Dear Parents,

The Welcome Picnic 2016 was another great success. On a cool Melbourne evening, many families shared each other’s company, the children bounced up and down until they were exhausted, and some even had a piece of chocolate birthday cake. As one Foundation child commented “This is the best Birthday Party ever!” Thank you again to our hard working Parents Association for cooking up a storm on the BBQs and for operating the canteen on the evening. The second hand uniform shop also did good trade (many of these pieces of clothing are un-named uniforms that cannot find an owner, are taken home, washed and resold by the Parents Association. Thank you to all families who attended. The children seemed to have a ball.

SCHOOL WORKING BEE – A TO K FAMILIES SATURDAY 27th FEBRUARY

Our first working bee of the year has been scheduled for Saturday 27th February from 9am to midday. We ask that those families whose surnames begin with A to K come to the first working bee, L to Z families to the working bee in Term 4. Obviously if you prefer to come to this working bee you are still most welcome. For those families who attend either working bee, $100 is deducted from your School Building Levy/Fees.

There is much to be done making our school gleam before our Sister School visitors arrive the following day. We look forward to your participation in this important school event.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER

Due to NBN requirements, the school has had to dispose of its old phone system and adopt new digital handsets. The school has an additional phone number that you will see if the school is trying to dial your number. The new number is 9388 5900. Please enter this new number into your phone. The existing 9380 5050 will still continue to operate when you are trying to dial the school as we have had it diverted to this new number, however you will no longer see this number on your handset. In the coming months there will be some new additional features that we will announce that will enhance school-home communication.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION 2016

The Parents Association is a hard-working and dedicated group of parents who meet on a monthly basis. The two main objectives of the Parents Association are:

1. Fundraising
2. Connectedness

The Parents Association have staged many wonderful events over the years raising many thousands of dollars. Things like the two adventure playgrounds, the shade sails on the northern playground, the 125 new Laptop Computers and their trolleys, some of the Interactive Whiteboards on the classrooms are but some of the equipment that the children use in their day at our school.

Every parent at Our Lady’s School is part of the Parents Association as decreed by its Constitution. Each year the Parents Association has its Annual General Meeting (Monday 21st March @ 7pm) where all positions on the Executive come up for nomination. The Executive positions are: President – Vice President – Secretary – Treasurer. We are now calling for nominations for these four positions, the role description of which can be found at http://www.olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au/app/webroot/uploaded_files/media/2012091209359880.pdf

All nominations need to be sent to: principal@olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au by Friday 18th March 2016.

HEADLICE CHECKS FOUNDATION TO YR 6

Last Friday all children Foundation to Year 6 were checked for headlice. Numbers of children found to have had headlice were abnormally high on this occasion. When we conducted our last check in November 2015 we only detected 3 children. Last Friday 13 were found to have had headlice which is our highest number in many years. This could be due to:

1. Parents not checking their child’s hair in the lead up to Friday. Unfortunately these parents were called from workplaces to come and pick up their child and have them treated.
2. Many of our children mixing with children from other schools/kindergartens over the school holidays
3. Maybe this summer has been a particularly good breeding season for headlice

The nurses will return in 10 days time to ensure that those children who were away last Friday and those children who have been treated are now clear.

FUNDATION CHILDREN WILL BE FULL TIME AT SCHOOL FROM NEXT WEEK
MONDAY TO FRIDAY – 8.55 AM TO 3.30PM

EVERY CHILD – EVERY CHANCE – EVERY DAY
2017 FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS
I appreciate it is early days, however we have already had good interest from prospective Foundation families for 2017. So that we are able to cover current families, if you child turns 5 by April 30 2017 they are eligible to commence school. I would strongly encourage all current families to fill in an enrolment form ASAP, so that we can offer remaining places to new families. Regardless of whether a family currently has a child enrolled at the school, a separate and new form must be filled in for each new child being enrolled.

SISTER SCHOOL VISIT: 6.3.16 to 13.3.16
We are looking forward to the 2016 Sister School visit. Sr. Susana, Pak Juju and Ibu Tere will spend the week at our school learning about our education system, sharing their Indonesian culture with the children and teachers, and visiting some of the landmarks of our beautiful city.
One of the highlights of the week is ‘Family Visitation’ time. An understanding of where and how children live in Melbourne (and Bandung) is always a huge learning experience. We are asking for 4 volunteer families to host a simple tea/coffee/biscuit from 3.45 to 4.15pm and 4.25 to 5pm on Monday 7th March. If you are interested can you please email principal@olbrunswiecast.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL CALENDAR – TERM 1 2016
27th Feb – School Working Bee – A-K families, 9-12 noon
29th February – Foundation are now full time.
3rd March – School tour for Prospective Parents @11.30am
4th March – School Photo Day
6th March – Sister School visitors arrive
13th March – Sister School visitors depart
15th March – Labour Day Public Holiday
15th March – School tour for Prospective Parents @11.30am
18th March – Easter Raffle Drawn
21st March – Yr. 6 Graduation Fundraiser ‘Sausage Sizzle’ – Special Lunch day
24th March – Term 1 concludes for all students @ 1pm
25th March – Good Friday
27th March – Easter Sunday
11th April – Term 2 commences at 8.55 am

Extend OSHC at
Our Lady Help of Christians School
Dear Families,
Due to parent feedback we are delighted to announce that Extend’s Before School Care service at Our Lady Help of Christians will commence at 7:00AM, effective Monday 22 February 2016.
Thank you for your continued support in Extend’s service. From The Extend Team.

Weekly recap
Last week we enjoyed various activities. The children’s favourite activity to our surprise was the beep test. They asked to do it every day for the whole week. It will be something we will continue for them until they change their minds. It’s a great sport activity, as they are able to challenge themselves, but mainly compete against their own score, and not against their peers.
Art and Craft is still a favourite, especially at BSC. We have been trying new activities, and always offer our old favourites.

Our Extend Superstar is Jet. Thank you for stepping up and helping Extend staff with the younger children. You have been a Superstar!

Next week’s activities
Monday 29th February: Cardboard Collage
Tuesday 1st March: Middle/Northern Playground
Wednesday 2nd March: Folded Stars
Thursday 3rd March: Indoor Outdoor: Recycled craft and sandpit
Friday 4th March: Dance and Movement

Please remember to MAKE or CANCEL a booking you MUST:
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437
OR BOOK ONLINE: extend.com.au
2016 WELCOME PICNIC – ANOTHER GREAT FAMILY NIGHT
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
AUTUMN 2016 HOLIDAYS!

TUESDAY 29 MARCH - FRIDAY 8 APRIL

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
LOCATION:
26 Miller Street, Brunswick East VIC
HOURS:
8.00am - 6.00pm
Full day fee: $67.20

PAY BETWEEN $15.88 - $33.60 PER SESSION!

BOOKING DEADLINE:
Book by Friday 18 March to avoid a late fee.
Excursions are limited and fill fast!
Book now to avoid disappointment.

BOOK VIA THE PARENT PORTAL AT extend.com.au
2016 Photo Day
Envelope and Order Instructions

Dear parents and students,

Our Lady Help Of Christians Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 4/03/2016
School photo order envelopes have been distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

ONLINE ORDERING Your child’s school photos are now available for secure online purchase, please note if you are ordering online, you do not need to return an envelope to the school

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING
- Step 1: Easy Access Link: Click on this link if you are using a supported device: Click Here
- OR - Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [YK7 F94 G4C]
- Step 2: Enter your student’s details
- Step 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection)
- Step 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

Please Note: Late fees will apply once orders are closed (5 days after photo day)

FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS No envelope required if ordering online

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING
- Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [YK7 F94 G4C]
- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on 2/03/2016
- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with cash or cheque enclosed

ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE
ENVELOPES WILL BE HANDED TO EACH CHILD, PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE

- Step 1: Student Details: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope. Please use black or blue pen.
- Step 2: Purchase Details: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.
- Step 3: Payment Method: Select your payment method.
  Credit Card – Online Only at www.advancedlife.com.au
  Cash – Please enclose correct money – no change is given under any circumstances
  Cheque – Make payable to Advancedlife Photography with your name & address on the back of cheque

Please allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised - a $25 fee will apply to any dishonored cheque payments

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries in regards to your child’s school photo order.
info@advancedlifevic.com.au or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team