



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Primary School Brunswick East

Exceptional Education

Newsletter 4, Term 1, 2025

Friday 14th March



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory
of the Lord has risen upon you.

(Isaiah 60: 1)

Dear Parents/Carers,

Next week, we proudly celebrate Catholic Education Week, a special time for all Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of Melbourne to reflect on and honour our Catholic identity, the vital role our schools play in their local communities and the collective strength of Catholic education.

This year's theme, 'Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you' (Isaiah 60:1), is inspired by the motto of the Holy Year, the Year of Jubilee and the Australian Catholic Youth Festival's theme, 'Pilgrims of Hope'. This theme calls us to embrace the light of Christ, fostering hope, renewal and faith within our school community.

Catholic education is deeply committed to providing enriching and high-quality learning experiences, guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ. As part of

our celebrations, our School Captains, Owen B and Amelie C, along with Vice Captains, Harvey B and Gabriella F, will proudly represent Our Lady Help of Christians at the Catholic Education Week Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday, 21st March. This special event brings together schools from across the Archdiocese to celebrate our shared mission and ongoing contribution to Catholic education.



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

Catholic Education Week 2025
16-23 March

NAPLAN
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy

NAPLAN

This week, our Year 3 and Year 5 students participated in the online NAPLAN assessments, demonstrating focus, perseverance and a commitment to doing their best. These assessments provide valuable insights into students' literacy and numeracy skills, helping to guide future learning and teaching.

We would like to thank our students for their efforts, positive attitudes and resilience throughout the testing process. Their willingness to 'have a go' and embrace challenges in their learning is truly commendable. We also acknowledge the support of our teachers and families in preparing students for these assessments.

We look forward to receiving and analysing our 2025 NAPLAN results once they become available and will share key insights with our school community in the coming months.



Staff Professional
Learning 2025
(Simply Maths)

For the remainder of the year, teachers at Our Lady Help of Christians will focus on

professional learning relating directly to the development of a whole school approach to the teaching of Mathematics. Last week Dr Ange Rogers (RMIT) and Dr Bern Long (MACS Numeracy consultant) supported staff in deepening their understanding of pedagogical strategies to effectively teach place value. The benefits of a whole school approach ensures a consistency in teaching, as teachers and students will be using the same language when discussing mathematical concepts. This enables a better understanding and the sharing of strategies to support student achievement. Teachers will use data to inform their instructional practices by identifying areas for improvement and making data-driven decisions to better meet the needs of all students at OLHC.

This whole school approach is directly linked to the OLHC 2024-2027 School Improvement Plan, in particular the following priority, goal and intended outcome.

Priority One

Learning and Teaching Culture

Goal One

- To embed a high-performance learning and teaching culture.

Intended Outcome

- That all learners demonstrate growth in literacy and numeracy.
- That teachers are targeting students at a point of need.

Please note our final professional learning day in this series will be held on Friday 6/6/25, this will be a school closure day, no students are to attend.



Confirmation Family Night

On Tuesday evening, our Confirmation candidates, along with their parents, attended the Family Confirmation Night, an important step in their journey toward receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. The evening was facilitated by Mrs. Samantha O'Dwyer, who guided families through a meaningful exploration of the

significance of this Sacrament.

Throughout the session, families reflected on where Confirmation fits within the Sacraments of Initiation, deepening their understanding of its role in strengthening their faith. They engaged in

discussions about the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and how these guide us in living out the teachings of Christ in our daily lives. Together, students and parents examined the scripture of Pentecost, gaining insight into the transformative power of the Holy Spirit. This story will continue to shape students' Confirmation preparation as they explore its meaning further in their learning spaces.

Thank you to all families who attended and participated so enthusiastically. Your engagement and support are invaluable as we journey together in faith.

Project Compassion

The Social Justice Leaders are leading this year's Project Compassion initiative. They have shared



inspiring stories in their

classrooms about the positive impact of past contributions and have distributed donation collection boxes to both classrooms and individual students. This provides a meaningful opportunity for students and families to engage in the Lenten practice of almsgiving. Almsgiving is a fundamental aspect of Christian life, especially during Lent, as it calls us to show compassion and generosity toward those in need. Rooted in the teachings of Jesus, almsgiving is an expression of love and justice, reminding us to care for the vulnerable and to share our blessings with others. By giving to those less fortunate, we not only help provide for their immediate needs but also foster a spirit of humility and gratitude in our own lives. Through acts of charity, whether through donations, volunteering, or simple acts of kindness, we grow closer to God and strengthen our commitment to building a more just and compassionate world.



Parents as Experts -STEM

As part of our Year 5/6 STEM Design Sprint we are looking for experts on the topic of

renewable energy. In particular we are exploring wind and solar power. We would like to learn more about what we should consider in our design process of wind and solar farm prototypes. We are

hoping to get in touch with any experts in the community on this topic. If you would like to be interviewed or feel comfortable speaking about the topic, please make contact with our STEM teacher Ms Joanne Hanson.

jhanson@olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au



School Uniform Reminder

A reminder of Summer uniform requirements for students. **Children are to wear**

runners on their allocated PE day, black school shoes are to be worn every other day.

Black shoes - recommended with closed toe. There is a choice of two school hats - either the Legionnaires Hat (one size fits all) or Slouch Hat (S, M or L) can be worn. If cold, the navy jumper &/or Bomber Jacket can be worn. Tracksuit tops can only be worn on Sports Days.

GIRLS: Summer dress, white socks (above the ankle), hair ties to be in school colours only (gold, green, navy).

BOYS: Short-sleeved blue shirt, grey shorts, grey socks.



Lunch Boxes and Water Bottles

A friendly reminder to all parents to ensure that lunch

boxes and water bottles are clearly labeled with your child's name to prevent mix-ups. Additionally, please avoid using glass containers for food or drinks at school for safety reasons.

Reporting Absences via the School Website

A friendly reminder to all parents and carers to register your child's absence via the school website. This includes both full-day absences and part-day absences, such as late arrivals or early departures.

To record an absence, simply visit the school website, navigate to the 'Absences' tab, and complete the necessary details for your child/ren. Once submitted, the notification is automatically sent to the school office, allowing our administrative staff to update attendance records and inform the appropriate teachers of any late arrivals or early departures.

Using this system ensures a smooth and efficient process, reducing the need for parents to call the office or email classroom teachers separately. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping attendance records accurate and up to date.

First Instalment School Fees Due

A reminder Instalment 1 is past due - 03/03/25. Please attend to this as soon as possible.

1 CHILD	\$1,215
2 CHILDREN	\$1,745
3 CHILDREN	\$2,275
4 CHILDREN	\$2,805

For your convenience we have:

Internet Banking: The school's banking details are as follows:

BANK NAB BSB 083-347 ACCOUNT 649 369 574

Cash or EFTPOS please call into the Office or phone to complete payment.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties please reach out. We can always arrange a mutually convenient repayment schedule for you.

Thank you

Debbie Ceravolo

School Savings Bonus at OLHC

Students at OLHC receiving the means-tested Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) in 2025 are eligible for additional support through the School Savings Bonus. Families of eligible students at non-government schools will receive the \$400.00 School Savings Bonus. The Bonus will be allocated to eligible students once the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) process has been completed for 2025. There is no application required for eligible non-government school students to receive the School Savings Bonus. Once the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) process has been finalised for 2025 a letter will be sent directly to eligible families outlining the process for spending the bonus.



Reminder - Easter Raffle

Our next fundraising event is on the calendar, our much loved annual Easter raffle! **Raffle books will be sent home in your children's communication folders next week**, so keep an eye

out. The incredible chocolate filled hampers that make this raffle so exciting are only possible thanks to the generous donations from our school community. We welcome contributions of chocolate eggs, bunnies, bandicoots and other Easter treats. Please drop them off at the school office or have your children place them in their class tubs by Monday, March 31st. Every donation is greatly appreciated! For more details, see the flyer section below.



Reminder - Literacy Parent Helper Course

We will be holding two Literacy Parent Helper Course sessions for any parent who would like to assist as a volunteer in the Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms during the

literacy block commencing Term 2. Courses will be held on the following dates.

- Wednesday 19/3/25 at 9.00 am - 9.30 am
- Friday 21/3/25 at 3.00 pm - 3.30 pm

Attendance is compulsory if you wish to help as you will learn about the roles and responsibilities and expected behaviors of volunteers who work with children in our school.

If you are interested in attending one of these sessions or would like to assist in a junior class if previously trained, please contact Karina De Giusti (Literacy/Numeracy Leader Prep - 2) via email kdegiusti@olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au by Monday 17/3/25.

Please note these are the only dates these sessions will be available due to Ms Karina's additional support timetable.



Reminder - School Photographs - Thursday 20/3/25

A reminder, this year's school photographs are on Thursday 20th of March. Please ensure all students are dressed in their Summer Uniform (**not Sports uniform**), with black school shoes, white socks for girls and grey socks for boys. If your child has PE scheduled for Thursdays, you may pack your child's runners in their school bag to be changed for their lesson.

All students will be photographed for school ID, regardless of whether parents will purchase photos or not. Please refer to the attached flyer for details on how to order your child/ren's school photos. Orders are encouraged to be made on-line, so we can avoid any cash handling issues.

Sibling Orders can also be ordered separately on-line. On-Line ordering for Sibling Orders cuts-off on 19/3/25.

If you do not have a credit card and wish to order a Sibling photo for all your children currently attending OLHC, please contact the office for a separate envelope form that needs to be returned with correct cash by 19/3/25.

Please see the flyer section below for more information.

Importantly, please do not contact the School Office for the time-table of the Photography schedule.



Positive Behaviour for Learning at OLHC

At OLHC, we use Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) to create a safe, supportive, and engaging school environment. PBL is a framework that helps students understand and practice positive

behaviours, setting them up for success both in and out of the classroom.

Our school values - **Responsible, Respectful, Resilient, and Safe** - are at the heart of PBL.

Students are explicitly taught these values and are acknowledged when they demonstrate them in their daily interactions at school.

As part of our PBL program, students are acknowledged with gold coins for following our Positive Behaviour Matrix. These coins can be saved and redeemed for certain exciting rewards, such as Casual Clothes Day or Cooking with Ms McIntosh! **Reminder:** Our next Casual Clothes & Crazy Hair Day is on **Friday the 4th of April**. If your child brings home a voucher, it means they have chosen to use their PBL coins for this reward. We look forward to celebrating their positive choices!

Mrs Maegan Whiteley

mwhiteley@olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au



Child Safety Requirements

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will be sharing with you information about our Child Safe

Standards in fortnightly newsletters. This week, we are looking at Child Safe Standard Three and Four. Child Safe Standard Three states children and young people are to be empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously. This standard supports schools to create a culture that values and promotes student participation.

This includes:

- informing students about their rights and responsibilities in an age-appropriate way
- recognising the importance of friendships and peer support

- enabling students to actively participate in creating a culture that is safe for them and their peers.

At OLHC we implement and demonstrate this standard by teaching our students about their rights and responsibilities and supporting them to create a culture that is safe, orderly and enjoyable for all.

Child Safe Standard Four focuses on Family Engagement. This standard highlights the importance of an open and transparent child safe culture for families and communities. Schools must provide families and communities with accessible information about their child safe policies and practices and involve them in their approach to child safety and wellbeing. To comply with this standard at OLHC we:

- make sure families participate in child safety and wellbeing decisions which affect their child
- engage and openly communicate with families and the school community the school's child safe approach
- make child safety information accessible
- inform families and carers about the school's governance and approach to child safety and wellbeing, including roles and responsibilities of school staff.

Children's Liturgy of the Word - Lent



During Lent at **St Ambrose's, 10.30am Sunday Mass** we will be engaging children in a special activity to deepen their understanding of this sacred season. The Lenten Pilgrim Passport is designed to guide children on a reflective journey,

inspired by the Jubilee message, as they prepare their hearts for Easter.

Each week, children participating in Children's Liturgy of the Word will explore key themes of Lent, such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, while using their passport as a record of their faith journey. The passport will include reflections, small challenges, and opportunities for prayer to encourage children to grow spiritually throughout the Lenten season.

At church, the activity will be folded into a passport shape, symbolising a pilgrim's journey of faith. However, for families reading about it in the newsletter, it will remain in its flat format so children can follow along from home. This activity is open to all children, and we encourage families to take part in this meaningful Lenten practice together.

We welcome all interested children to join us at Children's Liturgy of the Word and take part in this beautiful journey of faith. Please see details of the children's passport in the flyer section of this newsletter.



Class Assemblies

This term we are hosting whole school class run assemblies. Please see term one's assembly roster below. These assemblies will be held in the Centenary Hall on a Wednesday from 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Every class will have an opportunity to host an assembly throughout the year, if your child's class is not rostered on for this term they will be rostered on during terms two and three. All are welcome to attend. Please enter via the office between 2.30 pm and 2.45 pm.

- Wednesday 19/3/25 **5B** Assembly at 2.45pm
- Wednesday 26/3/25 **6P** Assembly at 2.45pm
- Wednesday 2/4/25 **1B** Assembly at 2.45pm



Zooper Dooper Friday

A reminder Zooper Doopers will be sold every Friday for \$1.00 throughout Term 1. All

proceeds go towards the upkeep of our Kitchen Garden.

Student Birthdays



We wish the following students a wonderful birthday over the last fortnight:

Kitana 4W, Neve 1DK, Zachary 6C, Lexie 1DK, Kitty 5B, Emilia 4S, Keira 1DK, Grace 1DK, Kallista 6P, Rocco 1B, Xavier 1B.

2025 Term 1 Dates

Sunday - 16/3/25 - Sunday 22/3/25 Catholic Education Week

Wednesday 19/3/25 **5B** Assembly at 2.45pm

Thursday 20/3/25 Whole School Photos

Friday 21/3/25 St Patrick's Day Mass for school Captain and Vice Captains

Wednesday 26/3/25 **6P** Assembly at 2.45pm

Friday 28/3/25 Official Opening of the STEM/Library Hub 11.30am-12.30pm, all welcome.

Saturday 29/3/25 March - Confirmation Mass 1.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral - Special Celebration Jubilee Year

Wednesday 2/4/25 **1B** Assembly at 2.45pm

Friday 4/4/25 Term 1 concludes at 1.00pm

Finally, as always I would love to hear any feedback you have about our school, so please feel free to email me at mmcintosh@olbrunswickeast.catholic.edu.au with any thoughts, concerns or suggestions that you may have to continue to make our school a wonderful place to be and to learn. I will get back to you as soon as I can and do appreciate any feedback that you have to share.

Kind regards,

Ms Maree McIntosh

PRINCIPAL

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PREP E

LUCAS V
CALLUM P

PREP M

LEO M
MATILDA S

1B

KYRO C
DAFNE LC

1DK

ALEXANDER R
CONOR P

2C

ELEANOR F
GIOVANNI DS

2D

LEO H
BELLE M

3K

MASSIMO LS
JULIET C

3J

NED S
ADELINE H

4S

CLARA F
PEDRO A

4W

EESHA H
ELIZABETH N

5B

LOUISE M
SARAH S

5H

AIDEN S
MEKLIT F

6C

WILLIAM S
EVA T

6P

ZARA DL
SEBASTIAN I



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Lenten Reflection
Collect the five shells



LENT

2025

PASSPORT PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Children's Liturgy, Sundays 10:30am mass
St. Ambrose Church
287 Sydney Road, Brunswick



WEEK 1

Luke 4:1-13

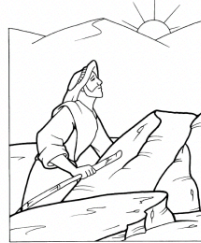
JESUS TEMPTED IN THE DESERT

Man does not live on bread alone.



PILGRIMS
need to take food
with them.

What will you do to
sustain yourself
through Lent?
What extra ways can
we help each other?



WEEK 2

Luke 9:28-36

THE TRANSFIGURATION

PILGRIMS
are often delighted by
what they see on the
journey.

What experiences of
calmness, joy and
excitement have you
experienced this year
or last year?



WEEK 3

Luke 13:1-9

THE FIG TREE



PILGRIMS
encounter rocky paths.

What are stumbling
blocks for us?
What actions or
choices or attitudes
could we work on to
improve during Lent?



WEEK 4

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

THE PRODIGAL SON



PILGRIMS
need to establish
good relationships
with those whom
they journey with.

How do you build
good relationships
with your family and
friends?



WEEK 5

John 8:1-11

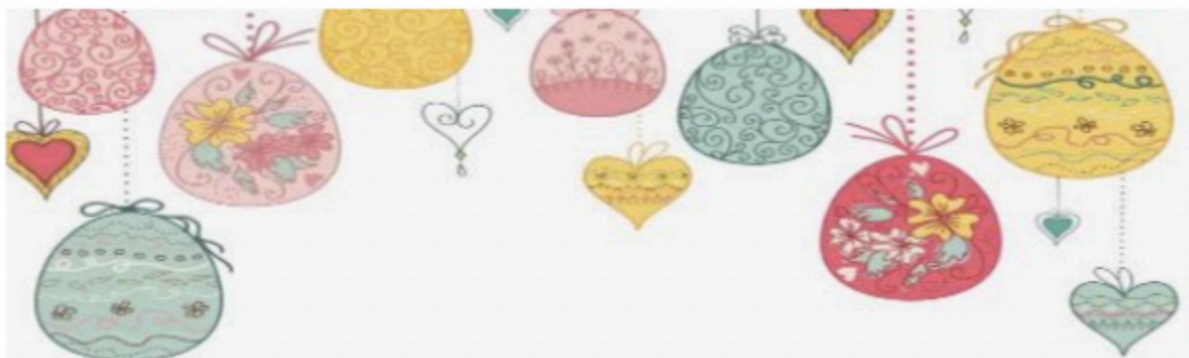
THE WOMAN WHO SINNED



PILGRIMS must act with compassion and
not condemn their fellow travellers.

Who does our society condemn?
Who do we put down?
How could we be more welcoming?





OLHC *Easter* RAFFLE

The OLHC Easter raffle is just a hop, skip and a jump away,
and we need your help!

Soon each family will receive a book of raffle tickets to sell.

We are kindly asking for each family to please donate an
Easter egg of any shape or size (no nuts please).

All Easter egg donations and Raffle tickets (sold or unsold)
need to be handed into the office by
9am, MONDAY, 31st MARCH, 2025.

We thank you in advance for supporting the Easter Raffle.

**RAFFLE DRAWN:
FRIDAY 4TH APRIL, 2025**

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY IS COMING UP SOON

ORDER NOW

School: Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Date of photography: 20/03/2025

Place order by: 30/03/2025

HOW TO ORDER



OPTION 1 ORDER AND PAY ONLINE USING YOUR MOBILE



Scan this QR code using your mobile phone camera to go straight to your school's package options and order photos

OPTION 2 ORDER AND PAY ONLINE USING YOUR COMPUTER



Go to ***www.advancedlife.com.au*** and enter your school's 9 digit order code

YK7 F94 G4C

Should you have any questions please contact us at
www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School Photography Date: 20/3/2025

Dear Parents,

School photography day is coming up soon. Sibling, group and portrait photographs can be purchased by following the link below or by returning the order envelope with your payment to the school reception or our photographer on school photo day.

Two easy ways to purchase:

1. Visa, MasterCard or PayPal
2. Cash – complete the envelope supplied and return it to our photographer or school reception on photo day

To order, visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

And enter online order code: YK7 F94 G4C

School photography information:

- **Online orders** - Do not require an envelope
- **Sibling Photos** - Don't forget to pre-order your sibling photos online up to 24 hours before photo day. We provide your school with a list of sibling orders right up to the day of photography. If you miss the online order deadline, you can submit a completed sibling order envelope first thing in the morning from the photographer on photography day to the school reception or photographer. Please also inform the school so they are aware to schedule your children in for a photograph. Sibling photographs only apply to children enrolled at your school. Please note not all schools offer sibling photos.
- **Late fees** – A late fee will be applied to each package purchased after photo day due to the additional cost of producing these packages separately. Please refer to the cut-off date on the flyer.
- **Package delivery** - School photographs will be delivered approximately 8-10 weeks after the day of photography. Please note this delivery timeframe is dependent on proofing, the post-production process and additional photography days at your school.
- **Previous Years' photos** - Past years' photographs including sports, co-curricular and representative groups are also available to order under the "previous years or group photo" tabs at your school's [advancedorder](http://www.advancedorder.com.au) site, click on the "Order School Photos Here" button. You can also order past packages, portrait images and gifts from your child's unique, individual and secure [advancedyou](http://www.advancedyou.com.au) image archive site using the unique 9-digit image code found on packages you have ordered in the past.

[advancedlife](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) would like to express our appreciation to Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School for placing your trust in us. Please remember we offer a 100% money back guarantee on our products to ensure your peace of mind. We would also love to receive your feedback or resolve any issues you may experience as fast as possible, to ensure your satisfaction. If you have any questions, comments or feedback relating to your [advancedlife](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) experience, please contact us at: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact.



ST ALOYSIUS
NORTH MELBOURNE 1887

A Journey of Excellence

Year 7 2027 Now Enrolling
Applications Close Friday 15 August

BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY

31 Curran Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051
P 03 9325 9200



Be Curious. Become Brilliant.

www.aloysius.vic.edu.au

Extra playing opportunities?
New club?

U13 SPOTS AVAILABLE

★ **Competition:** Parkville Netball,
Saturday mornings

★ **Training:** Riverside Netball courts,
Monday nights

★ **What we offer:**

- High-level competition in a supportive and fun environment
- Rep level coaching to develop your skills
- A chance to be part of a dedicated and talented team playing in the U13 divisions at Parkville Netball association.



WANT TO PLAY FOR STNC AT PARKVILLE?



ST THERESE'S
NETBALL CLUB

Register interest via EOI form at
www.stnc.com.au



GIVE FOOTY A GO WITH THE GIANTS

AUSKICK • BOYS • GIRLS

The North Brunswick Giants are recruiting!

We're a friendly and inclusive local club.
Join a training session with no obligation to register,
preseason training has started.

Visit our website for training times.



GIANTSJFC.COM.AU
ALLARD PARK, BRUNSWICK EAST



PLAY

FOR
the
KICKS

come
find your
awesome

CARLTON AUSKICK CENTRE



Sunday 9.30am - Princes Park

Season starts May 4

contact: carltonauskick@gmail.com

ALL GIRLS
GROUPS
AVAILABLE



play.afl/auskick





 **HAPPY HIPPO**
Kindergarten & Childcare

EGG-CITING FAMILY DAY

**SAT 5TH
APRIL**

EASTER COMMUNITY FUN!

Hop into fun at our Egg-citing Easter Extravaganza Family Day at Happy Hippo Kindergarten and Childcare Brunswick!

 **10AM-12PM**

 **YUBUP PARK ON HOWARTH ST
AND HAPPY HIPPO CHILDCARE**

Don't miss out on the festivities!



Easter Bunny Visit

Scavenger Hunt

Face Painting

Fairy Floss

Ride-On Koala

Bouncy Castle

Petting Animal Farm

Food Stalls and more

www.happyhippo.net.au 03 8560 5400 282 Victoria St, Brunswick 3056