### OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS



**Primary School Brunswick East** 

Exceptional Education

### Newsletter 4, Term 1, 2021

Friday 19th February

### Let Us Pray:

This Lent, Lord, help me leave behind the distractions of my daily life and make this a time of spiritual retreat, of letting go all that holds me back from taking the risk of drawing closer to you, allowing your Spirit to lead me, and speak to my heart.

Forty days or four, or forty minutes or four! Whatever I can manage! The time spent is not the key, I know, but my willingness to look into my frailty, and then to trust in You and to seek your will for me.

### Amen

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your cooperation throughout this week, it was wonderful to see the children return safely yesterday. A special thank you to the staff and children who also had to unexpectedly pivot back into remote learning. This is our new reality.

If we do happen to revert back to remote and flexible learning again, a reality for us all, the children will be using Google Classroom and Seesaw platforms to engage in learning opportunities. Staff will be providing families with access to these platforms and instructions to refer to if these are new learning platforms for your child/ren. More information will follow next week.

Thank you also for your participation in our Meet the Teacher conversations this week, these proved to be very fruitful. Insights gained support teaching staff in understanding individual student needs from a parent's perspective.

This week also marked the beginning of Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday starts a season of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. It is a season of penance and reflection which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. May this Lent be a time a reflection and prayer for your family as we prepare for the celebration and joy of Easter.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolise the dust from which God made us. Writings from the second century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

# Student Representative Committee and Social Justice Leaders

Term 1, 2021 marks a special time in OLHC history where we are looking forward and making positive changes after a challenging 2020. The Student Representative Council (SRC) over the years has provided students with opportunities to share their voice in ways to make Our Lady's a happy and safe community for all.

In 2021, based on advice from our School Improvement Plan, we would like to provide more opportunities for students to share their voice in creating a vision for our school.

The school is undertaking a new model which provides more students with opportunities to take part in SRC and charitable fundraisers driven by the students. Students will also focus on developing their skills as leaders within their class and school community.

Each semester, one SRC and one Social Justice Leader will be elected by the students in each class. Students who wish to apply, will have the opportunity to answer some questions and share their vision for the school before a fair and anonymous vote takes place in each class.

The class Student Representative Council Member will have meetings to discuss what is working well at our school and ways to make it even better. They will assist with the running of clubs and help implement ways to be mindful and kind in our community.

The Social Justice Leader will work with Mr Jack to help develop the Social Justice within the school. They will assist with St Vincent de Paul donations and brainstorm ways to fundraise and contribute to other charitable organisations. The Social Justice Leaders will look at what is social justice and how we can work together to make positive contributions to society and our local communities. They may attend Mission Masses at the Cathedral representing our school or attend Healing Masses at OLHC Church and assist on these occasions.

Voting for Semester 1 SRC and Social Justice Leaders will occur in class on Monday 22nd of February. You may like to take some time over the weekend to talk to your child about whether this is something they would like to pursue. Opportunities for these same roles will become available again in Semester 2, 2021.

Student Representative Committee and Social Justice Leaders will be announced at our morning assembly on Friday the 26th of February. Due to this being an outdoor event parents are welcome to stay. Please remember to wear a mask if you are unable to socially distance.

## School Captains and 2021 Leadership Positions

This morning the Year 6 students presented their Captain speeches to leadership staff and the Year 4/5/6 student group. Speeches were delivered with great enthusiasm, energy and passion. We look forward to announcing the 2021 Captains and Student Leadership positions at our before school assembly on Friday the 26th of February, as this assembly is outside parents are welcome to stay.

Reconciliation Family Night Update

Due to density regulations and the large number of children receiving this Sacrament we are providing two sessions in which each candidate and one parent can attend. You will receive a booking form next week to select a time. Please note the change in times.

### Reconciliation Family Night Centenary Centre Thurs 4th March

**Session 1** 6.00pm - 6.50pm

Session 2 7.00pm - 7.50pm.

### Purchase of Additional Digital Technology Resources

We are continuing to update digital technology resources available for children to use, this is a priority as we move forward. Additional Chromebooks have been purchased this year and we are looking at implementing iPads in our junior school. These additional resources will support children in engaging with new and emerging ways of communicating their learning within a contemporary context.

# Students Attending Secondary School in 2023

The following dates are very important for ALL students who will be attending secondary school in 2023 – our current Year 5 students. If applications for Catholic Secondary School are not in by Friday 20th August, 2021 your child will not be enrolled in your school of choice.

- 20th August 2021: Applications close for 2023 Year 7 students in Catholic Secondary Colleges our current Year 5 Students.
- 14th October 2021: Offers posted to prospective 2023 Year 7 applicants.
- 12th November 2021: Final date for families to accept offers made by the Secondary School.

Reminder School Photographs Friday 5th March

Parents are asked to dress their children in their **full summer uniform with black school shoes** (no runners) on Photo Day. If your child has PE/Sport scheduled on Fridays, then you are welcome to place the child's runners in their school bags for them to change into during their PE lesson.

Please refer to the attached flyer to this newsletter on how to order your child's school photographs. Parents have the option of ordering on-line or completing the envelope that has gone home to the eldest child from each family attending our school.

Cash orders must strictly have the correct cash as there is no facility to change money at the school office. If paying by cash, please securely fasten the envelope and pass to your child's classroom teacher.

As an added optional benefit, families are able to order separate **Sibling Photographs**. These Sibling photographs can be ordered on-line or contact the school office to receive a Sibling Order envelope.

# Parent Association 2021 Class Parent Representatives

There are still a number of classes requiring Class Parent Reps. We are seeking one parent from each class to be their class representative for 2021. If you are interested in being the Parent Rep for your child's class, please email the Parent Association at olhcpa@gmail.com.

The following classes still require a Parent Rep:

Prep R, 1S, 1V, 2B, 3J, 3K, 4S and 5L.

Thank you, Michelle Piccolotto (President)

### Term 1 Dates 2021

Wednesday 24/2/21 4S Assembly at 2.45pm.

Friday 26/2/21 Morning Assembly to announce 2021 School Captains, School Leaders, SRC and Social Justice Leaders.

Wednesday 3/3/21 3K Assembly at 2.45pm.

Thursday 4/3/21 Reconciliation Family Night Session 1 - 6.00pm-6.50pm Session 2 - 7.00pm-7.50pm.

Friday 5/3/21 School Photos.

Monday 8/3/21 Labour Day Public Holiday - No students to attend.

Wednesday 10/3/21 2H Assembly at 2.45pm

Wednesday 17/3/21 1S Assembly at 2.45pm

Thursday 18/3/21 Confirmation Family Night at 7.00pm.

Sunday 21/3/21 Sacrament of Confirmation, OLHC Church at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 24/3/21 1V Assembly at 2.45pm

Friday 26/3/21 - School Closure Day (Staff developing Vision) - No students to attend.

Tuesday 30/3/21 Sacrament of Reconciliation OLCH Church at 6.00pm and 7.15pm.

Wednesday 31/3/21 PA Special Lunch Day.

Wednesday 31/3/21 2B Assembly at 2.45pm

Thursday 1/4/21 Holy Thursday Easter Liturgy at 9.15 am, Easter Raffle, Term 1 concludes at 1.00pm.

Kind regards,

Ms Maree McIntosh

**PRINCIPAL** 



# 2021 Photo Day Envelope and Order Instructions

Dear Parents and Students,

### Our Lady Help Of Christians Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 05/03/2021

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

\*\* IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE - ONLINE ORDERING FOR SIBLING PHOTOS WILL CUT OFF ON 04/03/2021 \*\*

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 Click Here - For online ordering process for your school.

- 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)

\*\* Online Orders will attract a \$1 service fee

Please Note: If you miss photo day, portrait and group packages can still be ordered online for 7 days afterwards with no late fees. After that time, late orders will require separate processing and handling and therefore will incur a \$15 late fee per package.

### FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS No envelope required if ordering online

### **3 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING**

- Go to <u>www.advancedlife.com.au</u> before photo day and enter your school code [YK7 F94 G4C]
- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on 04/03/2021
- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with exact cash amount.

### 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 - as change is not available

Please Note: A portrait and a class group photograph will be taken of every student at the school, regardless of purchase. Photographs of your children taken as part of a class group are only permitted to be distributed within their own class. Your child's name will appear on the class group photo. If you <u>Do Not</u> wish your child to be photographed, please contact your school office with your instructions prior to Photo Day.

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries regarding your child's school photo order.

<u>info@advancedlifevic.com.au</u> or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team

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