Lunchtime in the SandPit; First day for the new Preps, Sierra, Marissa, Willow and Isaac with Mrs Morcos; Playground with new surface; House Captains 2016.

PURPOSE AND GOALS
We all love our leisure time and being able to relax. We trust that all families and staff have been able to enjoy these times over the past few weeks. But we also know that giving ourselves to a challenge, a project, or a significant task and succeeding is very satisfying and fulfilling. We experience a real purpose as we focus on our goal.

We are at the beginning of a new adventure as the 2016 school year gets under way - with many possibilities and the potential to achieve great things with God at the head of our lives. Whether we are students, parents or staff, God has given us each day to grow, to mature and to experience His joy as we put our full effort into the task at hand.

Joshua in the Bible Old Testament was encouraged to be strong and of good courage as he led the people of Israel into the promised land. He was reminded in Chapter 1 to meditate on God’s Word daily and to do according to what was written there, to make his way prosperous and have good success (verses 7 and 8).

We have made a great start to the year as students have settled well into their routines. May God bless them as they commit to their learning trusting God to grow and mature them in Him.

Phil Chapman

WELCOME TO our new families to the community of Olivet Christian College. Mrs Rebekah Alexander joins us with much experience as a teacher and leader in schools, and will be teaching in the areas of History, English and Food Tech;
The Kelly family with students Layla, Jaykob and Izack;  
The Lamers family with students Harley and Crystal;  
The new Prep students: Sierra, Isaac, Marissa and the Sandeman family, and Willow and the Kelly family.  
It is a joy to have you all join us at the start of this new school year and we trust you will quickly get to know your way around the College. May God bless your time at Olivet!

UPCOMING EVENTS
Wed 10 - Fri 12 Feb Round The Bay Trip for Year 7 and 8 students    
Thurs 24 March Last day Term 1    
Fri 25 March Good Friday    
Mon Tues 11/12 April Victorian Christian Educators at Echuca    
Wed 13 April First day for Term 2

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the CRITCHLEY
DONNAN DUNCAN and FOTI families.

HOUSE CAPTAINS were appointed by Staff this week and today they were given their badges during Assembly and later enjoyed a morning tea with Mr Chapman.  
House Captains are as follows:- 
- ANDREW DAVID
- P-2 Jokai Foti Alysia Sandeman
- 3-4 Nova Bodno Shylah Johnston
- 5-6 Thomas Lyne Annabella Hodges
- 7-8 Allycia Cox James Critchley
- 9-10 Joshua Mitchell Susy Lacey

PRIMARY SWIMMING PROGRAM
Primary classes will have their swimming classes on Tuesdays over Term 1 at the indoor heated pool in Castlemaine. Students will wear sports uniform for Tuesdays this term. Please bring a towel, bathers, T-shirt, plastic bag (for the wet things) and goggles if needed please. Parents, who are available, are welcome to come along.  
Pool Times:  
9.30-10.00 Grade 5-6  
10.00-10.30 Prep-2  
10.30-11.00 Grade 3-4  
Students will travel by College bus to Castlemaine. The cost per student will be $24 for parents, subsidized 50% by the College, charged to accounts. Can all families please NAME all items of school clothing/sports uniform/bathers etc so they are easily returnable if lost/misplaced.

SECONDARY SWIMMING PROGRAM
Swimming will commence tomorrow and for the next 3 Fridays at Harcourt pool. Students are to please bring towel, bathers, T-shirt, plastic bag for wet things. The HOUSE Swimming Sports will be held at Harcourt Pool on Friday 26 Feb from 12.30 - 3pm.

DEDICATION NIGHT
Please keep the evening of Tuesday 16 Feb free for all families and staff to come together for dedicating the school year to the Lord and for His purposes. We all begin with a BBQ tea at 6.30pm with all families bringing along a plate of finger food please.

Following the BBQ tea, parents will have the opportunity to visit the classrooms of their students for a time, and then we will assemble in the Assembly area for our Dedication Service. All groups within the College will be a part of the program whether they are students, House Parents, parents, staff, class assistants, bus drivers or members of the Reachout company. The evening should be concluded by 8.30pm.

BUSHFIRE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS
The school has developed a policy 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

3. 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 if conditions on the road are hazardous.
SCHOOL BUSES AND HIGH FIRE DAYS
A school bus route will be closed if it 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 Mary-Anne know now.

MEDIA CONCERNS WITH SCHOOL CLOSURES
Many of you will have heard comment in the media about bomb threats and school closures in the past week. At the end of 2015, we updated our Emergency Management Procedures, and we are constantly reviewing these procedures. At all times we have the interests, welfare and the safety of your children paramount.

We pray as a staff for the safety of the children often and we also have a prayer roster for all families within the Olivet community.

ICE CREAM STALL
It’s Ice Cream Stall time again!
A selection of ice-creams will be available for students to buy tomorrow (Friday lunchtime) at $2 each.

All funds raised will go towards transport for our secondary students to attend the South Pacific Student Convention to be held at Phillip Island Victoria between December 11-16 this year.

Thank you for your support

COMMUNITY NOTICE
2C’s Children’s Christian Camp
These fabulous camps are on again this year over the Easter school holidays and come highly recommended!

Anglesea: March 29-April 2
Corop Camp 1: March 29-April 2
Corop Camp 2: April 4-April 8

2C’s Camps – Children’s Christian Camps are for children in Grades 4,5 and 6. They are 4 nights’ duration and are jam packed with activities including daily Christian Bible lesson, music, games, craft, concert, fabulous food, outstanding leaders and great friendships.

Each camp’s fees are $200 (2 campers from same family $360, 3 campers from same family $480).

For more information check the website www.thecampingprogram.org.au

PIANO LESSONS TERM 1 2016
If you are interested in taking one-on-one piano lessons this year, I still have a few vacancies so please give me a call on 0427 805 374. I will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Tuition fees will remain at $26 for a half-hour lesson each week of the school term.

Dorothy Siggs

WEEKLY PUZZLE
Puzzle
When will be the 100th day of the school year if day one was Mon 1 Feb?
Last Week’s Answers: I have not found a factor apart from 1 and itself which divides into 2017 so I would venture to say that 2017 is a Prime Number.

ROUND THE BAY YR 7 AND 8 TRIP
On Wednesday 10 Feb, all students will come on the buses as normal to school. (This is different to what was originally written in the first letter).

Year 7 and 8 students will then depart for their trip around the Mornington Peninsula, cross the heads on the ferry from Sorrento to Queenscliff and tour the Bellarine Peninsula before seeing Bells Beach, Torquay and then stopping off at Geelong before returning on Friday evening.

Overnight stays will be at Rosebud and then at Barwon Heads. Tenting arrangements for the trip are being organized tonight and tomorrow.

Parents are reminded that the balance of payment (Total payment is $180) is due tomorrow Friday 5 Feb, together with signed medical documentation.

REMINDER OF TERM DATES FOR 2016
Correction from last week’s dates!
Term 1: Mon 1 Feb - Thurs 24 March (8 weeks)
Term 2: Wed 13 April - Friday 24 June (11 weeks)
Term 3: Monday 11 July - Friday 16 Sept (10 wks)
Term 4: Monday 3 Oct - TBA (South Pacific Student Convention for secondary students is from Sunday 11 - Friday 16 December)

REMINDER OF BUS AND CAR SAFETY
All car drivers and students are reminded to please take extra care when driving in the vicinity of the College and to please drive slowly along Main Road and Stephens Street.

Parents of Prep - Grade 2 students are reminded to please meet their children at the gate before moving to cars at the end of the day. Thank you.

PARENTS ARE ASKED TO SIGN THE ATTACHED INDEMNITY FORM IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACES AND TO RETURN THE SIGNED SHEET TO THE COLLEGE TOMORROW. Thank You to all families.