Dear Parents and Families,

Our School Sports Day last Thursday was a great opportunity for our students to show off some of their individual skills as well as their teamwork skills. Our House Captains were outstanding in organizing their teams for their events throughout the day and have really grown as leaders this year. Congratulations to Bates on winning the Sports Trophy for the second year in a row and many thanks to Mrs. Schofield for all her work in organizing the day. Our Spirit Trophy will be presented at Assembly in the last week of school. Some pictures of the day are included in today's newsletter.

School Disco

Thank you to the P & F for their organisation and running of the school disco last Friday evening. The two sessions enabled them to cater better for both the younger and the older children and provide music and games appropriate to the ages. Many thanks also to Zel Stankovic for his work as DJ on the night.

End of Year Christmas Performance

We will be holding a Student Christmas Concert this Wednesday December 3 from 6.00pm - 7.00pm in the school hall. The students will be preparing for the day beforehand, and then working with RockEd throughout the day to prepare for the ‘Musical in a Day’. It will be a free performance but we only have limited seating and standing room available for immediate family. Toddlers are welcome to sit on mum or dad’s knee. Doors open at 5.45pm. A copy of last week’s letter to families is included in today’s newsletter.

Prep 2015 Orientation

The final orientation session for our Prep 2015 students is on Thursday December 11 from 9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. On this day the Prep 2015 students will meet their teacher. We also expect to outline a structure of other classes for 2015 during that week.

Year 5/6 Summer Sports Results

Bat Tennis: OLW def. Thomastown
Rounders: Thomastown def. OLW
Cricket: Thomastown def. OLW

Enjoy the week, and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

Kevin Burke

PREP / YEAR 1 - LAST SWIMMING DAY – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Swimming lessons on Tuesdays have now finished. We do, however have one more swimming lesson which will take place on Wednesday, 10th December at the usual time of 9.30 a.m.

Prep / Year 1 Teachers

LIBRARY NEWS

There will be no borrowing from the library from today. All library books must be returned to the library tomorrow for stocktaking to take place. Please note all lost / unreturned library books will need to be paid for.

Your class will win a prize if all library books are returned on time. Thank you.

Geraldine McKinley Teacher / Librarian

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES (AASC)

This is the last week for AASC. Athletics / Fitness will end this Tuesday, December 2 and T Ball will end this Thursday, December 4
PARENTS & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The P & F will once again run the Christmas Raffle. Tickets have been sent home today. Raffle Tickets cost $1.00 each. Prizes will be Christmas Hampers with one hamper including a meat voucher worth $50.00.

The P& F are asking for donations that could be included in a Christmas Hamper. Please send along any donations to the school office to help fill the hampers.

ST VINCENT de PAUL

2014 Christmas Dry Food Appeal is a vital way of giving essential lifelines to people experiencing poverty in our local communities.

Our Lady of the Way families can support St Vincent de Paul by sending along tins e.g. soups, jam, honey and packets, e.g. rice and pasta (with long life expiry dates), to the office by December 1, 2014. These will be help many families and individuals who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

2015 EMA EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES CHANGES

From 1 January 2015, the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the Education Maintenance Allowance directly to parents.

Parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015.

The money will be allocated to eligible schools through schools’ core operational funding mechanism, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015.

This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with Commonwealth government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage.

OLW SCHOOL CALENDAR

DECEMBER

WED 3  School Concert 6-7 P.M.

WED 10  Prep / Yr 1 Last Swimming Lesson

THUR 11  Prep 2015 Orientation – Meet the Teacher 9.30-11 A.M.
         Parent Helper Thank You Afternoon Tea 2.45-3.30P.M.

FRI 12  School Reports sent home

MON 15  Yr 6 Graduation Mass 7 P.M.

WED 17  Santa visiting OLW school children 11.30 A.M.
         2014 End of School Year – Children dismissed at 3.30P.M.

THU 18  Staff Inservice

FRI 19  Staff Inservice
**Christmas Performance – December 3, 6.00pm – 7pm**

Our Christmas Concert is fast approaching and we are pleased to announce the involvement of a professional composer, musician and entertainer – John Duff and dancer/choreographer, Alison Dodds.

John and Alison will also work with the students and staff throughout the day of the concert, presenting songs and dance sessions. Students’ involvement in these sessions will assist the development of fine motor skills, rhythmic sense and pitch awareness, while encouraging a greater appreciation on the Performing Arts, within a supportive and fun environment.

On the day of the concert school dismissal is 3.30pm as usual and the students are required to return to school at 5.45pm dressed in their costumes and go directly to their classroom. Note costumes can be sourced from items generally found at home – please keep costuming simple. There is no need to buy anything expensive for the performance.

**Costume Suggestions**

P/1 N – Dressed as various Christmas decorations – lots of tinsel, ribbons etc.

P/1 L – Blue Brown Nativity Robes/ Biblical costumes

Yr 2/3 – Angels and Arc Angels – White background with gold trimings

Yr 3/4 – Night theme – outfits with black or dark blue with silver stars, moons etc.

Yr 5/6 M – Shepherd outfit (loose t-shirt with sash) with headpiece

( lightweight cloth/chequered tea towel with elastic or headband to hold on head).

Yr 5/6 P – Christmas (W) rappers. Backward cap, bling etc.

Please note these are suggestions only, any costumes in keeping with the theme of Christmas are always effective.

We are holding the performance in the school hall therefore it will be a free performance but we only have limited seating and standing room available for immediate family. Toddlers are welcome to sit on mum or dad’s knee. Doors open at 5.45pm.
Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Readers for Sunday Mass
30th November 6pm E Nguyen 8am M Nolan 10am J Conway
7th December 6pm J Wild 8am K McGrath 10am J Hubber

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
30th November G Verhoeve 10am N Buchan
7th December K Zanini 10am M Nolan

OLW Church Cleaning Roster
6th December Tien, Lan & Coi Nguyen & E Nguyen & Charles
20th December J O’Mahony, Freddie & Laura

OLW Sacristy Linen Laundering Roster
30th November Pia Matthews
7th December Barbara Hayes

23rd November 2014 Church Account $1319.00
Presbytery Account $ 731.00

- Mass: Mass will be offered for Fred Brown on Saturday 29th November at 6pm.

- Bill Bergin RIP: Thank you to everyone for your care and prayers of dad during his visits to us, and for my brother Michael, his family and me since dad’s death a month ago. We have been overwhelmed by everyone’s support and understanding and this is an ongoing source of comfort for us all. Thank you. Father Terry.
PARISH NOTICES

The Advent Wreath
Christmas is coming! Loved ones to see, gifts to give, baking to share. We prepare our homes for the celebration. Yet even more important is the preparation of our hearts. The advent season is a beautiful reminder to prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our saviour, Jesus! Today we light the first of the four candles in the advent wreath, the candle of hope. May the God of hope fill us with joy and peace, as we trust in him, so that we may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit

• Help for Margaret Cusack: Could adults consider helping Margaret Cusack with the children’s liturgy. Margaret will do the teaching and talking. The helper sits with the children helping keep control in the class. Please see Margaret or Fr. Terry.

• Christmas Cards: On sale at all different prices. Please support your parish by buying these cards.

• St Vincent De Paul: Our Christmas appeal has commenced. We look forward to the generosity you have displayed in past years. Hampers and gifts will be distributed on Saturday 20th December. Please ensure that the tags from the Christmas tree are attached to the gifts. Donations of food and money will also be grateful.

December 20/21 at all Masses

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Monday 22nd December  -  7.00pm Rite of Reconciliation
Wednesday 24th December  -  6:30pm & 11:40pm Carols

-  7.00pm & 24.00hrs Christmas Mass

Thursday 25th December - 8am & 10am Christmas
Kingsbury Christmas & January Holiday Program

7:45am - 6:00pm

22nd - 23rd of December
7th - 28th of January

Activities include: Geelong Water Park, Funfields, Dark Zone Laser Tag and Torquay Surf School.

Enrolments forms can be collected from the OSHC Program or the Kingsbury PS and Our Lady of the Way offices.

Contact: 9462 2354 or asc.kingsbury.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au