Our new Preps with Mrs Kim Evers, (from L to R): Danial, Jackson, Ethan, Orin

WELCOME TO THE FIRST SCHOOL DAY FOR 2012!
What a joy it was to see all the students here at school for their first day! It is always exciting and a little bit scary on the first day—there are always some new things to get used to and new friends to make, maybe new classrooms, new teachers, and for some, first time at their new school at Olivet!
Firstly we want to welcome four new students who are at school for their first day! Jackson Musgrove, Danial Turvey, Orin McKay and Ethan Harris.
Also a big welcome to other students here for the first time; Georgia Dahl (Yr 8), Mem Wood (7), Kyle Bennett (7), Ophelia Bignoux (7), Ruby Salter (5), Olivia McCoy (4), Evie Nathan (2),
Welcome also to the new families to Olivet and we trust your time with us will bring blessing and a solid foundation of Christian Education for all students on which to build their lives.

On a sadder note, we say farewell to Zoe Harris and Ben Hordern, who have moved to other schools for 2012. We also pray they both settle well into their new schools and routines.

We currently have 78 students enrolled at Olivet and we do thank God for the opportunity to play a significant part in the Christian Education of these young lives and to share this important mission in partnership with their parents. We take seriously the role of training these young people to be leaders in the community.

Year 5/6 class with Mr Nicholas and welcome to Miss Emily Nicholas as Class Assistant

WORKING BEE TASKS
Thank you to those families who have completed tasks over the past week or so to help the grounds look refreshed and ready for the new school year. The work completed has been much appreciated. There are still some tasks to complete please. Please see Mrs Donaldson if you are able to complete one of these below:-
Weed along the front fence.
Weed border of the school garden Cricket net garden and nets – weed.
Pepper corn tree leaves to trailer.
Replace small rubber on flying fox.
Sand and paint bag pegs in breezeway.
Thank you for your assistance.

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the MANNING McArdle McCoy and McKay Families.

PRIMARY SPORT
Term 1 will be swimming program at Everyone Health and Fitness so all Primary students are asked to wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays for Term 1 please. Students will change at the pool.

OUR FIRST SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR THE YEAR Galatians 6: 2—10, talks about sowing and reaping, and a reminder that if we sow God’s Spirit in our lives, we will reap from God’s abundant supply. Our character trait to be studied for these first three weeks is Obedience.
EVERYONE HEALTH AND FITNESS
Term 1 for sport will be an 8 week swimming program for Primaries starting from Tues 7th Feb running through till 27th March
Secondaries will have their swimming program on Fridays for 3 weeks (starting tomorrow) 3rd Feb, 10th Feb and 17th Feb.
The House Swimming Sports will be held at Harcourt Pool on Friday 24th February.

SILVER APPLE AWARD FOR CONVENTION
I also want to encourage all secondary students to consider working towards memorizing one of the books of the Bible as part of their work for Student Convention in Term 4.

REMINDER OF TERM DATES
Term 1: Thurs 2 Feb—Fri 30 March
Monday 6th — Wednesday 8th February
Round the Bay Trip for Year 7 and 8 students
(there should be a separate notice for parents with this Newsletter regarding the trip)
Friday 24th February House Swimming Sports at Harcourt Pool

Term 2: Wed 18 April—Fri 29 June
Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th April Staff attending the Victorian ACE Educators’ Conference at River City Christian College in Echuca

Term 3: Mon 16 July—Fri 21 Sept
Term 4: Mon 8 Oct—Fri 14 December
Mon 15—Fri 19 October
Vic Student Convention for all secondary students
Sun 9—Fri 14 Dec South Pacific Student Convention to be held in Fiji

MATHS MATE HOMEWORK SHEETS
In Secondary Maths classes there will be weekly Homework sheets expected to be submitted. There is accompanying this Newsletter a letter to parents explaining the program and benefits of the Maths Mate program.

Check with Hugh if he is teaching any private lessons at school this year?

MUSIC TUITION FOR STUDENTS
There are many benefits of learning to play a musical instrument.

Intellectual:
Many studies have shown that those who take music lessons score better on memory tests, Maths exams and IQ tests. Learning an instrument requires practice and discipline which both improve time management and study skills.

Physical:
Playing music develops fine and gross coordination skills as well as spatial relations, rhythm and timing.

Social:
While a musician can be a soloist, he/she must learn to work with a group. Whether it’s in the school, town, church or symphony, a musician must learn the co-operative skills to work well with others.

Emotional:
Learning an instrument can provide a source of achievement and pride for the student. Playing publicly in school or church allows the student to develop his/her God-given skills which increases confidence and self-esteem. It encourages creative and artistic expression, relieves stress and improves mood.

Spiritual:
Playing an instrument is a lovely way to worship God and to help others enjoy Him too.

Music lessons are available for students on a private basis here at Olivet.
Our classroom music teacher, Mr Hugh Price is available for lessons at reasonable rates in any of the following instruments - keyboard/piano, recorder, guitar, flute, clarinet and music theory.
Lessons are held during lunch, after school or during regular class time. If you would like to speak with Hugh, please ring 5472 3567.

Thompsons Foundry Band are offering free tuition and the free loan of a brass instrument – cornet, tenor horn, trombone and other brass instruments.
Lessons are available for all ages and are held on a Tuesday afternoon at 3.30pm or by arrangement, at the Band Hall in Barker Street, Castlemaine. For further information please contact Ed Wilcock 5470 6885.

HOUSE CAPTAINS
Staff are currently finalizing House Captains for the school year and the House Captain Badges will be presented to the students on Friday of next week at a special Assembly for this purpose. House Captains will be announced in the Newsletter next Thursday.

SECONDARY SPORT - SWIMMING PROGRAM
The swimming program is a vital part of the students’ development. Therefore we do expect all students to participate actively where possible.

Tomorrow will be the first swimming session at Harcourt Pool. Students are required to bring their swimming gear with them to school, and will be changing at the Pool. Please bring your bathers, T-shirt, towel, hat, sunscreen and thongs. The students will be transported to and from the pool by bus/car.
PEANUT ALLERGY
We remind parents to be careful not to send peanuts or tree nuts to school with your children. These foods can cause an anaphylactic reaction to those who have this allergy. We request that parents do not send these foods to school eg peanut butter sandwiches, as you plan your recess and lunch foods. Thank you for your assistance.

COPY OF ENGLISH LIT BOOK MISSING
Could families please check at home - a school copy of Animal Heroes Number 9 is missing.
Thank you Mrs Donaldson