Dear Parents,

Please remember that school concludes for 2014 on Friday 5th December at 12noon, after mass in the Good Sam Centre. Parents are to collect their child/ren at 12noon as the office will close shortly thereafter.

School Fees
Parents please ensure all outstanding school fees are paid before Friday 5th December.

Notified Absences and Change of Personal Details
Parents if your child is absent from school for any reason you can notify the school via the Parent Portal by clicking on the “Contact Us” button. You can also select this button to advise the school of changes to addresses or phone numbers. If there is any change to your personal information the school requires this in writing.

OLA INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMS 2015
We are currently taking expressions of interest for both the String and Band programs for 2015.

OLA provides private instrumental music teachers to teach the children how to play their chosen instrument. Lessons are conducted in small groups (3, 4 or 5 children per group). The children will be grouped according to ability and instrument.

Lessons are available for the following instruments:
Strings: Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass (Years 1-6).
Band (Woodwind, Brass and Percussion): Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone and Percussion (Years 3 -6).

Please contact the office or talk to Eve Brown if your child is interested in learning an instrument next year.

STRINGS NEWS
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Could all expressions of interest forms for strings in 2015 please be returned by Tuesday 2nd December.

CAROLS PERFORMANCE: The string ensemble will be performing just before the Carols Evening on Monday 1st December. Please meet Mrs Batch at 6pm in the Instrumental Music Room.

The strings break-up party is on Tuesday 2nd December at 10am in the Instrumental Music Room. Don’t forget to bring your allocated food/drink.

Tuckshop - Help Needed This Friday
Two volunteers are needed to help in the tuck shop this Friday from 8.35 to 10.45am. If you are able to help even for a short amount of time, please email Sue Smith at Susan.E.Smith@bne.catholic.edu.au or text on 0407134253. Also please note that the last tuckshop day for 2014 will be Wednesday 3rd December (the tuck shop will not be open on the last day of school).

Minni Vinnies Collection
Fantastic effort for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas hamper appeal. The local conference were delighted with the school’s donation and extended their gratitude to all concerned. Well done.
Thankyou to everyone who responded to our parent survey, we had a great response with 138 surveys completed. We received a great deal of valuable feedback from parents, including lots of praise as well as some suggestions for improvement going forward. The leadership team and school board have reviewed all comments and are now considering specific areas for improvement.

Key areas of feedback
*On the positive side, parents praised:*
- Our staff, including teachers, administration and library staff
- OLA’s religious education
- Inclusive nature of the school for all children
- Parent engagement and opportunities for involvement
- Opportunities for extra curricular activities such as music, discos, story dance, worm farm, vegie patch, chess, dance
- Facilities, specifically the playground, Activity Centre and green space
- Communication, particularly school newsletters

Key areas identified for improvement include:
*Communication, particularly communication between teachers and parents*
*Learning support including both educational support and extension*
*Student behaviour within the classroom and generally*
*IT resources within the classroom*
*Air-conditioning in classrooms*
*Toilet facilities for children*
*Car parking and pick up/drop off zone*

The school is already addressing many of these issues:
- Air conditioning was installed in 9 classrooms during the September holidays and the remaining classrooms will be air conditioned as they are refurbished
- A number of new laptops have been ordered (over 120 this year alone), bringing the total up to approximately 1 laptop or I-pad between 2 children
- Toilets are being upgraded over the Christmas period
- The development of the ring road is expected to be completed early next year
- A refurbished Learning Support Centre will be ready for use in 2015
- The school is taking significant initiatives in extending and refining how we teach literacy and has catering for students needing extension high on next year’s agenda
- A new initiative is being implemented in 2015 which will focus on social and emotional wellbeing and development with a focus on using ‘Play is the Way’ more effectively across all classes to further improve student behaviour and resilience.
- The school’s behaviour support plan, anti-bullying policy and behaviour expectation step procedure are currently available on the OLA website to provide parents with an understanding of the behaviour management processes used across the school.

The School Board is recommending that the School now look at the issues raised in the area of communication, in particular parent/teacher communication and raising awareness of the Student Behaviour Support Plan.
P&F News

Last night we held the P&F AGM, to close out what has been a successful year in terms of the events and fund raising we have achieved.

We have had some great events with the Disco and Bush Dance, both of which were a lot of fun and brought the school together well, along with the sensational Festival. These with a number of small activities, we have allowed the P&F to fund the air conditioning of more classrooms and provide a new electric keyboard and fans for the hall.

The AGM included elections for next year’s committee and we filled the positions as follows:
President – Sean Doolan
Vice President – Dubhe Warner
Treasurer – Dennis Fachin
Executive Members – Kath York, Stuart Baildon, Tash Coults, Kerri Hruz

We are still looking for a Secretary, primarily to manage meeting minutes so if you are interested and can spare the time, let myself or Dubhe know.

The meeting gave us a chance to acknowledge and thank some key people for their hard work which has helped make the year the success it was:
Kerri Hruz who took the role of secretary on this year in addition to involvement in the Festival organisation;
Stuart Baildon the VP and Maree Gronbach the Treasurer for their great work during the year, despite the demands of home and work;

The executive and the regular meeting attendees for your participation and support to help get things done;
The many coordinators of the events who did an awesome job in organising everything that needed to go on; and
The volunteers we have had throughout the year who, without your support, we would not have been able to have put on the fantastic events we did.

While our meetings have finished, there are a number of activities that are still going. We are in the process applying for two grants to seek funding to support the purchase of new electronic signage for the school and support for the festival next year.

We are also getting ready to support the Carols night with a BBQ and drinks.

Finally, to Leesa Cook, Margaret Sharman and Michelle Kennedy whose children have all now graduated from OLA. You have provided an amazing amount of involvement in the P&F and support for the school and we are all grateful for your hard work. The P&F thank you and wish you all the best as you move into the next chapter in your lives.

For those students and families graduating or moving on to other schools, we wish you the best for the future. For those returning next year, have a happy and safe Christmas and a great break.

We hope to see you all at the Christmas Carol night.

Sean Doolan
P&F President.

Carols Night – Important Information

We’re hoping for another wonderful evening for the Carols night this year, which the P&F is proudly supporting. A similar event to last year, in that we’re offering a quick & easy light supper, for families.

Please note that this will be served strictly from 5-6pm. This is to allow all our kind volunteers the chance to clear up and also enjoy the Carols night themselves. Please consider this when planning your night. Come early, bring a blanket and sit on the hill before the event begins!

May we take this opportunity again to thank all parents and friends for their input, donations and most importantly time that was kindly given to the P&F activities throughout 2014 at OLA. We say goodbye to some parents that have been involved for many years at OLA and we wish you well with your children’s high school pursuits. Thank you for guiding the way and showing us newbies how things have been done in the past, it was much appreciated.

CAROLS NIGHT BBQ PRICES

- Sausage in bread - $2
- Gourmet steak burger - $6
- Popper Juice - $1
- Bottled Water - $1
- Soft Drink - $1.50
- Popcorn - $1
- Christmas Cookies - $1
- ice blocks and ice cream in a cone – 50c (please note limited supply)
- Safe flame candles - $2

Don’t forget our pop up craft stall – see Leesa for your Christmas shopping bargains.
Ring out the bells of freedom.
O Lord, we pray for a free world,
A world in which people are free to
make decisions,
Where choice and option are not taken away.
We pray at this Advent season for the freedom of refugees,
For those who seek a new start in a
new land.
May they be given access to all the benefits of life
That we so often take for granted.
Ring out the bells of freedom!

Ring out the bells of justice.
O Lord, we pray for a fair society,
Where Governments would care more about those who have very little,
Instead of siding with the rich and powerful;
A society where children of all backgrounds and appearances
Are warmly welcomed in classrooms and playgrounds.
During this season of Advent we pray especially for fair and humane treatment of the many forgotten prisoners in our jails.
Ring out the bells of justice!

Ring out the bells of mercy.
Dear God, we pray for a kinder community,
A place of understanding rather than criticism,
A place of forgiveness, not hate,
A place of apology, not blame.
During this season of Advent, we remember those who are hungry and homeless,
Hoping that as we become more generous and concerned,
We shall see less poverty and loneliness.
Ring out the bells of mercy!

Ring out the bells of love.
Good and loving God,
We pray for greater love in our world;
Peace between nations, trust and good will between religions.
During this season of Advent we pray particularly for our families …
May we take the time to listen carefully,
And to appreciate just how much other people mean to us.
May we find words to say how much we love those around us,
And sincerely work through any problems we might have with them.
Ring out the bells of love!
**Boot Camp at OLA 6 Days Per Week**

Why not reward yourself this semester and join many other OLA Mums and Dads by benefiting from increased energy, fitness, and a leaner body composition by Xmas. Boot Camp Enoggera has established itself over the last few years and is now conducting 6 fitness sessions per week at OLA.

Our former military trainers goals are simple....

Create a supportive environment where all fitness levels are welcomed by existing Boot Campers
Program each exercise session for maximum return on investment
Have lots of fun training and acknowledge all achievements from Boot Campers

The 25 week “Spring into SUMMER” allows plenty of time to create a healthy, fit, and energetic YOU just in time for summer.

All new boot campers receive 1 FREE week of training (go to the website below to take advantage) to ensure that the environment and training suits your needs. There is no obligation to sign up after your free week.

Contact: Mat Skate Mob: 0414474040
Email: contact@weightoflife.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/fitnessinthepark
Website: http://www.fearlesshealth.com

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**Padua College SCHOLARSHIPS**

28 February 2014

At least two Academic scholarships are offered for Years 7, 8 & 9/2016-2018 and at least two Academic scholarships are offered for Years 10, 11 & 12/2016-2018.

Registration via our website – www.padua.qld.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships
Cost: $120
Closing Date: Monday 9 February 2015

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**The Iona Passion Play - AUDITIONS**

Easter 2015

Experience Easter as part of the cast or crew of The Iona Passion Play.

All are welcome – you can involve the whole family!

Plenty of speaking, non-speaking and support roles available.

Sunday Dec 7th @ 2pm (Wynnum West)

If interested please contact Veronica on 3333 1993 or info@ipp.org.au

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**GRANGE THISTLE SOCCER COACHING CLINIC**

Monday 15th—Friday 19th December from 9am—1pm for Girls and boys aged 7-12 years at Lanham Park, Grange

Cost $150 per playing, sibling $50

Contact: gtfc@outlook.com
Website: www.grangethistlesc.com.au
OLA P&F PRESENTS...

CAROLS NIGHT!!
MONDAY 1 DECEMBER

5PM TIL 6.15PM

BBQ DINNER

STUDENT CAROLS STARTS 6.30PM

BYO ALCOHOL PERMITTED

POP-UP CRAFT STALL! FROM 5PM

ON SALE: Steak Burgers * Sausage Sizzle
* Soft Drinks/Poppers/Water * Sno Cones
* Popcorn * Safeflame Candles!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CANTEEN AND GIFT SHOP WILL BE CLOSED DURING CAROLS, SO PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO PURCHASE FOOD AND DRINK PRIOR.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

THE P&F NEED PEOPLE TO HELP WITH PREPARATION OR ON THE NIGHT TO SERVE FOOD, DRINK, OR TO SELL CANDLES, PLEASE RETURN THE FORM BELOW TO THE OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

NAME: __________________________ PHONE NUMBER: __________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS: __________________________

☐ YES! I can help with preparation on Monday 1st December – 2pm (set up, salad prep)

☐ YES! I can help on the night from 5pm to 6.30pm (bbq, sno cones, popcorn, drinks, candle sales)