Dear Families of St Oliver’s,

Schools are busy places and there are many opportunities for children to engage in activities and events that support their learning and development beyond the classroom. For example, in the coming days and weeks we have a bake sale, movie night, the sports carnival, parent/teacher interviews and Multicultural Day. All these are opportunities for the children and, importantly, their families to be involved in community building events.

The involvement of parents in their child’s education is vital. Research has found that when parents are involved in their children’s education at home, they do better in school. And when parents are involved in school, children go farther in school and the schools they go to are better! Evidence of the strong correlation between parent/family engagement in children’s education and schooling include, improved school readiness, higher retention and graduation rates, enhanced cognitive development and academic achievement, higher motivation and greater ability to self-regulate behaviour and better social and relationship skills.

Personally, as a parent with a child in primary school, I fully appreciate there are many factors that inhibit or challenge parent engagement and they can include:

- Work commitments, demands of other children, childcare difficulties and lack of time generally;
- Parents perceiving themselves as unqualified to participate – a sense of disenfranchisement;
- Language barriers;
- A lack of common understanding between school staff and parents about what constitutes parent involvement;
- A perception that teachers do not want parent-initiated contact, and only welcome contact when they initiate it;
- Inadequate information to parents about the objectives and procedures of the school.

At St Oliver’s we are working hard to overcome any such barriers, as we truly value the important role parents play in the educational success of their children. I welcome any feedback from parents that would further enhance the partnership between home and school! If you can’t get to school on a regular basis an easy way to provide feedback is via email. My direct email address is amcelhone@parra.catholic.edu.au.

I look forward to meeting with you at our upcoming community events!

**Reminders**

**Bake Sale – Friday, 14th June**
Tomorrow is the Bake Sale. We are asking families to bring in home-made or store bought cakes, muffins, cookies, lolly pops, etc. Please leave the ‘goodies’ you bring in at the canteen before school. These will be sold at lunchtime. Items start at 50c. Any unsold items will be available to purchase after school.

**Movie Night**
No more orders are being accepted. The movie night commences at 6:15pm. Children can be dropped off at the office. The movie will finish at 8:15pm and all children must be collected by 8:30pm.

Peace and best wishes,

Mr Anthony McElhone
Principal
Half Yearly Reports

Tomorrow (on Friday 14th June), the children’s school reports will be sent home. Before you look over your child’s report, we would like to explain the grading scale that constitutes a part of our reporting. As you know, your child’s achievement for each Key Learning Area is reported using a five point scale.

A – Excellent Achievement  
B – High Achievement  
C – Sound Achievement  
D – Basic Achievement  
E – Elementary Achievement

You may already have heard the phrase – “C is for Celebrate”- and that is certainly the case! Your child’s progress is tracked by the teachers using various methods of assessment including informal observations, practical activities and specific assessment tasks. These are then matched to the expected outcomes for that particular grade. **Students who are achieving as expected for their grade are then awarded the overall grade of “C”.** This is indeed something to celebrate.

Of equal if not more importance is your **child’s effort.** This is where your child’s attitude to learning is shown. This may mean that you need to have a discussion with your child about the effort shown if the grade is not good. Not everyone can be the best in a subject but we can all try to the best of our ability.

For our new Kindergarten students and their parents, please be aware that Kindergarten have a three grade system that is Emerging, Developing and Achieving. Emerging means that the student is beginning to understanding the learning task, developing is that the student is on their way to doing that learning task and achieving means that the student can do that learning task.

**St Oliver’s Primary - Dates to Remember!**

Friday 14th June 6.15pm – Movie Night (rescheduled from 7th June)

Friday 14th June – Bake Sale

Friday 14th June – Reports sent home

17th – 21st June – Parent/Teacher Interviews

Monday 17th June Sports Carnival

Friday 21st June 2.30pm – Year 2 Assembly in the hall

Monday 24th June 9.15am – Coffee ‘n’ Chat (additional meeting)

Thursday 27th June – Multicultural Day

Friday 28th June – Staff Development Day – staff only

**Earn & Learn Points**

The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We’re now at the important stage of the program where Points Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn Points Stickers you may have. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they maybe stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps.

**Active After School Sports**

We have had a very successful term of Active After School Sports. Miss Megan and Mr Phillip have been working hard to teach the children the skills that they need to perform a range of different athletics activities.

**Next week (Week 8) will be the last week of Active After School Sports for Term Two.**
Gospel Lk 7:11-17 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Young man, I say to you, arise.

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. ‘Do not cry,’ he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, ‘Young man, I tell you to get up’. And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, ‘A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.’ And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

Reflection

The opening of the story is the description of a tragedy: “He went to a town called Nain with his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother and she was a widow.” The dynamic of this sentence is to build the tragedy. Everyone in Luke’s audience knew its dimensions. The death of a widow’s only son means that her only source of livelihood, of food, of care, of clothes, of a home, is gone. His death meant her abject poverty and premature death.

The scriptures make clear that God takes no pleasure in the death of anyone (see Ezekiel 33:11) – he desires life, not death. Jesus not only had heart-felt compassion for the widow who lost her only son, he also had extraordinary supernatural power – the ability to restore life and to make a person whole again. Jesus, however, did something which must have shocked the sensibilities of the widow and her friends. Jesus approached and made physical contact with the dead man. The Jews understood that contact with a dead body made oneself ritually unclean or impure. Jesus’ physical touch and personal identification with the widow’s loss of her only son not only showed the depths of his love and concern for her, but pointed to his desire to free everyone from the power of sin and moral corruption, and even death itself. Jesus’ simple word of command – “Young man, arise” – not only restored him to physical life, but brought freedom and wholeness to his soul as well as his body. Jesus is Lord not only of the living but of the dead as well. When Jesus died on the cross for our sins he also triumphed over the grave when he rose again on the third day, just as he had promised his disciples. Jesus promises everyone who believes in him, that because he lives (and will never die again), we also shall have abundant life with and in him both now and forever (John 14:19). Do you trust in the Lord Jesus to give you abundant life and everlasting hope in the face of life’s trials, misfortunes, and moments of despair?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, your healing presence brings life and restores us to wholeness of mind, body, and spirit. Speak your word to me and give me renewed hope, strength, and courage to follow you in the midst of life’s sorrows and joys. Amen.

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Those of you who attended would have enjoyed such a beautiful, reverent and prayerful mass organised by Stage Two. Thank you to the stage two teachers!

Mrs Franca Bonserio
Religious Education Coordinator

You Can Do It! Awards - Week 7

Well done to the following children who have been displaying an "I can do it!” way of thinking in classroom work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Galadriel Saliba</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Joseph Lichaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Nick Villaneuva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Pranav Ravisankar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Aishik Biswas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Arthur Sadek</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Joseph Maroun</td>
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This week, teachers have been looking out for children who have been talking with a strong and confident voice.
CHILDREN’S BOOK WEEK
The shortlisted books have been announced by the Children’s Book Council of Australia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian Book of the Year - Shortlisted</th>
<th>Early Childhood (Years K – 2)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Younger Readers (Years 3 – 6)</td>
<td>Early Childhood (Years K – 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French, Jackie <em>Pennies for Hitler</em></td>
<td>Allen, Emma III. Freya Blackwood <em>The Terrible Suitcase</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>French, Simon <em>Other Brother</em></td>
<td>Cox, Tania III. Karen Blair <em>With Nan</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gleitzman, Morris <em>After</em></td>
<td>DeGennaro, Sue <em>The Pros &amp; Cons of Being a Frog</em></td>
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<td>Hartnett, Sonya <em>Children of the King</em></td>
<td>Dubosarsky, Ursula III. Andrew Joyner <em>Too Many Elephants In This House</em></td>
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<td>Herrick, Steven <em>Pookie Aleera is Not my Boyfriend</em></td>
<td>Harris, Christine III. Ann James <em>It’s a Miroocool!</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Millard, Glenda III. Stephen Michael <em>King The Tender Moments of Saffron Silk</em></td>
<td>Hardie Grant <em>Egmont</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Picture Book of the Year (Some may be for Mature Readers)</td>
<td>Eve Pownall Award for Information (0 – 18 Years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon, Gus <em>Herman and Rosie</em></td>
<td>Cheng, Christopher &amp; Jackson, Mark <em>Python</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Goodman, Vivienne Text: Margaret Wild <em>Tanglewood</em></td>
<td>Kerin, Jackie III. Peter Gouldthorpe <em>Lyrebird! A True Story</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooks, Ron Text: Julie Hunt <em>The Coat</em></td>
<td>Murray, Kirsty <em>Topsy-turvy World: How Australian Animals Puzzled Early Explorers</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lester, Alison <em>Sophie Scott Goes South</em></td>
<td>Queensland Art Gallery <em>Portrait of Spain for Kids</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mullins, Patricia Text: Glenda Millard <em>Lightning Jack</em></td>
<td>Weidenbach, Kristin III. Timothy Ide <em>Tom the Outback Mailman</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson, Mark Text: Jackie French <em>A Day to Remember</em></td>
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BORROWING
Monday borrowing next week will take place throughout the week due to the Athletics carnival on the Monday. All books should be returned on Tuesday. In the event of rain borrowing will go ahead on the Monday.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
Children who have already completed their Reading Log may continue reading and add the books read to their paper Reading Log. Reading Logs should be signed by parents to indicate that the books have been read. Children should place their completed logs in the box in the Library.


ORAL LANGUAGE
Voice of Youth – All Year 6 students are currently preparing their Voice of Youth speeches. The St Oliver’s Elimination round will be held in the last week of this term. Three students will be selected to represent St Oliver’s at the Cluster Final.

Delany Cup – Year 5 students are currently preparing their practice debates. The St Oliver’s Delany Cup team will be selected this term. This team will compete early in Term 3 at Delany College.

Mrs Lesley Quinn
Teacher Librarian