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Dear Parents,
 Sunday's Gospel of the man born blind and having his sight restored is a great Lenten gospel. Lent invited us to 'open our eyes' to Jesus, to step away from darkness and into light, and to be people of hope. The Easter story is one in which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the coming of Jesus – the light of the way – into our lives.



**SPORTS DAY
 DAVIES RESERVE
 NOTE CHANGE OF
 VENUE**

Our annual Sports day will be held on Monday 31st March at **Davies Reserve.**



The Sports will commence at 3:30pm and the children will be dismissed from school at 2:30pm to enable a 3:30pm start. We aim to finish at around 6:30pm. Parents are invited to assist in many ways and you are invited to add your name to the list in the foyer or speak with either Sue Tobin or John Killeen. We would also appreciate help in setting up (from 1pm) and packing up after the sports.

SAFETY PINS – Please remember to attach a safety pin to your child's top for ribbons

CANTEEN & BBQ – Assistance is needed to work the canteen and BBQ for Sports Day. Please write your name on the roster in the foyer if you can help. An hour is all that is needed.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held during the first week of next term – on Wednesday 23rd April (from 3pm – 6pm ~ children will be dismissed at 2:30) and Thursday 24th April (from 4pm to 6pm). Information for each family was sent home on Tuesday giving details about how to make a booking using PTO online.

MONASH SAFE PARKING PROGRAM

Monash Council has advised me that they will introduce a trial of new parking technology. The trial aims to improve safety around schools and other areas where vehicle parking and safety are important. Monash Council will introduce a vehicle with a dashboard mounted camera inside. The vehicle will patrol parking around schools and identify drivers breaching the road rules which cause a safety concern. A Parking Infringement Notice will then be mailed to the registered vehicle owner.

VEGGIE GARDEN

Thanks to the band of parents who renewed and topped up our garden beds on Monday morning – John Bernardo, Dean Arnott, Pat Heverin, Grace Leslie, Joe Armao.

PARENT PROGRAM

A reminder that the school is hosting a Parent Workshop on Friday 2nd and 9th of May here at school. This is a wonderful opportunity to join with other parents to assist parents in the (sometimes) challenging job of being a parent. Please see the flyer for details on the workshops and of how to book your place.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Christ Our Holy Redeemer is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment in which children diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of schooling. As a result of Ministerial Order 706, we have recently updated our Anaphylaxis policy. We also seek parent's assistance with the type of lunches that contain nut products.

OPEN DAY

On Wednesday 30th April, enrolment applications for next year's prep will open. It will also be our 'open day' during which our senior students will act as host and 'tour' guides for prospective parents. Please note that enrolment for exiting families will close on Friday 30th May. This year school tours will be conducted every 30 minutes, commencing at 9:15am

FETE COMMITTEE

The Fete Committee will meet on Thursday 3rd April at 7:30pm. Once again all parents are welcome to come and support our major fundraiser for the year.

WORKING BEE

This year there will be two working bees. The dates for these will be:

- **Saturday 26th April 8am-9:30am** (opportunity to tidy school grounds before Open Day)
- **Friday 7th November 3:45pm-5:30pm** (opportunity to tidy oval etc before the School Fete)

We would appreciate as many as possible at both of these working bees. It is a great chance to meet new families too. Your maintenance levy will be deducted from the fees by attending one of these working bees.

ICY POLES – Will be for sale tomorrow – 50c

LICE – **They are back.** Please check your child's hair for nits.

PREP PARENT HELPER MEETING

Next Wednesday, 2nd April, at 2.45pm in the Resource Room, we will have our information afternoon for all new prep parents wishing to be classroom helpers this year. The session is from 2.45pm to about 3.20pm. Attendance at the session, along with your Working with Children Check, is a requirement. If it is impossible for you to attend and you would still like to be a parent helper, please see me.

Thanks

Jennifer Smith

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

To increase the benefits of parent teacher interviews we are continuing to transition to student-led conferences. In 2013 senior students attended the interviews and spoke about their learning and work habits – strength and challenges. This year all students in years 3-6 will be expected to attend the conference and discuss their learning and work habits. In P-2 students are strongly encouraged to attend but it is still optional. A letter will be sent home next week explaining the benefits of student-led conferences.

TERM ONE

February

March

Monday 31st

School Sports day (children dismissed at 2:30pm)

April

Thursday 3rd

Fete Meeting 7:30pm

Friday 4th

Special Assembly – Stations of the Cross

Term 1 ends (children dismissed at 2:30pm)

TERM TWO

Tuesday 22nd

Term 2 commences

With thanks

Thomas Coghlan

PRINCIPAL

Victorian Catholic Schools Parent Body
(VCSPB) - Bulletin

The latest issue of the [VCSPB Bulletin](#) is now available on the VCSPB [website](#).

Victorian Catholic Schools Parent Body

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Library News

The PRC (Premier's Reading Challenge) has begun for 2014. We have over 70 students who have signed up for the challenge in the first week. This challenge is open to all students. Students can add books to their list they have read or books that they have had read to them. Permission forms went home last week. If you have misplaced, please email me and I will send out another.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB coming to COHR!

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 participating in Scholastic Book Clubs this year. Twice a term during the school year we will send home a Club flyer with a different selection of books offered. The first flyers coming out at the beginning of Term 2!

It is easy to order. Just look over the flyer with your child, select the books you want, mark them on the order form on the back of the flyer, and return the order form to school with payment. The books will arrive usually 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. We know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Cyber Safety in the Resource Room

This term the students from Year 1 to Year 6 have been focusing on being safe when online.

Yr 3 – 6 have covered

- not to give out their Personal Information,
- to tell a trusted adult if unsure about something or when registering for a new site
- Chatting appropriately online
- General cyber netiquette
- Emailing, attachments and spam
- Their digital footprint – positive postings
- Safe sites/apps- social media

Yr 1 \2 have covered

- what is their personal information and how to keep it off the web
- the importance of talking with a trusted adult
- appropriate sites/apps to visit or sign up for with parents' permission

Students have viewed many online videos about the different topics covered. The website that is constantly visited is <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>, in particular 'Hector's World' with the Yr 1\2's.

Chatterbox

This year this government website also has a new parent link 'Chatterbox'.

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents/Resources/Educateyourself/Chatterbox.aspx>

The informal and interactive nature of Chatterbox provides parents a fresh, new and jargon-free perspective on cyber safety issues. The Chatterbox conversations by Cybersmart can be accessed at home, on a mobile device or on-the-go. Parents are encouraged to submit questions and share stories on our forum. Keep safe on the internet – talk with your child about their online use and what we have discussed in our Resource Room (Library) lessons.

Regards Karen Wakeling

kwakeling@coohroakeast.catholic.edu.au

VEGGIE GARDEN

A big thank you to the wonderful parents who helped us to top up our veggie planter boxes on Monday morning.

Thanks to John Bernardo, Joe Armao, Pat Heverin, Dean Arnott and Grace Leslie (who went shovel for shovel with the guys!)



