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Newsletter No: 11 24th April 2014

Dear Parents,

Happy Easter and welcome to Term 2! Hopefully the holidays were a welcome break in routine and that you and your family were able to celebrate the Easter ceremonies.

This week's Gospel in part focusses on Thomas – or doubting Thomas as he has become known. Not that I necessarily wish to defend all Thomas' but Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God. Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the Gospel are meant for people like us living today.

RECONCILIATION

This week our Year 3 students will be celebrating their First Reconciliation on Saturday. Our prayers and thoughts are with the children as they undertake another step in their spiritual journey.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Project Compassion boxes may still be returned to school by the end of next week. Thank you.

PARENT PROGRAM: 5 secrets to develop confidence & resilience in your child

A reminder that the school is hosting a Parent Workshop on Friday 2nd and 9th of May here at school. This is a wonderful opportunity to join with other parents to assist parents in the (sometimes) challenging job of being a parent. It's not too late to register. The sessions are led by Georgina Manning who presented at the beginning of the year to the parents and later to the staff.

OPEN DAY

On Wednesday 30th April, enrolment applications for next year's prep will open. It will also be our 'Open Day' during which our senior students will act as host and 'tour' guides for prospective parents. Please note that enrolments for existing families will close on Friday 30th May. This year school tours will be conducted every 30 minutes, commencing at 9:15am. As in previous years, parents will be invited for a morning or afternoon tea. We would love parents to be able to 'host' the 'cuppa' for an hour or so. If you are able to assist, please let the office know of your availability.

FETE COMMITTEE

Our Fete Committee met in the last week of the term. Although a small turn out it was a productive meeting. At this stage it's important that planning – for food stall and other stalls and activities - is undertaken to ensure the success of the Fete. The next Fete meeting is Tuesday 22nd May at 7:30pm.

WORKING BEE

This year there will be two working bees. The dates for these will be:

- **Saturday 26th April 8am-9:30am** (opportunity to tidy school grounds before Open Day)
- **Friday 7th November 3:45pm-5:30pm** (opportunity to tidy oval etc before the School Fete)

We would appreciate as many as possible at both of these working bees. It is a great chance to meet new families too. Your maintenance levy will be deducted from the fees by attending one of these working bees. Please see the attached flyer for the tasks we hope to achieve on Saturday.

EDUCATION BOARD – AGM Thursday 1st May 7:30pm

The next meeting of our Education Board will be the Annual General meeting of the Board. All parents are most welcome to attend. There are two parent vacancies on the Board. If you would like to join the Education Board, please express your interest in writing to me by Tuesday 29th April. In the event that more than two applications are received, an election by way of a simple ballot will be conducted.

WALK-A-THON

Our annual Walk-a-thon will be held on Wednesday 7th May. The funds raised will be combined with the Fete profits to improve the Oval.

FAMILY WEEK

Throughout Week 3 of this term, we will celebrate Family Week. This is an annual event run by Catholic Care. The theme this year is: *'It takes a village to raise a child and rays of giving'*

This theme acknowledges that families and communities are at the very heart of Catholic Care's vision and to highlight the importance of family in society.

We will pray together in a school liturgy on Wednesday 7th May. We will also hold the Mother's Day stall on Thursday 8th May.

EUCHARIST COMMITMENT MASS

The Eucharist Commitment Mass for Year 4 students intending to make their First communion will be held on Sunday 11th May at 11am.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Shortly we will deliver our Sexuality Program and this year we have expanded the program to include our year 3/4 students. As in previous years Lisa Hughes will facilitate the program. Lisa is a registered nurse with post graduate qualifications in Health Promotion and specialises in the area of Human Sexuality, and has previously implemented the program at our school.

A Parent Information night will be held next Wednesday 30th April at 7pm in the Hall, where we will launch the program to the Parent community.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB *coming to COHR!*

COHR is participating in Scholastic Book Clubs this year. The first Bookclub Flyer has arrived. Look over the flyer with your child, select the books you want, mark them on the order form on the back of the flyer, and **return the order form to school by Tuesday 6th May with payment**. The books will usually arrive around two weeks after we send the final school order to Scholastic.

Sincerely,

Karen Wakeling & Jacinta Chetwin

PS: For more information about the books in this offer, you can visit the Scholastic

Book Clubs Web site at www.scholastic.com.au. You will also find great activities and resources for you and your child.

PORTABLE

You may have noticed that finally works have commenced with the classroom for 5/6P. Please be aware that there may be trucks in and around the site over the next week or so – please take care. Parking around the site is prohibited.

UNIFORM

Children are expected in winter uniform from the commencement of Term 2. At times the end of Autumn can be variable so some leeway is given if we have any hot days.

HOME TASK CLUB

For students in Yr 3-6 who came to Home Task Club last year, this is a reminder that the club starts again next Thursday at 8.15am in Yr 5/6CS.

TERM TWO DATES

April

Saturday 26th Reconciliation (Yr 3); Working Bee (8am – 9:30am)

Wednesday 30th Open day;
Prep enrolments open for 2015

May

Thursday 1st Education Board (AGM)
Friday 2nd Inter School Sport (Winter competition for Yrs 5&6)

Saturday 3rd Parent program commences
Monday 5th Reconciliation (Yr 3)
Family Week commences
Yr 5&6 Growing with Grace Program commences

Wednesday 7th Walk-a-Thon
Thursday 8th Mothers' day stall
Prep Growing in Faith 7pm

Sunday 11th Eucharist Commitment Mass
Mothers' day

Tuesday 13th NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5 – Writing & Language conventions
Wednesday 14th NAPLAN Yrs 3& 5 – Reading
Thursday 15th NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5 – Mathematics
Prep Growing in Faith 7pm
Monday 19th Conclusion of Yr 5/6 Growing with Grace program
Tuesday 20th Parish Council
Wednesday 21st Parents' Association meeting
Thursday 22nd Yr 4 Eucharist 'Walk through Mass' 7pm
Friday 23rd Biggest Morning Tea
Monday 26th Yr 3/4 Growing with Grace program
Yr 5/6 Workshop – Growing with Grace 7pm
Tuesday 27th Fete meeting
Wednesday 28th Yr 4 Eucharist Reflection day
Yr 5/6 Workshop – Growing with Grace 7pm
Thursday 29th Yr4 Eucharist Family Workshop
June
Wednesday 4th Yr 3/4 Parent/child workshop: Growing with Grace 6pm & 7:30pm
Friday 5th School closure day
Monday 9th Queen's birthday holiday
Sunday 15th First Eucharist 1pm & 3pm
Wednesday 18th Parents' Association meeting & Parish Council
Thursday 19th Education Board
Friday 20th Mid-Year reports sent home
Yr 5/6 Inter School Sport Gala day
Disco
Wednesday 25th Combined schools Mass (COHR & Sacred Heart) 11am at Sacred Heart
Friday 27th Children dismissed at 2:30pm for holidays

With thanks,

Thomas Coghlan

PRINCIPAL



EMPOWA COMMUNITY
FUNDRAISING
BARN DANCE
SATURDAY 24 MAY
7.00PM TO 11.30PM
SACRED HEART CHURCH HALL
CORNER JOHNSTON ST & MORA AVE OAKLEIGH
MECHANICAL BULL
LIVE MUSIC
BOOT SCOOTIN'
DANCING
NO DANCING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
TICKETS \$39.00
www.trybooking.com/79508
Raising much needed funds for orphans in Thailand and Kenya
and the Woorirri School in The Kimberley's, WA
• Great auction & raffle prizes • Dress in your country best
• BYO food & non-alcoholic drinks • Buy wine & beer on the night
WWW.EMPOWA.NET.AU
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EMPOWA COMMUNITY



WORKING BEE

Saturday 26th April 8am-9:30am

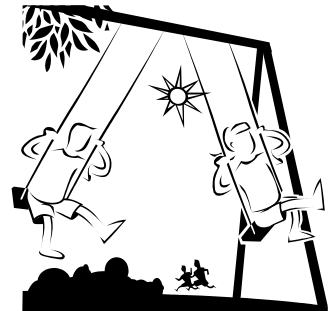


This will be a great opportunity to tidy school grounds before our Open Day and enjoy a sausage sizzle afterwards.

We plan to weed, prune trees, and clear the drain which runs along the adventure playground. It would be great if someone could manage to patch the holes in the wire fence surrounding the tennis courts. There will be more sand for the sandpit.

The area which encompasses the playground equipment has been aerated during the holidays. We still need to add some more “soft play” to both playgrounds, particularly beneath the equipment itself.

As work has begun to accommodate our new learning area,(along Ferntree Gully Rd) there is a huge pile of dirt which could be used to fill the holes and driveway area on the oval. If anyone has a trailer this dirt could be transported to the oval.



Extra wheelbarrows, shovels etc are always useful!!

24th May

COHR Parents Association News

The COHR Parents Association main task is to raise funds to assist the school in providing amenities for students and staff; however it also is a great opportunity for social interaction within our school community. Last year the Parents Association raised over \$20,000, which is being used to upgrade our Information Technology facilities throughout the school. Pastoral care is also provided to families in our school community.

In 2014, the main fundraising focus is the School Fete however there will also be the regular PA events throughout the year, such as Hot Dog Days, Mother's and Father's Day Stalls and social nights. All parents are encouraged to join the parents association or help where possible. With the Fete only 6 months away we ask that you all chip in where you can – i.e. *"many hands make light work"*. So get involved by either joining the Parents Association or adding your name to our contact list for parent helpers. Please email Sarah & Clyde Dias at csdias@optusnet.com.au or phone Sarah Dias 0431 813 944.

It's not too late to join the fete committee! - please contact Simon Fisher simfisher@deloitte.com.au 0409 219 981 or Sarah Arnott sarahaarnott@yahoo.com.au 0400 931 832 for further details.

COHR Open Day Wednesday 30th April - Help Needed

As part of the COHR open day the Parents association offer coffee and cake to prospective parents and the chance for them to meet and chat with existing parents at the school. We are looking for parents who can help with this event. The 'meet and greet' is very casual and just a chat to prospective parents about how great the school is!

If you are able to make or bring a plate of food to share *or* If you are able to spare even half an hour to meet and greet prospective parents please complete the form below and return to the office before Tuesday 29th April

Thanking you in advance, The COHR Parents Association

TERM 2

P.A.Dates to remember:

April 26th - Working bee (8am - 9:30am)

April 30th - School Open Day

May 7th - Walk-A-Thon & Hot Dog Day

May 8th - Mother's Day stall

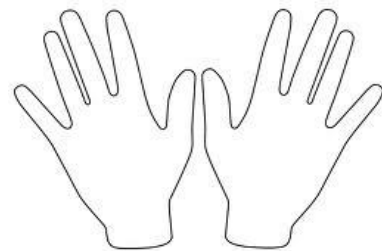
May 21st - P.A. Meeting

May 23rd - Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

May 27th - **FETE Meeting**

June 20th - COHR Disco

*"Many hands make
light work"*



COHR OPEN DAY PARENT HELPERS please note: Open day runs from 9:15am-4pm

I, _____

can be present to meet and greet on Open Day at _____
(Please indicate approximate time)

can bring a plate to share for COHR Open Day