Dear Parents,

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God’s care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst. We pray that here at Christ Our Holy Redeemer, we continue to share in the joy of showing the Gospel values in action.

END OF YEAR

Our final End of Year Mass will be celebrated at 9:15am on Tuesday 15th December. At the conclusion of Mass, the new student leaders will be presented with their leadership badges. I warmly invite all parents and family members to join us in giving thanks for the year’s blessings.

The Year 6 Assembly will be held in the hall at 2:30pm on Tuesday 15th December. Anna Burke will also attend to present Graduation certificates.

On Wednesday morning we will hold a final Assembly in the hall.

COHR P.A. CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Annual Christmas party will be held on the Oval on Friday 11th December (tomorrow) commencing at 5pm to 7pm. There will be a Sausage Sizzle and families are invited to BYO food, drinks, chairs/picnic rugs. There will be a special visitor popping in at one stage.

THANKS

One of the strengths of our school is the wonderful and outstanding support we receive from you – the parents. We are blessed with parents who: assist in the classrooms; who help out with excursions and sport; who are involved with the Parents Association, the Education Board; or who assist with Hot Dog days, working bees & maintenance, sausage sizzles; or helping out on Sports day .... Our school is enriched by the outstanding support of our parents ...THANK YOU.

REMINDER ABOUT SCHOOL FEES

There are still some outstanding school fees owing. Accounts were sent home last week – please ensure that all outstanding accounts are finalised by Monday 14th December – thanks.

REFLECTIVE GARDEN

Mulch was been ordered earlier this week for the Reflective Garden. Anyone who would like to help weed and mulch the garden at anytime during the week, your help would be greatly appreciated. We would like to say thank you to people who have already given their time and energy to do some work for us.

END OF YEAR REPORTS AND PORTFOLIOS

Report envelopes will be sent home on Friday 11th December (tomorrow). In the envelopes will be Semester Two reports, information regarding your child’s teacher next year, dates for 2016, information regarding the sacramental program for 2016 and school fees for next year. Also coming home will be student portfolios.
MEET 2016 CLASS
Students will spend some time with their new class on Monday just before lunchtime. This can be a time to meet each other. Students will also be given a paper bag in which they might like to place something which makes them unique, something about their holiday and their name written on a sign post. This can be returned in the first week of school to share with the class.

SPORTS UPDATE
Congratulations to students who participated in the 3/4 AFL 9s event held last Friday at Princess Park Reserve. There was positive feedback on the teamwork and co-operation shown. The senior students who attended as assistants and coaches, also did a good job on supporting the players. Thanks to staff involved in preparing and supervising the day.

REMINDER TO RETURN LIBRARY BOOKS
As a reminder, we kindly ask you to return any school books, including take-home books and independent reading books as soon as possible as it will assist us with our end of year stocktakes.
Thanks, Karen & Lorraine

CHESS TOURNAMENT
Yesterday we hosted a Chess tournament for 33 students. They enjoyed the friendly competition with each other and had the opportunity to experience a Chess tournament. The results of the Tournament are as follows:
Rion Morgan – High Distinction & Star of the Tournament
Robbie Taylor – Distinction
Kristian Aparo - Distinction

SACRAMENTAL TIMETABLE
The times and dates for Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation are outlined in a sheet that was in the Report envelopes. For First Eucharist there are two Masses – 9:30am and 2pm. Students in 3/4JP and 3/4HM will be at the 9:30am Mass while students in 3/4B and 3/4K will beat the 2pm Mass.

STAFFING FOR 2016
Foundation
Prep H Miss Nicole Harink
Prep L Miss Georgina Laming
Level 2
1/2CP Mrs Ilona Cetrola & Mrs Franca Paduano (Wednesdays)
1/2 C Miss Sarah Counihan
1/2 S Miss Emily Shannon
1/2 P Miss Elise Pape
Level 3
3/4 JP Mrs Jill Palermo & Mrs Franca Paduano (Tuesdays)
3/4HM Mrs Jo Hunt (White) & Mrs Leah Macdonald (Tuesdays)
3/4 B Miss Sofie Burger
3/4 K Mr John Killeen
Level 4
5/6 W Miss Tanya Weston
5/6 S Mrs Phil Solari
5/6 PT Miss Michella Pradel & Mrs Sue Tobin (Tuesdays)
Student Services
Reading Recovery: Mrs Michelle Seel
Student Wellbeing: Mrs Michelle Seel
Chaplain: Sr Patricia Keogh

As previously mentioned, Sue Daly (Prep D), Karin Dornbierer (Visual Arts – Mondays) and Connie Antenucci (Performing Arts) are not returning in 2016. Sue, Karin and Connie have made a considerable impact over the past 4 years.

Sue Daly has been a remarkable teacher for many children commencing their formal schooling. Her expertise, her enthusiasm and her dedication are traits that shine through her work. We can be very thankful of the positive impact she had here at COHR, not only with the students in her care but of her support and advice she shares with the staff.
Karin Dornbierer is also leaving with a positive legacy – the students have benefitted by being involved in a high quality Visual Arts program. Karin has also shared her expertise with the staff, and we hope to build on the skills the students have developed during her program.
We also farewell Connie Antenucci, who has conducted our Performing Arts program with much enthusiasm as evidenced by her wonderful assistance with this year’s Concert.
Thanks Sue, Karin and Connie.
YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY
Families are also invited to the Year 6 assembly on Tuesday at 2:30pm in the school hall. This is an opportunity for the students to share some of their school stories, their videos and their singing and dancing talents with the whole school.

NEXT WEEK
Monday 14th
Advent assembly 9am
Cleaning day
Transition – children gather with their new class at 12:50

Tuesday 15th
End of year Thanksgiving Mass 10am
Yr 6 Final assembly – 2:30pm ... Anna Burke – Federal member for Chisholm will present Graduation Certificates

Wednesday 16th
Final Assembly 9am
Children dismissed at 3:30pm
School Office closes at 3pm

EARLY NEXT YEAR
Beginning of the Year Morning tea
All parents are warmly invited to a Welcome Morning Tea on Friday 29th January as we welcome new families – especially those commencing in Prep. The morning tea will be in the Hall from 9am.

Information Nights
Early next year each level will be conducting information nights to inform parents about the outline of the year, general expectations and a Curriculum overview. All meetings will commence at 7pm and will conclude by 9am.

The session dates are as follows:
Monday 8th February: Years 5 & 6
Tuesday 9th February: Years 1 & 2
Thursday 10th February: Years 3 & 4
The Prep Foundation dates will be advertised next year.

CONDOLENCES
Our thoughts and prayers are with the Todesco family (Angelica 3/4JP) on the passing of her Great Grandmother last week.

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
Thurs 24th December (Christmas Eve)
9:00am Mass at COHR
5:00pm Carols in the Church at SH
5:30pm Vigil Family Mass at SH
6:30pm Carols in the Church at COHR
7:00pm Vigil Family Mass at COHR
10:00pm Polish Vigil Mass at SH

Midnight Mass
Midnight Mass at Christ Our Holy Redeemer is at Midnight, with Carols starting at 11:30pm
Midnight Mass (in Italian) at Sacred Heart

May I also take this opportunity to wish every family a joyous and Holy Christmas.

Happy Christmas,

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2016
Term 1

January
Wednesday 27 Staff return
Thursday 28 Yrs 1 – 6 commence
‘O’ Week program commences
Friday 29 Foundation commences
9am Welcome morning tea

February
Wednesday 3 No Foundation
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 5/6 ANZAC experience excursion
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
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 at 2:30 for Easter holidays

Term 2

April

Monday 11 Term 2 commences
Wednesday 13 Parent/teacher interviews/ conferences 3pm to 6:30pm
Children dismissed at 2:30

Thursday 14 Parent/teacher interviews/ conferences 4pm to 6:30pm

Tuesday 19 Monash ANZAC service
Parish Council

Wednesday 20 Yr 3 Reconciliation 7pm SH
Parents’ Association meeting 7:30pm

Thursday 21 Yr 3 Reconciliation 7pm COHR

Monday 25 ANZAC day holiday

Tuesday 26 Yr 4 First Eucharist ‘Walk through Mass’ 7pm

Wednesday 27 Walk-a-Thon
Thursday 28 Education Board
### May

- **Wednesday 4**: Yr 5/6 camp returning Friday
- **Saturday 7**: First Eucharist Commitment Mass 5:30 SH or 7pm COHR
- **Sunday 8**: Mothers’ Day
- **Tuesday 10**: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
- **Wednesday 11**: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
- **Thursday 12**: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
- **Friday 13**: Parents’ Association meeting 7:30pm
- **Saturday 14**: First Eucharist Commitment Mass 5:30 SH or 7pm COHR
- **Sunday 15**: Pentecost Sunday
- **Tuesday 17**: Family Faith night – Prep 7pm
- **Wednesday 18**: Family Faith night – Yr 1/2 7pm
- **Thursday 19**: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
- **Friday 20**: Parents’ Association/Fete 7:30pm
- **Saturday 21**: Confirmation Commitment Mass 5:30 SH or 7pm COHR
- **Sunday 22**: Confirmation Reflection day

### June

- **Monday 23**: School Review week
- **Wednesday 25**: First Eucharist Reflection day
- **Friday 27**: Education Board 7:30pm

### July

- **Monday 29**: Term 3 commences
- **Wednesday 31**: Parent/teacher interviews/ conferences 3pm to 6:30pm

### August

- **Friday 2**: Beginning of “Maths Week”
- **Monday 5**: Opening of Olympic Games
- **Tuesday 6**: COHR Athletic trials Yrs 3 – 6
- **Wednesday 7**: Parents’ Association/Fete 7:30pm
- **Monday 13**: Feast of the Assumption – Mass 9:05am
- **Wednesday 15**: Parish Council
- **Thursday 16**: Growing with Grace: Parent Information night 7pm
- **Saturday 18**: Confirmation Commitment Mass 5:30pm SH or 7pm COHR
- **Tuesday 20**: Confirmation Parent Information 7pm
- **Wednesday 21**: Confirmation Reflection day

### September

- **Thursday 1**: Fathers’ day stall
- **Friday 2**: Confirmation Reconciliation service 2pm
- **Saturday 3**: Masters BBQ
- **Sunday 4**: Fathers’ Day
- **Tuesday 13**: Art Show
- **Wednesday 14**: Parents’ Association/Fete 7:30pm
- **Friday 16**: End of term, students dismissed at 2:30pm

### October

- **Monday 3**: Term 4 commences
- **Wednesday 9**: Parents’ Association/Fete
- **Thursday 10**: Yr 4 Camp (return Friday 11)
- **Wednesday 16**: Prep Orientation – students 11:40 – 1:10
- **Friday 18**: FETE
- **Wednesday 23**: Prep Orientation – students 11:40 – 1:10
- **Monday 31**: **School Closure day**

### November

- **Monday 7**: Melbourne Cup holiday
- **Wednesday 9**: Parents’ Association/Fete
- **Thursday 10**: Yr 4 Camp (return Friday 11)
- **Wednesday 16**: Prep Orientation – students 11:40 – 1:10
- **Friday 18**: FETE
- **Wednesday 23**: Prep Orientation – students 11:40 – 1:10
- **Monday 31**: **School Closure day**

### December

- **Friday 2**: Carols in the Park
- **Thursday 8**: Year 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner
- **Friday 9**: Reports, class teacher information sent home
- **Tuesday 13**: Yr 6 Final Assembly 2:30
- **Thursday 15**: School Mass 9am
- **Friday 16**: Children dismissed at 2:30pm