Acknowledgement of Country
We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.
Approved by Kaurna Elder Uncle Lewis O’Brien 2004

MATTERS OF INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE THIS WEEK

Welcome Back - Dave
Welcome to OLMC for the 2017 school year. You are all very welcome, and we look forward to sharing the celebrations of learning and special events across the next 12 months. It seems like a very long time since I have been here, given my leave in Term 4 of last year. It is wonderful to be back in our community.
We would like to extend a special welcome all those new to our community.
In Reception we welcome Orlando, Oisin, Kayne, Izayah, Kaleb, Nowayer, Ruby, Scarlett, Amber, Eden, Dawit, Levi, Elias, Ankit, Max, Alexander, Andro, Ivy, Otchiwe, Emily, Mia, Lillian, Sepo, Lochlan, Jacob, Georgina, Ebony, Luke, Roman, Maggie, Kade, Jessica and Anguei. We welcome Carter, Archer, Matilda, Jasper and Jaylee to Year 1, Wilson and Vernon to Year 2, Samuel, Mckenzie and Olivia to Year 3, Akirrah, Cindy and Brijesh to Year 4, Teresa and Charlie to Year 5, Audrey, Nikki and Daniel to Year 6 and Alana to Year 7. We also welcome our new teacher Cathy Contana.
We trust and pray that during your time as part of our community you feel very included and connected, and that it is rewarding for you and your child/ren.
We would also like to extend a special welcome back to Tuyet Nguyen who has returned to our staff this year.
Best wishes for the year ahead!

Opening School Mass
Our Opening School Mass will take place on Friday 10th February (Week 2). This Mass is an ideal opportunity for all members of our school community to come together and celebrate the beginning of the new school year. The Mass will be held in the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church (next to the school) and commence at 9:15am. Parents and family members are most welcome to join us at this celebration, and also at all class/school Masses throughout this year.

Meet the Teacher Night
Our Meet the Teacher night will be held on Monday 13th February (Week3) starting at 6:00pm. The format for the evening is as follows.

- 6:00-6:15 – Parent Information Session presented by Class Teachers in their classroom/work space.
- 6:15-6:45 – Parents have opportunity to look around the classroom/work space and have a brief informal chat with class teachers.
- 6:45-7:00 - Parent Information Session presented by Class Teachers in their classroom/work space. (Repeat of 6:00 information).
- 7:00-7:30 – Parents have the opportunity to look around the classroom/work space and have a brief informal chat with class teachers.

We believe this will provide greater flexibility for families with more than one child, enabling them to see and hear multiple teachers, and also for families who may not be able to attend one session due to other commitments. If families are unable to make it on the night and would like to chat with class teachers, please contact them directly to arrange a time.

Instrumental Program
The private Instrumental Program is continuing this year. Students have the choice of learning any of the following instruments: Piano, Drums, Guitar, Violin or Voice.
Students deciding to study an instrument will have instructional time one on one or in a group of two with the instrumental teacher. Lessons are usually 30 minutes in duration. Accounts for these sessions are sent directly from Hallmark Studio or from the instrumental teacher (in the case of drums). The cost of a lesson is $27 for an individual/private lesson and $19 for a group lesson.
If you are interested in enrolling your child in the instrumental program, please ask at the Office for an enrolment form and return it as soon as possible to ensure your child’s participation in the program. Lessons will begin in Week 2. If you have any further queries please speak with Julie Dobo (Music Teacher on Tuesday or Thursday).

KEY DATES
Opening Mass Friday 10th Feb ; Meet the Teacher Monday 13th Feb
**OF INTEREST....**

**School Stream**
A reminder about our School Stream App. This app is designed to keep families up to date with the goings on around the school. The app has sections for After School Sports, Newsletters, OSHC and Vacation Care and Student Absentees. We now have over 270 registered users of the app and are constantly looking to improve how we use it to better communicate with families. The app is free to download and is available from both the Apple and Android stores. For further information on how to download or use the app please see Mr Esposito in the Office, or ask at the Office for a flyer explain the process.

**School Sport**
**Basketball / Netball** - Notes were sent home earlier this week to students in Year 2 and above who might be interested in joining a school netball or basketball team for the first half of this year. If your child did not get one, and is interested in participating, spare forms are available from the Office. We ask that all forms are returned as soon as possible so that teams can be finalised and nominations for the competitions can be made.

**Swimming** – Notes have also been sent home to families of students in Year 4 and above who are interested in representing OLMC at the Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival. Spare forms are also available at the Office. Trials/training commence next week so these forms also need to be returned as soon as possible. Please see Mr Canil for any further information.

**Sacramental Program**
The Sacramental Program will recommence in 2017 towards the end of Term 1 as students prepare for Confirmation and First Communion. Students involved in Reconciliation in 2016 and any other student in Year 4 or above who has been baptised and undertaken Reconciliation can be involved. Information will be sent home to families in the coming weeks, however if you have any questions about the program or eligibility please contact Greg Esposito in the Office.

**School Uniform – Hats**
A reminder to all families that as a part of the school uniform in both Terms 1 and 4 that all students are required to wear a school hat during play times and PE/fitness sessions. Hats cost $10 and can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. Please note a decision has been made to continue to offer 2 styles of hat bucket and legionnaires; however at this stage we are still waiting for our legionnaires stock to come in. we are hoping they will arrive before week 2.

**Student Absentees**
If your child is absent we ask that you please contact your child’s teacher or the school as soon as possible. This can be done in a number of ways including: phone (8447 1405), email (info@mcps.catholic.edu.au) or via the Student Absentee section on the School Stream app.

**Scholastic Book Clubs**
We have joined LOOP for Book Club orders for Parents. This allows you to order and pay online on the Scholastic Website. Choose our school and your child’s class and you will not need to return anything to school. Your orders will be added to orders done through school and sent back to school with the main order. Orders may still be paid by cash or cheque, with the order form, through the school as before. Issue 1 is out today orders are due by **Friday 10th February**.

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**KIDS MATTER**

**Tips to Start a Successful School Year**
A successful year begins with a positive start. A new school year means a fresh start for students. They start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours. Accompanying this week’s newsletter is a flyer with ways to help you support your child’s start to the new school year.

**Grace Loizos**
Wellbeing Co-ordinator

**INFORMATION INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS**
- Kids Matter-Parenting Ideas flyer

**FROM THE COMMUNITY**

**Hook in 2 Hockey Program** is a fun, safe national program for boys and girls of all ages. It is a combination of skills and games for an hour. At our club the sessions are run by experienced club hockey players. The first session is a free Come ‘n’ Try.

Following that we are running an 8-week program, Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:00pm in Term One 2017.

Your local centre for participating is located at Grange Royals Hockey Club, Fort Street, Grange.

**Important dates:**

- **Come ‘n’ try** – February 22nd 2017
- **Registrations for the 8-week program are due by February 27th 2017**
- **8-week Program commences March 8th and concludes April 26th 2017**

To find out more details and to register online for the 8-week program log on to [http://hookin2hockey.com.au](http://hookin2hockey.com.au). The program includes a participant pack (stick, ball, shin guards, back pack and reversible singlet).

For further details please email: juniors@grangeroyals.org.au