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Newsletter No: 9 16th April 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2! I hope that you were able to participate in the Easter ceremonies and that all families had a wonderful Easter.

Sunday's Gospel follows the story of the road to Emmaus and Jesus' appearance to two disciples, and last week we heard the story in which Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples and dispelled the doubts of Thomas. When Jesus appears in the midst of the disciples, his first words to them are, 'Peace be with you!' Jesus' calming and reassuring words, 'Peace be with you!' recognise the reality of what state the disciples are in. The words demonstrate that Jesus is meeting the disciples 'where they are' – he recognises their distress and fear and responds with words that accept what they're feeling but reassure them of his love and care. They are words that Jesus speaks to us too! Let us keep striving to have a peace-filled community here at Christ Our Holy Redeemer.

Together we can look forward to another busy and exciting term ... 5/6 Canberra trip, ANZAC day celebrations, continuing with 'Building a Better Schoolyard program,' Family Week, Walk-a-Thon, NAPLAN, Eucharist program & First Eucharist masses (Sunday 24th May), school closure day for First Aid training and Maths Week (Wk 9) will be some of the highlights.

CANBERRA

On Monday morning our Year 5/6 students will be leaving for a week in Canberra. Our students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

During our time there we will visit: the Australian War Memorial, Parliament House, the National Museum of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, the Australian Electoral Education Centre, the Museum of Australian Democracy (old Parliament House), the Australian Institute of Sport and Questacon (the National Science & Technology Centre).

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and has been factored into the cost of the trip.

Accompanying the students will be: Antonietta Corp, Tanya Weston, Michella Pradel, Michelle Seel, Lorraine Hill, Karin Dornbierer, Nicole Harink, with parents David Higgins and Gary Iverson, along with myself. Jill Palermo will be acting Principal for the week.

John Killeen will be taking Prep 'H' for the week. John and his wife, Elisha, are expecting their third child around about this time, so he is unable to travel to Canberra.

During our time there we will communicate with parents using the tiqbiz app and the level Blog.

We will be departing at 7:30am sharp on Monday morning and will return to school on Friday at around 5pm Friday afternoon.

Freedom Foods have generously donated over 400 nut free muesli bars. If you happen to notice their products on the supermarket shelves, please consider supporting them.

NEW SMOKING BANS TO APPLY ON SCHOOL GROUNDS AND AT SCHOOL ENTRANCES

From **13 April 2015**, smoking will be banned within the school grounds, and within four metres of an entrance to, all primary and secondary schools in Victoria, as well as all Victorian childcare centres, kindergartens and pre-schools, under an amendment to the *Tobacco Act 1987* (Vic.).

ENROLMENTS

A reminder that enrolments for prep 2016 for current families close on 15th May. Enrolments packs can be collected from the office.

tiqbiz App

We are using an app to help improve our communication with our parents. So far 102 parents have downloaded the app. The tiqbiz app will enable us to notify you of news, messages, events and other communications. All you need to do is to download the tiqbiz app to your phone or tablet – it can be downloaded on to 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.

To download the app, please follow these steps:

- ✓ 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

We are aiming to use this app as the main source of communication with our parents, and will inbed the Newsletter in tiqbiz.

SHARING FOOD

The incidence of children and parents sharing food and lollies with other students has increased over the past few years. Previously this practice was not allowed at COHR. At our Education Board meeting last Term (Thursday 26th march) it was recommended that this practice is again not permitted. Thank you for your co-operation.

CHESS

Chess lessons have recommenced in the 3/4 level. Lessons will continue for the Term on Monday morning. Next Term students in Yrs 3 – 6 will be invited to join a lunchtime Chess club, and (most likely) an intra –school Chess Tournament.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

Just a reminder that if you are assisting the school by helping in the classroom, with excursions, with inter-school sport, you are required to have a current WWCC. If you have one, but have not registered with us, could you please do so as early as possible.

WALK-A-THON

Our Annual Walk-a-Thon will be held on Wednesday 6th May. Information and forms will be sent home today. Money raised from this year's Walk-a-Thon will be used (along with other Parents' Association funds) towards the oval improvements.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The next meeting of the PA will be on Wednesday 29th April at 7:30pm in the Staffroom.

EDUCATION BOARD MEETING Thursday 30th April 7:30pm

The next meeting of our Education Board will be the Annual General Meeting. There are two retiring members and the Board is seeking parent nominations. In the event of more than two nominations, a simple ballot will be held to elect new members. Nominations close on Monday 27th at 5pm.

All parents are welcome to attend.

FAMILY FAITH NIGHTS

We are holding 'Family Faith' nights for our Prep and 1/2 children and parents. The Prep night is on Tuesday 12th May, and the 1/2 on Wednesday 13th May. Both evenings commence at 7pm and will conclude around 8pm.

LUNCH ORDERS

From next week, lunches may be ordered from 'Kitchen Cuisine' on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

VEGGIE PATCH

Tomorrow morning, we are selling bags of lovely, fresh parsley, lettuce, capsicums and bok choy. Great value at a gold coin donation.

Money raised will be used to purchase new seedlings, mulch and fertiliser.

With best wishes,

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB

Welcome back to term 2! Thank you for all your support for Project Compassion during Lent. The Social Justice Club will commence in Week 3 this term. This is a reminder for people in Years 3 – 6 to write to us about why you would like to be a member of this group.

The Social Justice Club is involved in visiting Corpus Christi aged care facility. We fund raise for Catholic Missions in October, as well as fundraising for our local community.

We would love as many people as possible to join us to promote justice in our school.

Please consider being a part of our Social Justice Club.

Thank you – Alexa Theodorakakis and Sienna Dal Santo Fusca (Social Justice Leaders 2015)

TERM TWO CALENDAR

April

Monday 20th

Tuesday 21st

Friday 24th

Saturday 25th

Monday 27th

Wednesday 29th

Thursday 30th

May

Monday 4th

Wednesday 6th

Thursday 7th

Sunday 10th

Tuesday 12th

Wednesday 13th

Thursday 14th

Sunday 17th

Wednesday 20th

Thursday 21st

Sunday 24th

Monday 25th

Wednesday 27th

June

Friday 5th

Monday 8th

Tuesday 9th

Friday 12th

Sat/Sun 13th & 14th

Thursday 18th

Friday 19th

Saturday 20th

Wednesday 24th

Friday 26th

Yr 5/6's leave for Canberra
Monash Rotary ANZAC Service
Yr 5/6's return from Canberra
ANZAC Day
'Building a Better School yard'
program continues this week
Parents' Association Meeting
Education Board AGM

Family week commences
Walk-a-Thon
Family Week Mass
Mothers' day stall
Mothers' day
NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5); Family
Faith Night - Prep
NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5); Family
Faith Night –Yrs 1/2
NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
Reconciliation for Yr 4's
Ascension Sunday
First Eucharist Reflection day
Eucharist Family Workshop
7pm
District Cross Country
Education Board
Pentecost Sunday: First
Eucharist 2pm & 4pm
Our Lady Help of Christians
(Patron of Australia)
Parents' Association

School closure day – First Aid
staff training
Queen's Birthday holiday
Maths Week commences
Feast of Sacred Heart
Eucharist Certificates
distributed at any weekend
Mass
Confirmation Parent night 7pm
Disco (5 – 8pm)
Confirmation Commitment Mass
5:30pm (SH) or 7pm (COHR)
Parents' Association
End term 2 – children
dismissed at 2:30

OAKLEIGH DRAGONS JUNIOR FOOTY CLUB

Oakleigh Dragon invite all interested Under 9 & 10 players to come along and join others enjoying playing footy.

Under 9's train on Wednesday afternoon between 4:30 and 6pm at Oakleigh South Primary school

Under 10's train on Tuesday afternoons between 4:30 and 6pm at Princes Hwy East Oval (East Oakleigh Melways 70 B10)

MIDDLE EASTERN MEZZE: SACRED HEART ASYLUM SEEKER

CHARITY 2015 FUNDRAISER

Saturday 16th May, Sacred Heart Hall, Oakleigh. Tickets: \$45 Includes a three course meal by Oasis Bakery and all beer, wine and soft drink. Middle Eastern band and belly dancers. Treasure chest grand prize: \$1000 cash. Raffle 1st prize: Accommodation package at Crown Metropol. Live auction items: 2015 Official Hawthorn Team Signed Guernsey, Safety Beach holiday house weekend, Artisan food and beverage hamper. Tickets: trybooking.com/125298 Enquiries: Rachel Terkelsen 0439 338 368

AVILA COLLEGE

2015 Open Mornings at 9:00am

Tuesday 26 May

Wednesday 12 August

Tuesday 27 October

Register online at www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au or registrar@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

At Avila College we believe that students learn best when they are valued and respected and that the most beneficial education combines academic achievement with spiritual development.

Students can choose to complete VCE, VCAL or VET programs and a choice of 44 VCE subjects caters for individual preferences.

We have a wide variety of extra curricular choices including sport, music, creative arts, public speaking and debating, community service, study tours and more.

The wellbeing of each student is of paramount importance and the care provided by Avila staff helps to develop confident young women. There is something very special about Avila College girls and we invite you to meet them.

RE @ COHR

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 – 3rd Sunday of Easter Luke 24:35-48

Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet.

Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

FAMILY CONNECTION

Family life is strengthened through storytelling and shared meal times. In a similar way, Christian life is sustained by God's word in Scripture and by Christ's presence in the Eucharist. We are especially sustained in our faith through our weekly celebration of Mass.

This Sunday's Gospel reading reminds us that the Scripture and the Eucharist are given to us so that our acts of bearing witness to Christ might be strengthened.

As you gather as a family, ask each person to share their favourite story about your family. Talk about the importance of these memories about your family life and the importance of the meals you have shared together as a family. Recall that these stories and meals strengthen the love you share. In a similar way, our Christian life is strengthened by sharing God's Word and the Eucharist at Mass.

Read this Sunday's Gospel, Luke 24:35-48. Discuss the mission that Jesus gave to his disciples after their shared meal. The Eucharist also sends us to be Christ's witnesses in the world today. Conclude by praying together that we will be strengthened by God's word and by Jesus' presence in the Eucharist to be witnesses to Christ.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Post-resurrection accounts

All four gospels include post-resurrection appearances of the risen Jesus. The gospel of Mark – historically, the first written – gives the briefest account of the resurrection discovery and it is only in a later addition to the gospel that a post-resurrection account appears. However, by the time the gospel of John was written, some 20-30 years later, the theological importance of the resurrection had gained more significance as it became more obvious that Jesus' return to the world was not going to happen within the foreseeable future. The gospel of John devotes two whole chapters to the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Peace be with you

When Jesus appears in the midst of the disciples, his first words to them are, "Peace be with you!" His appearance among them obviously agitated the disciples who were already hiding, in fear of their lives and devastated by the loss of their leader days earlier. Jesus' calming and reassuring words, "Peace be with you!" recognise the reality of what state the disciples are in. The words demonstrate that Jesus is meeting the disciples 'where they are' – he recognises their distress and fear and responds with words that accept what they're feeling but reassure them of his love and care. They are words that Jesus speaks to us too!



Have you thought? Is 'Literal' wrong?

Is there really something intrinsically wrong about a literal interpretation of scripture? Not at all! It is indeed an essential tool of any scriptural interpretation. It is of course important that we first and foremost understand the text as it is written – we have to have a literal understanding of the words that are used and what they mean. The problem arises when this is as far as we go. If we stop at this stage then we are shutting ourselves off from the richness of the scriptures. If we fail to dig below the surface then we are denying ourselves the opportunity of scrutinising our lives in the light of the scripture.

