Dear Parents and Students,

**TESTING AT ST OLIVER'S**

At St Oliver’s we use a range of different testing practices to identify what a child knows. This practice helps teachers in their weekly planning. Throughout the year teachers complete a range of differing tests to determine a child’s knowledge and understandings across the various domains of the curriculum. This ongoing assessment allows teachers to measure each student’s learning, target the curriculum to individual student needs and to consequently drive the teaching and learning that occurs across the school.

Next week our grade 3 and grade 5 students will participate in the **NAPLAN** (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) tests that are an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, & 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests are carried out in a very formal testing environment that students are not familiar with, and many of the processes and procedures are new to the children. The tests are very much of a “pen and paper” nature, which is a small component of the school’s teaching and assessment strategies, so teachers have spent some time over the past few weeks familiarising students with the expectations, such as shading a bubble to answer a multiple choice question and writing a complete piece of work in a given time frame.

It must be remembered that these tests provide a “snap shot” of your child’s performance on a particular day. Teachers will use the NAPLAN results as one of the contributing factors in planning the teaching and learning experiences for individual children.

If you have any questions about the NAPLAN testing please feel free to talk to your child’s classroom teacher or to myself.

Kind Regards,

Mary Kearney
Deputy Principal / Learning and Teaching Coordinator
THURSDAY CLASS MASS

This Thursday 8th May, Junior D will be attending the 10:00 Mass. Any parents who would like to attend are welcome to sit with their child and join in the prayers.

This week as part of the Religious Education Program the senior students had a guest speaker. One of the understandings in their unit is to explore how God calls people to live and serve as Christians today. Lenyce Willason who is the Pastoral Associate for St. Oliver’s Parish talked to the students about the work she does in the parish and the many ways that families are involved in different groups for all ages at St. Oliver’s.

PRAYER TABLES AND SACRED SPACE

Prayer is a vital component of Religious Education and the vision of the school. Therefore each classroom has a prayer table with sacred icons that is a focal point when the children are praying. The tables are usually covered with prayer cloths in the liturgical colours of white, purple and green. They are presently in need of a make-over. If there are any parents who don’t mind making a few new prayer cloths could they please let me know.

FOOTBALL BOOTS WANTED FOR THE CHILDREN OF TIMOR LESTE

Australian Catholic University (ACU) is running a three week, after-school football program for children and youth in the community of Timor Leste. The program aims to promote health, wellbeing and life skills. Boots are needed for children ranging in age from seven to 15 years. They are hoping to collect 800 pairs. Could these please be placed in the box at the front office by Friday 23 May.

Trish Segrave
Religious Education Coordinator

LEARNING AND TEACHING

SPELLING!!!

Parents who have contacted me to be a part of the parent/child spelling workshops are invited to attend the first workshop on Tuesday 20th May, at 9.00 in the Staffroom. This will give you some background knowledge about how we develop the ability to spell and the strategy we will use to help your children increase their knowledge of English spelling. It will last 45 -60 minutes.

Looking forward to seeing you then,

Barbara Olando
What’s happening around the levels...

SENIORS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will continue discussing Vocation and what it means as part of Christianity. We have a guest speaker attending a Religion lesson who will discuss this topic further with the students.

WRITING: This week in Writing we will be continuing our preparation for NAPLAN by revising both persuasive and narrative text types. Students will have the opportunity to continue with their independent writing.

READING: We are continuing to read our serial novel ‘Wonder’ by R.J Palacio, focussing on the relationships between characters. The students will continue reading their own novels and will respond to the novel and share their thinking in their Reading Journals. We will also be reading non-fiction texts and focussing on extracting specific textual information.

SPELLING: This week’s focus is the Language Conventions test for the upcoming NAPLAN testing.

MATHS: We will be continuing with our Measurement unit this week. Through the use of hands on materials we will be exploring different units of measurement.

INQUIRY: This week we begin our Physical and Chemical Sciences topic. Students will be brainstorming what each entails and how they differ through the use of a T Chart.

Just a reminder...

- Cross Country is on this Wednesday 7th. Please ensure participants are at school by 9.00am. We still require a parent to assist with Cross Country on Wednesday 7th May from 9.00am until 12.30am. Please see Lisa Cadman if you can help.
- Winter Inter School Sports Programme letters need to be returned.
- Year 6 High School transition forms are due by the end of this week, Please return regardless of what school your child is attending next year.
- Mother’s Day breakfast notes to be returned ASAP.
- Homework is due Thursday 23rd of May. Please continue to support your child with their home organisation.

Please click HERE for a copy of the current senior’s homework.

MIDDLES

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: This term the grade 3 students will begin preparing to make their Reconciliation. The students will begin learning about forgiveness by reading ‘The Forgiving Father’ and completing an Open-Minded Portrait on one of the characters in the story.

WRITING: This week the students will continue planning and writing a variety of narratives and persuasive pieces. The students will be encouraged to plan for no longer than 5 minutes.

READING: The students will be introduced to a new Reading Activity, the ‘Three Levels of Thinking’. They will be required to make predictions about our new serial novel, ‘Finders Keepers’, by looking at and discussing the front cover.

SPELLING: This week we will focus on adding suffixes to words. For example ‘ed’ and ‘ing’.

MATHS: The Students will continue learning about various strategies for adding and subtracting numbers. They will continue preparing for NAPLAN, by completing a number of practise questions.

INQUIRY: The students will be introduced to our Inquiry unit, ‘We are Scientists’. They will take part in a science experiment and begin brainstorming their wonders.

Just a reminder... Some specialist classes have changed so ALL specialists are now on a Monday, not Tuesday.
What’s happening around the levels.

JUNIORS

RELIGION: This week we will continue our new unit ‘Alleluia is Our Song’. We will focus on the story of ‘The Women at the Empty Tomb’. Firstly we will use Godly Play figures to tell the story. Then the children will work in groups to role play the story before going on to illustrate their understanding of the text.

READING: During reading sessions, we will continue to focus on the features of procedural texts and discuss how the structure and language features are detailed and represented in a variety of different ways.

WRITING: In Writing, we will continue focussing on the structure of procedures. The children will look at how verbs are used to begin each step. Each class will also begin to compile a list of verbs that can be used when writing procedures.

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

MATHS: In Maths, the children will be completing individual place value thinkboards. We will also conclude our length unit by revising the various concepts and skills that involve the measuring, comparing and ordering of objects using uniform informal and formal units.

INQUIRY: In Sensational Science this week, the children will detail their prior knowledge about household substances and how they change from one state to another. They will also identify sources of light and the different sounds that they hear in the environment. Each class will also make predictions and observations about ‘The Amazing Balloon Trick Experiment’.

PREPS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We will be introducing the children to Christian Mediation. This is another form of prayer that the children will be partaking in class.

READING: We are reading books about ‘Mums’ and sharing experiences we have had with our own mums orally and through pictures.

WRITING: We will be writing about our Mums and the special things that they do for us.

MATHS: This week we will be starting ‘length’. We are introducing the children to the language of short, shorter, tall, taller etc.

INQUIRY: We will be beginning our new unit about Physical and Chemical Sciences.

REMINDERS. . . . There are a few reminders this week!

- If anyone has any unused pantyhose could you please bring these in as will be using them in our length unit.
- We are having our ‘Half Way’ day this Thursday (8th May) so a reminder that the children won’t need to bring any lunch on this day unless they don’t like pizza.
- The Mother’s Day stall is on Friday. Children are to bring money and a plastic bag to buy mum something nice for Mother’s day.
**SPORTS NEWS**

A reminder that our Cross Country event is this Wednesday 7th May. Cross Country will be held at Jackson Reserve, Coburg. All participating students will need to be at school **9.00am sharp**. We still require a parent to assist on the course until approximately 12.30pm.

Please see Lisa Cadman if you can help.

We would like to congratulate Daniel Barker, Christian Cologna, Adam Raffaele for representing our school in Basketball division trials last week. The boys did an excellent job representing our school and we are very proud of them. Good luck to Jorge Sepulveda Alessi for the Football trials this week.

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**HANDS UP FOR MAY**

Next Wednesday the 14th, we will hold our monthly Hands Up count. Getting active each morning by walking or riding to school is a great way to start your day.

Keep an eye out for our Active Travel Monitors on the gate each morning. Get your passports clicked and see how quickly you can receive a certificate recognizing your hard work.

**TRANSITION 2015**

Can I ask all year six students and their families to please return your application for year 7 placement by the end of this week. Please let me know if you have misplaced your form. This form needs to be returned for each year six student.

**MICHAEL GROSE - PARENTING INSIGHT**

Please click [HERE](#) to access the parenting sheet.

‘A Mother’s day tribute.’ This week’s insight shares an extraordinary story of a mum who fought against the odds to bring her brain-injured child back to optimum health.

Happy Mothers day to all the mum’s at St Olivers!

**Libby Sheedy**

**Student Wellbeing Coordinator**
SCHOOL FEES
Accounts for Term 2 were posted out to each family in the first week of the school holidays. Payment of school fees is due now.

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
All children are encouraged to wear their SCHOOL HAT during recess and lunch times, as well as during physical education/sport lessons.

JUNIOR WRITERS OF THE WEEK
Over the year we have seen very creative and talented writers emerge in the Junior grades. Each week we will be acknowledging some children who have followed the writing process to develop a piece of work. Congratulations to these children. This work will be displayed outside each of the Junior Grades.

Congratulations to the following children
JC – Sara Belia    JD – Bobby Tran    JL – Samuel Coviello    JR – Hannah Conlin

STUDENT AWARDS Term 2 Week 3

PARADE COLLEGE
If you missed the opportunity to attend our open day 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 28/5, Thur 19/6 & Preston: Tues 6/5, Fri 30/5, Wed 18/5

CANTEEN
The Canteen will be closed this Thursday, and open as of Monday next week.

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>Vinnie Citino</td>
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<td>Friday 9 May</td>
<td>Lisa Guarino, Theresa Ellul &amp; Helen Curran</td>
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<td>Monday 12 May</td>
<td>Lisa Barker &amp; Deb Roberts</td>
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Please click HERE for a copy of the Canteen Menu

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 at dtabone@ozemail.com.au.....Thankyou

Di Tabone  0423 596 221
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 at the end of 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 Sports plus fitness. 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 term. 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!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
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.

TRIVIA NIGHT….MAY 17TH
The trivia night invitations were sent home last. Pencil the date in on your calendar and start organizing your table. We had over 150 people attend last year, with over 40 prizes in our raffle, sports memorabilia auctions and over 160 lucky dip prizes….we hope to make this years even bigger & better!!!!!!!!!!! Please see attached flyer for more information.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL…MAY 9TH
Our annual Mother’s Day stall is this Friday morning. Please see attached flyer for more information.

TERM 2 EVENTS
Mother’s Day Stall Friday 9th May
Trivia Night Saturday 17th May
Subway Lunch…date to be confirmed
Disco… Date to be confirmed
The Parents Association will be holding the Mother’s Day stall on Friday 9\textsuperscript{th} May.

Gifts available are varied and priced between $1 and $10.

Please make sure your child’s money is secured in a purse or wallet and we are requesting that the children bring a plastic carry bag.

A raffle will also be held on the day and the students will be able to buy tickets in the morning. If you have any donations you would like to make to this raffle please leave at the school office.

Thank you.
Dear St Oliver’s families

You are invited to come along to

**St Oliver’s Trivia Night Fundraiser**

Hosted by Sebastian Dworkin from ‘Trivia Buffs’

**WHEN:** 17th May 2014

**WHERE:** Hadfield Community Hall
88 Middle St
Hadfield 3046

**TIME:** Doors Open 6pm
Fun Starts 7pm

**PRICE:** $15 per person

**CATEGORIES:** General, Movies, Songs/Dance, Faces and Sport

**FORMAT:** BYO Drinks & Supper
Silent Auctions
Great Prizes & Giveaways
A night of fun & laughter

It’s a great night out and a great way to support your school. Organize a group of 8 to 10 friends/family and contact us to reserve your table.

For further information & bookings contact

Georgie McElligott 0405 435 770
Marita Pascoe 0409 902 404
OSHC NEWS
We would like to get parents input in to OSHC program to continuously improve this service. Parents need to give copy of the immunisation certificate.

Thank you.
Gowri.

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.

### AFTER SCHOOL CARE

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<td>Better Buddies</td>
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<td>Poster</td>
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<td>Science experiment</td>
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