Dear Parents, Friends and Students

Welcome to the 2012 school year and many blessings to each of you for a rewarding and happy year ahead. It has been wonderful to see all students again and I know staff have enjoyed catching up with you and sharing in your child's holiday stories and events. We welcome all students back to school and pray that the year is rewarding and filled with many friendships, new learning and enjoyment.

This term we warmly welcome 14 new Reception students and 9 other students who will join our community for the first time. We wish each child and their family many memorable times and much happiness at OLMC and we look forward to their contributions to our school community. We welcome these new students to our school Kathryn Hill, Mary Gadalla, Leo Vickers, James Boyd-Norman, KylerVracic, Lucas Seedsman, Brock Jamiesan, Jacob Kelly, Nikola Nikolic, Melody Xia, Isabella Sarunic, Angelo Bouras, Joshua Goudis, William Huddy, Melanie Dzepina, Vanessa Le, Meliza Pelagio, Humza-Saad'e Bachnak, Jawad Bachnak, Nour Bachnak, Max Bennett and Anushka Jacob.

This year we welcome Diem Savy (R/1 teacher) who joins our community for the first time. Diem has worked in a number of Catholic schools and most recently has been on the staff at St Patrick's School, Mansfield Park. We look forward to working with Diem and sharing in her many skills and outstanding experience as Early Years teacher. We welcome Diem and pray that her time in our community is enjoyable and very rewarding. We also welcome back a number of staff who have been on leave from OLMC. We welcome back Viv Dichiera who returns from Long Service Leave and also Rosie Sturman, Deb Casburn and Grace Loizos who have been on Parenting Leave. We warmly welcome back Viv, Rosie, Deb and Grace and look forward to working with them again. I also take this opportunity to welcome back all staff and wish them every blessing for 2012.

On Monday all staff participated in a formation day focussing on the teaching of sacraments. Staff explored ways in which we can develop a meaningful and developmental sacramental programme for all students and how we may work in partnership with families and the church community to develop the sacramental life of all students. Staff look forward to supporting parents in this role and working with families in this important ministry.

During the holidays we undertook our regular cleaning and maintenance programme including garden and oval maintenance, pressure cleaning of all hard areas, toilet freshening, carpet cleaning and our regular service contracts. Some classrooms have also had new carpet installed as part of our maintenance programme.

Our calendar for Term 1 is already filling fast. This term's activities include our Parent Teacher Information Evening, R-5 Swimming Programme, Parent Teacher Discussions, the Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival and a number of year level and individual class activities. Please see next week's newsletter for our Term 1 calendar.

On Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16th Feb, class teachers will meet with parents to share specific information related to your child's class routines and curriculum for the year. Please make this time a priority as an important way to foster partnerships with your child's teacher and engagement with your child's learning programme and development. Please check Page 2 of this newsletter for times.

We look forward to an enjoyable term.

With best wishes

Grace Parletto
From the Deputy Principal/REC

Welcome Back
I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break. From the stories I have heard from the students, it seems many of you were kept very busy having a wonderful time! It has been lovely to see the enthusiasm with which the students (and their parents) have returned to school.

Beginning Of The Year Mass
We will be celebrating the beginning of the 2012 school year with a mass on Monday 6th February (week 2) at 9.30am in the Church. You are all warmly invited to join us in this celebration.

Uniform Check
Teachers have been asked to check that students are wearing our school uniform correctly. I take this opportunity to remind families that the full summer uniform is to be worn in Term 1. Students are required to wear the regulation school hat as part of our uniform requirements and sandals are only to be worn with the PE uniform on the designated days. PE Uniforms should only be worn on days when PE lessons take place. This should not exceed 2 days of the school week. Students will also be asked to remove any nail polish or jewellery (excluding plain sleepers/studs, signet rings, medic alert bracelets and watches). We thank parents/caregivers for their support of the uniform policy.

Vacation Care Program
Our congratulations and thanks to the OSHC staff for the highly successful Vacation Care Program held during the Christmas holidays. The variety of activities and opportunities provided an exciting, fun and engaging program for the children who attended. This popular service was used by students from our school and the local community and is offered each holiday break. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Please return Forms
Please ensure that you return the following forms to your child’s class teacher ASAP. These forms were sent home with your child’s End of Year Report last year. The information recorded on these forms is vital to your child’s day to day support.
- Head Lice consent form
- Responsibility for books etc / Custody orders
- Student Computer Access agreement
- Consent to use images/Privacy & Copyright
- Personal Information Sheet

Loving God, you give us this new school year and new friends with whom to share it.
Bless all who pray and work and learn together,
And grant a happy year to all.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

God Bless
Nives Kresevic

New Phone Number
The OSHC service now has a direct phone line. For all out of school hours care enquiries please phone 8240 0781.

EFTPOS facilities are available in the OSHC office to pay OSHC fees.

Meet The Teacher Evening
Parents are invited to meet class teachers who will share information about your child's learning programme and class routines.

Wednesday 15 February
Years R/1 & 2/3 classes.........................6.30pm
Years 3/4 & 4/5 classes.........................7.15pm
We look forward to meeting parents during these times. Meetings will be held in your child's classroom.

Thursday 16 February
Year 6/7 classes................................6.30pm

Ambulance Cover at OLMC

URGENT INFORMATION
Students at school or attending formal school activities (eg. excursion, carnival) are covered by the school’s ambulance cover for accident or injury which occurs during normal school hours.

Student’s with a pre-existing condition for example asthma or diabetes are regarded by SA Ambulance as non-school related incidents and are therefore not covered under the school’s policy. Students attending out of school hour sports, training or events (eg– netball, soccer) or travelling to or from school are also not covered.

It is up to the individual families to have their own ambulance cover for these situations.

Should an ambulance be needed at any time and the incident is not covered under the school’s policy the families will incur the cost of the ambulance transport which is currently $820 per call out plus $ 4.75 per kilometre.

School Assemblies Term 1

Week 3  Friday 17th February  R/1, 2/3, 3/4 & 4/5, 6/7
Organisers– R/1W, 2/3TS & 3/4VC

Week 5  Friday 2nd March  Whole School

Week 8  Friday 23rd March  R/1, 4/5, 6/7

Week 10  Thursday 5th April  Whole School
Holy Week
P & F Raffle
Sport

Swimming Carnival

Any one interested in participating in the Swimming Carnival to be held on 20th March please see Mr Canil for information. Training commences in Week 2 on Thursday afternoons and continues weekly until the carnival.

Netball

We are currently seeking interested players to form our netball teams. Season to commence Week 3 Term 1

Keyboard for sale

We have a Keyboard which is no longer needed. The model is Casio CTK495. It comes with a stand and is for sale at $30. Please phone Ralph or Hilde 8447 6857 for details.

Instrumental Program

I trust you all had a safe, restful and happy holiday. Welcome back to the new year at school. Lessons in guitar, Piano, Voice and Drums for students involved in the instrumental program will begin in Week 2. Confirmation of your child continuing or discontinuing in the program would be appreciated so time tables can be finalized. Please contact Kylie Hall at Hallmark Studios for guitar, piano and voice. For Drums please let me know in writing so I can pass on the information to the tutor. Thank you. If you would like to enrol your child in the program, please see the front office staff or myself for an enrolment form and brochure. Wishing you a great 2012.

Julie Dobo

2012 School Card

Eligibility for School Card assistance is dependent upon the combined family gross income for the 2010/2011 financial year being within the School Card income limits (as shown below)

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Please note School Card is not automatically approved – it must be applied for each year. Applications forms are available from the front office.

Happy Birthday

Ethan Bonaguro, Paige Langmaid-Taylor, Hunter Cross, Jennifer Quach and Jasper Keech

Joke of the Week

Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants? In case he got a hole in one.

Thank you Pat

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL “ALLERGY AWARE”

Please note that Our Lady of Mt Carmel is an “ALLERGY AWARE” school. Foods containing nuts or nut products must not be to brought onto school grounds. This includes Peanut Butter, Nutella etc.
STAFF LEARNING AND SHARING AT OLMC

During our Professional Development Days last week, the staff were involved in a number of learning experiences including...

- Professional Development in Religious Education: Sacraments and Sacramentality
- Developing school protocols for the Teaching and Assessment of Reading
- Year level team planning meetings
- Staff Liturgy and Morning Tea with Mt Carmel College
- School Administration for 2012
- Goal setting for 2012 Professional Learning Communities

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish School
17 Pennington Tce Pennington SA 5013
Phone 8447 1405/8240 0903  Fax 8341 1017  email info@mcps.catholic.edu.au

A Community of Learners Making a Difference