to solve new words, the purpose of punctuation, or how to use expression. As they join in, the children can enjoy the rhythm and rhyme of books such as ‘Mrs. Wishy Washy’ and ‘The Hungry Giant’.

The teacher will then take a small teaching group of children with a similar teaching/learning focus. Perhaps the children need to be more aware of the need to understand the author's message so the teacher will demonstrate and prompt the children to reread, explain and justify their opinions by referring to what they have read. At an earlier stage of development the teacher may show the children how they can reread and use the picture together with the letters/sounds to match a written word to a spoken word. While the teacher is doing this other children will be involved in various literacy tasks. These may include reading and responding to familiar texts, oral language opportunities that are led by a parent helper, or activities to develop word skills such as iPad or board games.

At the end of the session the children will come together for Sharetime where new learning, discoveries and thinking can be discussed.

Children take home a book or two each night to share with someone at home. Parents are encouraged to look at the book and choose the best way to approach it with their child. It could be best for the parent to read TO their child, or the reading could be shared, and particularly if the book is a familiar one, the child may like to read it to their parent. The most important thing is to keep the reading time enjoyable, never stressful!!

Barbara Olanda (Literacy)
**SENIORS**

Click **HERE** to access the current Senior's homework.

This week our senior students and many staff are off to Arrabri lodge in Warburton East.

We wish them all a very safe and enjoyable time away and look forward to hearing their stories on their return.

**WRITING:** We will begin looking at how to plan a persuasive piece. We will discuss how to plan ideas in dot points, and think about evidence and examples to support our opinions.

**READING:** We will continue reading and responding to ‘The BFG’. The students will learn how to complete the activity titled, ‘Just Like’, by identifying and recording characters qualities and discuss the difference between a quality and an emotion.

**SPELLING:** The students will look at the ‘ough’ sound and ways we use it to help us spell words.

**MATHS:** We will continue looking at 3D shapes and how we can use them. We will look at using nets and drawing 3D shapes as well as symmetrical patterns.

**INQUIRY:** Students are deciding on individual investigations to find out more about an area of rules and laws that interest them. They will develop their skills about asking questions, researching and note taking throughout their investigation.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We will continue our unit, ‘Alleluia, He is risen’. We will investigate Holy Week leading up to Easter.

**Reminder**

We would like the children to bring their books in each Friday so we can check the students homework weekly.

Click **HERE** to access the current Middle’s homework.

**MIDDLES**

**WRITING:** We will begin looking at how to plan a persuasive piece. We will discuss how to plan ideas in dot points, and think about evidence and examples to support our opinions.

**READING:** We will continue reading and responding to ‘The BFG’. The students will learn how to complete the activity titled, ‘Just Like’, by identifying and recording characters qualities and discuss the difference between a quality and an emotion.

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Click **HERE** to access the current Middle’s homework.
**JUNIORS**

**RELIGION:** This week we will begin to focus on the events leading up to Easter. We will read about and role play Palm Sunday. We will also re-enact the Last Supper as we focus on Holy Thursday. After discussing Good Friday we will then lead the children through a guided meditation that tracks the events of Holy Week.

**READING:** During reading sessions, we are continuing the routine of the ‘shared big book’ and guided reading sessions. In our shared reading sessions we will be focusing on predicting the story details from the book cover and then sequentially retelling the events to a partner.

**WRITING:** In Writing, the children are finalising the publishing of their Term 1 recounts. In modelling sessions, we will focus on the structure and language features of catalogue poems, acrostic poems and Who am I?/What am I? writing examples.

**SPELLING:** We will be continuing to look at onset and rime patterns by building a class word list with the sound **ell** (sell / fell) and involving the children in a variety of activities to help reinforce the spelling and meaning of the words generated by the class.

**MATHS:** This week we will continue our unit on ‘Addition’. The children will further explore the various strategies required when adding numbers. We will also focus on the topic of ‘Length’. The children will measure and compare the length of various objects using appropriate informal units such as sticks, paperclips and straws.

**INQUIRY:** The action phase of our unit ‘Working and Playing Together’ will involve the children working in pairs or groups to create a poster, video or role play. This action will illustrate one of our five school rules and support the children’s efforts to work and play cooperatively at school.

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**PREPS**

**READING:** The children will be continuing the Jolly Phonics program learning new songs, actions and sounds/letters. This week we will be learning the letter sounds: ‘qu’ and ‘y’. We will be beginning to teach vowel pairs ‘oo’ and ‘ee’.

**WRITING:** The children will continue to show their thinking through drawing and will be encouraged to record the sounds they hear in words. We will link their writing to literature we are reading.

**MATHS:** Our focus for Maths will be subitising. The children will learn to instantly see how many objects there are in a group. They will also match the number to the objects they can see.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We will be reading the story of the Last Super and discussing other celebrations when we share food.

**INQUIRY:** Through role paying, we will use a variety of questions that children can use to join in with others when playing.

*Date to put in the Diary – Wednesday 2nd April is the Prep Assembly. It will be held in the morning. The children are busy practising for this special event*
STUDENT WELLBEING

Community Support Group

All families are welcome to join our Community Support Group. This group supports families in our school by providing a meal to help out in times of need. Last year we had a fantastic group of mums and dads share their culinary expertise to help out families who are in need for any number of reasons.

At present I need some meals for a family of five in our community who could do with our support. I ask that the meal be brought to school and we will deliver it to the family. Please list the ingredients and the date prepared on the meal (if you would prefer to fill out a form for this they are available in the stand at the front of the office window). Where possible a disposable container is best however if you use a non disposable container please ensure your name is clearly marked so we can return it to you.

With school holidays approaching we are happy to pop a few meals in our freezer and deliver to the family as needed. Your support in this area is appreciated.

Premiers Active April

The premier of Victoria and the Minister for Sport and Recreation are encouraging all of us to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. Families can register at www.activeapril.vic.gov.au. You can register as part of our school or just as a family. What a fabulous thing to do especially as the school holidays are approaching. There are giveaways and major prizes to be won. This is fun and it’s free.

Go on and get active this April.

School holiday Program

Phonological awareness and early language development. Speech Booster, Speech pathology for kids. Call Jacinta Dixon 0418 312 479 (See flyers on notice board)

Libby Sheedy (Wellbeing Coordinator)
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 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

CANTEEN
Di Tabone 0423 596 221
Please click HERE for a copy of the Canteen Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 27 March</th>
<th>Friday 28 March</th>
<th>Monday 31 March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Guarino</td>
<td>Imelda Patton, Lisa Blaney, Vita Mezzatesta</td>
<td>Kim Bartolo Nina Contarino</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We still require helpers for the canteen from term 2 onwards if you are available to help out either Monday, Thursday or Friday, please email your name, availability, phone number and child's name & class to Dianne @ dtabone@ozemail.com.au.....Thankyou

Meet the Author of ‘The People Smuggler’ Friday 28 March, 7.30pm
Robin de Crespigny will speak about the story behind her book. How, when and why she came to the project, her writing process, and how she worked with Ali Al Jenabi to tell his epic story of trying to find a safe place in the world.
Cost: Donation
Where: St Oliver’s Parish Centre
Contact: Parish Office 9354 3015
SCHOOL BANKING AT ST OLIVER PLUNKETT SCHOOL. St Oliver’s School Banking days are Tuesdays. We are currently seeking volunteers to help run this program. It is a roster system and works out to be a couple of times a term. If you can help out on Tuesdays from 9am till 10.30 am please contact Georgie 0405 435 770

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 on the last Wednesday assembly for each term. If you require this service beforehand please contact Georgie 0405 435 770 to arrange an appointment

BUSINESSES OF THE WEEK
Our featured businesses this week are PeeWee Tennis, Polimeni Plumbing & Politini Wines. These adverts can be viewed on the school website or in the Business Directory. The applications for placing an advert in the 3rd edition of the St Oliver’s Business Directory were sent home last week. For more information please email bd@sopascoevale.catholic.edu.au

St OLIVER FAMILY FAVOURITE COOKBOOK
We still have a few copies of the cookbook. If you would like to order or need further information please contact: Franca James 0413 909 964

CADBURY CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER..... DUE BACK NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Each child received a box of Cadbury chocolates to sell as our major fundraiser for term 1. Each chocolate is $1 with the box totally $50. Please return all unsold chocolates and money as soon as possible or for enquiries contact Franca James 0413 909 964.

EASTER RAFFLE & MORNING TEA
Last week the Easter raffle tickets and a request for Easter egg donations went home. Tickets and eggs are required back at school by April 1st. The raffle will be drawn at the final assembly for term 1 on Wednesday 2nd April. We will also be having a hot cross morning tea for parents to enjoy after assembly. Please see the attached flier for more information

TERM 1 EVENTS
Choc drive commencing week 24th Feb
Dad’s & Friends Feb 28th
Applications for the 3rd Edition of the St Oliver’s Business Directory current
Subway lunches March 12th
Easter Raffle & Hot Cross Morning Tea April 2nd
OPEN DAY
Wednesday 30 April 2014
9.00am to 12.00pm

PREP ENROLMENTS
Will be opened from Tuesday April 22

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 Friday May 16 with a non refundable enrolment fee of $20.00

Interviews for prospective families will commence on the Monday May 19.

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.

ALL INQUIRIES PHONE: 9354 5411
EASTER, EASTER, EASTER!

Thankyou for all donations received for the Easter Raffle! Your generous support has been overwhelming!!

Please send all Easter eggs to the classroom baskets by Tuesday 1st April

Mums will be organising them into prizes. If anyone has baskets as well that can be donated for us to make up the egg hampers that would be greatly appreciated. You can leave these at the school office for us to collect

All raffle books need to be back by Tuesday as well. The raffle will be drawn at the assembly on WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL

One book per child to give each child the opportunity to win a class prize!
All children also go into a draw for a basket donated from Cadbury Chocolates

REMEMBER:
Thanks to O’Heas Bakery a hot cross bun morning tea will be served in the staffroom after assembly on Wednesday. All are welcome

Thank you and Happy Easter to all
St Oliver’s Parent Association
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

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.