23rd February 2016

Welcome to Week 5 Term 1.

Dear Families and Friends of OLOF,

Recoginise React Report Tour 2016

Last Wednesday, Bruce and Denise Morcombe visited our school and delivered a great message about child safety to our school community. It was an honour to have them in our community and we thank them for their time and wonderful efforts.

School Volunteers’ Child Protection Workshop

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who came to last week’s workshop. Please note that we will be holding another workshop this Wednesday, 24th February, at 2.30pm in the meeting room for those who could not attend last week’s workshop.

Year 6 Reunion

Today, we welcome back the Year 6 students of 2015.

Industrial Action

You may have heard in recent media reports that Catholic school staff are going on strike this Thursday, 25 February. Despite what the reports suggest, only a minority of staff will be taking part in the strike. Some teachers from our school are expected to strike, but we anticipate that there will be minimal disruption to our school program. Classes and activities will proceed as scheduled. Catholic school authorities have offered our staff a 2.5% pay rise and we are hopeful the union will soon accept this very reasonable offer.

Part 2 of the Four School Goals for 2016

Learning and Teaching

The learning and teaching goals for 2016 are as follows:-

✓ We will continue to embed the “DELT High Yield strategies” to improve the Literacy standards of all students.
✓ We will improve our pedagogical practice by implementing the Effective and Expected practices across all Learning Areas.
✓ Teachers will become more familiar with, and will develop, strategies to help students with diverse needs.
✓ We will construct a curriculum overview of the Learning Areas, to ensure that there is an appropriate coverage of the Australian Curriculum.
✓ We will provide a Digital Literacy Teacher to enhance the digital literacy in line with the Technology curriculum (ICT) within the school.

A Lenten challenge for each of us this week: Use words wisely.

Our words have immense capacity for good.
When we use them encouragingly, generously, and genuinely, there are few things that have more power.

I hope that you all have an energetic week.
Damian
A WORD FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (APRE)

APRE CORNER

As we are heading into week 2 of Lent, we should remember to revisit our Lenten promises. We are refocusing on our faith and reflecting on everything that we are grateful for.

"Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with the greatest respect and gratitude." Pope Francis, 2014.

Our Lenten carbon footprint this week is ‘switch off appliances at the power point, even when turned off, appliances can draw power from an active point.’

Caritas: Project Compassion
‘Learning More, Creating Change...’

Week 2: Caritas Appeal-Laos

Duangmala (mum) wishes for a bright future for her eight-year-old son Hum Noy, who is living with Downs Syndrome. But faced with discrimination and limited learning opportunities, Duangmala feared he might never reach his full potential.

Thankfully, a program supported by Caritas Australia has opened up a world of change for this small family. They were introduced to the Intellectual Disabilities Unit, which was set up by the Lao Disabled People’s Association with the support of Caritas Australia. This specialised school provides learning support and nurturing care to 50 children with intellectual disabilities in the Laos capital, Vientiane. To see more information visit the below website.


Curriculum Corner

The Preppies have been settling into their classroom routines well and are participating in lots of fun and enjoyable learning and teaching in and outside their classroom. They are doing a marvellous job at learning about who God and Jesus is and what he created in Religion, learning about themselves and where they belong in the world in H.S.S. During English, the preps have begun learning the letters and sounds of the alphabet, writing their name correctly and listening to and responding to many different texts. Throughout Maths, numbers 1-10, patterns, identifying things that are the same and different and 2d objects are all going to be taught this term. Lots of positive teaching and learning occurring in the Prep room.

Blessing to all of your family
Gemma Marshall (Acting APRE)

A WORD FROM SR BERNADETTE

Here’s an idea for an interesting family exercise. When you gather for your evening meal tonight or tomorrow night take a moment to look at what is on the plate. Have a chat with your child/ren about the various food items, what they are, where they originated and how they travelled from there to your meal. This can lead to interesting discussion on all those who contribute to our daily food, and to whom we should be grateful.

CUPPA: Monday 29 February @ 2.00pm before Assembly.

Peace Sr Bernadette

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2016

Term 1- Wed 27th Jan - Thurs 24th Mar
Term 2- Mon 11th Apr – Fri 24th Jun
Term 3- Mon 11th Jul – Fri 16th Sep
Term 4-Tues 4th Oct - Fri 2nd Dec

LUNCH BREAKS

We have two dedicated eating breaks at OLOF each day. The first eating break is a 15 minute break and should be the student’s main meal (sandwich/ wrap). The second break is a 10 minute snack break. Please limit sugary foods and increase healthy foods such as fruits /yoghurt and muesli bars.

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club is on Tuesday mornings, from 8.00-8.30am. We hold Homework Club in the ESL / Learning Support Room. If you need any help with your homework, then come and join us.