Dear Parents and Students,

Many thanks to all of the dads who attended our ‘Meet and Greet evening’ last Friday. The evening was a great opportunity for our dads to come to school to socialize in a relaxed informal manner. Many thanks to Michael Said for all of his behind the scenes work in organizing the evening and to his team who assisted across the evening.

Staff News

Congratulations to Helen Sims who has been appointed to the position of Teaching and Learning Coordinator/Year Six teacher at St Dominic’s School Broadmeadows.

Helen has been a staff member at St Oliver’s for over thirteen years, she has been our Math coordinator for the last five years and we congratulate her on her appointment to her new position.

Helen will commence her new role at St Domenic’s on Monday 17th March.

I’m pleased to announce that we have appointed Jessica Toniolo as Helen’s replacement. Jessica was a student at St Oliver’s and she has also worked with us across all levels as an emergency teacher.

To ensure a smooth transition Jessica will meet with both Helen and the children on Middle S before she commences at St Oliver’s on the 17th March.

School Closure

A reminder that this Friday is a student free day. The school will be closed and the entire staff will participate in Level 2 first aid training.

Regards,
Alan S
Principal
EDUCATION IN FAITH

Thank you to all the senior students and their families who attended the Commitment Mass/ Senior Family Mass last Sunday. It was great to see the children leading the prayers and the singing at the Mass.

CONFIRMATION FRIDAY 14 MARCH at 7:00

A reminder that the pieces of calico for the banner and the Confirmation card information were due last Friday. The stoles need to be ready and worn on the night of Confirmation. As there are still some outstanding, could they be returned as soon as possible to assist the mums who are sewing the banner.

ASH WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH

The children in grades three to six will be attending Mass at 11:45 during which the ashes will be distributed. The children in the junior grades will be attending a paraliturgy after lunch at 2:15 in the church. The prep students will receive the ashes at a paraliturgy on Thursday 6 March. This will be held in the multi-purpose room at the school at 11:45. Parents are most welcome to join their children in prayer at these celebrations.

TRISH SEGRAVE
Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING AND TEACHING

WRITING ~ PREPS

Right from the beginning, children in Prep are encouraged to express their thinking on paper. You will see their attempts develop from drawings to experimenting with letters, to using the first letters of words, to spacing words, to using more than initial letters/sounds, to creating sentences and stories. This happens through a variety of teaching strategies, which link children’s experiences with speaking, listening and reading. Jolly Phonics is one of the ways children begin to see and use the connection between sounds and letters, and understand that what we say can be written down, and that what we write can be read by someone else.

Writing time gradually evolves into a Whole-Small-Whole format, and will begin to encompass the idea of ‘seeds’ – the experiences and interests which can grow into writing that expresses the children’s thoughts and knowledge.

WHOLE CLASS - The teacher, having monitored the children’s writing will choose a focus and topic, and then model for the class how a writer thinks, composes and uses conventions such as letter formation, spelling and punctuation. She will also introduce children to a variety of writing types, or genres, such as procedural writing and recounts.

SMALL GROUP / INDEPENDENT WRITING - The teacher will then work with a group of children who are ready for a particular aspect of the writing process while the rest of the class write independently or work on other related writing tasks. Parent helpers will be able to assist children compose what they wish to write, help them hear the sounds in words or show them where words are written in the room so that they may copy them.

SHARETIME - The whole class will then come together for Share Time, where discoveries and learning can be articulated and celebrated.

WRITING ~ JUNIORS

In the Junior grades the children will build on the foundation that has been laid in Prep. Over time the children will be introduced to the idea of goal-setting, and be shown how to focus on and improve an aspect of their writing. They will gather and use seeds to inspire their writing and use Mystery Boxes to set them on a new path they hadn’t thought of.

The Whole-Small - Whole format is used:

WHOLE CLASS - Through Modelled or Shared Writing with the class the teacher will expand the children’s knowledge of the craft of writing. She will show, for example, how authors proof-read and edit their original attempts by improving their choice of words or clarifying their message. The children will be shown how different texts, such as narrative or factual, are constructed and how to choose the appropriate type of text for their audience and purpose.

SMALL GROUP / INDEPENDENT WRITING - The teacher will then bring together a small group to work on their common goals, and through Interactive, Language Experience or Guided Writing will focus on a particular aspect of writing - for example conventions, descriptive language or spelling. These sessions are an ‘in-grade’ version of the Workshops that children will experience later in the Middle and Senior grades. During this part of the session the other children will independently compose, edit or publish their work. Any parent helpers in the room will be available to assist children by listening, clarifying or helping children to use the resources available.

SHARETIME - All the children will then come together to listen, make positive comments or suggestions, ask questions and learn from each other.

BARBARA OLANDA
Literacy Advisor/Support Coordinator
SENIORS

**WRITING:** This week we will continue writing workshops and goal meetings. The students will continue planning, drafting, editing and publishing their writing during independent writing time. We will continue looking at the structure of persuasive texts during the introductions to our writing sessions.

**READING:** We are continuing to read and model responses to our serial novel ‘Wonder’ by R.J Palacio, relating to relationships between characters and the author’s purpose. The students will continue reading their own novels and will respond to the novel and share their thinking in their Reading Journals.

**SPELLING:** We will investigate plurals and the rules associated with making words plural.

**MATHS:** This week we will be administering the Number & Algebra pre-test to determine the students’ prior knowledge relating to addition, subtraction and multiplication. We will discuss and model mental and written computation strategies.

**INQUIRY:** Our Inquiry Unit is “Law & Order – S.O.P”. This week the students will learn about significant leaders from our past and the characteristics that they displayed. The students will soon begin their personal inquiry into an area of interest.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** This week we celebrate the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday Mass. We will also continue preparation for Confirmation by exploring the signs and symbols relating to the sacrament. Archbishop Denis Hart will visit the Yr 6 students next Tuesday.

*Just a reminder...*

- Thank you for returning the camp permission forms. A 'What to bring list' will be sent home later this week.
- A new homework grid is going home this week. Some activities are due prior to the final due date, to fit in with Confirmation and Camp.
- Please encourage your child to be on the lookout for seeds for writing and to bring them into class.

Click [HERE](http://example.com) to access the current Senior’s homework.

MIDDLES

**WRITING:** The students will learn about writing interesting recounts. Writing Workshops will continue this week. The students will attend workshops focused on their writing goals.

**READING:** We will continue reading and responding to ‘The BFG’. The students will learn how to complete the activity titled, ‘Quotables’, by identifying and recording quotes that express the characters emotions.

**SPELLING:** The students will discuss, investigate and list words with ‘ch’ in them.

**MATHS:** We will begin our next maths unit, ‘Statistics and Probability. The students will begin learning how to interpret graphs and collect, tally and draw up a bar graph.

**INQUIRY:** As a class we will discuss who makes and enforces rules. The student’s will sort a list of rules and place them on a data chart.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Our next religion unit is called ‘Alleluia, He is risen’. We will begin learning about Lent and the meaning of fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

*Just a reminder...*

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

Click [HERE](http://example.com) to access the current Middle’s homework.
What's happening around the levels..

JUNIORS

RELIGION: This week we begin our unit Lent and Holy Week. We will explore the three Lenten traditions of: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We will reflect on the forty days of Lent with each student writing a promise which will be used to create a classroom Lenten display. All of the junior grades will participate in the Ash Wednesday Paraliturgy this Wednesday afternoon.

READING: In Reading, we are continuing to use our shared books to help us discover and consolidate our understandings about the conventions of print. We are also continuing to work in small groups on a variety of literacy activities.

WRITING: This week, the children will continue to use their knowledge of the structure and features of recounts when writing. They will also begin the process of choosing and publishing a piece of writing they would like to include in their profile books.

SPELLING: We will be continuing to look at onset and rime patterns by building a class word list with the sound an (pan, man) 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 begin our unit exploring length. We will begin by making a class chart listing some of the language relating to length. We will then identify some of the strategies that are important when measuring using informal items e.g. placing equipment end to end without gaps and using all the same items, not a mixture of things.

INQUIRY: In our unit ‘Working and Playing Together’, we will investigate the following questions as they relate to the different groups we belong to:
• Who belongs to the group?
• What do they do when they meet?
• What are the roles and responsibilities of group members?
• What is good about belonging to this group?

Special Event – Junior Paraliturgy to celebrate Ash Wednesday in the church tomorrow Wednesday 5th March at 2.15pm. All welcome.

We hope all families enjoy the long weekend!

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: g, o and u. We will also be reading big books with a focus on each of the letters.

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 our writing to the big books being read in class.

MATHS: Our focus for Maths will be ordinal number. We will be introducing the children to the language of 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. and using concrete materials to help teach this.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will be taking the Preps down to St Olivers Church and showing them the inside and outside of the Church. The children will also be participating in a Paraliturgy on Thursday for Ash Wednesday.

INQUIRY: In Inquiry we will be talking about ‘teamwork’ and what it means. We will also be discussing the qualities and characteristics of what a good friend is.

REMINDER... Please ensure you are reading with your child each night and filling in the reading logs! Teachers will be checking the reading logs at the end of each week so please ensure they are kept in the children’s reader bags.
STUDENT WELLBEING

A reminder that the 21st March is our ‘National day of Action against bullying and violence’.
Each class has planned activities to take part in this very important day.
Wristbands will be distributed on this day as a visual reminder to all that Bullying is not tolerated at St Olivers.

BOUNCE BACK AWARD
Last week Christina DeFilippis from Junior L won the ‘Bounce Back’ award for being a wonderful helper. Congratulations Christina, we love your work.
Bounce Back awards are awarded to students who are noticed by teachers on playground duty for doing great things in supporting others in a positive way.

Michael Grose - Parenting Insight
Please click HERE to access the parenting sheet.
This week’s insight looks at ‘Managing kids who won’t take no for an answer.’
Kids can be very strategic at getting you to agree to what they want. But two can play at that game!
Parenting Ideas Club is a new online parenting centre founded by Michael Grose. You can now get expert advice at every stage of your child’s development. Become a member at Parentingideasclub.com.au today and get ready for more confident parenting and happier, more successful kids.

Transition
Pascoe Vale Girls College – Students and their parents are invited to attend an information session at the College. The sessions will occur at 11am on the following days - Tuesday 29th April and Thursday 1st May 2014. An evening session will also be available commencing at 7.00pm on Wednesday 30th April 2014. Bookings are essential. Please phone the college on 9306 2544 to reserve a place.

Libby Sheedy
Wellbeing Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dads and Friends Meet and Greet
By all accounts the dads had a fabulous night last Friday night. Many old and new dads enjoyed a night together in our hall. No doubt new friendships have been struck and maybe old ones rekindled. Many thanks to Michael and his trusty team for organising this night.
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

MORELAND CITY COUNCIL PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
The Holiday Program will operate from Monday 7 April – Thursday 17 April 2014. There are 4 venues 8am to 6pm available. For further information contact 9240 2427 or visit the web site at sd_schoolholidayprogram@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 7 March 2014.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday  6 March</th>
<th>Friday  7 March</th>
<th>Monday 10 March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Giacchi</td>
<td>School Closure Day</td>
<td>P/H</td>
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</tbody>
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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

DID YOU MISS PARADE’S OPEN DAY?
Thank you to the record number of families who helped make our recent Open Day such a success. We hope you found it enjoyable and informative. If you missed the opportunity to attend or would like to have another look at our College in operation, we have small group tours available at both Campuses on the dates below in first semester starting at 9.15am. Please click on the following link to our website http://www.parade.vic.edu.au/Tours_And_Open_Days.aspx and select an appropriate date that suits and simply book online. Available dates for Parade College Tours:

Bundoora: Wed 19/3, Tues 1/4, Mon 5/5, Wed 28/5, Thur 19/6

Preston: Tues 18/3, Wed 2/4, Tues 6/5, Fri 30/5, Wed 18/5
CLICK HERE FOR THE CURRENT PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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 Network Video, Njoy Café and Pascoe Pizza & Pasta. 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

DADS & FRIENDS MEET & GREET
Last Friday night was the Dads & friends meet & greet bbq. A big thanks goes to Michael Said for organising this event. Thank you also to Alan Sweeney for cooking the bbq, O’Heas Bakery for the rolls, CMS butchers, Derby Street Bottle shop, Lisa Said for the salads, D’Aprano Real Estate & Centorrino Technologies. We trust that all who attended enjoyed the night and look forward to the Comedy night that is currently being organized as the next Dads & Friends event. For more information regarding this event please contact Michael Said on 0418 994 711

CADBURY CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER
Yesterday each child received a box of Cadbury chocolates to sell as our major fundraiser for term1. Each chocolate is $1 with the box totally $50. Please refer to the attached flier for more information or contact Franca James 0413 909 964

SUBWAY
Booked in for Wednesday 12th March. Order Forms were sent home last week and are due back this Thursday. No late orders will be accepted.

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
St Oliver’s 2014 Chocolate Drive

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 is to be returned to school no later than

Wednesday 12th March 2014.

For any further queries or if you are able to sell more than 1 box of chocolates please contact Diana Capuana 0419 331 966 or Franca James 0413909964

Thank you from the Parent Association
OSHC NEWS

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.