

## **OUR HOLY REDEEMER** Fax 9897 1137

311 MONT ALBERT ROAD Telephone 9898 2315 SURREY HILLS

Principal Frank Dame

3127 Email ohradmin@ohrsurreyhills.catholic.edu.au

**Parish Priest** Brendan Reed

https://twitter.com/OHRLearning

**Newsletter No 4** 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

"Fast from Selfishness and be Compassionate to others."

#### DATES TO REMEMBER MONDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> 8.45AM ASSEMBLY 2021 PREP WELCOME TUESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> 7.30рм **PSEB MEETING** WEDNESDAY, 24TH NO PREPS 7.30рм **PFA MEETING** FRIDAY, 26TH P/1/2 PARENT EVENING IN THE OHR SCHOOL GROUNDS SATURDAY,27TH SURREY HILLS MINI MUSIC FESTIVAL SUNDAY, 28TH 8.30am WORKING BEE #1 MONDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 8.45AM ASSEMBLY SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY FRIDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY MONDAY, 8TH LABOUR DAY WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> 6.00рм SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FRIDAY, 12TH YR3/4 PARENT EVENING WEDNESDAY, $17^{TH}$ 9-11am **OPEN MORNING** THURSDAY, 18TH HOUSE SPORTS CARNIVAL - INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Parishioners,

Yesterday, the Church began the season of Lent. Lent is 40 days long, not including Sundays, which means the season is technically 46 days long. The fact that it's 40 days has significance. The number 40 has always had special spiritual significance regarding preparation ... most importantly, Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days and 40 nights in the desert before He began His public ministry (Matthew 4:2). Lent ends three days before Easter Sunday, which this year falls on **Thursday**, **1 April.** 

Lent is frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation for the celebration of the

death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. From its start on Ash Wednesday until its conclusion on Easter Sunday, Lent has been a traditional time for fasting or giving something up or abstinence. Just as we prepare for events in our personal lives, as a wedding, or birthday; Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Every year, OHR joins thousands of schools across Australia in support of Project Compassion. This year's theme is 'Be More', where the aim is to play our part in addressing poverty and injustice in our world.

#### "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." – Saint Oscar Romero

The children at OHR are learning more about how they can make a difference to the lives of others, both in class and during our school assemblies.



On Shrove Tuesday, it was planned for the children and staff to assemble in the church courtyard at 11.15am where Father Trac would continue with the tradition of burning the palms. The palms are those left over from last year's Palm Sunday Mass. Due to the lockdown, this could not occur this year. However, the ashes from the palms will be used symbolically during belated Ash Wednesday Prayer Services to be conducted within each class.

#### Introducing our Preps: Take 2

As were not onsite for the earlier part of this week, during this Monday's Assembly the school will take the opportunity to publicly welcome our 2021 Prep (Foundation) children. They all have settled well into their classroom environments although were sorely missed by their teachers on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Our students in Years 5 and 6 have fully and responsibly embraced the opportunity of acting as nurturing buddies to these young children.

#### Phys Ed

#### OHR Australian Open Tennis

OHR Tennis Hot Shots is a tennis program we are playing in Phys Ed with the Grade 3-6 students. It's a program designed to help every child, no matter their age or ability, jump in and start playing tennis. We are using the ANZ Tennis Hot Shots model. This tennis is played on smaller courts with modified equipment, including lighter racquets, lower nets and low compression balls that don't bounce too high. We always start the lesson with a cardio tennis warm-up.



Hot Shot tennis is played as part of the District Interschool Sports which is planned to start tomorrow for the Grade 5-6 students.



#### OHR House Sports Carnival

The House Sports Carnival is scheduled to be held at the Box Hill Athletics Club on Thursday 18 March. All parents and relatives are invited to attend and support our athletes on the day, as this is an outdoor event. This is one day on the calendar that you don't want to miss. Jo Golds

#### Sacraments in 2021: Repeated

The following information about the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist appeared in last week's Newsletter, but is repeated below for the benefit of those who missed it.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

For Students who Prepared in 2020

All students who participated in the Catechists preparation program will be invited to a 'refresh and rehearsal' session on **Sunday 28 February at 1:30** – **2:30** in order to re-orient students to the sacrament and prepare for the celebration of First Reconciliation.

All students who participated in preparation via Our Holy Redeemer will have the 'refresh and rehearsal' session organised by their class room teacher and school REL.

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated on **Wednesday 10 March**. At **6:00 pm** the OHR School group will celebrate the sacrament with the Catechist Group at Our Holy Redeemer Church.

For Students who will enrol in First Reconciliation in 2021 for the first time

February & March – School to manage preparation of children from Year 3.

Friday 19 March – OHR students to participate in Reflection Day with Catechist group.

**Thursday 25 March – 6.00pm** OHR School group will celebrate the sacrament with the Catechist Group at Our Holy Redeemer Church.

For further details of dates pertaining to students in the Catechists program, refer to last weekend's Parish Newsletter.

#### **Sacrament of Eucharist**

The Sacrament of Eucharist will be celebrated on:

Sunday 30 May - 2.00pm for students from OHR School and catechists group who were prepared in 2020 Sunday 6 June - 2.00pm for students from OHR School and catechists group who will be preparing in 2021 for the first time.

Full details can be found in last weekend's Parish Newsletter. https://www.cbdparish.org.au/blog/sacrament-program-2021/





#### **Open Mornings**

On Wednesday 17 March, we are planning to host the first of two scheduled Open Mornings for prospective parents considering enrolling their children in 2022 and beyond. There will be strict adherence to our COVIDSafe Plan. As part of this, visitors will tour the school in groups of no more than two.

The school will be open to visitors between 9:00am and 11:00am. A great morning is planned. We will commence with a gathering in the hall where the students, in level groupings, will treat our visitors to a number of exhibitions and performances. The Senior Students will then take on the responsibility of showing our guests around the school. Afterwards our visitors will be invited to the foyer of the hall for a cuppa.

If you know of anyone considering a school for their child, please encourage them to come along to our special Open Morning and to also arrange a personal school tour.

As you can appreciate, we are working towards finalising our 2022 Prep enrolments by mid-May.

It would be gratefully appreciated if all existing school families who have a child commencing school in 2022 complete an enrolment form and submit it to Trish.

#### Working Bees: Repeated

There are four Working Bees scheduled throughout this year and it is hoped that each family would be able to attend at least one of these events. The Working Bees will be coordinated by both Justin Bolger and Luke Torpey to address the upkeep of the school grounds and minor maintenance matters. Working Bees are a cost effective and essential means to maintaining aesthetic school grounds that afford a safe and welcoming environment for our children, parents and visitors.

Working Bees provide the opportunity to connect with other families, and the children always have a great time helping out and playing with one another in the school grounds. A range of days and times are available to enable each family the opportunity to select the most suitable Working Bee. A complete list of dates and times may be found on the reply slip attached to today's newsletter. You will notice that we have alternating Saturday and Sunday Working Bees. Reply slips can be returned to the school office. Alternatively, you can email your preferred day to Justin: justin.trees@hotmail.com

We request that you look ahead at your commitments for 2021, and nominate for at least one Working Bee now. It's a great way to show your children that you value their school through committing to a few hours per year. Certain families have been extremely generous with their time over recent years in turning up to multiple Working Bees within the one year.

The first Working Bee is a morning session (8.30am – 10.30am) scheduled for **Sunday 28 February**. A barbeque and refreshments will be provided during this time.

Wishing you a great weekend, Frank Dame

# **RE NEWS**

#### Start of the School Year Mass

Tomorrow (Fri 19/2) Father Trac will lead a Whole School Mass in the Church that all students will attend. This will also provide an opportunity for our Y6 Student Leaders to receive a blessing as they embark on their Leadership Role for the year.







#### Lent - Project Compassion

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. The theme for this year's appeal is *Be More*.

During Lent our RE Year 5/6 Student Leadership Team will be selling *Zooper Dooper* icy poles for 50c after school on

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15 - 3:30pm at the Tuckshop window. All money raised will be donated to Project Compassion. If anybody would like to donate a pack (or more) of *Zooper Doopers* please bring them to the office. We can look after the freezing for you!! This will start on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**.

#### **Sunday Gospel**

The liturgy of the Catholic Church provides a framework for reflection which is used by Catholics throughout the world. Each week in the newsletter, you will find the Sunday Gospel as well as some discussion questions to have with your child/ren.

Nick Byrne, RE Leader

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

#### The Gospel of the Lord

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. In today's gospel where did Jesus go for 40 days to pray?
- 2. Who tried to tempt or test Jesus?
- 3. What did Jesus say to the people of Galilee after he left the wilderness?
- 4. These 40 days of Lent are a time when we turn back to God and ask for forgiveness. In Lent we also spend time in prayer and do good works. How can we do this during the coming weeks?

We pray that this week we will look out for ways we can show kindness to people in need.

## **RE LEARNING IN 1/2MJ**

In Year 1/2MJ, we are learning about "Images of God."

We have learnt that...

God is like a shepherd. God is like a potter. God is like a father. God is like a mother.

Every person is made in God's image. Everything God made is good—fish, birds, other animals, and plants.

But we are made in God's image. God made people to have a special relationship with him. God loves us, and we can love and worship God.







# **ADMIN NEWS**

#### SCHOOL FEES

A very sincere thank you to all those families who have cleared their 2020 Fee Accounts. Would those families who have not finalised their accounts please do so as soon as possible – thank you.

2021 Fee Statements will be finalised and sent out to all families before the end of the month. If any family wishes to pay their fees monthly, please divide the account into nine equal instalments – March to November. These instalments can be direct debited into the school's account around the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month – thank you. If you would prefer the school to handle the direct debit arrangements, from your bank account into the school's account, please see me for the appropriate paperwork.

Other arrangements can be organised – please see me.

### **ENROLMENTS FOR 2022**

If you have a child who is starting school in 202, please see me for an Enrolment Application – thank you.

Trish

## **OHR 2021 Working Bees**

Please indicate which working bee your family will attend. A barbeque and refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of each event.

Family name:				
Likely number of attendees:	Adults		Children	
Sunday 28 February 8.30am – 10.30am				
Saturday 8 May 9.00am – 11.00am				
Saturday 14 August	9.00am – 11.00am			
Sunday 24 October	8.30am – 10.30am			

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**



P 03 9890 9097 | E info@sion.catholic.edu.au



## 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 is 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

#### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

#### HOW TO APPLY

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

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



