Dear Parents,

The Gospel passage this weekend tells us that God’s Son was not sent into the world to condemn it, but rather, ‘so that through him the world might be saved’. God is absolutely determined to save the world. However, when we turn our back on love; when we hide from relationships; when we wallow in selfishness – we shut ourselves off from relationship with God and condemn ourselves. We only have to open our eyes to see the alternative. May this Lenten season enable us to let go of the desire to condemn others and ourselves, and to receive again the compassionate, just and humble gift of right judgment that helps us to see the darkness for what it is, and keeps us walking in the light of Christ.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
In 2015 Catholic Education Week will be held on 15th – 22nd March. The theme is, ‘Seek God with all your heart’ (Deuteronomy 4: 29). The Mass of St Patrick for Schools and Concert will be held on Tuesday 17th March. Nine of our school leaders will attend and represent our school. We are also fortunate to have artworks included for the Visual Arts Exhibition are 17th – 21st March 2015 and the Visual Arts Awards Ceremony will be held on Sunday 22 March 2015. Parents and families are most welcome to view the exhibition. It is shown at the Catholic Leadership Centre on the corner of Victoria Parade and Hoddle Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002. The main reception is located via 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. As part of Catholic Education Week we are holding our ‘Open day’ on Wednesday 18th March.

COHR OPEN DAY
Next Wednesday (18th March) we open our doors to prospective parents. Some of our senior students will lead the school tours. Thanks to parents who have offered to assist with morning/afternoon tea in the Hall. Enrolments for current families will close on May 15th.

COHR TWILIGHT SPORTS
A reminder that our Twilight Sports event will be held next Thursday 19th March from 3:30pm. Students will be dismissed at 2:30pm. Please collect your children at this time in order to allow staff time to move to our location. The sports are held at Davies Reserve (off Huntingdale Road – see map attached). Entrance to the Reserve is off Talbot Avenue. There are sign-up sheets in the foyer if you are able to help on the day - your presence and assistance helps to make this event a success. Thank you in advance.

STUDENT PORTFOLIOS
Student portfolios will be sent home next Friday (20th March). You are invited to view examples of your child’s work throughout the term. We ask that the folders be returned the following week. Thank you.

GALA DAY
Senior students will attend their Gala Day events on Friday 20th March. Games will be played at the various venues:
- Basketball – Oakleigh Recreation Centre
- Softball and Rounders – Jells Park
- Kanga Cricket – Princes Hwy Reserve
Parents are most welcome to come and support.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH CHOIR
The Children’s Church Choir will begin practice on Thursday 12 March at approximately 3:40-4:15. All children are very welcome. Lucy Rogers will collect the children from the school foyer straight after school. Parents are very welcome to stay with their children if they wish. Dawn D’Monte and Lucy Rogers from the parish will conduct the choir. Any enquiries please call Lucy Rogers on 0432 730 799.

COMBINED SCHOOLS MASS
Our Combined Schools Mass with Sacred Heart primary will be on Wednesday 25th March. We are hoping to have the Mass outdoor on the asphalt area at 11am. The students from both schools will also participate in activities. Lunch – a Sausage Sizzle – will be provided. Consequently, we are seeking assistance from parents with the Sausage Sizzle. Contact the office if you can assist.

FIRST EUCHARIST
The First Eucharist program will commence next week with two important days … next Tuesday 17th March a special Mass at 7pm for children and their parents in which Fr John explains the origins and part of the Mass. On Saturday children may choose to attend one of the two Masses – 5:30pm at Sacred Heart or 7pm at Christ Our Holy Redeemer. A special note will be sent home with the Yr 4’s today outlining some important times and dates as part of the First Eucharist program.

CAR PARKING
I have been advised that parking officers from the City of Monash will be patrolling the area around the school and will be issuing parking infringements – especially in the bus zone in Huntingdale Road. We have also been receiving complaints from some residents in Leroux St will parents parking across driveways – please show courtesy and patience when dropping off and picking up your children.
REFLECTIVE GARDEN
We are planning to order mulch to be delivered on Monday for the Reflective Garden. If we get enough volunteers to assist us on Monday and Tuesday we will go ahead with the order. It would be great to have this done before Wednesday’s Open Day. Please let the office know if you have some time to help out.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT
Year 5/6 will be playing Oakleigh Primary School tomorrow for the Interschool Sport. They will be playing at Oakleigh Primary. Parents and family are most welcome to come and support.

CONDOLENCES
Our thoughts and prayers are with Elise Pape and her family following the death of her grandfather over the weekend.

LIBRARY NEWS
Scholastic Book Club 2015
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 now out!
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 Jacinta Chetwin (mother of Harry 3/4L & Bonnie 1/2SP) for taking on the responsibility of collating all orders. If you are able to assist Jacinta 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 2014 we received over $400 worth of credit which we spent on a selection of picture story and chapter books for all levels as well as a science kit on ‘Simple Machines’ for the middle level.
There are spare flyers at the office for other grade levels if you are interested to look at.
We know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.
Sincerely,
Karen Wakeling

TERM DATES
March
Saturday 14th Visual Arts Exhibition
Tuesday 17th St Patrick’s Day
Wednesday 18th First Eucharist ‘Walk through Mass’ 7pm
Thursday 19th Open day
Friday 20th Sports Day
Saturday 21st Bullying – No Way day
Wednesday 25th Eucharist Commitment Mass

BE BRAVE AND SHAVE CAMPAIGN
Hi. My name is Claudia Heil, from 3/4B. I am going to shave off my hair on March 15th to help people with blood cancer as part of the Leukaemia Foundation’s “Be Brave and Shave Campaign.” Please consider sponsoring me by donating online at: http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/Claudiaheil
You could give it to Carolyn, (my mum) who can give you a tax deductible receipt. Also, you could pop a few coins in the money box on the office desk. I would love to raise as much money as possible!! Thank you

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Julia Kendall who played in a tennis tournament over the long weekend at the Warrnambool Lawn Tennis Club. She was runner-up in the Under 11 Girls Singles, she played on grass courts for the first time.

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

Combined Schools Mass (COHR)
Education Board (AGM)
End term 1 – children dismissed at 2:30

With best wishes,

Karen Wakeling

Thursday 26th
Friday 27th

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Karen Wakeling
Catholic family life is an opportunity to recognise the grace of God in our daily lives. You are invited to nurture your family’s faith with the readings, reflections and activities below... For more resources, check out our COHR Religion Blog – http://recohr.global2.vic.edu.au

**THIS SUNDAY’S GOSPEL**

*Year B – 4th Sunday of Lent*

John 3:14 – 21

*Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God’s sight.'

**FAMILY CONNECTION**

Parents whose children are afraid of the dark are struck by John’s observation that darkness is preferred to light. Perhaps this is as it should be. God made us to live in the light of his love. But this original friendship with God was corrupted by sin. Our sin causes us to shy away from Christ, the light that has come into the world.

During the season of Lent, we try to fight this tendency by remembering God’s great mercy and the salvation that we have received through Jesus. We do not fear confessing our sins, knowing that God forgives us, and so, during Lent, we seek out opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

After your family gathers, sit for a time in darkness, then light a candle. Invite people to talk about what it felt like to be in the darkness and to compare that to their feelings when the candle was lit. What are we able to see by the limited glow of the candlelight that we couldn’t see when we were sitting in darkness?

Read this Sunday’s Gospel. John’s Gospel teaches us that Jesus was the light that came into the world. In this light we know ourselves to be sinners, but we are not condemned. Instead we have been saved because we have been forgiven through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. Conclude in prayer together, thanking God for the great gift of forgiveness we have received through Jesus. Pray together the Act of Contrition.

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**FAMILY ACTIVITY LINKS OF LOVE**

As a family, brainstorm simple ways to make helpful and meaningful contributions to family, school, and parish life. Make a poster to display on the fridge at home.

Every time someone cheerfully contributes, serves or helps another, make that act of love concrete by adding a link to a Love Chain. Hang your Love Chain in a special place at home in preparation for Easter.
SPEEDING

This game will focus on the following skills:
- Mental computation of adding number facts

Players: 2-4

You will need: a deck of cards

How to Play:
1. Select one of each of these cards (A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
2. Shuffle up these cards and arrange in a line (face down) on the floor
3. Explain to the children that the idea of this game is to add the numbers as you turn them over and to quickly get to 55.
4. Make a point that all of the cards total 55 and show them by adding out aloud.
5. Remind students that they must ‘verbalise’ what they are doing.
6. The idea is to get to 55 the quickest and beat your opponent.
7. The winner is the person with shortest amount of time to add the numbers in order.

Variation: Include, and add value to, the picture cards
Add the numbers in any order

VOCABULARY
Strategies
Operations
Problem solving
Tens facts
Addition
Subtraction
Multiplication
Division
Inverse operations

In 5/6 Maths we have been learning about:

APPLYING OPERATIONS

BLOGS
Want to know more? Visit our class blogs/level blog and see some of our learning in Maths.
http://jkilleen.global2.vic.edu.au/

Joke Time

Q. What’s the king of the pencil case?

A. The ruler.

Brain Teaser

How many triangles are in this picture?

See next week’s newsletter for the answer!

Week 9 in Term 2 is MATHS WEEK @ COHR

During Maths Week we will be doing lots of fun Maths activities just like this brainteaser!