February 5, 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2015 school year. To those of you who are beginning parents at Our Lady’s, I welcome you to your first newsletter. I also extend a special welcome to our new staff members commencing this year. We also welcome back those of you who are returning for another year, whether it’s your second or final year at Our Lady’s, may we all approach the year with renewed energy. May it continue to be a challenging and enriching experience. I hope you have all had a relaxing holiday and an opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends and to refresh the spirit. I look forward to working with you as we embrace 2015 and all its challenges and joys.

This week’s newsletter will be the only ‘paper’ newsletter for the year. So please take the time to select the way you wish to access the school newsletter. There are a number of ways, one being via the skoolbag app. Instructions on how to upload the app to your phone or hand held device are in the newsletter. You can also access the newsletter from the school website: www.olcraigieburn.catholic.edu.au. You can also send us your email address to office@olcraigieburn.catholic.edu.au and we will send you the newsletter every Thursday free of charge!

Beginning the school year: The start of the year is an important time to remind all families of the importance of the children being punctual in attending school. The start of the school day is critical for each individual child, and the class as a whole, in settling into their learning. Our typical school day is as follows:-

8.45 Music plays to alert everyone that our school day is about to commence. Students are asked to wait in the basketball court area.
8.50 Bell sounds; Children move to their rooms from the yard.
11.00 Morning Recess eating time begins (please ensure a healthy start to the day)
11.05 Morning Recess play time begins
11.30 Our middle learning block commences
1.30 Lunch eating time begins (students are supervised when eating their lunch)
1.40 Lunch play time begins
2.30 Our afternoon learning block begins
3.30 Our school day ends (students are required to wait in the basketball court area, which is supervised until 3.45pm and main gate is closed)

Our school day starts at 8.50am. This is so that we can be in class and ready to learn before 9.00. Children rushing into school after the rest of their class can raise anxiety levels for the child and impact on the other children. School gates will be opened each day at 8.30am. Children should not be left waiting before this time as they are unsupervised and we cannot guarantee their safety. Parents who need to drop their child/ren off prior to 8.30am should avail themselves of our fantastic Before School Care Program, where you can be sure the children will be safe and engaged.

Our school day concludes at 3.30pm. Gates are locked by the teacher on duty at 3.45pm to secure the yard for the children at our After School Care Program. If, for any reason you are late to school or need to collect your children early, you are requested to go to the school office where our staff will assist you. Please do not go directly to classrooms.

Parent-Teacher Conversations on Wednesday, February 25th: There is no school for students on this day: The term Parent-Teacher Conversation is more appropriate than parent teacher interview as this more accurately reflects what takes place. The aim of this conversation is for you to provide information to the teacher about your child so that the teacher is better placed to meet their learning needs. Teachers will also be able to give you some feedback on our February assessment program. This will be an opportunity to build upon the partnership we have between home and school. **Online bookings will open soon.**

**Sunsmart:** As a Sun Smart School, children are required to wear their **school** hats when outside between September 1st and May 1st. We recommend that sunscreen is applied to exposed skin just before leaving home. When the temperature reaches 35 degrees, children will remain indoors during recess & lunch times. I wish all families a wonderful 2015 and look forward to building the partnership between home and school as we aim to make Our Lady’s a Safe, Respectful and Responsible School. Hoping to see you at our Beginning School Mass at 9.15 tomorrow in the Church.

Have a great weekend

Paul McEntee
Principal

Captains Corner

Hi, we are the 2015 School Captains. We would like to start off by introducing ourselves. Hi I’m Anna (from the left) and I love sport. Hi I’m Shane and I love soccer. Hi I’m Rachel and I love art, and last but not least Morgan and I like cheese! Just kidding. I do like cycling.

This Friday we have our school Mass at 9.15am and we also have interschool sports after that. We are playing against Wilmott Park. Looking forward to a great year! And yes we all love Our Lady’s Primary School………from your School Captains.
IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 6th February
Beginning of School Year Mass 9:15am – ALL WELCOME

Monday 9th February
School Council Meeting – 7:00pm (Staffroom) All Welcome

Wednesday 11th February
Parent Helper Course 9:00am (Library)

Thursday 12th February
Year 6 Mass

Friday 13th February
Year 6 Inter School Sports Commence

Wednesday 18th February
Ash Wednesday – Mass @ 11:30am – ALL WELCOME

Wednesday 25th February
Parent/Teacher Interviews – STUDENT FREE DAY

Friday 27th February
Year 5 Mass

Wednesday 4th March
Prep/Buddies BBQ 6:30pm-7:30pm

Friday 6th March
Staff/Parish PD - STUDENT FREE DAY

Monday 9th March
Labour Day Public Holiday - STUDENT FREE DAY

Friday 13th March
Year 3 Mass

Friday 20th March
Year 4 Mass

Friday 20th March
Family lunch (for Catholic Education Week) - 12:30pm

Tuesday 24th March
Prep 2016 Information Evening 7:00pm

Wednesday 25th March
Prep 2016 Open Day 9:30am

Thursday 26th March
School Photos

Thursday 26th March
Last day of Term 1 – 3:30pm finish – NO CASUAL DRESS

Sunday 29th March
Palm Sunday

Friday 3rd April
Good Friday

Monday 6th April
Easter Monday

Monday 13th April
Term 2 Resumes

Tuesday 12th May
Year 6 Campers leave for Camp Rumbug

Friday 15th May
Year 6 Campers return

Friday 22nd May
Walk Safely to School Day

Friday 26th June
Last day of Term 2

Religious Education News
Mary McCormick, R.E. Leader

SACRAMENT DATES 2015
The following dates have been confirmed for the 2015 Sacramental Celebrations. If you have a child who will be in Year 3, 4 or 6 next year, these dates are important for you to add to your diary.

Reconciliation (Year 3)
The program will be taught in Term 1 and will be celebrated on either :
March 16th or 17th (There will be 2 classes at each session – more details soon)

First Eucharist (Year 4)
The program will be taught in Term 4 and will be celebrated on:
June 21st

Confirmation (Year 6)
The program will be taught in Term 3 and will be celebrated on:
August 30th

School Masses:
All families welcome to attend these masses. Morning tea is available after mass.
Our first whole school mass is this Friday February 6th.
SCHOOL FEES
Statements will be sent home in the next 2 weeks. School fee instalment payments are now due. Ezidebit forms are available from the General Office.

EMA
Parents can no longer claim Education Maintenance Allowance – this concession is no longer given to Health Care Card holders.

SKOOLBAG
Please ensure that you have downloaded the “Skoolbag” app on your phone or tablet. All communication and newsletters are sent home via the Skoolbag app.

SPORTS UNIFORM
The new sports uniform has proved to be very popular – there are a couple of items currently out of stock but we will have full supplies back again in about 2 weeks. If you want to purchase the sports uniform, sales are on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am or you can leave your prepaid order at the General Office to be made up. Sorry – cash only, no eftpos.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Northern Regional Uniforms come to our school every Wednesday @ 2:30pm. Their shop is located at: Unit 21, 8 Oleander Drive South Morang. Ph: 9436-4005

YEAR6 BOMBER JACKETS
Our uniform suppliers have advised us that the year 6 bomber jackets will be delivered to school in the next 2 weeks.

TISSUES
As usual, at the start of the year, we request that ALL children please bring a box of tissues to school to be kept in the classroom. Thanks everyone!

SCHOOL HATS
Please remember that school hats must be worn at all times during terms 1 & 4. This includes all outside play and walking to and from school. Hats can be purchased from the General Office.

CANTEEN
Our wonderful canteen is open every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for lunch orders. There is a canteen price list attached to this newsletter, please note there are a few price rises. We are selling fresh fruit – apples, oranges and bananas for $1.00. Also we now have peach or blackcurrant iced tea for $1.50.
On February 18th for Ash Wednesday, we are offering a fish menu – this is attached to the newsletter and also is in the canteen window. Please order as per a normal lunch order.

LIBRARY BAGS
To borrow from our library, all children need a library bag. Any type of bag is okay. School library bags can be purchased from the General Office although we are currently out of stock for about 1-2 weeks.

PARENT HELPER COURSE
We encourage parent helpers in the classroom but before you are able to do this, parents need to complete the Parent Helper Course. Please see the “Important Dates” section for the day and time and then register at the General Office. Parents cannot help in the classroom unless they have completed this course.
Craigieburn Football Club’s Registration Day is fast approaching and we ask that all those who are interested in taking part in the 2015 season come down and take part in registering yourself. We welcome all new and past players to attend.

There will be activities, Sausage Sizzle and training sessions on the day for kids that are interested.

We now have a Youth girls team and girls/players must be aged between 13 -18.

All NEW registrations require a copy of your birth certificate.

CRAIGIEBURN FOOTBALL CLUB

WANTED
UNDER 8’s to UNDER 16’s PLAYERS

DATE: Sunday 8th February 2015
TIME: 10.00am – 2.00pm
VENUE: Highgate Reserve – Oval 2
Grand Boulevard,
Craigieburn VIC 3064

MELWAYS REF: Map 386 J3

Contact: Margaret (Registrar)
0402 078
Our Lady’s Primary School Students Play at the 2015 Australian Open

Congratulations to Joseph and Isaac Khoshaba who had an amazing day representing the school at the 2015 Australian Open. They were selected due to their developing tennis skills learnt through ANZ Tennis Hot Shots. They played in front of thousands of spectators prior to the start of play on Friday January 23rd at Melbourne Park.

Joseph and Isaac Khoshaba pictured below with Daniel Massa

Now is the time to get the family into tennis with the new Hume Tennis and Community Centre. NOW OPEN - 1300 HUME TC (486 382) or come down to Craigieburn Tennis Club and say hello!

www.humetennis.com.au

Tim Connelly
Tennis Australia Hot Shots Mentor

Have you thought about further study?
Have you thought about making a positive change?
Not sure where to start?

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

TERTIARY ENABLING PROGRAM

Offered in partnership with Kangan Institute & the Hume Global Learning Centre

No course fees. 17 weeks from February 24 to July 3, 2015. 18+ to mature age

Develop the skills and confidence necessary to undertake university study in a supportive environment. Pathways directly to university.

For further information please contact the La Trobe University TEP team:

Phone: (03) 9356 6999   Email: tep@latrobe.edu.au   web: www.latrobe.edu.au/tep
ENROL NOW FOR MUSIC LESSONS FOR OUR LADYS PS

**MUSIC TUITION INCREASES CONFIDENCE, SELF ESTEEM AND HELPS TO IMPROVE SUBJECTS – MATHS, LITERACY, SCIENCE, READING ETC**

OUR LADY’S Primary School in association with Metro Music School is now offering Music Lessons to students who are interested in learning an instrument at school every week. Lessons are held during school hours (30 mins/once per week) at suitable times. (Prep to Gr 6) Enquiries are welcome on 9460 4818 (Metro Music School).

Lessons Offered: KEYBOARD PIANO GUITAR

Discount Hiring and Purchase also available. Contact us for details or visit our online shop at www.metromusic.net.au

From $13.20 per lesson (incl GST)

ENROLMENT forms can be obtained from the school office or contact Metro Music School direct on 9460 4818. You can also enrol online at the above website address.

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**NEWBURY CHILD AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The doors to Newbury Child and Community Centre are now open! Newbury is a sustainable built multi-purpose facility that provides a welcoming and vibrant space for all the community to experience.

A range of community and local government service providers will be located in the centre to improve the community’s health and wellbeing by providing access to information, health, social and learning programs.

A variety of meeting, activity and consulting rooms are also available for service providers, community groups and individuals to hire 7 days a week.

We would like to invite you to visit Newbury Child and Community Centre to experience this facility and what it has to offer. Open days are taking place on:

**When:** Tuesday 10 February 2015  
**Location:** 440 Grand Boulevard, Craigieburn  
**Time:** 10.30am – 11.30am

**When:** Monday 16 February 2015  
**Location:** 440 Grand Boulevard, Craigieburn  
**Time:** 10.30am – 11.30am

**When:** Thursday 19 February 2015  
**Location:** 440 Grand Boulevard, Craigieburn  
**Time:** 10.30am – 11.30am

**When:** Wednesday 25 February 2015  
**Location:** 440 Grand Boulevard, Craigieburn  
**Time:** 10.30am – 11.30am

RSVP to newbury@hume.vic.gov.au or phone Anne Coall on 9356 6721 to arrange an alternative time to view the centre.

Phone 9356 6729  
hume.vic.gov.au/newbury
Free two day workshop and information sessions for parents and carers of school age children on the autism spectrum

Workshop: 2015VICPC3  Location: Preston

Like all school-age students, children with autism spectrum disorder benefit from strong, positive relationships between the home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers.

What will you learn?

When you come along to a Positive Partnerships workshop, you will:

- Develop a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- Understand how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- Learn specific strategies that will help you:
  - advocate for your child
  - support your child’s participation at school
  - develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- Receive information about your local school system’s processes
- Have the opportunity to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- Have the opportunity to discuss a range of topics relevant to students with ASD and their families

People who work to support families living with autism in your community will also be invited to take part with the goal that there is an ongoing community focus beyond the workshop.

Workshop details

Venue:  Mantra Bell City
        215 Bell Street, Preston VIC 3072

When:  Two day workshop – Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12 March 2015
       Day 1:  9.00 am - 4.30 pm (Registration from 8.15 am)
       Day 2:  9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Registration available from Wednesday 28 January 2015 and closes two days prior.

We strongly recommend you register as soon as possible to secure your place. You will receive confirmation of your registration.

Online registrations are preferred directly through our secure website www.positivelpartnerships.com.au

Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the Internet. Return the completed form to:

Email: parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au
Mail: Positive Partnerships, ASPECT, PO Box 361, Forestville NSW 2087
Fax: 02 9451 9661

Phone the Positive Partnerships Infoline if you have any enquiries: 1300 881 971

The Positive Partnerships Initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism Package. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.
Hope Lives in Hume

JOIN US AS WE LAUNCH HUME RELAY FOR LIFE IN CRAIGIEBURN

Craigieburn Central
340 Craigieburn Rd, Craigieburn
11th & 12th April 2015
4pm Saturday – 10am Sunday

Start your own team, join an existing team, volunteer on the day, sponsor or donate!
You could even have your band perform, help us run activities and much more!

For more information:
Jason Moore  Rashmi Naran  Donata Krnjic
Chairman  RFL Coordinator  Secretary
0418 513 394  0477 351 480  0426 873 191

Join the thousands of Australians who take part in Cancer Council’s Relay For Life each year.

An overnight experience with fun activities and moving ceremonies to raise vital funds for research, prevention and support services.

Help us make a difference in the fight against cancer.

Register now.

Craigieburn Festival
28 FEB - 1 MAR
DS Aitken Reserve, Craigieburn
Sat 3pm-10pm  Sun 11am-4pm