Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who were able to come along to the Information Nights held this week. We have received positive feedback from parents about the value of these sessions and we are glad to hear you have found them worthwhile. Our Prep Information session is being held this evening at 7pm.

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS
In August 2016 parents would have received a copy of the COHR Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct has a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at Christ Our Holy Redeemer School. Parents and staff were asked to support and sign this document. It was decided at the School Education Board that parents and staff would be asked to revisit these expectations and to sign a new document each year.

Today a copy of the Code of Conduct has been sent home to each family. I would ask that all parents take time to read this document, sign it on the appropriate page and return it to school as soon as possible. I thank you for your support and cooperation.

INTER SCHOOL SPORT
Inter School sport for our Yr 5/6 students commences tomorrow – we play Amsleigh Park Primary. COHR will host rounders and basketball while Amsleigh Park will host the softball and cricket. Games are played between 9am and 10:30am – all parents most welcome.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
School photo day is next Thursday 23rd February. You will receive your envelopes on Tuesday. Orders can be made online. If you do not wish to book online please return the completed order to the school. Sibling photo packs are also available at the Office.

CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS
Applications for Year 7 enrolments for Catholic Secondary schools in 2018 close TOMORROW 17th February. Enrolments for Government Secondary schools occur later in the year, around May.

PLEASE NOTE Changes to enrolment dates for Year 7 2019.

If you wish to enrol your child in a Catholic school in 2019 enrolments must be submitted by August 2017.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION
The first Parents Association meeting will be held next Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30pm. It will be held in the hall. All parents are welcome to attend. We certainly welcome any new parents to join us.

MOVIE NIGHT
SAVE THE DATE – FRIDAY 17TH MARCH. The Parents Association will be having a moonlight cinema evening. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

BABY NEWS
Congratulations to Karen Gosling and her husband Duncan on the safe arrival of Georgia Lucy Gosling. Born 13/2/17 at 9:43pm weighing in at 3.2kg. We wish you loads of happiness with the new addition to your family.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking will be every Tuesday morning. Please ensure you have updated your child’s class on the banking cover. If you would like to open a school banking account, you just need to go to www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking to register.

FOLDERS FOR FREE
There are boxes of brand new lever arch folders and thinner A4 folders in the foyer. There is also a box of A4 dividers. Please help yourself.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
We will be selling second hand uniforms again tomorrow morning at 8.30am in the courtyard.

Take care and enjoy the rest of the week.
Brendan Welsford
Principal

TERM ONE DATES

FEBRUARY
Thursday 16th District Swimming (6.30 – 8.00am)
Prep Information Night
Tuesday 21st Reflective Garden Clean-up 9am-11am
Wednesday 22nd No Prep
Parents Association Meeting 7.30pm
Thursday 23rd School Photos
Saturday 25th Reconciliation Commitment Mass
MARCH
Wednesday 1st Ash Wednesday Mass 10:30am COHR
Thursday 2nd Reconciliation Family Night 7.00pm
Monday 13th Labour Day Holiday
Wednesday 15th Combined Schools Mass 11.00am COHR
Thursday 16th COHR Open Day
Friday 17th St Patrick’s Day
PA’s Twilight Movie Night
Wednesday 22 5/6 Canberra Camp Information Night
Friday 31st Term 1 finishes. Students dismissed at 2.30pm
It is God's Work

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a small fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about: We plant the seeds that will one day grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that. This enables us to do something, and to do it well. It may be incomplete but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

Archbishop Oscar Romero

Child Safe Standards

Working with Children Check

In meeting the recently introduced Child Safe Standards I would like to remind parents of the need to have a current Working With Children Check if you intend on volunteering here at Christ Our Holy Redeemer.

The Working with Children (WWC) Check helps protect children from physical and sexual harm. It does this by screening people’s criminal records and professional conduct and preventing those who pose an unjustifiable risk to children from working with or caring with them.

To volunteer at Christ Our Holy Redeemer as a parent helper, a check is required. To apply for the check, please visit the government website and follow the details.

www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

Please ensure you put Christ Our Holy Redeemer as the place where you will be volunteering, as your check details will then be forwarded to the school.

The only cost to parents will be the passport photo required for the card. All forms are online. Paper forms are no longer available from the Post Office or schools.

Please complete, print and submit forms at an Australia Post office with your attached photo. The school will be notified via a letter once your check has been verified and granted.

If you already have a Working with Children Check and the school does not yet have a copy, please bring your card to the school office so a copy can be made for our records.

It is each parent’s responsibility to update their Working with Children Check and notify the school when a new card has been issued.

We greatly appreciate your time and support with school activities.

Thanks
Brendan
TACKLING AND BUILDING RESILIENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE

On March 6th, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (Ch 7’s Sunrise, 3AW) will again present his popular talk on: tackling Anxiety and Building Resilience in Young People. This talk is specifically designed for anyone dealing with young people (8 to 23 years of age) on a regular basis. Therefore it is ideal for teachers and parents along with a host of other people who work or deal with young people. If interested in attending please ensure you secure your spot by emailing rick@criticalagendas.com.au as places are limited and similar sessions have often filled up quickly!

The cost of the presentation is $20.

Teachers will be issued with a PD Certificate of Attendance

Venue: Manningham Function Centre 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster FREE on site car park

Date: March 6th, 2017 7pm to 8.30pm

PLEASE CROSS OUR ROADS SAFELY
As with all schools, parking is often an issue. We appreciate that some parents park in streets surrounding the school and walk into the school grounds. In doing so it is essential that you use the supervised traffic lights on the corner of Huntingdale and Ferntree Gully Roads. This is the safest way to cross these busy roads and it is important that, as adults, we model this safe behaviour.

Avila College  Inspiring today for tomorrow

2017 Open Mornings at 9am

3 May
8 August
19 October

MCNAMARA TENNIS
ENROL NOW for TENNIS LESSONS
At Holy Redeemer Tennis Club
New Groups for beginners available
Who: All ages and standards
  ANZ hotshots
  Mums Tennis Program
  Cardio Tennis
  Private/Group Lessons
When: Morning, before school 8am
WHERE: Holy Redeemer Primary School
43 Ferntree Gully road
Phone: David McNamara (Tennis Australia Club Professional)
Mobile: 0413-058-876
Email: davidmcnamaratennis@hotmail.com
Scott McNamara (ATP)<br>Mobile: 0421-116-279<br>Email: scottmcnamara86@hotmail.com
In reply please quote: GE16/0002

27 January 2017

Dear Parents

Re: Child Safe Standards –Engaging Volunteers

A distinctive mark of our Catholic schools is the emphasis on principals, teachers, staff and parents working together - and also with the wider community - to educate and develop the whole child. This approach encompasses spiritual, academic, emotional, physical and social development.

This whole of community approach extends to a shared responsibility for the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people in our schools.

With the introduction of the Victorian Child Safe Standards in 2016, all Victorian schools are required to systematically develop, implement, monitor and evaluate risk management strategies to ensure child safety in all school environments.

As the 2017 school year begins, Catholic schools are continuing to work closely with their communities to review and strengthen child safety policies, codes of conduct and related procedures and practices for the wellbeing and protection of all students. This will result in growing community awareness and understandings of our shared responsibility.

As part of the Child Safe Standards, schools are also required to demonstrate evidence of their commitment to safer recruitment of staff including, teachers, volunteers and contractors. This requirement extends to the engagement of parent volunteers and involves more open and transparent screening and supervision practices.

Volunteers continue to be a valued and vital aspect of Catholic education and Catholic schools welcome and encourage involvement of parent volunteers to share their skills, experience and expertise.

As parents of children in Catholic schools, when you enrol your child, you should feel confident that their safety is a priority while at school and in the care of all members of the learning community.

I thank you for your support and engagement with numerous child safety initiatives. Your commitment and involvement helps to maintain a safe, secure, and nurturing learning environment for all students and staff in Catholic schools.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Elder
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR