Dear Parents,

Our School Feast Day for Our Lady Help of Christians falls on Tuesday 24th May. We will be having our traditional school Mass with Father Michael at 9.15 am and after that go onto our school Feast Day Triathlon. The Triathlon itself has been our most lucrative Parents Association fundraiser for the year. Last year we broke all records and raised in excess of $11,000 which was an amazing effort. Beside this our children had so much fun jogging, dancing, skipping and playing games to the one hour of groovy music down at Balfe Park. Attached to this week’s newsletter is this year’s Triathlon Sponsor form. You will notice that we have added to the prize money for the Major Prize ($120 Coles Myer Voucher) and the Consolation Prizes ($40 ToysRUs & Itunes Vouchers). The class prize is also a new venture….a whole class pizza lunch at one of our restaurants in Lygon Street. Yummy.

So let’s get on board and try and break last year’s record as we raise more money for our school and give the children access to great resources and facilities.

**UPDATE ON 1 BARKLY STREET**

The wheels have been turning slowly but surely on the school acquiring the rear of 1 Barkly Street East Brunswick. I am happy to inform the school community that contracts for the sale have now been signed between the Archdiocese and the developers and the school has paid the necessary deposits for the sale. Parents will also have noticed that the developers have already cleared some trees from the property, and there will need to be some remediation work completed for the removal of lead and asbestos on parts of the adjacent property before the school takes ownership of the back yard.

I am not a ‘doubting Thomas’ however all we are waiting for now is City Of Moreland’s approval of the final aspects of property subdivision. I will let you know if we have any exciting news in the coming weeks and what our plans are for this new part of our school.

**MOTHERS’ DAY PERFORMANCE**

On Friday 6th May, our school choir will be performing some songs they have been practising with our Performing Arts teacher Cathy Edwards. We invite parents and grandparents to our Centenary Centre at 3pm on this day.

**PARENT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION – T2 2016**

**SCHOOL REPORTING CHANGES IN 2017**

The Australian Government has relaxed its approach to School Reporting and has now given school greater autonomy and flexibility with the format that can be used for student reporting. The former mandated format has in many ways had its day, and we are seeking to develop a new, more effective format that parents, teachers and students will find informative.

The main objective of any school reporting is that schools need to deliver to parents a clear and honest picture of what their child knows and does not know, the way their child behaves, their attitude to school, and whether their child is at, below or above the required standard for their year level.

Our Lady’s School will still:

- Provide a written Semester 1 and Semester 2 school report
- Provide parents with three formal opportunities through the year where face to face parent teacher contact occurs
- Provide parents with the successful Student Achievement Portfolio that contains evidence of the children's work and competencies

Ms. Rinaldo as Learning and Teaching Leader will be developing our new reporting format in consultation with the school community (parents, teachers and students) over the next semester in preparation for the new format to be launched Semester 1, 2017.

Over the comming weeks you will receive a feedback survey asking you to respond to the following:

- What are the positive aspects of the current report format?
- What are the negative aspects of the current report format?
- What would I like to see included in the new report format?

For parents not familiar with the current school report format, we would still like to hear what you believe is important in students reports.

**OUR LADY’S PLAYGROUP – It’s back on**

We warmly welcome any family who has a toddler wanting to join Our Lady’s Playgroup which is held every Monday morning at 10am in our school Community Room. This is normally an informal gathering of parents and their toddlers, many of who go onto become students at our school in coming years. Just show up...we look forward to seeing you there!

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**EVERY CHILD - EVERY CHANCE - EVERY DAY**
YEAR 3 & 5 NAPLAN
The children in Year 3 & 5 will be participating in the annual NAPLAN testing in the week of the 10th/11th/12th May. Parents need to ensure that:

- Their child is at school on time on these three days
- Their child is well rested, has had a good breakfast, and is ready for their brain to work at an optimum level
- Lots of encouragement occurs and the children walk in with a 'can do' attitude

PARABLES OF MERCY
To commemorate the Year of Mercy, the 'Parables of Mercy' will be in Our Lady's Hall on 11 May from 9.45am until 3.30pm. This exhibition is a visual meditation on the overwhelming mercy of God. You are invited to take some time to pray with eight images, alone or in a group, and allow them to speak to your experience of the mercy of God. There will be a booklet to accompany the reflection.

A 'WALKING' ROSARY
A whole new way of praying the rosary is the 'Walking Rosary'. This will be a large candle-lit 'rosary' arranged on the floor of Our Lady's Hall on 11 May. People will be invited to walk the rosary from bead to bead, while meditating on phrases from Scripture about the mercy of God.

SCHOOL CALENDAR – TERM 1 2016
11th May – NAPLAN 2016 – Year 3/6 – Reading
11th May – Whole School Photo @ 2.30 pm
12th May – NAPLAN 2016 – Year 3/5 – Maths
16th May – Parents Association Meeting @ 7pm
20th May – School tour for Prospective Parents @ 11.30am
24th May – Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day
7th June – Sacrament of Eucharist – Parent Meeting @ 7pm
13th June – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
14th June – School tour for Prospective Parents @ 11.30am
15th June – First Eucharist Reflection Day – Year 4
17th June – Semester One School Reports distributed
17th June – Children’s Disco – 6pm to 8pm
18th June – Sacrament – First Eucharist – OLHC – 6pm
19th June – Sacrament – First Eucharist – OLHC – 9am
19th June – Sacrament – First Eucharist – St. Ambrose – 10.30am
22nd June – Semester One – Parent Teacher Interviews
24th June – Term Two concludes at 1pm

Extend OSHC at
Our Lady Help of Christians School
Weekly recap
Last week we enjoyed playing inside due to the weather. The children enjoyed the change of scenery, challenging each other with board games and handball. Other children enjoyed exploring new craft ideas, creating different monsters and aliens.

Our Extend Superstar is Donal for playing cooperatively with others and communicating effectively with staff.

Next week’s activities
Monday 9th May: Group game of Bingo
Tuesday 10th May: Handball
Wednesday 11th May: Thursday 12th May: Clay craft
Friday 13th May: Dodgeball
Please remember to MAKE or CANCEL a booking you MUST: CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437 OR BOOK ONLINE: extend.com.a

MGR AWARDS – WEEK 3 TERM 2 2016
Foundation C: Lucy – You always encourage everyone around you by giving them compliments, caring for them and welcoming everyone.

Foundation B: Sinatra – you are great at trying to make school life run smoothly for with your friends and learning.

1P: Emmanuel – for his dedication and determination towards his school work. He shows persistence even when things can be challenging.

1S: Amelie – for showing such care & compassion to our new student.

2C: Kisanet – for the wonderful way she welcomed back her friend! What a great example of the W in W.E.S.T.

2V: Sierra – you always work really hard and have made a super effort this term.

3B: William – for writing such a great persuasive writing about dogs are better than cats.

3M: Donal – for an amazing, positive attitude and it is fabulous to have you in 3M.

4J: Rachel – Always being encouraging of her classmates.

4L: Broak – for completing his homework task with pride and enthusiasm. It is great to see how organised you are. A great role model for 4L.

5L: Anthony S – for displaying the qualities of a W.E.S.T person both in and out of the classroom.

5T: Jasmine for being a motivated and focused student who treats others with respect at all times. You're a ‘Go Kart’ Jasmine!

6C: Nicolas – for his enthusiasm towards his learning and gratitude for each school day.

6K: Sidney for showing great sportsmanship last week. It was great to see and hear.

Happy Mothers’ Day to all our school mums.
Hope it’s a great day!

Philip Cachia
Principal
All Grade 2 children have participated in a 3 week extra curricular tennis clinic this term. This enabled them to be exposed to the game of tennis and test their hand eye coordination skills. Thanks to Mrs Oxley for organizing and to the Tennis Australia schools program.
Family & Friends Movie Night

Sunday 26 June @ 6pm

Private Screening

Westgarth Cinemas

There will be competitions and prizes.

Seats are limited.

Stay tuned for further details.

Fundraising Event for the Grade 6 Graduation
Our Lady's Feast Day - Thursday 24th May 2016
It's time to huff and puff and raise money for Our Lady's School Triathlon

NOTE: Money and forms are not required to be returned to school until AFTER the event.
Prizes will be awarded at assembly on Wednesday 5th June 2016.
All sponsorship forms and collected money need to be returned to school by Monday 6th June 2016.

Following the event each child will receive a validation certificate confirming they completed the Triathlon.

| Class Prize | There will be one winner from:
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 40-Tunes card. | Year 3-6
| $20 Voucher | Foundation-Year 2
| $40 Toysrus gift card | Each child who raises over $40
| A whole class pizza | for the child who raises the most money.

Each class will be some great prizes for children:

OHTC children will rotate around exercise stations in their class groups, doing a changeover every 20 minutes.
Simply be given a donation amount for the Triathlon hour:

Or be sponsored for the amount of minutes of exercise completed in one hour i.e. 60 minutes.

You may elect to:
The Triathlon will comprise a 20 minute walk/run, a 20 minute skip, a 20 minute ball game at Balle Park.

On Tuesday 24th May 2016 we will be holding our annual School Feast Day Triathlon.

Our Lady's Feast Day - Thursday 24th May 2016
This is to certify that this child completed the Triathlon on 24th May 2016.

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Triathlon for Our Lady's - Tuesday 24th May 2016.