Dear Parents, Friends and Students

This week we came together as a school community to celebrate the beginning of the 2012 school year. This was a wonderful celebration where students were invited to reflect on their hopes and aspirations for the year and also to pray for those in our community who will share this important journey with us. We thank Fr Tony Densley who celebrated mass and for his faith filled ministry within our community. We certainly look forward to Fr Tony’s presence in our school across the year and the many opportunities we have as a school and parish community to celebrate God's love and presence among us.

This week a number of students will begin training for this year’s Catholic Schools’ Swimming Carnival. This is always very much enjoyed by many of our swimmers who look forward to a great day of competition, participation and enjoyment. We wish all students well as they train and prepare for this activity. We also thank Franco Canil for his energy and commitment in supporting students during this programme.

Next week all parents are invited to attend our Parent Information Evenings. These are an important opportunity to meet your child’s teacher who will share information about the class programme, routines and class expectations. This partnership is critical as we work together to support and nurture each child’s development across the year. At each of these evenings our 2011 Annual Reports will also be on display. Families wishing to receive a hard copy of reports are invited to request a copy through the front office after these dates. A reminder that Parent Information evenings will be held on Wednesday 15 February for Years R/1, 2/3, 3/4 and 4/5 and Thursday 16 February for Years 6/7.

Very soon all Years R-5 students will receive information related to this term’s Swimming Programme. This is always a very successful programme which supports students’ early water and swimming skills and water safety awareness. All students are encouraged to participate in this programme as a vital component of our Physical Education Programme.

With this newsletter please find our Term 1 Calendar. Please note that this year Term 1 will consist of ten weeks, not the usual eleven weeks, and Term 4 will be a ten week term instead of nine weeks. Due to last year’s highly successful involvement of our Year 6/7’s with the Mt Carmel College Sports Day, this year we will trial a combined Sports Day with all students from both schools. This day will be held on Monday 7 May at Santos Stadium. Students and staff are indeed looking forward to this event which will provide students with a very rich and rewarding experience.

With best wishes

Grace Parletto

“The grace of God and the prayers of Our Lady and St Joseph will enable us to overcome all.” Mary MacKillop 1867
From the Deputy Principal

Celebration of Class Mass
Classes will continue to celebrate every second Friday at 9.15am in the Church. Parents and friends are most welcome to join classes in prayer through these masses each fortnight. Please check the front of the newsletter for information on the host class. We will celebrate each even week and our roster will begin after Ash Wednesday.

Thank you to all families and friends who were able to join us at our Beginning of Year mass last Monday. It is always a special time when we can gather together as a faith community.

Parents and Friends Meeting
A very warm invitation to all interested parents and friends, especially those who are new to our school. Our first P&F meeting for the year will be at 2.15 pm on Monday 13th Feb. We will meet in the staff room.

This term, we will be preparing for our annual Easter Raffle and for Mother’s Day which occurs early next term.

Clearances for Volunteers
It has been wonderful to see the number of parents and friends renewing or applying for their Catholic police clearances. There will be a number of exciting opportunities throughout the year in which the support of parent volunteers is very much valued and appreciated.

May our schools be a place of wonder, learning and peace where the lessons of today prepare us for the challenges of tomorrow.

God Bless
Nives Kresovic

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Welcome back to a new school year and an amazing ninth year of the Premier’s Reading Challenge in South Australia.

Once again students are challenged from Reception to Year 9 to read 12 books by 7th September 2012. The Challenge is for everyone to ‘have a go’. By practising and reading for enjoyment, children will certainly improve their reading and will discover the fantastic world of books.

If you have any questions about the Challenge please see your child’s class teacher. If you would like further information about the Challenge visit the website at www.prc.sa.edu.au.

Regards Nadia Santin
(Teacher Librarian)

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

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS

Scholastic Book Club Issue 1 Has Arrived!
Each term there are 2 to 3 sets of catalogues. The library gets vouchers to buy new books in proportion to the amount spent on each order.

The due date for your orders will be printed in the school newsletter, and is usually a week after the catalogues have been distributed.

Your orders for issue 1 are due back by Monday 13th of February.

Please place your order form with the correct money, cheque or visa payment into an envelope marked “Scholastic Book Club” and then place it in your classroom office box.

For credit card payments go to www.scholastic.com.au/payment. After putting through your payment you will be given a receipt no which needs to be written on your order form. If you are ordering from multiple catalogues you can make the one payment and record the details on one of the catalogues.

Cheers
Kathryn McDonald

School Assemblies Term 1

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<td>Friday 17th February</td>
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<td>Friday 23rd March</td>
<td>R/1, (Years 2/3 and 3/4 at Mass) 4/5, 6/7</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Thursday 5th April</td>
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<td>Holy Week P &amp; F Raffle</td>
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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.

Thank you

A big thank you to Chris Coles for the new soccer goals. Chris spent many hours preparing this great resource for our school.

In Memorial

Please pray for Sr Mary Byrne who passed away last weekend. Those of you with a past association with the College and OLMC may remember Sr Mary who for many years, gave generously in service to students, families and staff.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord

Canteen Roster

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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 brought onto school grounds. This includes Peanut Butter, Nutella etc.

What kind of medicine does Dracula take?

Coffin medicine.

OSHC

New Phone Number

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

Would all families please finalise payments on Vacation Care accounts asap

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

Uniform

Commencing in Week 3 Davina Lien will be the new Uniform Coordinator. Shop hours will not change at this stage. Many of you will already be familiar with Davina through our OSHC Service. We welcome Davina to the Uniform Shop.

We are currently out of stock of Small Caps however stock should be arriving soon. Sorry for any inconvenience.
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

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish School
A Community of Learners Making a Difference