# OLIVET CHRISTIAN COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



# Number 1 1 February 2024

# From the Principal's Desk

Once again, Welcome to 2024! We are thankful for the great start we have had to the school year!

Our first scripture for the year is taken from Ephesians 4:1-7. In verse 1, we are encouraged in how we should live our lives and that it is not just what we achieve or



who we are. God is more concerned about developing our character than our social standing, action than words, and service than status. In God's eyes, what gives our lives significance is living them with "humility," "gentleness," "patience," "love," "unity of the spirit," and "peace." If we happen to achieve great things in human terms while displaying these characteristics from Scripture, that's good. But the message in Ephesians 4:1 is that God does not confuse achievement with significance, nor should we. One can achieve a lot in human terms without being humble, gentle, patient, loving, unified in the spirit, or peaceful. In fact, one can achieve much in human terms while actually violating Christian principles. In God's strength, let us make the effort to walk worthy.

#### WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF, STUDENTS & FAMILIES

We want to give a warm welcome to our new students and families starting with us this year.

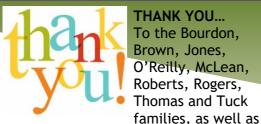
We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Janita Fish as our Secondary Maths/Science Teacher, Mr Grant Abbott as our Secondary Humanities Teacher and Mrs Ruth McArdle as our Secondary English and Humanities Teacher.

Staff and Students have had a great start to the year and we look forward to see what God has planned as we move into 2024.

FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR THIS WFFK

> Arnephy Bourdon Brown Hodges

ENCOURAGING...EQUIPPING...EMPOWERING



THANK YOU... To the Bourdon. Brown, Jones, O'Reilly, McLean, Roberts, Rogers, Thomas and Tuck

Gordon & Cheryl Donaldson, who gave of their time and skills during our annual working bee sessions to prepare our buildings and grounds for the new year. Great work!

If anyone else has some time, we have other small tasks that could be undertaken when it best suits you.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

If you have a new Centrelink pension or health care card, or any of your details have changed, please contact the office to complete an application form as soon as possible.

#### **SWIMMING**

Primary Students have had a great start to their Primary Swimming today! The program will be held at Castlemaine Fitness Centre and will run on Thursday's throughout Term 1.

## **TERM ONE 2024 PLANNER**

Tuesday 30 January - Thursday 28 March

#### Dates to be confirmed for:

- Swimming Sports
- Compulsory Parent Teacher Interviews
- End of Term Excursions

6 Feb	Secondary Swimming
8 Feb	Primary Swimming
13 Feb	Secondary Swimming
15 Feb	Primary Swimming
20 Feb	Secondary Swimming
22 Feb	Primary Swimming
27 Feb	Secondary Swimming
29 Feb	Primary Swimming
7 Mar	Primary Swimming
11 Mar	Labour Day Public
	Holiday - NO SCHOOL
14 Mar	Primary Swimming
19 Mar	Year 7 Immunisations
21 Mar	Primary Swimming
13-25 Mar	NAPLAN
28 Mar	Last day of Term 1

Secondary Students will commence their swimming program at the Castlemaine Fitness Centre next Tuesday 6 February. This will run on Tuesday's for 4 weeks. Students will need to wear their sport uniform on their respective sports days and will need to bring their bathers, towel, goggles (if needed), spare underwear, a bag to put wet things in and any asthma medication that may be needed.

#### JUST BRASS

Students will be starting back with Just Brass next week so will need to bring their instruments along on Monday ready for the combined after school band practice and then on Tuesday for their lessons and Olivet band practice.

# ENCOURAGING...EQUIPPING...EMPOWERING

# **Bushfire Information for Parents**

Schools and education facilities take pre-emptive action to protect against the risk of bushfire. Olivet Christian College has a Category 3 Fire Danger Rating and must close on days forecasted as Catastrophic FDR in their fire district. The school will be advised of the potential for a Catastrophic FDR as information becomes available, however, the pre-emptive closure will be confirmed to Olivet by the Department by 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic DFR day, after which parents/guardians would be notified.

Olivet reviews the Emergency Management Plan each November to review and maintain a plan that will enable us to respond to the event of a bushfire in our locality.

- 1. Children should be safe at school if a major fire threatens. It is considered that the school building and grounds provide a safe refuge and students should be kept inside until the danger has passed.
  - 2. During a crisis parents will be advised NOT to try to collect children from school as the school is a safe refuge and all students will be well cared for during such a crisis. Nevertheless should parents wish to collect their children then students will normally only be released to a PARENT or LEGAL **GUARDIAN**
  - The school bus may not be travelling if there is any known danger along the bus route. Parents should expect delays if there are local fires and they may obtain information in this regard by ringing the College and speaking to the office staff. Please contact the school if you know of possible dangers along the bus route.
  - 4. Bus drivers have instructions to stop and seek information if they see evidence of fire. They will not drive through smoke and will seek a safe refuge if there is any possible danger. Children will not be left at bus stops when there seems to be potential danger from fire unless there is someone to collect them.
  - 5. If the bus is delayed school will attempt to contact the concerned parents. Please remember however it is not always possible to make these telephone contacts.
  - Parents are reminded that the most dangerous place to be in the event of a wildfire is on the roads or caught in the open. Parents should not place themselves or others at additional risk by driving to school in conditions on the road are hazardous.

A school bus route will be closed if it SCHOOL BUSES AND HIGH FIRE DAYS has to pass through an area affected by fire even if the associated school is not affected by fire and remains open.

If a bus route is threatened by unexpected fire, the school will enact its local emergency management plan. Information on changes to bus routes or cancellation of services will be provided by your school via SMS, email and telephone calls. If you have any changes to your email or mobile phone numbers, please let the office know asap. ENCOURAGING...EQUIPPING...EMPOWERING



## **OLIVET CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

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