Dear Parents

Staffing News

Congratulations to Susan Mitchell, who has been appointed to a Learning and Teaching Coordinator and Year Six teaching position at Holy Name Reservoir, and to Marita Mannix who has been appointed to a Year One teaching position at St John Bosco’s Niddrie. Both positions commencing in 2014.

Both Susan and Marita are highly regarded teachers and leaders at our school. Susan as our Literacy Coordinator and Marita in her capacity as Sport Coordinator. They will be wonderful additions to their new schools and we wish them every success as they continue their professional journeys.

School Board Nominations

I’d like to remind all families that board nomination for two vacancies for 2014-2016 are currently open. All nomination forms must be lodged with the Principal by 3:30pm on Monday 18th November 2013. Nomination forms are available from the school office.

Regrouping

A letter was sent home to all families last week regarding the regrouping process at St Olivers. If you would like to discuss your child’s placement for 2014 (following the criteria as stipulated in the letter) please phone the office by Friday November 15 to make an appointment. If you did not receive this letter please contact the office to have one sent home or access it on our webpage in the News and Events section.

Regards

Alan Sweeney
Principal

Click HERE for the 2012 Annual Report to the Community
Thank you to all the parents and children who attended the Middle Family Mass. It was great to see such a wonderful response and the children leading the prayers and singing during the Liturgy.

**Thursday 14 November SH** will be attending the **10:00 Mass**. Please come and join the children in prayer.

**CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE**

**Pope calls for views of Melbourne Catholics on the family**
Pope Francis has invited parishioners from every diocese in the world, including the Archdiocese of Melbourne, to participate in a worldwide Catholic questionnaire on many challenges facing the family today. It covers: faith in family life, marriage, divorce, annulment, same sex unions, natural family planning and the participation in sacraments as part of family life.

**To participate:** visit [www.cam.org.au/synod](http://www.cam.org.au/synod)

**Due date:** Friday 6 December

**More info:** The life, Marriage and Family Office on 9286 5576

**LEARNING AND TEACHING**

**TESTING**

Over the past few weeks the teachers have begun to prepare to write end of year reports, and have been completing the post testing regime with students. In the prep and junior grades teachers have worked on a one-to-one basis with each student to assess their individual growth for this year. The middle and seniors teachers have been administering ‘On Demand’ testing in English and Maths and ‘PAT’ Reading and Maths assessment tasks.

Teachers will use this information to determine each student’s growth, to drive their teaching and student learning for the remainder of the year, and the information will also be used to determine individual starting points for next year’s classes.

This formal genre of testing is just one form of assessing children’s achievements. Assessment and reporting is an ongoing process, carried out throughout the whole school year. It is an integral aspect of the learning and teaching continuum. Every classroom task can be regarded as an opportunity to make observations and evaluations of student learning.

Our approach to assessment is based on the following principles:

* The fundamental purpose of assessment is to improve student learning and direct our teaching
* Assessment should focus on the development of the individual learner
* Assessment strategies should vary and cater for a range of learning styles
* Students are active participants in the assessment process and are made aware of their strengths and where further growth is needed.

Mary Kearney
Learning and Teaching Coordinator
SENIORS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: This week we begin our advent topic ‘Waiting for the Messiah’. The students will look at and discuss a display of photos of people of hope and joy, including Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, and Fred Hollows. They will also discuss the times they themselves or their families have experienced joy and hope. Each week the students will be encouraged to share their opinions about a chosen ‘moral dilemma’.

WRITING: This week’s writing introductions focus on the structure of different texts that explain, including flow charts and texts that explain natural phenomena. We will also look at cause and effect. Throughout the week the students will be working on their independent writing and participating in goal meetings and writing workshops.

READING: We will continue to read and discuss the serial novel ‘Get a Grip Cooper Jones’.
Each class will record quotes and pose questions about Cooper as they read. The students will take note of Cooper’s characteristics and mannerisms and make connections between where they think they get their characteristics and mannerisms from and where Cooper gets his from.
Each day we will continue with our independent reading routine and guided reading groups.

MATHS: This week we begin our new topic, ‘Statistics and probability’ (chance and data). The students will complete a pre-test and then conduct and record the results of chance experiments. They will also collect data that they will record as graphs.

INQUIRY: Our focus this week is puberty. Each class will write a definition of puberty and then list and discuss the physical, emotional and social changes that boys and girls experience during this time. We will view the DVD “I’m stepping out” from the Wonder of Living Series, which discusses the physical changes during adolescence (including the menstrual cycle which will discuss further next week).

Just a reminder...
• A new homework sheet has been sent home today.

Click HERE for a copy of the grade 5 homework tasks.
Click HERE for a copy of the grade 6 homework tasks.
Click HERE for the letter regarding changes to the homework structure.

MIDDLES

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: This week we begin a new unit ‘Advent, Waiting for the Prince of Peace’. We will set up an ‘I Wonder’ section on our prayer table that will be added to during Advent. We will also focus on Advent as being a time of waiting and discuss times when we have to wait.

WRITING: This week we will continue looking at writing to explain. We will begin to look at the features of an explanation and participate in some cause and effect activities.

READING: We will continue on with our new book ‘Judy Moody Saves the World’. We will also look at responding to non-fiction texts by discussing the style and text features of non-fiction texts.

SPELLING: This week we will look at base words, suffixes and prefixes.

MATHS: Our focus for Maths is symmetry and angles. Students will look at the names and degrees of the different angles and how we identify them. We will be revising time on the analogue clock.

INQUIRY: Our unit for this term is ‘Survivor’. This week students will continue and present their investigation into a particular life cycle of a human, a type of plant or a type of animal. We will compare the similarities and differences of each groups’ investigations.

Click HERE for a copy of the Middle’s homework tasks.
RELIGION: This week we will conclude our unit ‘Stories of God’s People,’ by exploring the ‘Beatitudes’. The students will form an understanding of how the ‘Beatitudes’ gives us the ideal way of living life. We will also create and share an action plan of how we can help the Kingdom of God to grow in our classroom, our school and our family.

READING: In Reading this week, we will continue to engage the children in a variety of shared reading practices, focusing on identifying the structures and features of narratives such as orientation, complication and resolution. We will also be concentrating on how we can use different punctuation such as question marks, exclamation marks and talking marks to create atmosphere and intonation when we are reading.

WRITING: In Writing, we will continue to explore the features of narratives and the children will continue to work towards achieving their individual writing goals while engaged in their own writing tasks.

SPELLING: We will be continuing to look at onset and rime patterns by building a class word list with the sound aw (saw, paw) 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, we will begin the topic of fractions. We will begin to explore the concept of fractions by folding paper into halves, quarters and eighths. The students will also represent fractions by colouring, drawing and cutting whole shapes and objects.

INQUIRY: This week in our Inquiry unit ‘Food for Life’ we will investigate the healthy food pyramid. We will identify what types of food and the quantity of food that we should be eating to live healthy lives. As a class we will create our own food pyramid and use it to investigate what elements have been covered in our ‘Food for Life’ timeline.

Click HERE for a copy of the current Junior Homework

PREPS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: We discussed the meaning of Remembrance Day. Children wrote a sentence about their understanding of what Remembrance day means and as a class we made poppies.

WRITING: We are continuing with the ‘Seed Box’ and ‘Mystery Box’ this week and sharing our thinking. We will focus on how we begin our writing that has stemmed from the seed box and look at different sentence starters other than “it reminds me of or It makes me think of …”

READING: We will share text related to good food choices and the types of foods we need. The children will also be revising the short vowels sounds and introducing the Magic ‘e’.

MATHS: In Maths will be beginning to look at division and sharing objects equally. Students will work in pairs and share and record various division statements as a number sentence – e.g. 10 blocks shared between 2 is 5. Using larger numbers children will make predictions about how they can be shared equally, and then test their predictions.

INQUIRY: We will be keeping a food diary of what we eat for the week. Chn begin the first day of their food diary. To be filled in each morning for the remainder of the week. Start to talk about what they notice in their lunch box. What food types do you eat a lot of? What do you need to eat more of?

*If anyone has any Children’s Cookbooks that have healthy snacks in them can you please bring them to school next week*
MICHAEL GROSE - PARENTING INSIGHT

Please click HERE to access the parenting sheet. This week’s parenting insight looks at ‘The new strict parent. Is this you?’

GATEWAYS
Anyone interested in programs for gifted and talented children please log on to www.gateways.edu.au.

TRANSITION
Mercy College is hosting a Discovery day for 2013 on Wednesday 20th November. This is particularly aimed at our current year 4 and 5 girls. See flyer on our school notice-board. Discovery day runs small group sessions where parents can meet the principal. For further information contact Robyn Herrera on 9319 9299.

Libby Sheedy
Wellbeing Coordinator

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Zavier, William and Josh (the Senior SRC’s) represented St Olivers on Monday the 11th of November at Rogers Reserve, Pascoe Vale in the RSL Wreath Laying Ceremony. They layed a wreath to remember our fallen soldiers. Lest We Forget.
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- Tianna Romeo  JD- Kayla Ellul  JL- Amelia Manna  JR- Luca Sebastiano

STUDENT AWARDS
Oliver Forbes, Chloe Compagnino, Larissa Caroselli, Bobby Tran, Savio Sada, Dean Ciccarone, Callum Fitzpatrick, Adam Scira, Alexander Loveday, Dean Peppas, Marcus Del Campo, Samantha Ayers, Anthony Oliva, Ava Steinicke, Liam Tierney, O’Dhran Fitzpatrick, Harrison Mandic, Calista Trimboli, Kishen Parekh, Eva Cartwright, Loredana Bufalino, Georgia Dupuy, Zavia Lingenti, Jorge Sepulveda, Matthew Everett, Jade Burch, Luca Brisci, Laura De Fillipis

MORELAND CITY COUNCIL PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
The Holiday Program will operate from Monday 6 January – Friday 24 January 2013. There are 4 venues 8am to 6pm available. For further information contact 9240 2427 or visit the web site at sschoolholidayprogram@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 22 November 2013.

CANTEEN  Diane Tabone  0423 596 221

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<tr>
<th>Thursday 14 November</th>
<th>Vinnie Citino Michelle Pagotto</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15 November</td>
<td>Rhonda Ferraro Marita Pascoe Lisa Blaney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18 November</td>
<td>Angela Russo Vita Mezzatesta</td>
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Please note: Monday 9 December, Canteen closed for lunch orders, open at lunchtime for window sales only
Thursday 12 December Special lunch day for Preps & Juniors only..... details soon
Friday 13 December Special lunch day for Middles & Seniors only....details soon
Friday 13 December is the last day for canteen 2013

Please click HERE to see the current canteen price list/Menu.
This is also located on the Webpage in ‘Our School’ – ‘Canteen’
CLICK HERE FOR THE CURRENT PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL BANKING AT ST OLIVER PLUNKETT SCHOOL The Dollarmites Character Moneyboxes will not be available in 2014. If you would like to redeem your tokens for a moneybox please do so prior to the end of the year. Please note that due to this change you can order more than one moneybox this year if you have the required tokens. St Oliver’s School Banking days are Tuesdays. We are currently seeking volunteers to help run this program. 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.

BUSINESSES OF THE WEEK
Our featured businesses are Highway Garage, How Noodle and Incite Metal Fabrication. Please view their adverts on the school website or refer to the 2nd edition of the St Oliver’s Business Directory

ST OLIVER FAMILY FAVOURITE COOKBOOK
We still have a few copies of the cookbook after the fete. If you would like to order please fill in the order form and return to the school office or for further information please contact: Franca James 0413 909 964

SUBWAY LUNCH
Our next scheduled subway lunch day is Wednesday 4th December

MATTEL TOY SALE TICKETS
Mattel have invited St Oliver’s families to their once a year distribution center toy sale on Tuesday 3rd December 2013 4pm to 8pm. Tickets cost $10. Please see the attached flier for more information or contact Naomi Banks on 0409 930 833.

2014 CALENDARS
Calendar orders are due tomorrow. Please fill out the order form and send into the school office with the correct money and enjoy your child’s artwork on your 2014 calendar. Please note that each child must have their own order form and you may also order extra copies as these make great Xmas Presents. Order form below
Thank you
Parent Association
TONTINE HAVE GENEROUSLY DONATED A PACKAGE TO THE VALUE OF $400 TO THE SCHOOL TO BE USED FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS A FOLLOW-UP FOR OUR TERM 2 FUNDRAISER FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL. IN RETURN WE ARE PROMOTING THE FOLLOWING SALE.

TRISH SEGRAVE
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

OSHC TIMES
ST OLIVER PLUNKETT  OSHC phone: 0431 722 459  Coordinator: Gowri Kanagaratnam

OSHC NEWS
Due to the Sun Smart Policy parents should ensure children wear their hats for Terms 1 & 4.

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

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
MONDAY Santa felt boots Christmas bell creation
TUESDAY Worm gardening Santa boots
WEDNESDAY Christmas ornament Painting Cooking - Seniors
THURSDAY Cooking - Middles Play dough
FRIDAY Gardening Dream catcher