



From the Heart



Newsletter No. 1

30th January, 2025

COMING UP AT OLSH...

JAN 2024

Thurs 30th Grades 1-6 return for 2025

Fri 31st Foundation students begin

FEB 2025

Thu 13th Parish Mass @9:30am
Welcome Liturgy in Chevi Centre @6pm

Sat 15th Elmore Charity Ball

Wed 19th Learning Conversations

Fri 28th Cluster Swimming

MAR 2025

Tue 4th Shrove Tuesday (Pancakes from 8am)

Wed 5th Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Mon 10th Labour Day **Public Holiday**

From the Principal...

January 30th, 2025

Dear Parents,
Welcome back to the 2025 school year.

At the start of a school year there is always a sense of excitement and hope for a successful and joy filled 12 months.

I can certainly say that I am super excited about being principal of OLSH (albeit only for one term) and the opportunity to lead the school at least for the start of 2025.

It is possibly rather iconic that nearly 60 years ago to the day (I am giving away my age), I walked through the gates of OLSH as a bright eyed foundation student. In my wildest dreams I would never have imagined I'd be back

at the school in my (much) later years leading the school community. Although I feel a little vindicated as my grade 5 and 6 OLSH teacher never thought I'd amount to anything (possibly for good reason...). I hope she is watching from above and realising that given the right support and encouragement, every child can be successful.

At the first staff meeting this week, the staff at OLSH certainly shared this sentiment—that each and every child has potential and together with home, it is our calling, to help each child to be successful and realise their potential. This will happen through caring and nurturing classroom environments, where the most effective learning programmes are in place. (I will spell these out in the next newsletter). Where each learner feels valued, is excited to learn and challenged to move to the next growth point in curriculum.

Cheers,
Matt

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to our Foundation Learners

It is so wonderful to be able to officially welcome Lachlan, Mackenzie and Harriet to our OLSH school community. We are so blessed to have these amazing young people in our school and know that we such the richer for having them in our midst. I also know that they will be so well looked after by all our other wonderful learners as they start out on their school journey.

Learning Conversations

As a nice and positive way to start the school year, we will be conducting Learning Conversations for learners who are not on PLP's on Wednesday, February 19th. These will run from 3.00pm until 5.00pm. I encourage all parents to please ensure that you book at time to come and talk to your child's teacher as we begin the conversation as to how we can share the best possible year together.

Bookings can be made on SIMON / PAM. Please note that these will close on Tuesday, February 18th, so don't wait until the last minute to book, thanks.

Parents will be notified of PSG meetings in the coming weeks.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

W: olshelmore.catholic.edu.au PH: 5432 6254 E: principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au

School News

REMINDER FOR START OF SCHOOL NECESSARY ITEMS

The Teachers have asked that every student supplies the following at the beginning of the year.

- A pair of headphones
- A Large box of Tissues
- An art smock
- A hat

Thank you.

STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATES

We ask that you log in to your PAM account to create, update and/or review your child's medical details and photo permissions if you haven't already done so.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is \$125.

HOW TO APPLY: New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the site listed below. If you received a CSEF payment in 2024, you do not need to complete an application form in 2025 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances (e.g. a new child starting school) or your concession card details.

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/CSEF_application_form.pdf

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE PROGRAM (CAP) 2025

The Conveyance Allowance is a form of financial assistance from the Victorian State Government to assist families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school. The allowance is available to parents who are required to drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to school (if there is no school bus) or drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to meet the nearest school bus to the school the child must attend their closest government or non-government school (Catholic) the allowance is based on kilometres travelled and not based on any financial eligibility

Distance is calculated by the shortest practical route from home to the school or from home to meet the nearest school bus to the school. Distance can be calculated by using Bing Maps. Application Forms are available from the school office and must be completed by a parent/guardian.

Parents who received the Conveyance Allowance in 2024 do not need to complete a new form in 2025 unless their children enrolled at OLSH in 2025 have changed (i.e. Gr 6 student left at the end of 2024 or a Foundation child commenced in 2025). If your family circumstances have changed, a new form needs to be completed in 2025. If you have recently changed address please advise the office if you are no longer eligible. Application forms need to be completed and returned to the office by Monday 3rd March 2025.

Further information can be found at: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/conveyance-allowance/policy>



Second-Hand Uniform

We have lots of size 8, 10 and 12 uniform

Please feel free to come in before/ after school and help yourself.

If you have good quality uniform that your child has grown out of, please feel free to swap for the next size up or donate!



Community News



ELMORE POOL UPDATE

Thanks to a generous grant from Lockmore Financial Services, our bathrooms have received a much-needed refresh! Best of all, you can now enjoy a warm shower before and after your swim! As our pool facilities improve, we're excited to offer more opportunities for the community to stay active and engaged.

WATER AEROBICS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

We're considering running Aqua Aerobics classes, but we need to know if there's enough interest!

Proposed Times Tuesday mornings or Friday afternoons
Cost \$17 per class

If you'd like to join, please fill out the expression of interest form using the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/Elmoreaqua>



SWIMMING LESSONS ARE BACK THESE HOLIDAYS!

For school aged children (4 and above)

Schedule: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4 PM

Instructor: Holly Thompson **Cost:** \$15 per lesson



For individual lessons (for adults or babies), swim instructor

Maree Macague is available.

If you're interested, please fill out the expression of interest form <https://bit.ly/Elmoreswim> or using the QR code so we can organize lessons and contact you with details.



Health Care Card HCC 2025 update

For Primary School families

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd (CESL) is pleased to inform Primary School families holding a valid Health Care Card (HCC) that you are eligible for a significant reduction in School fees for the upcoming year, including all fees and levies.

We understand that many families have varying circumstances and in response to the rising cost of living expenses, we are committed to supporting those who need additional assistance.

Please be assured that this support is provided to ensure all students have the opportunity to thrive in our school community. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the school office.

- 1 provide a copy of your HCC to the school office
- 2 complete a Camps, Sports & Excursions Form (CSEF)
- 3 set up a direct debit arrangement at the school

If you've already submitted your HCC, completed the CSEF form, and have a direct debit in place, no further action is needed – the discount will be applied automatically.

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Whether a big or small donation, we appreciate you helping us to fill the pool!

NAME: Elmore Swimming Pool
BSB: 633 000
ACC: 128745817

JUST OVER \$3K DONATED SO FAR

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

15 & 16 February 2025

ELMORE SUMMER SEND OFF BALL

Presented by Lions Club of Elmore

We need your help to make our event a success!

We're asking for volunteers to please pick a shift or two over the weekend of Feb 15-16 2025

SATURDAY		SUNDAY
TICKET HUT/TRAFFIC MARSHALLING 8:00AM - 12:00PM 11:30PM - 3:30PM 6:30PM - 7:00PM	KITCHEN 6:30PM - 10:00PM 7:00PM - 10:30PM 10:00PM - 1:00AM 10:30PM - 1:30AM	BREAKFAST 6:00AM - 10:00AM 9:00AM - 11:00AM (Extras will help with event pack down)
BAR (Servers need RSA) 7:00PM - 10:30PM 7:00PM - 1:00AM	CAR PARK SECURITY 9:00AM - 2:00PM 2:00PM - 7:00PM 7:00PM - 1:00AM	CAR PARK & CLEAN UP 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Register by Sun 5 Jan 25 via: <https://tinyurl.com/charityball-vol25>

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms can be ordered at any time:

- Phone Hip Pocket on 5480 1027 or
- Visiting Hip Pocket at 173 Pakenham St, Echuca.

Families are also welcome to go through our stock of second hand items. Call the office to make a time.