Welcome Back: Welcome to 2017. By the end of the year we all will have had a great experience here at OLV. The start of the year is always full of promise and change and we look forward to sharing the children’s learning together. Dr Seuss wrote

“You’re off to great places.
Today is your day.
Your mountain is waiting,
So get on your way.”

There isn’t anything we can’t do if we set our minds to it. I’m excited to see what mountains we climb and where those mountains take us. Let us always believe in ourselves and our dreams. We can do it!

We will be welcoming some new children in our Kinder class who will be starting tomorrow. Welcome to: Freya, Deegan, Sopia, Thomas, Summer Lucy, Max, Ava, Junior, Lochlain, Indigo, Bizi, Margrett, Mark, Suma, Summer P, Harrison, Aleksander, Ope and Zoe. Of these we welcome the new families of Crandell, Deeks, Ford, Gallagher, Hughes, Khumalo, Magok, Pearsall, Marks, and Scott. We are sure your time at OLV will be fruitful and enjoyable.

We also start the year with 2 new families in the primary Christopher (Yr 5) and Nicholas (Yr 4) Cangiano and Abbie Bowen (Yr 4). We wish the children and their families a great learning experience in our community. Welcome.

Classes 2017: I would like to let people know the classes and teachers for 2017.

Kinder Ms Laura Slattery and Mrs Bradley
Yr 1/2 Mrs Alice Noble and Ms Rachel Speirs
Year 3 Mrs Clare Paff
Year 4 Miss Ellen Morris
Year 5 Mr Bernard Hammond and Mrs Penny McGann
Year 6 Mrs Helen Carroll

Mr Hammond and Mrs Carroll will be sharing the Assistant Principal role and Mrs Gagnon will be taking their release time. At this stage we have 19 Kinders starting in 2017. Mrs Bradley is still on leave for part of Term one. Ms Laura Slattery will be full time for weeks 1-6 and Mrs Bradley will return on a part time basis (3 days per week) from week 7 till the end of Term 1 and then full time in Term 2.

Captains Induction: We will be inducting our school captains at the Year 6 class mass on Wednesday next week (8 February). All are welcome to celebrate the beginning of the year. Mass commences at 10am sharp.

School Captains for 2016 are:

Captains: Gemma Ciarrocchi Bailey Walsh
Vice Captains: Julie Williams Jai Ciarrocchi
Red Captains: Lolo Kuku Hayden Christiansen
Blue Captains: Dylan North William Bourke
Absences: This is a good time to outline what is required if your child needs to be absent from school. It is a legal requirement that parents provide a written explanation for their child's absence. This can be provided in a number of ways which include a written note, an email or, a "skoolbag" notification. These must be provided to school no more than a week after the absence. Teachers may send a reminder home for parents to provide this notification through a generic form we have developed.

If your child is late to school, they must be signed in at the office by the parent or carer. At no time should children sign in themselves. A reason for being late needs to be recorded as well. Parents are also required to sign out children if they are leaving early. Parents are encouraged not to change the routines for school on trivial matters.

Parent Info Sessions: These have been organised for your child's class teacher to meet the new parents in their classes and give you a basic overview of the expectation of the children. Please come along if you can. The times are as follows:
- Kinder: 8 Feb – 3:15pm
- Yr 1/2: 13 Feb – 3:15pm
- Yr 3: 16 Feb – 3:15pm
- Yr 4: 13 Feb – 3:15pm
- Yr 5: 13 Feb – 3:15pm
- Yr 6: 15 Feb – 3:15pm

Library News: Library borrowing will commence next Wednesday 8th February, 2017. Students need to have an appropriate library borrowing bag. Library bags are available from the office at a cost of $10.00. Library books are to be returned each Wednesday in the library bag. It would be ideal if library books were returned to the library bag each night/morning after reading. This will protect books from being lost or damaged. Lost and damaged books will need to be paid for.

Happy reading

Book Club: Order forms have gone home this week. Please return order form and money in an envelope (if not ordering on line) and place in the classroom note bag no later than Monday 13th February 2017. Please ensure order forms are clearly marked with your child’s name, class and items to be ordered.

Class News:
What’s happening in your child’s class?

Kinder
All our children in Kinder completed their Best Start Assessments this week. We are looking forward to seeing them all together tomorrow as they start their adventure in big school! Their Year 6 Buddies are also excited about their arrival.

Year 1/2
It was wonderful to see everyone returning to school on Monday with sparkling smiles and exciting news from the holidays. Yr 1/2 got to work straight away and are proving to be a very motivated, eager group. Miss Speirs and Mrs Noble are looking forward to a fun year of learning ahead! In Religion we have started our unit, ‘Jesus the Teacher’. We brainstormed the word ‘teacher’ and thought of the important qualities that all teachers should have. We viewed images of Jesus in a Powerpoint presentation that depicted Him teaching different groups of people throughout His ministry. We reflected on some important questions about the kind of teacher we imagined Jesus to be. In English we shared the text ‘Papa and the Olden Days’ by Rachel Tonkin, linking in with our History study of ‘Present and Past Family Life’ this term. After viewing some related video clips of what life was like for children in the Olden Days, we wrote a diary entry detailing what a typical day in the life of a child our age would have been like. In Maths, we have been revising counting drills, putting the hundred chart puzzle together and completing the missing pieces. Year 1 have worked on finding the number ‘one less’ or ‘one more’ than any given number, whilst Year 2 worked with finding ‘ten more’ or ‘ten less’ than a number. Student workbooks can be sent home this Friday for covering, we just ask that they come back in on Monday regardless if they have been covered, as we are very busy working in them!

Year 3
Year 3 has made a great start to their primary years. The week began by focusing on our writing skills. We are working on our understanding of constructing compound sentences. We also are considering the techniques authors use to make their stories interesting. Our focus text was ‘The Hairy Nosed Wombats Find a New Home’. We noted the descriptive language, and we also created character profiles for different wombats in the text. In maths we are working with 4 digit numbers noting the importance of place value. In religion we are learning about the places where Jesus grew up and had his ministry. In science we are...
Year 4

Year 4 has had a wonderful start to the new year. In Religion we are learning about the Ministry of Jesus. We have discussed what Jesus’ ministry involved and we are learning about some of the places where His ministry occurred. In Maths we have had fun playing some number games to help us understand more about place value using 5 digit numbers. In English we began reading the book ‘The Tale of Despereaux’ by Kate DiCamillo. While reading we are learning new words and we are having some good discussion about the characters and storyline. In History we have discussed what

Australia Day means to many present-day Australians. We also re-created a time-line to give us a better understanding of the length of time Aboriginal tribes have inhabited the country compared to European people. We wish everyone in our school community a very happy 2017!

Year 5

We had a great start to the year. In Religion we have begun to look at different human qualities and in Maths we studied number patterns involving addition and subtraction. We viewed the cover of our first class novel, “Birrung, the Secret Friend” by Jackie French and made some predictions about the story. With Ms McGarrn we started spelling, got some homework, worked with big numbers in Maths and read the first 2 chapters of our novel, and followed this with some activities. For Sport we played a new game called Four Ball Freeze, which was fun. We also started an artwork which links with English and History. Tomorrow we will start our Science unit. It’s been a great start!

Year 6

We have had a wonderful start to 2017! We are all looking forward to welcoming and helping our Kindergarten Buddies tomorrow, as they settle in at OLV. In Religion, we are studying a unit on Jesus, with regard to his mission on earth. We set ourselves some goals this week and discussed possible challenges we could face. In English, we have read a very interesting picture book, “Dancing the Boom Cha-cha Boogie” by Narelle Oliver. It stimulated some great discussion on the need to embrace differences and to be willing to change. In groups, we studied the illustrations and searched for the use of symbolism within them. Each group created a Symbols Chart for the story. In Maths, we’ve had fun working with negative and positive numbers through a variety of activities. Our favourite one, by far, was a game we played on the laptops called ‘First Connect Three’. It really made us think and some of us showed great skill in using strategies! We have been busy preparing for our first Mass of 2017 which will take place next Wednesday at 10am. During the Mass, our Captains will receive their badges. We hope you can join us for this special ceremony!

SPORTS CORNER

Regional Swimming Carnival


Athletics Carnival

The Athletics Carnival has been booked for Thursday 2nd March at the Glendale Sport Centre. Please note this day down on your calendar. Permission notes etc. will be sent home shortly.

Happy Birthday

We would like to wish the following children a happy birthday:

Zak C 2nd January
Lachlan J 3rd January
Kane E 5th January
Annalise F 6th January
Jarrod H 10th January
Summer P 13th January

Congratulations and we hope you have a happy day.

Lexia

Awards for this week:

- Caleb J-P: Level 4
- Harry F: Level 7
- Tahlia B: Level 2
- Marley B: Level 3

Wow. Congratulations to our Year 1 students who have been busy over the holidays keep up the great effort!

-Mrs McCallum

Pastoral Care News: Welcome back everyone! I hope that the hot weather isn’t causing you too much difficulty. Remember to re-hydrate regularly.

The chickens had a nice holiday with lots of free range time. Thank you to the wonderful children who take good care of them during the term.

If you are having a clean out don’t forget the Vinnies Blue Bins in the breezeway- it’s a great way to have a clean out and also support the needy.

Have a great week.
Mrs Melville.

May you be in heaven 5 minutes
Before the devil knows you’re dead.

Kind regards, Gerry Vandermaat - Principal.
Canteen Roster

A Volunteers form has been sent home today. Please return it to school ASAP so we can work out a roster.