Dear Parents,

On Sunday 14 February we gathered as a school and parish community to celebrate the beginning of the school year at Mother of God Church. It was wonderful to see many of our families join us at the Sunday Mass and a great opportunity for our students to be actively involved in the Mass through reading, altar serving, taking up the bread and wine at the offertory procession and being part of the choir. Throughout the term each class takes turns to attend the Tuesday Parish Mass at Mother of God. This Mass is prepared by the children and their teacher. It is wonderful to see our students enthusiastically participating in these Masses. At this week’s Mass Fr. Jacob invited the students from 3/4G to come and sit at the altar with him. He explained that each time we come together in unity we make a community. He then spoke about the broken clay pot which has been sitting at the foot of the altar during this season of Lent. He posed the question ‘What can we do with the pieces of the clay pot?’ A child responded ‘We can put them back together.’ During the season of Lent we think about the things in our lives that may be broken and together we can work out how we can put the pieces that are broken back together again. Jesus, our Father, invites us to come together in unity as a community supporting each other in our life and faith journey.

The children were excited about participating in the Mass through song, reading and taking up the offertory procession. They also appreciated having some of their parents at Mass with them this week. Parents and/or family members are invited to join us at these Masses please check the newsletter and your class term overviews for when your child’s Mass is on each term.

Our Year 3 students are preparing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation which this year will happen during Holy Week. Please remember to pray for them and their families at this time as they prepare for this special Sacrament.

Did you notice?
The Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe newsletter has a new look. It was wonderful to see the three CPI schools featured in this first edition. The CPI newsletter will be sent out to each of our families through Tqibiz each Friday. Fr Jacob also said there is an opportunity for local businesses to advertise in this newsletter. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested at 95991515 or catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

Parent/Teacher/Student Conversations
As a community we come together again next Wednesday when student, teacher and parent/s spend some time together sharing and identifying learning goals. Each member of staff values the positive partnership we have with our parents, a partnership that is continually growing as together we can ensure we are meeting the needs of each child in our care. We invite our students to be part of these conversations so that they can visibly see that parents and teachers are working together to support their academic, physical, spiritual and social/emotional development. Let’s keep the conversation going throughout the year. Please see flyer attached to this newsletter to book your appointment time. Bookings will close on Monday 29 February at 4pm.
Class Parent Representatives
A big thank you to the following parents who have volunteered to be a Class Parent Representative for 2016.
Prep – Noelle Darcy & Susie Mihovil
Year 1/2 S – Narelle Findling
Year 1/2 HM – Julianne Scenna
Year 3/4 O
Year 3/4 G
Year 5/6P – Michelle Perta

The Class Parent Representative is key to ensuring we continue to enhance our supportive community. We still need to find volunteers for Year 3/4G and Year 3/4O. If you are interested please contact either the class teacher or Louise.

The Parent Rep’s main role is supporting the class teacher throughout the year especially in helping to communicate special class events such as sacraments, excursions, and class masses. They also help to promote school events and fundraisers and help us all to support families at times of need.
Class parent contact lists will be sent out via the Class Parent Representative.

OSHClub
Mother of God families are very fortunate to have access to Out of School Hours Care at Ivanhoe East Primary School. OSHClub operates each morning from 7:00am and each evening to 6:00pm. MOG staff take and pick up students to and from OSHClub. This year we have a new coordinator Meghan Buchanan and we welcome her to the East Ivanhoe Community.
OSHClub are continually evaluating the programs they offer and meet the required safety standards. A formal meeting is held each term with the OSHClub regional supervisor, the coordinator, school principals and parent representatives. These meetings are held from 6:15pm and are an opportunity to provide feedback and share practices so that we are all supporting each other. They usually go for about half an hour. It would be wonderful to have a MOG parent representative at these meetings. If you are interested could you let Louise know. We will also be publishing news from OSHClub in our newsletter across 2016.

Child Safety
It is great to see parents parking their cars and walking into the school to collect children. Please be aware of those times of the day when parking is limited. The safety of all children is of paramount importance. You may like to park a little further away and walk to school to pick up your children or come 10 minutes later to collect your children.
Students are supervised at the gate until 3.45pm.
A reminder that school gates open at 8.30am students are supervised in the yard at this time.

School accounts – due next Monday 29 February
Instalment one of Term 1 fees of $650 per family plus Curriculum Levy of $480.00 per student.
A total of $390 per student for Alexandra Adventure Resort (Years 5 & 6).

Camps, sports & excursions fund (CSEF)
The CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

To be eligible for the fund, a parent of legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:
  a) On the first day of Term 1, or;
  b) On the first day of Term 2;
    • Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of
      Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or pensioner Concession
      Card (PCC) holder, OR
    • Be a temporary foster parent, and;
    • Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents you are encouraged to lodge the application form by 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However we can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

For more information please see the attached flyer or visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

School Performance
Our Prep – 4 students have been enjoying their Performing Arts lessons with Ms Sims and our Year 5/6 students have been working with Melody and Mrs Perissinotto in Songroom creating their own songs and learning about the craft of songwriting. This learning will be shared with our school community at a whole school performance on Thursday 16 June at the OLMC Performing Arts Theatre. To help us prepare for this performance we need some help from parents to support Ms Sims in organising costumes and preparing props. If you are interested in helping us in this area please let either Hayley Sims, Louise McGrath or Rebecca know at the school office.
School Closure Days 2016
Monday 11 April
Thursday & Friday 11 & 12 August
Friday 18 November

Louise McGrath
Principal

RE NEWS
Lent
As we continue the journey during Lent we very much think about the idea of turning back to God during this season. With the children we talk about this as a time of RECONCILIATION and a joyous celebration.

The Year 3/4 classes are exploring ideas in the Year of Mercy of ways they can be more prayerful and compassionate. They have chosen the scripture story of the ten lepers to link to this.

In this story Jesus again models how to show Mercy to the outcast or downtrodden. An important aspect to this story is how only one leper returns to say thank you. When we pray we are called to give thanks. During Lent you may like to ask your children what are two things they want to say thanks to Jesus for from what happened during the day.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
For parents of year three children the Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Tuesday 22 March at 11:45. It is great if each student can have at least one family member present on this day. The parents are involved in just walking the children up and introducing them to Father at the start of the Sacrament.

There is a family night for students and parents on this sacrament on Tuesday evening of 8 March commencing in the Marian Centre at 6:30pm. Sean Carr from the Presentation Family Project will lead a discussion with parents and children from the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe approximately 70 children and parents. Sean is sought after by schools to lead these evenings as he is insightful and contemporary in his enthusiasm for the church. This is a great night to build your understanding of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The session will conclude at approximately 7:30pm.

If you have any questions please contact me at school.

Brian Anderson REL

Class Masses
Tuesday 1March - 1/2HM,  Tuesday 8 March - 1/2S and Prep,
15 March - No Mass - Camp Week
22 March - Whole School Mass.

Parish Farewell Gathering for Fr Thang:
Date, time and place have been confirmed with Fr Thang for a Mass & Parish Farewell Gathering on Sunday 6 March 2016 at 2.30pm in Mary Immaculate Church. Mass will be followed by Afternoon Tea in Mary Immaculate Hall. All are invited and welcome.

— Chris Dixon, on behalf of the Parish Leadership Team.

LEARNING & TEACHING
Parent helper program
Welcome back to another year of learning at MOG. 2016 has started off smoothly and throughout the school students are working with their peers and teachers, enjoying the challenges which come with a new year.

Thank you to all the parents who have already contacted me about our parent helper program. Parent helpers in classrooms will begin: Monday 29 February. A time table will be sent home on Friday 26 February.

Training sessions for parents who are not currently part of our parent helper program will be held on:
Friday 4 March 2:30pm-3:25pm
Friday 11 March 2:30pm-3:25pm
Friday 18 March 2:30pm-3:25pm
Friday 15 April 2:30pm-3:25pm (First Friday in term 2)

I welcome all parents to come along to these sessions. The invitation is extended to current parent helpers who would like a refresher.

Please fill out the attached form if you are attending the training session. Current parents helpers who have not yet signed up can also add their availability to this form (please remember you are free to assist in other classes, not just your child’s/ren).

If you require further information or have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Miranda Montalti-Learning and Teaching Leader
PARENT HELPER TRAINING:

I will be attending the parent helper training sessions.

Name:
Child/ren's names:
Contact number:

CLASSROOM PARENT HELPER:

Name:
Child/ren's names:
Contact number:

Days, classroom/s, times I am available to help:
(Please be specific eg. Every second Monday, 1/2HM, 9-11am)

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS – Parent Seminar next Thursday 3 March
Mother of God Primary School, along with Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette's Primary Schools are offering all parents a seminar on Thursday 3 March called 'Building Resilience in Children & Supporting Children with Anxiety'. It will be held at MOG at 7pm and I strongly encourage all families to be represented. The topic is a most timely one, with research indicating that anxiety is a growing problem in Australian children. All families have received the information flyer in the 'showbags' given out at the Information Evening. The flyer is also attached to this newsletter. Please return the RSVP slip at the bottom of the flyer to indicate your intention to attend.

Looking forward to seeing you there!
Jane Gough - Student Wellbeing Leader

SPORTS NEWS

Yesterday 11 students attended the Ivanhoe District Swimming Carnival. All students should be proud of their efforts. Thanks to all of the parents for transportation to and from the venue and your support.

Interschool Sport
This week we have a home game against Mary Immaculate PS. Cricket and softball will be played at Chelsworth Park. If any parents are available to transport equipment to the park please contact either Rachel or myself at school.

Physical Education

During the past four weeks students have been learning about 'striking a ball' through the Hot Shots Tennis Program. They have been learning concepts of control when hitting and also about using a space as most games are played in an area. You may like to consider contacting one of the local tennis clubs and exploring this sport more with your child. Commencing next week as part of the Sporting Schools Program (a federal government initiative) the focus will be on the fundamental motor skills of throwing and catching. The concept of using spaces will be also further explored. Over the next four weeks the concept will be taught through netball coaching with me and another level one coach recommended from the Sporting Schools Program.
National Ride to School Day
This event is taking place on Friday 4 March. Last year our Year 4 - 6 students participated in our Bike Education Program learning safe riding skills and as a reinforcement of these skills children and parents are invited to ride to school on this day. MOG has registered for this event. It would be great to have at least ten children ride on this day. We already have a number of students who ride to school each day. This is also a way to assist children to receive the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Please be aware of all the road works around the local area if you are riding and speak to your child about being aware of hazards. Did you know it is legal for children 12 and under to ride on the footpath and adults who are riding with them are also allowed to do so?

WORKING BEE
The first working bee for this year will be held on Saturday 19 March between 8:30 and 10:30 am. We would like to see as many parents as possible join in on the fun! The main task is to clean up the gardens, tan bark areas and prepare the garden along the fence line near the tarantula as well as some small maintenance jobs. There is a sheet in the office for you to put your name on if attending or you can email me at banderson@mogivanhoeeast.catholic.edu.au. It is great to know who is coming as it assists with planning so please respond. Thankyou

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Welcome to the first book club for 2016. Issue 1 went home with students last week. Order can be made via the Scholastic Book Club online parent order and payment platform called LOOP, alternatively you can choose to complete the form inside the book club brochure and pay by cash or cheque.

Just a few reminders for existing and new families:-
- Payment can be made by cash, cheques payable to Scholastic or credit card (either by phone or online via the loop system).
- Occasionally when a book is no longer in stock a Scholastic Rewards Voucher will be issued to use on a future order.
- Orders will be delivered to your child’s classroom however if you are placing an order which may be used as a gift just drop us a note on the order form and your order can be left in the office for collection.
- Scholastic book club orders raise funds and resources for our school. 20% of all orders earn rewards which are used to order new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

Issue 1 orders are due back at school by Monday 29 February 2016 (online orders will be open until 16 March 2016).

Please note Issue 2 will be handed out next week, however issue 2 orders won’t be due until 11 March 2016.

If you have any questions I can be contacted via the office.
Simone Game (Sadie -Year 4.)
Book Club Volunteer

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop will be open every Thursday from 8.45. Second hand uniforms are also available. Uniform order forms are available at the office, if paid in full items will be sent home via the tote system.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Prep - Natalie for sharing kindness and caring for other children.
Matteo for always trying hard to do his best work. Well done!
1/2S - Luca M for being a kind and positive member of 1/2S
Nicola for always helping and supporting others in the class.
1/2HM - Jacob for always sharing his learning with the class with a big smile.
Claire for publishing her beautiful story about a Prince and Princess. You should be very proud of yourself.
3/4O - Lara for her involvement and confidence during class discussion. Well done!
Gabriel for setting an example for his peers and demonstrating leadership skills as class captain.
3/4G - Diana for her friendly and positive manner in the classroom and the playground.
Javier for working hard and trying his vest during learning tasks - and with a smile.
5/6P - Christian M for his developing inquiring mind. It is great to see you asking questions and thinking deeply about learning tasks.
Diesel for his wonderfully crafted ‘I Am’ poem.
Ashleigh P (5/6P) for doing a great job at extending yourself with new words for the Italian alphabet chart. Bravissima!
MOG families,
We are asking that you kindly donate quality Easter eggs to go towards our annual Easter raffle. Please bring eggs to school office by 4th March so we can create delicious prizes!
Many thanks,
PRC & events
St. Bernadette’s, Mother of God & Mary Immaculate Primary Schools present:

‘Building Resilience in Children & Supporting children with Anxiety’

7pm Thursday 3rd March
@ Mother of God Primary Ivanhoe
66 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe

Parents learn:
• Practical strategies to support their child to build confidence
• Effective and practical parenting styles that foster resilience & independence
• How to teach their child to become independent
• How to teach their child positive and effective thinking habits
• The importance of creating a calm environment for children to flourish with lots of time for free creative play
• The foundations that help to prevent anxiety
• Practical strategies to support their child to deal with anxiety
• How to support their child to build a positive self-concepts
• The fundamental life skills that all children need to be happy, confident and successful

Parents are supported to teach their child how to:
• Lessen their anxiety
• Cope with life’s ups and downs
• Develop independence and persistence
• Become more resilient and confident
• Develop independence and self-efficacy
• Develop healthy friendships
• Solve problems independently and deal with conflict effectively
• Approach life with a positive outlook to create success

Parent Reply Slip – Please return to the office as soon as possible:

‘Building Resilience in Children &
Supporting children with Anxiety’

Parent Seminar  7pm Thursday 3rd March

I would like to register my interest for this parent seminar

Name/s ____________________________________________
MOTHER OF GOD PRIMARY
SCHOOL EAST IVANHOE

OPEN DAYS

ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2017

Wednesday 9 March
Monday 21 March
Thursday 14 April
9:00am – 3:30pm

Sunday 1 May 11:00am – 1:00pm
School tours available at other times by appointment

66 Wilfred Road East Ivanhoe | 9497 1094
principal@mogivanhoeeast.catholic.edu.au
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held on Wednesday 2 March. Bookings must be finalised before Monday 29 February at 4pm, when bookings for this event will close.

For parents that do not have internet access, please phone the school on 0497 1094 to arrange an appointment. Interviews are strictly 15 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 29th February at 4pm

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit your family.
Go to the school website www.moqivanhoeast.catholic.edu.au then go to News and Events then Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

**THIS CODE CHANGES – DO NOT USE YOUR LAST EVENT’S CODE**

1. Enter your details
2. Select the teachers you wish to see
3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close on 29th February at 4pm

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 0497 1094.

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school’s name and suburb.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
COMMUNITY NEWS

AUSKICK @ CHELSWORTH PARK
Auskick Coaching at the Ivanhoe East centre at Chelsworth Park on Sunday mornings at 9.30am commencing April 17 2016.
Registrations are open via the attached link. It would be great to have some more MOG students involved this year.
Thankyou - Scott Heyes (a year 1 MOG dad!)

OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE HEIDELBERG
OLMC welcomes applications for Year 7 in 2017, 2018 and 2019
For a Prospectus or for information regarding enrolments, please call our Registrar Merri O’Halloran on 94592511 OR visit our website to download an Application Form

The closing date for Year 7 2017 applications is Friday 26 February 2016.
Please note - if you currently have daughters enrolled at OLMC, you need to complete a separate Application Form for younger siblings.

Canteen Manager Required
Location: St Bernadette’s Primary School
Salary: Level 1 - 3 (experience dependent) Fast Food Industry Award 2010

Are you passionate about food and providing kids creative healthy eating opportunities? Are you looking for a position that provides you working hours that fit in with school hours?

An exciting opportunity exists for an enthusiastic, motivated Canteen Manager to work with the passionate members of the The Parents and Friends Association at St Bernadette’s Primary. The position of Canteen Manager is a casual position 3 days per week, Monday, Wednesday (11am - 2.30pm) and Friday (9am - 2.30pm).

If this sounds like you please email allison@golding.net.au for a position description and/or any questions you may have.
Applications are via email allison@golding.net.au and close 11th March 2016.

School Tours are a great opportunity to see how our school operates on a normal school day.

Term One Tours -
Monday 8 February 9-10.30am
Friday 12 February 9-10.30am
Tuesday 23 February (twilight tour) &
Wednesday 16 March 9-10.30am

Please ring College Reception on 94592511 to make a booking.
COME AND EXPERIENCE

“EXTRAORDINARY KIDS!”

no sequins no make up
just...

DRAMA
SINGING
DANCE

TUESDAYS 4 - 6PM
@ ST PIUS X PRIMARY SCHOOL
419 Waterdale Road Heidelberg West
Bookings essential
www.extraordinarykids.com.au
0400 830 159

ITALIAN SCHOOL

Associazione Culturale "L’Aurora" conducts Italian School at:
St Martin of Tours Primary School each Saturday afternoon from
1:30 - 4:00pm.

If you are interested please check the information on the website below or attend in person to obtain further details.
All new students regardless of age or ability WELCOME (yrs +)

Location of Classes 2013

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<td>St. Martin of Tours, Elsternwick</td>
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OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program

Program Update

Dear Parents and Families,

Our team at OSHClub would like to introduce our new Coordinator, Mangaio Bucurescu. Mangaio joined our team 2 months ago and in that short time our students have thrived when placed into the care of the OSH staff. Please take the time to come in and introduce yourself.

The OSHClub team have been working extra hard and are opening a new space in the OSH Centre. They have opened their first door of hosting OSH in the Centre. They are opening their second door who are opening the OSH Club in the Centre. Their Reopening Day for OSH is continuing to increase. The students have begun to love the new spaces and structures which are coming to fruition.

This week we have celebrated the Year of the Monkey and have enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year. The students have made some amazing crafts and arts, including Monkey’s, Waratah, Chinese New Year and Monkey’s.

Next week the students have requested science and sustainability week. We are running our science experiments with new materials and new tools. We are also sharing our science experiments combine by using recycled products and ingredients. This will be making amazing experiments which students will be learning about the environment, discovery with different and sustainable tools and materials.

OSHClub Locations

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OSHClub Activities

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<td>Healthy Snacks</td>
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Recent Information

Dear Parents and Families,

We have received a large number of requests for our next program which is being held on Thursday, 15th February from 4:00 - 6:00pm. The program will explore a variety of topics, including creativity, problem-solving, and team-building.

We have also received a large number of requests for our next program, which is being held on Saturday, 3rd March from 1:30 - 4:00pm. The program will explore a variety of topics, including art, music, and science.

If you are interested in attending either of these programs, please complete the online enrolment form at our website (www.oshclub.com). Enrolments and cancellations can be managed on your online account, and the key booking details can be found on the enrolment form at the program website.