



OUR HOLY REDEEMER

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Principal
Frank Dame

Parish Priest
Brendan Reed

Newsletter No 32
14th October 2021

"The weak can never forgive.

Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."

- Mahatma Gandhi

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER

MONDAY, 18TH

PREPS RETURN: MON - WED

TUESDAY, 19TH

ABOUT REAL LIFE FAMILY
SESSION – YEARS 3 AND 5

THURSDAY, 21ST

YR 1- 2 STUDENTS RETURN
THURSDAY & FRIDAY

THURSDAY, 21ST

7.30PM

2022 PREP PARENT TRANSITION
EVENING

TUESDAY, 26TH

7.30PM

YRS 3 - 6 STUDENTS RETURN

MASKS REQUIRED

OHR SAC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 27TH

7.30PM

PFA MEETING

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Parishioners,

As a staff, we have dearly missed having the children on-site and cannot wait to see the students return to school over the coming weeks.

We begin by welcoming back our Preps this Monday to Wednesday, followed by the Year 1/2 students on Thursday and Friday.

We are very mindful that the return to school will be met in different ways by the students. Some will embrace the opportunity to reconnect with their teachers and friends, while others will take some time to assimilate back into the routine of school life and ways of working with peers, teachers and staff. We are very conscious that the impact of the current lockdown, will have impacted the social and emotional wellbeing of students to varying degrees.

So, our immediate focus will be on checking in on the wellbeing of our students. The re-establishment of good social skills is also important, as they allow our children to enjoy better peer relationships. However, the benefits of robust social skills reach far beyond social acceptance.

Social skills need ongoing refinement as children get older. They aren't something your child either has or doesn't have. It's important to look for teachable moments where children can be helped to do better. In fact, some social skills are quite complicated – such as understanding it's important to be assertive when a friend is being victimised, or understanding to stay silent when you don't agree with a call from the umpire.

The good news is that social skills can be taught. As parents and teachers, it's never too soon to start showing children how to get along with others. And it's never too late to sharpen their skills either. It's always best to start with the most basic social skills first and then to continue sharpening the child's skills over time.

The seven most important social skills for children include:

- Sharing
- Cooperating
- Listening
- Following directions
- Respecting personal space
- Making eye contact
- Using manners

So, as the children return to school, their teachers will be focussing on developing and refining these essential skills.



Preparing for the Phased Return to School

On Tuesday I sent home an email detailing preparations for, and guidelines pertaining to, the phased return of students for face-to-face teaching. If, for whatever reason, you missed the email the subject was, '*Preparing for the Return to School – Term 4*'.

OHR Public Speaking Final

Last Friday afternoon our 18 finalists gathered online for the OHR Public Speaking Final. They were joined online by Ms Dunne, Mrs Canty, Mr Byrne, myself and our guest judge, Mrs Ann Rennie. Family members, teachers and students gathered online to view a livestream of the event. The standard of speeches was consistently high and we were all captivated by the thought provoking and entertaining presentations. We were so grateful to have the expert opinion of our guest judge, Mrs Ann Rennie. It is wonderful to have Ann's on-going support of this program.

Congratulations to all students who prepared and presented speeches throughout last term and to the winners of each grade level. This year's winners comprise:

Yvie H (Prep); Aksel R (Year 1); Zoe C (Year 2); Betty J (Year 3); Tom W (Year 4); Lucy E (Year 5) and William W (Year 6).

Our Deepest Sympathy

I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the David family. Michael's brother passed away unexpectedly on Sunday morning which has left the family in disbelief.

May he rest in eternal peace and we pray that the David family are comforted by his memory.

2021 Science Talent Search

Congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's Science Talent Search. The following message, from Mrs Axon, provides a summary of our students' achievements:

Last week I was thrilled to learn that once again OHR students have achieved terrific results in the Science Talent Search.

*Congratulations to **Lizzy H** and **Matilda D** in Year 6 for receiving a Minor Bursary for their video production, 'World of Waste'. Their stop motion animation using Lego was both highly entertaining and thought-provoking.*

*Congratulations to **Will G** in Year 4 for receiving a Minor Bursary for his Experimental Research Project. Will's investigation into the acidity of different drinks demonstrated excellent skills in experimental design and interpretation of data.*

*Congratulations to **James G** in Year 3 for receiving a Minor Bursary for his Experimental Research Project which explored the iron present in everyday foods. The work James produced demonstrated thorough research and planning and included an excellent analysis of results.*

*Congratulations are also in order for the tremendous amount of work and research contained in the entries submitted by **Alexis P** (Year 2), **Zoe C** (Year 2), **Alba L** and **Maddy S** (Year 5). These students received Certificates of Distinction or Merit for their submissions.*

The school community is proud of the achievements of all these students! I hope all participants have found participation in this year's Science Talent Search an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Mrs Axon

Prep 2022 Transition Program

- The first component of the Prep Transition Program will be a webinar scheduled for next Thursday evening for the parents of our prep 2022 children. Those unable to make the live event, will receive a recording on the following day.
For our first transition webinar, we have engaged Carley McGauran from CALM Psychology Services to be the guest speaker. She will be talking on the topic, **'Starting School – How your family can thrive, not just survive'**. Carley's brother, Marty, will filter parent questions entered via the chat bar which will be addressed by Carley towards the end of her presentation.
- Our first Prep 2022 Transition Morning for students was due to be on Wednesday 27 October. However, in light of the directive from the Chief Health Officer and MACS, schools are unable to host transition sessions under the current restrictions. We are awaiting advice on when this program can proceed.



Student Progression to the Next Year Level

Our focus for Term 4 is for each of our students to finish the year in a strong manner and with the confidence to progress to the next year level in 2022.

We also aim to respond to the unique and individual learning and wellbeing needs of each student, prepare them for transitions, and continue to build their knowledge, skills and resilience.

Some parents may be worried about their child's progress during the period of remote learning and may be questioning whether their child would benefit from repeating a year of school in 2022.

While some might think that another 12 months at the same year level will give their child an opportunity to catch up or mature, research indicates that this is not usually the case. Very few studies of students repeating for an additional year have shown it to be effective and students do not 'catch up'. Researcher John Hattie found that 'overall, there are negative effects for students who are retained, and there are more positive effects in the long term for promoted students than for retained students – even when matched for achievement at the time of decision to retain or promote'. Research found that students who repeated a year made an average of four months less progress academically and fell even further behind compared to their peers who did not repeat. Studies have shown that repeating a year can have negative impacts on student learning, wellbeing, engagement and school completion.

What is important to remember is that all children have missed schooling in its usual sense. However, our school has demonstrated that it is really adaptable, and our teachers are terrific professionals. We responded very quickly to the current lockdown and have continued refining and improving our programs.

When this all picks up again next week, part of what we are going to be doing is making sure our students are back on the curve, in one way or another. Our school will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

School Closure Days

- There will be no school for the children over the Melbourne Cup long weekend, inclusive of Monday 1 November and Tuesday 2 November. We are hopeful that restrictions will be eased so that families can manage to travel further from home.
- The school closure day for staff professional learning, scheduled for 2 December, has been **cancelled**. This day has been cancelled to enable a further day of learning for our students.

Summer Uniform

As your children resume on-site schooling this term, please make sure that they are dressed proudly in their full OHR Summer uniform. When the days turn cooler, they will need to pack their jumper. As we are a SunSmart School it's important that the children remember to wear their hats each day.



Wishing everyone a good weekend,
Frank

RE NEWS

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 questions for discussion with your child/ren.

Nick Byrne, RE Leader

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think of some times when you really like being first. What sort of things do you do to make sure you are first?
2. When should you let others go first?
3. Jesus says anyone who wants to be first has to be a servant. What does this mean?
4. How can we be servants of others?

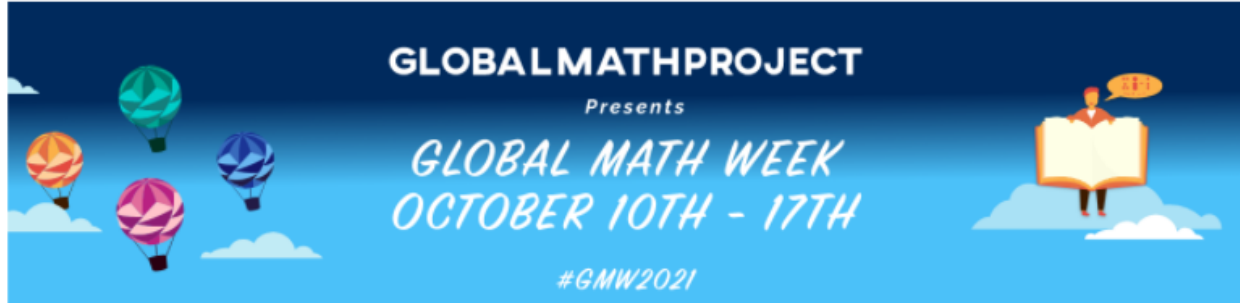


MATHS NEWS

GLOBAL MATHS WEEK 2021

ENTER THIS FUN MATHS COMPETITION!!!

PRIZES FOR JUNIOR, MIDDLE and SENIOR SCHOOL



Watch this [MATHS IS](#) video.

During Global Maths Week, 2021 we are inviting all OHR students to design and create a poster with the words "[MATHS IS](#)" as the topic. You can include words, pictures, photos or anything else you can think of.

Create your poster offline and then when you have finished, take a clear photograph and upload it to the SEESAW activity titled

"Maths Is."

Entries Close **Friday 15th October.**



Keep your poster in a safe place and bring it back to school when we are back.

Prizes for the most interesting and creative poster. There will be a Junior School, Middle School and Senior School Category.

Judged by Mrs Mitchell and Mr Dame.

P F A NEWS

Foodbank is Open

We just wanted to let everyone know that foodbank is open to any family during these difficult times.

These are very stressful circumstances for everyone and some families are struggling more than others. Foodbank is not just for families after births, illness or bereavement, it is for times like this, even if it's just for a week or two.

This is an amazing support service within our school community and I know families who have previously been recipients find it such an incredible help.

Please reach out to me on bexcapello@gmail.com or 0420554661 if you or someone you know in our school community is in need of this wonderful service.

Bec Capello
Foodbank Coordinator



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Principal
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Protocols for Using Email

RATIONALE:

At Our Holy Redeemer School we committed to open, honest and timely communication. We are also committed to communication being respectful, measured, sensitive and constructive. In adhering to these principles we aim to strengthen the goodwill and the positive partnership between parents and the school, to enhance the wellbeing and learning opportunities for our students. This policy is designed to establish clear expectations for both staff and parents in the use of email as a communication tool.

PURPOSE:

The aim of these guidelines is to:

- clearly articulate the School's commitment to positive use of the email system for communication
- to acknowledge the potential benefits of staff and parents communicating via email, but also understand its shortcomings
- establish clear expectations for both staff and parents in the use of email as a communication tool.

PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

Email is an environmentally friendly way of communicating that can save time when used effectively. We acknowledge that email is very convenient for parents who are working and find it difficult to catch up with school staff during regular work hours. Having said that, our school community values face-to-face and telephone conversations, and understands that these forms of communication are preferred in many situations.

Expectations of Both Staff and Parents

When communicating via email, staff and parents are expected to adhere to email etiquette, including:

- Emails are at their best when they are brief and informative. Issues that require a level of detailed discussion should be dealt with in person or over the phone.
- At the beginning of an email the sender can use 'No reply necessary' to convey an information sharing email only.

- Emails should always be respectful and constructive. If the email relates to a concern or problem, it ought to be focused on understanding the problem and finding a solution.
- Emails work best when they are positive. Avoid sending negative or confrontational emails. Email is not to be used to vent. We never say in an email what we wouldn't say to the recipient's face.
- Never write about or seek personal information regarding third parties (staff, students or parents). Likewise, emails containing personal or sensitive information should not be passed on to a third party without permission of the sender.
- The tone or intent of emails can easily be misunderstood, especially where humour or sarcasm is involved. Be conscious of this and pick up the phone rather than send an email in this instance.
- Avoid writing in capitals.
- Staff and parents are not expected to respond to emails that are contentious or require ongoing dialogue. A face-to-face meeting should be arranged in this circumstance.
- Group emails have the potential to waste the time of many, so avoid sending emails to anyone for whom it is not relevant. It is also courteous to avoid time wasting emails, including jokes, chain letters and commercial solicitations.
- Make sure the purpose of your email is clear...do you require specific action or is the email for information only?
- When emailing a group, staff and parents must ensure they not disclose the email addresses of others without permission to do so. (Blind CC should be utilised)

Expectations of Staff

- Email should not be used to discuss a sensitive issue which was not initiated by the parent or had not been previously discussed with the parent.
- When an email is received from a parent that requires some time to gather information and reply properly, the staff member should respond acknowledging that the email has been received and indicate when an informed response will be sent.
- Staff will aim to reply to parent emails within 2 working days.
- When on leave, staff will activate an auto-reply message detailing relevant leave dates.
- Staff may choose to send or respond to work related emails at a time of their own choosing, but there is no expectation to respond to these emails outside of school hours. (8:00-4:30).
- Staff should use the WPS standardised signature format for emails sent from staff accounts. This will include a Disclaimer statement.
- Staff are not to respond to offensive or abusive emails and should forward them to the school principal.

Expectations of Parents

- Please only send non-vital messages by this medium. For example, do not use email to inform a teacher that your child is not to go to After School Care that afternoon, as the teacher may not see the message in time. Remember that given work demands teachers may not get to read emails until late in the day.
- Please don't seek to discuss in detail your child's academic progress, learning expectations, or behavioural issues via email. These are best addressed over the phone or in person.

- Emails that are intended for the office staff should be sent directly to the school's email address, that being: ohradmin@ohrsurreyhillscatholic.edu.au
- Remember to respect staff personal time, including weekends and holidays. Emails directed to staff should be sent on week days between the hours of 8.00am and 4.30pm.
- It is the responsibility of every parent to keep the school administration and class teacher up-to-date with current email addresses.

REVIEW & POLICY HISTORY:

Our Holy Redeemer School	Version Approval Date: 01. 02. 2021
Version 0.2	Date of Next Review: 01. 02. 2023

COMMUNITY NEWS



It starts with an audition...

The National Boys Choir of Australia is currently holding **online auditions**

for boys in years 1 and 2, for our January 2022 intake. Auditions are free, informal, and take only a few minutes, and will run through October 2021.

Since 1964 NBCA has offered unique musical experiences for boys, with outstanding performance opportunities and vocal training, in a professional, supportive and friendly environment.

For more information, or to arrange an audition appointment, please visit our website:

www.nationalboyschoir.com.au



NATIONAL BOYS CHOIR
OF AUSTRALIA

Our Lady of Sion College TALK AND TOUR MORNING Thursday 18 November 2021



Tour commences
at 9.30 am

Join us on our next
Talk and Tour Morning
and see how your daughter
will embrace life at Sion.

Please note that this tour
is likely to be conducted
online via Zoom, pending
government advice.

Register now at
www.sion.catholic.edu.au



Our Lady of Sion College
Catholic Girls' College Years 7-12
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OUR HOLY REDEEMER PRIMARY UNIFORM
School login: username: OHR password: OHR

Continue placing your click & collect and school or home delivery
orders at
www.surreyclothing.com.au
Home delivery is available for a
flat rate of \$15

Due to ongoing Covid restrictions, we will be using an
appointment schedule for fittings, including new 2022 prep
fittings

Please email or call to confirm your time



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