Dear Parent,

On June the 7th we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. This feast day celebrates the real presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Pope Francis reflected on the meaning of this feast day in our own lives:

_Besides physical hunger, people have another hunger, one that cannot be satisfied with ordinary food. It is the hunger for life, hunger for love, a hunger for eternity._

(Homily of Pope Francis, Mass of Corpus Christi, 19 June 2014)

Enhancing Catholic School Identity Surveys-2014

Thank you to all those parents who have already completed this important survey. Catholic schools are asked to fill in this survey just once every 4 years. This means that the staff, students (Years 5 and 6) and parents are required to fill one in. If you haven’t already filled one in please do so. It is important to have as a wide sample from our community, including people who are non Catholics.

Whole staff Professional Learning Day

As you might be aware there are many changes occurring at this time in Education. There is much innovation and change to process. This presents a challenge that all schools face. In order to make sure that our practice is based on the most current and effective research and that the staff are aligned in their practice and understanding around curriculum, it is essential to create time and space for whole staff professional learning. On the first day of next term we are very fortunate to be working with Kath Murdoch. 

_Professional Learning Day for Teachers on the first day of Term 3, Monday the 13th of July._

It will be a pupil free day. Children will not be required to come to school on that day.

Kath Murdoch is an experienced teacher, author, university lecturer and popular consultant who has worked for many years in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Asia, America and Europe. She is widely respected for her work in the field of inquiry based learning and integrative curriculum in which she has taught, researched and published for well over 20 years.

**SACRAMENT DATES**

Reconciliation
Thursday Sept 10 at 7.00pm

Eucharist
4G - Sunday July 26 at 10.30am
4H - Sunday 2 August at 10.30am

Confirmation
Friday 13 November
7.00pm

**Blessings of Friends Prayer**

_We should give thanks to God. The people in our lives are a blessing._

Thank you, God, for the blessing of friends who care about us and listen to us and have fun with us.

Help us to show our appreciation for all they are to us.

May we reach out a hand in friendship to someone else in your name so they will know what it means to have a friend.

Amen
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

⇒ Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
⇒ Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Some of you may be aware that this year Our Lady’s school has been requested by the Catholic Education Office to participate in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity Surveys. I urge you to take the time to complete the survey. We have sent all the instructions on how to do so home to each family. The survey takes approximately 45-60 minutes to complete, it may be best completed in two sessions; simply keep a record of your user code and password. The survey site is: http://www.schoolidentity.net; type this URL to reach the website. To enter the website you will need the website’s general password: Ghj654 You will also need the school’s Group entry code which is: E1096.

To all the parents who are complying with the local traffic laws and working hard to keep all the streets around our school safe for our children. Thank you to those parents who are making sure that all children are safe in the busy before school drop off time and the pick up time after school.

A Reminder to Parents

It has come to my attention that some parents are using the children’s toilets before and after school. It is important that no parent enters the children’s toilets and that no parent uses the children’s toilets. They are there for our children only. It is both a health and safety issue. I ask for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.
We have had a fantastic first semester of Kinda Kinder here at Our Lady's, in partnership with Victoria University, who run a kinder program here for children aged 0 - 5 on Tuesday mornings. The program has finished for the term, but will be back in Terms 3 and 4 on the dates listed below. Everyone is welcome to attend with your pre-school aged toddlers and babies, so spread the word amongst your family and friends as well. The sessions run from 8.45am - 10.00am in the School Hall.

Kinda Kinder dates for Term 3
Tuesday 21st July  
Tuesday 28th July  
Tuesday 4th Aug  
Tuesday 11th Aug
Tuesday 18th Aug  
Tuesday 25th Aug  
Tuesday 1st Sept  
Tuesday 8th Sept
Tuesday 15th Sept

Kinda Kinder dates for Term 4
Tuesday 6th Oct  
Tuesday 13th October - Final Kinda Kinder for 2015

Thank you to all the parents who have attended our first semester of Kinda Kinder. It’s been a pleasure to get to know you and your children, and we are looking forward to another fun filled semester in July. We have explored many wonderful educational and fun activities with you all, as well as our story time at the end of each session.

We will be starting again on Tuesday 21st of July 2015 at 8.45am in the Hall
We hope to see you there, and also welcome new families to the program.
Sharon Cecil, Rachael Moon, Crystal Cohen.

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

For the first week of Term 3, we will be trialling ordering lunches through the QKR App ONLY.

Orders on a paper bag, or placed at the Canteen in the morning WILL NOT be accepted.

Make sure you download the QKR App on your smartphone over the holidays!
Dear Families,

If you’re looking for loads of awesome activities to keep your kids busy during the winter school holidays, check out our School Holiday Programs. We are offering an exciting range of programs, aimed at young people aged between 5 – 12 years.

We have a range of excursions, incursions and in-house days specifically designed to keep primary school aged children active and entertained. This winter, we will be having fun at:

- Circus Oz
- Inflatable World
- Bowling and Laser Skirmish
- Dizzy’s Castle
- IMAX and Melbourne Museum
- Hoyts Movies - *Minions* and *Inside Out*
- and much more!

**Book online now** to secure your spot!

It’s **FUN** to play at the YMCA!

For afternoon tea, a large fruit platter is served in addition to the items listed above. Afternoon Tea and the Daily Activities may change due to circumstances on any given day. Our program is designed for children of different ages and differences. Outside play is encouraged when the weather is fine. Children have a choice to participate in inside or outside activities.

If you or someone else is picking up your child (children) early on your behalf and if you child/ren are not attending the after school care, please let OSHC coordinator know (phone number: 0401 700 401).

2015 enrolments are open now and you can fill the enrolment forms online from our website, [www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au](http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au) before your child attends the session.

For more information please contact our staff at Our Lady’s School from 2:45pm - 6:00pm or call 0401 700 401.

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**YMCA HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Forms available at the Office for both the Footscray and St Albans YMCA Holiday Program for the upcoming School Holidays.
During Mass we share in a sacred meal called the Eucharist, which means ‘to give thanks’. In the chalice, write down some things which we can be thankful for. In the bread, draw a picture of your family sharing a special meal.

Gospel  Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, ‘Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?’ So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, ‘The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.’ The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. ‘Take it,’ he said ‘this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, ‘This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.’

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

Write a prayer of thanksgiving to God that you can say before every meal.

Dear Lord,

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Amen.