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Newsletter No: 5 2nd March 2017



Dear Parents,

This week we acknowledged Shrove Tuesday with our students enjoying a morning tea of pancakes, cooked and served by a wonderful group of parents. Sincere thanks to the many mums who helped with this activity. It was wonderful to see a good number of our Prep mums also helping out. Thank you.

Shrove Tuesday led us into Ash Wednesday, which was acknowledged yesterday with a whole school mass. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a new season in the church, Lent. Lent is a time of reflection and renewal. It is a time for Christians to consider how they live the word of God and to renew this living. The Lenten practices of **prayer**, **fasting** and **almsgiving** are one way in which Christians embody the values of justice, compassion and generosity and the giving up of oneself. It is a time when we should be asking ourselves, 'Do these practices have significance in our life during Lent? How can I live generously and justly during Lent? God and compassion are one and the same. Compassion is the joy of sharing. It's doing small things for the love of each other – just a smile, or offering a helping hand, or showing some simple act of kindness. These are the small things that make up compassion. Compassion means trying to share and understand the suffering of people.

Within our own school community and within the wider community of East Oakleigh there are people who experience suffering. Over the coming weeks teachers will be discussing the meaning of Lent. They will hold conversations and share ideas about how there can be signs of hope and compassion during Lent.

*As we journey through Lent
 let us keep Christ at the heart of all our
 words and actions.*

*Let us focus our lives more clearly on the way of
 Christ and living the Christian life.*

RECONCILIATION FAMILY NIGHT

This is being held in the COHR hall tonight, Thursday 2nd March, at 7pm. It is a night for both parents and those children receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. Families from both Sacred Heart and Christ Our Holy Redeemer are asked to attend. The evening will involve a

workshop for the children, a discussion with Fr John about the meaning and importance of this Sacrament and an opportunity for families to share some time discussing the significance of this Sacrament in their daily lives.

EVACUATION DRILL

Next Tuesday we plan to run an evacuation drill. These drills, conducted once a term, aim to remind our children about the correct procedures and actions required should we have to respond to an emergency situation.

TERM ONE DATES

MARCH

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|----------------------------|---|
| Thursday 2 nd | Reconciliation Family Night 7.00pm |
| Tuesday 7 th | Reflective Garden Crew 9.00-11.00am |
| Wednesday 8 th | Parents Association Meeting 7.30pm |
| Monday 13 th | Labour Day Holiday |
| Wednesday 15 th | Combined Schools Mass 11.00am COHR COHR School Board Meeting 7pm |
| Thursday 16 th | COHR Open Day |
| Friday 17 th | St Patrick's Day PA's Twilight Movie Night |
| Tuesday 21 st | Hot Dog Day |
| Wednesday 22 | 5/6 Canberra Camp Information Night |
| Friday 31 st | Term 1 finishes. Students dismissed at 2.30pm |

FUND RAISING FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

Last week one ticket was sent home to each family. Please take the time to read the information sheet attached to the ticket. This is a very different kind of footy tipping competition – with a prize of \$5,000.00! Tickets cost \$20.00 and \$10.00 from each ticket sold is kept by COHR to benefit our school. If required, extra tickets are available in the office.

HOT CROSS BUNS – order forms for Hot Cross Buns, Easter 2017, will be sent home tomorrow.

MOONLIGHT MOVIE NIGHT 17 MARCH

With our Movie night only two weeks away..
 *if any families would like to promote their business, or know of any local business who may wish to advertise, we can arrange this on the big screen for a small fee.
 A flyer will go home next week regarding ticket purchases.

THANK YOU

A special thanks to Anna and Pasquale Perri for donating the ingredients for the pancakes on Pancake Tuesday. Anna and Pasquale have opened a new food store in Moorabin at [DFO Kingston Hangar Food](#) is specialised food store with fresh fruit and vegetables as well as a wide variety of gourmet food.

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



MEDIA RELEASE

22 February 2017

Help light up the lives of children living with Autism at the Illuminate Gala Ball

We invite you to help us raise funds for the Illuminate Gala Ball on Friday 28 April 2017 at Leonda By The Yarra.

The Illuminate Gala Ball aims to raise \$50,000, with 100 per cent of all profits to be split across two not-for-profit organisations – Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) and Helping Hands AS Foundation.

The event organisers, Paul and Natasha Finamore, whose two sons Oscar and Leo both have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), are giving back to the community by raising funds and awareness for children and their families affected by Autism.

“What initially started as raising funds through a fun run became something bigger. I realised that people genuinely want to help, and that help comes in a variety of ways”, Natasha said.

“It’s been so touching to see everyone get on board for such a personal and worthy cause. I have seen first-hand the difference they are making to my boys and to my family and I want other families to have the same support we had”, Natasha added.

Paul said the result of this support is a team of dedicated, passionate people who have volunteered their time, effort and donated goods for auction item to make this night possible.

“We are so grateful and humbled to see the community rally behind this event. Both Aspect and Helping Hands have been amazing to work with our boys. As a family, we have been able to see our boys grow, learn and adapt to their little lives. Most importantly our boys can now reciprocate love and affection, and it lights up our world”, Paul said.

Tickets and details:

When: Friday 28th April 2017
Where: Leonda By The Yarra, 2 Wallen Rd, Hawthorn VIC
Time: Arrive 7pm, for 7.30pm start (canapés on arrival)
Dress: Formal
Tickets: \$150+ booking fee (includes three-course dinner)

The evening features a live performance by Chloe Maggs and other highlights include:

- Hearing the Illuminate Story
- Fantastic live auction
- Awesome silent auction items
- Mystery prizes and much more!

To book tickets or donate to the cause, visit www.eventbrite.com.au and search for “Illuminate Gala Ball”.

For more information or assistance email illuminategala@gmail.com

For media or photo opportunities, please contact Erin Mc Fadden at erinmc_is@hotmail.com or call **0402 266 090**.



About Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is Australia's largest service provider for people on the autism spectrum. Their specialised, evidence informed schools are the largest in the world, with additional services that include information and advice, diagnostic assessments, behaviour support, parent and family support, and adult programs. Their aim is to provide the best opportunities for people on the autism spectrum through specialist services and education. Funds raised will go towards much-needed technology, equipment and furniture for the lending library.

For more information, visit www.autismspectrum.org.au

About Helping Hands

Helping Hands endeavours to help children with special needs reach their full potential by providing a safe, nurturing and productive environment. They are committed to providing the help families require. They use Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) to target specific behaviours and cognitive skills to assist the development of children with Autism. Funds raised will go towards much-needed technology, equipment and furniture for the lending library.

For more information, visit www.hhcentre.com.au