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Newsletter No: 1 2nd February 2017



Dear Parents,

A very big welcome to all our families as we commence the 2017 school year!

A special welcome to the families of our Prep children, in particular the new families who have their first child commencing here at Christ Our Holy Redeemer. I also welcome the three families who are new to the school with children in Years 1-6.

All the children have settled into the school year very well. The Preps commenced yesterday and they are all adapting well to school life. They are a beautiful group of children and we are sure they are going to enjoy their learning this year. Our Preps have now commenced full days, with Wednesdays off throughout February.

I extend a very warm welcome to our new families and to new staff, Emily Faella (5/6), Ivana Kakala (5/6), Kristy Sly (3/4), Rebecca Saad (3/4) and Emily Leckie (3/4 on a Tues).

SCHOOL MASS

We will come together next Thursday 9th February at 9am to celebrate the beginning of the school year. All are very welcome to join with us at Mass.

SCHOOL HATS

A reminder that children are required to have their school hats for recess, lunchtimes and PE. Please, please ensure hats are clearly named.

FAMILY FISH'N'CHIP NIGHT

We invite all families to our family Fish'n'Chips evening on **Thursday 9th February between 5:30 and 7pm**. The aim of the evening is to gather as a school community to begin the year. It is a BYO everything evening. I look forward to seeing many families on the night. (Please note this was previously advertised as a Friday night)

SCHOOL FEES

An amount of money was deposited into our school account from NAB on 25th Jan with no reference name. Please check your accounts and contact the office if this was yours.

2017 School fees will be sent home today. Our bank account details are on your fee account. If you are making payments into our account please ensure that your surname is listed as the reference so that we can allocate the payment to your fees.

LEVEL INFORMATION NIGHTS

These meetings will be a valuable opportunity to meet class teachers, hear more about class expectations and responsibilities of your children as well as hearing a little about the focus of the year.

Meetings will be held in your child's classroom and commence at 7pm to conclude by 8pm:

Year 5/6: Monday 13th February

Year 3/4: Tuesday 14th February

Year 1/2: Thursday 15th February

Foundation (Prep): Tuesday 16th February

'O' WEEK

At the beginning of each year we focus on establishing a positive classroom and school environment. This year the focus of 'O' week is on team building, showing respect, developing a positive classroom environment and displaying an attitude of gratitude.

TIQBIZ

A reminder that we will be using the Tiqbiz app to contact parents regarding upcoming events, staff absences and our weekly newsletter. Class teachers will also use this app to inform families of classroom notices. The Tiqbiz app can be downloaded onto an android device, an iPhone or iPad or a windows phone. We are hoping that all parents will join so that we can improve our communication with you. For those of you who have already downloaded this app, please ensure you have updated to your child's new class.

- ✓ Search in app store for 'tiqbiz'
- ✓ Open and download
- ✓ Open the app and register with name, email and password
- ✓ Click the 'Find Boxes' and type in our school name
- ✓ Tick the grey boxes on the right hand side that apply to you (e.g. whole school, plus your child's class, but not staff)
- ✓ Once you have ticked these, go back and click the menu button on the left hand corner. Click 'Inbox' and now you are ready to receive notifications

LUNCH ORDERS

Classroom Cuisine will again provide our lunch order service on every day except Tuesday.

All orders must be placed on line before 8.30am. School have no access to the service and **will not** be able to place late orders. For information or to order, please visit: on our website.

A MESSAGE FROM SISTER PATRICIA

Thank you. I look back on my farewell from COHR and I feel very blessed for the many friends who shared that morning with me. Thank you to all of you for your best wishes, kind words, gifts and cards. I hold you all in my heart and I will remember you all in prayer each day.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

The Parents Association will be having a second hand uniform stall shortly. If anyone would like to donate any uniforms, please could you leave with them at the office.

APPROVAL AND ACCOUNTABILITY FORMS

We apologise for the overload in paperwork this past week. The forms sent home are a legal requirement and must be retained at the school. Over the next week please keep a look out for additional permission / information forms. We are sending home medical forms tonight. If you have a child with Asthma, Allergies or Anaphylaxis, please ensure you provide an updated Action Plan which is signed by a doctor.

Could we please ask that **all** forms are returned to the school by next Friday 10th February. Thank you in advance.

2017 STAFFING

Foundation (Prep)

Nicole Russell
Georgina Laming

Level Two (One/Two)

Elise Pape & Leah Macdonald (Tues)
Emily Stafford
Sarah Counihan

Ilona Cetrola

Level Three (Three/Four)

Kristy Sly
Rebecca Saad
Jo Hunt & Leah Macdonald (Wed)
Jill Palermo & Emily Leckie (Tues)

Level Four (Five/Six)

Ivana Kakala
John Killeen
Emily Faella
Tania Weston

Specialists

Karen Wakeling	Resource Centre & ICT (T, Th,F)
Sue Tobin	Tues, PE (Th,F)
Naomi Daw Fornaro	Performing Arts (Thurs, Fri)
Marisa Lucia	LOTE (Italian) (Tues, Thurs, Fri)
Jo Hunt	Visual Arts (Wed)

Student Services

Michelle Seel
Franca Paduano

Class support/Integration Aides

Sue Jenkins
Lorraine Hill
Isabelle Geogalas
Vicky Kalliontzis
Anna Giannikos

Administration

Virginia Macdonald	(Mon, Thurs, Fri)
Rachel Bernardo	(Tu, Wed, Thurs)

Positions of Leadership

Michelle Seel	Student Services
Jill Palermo	REC leader
Elise Pape	Literacy Leader
Karen Wakeling	ICT leader
Emily Stafford	Maths leader
John Killeen	Sport Co-ordinator
Brendan Welsford	Principal
Michella Pradel	Deputy & Curriculum Leader

SALE SALE SALE
2017 COHR Calendars
\$5 each
Available from the office

Beginning-of-year Reminders...

As the new year begins, it is probably wise to remind all families of a couple of important requirements.

- 1. Punctuality: I ask that families make an effort to ensure children arrive at school by 8.45am ready for a start at 8.50am.*
- 2. Assemblies: A brief 10 min assembly takes place in the courtyard before classes commence each Monday. This will be used to communicate to children any information relating to the week ahead. Another whole school assembly will take place every Friday at 9.00am in the hall. Parents are most welcome to join us at either of these assemblies. At tomorrow morning's assembly we will officially welcome our new Preps.*
- 3. Early arrivals: Children should not be arriving at school before 8.30. There is no supervision on the playground for children before this time. If parents require supervision prior to this time I would ask that they make use of the Before and After School facility. Youth Leadership Australia can be contacted on 0412 958 605*
- 4. Allergies Reminder*

We currently have children enrolled at Chirst Our Holy Redeemer who can have a severe anaphylactic reaction to certain foods, requiring vigilant supervision at home and at school; I am making the following special request.

Please refrain from sending food containing nuts to school in playlunches and lunches for the sake of these children and their classmates in particular.

***Please do not send party cakes or food to share for birthdays** as it is too difficult to monitor. If you do want to send something along please make it a non-edible item such as a sticker or pencil.*

As we have a Non-Food Sharing Policy, children are not permitted to share their food with other classmates. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all a wonderful year in 2017.

*Brendan Welsford
Principal*

TERM ONE DATES

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 8 th	No Preps
Thursday 9 th	School Mass 9.00am Fish n chip night
Monday 13 th	5/6 Information Night
Tuesday 14 th	3/4 Information Night
Wednesday 15 th	1/2 Information Night No Preps
Thursday 16 th	District Swimming (6.30 – 8.00am) Prep Information Night
Wednesday 22 nd	No Preps
Thursday 23 rd	School Photos
Saturday 25 th	Reconciliation Commitment Mass

MARCH

Wednesday 1 st	Ash Wednesday Mass 10.30am COHR
Thursday 2 nd	Reconciliation Family Night 7.00pm
Thursday 16 th	COHR Open Day
Friday 17 th	Combined Schools Mass 11.00am COHR PA's Twilight Movie Night
Wednesday 22	5/6 Canberra Camp Information Night
Friday 31 st	Term 1 finishes. Students dismissed at 2.30pm

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School **camp**s provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

\$125 for primary school students

\$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Prayer for the New School Year

Lord, God of all Creation
All new beginnings are a sign of your love for us.

Everything is new or renewed –
new calendar, new diary, new hopes and renewed
enthusiasm.



In this atmosphere of freshness,
help us to look up rather than down, forward rather than back.

Help us to notice people and their needs
and to do what we can to help them achieve their full dignity and development as
persons.

As the year fills with activities, challenges and difficulties,
let our learning continue as we live and celebrate the promise in our Catholic
community.

Fill each day with your grace so that in our teaching and learning
we may continue to grow in your love.

Grant us a wealth of patience, compassion and acceptance
for ourselves, our students and for each other.

Help us to face the future with serenity, confidence and courage,
and keep us safe and secure.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

AMEN.

Parking Protocols

The following guidelines have been documented to help ensure the safety of our children. Many are common sense but it is essential as a parent group they are followed to ensure the safety of our children. It is also important that parents model positive behaviours to the children of our school. Please also ensure any family members or friends who also collect your children are aware of these guidelines.

It is expected that these 'Parking protocols' be adhered to ensure safety and ease of traffic through the school.

1. Parents/carers are expected to show and model courtesy and patience to the children and to all members of our community.
2. The Gate (opposite Hall entry) is the **ONLY** drop off zone for the morning. This is strictly a 'kiss & go' zone, children need to quickly and carefully get in and out of the car. There should be no reason for parents to get out of the car.
3. The No Standing Zone beneath the Principal's Office is designated as such to allow safe passage for cars exiting the school grounds and for children walking from the school building or arriving and leaving the school on bicycle. Please note: this is **NOT A DROP-OFF ZONE**. Please do not park in non-marked areas/ keep clear zones.
4. Parking along the driveway near the Tennis Courts prevents cars from entering and exiting designated parking spaces. It also blocks the marked walkway for children participating in activities on the oval or tennis courts. If all spaces are full, please park in nearby streets.
5. Gate pick up is designed to enable parents to arrive at school at 3.30 and drive through to collect their children after school has finished. Please do not arrive early only to wait in your cars for the bell to go and then form a queue for gate pick up. This only prevents parents who wish to go into the school from being able to park and creates an instant grid-lock, making the car park much more frustrating for all users. If your child is not at the gate, then you will be advised to drive on and re-enter the school. If parents need to assist their children by getting out of the car, parents will need to park and escort their child into school. It is the child's responsibility to be ready and waiting at the gate at pick up – if the child isn't ready then you may be asked to move on.
6. Have you considered parking in a nearby street and walking to or from school even one or two days per week? Simple measures like this would ease car park congestion significantly. Could walking this distance together be preparation for your children to meet you themselves when old enough to do so or be preparation for making their way independently to secondary school?
7. The bus zone on Huntingdale Road is NOT a pick up or drop off zone. Stopping in this area places children at great risk, especially during peak traffic times. Please refrain from stopping at all in this zone.
8. Parking on Ferntree Gully Road, between Huntingdale Road and Leroux Street stops cars from exiting the school safely and easily. Parking in this area blocks view of oncoming traffic and prohibits cars from pulling into the left lane thereby slowing down traffic flow through the school.
9. Children need to be carefully supervised by their parents as they make their way to their car.
10. For pedestrian traffic exiting onto Ferntree Gully Road, please exit via the footpath along the building and not via the driveway.
11. As our school is situated on the corner of two busy roads, parents and children are expected to cross with the lights.