



From the Heart



Newsletter No. 01

31st January, 2024

COMING UP AT OLSH...

FEBRUARY 2024

Tue 6th	Learning Conversations (2pm—5pm)
Tue 13th	Elmore Field Days AGM Pancake Making and Burning of the Palms
Wed 14th	Ash Wednesday Liturgy (3pm) (beginning of Lent)
Thu 22nd	Beginning of year Mass (6pm)
Mon 26th	School Cluster Swimming Carnival

MARCH 2024

Wed 6th	Yr 5/6 Puberty Night (7pm—8pm)
Mon 11th	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tue 12th	School Photos
Wed 13th	NAPLAN Testing begins (year 3 & 5's)
Wed 20th	Lenten Mass (2:30pm, - 3:30pm)
Fri 22nd	Ride to School Day Open Classroom Day (2:30pm—3:30pm)
Thu 28th	Last Day of Term
Fri 29th	Good Friday
Sun 31st	Easter Sunday

APRIL 2024

Mon 1st	Easter Monday
Mon 15th	Term 2 Begins
Thu 25th	ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Welcome Charlie and Georgie

We are delighted to welcome Charlie Stokie - Leech and her mum, Georgie, into our school community. Charlie is a Grade 3 girl and has moved up from Frankston to join her cousins (the Cowans) here at OLSH. I know that Charlie and Georgie will feel the warmth and care of our school community as they settle into their new environment..

Learning Conversations

As a nice and positive way to start the school year, we will be conducting Learning Conversations next Tuesday, February 6th. These will run from 2.00pm until 5.00pm. I encourage all parents to please ensure that you book at time to come and talk, with your child, to your child's teacher as we begin the conversation as to how we can share the best possible year together. Bookings can be made on SIMON / PAM. Please note that these will close on Monday, February 5th, so don't wait until the last minute to book, thanks.



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

W: olshelmore.catholic.edu.au PH: 5432 6254 E: principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au

From the Principal...

January 31st,

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the start of our new school year! Yes, believe it or not we are into 2024 and ready for a whole new year of learning and connecting with one another.

I hope that you all had a chance for a recharge over the holiday period and that you managed to get some downtime as well as have some valued family time together. Personally, I feel really lucky to have had a wonderful week in Anglesea with my family and to have been able to sneak away with some friends for some golf along the Murray River and yes, the rumour is true, I did have an eagle at Axedale a couple of weeks ago!!

As we begin this new school year I ask for God's blessings on all of you and pray that we have a wonderful year of learning, growing and connecting as we all work towards being the best versions of ourselves and in being a great support to one another as we face life's inevitable ups and downs along the way.

Welcome to our Foundation Learners

It is so wonderful to be able to officially welcome Jasper, Liam, Zara and Willow to our OLSH school community. We are so blessed to have these amazing young people in our school and know that we such the richer for having them in our midst. I also know that they will be so well looked after by all our other wonderful learners as they start out on their school journey.

School News

School Advisory Council

The School Advisory Council is a group of parents with children at OLSH who support the principal in some important areas in the overall functioning of the school. The main responsibility is in the oversight of the school grounds and to ensure that our masterplan has the school well positioned for the future needs that we will inevitably encounter. For many years now, the school has been represented by a core of parents, who have well and truly done their time in being a part of this important committee. Therefore, I am looking for two people from our parent body to replace Craig Skeers and Lauren Holmberg, who have both given wonderful service to the Advisory Council for the past six years. With Craig and Lauren moving on, we have Scott O'Sullivan, Sarah Parry, Amanda Philips and Brian Mullane remaining.

If this is something that you might be interested in having a chat about - with no commitment involved at this stage - then please contact me so that we can start a conversation.

Presently, the Advisory Council meets once every school term on a Tuesday evening at 7.00pm and meetings last for between 1-2 hours maximum.

Newsletter update

Last year we welcomed Jannah Donaldson into our school as an admin assistant. Jannah will work Wednesdays. For this reason, we will release the Newsletter of a Wednesday rather than Thursday, which has been our custom for the past couple of years.

If you would prefer a hardcopy of our newsletter could you please let us know to that this can be arranged.

Seesaw

As you are aware our school uses Seesaw as its major form of communicating between our classrooms and home. Can you please make sure that you have this app on your phone and have notifications turned on, so that we know that when information goes out to you that you are receiving it. Thanks so much for your cooperation with this.

NOTE: Those that have a PSG, please check seesaw for teacher communication regarding availability.

Birthday Buckets

Please note that the school will no longer be providing birthday buckets as an option for celebrating a child's birthday here at school. From my understanding this was brought in as a covid measure, but it doesn't really have significance anymore, and besides, it was only used very sparingly throughout the past two years anyway. We have decided however, that children can wear casual clothes on their birthday as a way of adding a special touch to their day - if they would like to!!

Craig.

From the Office...



OFFICE HOURS/DAYS

The school office has had a small change this year.

You will find Nerida in the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and every second Friday (even weeks). Jannah is in the office every Wednesday.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

School Fee statements for the 2024 school year will be emailed within the next week. These will be sent directly via our admin system, so please double check your junk/spam folder if it hasn't arrived by the end of next week. If you do not receive your statement, or would like a hard copy, please contact the school office.

STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATES

We ask that you log in to your PAM account to create, update and/or review your child's medical details and photo permissions if you haven't already done so.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is 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.

The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is \$125.

HOW TO APPLY: New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the site listed below. If you received a CSEF payment in 2023, you do not need to complete an application form in 2024 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances (e.g. a new child starting school) or your concession card details.

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/CSEF_application_form.pdf

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE PROGRAM (CAP) 2023

The Conveyance Allowance is a form of financial assistance from the Victorian State Government to assist families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school. The allowance is available to parents who are required to drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to school (if there is no school bus) or drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to meet the nearest school bus to the school the child must attend their closest government or non-government school (Catholic) the allowance is based on kilometres travelled and not based on any financial eligibility

Distance is calculated by the shortest practical route from home to the school or from home to meet the nearest school bus to the school. Distance can be calculated by using Bing Maps. Application Forms are available from the school office and must be completed by a parent/guardian.

Parents who received the Conveyance Allowance in 2023 do not need to complete a new form in 2024 unless their children enrolled at OLSH in 2024 have changed (i.e. Gr 6 student left at the end of 2023 or a Foundation child commenced in 2024). If your family circumstances have changed, a new form needs to be completed in 2024. If you have recently changed address please advise the office if you are no longer eligible. Application forms need to be completed and returned to the office by Monday 4th March 2024.

Further information can be found at: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/conveyance-allowance/policy>

If you're unsure if you may be eligible, please do not hesitate to contact Nerida in the school office.

Coming up at OLSH

Shrove Tuesday Breakfast

8:30am breakfast

Followed by Year 6 Pancake Competition and burning of the palms



February 13th

Ash Wednesday




LITURGY @ 3PM
WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY




ASSEMBLY

CELEBRATING LEARNING



SINGING PRAYER



FRIDAY AFTERNOONS
3:10PM
In the Junior Room



LEARNING CONVERSATIONS





Welcome to 2024 at OLSH School.

My role as a Religious Education Leader continues, and I am excited about the many spirit-filled celebrations ahead.

Lent arrives early this year, with Pancake Tuesday on the 13th of February. If you can lend a hand, please let us know, as OLSH does this so well. Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent, follows Shrove Tuesday, and during a Liturgy held at school, the children will receive a cross in ash on their foreheads. As always, families are most welcome.

We will gather as a school to welcome the beginning of the year on Thursday, the 22nd of February, at the 6 pm Mass. Please find the attached invitation.

The first term promises to be very busy, with our Lenten Mass by the river scheduled. We hope for beautiful weather, just like last year. Save the date for this event: the 20th of March. More information to follow.

During the school holidays, I had the special privilege of visiting the Philippines with my son Conor. Above, you will find some photos of an "OLSH" Church in Cebu. Due to the tropical climate, the church was open to the elements. It was such a special moment for me to light a candle for the OLSH community in Elmore at an OLSH Church in Cebu.

Please let me know if any members of your family are interested in receiving the Sacraments, I would be thrilled to walk this journey with you.

Ms Nihill



Join Us

Beginning of the Year Mass

6 pm

Thursday 22nd February



Community News



JOIN THE FUN!

Register to the 2024 Auskick Season for the opportunity to be involved in a clinic with North Melbourne or Carlton as part of the AFL Community Camps in Bendigo! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!

Find your closest centre & register!



Note: clinics occurring



Club Open Day

All welcome - New & past members

Saturday February 10th

1pm-3pm

Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve

- Come & try soccer - there'll be games & activities for everyone
- Get information about the 2024 season
- Register to play this year (must be 4yrs+)
- Order club merchandise

2nd Hand Uniform Drive

If you have any 2nd hand Epsom FC uniforms - boots, socks, shorts, shinpads - we are looking for donations. Drop them off & we'll find a new home for them!

BBQ provided by Rotary Club of Eaglehawk

If you can't make it, but want further information email secretary@epsomfc.com.au or check us out at facebook.com/EpsomSoccer



Lunch Order pricelist update

Elmore Bakery have provided us with a new price list for 2024 We thank them for continuing to offer lunch order items to us at cheaper than retail prices.

*The Elmore
Bakery*

Phone: 03 5432 6558

OLSH SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE LIST - Thursdays

PLAIN PIES/PASTIES	\$5.00
FLAVOURED PIES	\$5.70
Steak & Potato, Steak Onion, Steak & Mushroom, Steak & Curry, Steak Cheese Bacon, Bushmans	
GOURMET PIES.....	\$6.00
Chick Mush Bacon, Chick Veg, Chick Leek, Steak Pepper, Steak Kidney, Chunky Beef, Beer & Chilli, Cauliflower & Cheese, Egg & Bacon Quiche)	
Sausage Rolls OR Spinach & Feta Rolls	\$4.00
HOT DOGS.....	\$3.70....with Cheese
PARTY PIES/PASTIES/SAUSAGE ROLLS	\$1.50

Salad Rolls/Sandwiches

(with Meat) \$7.00

Ham/Chicken/Roast Beef
Tomato, Onion, Cucumber,
Cheese, Carrot, Lettuce &
Beetroot

Salad Rolls/Sandwiches

(NO Meat) \$6.00

Tomato, Onion, Cucumber,
Cheese, Carrot, Lettuce
& Beetroot

Plain Sandwich \$3.50

Cheese or Vegemite

Plain Meat Roll \$4.50

Ham/Chicken/Roast Beef

Extras

- avocado + \$0.80
- Cheese & Bacon Roll +\$1.00
- Gluten Free Bread +\$1.00 or Wraps +\$1.50

FRUIT SALAD \$8.00 (seasonal - please call the bakery 5432 6558 to check we have stock)

GRANOLA & YOGHURT \$7.00

SAVOURY ROLLS

Cheese & Bacon \$2.00 Pizza OR Tomato, Cheese & Onion \$2.50 Cheese & Vegemite Scroll \$2.00

CAKES/SLICES

Coffee Scroll \$3.20 Blueberry Scroll \$3.40

SLICES (Apple, Hedgehog, Vanilla, Jelly) \$4.00

MUFFINS (Blueberry OR Apple/Cinnamon) \$4.50

Gluten Free Carrot Cake \$4.50

DRINKS

FRUIT JUICE (Goulburn Valley 350ml) \$3.80 (Apple & Orange)

Pop Tops Kiddies Fruit Juice \$2.80 (Apple, Apple/Blackcurrant, Strawberry & Tropical)

300ml OAK Flavoured Milk (Chocolate or Strawberry only) \$2.80

500ml Mt Franklin Water \$3.20

Please write name and order clearly on the outside of an envelope or paper bag and place money securely inside.
All prices include GST. Products can be purchased with sauce at no extra charge. Prices are subject to change.