Dear Parents/Carers

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. In the Gospel, the disciples are invited to take to heart the great vision of a discipleship of all nations, and to let that vision shape their mission. With the departure of Jesus, they are invited to take a lot of people to heart. We know from experience that it is not enough to take Jesus to heart. When Christ comes to dwell in our heart, He never comes alone. He comes complete with entourage and baggage:

He brings his love,
His values and His hopes;
He brings His dreams and expectations;
He brings His disciples and friends and hangers-on;
He brings the poor and the blind and the crippled;
He brings the outcast and the stranger.

Christ never comes alone. Like the innkeepers of the world, we might be tempted to put out the “no vacancy” or “full” sign, to tell Jesus that we have no room in our heart for all He has to offer. One thing is certain; we cannot take Him in and leave the rest (poor, blind, crippled, downtrodden...) outside.

Long before His Ascension, Jesus took a lot of people to heart. He suffered and was continuously questioned for His passionate love of others. He challenged the “status quo”. He paid a price for taking so many people to heart. But He treasured them, in all their pettiness and lopsided resolve, with all their thin aspirations and crazy ambitions, with all their private preoccupations and hidden fears.

Just like Jesus, as parents, we accept our children with their baggage, dreams and expectations. There is never a “no vacancy” or “full” sign when our children turn to us in times of need. We treasure all their pettiness, crazy ambitions and hidden fears.

The challenge of Jesus is to open our hearts to show His love to all kinds of people, not just our own sons and daughters, but other sons and daughters, who are different but just as important. Something we can all aspire to at Our Lady of Mount Carmel both within and outside the school gates.

A wonderful opportunity for us as a school community to open our hearts to others is through our current Vanuatu appeal. We have all witnessed the devastation as a result of ‘Cyclone Pam’ in Vanuatu. One of our families in the school has been able to organise a container to transport goods to the poorest in Vanuatu. If you have any children’s toys and/or adult clothing, shoes, thongs, children’s books, cotton blankets, linen and/or basic cooking utensils that are in good condition and no longer required that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school office by this Friday morning prior to 9am. These will be transported directly to Vanuatu and distributed to those in need.

Regards

Mr Steven Jones
Principal

NOTES SENT HOME TODAY
• P&F Movie Night
• Maths Olympiad

The Community of OLMC is Safe and Respectful
**CHILDREN’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

**Confirmation:** Confirmation practise will take place on Thursday 14 and 21 May at 3:30pm and 7pm in the Church. Our first celebration will be on Wednesday 20 May at 7pm. All are welcome to celebrate.

**First Reconciliation:** The Parent Information Evening will be held next Monday 18 May at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. One parent of each child enrolled needs to be at this meeting as all workshops, celebration details etc will be confirmed on this night.

**First Holy Communion:** Thank you to all the parents who have enrolled their children. Just a reminder that Sunday 13 September is all booked up.

Paola Yevenes-OLMC Parish

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Mrs Judi Cundy who coodinates the new uniform orders will be absent this week and next as she recovers from a broken arm. We wish her a speedy recovery. In the meantime we would ask for your patience with the processing of uniform orders.

**Sibling Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016**

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016 at OLMC have already begun and close at the end of May. Parents who have a child who will be turning five before June 2016 are invited to complete an enrolment form for their child. The enrolment process involves the parents and child having a meeting with Mr Jones (new families) or Miss Pirovic. (siblings). Once all meetings are completed a letter of offer will be sent to families. If you haven’t already completed an enrolment form please don’t delay and collect one from the school office.

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is well under way. There have been many children borrowing books to read for the challenge. The teachers have been reading books to the children to count towards their reading record. 140 children have begun their online reading log. We have four children who have completed the challenge in the past two weeks. Congratulations to: Emma Frost, Sarayu Vangala, Claudia Tannous and Jayden Tannous.

**MERIT CERTIFICATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brandon, Harish</td>
<td>KB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amogh, Irene</td>
<td>KG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annabelle, Michaela</td>
<td>1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia, Tristan</td>
<td>1G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabrina, Zachery</td>
<td>2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily, Chris</td>
<td>2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary, Peter</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skyler, Kheneth</td>
<td>3G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas, Alan</td>
<td>4B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah, Rachelle</td>
<td>4G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myah, Giulio</td>
<td>5B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achol, Artemesia</td>
<td>5G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac, Luke</td>
<td>6B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke, Adriel</td>
<td>6G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**YEAR 4 PASSOVER**

Year 4 are learning about Passover in Religion. We have been looking at Exodus in the Bible and in particular the Passover Festival. We wanted to know more about the traditions of Passover and the symbolic meaning to the Jewish Faith so we invited a guest speaker from the Board of Jewish Education. Ms Kitchener came today and provided each student with the ingredients to make a Seder Plate and spoke about the significance of each food. It was very interesting to find out how Passover is still celebrated today. It helped the children understand the Passover meal Jesus shared.

**OLMC NETBALL CLUB**

Playing times for Round 7 Saturday 16 May, 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Versus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 1 (12s)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Guildford Knights 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 2 (11s)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Regents Park 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC 3 (10s)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Holroyd Hot-shots 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Set Go</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember hair must be tied back, nails need to be clipped and no jewellery is permitted. We understand that playing times are earlier this year, we ask that you please be at the courts no later than 30 minutes before your game to warm-up with your team. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

For enquiries please phone Paula Epenian 0406 515 782 or Alycia Koulouris 0414 513 448.
PARENTS & FRIENDS

Entertainment Book
The 2015 Entertainment Books are still available for purchase through the school office. For $65 you will receive over $15,000 worth of offers from a fantastic variety of restaurants, arts, attractions and much more such as bowling alleys and movie theatres.

All books are $65 and a percentage of each sale goes back to our school. You can also order a digital version of the book for your apple or google device.

We can only accept the right money through the office and we apologise for any inconvenience.

FAMILIES MATTER! Parish Forum
Come to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Wentworthville Parish Council will host a forum for all parishioners TONIGHT, Wednesday 13 May 2015 at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for all of us to come and share our thoughts and ideas on supporting family life in the context of our parish.

How can we bring our vision to life?

“Families have an indispensable mission in society. It is in the family that children are trained in sound values, high ideals, and genuine concern for others. But like all God’s gifts, the family can also be disfigured and destroyed. It needs our support.” - Pope Francis

P&F General Meeting
Thank you to everyone who came to our Parents and Friends meeting last night. We appreciate your interest and involvement. The minutes of the meeting will be available shortly.

P&F Movie Night 22 May 2015
The P&F is hosting an outdoor movie night next Friday 22 May, in the school playground (entry via Smith Street gates). We will be screening “Smurfs 2”, which is a G rated movie for the whole family to enjoy. Gates will open from 5pm, and the movie will start screening from 6pm.

This is a non-ticketed event, however we are requesting a gold coin donation to help cover the cost of the screen hire and movie licensing. Notes were sent home today with further details and an RSVP slip.

Sausage sandwich meal deals, can be pre-purchased for $5 or bought on the night for $6 and there will also be cold and hot drinks for purchase on the night. We are also seeking volunteers to help with various things on the night and it would be great if we can get as many people as possible to help make this a successful night. Please return your RSVP forms with orders and money by Wednesday 20 May to school in an envelope marked P&F Movie Night.

Second Hand Uniform Shop
As the school will be beginning the new uniform transition process late this year/early next year, the second hand uniform shop is calling for any uniform donations especially the larger sizes. This will help parents to cover any shortage in uniforms and enable more families to wait until the new uniforms are launched at the end of the year. If you have any uniforms you no longer use, please send them to the second hand uniform shop via the office.

Mothers’ Day Stall And Raffle
Thanks to all the parents who came to help with the Mothers’ Day Stall last Wednesday, It was a fantastic atmosphere and we appreciate your time and patience with the children. We hope everyone felt spoilt on Mothers’ Day with some lovely gifts that came from the heart.

Congratulations to the winners of our Mother’s Day Raffle:

Hadchiti family 1st TLC Voucher
Mrs Speranza 2nd Hair Curler
Ms Veronika 3rd Hair Dryer
Manhhuue family 4th Make Up Voucher
Giota family. 5th Tea Set
Gardner family 6th Tupperware
Rafka Boustani 7th Food Hamper
Ms Tannous 8th Pottery Hamper
Zammit family 9th Vase Set
Koulouris Family 10th Food Hamper
Meadows family 11th Food Hamper
Calderon family 12th Food Hamper
Khoury family 13th Food Hamper
Georges family 14th Food Hamper
Boustany family 15th Food Hamper

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Fete 2015 – Our Greatest Success
Following the post fete meeting which took place on Wednesday 29 April, the Fete Committee is very pleased to announce the total sum raised from our most successful fete to date; $27,952.47!

Although the record amount of funds raised will greatly benefit our school and parish, the experience of the fete on the night was priceless; our community gathered in an unprecedented way to have some fun, support our church and school, and celebrate who we are. No amount of thanks to the organisers, committee, stall holders and everyone who donated goods, services, money or their time, will suffice.

However, during the post fete meeting, we were able to present Mrs Stanton and Mrs Caine with a token of appreciation on behalf of our community. Their dedication to the works coordinated by the P&F has been immeasurable and for their commitment and hard work, we have been truly blessed and thankful.

PARENTS & FRIENDS
The students at Our Lady of Mt Carmel were given two challenges over the last holidays.

1. Take a photo of a number in the environment, write about the number and email this to Mr Jones
2. Read and Count the number of pages read.

Each student who participated in either task was given a ticket in a grade draw and then all the tickets were combined to select an overall winner. This winners name goes on the trophy. Each winner received a medal and a $20.00 book club voucher.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Kindergarten - Ryan, Year 1 - Grace, Year 2 - Chloe, Year 3 - Emily, Year 4 - Tiana, Year 5 - Lara, Year 6 - Lachlan and the overall winner Year 2 - Jayden.

We are creating a number line in the Library and the stories have been made into a book for the students to read in the Library. A movie was created using the photos and part of the story each student wrote to go with their photo. You can see the movie on the school website.

Check next week’s newsletter to see Year 6’s analysis of the data gathered from the challenge.