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Dear Parents,

The weekend's Gospel is a great one for the beginning of a school year as its theme is one of 'being called.' However, it more than simply 'being called' it is a call to action. We are called to be sent out to the world – to our community. This call comes to us in the ordinariness of life. It will usually come to us as we wash our nets or our dishes, as we teach or raise children, as we repair cars or work at the computer. The call of God comes to us in the ordinariness of life. This year let us make a concerted effort to continue to build our community by being ready to assist, help and encourage others who may need our support as we journey through the year.

Congratulations are due to the children on their very positive beginning to their learning and school journey for 2016.

Thanks to all who attended the morning tea last Friday morning, and in particular to the parents who set up, served and cleaned up – it was great to see so many parents present.



C'O'HR WEEK

Classes have been participating in a range of activities over the past week to develop expectations and responsibilities within class settings. In addition, there have been opportunities to build social relationships and friendships, such as buddy activities or cooperative and team building games. We are grateful for the community assistance yesterday in assisting students to prepare pots and get ready to create Respect-themed totem poles which will be placed in the Reflective Garden. Thanks to Michelle Seel for organising and assisting with this project. This morning the school celebrated in prayer during the beginning of the school year with Mass.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

A reminder we have parent information nights over the following two weeks beginning at 7:00pm.

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 8th February

Year 1/2: Tuesday 9th February

Year 3/4: Thursday 11th February

Foundation (Prep): Tuesday 16th February

FISH'N'CHIP NIGHT

As a culmination of 'O' week we invite all families to our family Fish'n'Chips evening, tonight, Thursday 4th 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. I look forward to seeing many families on the night, especially our new families.

FETE

2016 is a Fete year. Our Fete is held every second year. This year's Fete will be held on Friday 18th November. It is an important community event as well as a wonderful fund raiser. There will be a meeting of interested parents on Monday 15th February at 7pm. You may have some ideas to be incorporated into the Fete, you may be interested in running a stall – e.g. Art & Craft or a Food stall, or simply want to hear the types of stalls and attractions we are planning. It's an important meeting to enable us to 'get the ball rolling' – looking forward to a great turnout of parents willing to support this great school event.

EDUCATION BOARD

The first meeting of our Education Board will be held on Thursday 18th February at 7:30pm.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association will meet on Wednesday 24th February at 7:30pm. This traditionally is our Annual General Meeting and we are looking to fill a number of positions. These will be advertised in the forthcoming newsletters. Any interested parent may join as a general member. We are also hoping to have parents fill the role as Class representative. The role is a link between class, teacher, and the school community.

Class Representative/s:

Every class at Christ Our Holy Redeemer School has a parent class representative position. Ideally there are two parent representatives' positions. Parents are asked to volunteer for the role at the start of each school year either by attending the Annual General Meeting or via email / letter to the office. The class representative role is very important to our school community. It provides support to the teachers and acts as a liaison between teachers and parents in the school.

The role of class representatives:

- Be supportive of staff and the whole school ethos.
- Invite parents to include their contact details (ask parents for their preferred form of communication) for communication of class messages and events etc.
- Contact new families on arrival and personally welcome them to the school community.
- To organise opportunities for the parents in your child's class to meet socially and help them get to know each other. Events might include family picnics or parent dinners.

- To communicate messages from school groups, like the Parents Association, so that all parents are kept informed about social gatherings, fundraising activities and school community events.
- To organise, with the class teacher, parental help in the classroom and excursions.
- Class representatives, and other classroom helpers, are respectful of everyone's privacy and ensure that the confidentiality of teachers, students, and parents is maintained at all times.

PORTFOLIOS

We request students in Years 2, 4 and 6 return their portfolio from last year.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Many of you may be aware of the bomb threats – hoaxes – that have been made to many schools at the end of last week and this week. Here at Christ Our Holy Redeemer we have strong Emergency Management procedures in place. Two years ago we contracted a company – Dynamiq – to review our emergency management plans, to review and update them, to train staff and to observe the school in practice situations. Staff will undertake further training on Thursday 25th February, and later Dynamic will give us an emergency scenario, observe us during the practice drill and feedback to us on how we might improve in such a situation.

ASSEMBLY

Our regular Friday morning assemblies will commence tomorrow in the Hall. Parents are warmly welcome to attend the Friday morning Assemblies which commence at 8:55am.

VEGETABLE STALL

Tomorrow morning we are selling tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchinis and beans. Great value at a gold coin donation. Money raised will be used to purchase new seedlings, mulch and fertiliser.

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.

- ✓ 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

If you have already have downloaded the app last year, you will need to tick on your child's new class to be able to receive notifications.

So far for the whole school there are 241 users registered. 5/6PT leads the way with 41 registered users.

SPORT

Inter School Sport for our Yrs 5 & 6 commences on Friday 12th February.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ~ Reconciliation

The Sacramental program will commence for Year 3 students preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There is a meeting for Yr 3 students and their parents at Sacred Heart on Thursday 25th February at 7pm and a Reconciliation Commitment Mass on Saturday 27th February. Student and their families may attend either Mass at Sacred Heart at 5:30pm or at COHR at 7pm.

CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

Applications for Yr 7 enrolments for Catholic Secondary schools close on Friday 26th February. Enrolments for Government Secondary schools occur later in the year, around May.

ICY POLES

Icy Poles will be available on Friday for the students at lunchtimes for 50c. Tomorrow they will be free.

SCHOOL BANKING DAY

School Banking day will continue to be every Tuesday.

SCHOLASTIC - Library News

Scholastic Book Club 2016

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

COHR is again participating in Scholastic Book Clubs. Twice a term during the school year we will send home a Club flyer with a different selection of books offered. Issue 1 is out now and it contains all levels in one flyer!

It is easy to order. Just look over the flyer with your child and select the books you want. You can order online or complete the form at the back of the flyer. The books will usually arrive around two weeks after we send the final school order to Scholastic.

We are very grateful to Anna Saraullo (mother of Anthony 3\4K & Julia 1\2P) for taking on the responsibility of collating all orders. If you are able to assist Anna with an hour or two a term, please let us know.

Owning your own books is something special! We hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school COHR, however there is never any obligation to order.

In 2015 we received over \$600 worth of credit which we spent on a selection of picture story and chapter books for all levels as well as some teacher resources.

We know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Sincerely,

Karen Wakeling

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Grenfell family (Austin 1/2CP) on the safe arrival of a little boy, Fraser.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 4th March we will be having an Outdoor Cinema Event. More Information to follow next week.

TERM ONE DATES

February

Thursday 4	Opening of School Year Mass 9:15am Family Fish'n'Chip night
Monday 8	Yr 5 & 6 Information night 7pm
Tuesday 9	Yr 1 & 2 Information night 7pm
Wednesday 10	Ash Wednesday 11am Mass No Foundation
Thursday 11	Yr 3 & 4 Information night 7pm
Friday 12	5/6 Basketball clinic
Sunday 14	First Sunday of Lent
Monday 15	Cartooning Workshop incursion
Wednesday 17	Yr 5/6 ANZAC experience excursion & Melbourne Museum Parish Council
Thursday 18	Education Board meeting 7:30pm
Monday 22	Cartooning Workshop incursion
Wednesday 24	No Foundation Parents' Association AGM 7:30pm
Thursday 25	Yr 3 Reconciliation Family night 7pm
Friday 26	Enrolments for Catholic Secondary school close
Saturday 27	Reconciliation Commitment Mass 5:30pm SH or 7pm COHR
Monday 29	School Photos

March

Wednesday 2	Foundation students at school
Friday 4	Twilight Movie Night
Wednesday 9	Parents Association meeting 7:30pm
Thursday 10 & Friday 11	School Closure days
Monday 14	Labour day Holiday
Wednesday 16	OPEN Day Education Board AGM
Thursday 17	St Patrick's day – Sports day
Sunday 20	Palm Sunday
Wednesday 23	Combined schools Mass – Sacred Heart PS, Oakleigh
Thursday 24	Holy Thursday Children dismissed for Easter holidays

Term 2

April

Monday 11	Term 2 commences
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BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

OSHC PROGRAM

Our Out of School care program is up and running again. This is a wonderful program that provides quality before school (from 7am) and after school (until 6pm) care and activities for our students.

Welcome back to school for 2016! We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces as the term progresses. Please note that new booking forms for the new year need to be filled in and returned. These can be collected from the service or from the school office. Remember to give at least 24 hours notice for cancellations to avoid being charged for that session. If any of your or your child's details have changed over the Christmas break, do not forget to update them with us.

Sharni and Maddie are currently on their professional placement rounds, and will be absent from the service until Monday 15th February. We apologise for any inconvenience or confusion that this may cause, and thank you for your understanding. Matthew, Eva and Indra are leading the program until Sharni and Maddie return.

As always, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the team on **0412 958 605**, or pop in to see us. Alternatively, you can visit our website www.ylv.com.au for more information.

TENNIS COACHING

Enrol now for tennis lessons at Holy Redeemer Tennis Club.

When: Before school and Saturday mornings.

Who: All age groups and standards

New groups for beginners available.

Where: Holy Redeemer Tennis Club.

Phone: David McNamara (T.C.A.V Coach)

Mobile: 0413 058 876

With best wishes,

Thomas Coghlan

PRINCIPAL

