Dear Parents,

**School Council Elections**

We come to the time where we open nominations for the School Council Elections for 2014 as of 4.00pm tomorrow, Thursday 20th February 2014. If you have ever thought you would like to know what happens on Council why not offer your services this year. It is very simple; all you need to do is come to the office and collect a nomination form. There are 2 types of nominations. One requires a person to second your nomination or you can simply nominate yourself. The only thing you need to be a school councilor, is to have child at the school and a desire to see Kilberry Valley continue to improve as a school community.

**Nominations close next Thursday 27th February 2014 at 4.00pm.** If we require an election we will inform you of the process after that time.

Our retiring School councilors are Michelle Hosking and Linda Mossi.

We also have a 12 month vacancy due to Natasha Dacey and family moving to Queensland.

Therefore the following vacancies are advertised in the Parent Category for School Council for 2013:

- 2 year term x 2 positions
- 1 year term x 1 position

If you have any questions regarding being on School Council or the election process, please give me a ring or catch me at school sometime.

I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Linda Mossi who has served on Council for 6 years. Linda’s children have now left Kilberry and I thank her for her positivity and dedication to the school during her many years at Kilberry Valley.

I also thank Natasha Dacey for her short but very effective time on Council at Kilberry. Those of you who know Natasha will appreciate her willingness to ‘get on with it’ and get things done. I trust the weather is delightful for the family as they relocate to Queensland.

There is also a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) Member Category on School Council. Christine Taylor is the retiring member and I advertise the following DEECD position also:

- 2 year term x 1 position

More information can be found further on in the newsletter, including the nomination form. A copy can also be collected rom the office.

**Year 6 Camp**

Another very successful camp where the year 6 students were able to really get to know each other better and forge some strong relationships with each other and their teachers. Once again I thank the staff who attended for their willingness to leave their own families for the 4 days to ensure the students were able to have this unique experience. Much appreciated.

**Kilberry Valley Walking Group**

Are you feeling healthy?

Do you want to get fit in a fun way and get to know other members of the Kilberry Valley community? One of our parents, Abi Ruthiradas, is very keen to start a walking club so why not join her and others each week.

Abi has registered the group with the Heart Foundation Walking group program and would love to hear from you if you are interested. You can contact her on 0423963403 or email abi060686@hotmail.com

Abi would love to have 2 walks per week commencing on Tuesday 11th March and Thursday 13th March. She has researched two routes through the local area; a 25 minute walk and a 1 hour walk.

So why not contact Abi or simply meet her on Tuesday 11th March at the front of the school near the office at 9.15am. Feel free to bring along a friend or young children in pushers.

I look forward to seeing quite a group outside my office window on Tuesday 11th!!
Nits
Unfortunately they are about again!!!!
I have been informed that the start of the year has also brought the nits out in force. Please ensure you check your child’s hair tonight and commence the necessary treatment. Please closely check for the critters and their eggs. They can be hard to find at times but if everyone checks we may get rid of them for a while.

2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
& Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC)

We will once again be offering students the opportunity to participate in the ICAS Testing and AMC. The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are independent skills-based assessments with a competition element. Each test will run before school on the dates listed below by teachers and parent supervisors under normal examination conditions. Approximately six weeks after the test dates, students will receive a detailed report of their result. In addition to a Student Report, each student that participates receives a Certificate indicating their achievement level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Computer Skills</td>
<td>Tuesday 20th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Writing</td>
<td>Thursday 19th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS English</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Mathematics Competition</td>
<td>Thursday 7th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test Dates:

Students in years 3-6 will receive an entry form that is due back by Friday 21st March 2014. Any questions please contact Mrs Liz Wilson.

Have a great week and keep smiling!

Neil Cunningham
Principal
You won’t believe where I went last Tuesday. Doesn’t matter, I will tell you anyway. All the Grade 6’s went to the Briars Camp. It was the best camp I have ever been to. At first when we got there, they took us on a tour to show us around the camp. After that they told us which cabin we were in. When we got settled, we went onto our first activity that was “Teddy Bear Rescue”. At this activity we had to do a full obstacle course without touching the floor while carrying a teddy bear on a stretcher.

It was lots of fun but hard as well.

Now I won’t get you bored lots of details but will tell you my favourite things. One activity was when you got butterflies in your tummy called the “Giant Swing”. It was 16 metres high and I went to the top.

Once you are pulled to the top, you had to pull a rope and then you swing back down.

The thing I liked the best was the disco. The disco was really fun and it went till late at night.

Maasfa 6AH
On Tuesday to Friday, we went to the Briars outdoor education camp. It took us over an hour to get there. Once we got there we went into the rec-room to listen to the safety rules. We got into our first activity which was hut building. Tyrone, Steph and I got very wet as the hut had holes in it. Every day we had different activities. There was a flying fox, giant swing, canoeing, teddy bear rescue, archery, leap of faith, low ropes and more. We also played gaga, volleyball, and lawn races with chairs. Thursday night was the best because we had the disco. Mr Hayes, Mr Murphy and Mr Clydesdale were the DJs for the disco. It was fun at camp and I will miss Grade 6 camp.

Natasha 6AH

Many thanks to all the staff, students, and parent helpers for an awesome Grade 6 Camp at the Briars in Mt Martha.
2014 Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will start THIS FRIDAY!!.

There will be FREE toast for all Grades 3-6 students.

Time: 8:30- 8:55am
Day: FRIDAY mornings
Place: New Gym
Cost: FREE for all students
10c for all additional meals

We are always looking for parent helpers.
If you have a current WWCC (Working With Childrens Check) and would like to help us out on FRIDAY Mornings please contact Mrs Cavanagh in the new Gym.

(Please note that this is a non profit program- all money collected is spent on buying items for our Breakfast Club)

PEANUT ALLERGIES: Unfortunately we are unable to offer Breakfast Club to children with nut allergies. Although we do not serve 'nut foods', we cannot guarantee that our kitchen is complete 'Nut Free Zone'. Thank you for your understanding.

Prep for Parents

Did your child start Prep this year? Would you like tips on how to support your child in their first year at school? Then subscribe to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s new weekly Prep for Parents email.

You will be sent an email every Wednesday during school term that will include tips, advice and information about the day-to-day experiences children have in the classroom and things you can do at home to assist and encourage your child.

To subscribe to Prep for Parents, see:


Nicolas 1CC
Chanumi 1CS
Thisara 2CT
Farwah 2DK
Ava 2DK
Brandy 2SJ
Alyssa 34C
Charlie 4LK
Jerrell 4LM
Liam 5AC
Sharvin 5CA
Kanksha 6AH
Isabeau 6RB
**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can select to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*. 

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

**How to Apply:** Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

**Closing Date:** You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.


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**PLEASE NOTE: NO EMA IN 2015.**

Please think about starting a payment plan now.

Call the office for more information and advice.
Dear Parents & Students ....**PHOTO DAY IS Tuesday 4th March 2014**

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

**Important Information**

*Online Ordering: If you choose to pay and order Online the order envelope does not need to be returned to the school. Instructions are included on the Flyer enclosed in your envelope. The code for online ordering is printed on your envelope (top right corner).

*Sibling (family) Photo envelope MUST be returned to the school by Friday 25th February in order to be photographed.

To pay for Sibling photos online go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)

  Step 1 Enter your code: FAM or SCH
  Step 2 Click No (no 9 digit code required)
  Step 3. Complete student and Credit Card details.
  Step 4. 8 digit receipt number on envelope (bottom left corner)

or enclose Cash or Cheque in the order envelope.

Your Sibling envelope must be completed and returned to school for your order to be completed.

**Payment Options are as follows:**

1. **Online Order and Payment:** Instructions are on the of Flyer, which is enclosed in your envelope.

2. **Online Payment Only:** Instructions are on the Flyer, which is enclosed in your envelope.

3. **Cash:** enclose correct money in order envelope and return to your school before or on photo day.

4. **Cheque:** enclose in order envelope and return to your school before or on photo day.

*Please note that all your payment and ordering instructions are included on the Flyer enclosed in your Student order envelope.*

Feel free to contact Advancedlife Photography for further assistance. (see details below)

Email: info@advancedlifevic.com.au

Phone: 9852 1133

From the team at AdvancedLife Photography.
Dear Parents,

Nominations have been called for School Council for 2014. There are 3 Parent Category vacancies for 2014 following the completion of term for Michelle Hosking and Linda Mossi and a one year vacancy due to Natasha Dacey’s resignation due to relocation.

Nominations are required on the form that can be collected from the school office. Nominations close Thursday 27th February at 4.00pm.

I would encourage you to consider this as an opportunity for you to assist our great school.

Below is an information sheet concerning School Council membership, and the election process, prepared by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

If you have any queries regarding School Council or the nomination process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Neil Cunningham
Principal

What is a school council and what does it do?
All Government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.
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**How can you become involved?**
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

**Do I need special experience to be on school council?** No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

**What do you need to do to stand for election?**
The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

**Remember**
Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
Consider standing for election to council this year
Be sure to vote in the elections.
Kilberry Valley Primary School Council Elections 2014

Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate ................................................................. for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Kilberry Valley Primary School Council.

Name..............................................................................................

Residential address...........................................................................

Home telephone.............................................................

Business telephone.............................................................

Email..............................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ................................................................., who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of ................................................................., who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Yes / No (please circle)
Signature of Nominator.............................................................

Date............................

Candidate to complete
I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate.............................................................

Date.............................
KILBERRY VALLEY NOTICES SENT HOME

The following notices have been sent home to families and require your prompt attention:

EDWIN FLACK DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
(SELECTED STUDENTS ONLY)
Final payment & consent forms will be due by Friday, 21st February, 2014. The cost of this excursion is $2.

GRADE 5 CAMP 2014 (WARATAH BAY)
Final payments will be due by Monday 24th March, 2014. The approximate cost of the camp is $255.

Students who do not return consent forms and payments by the closing date for incursions/excursions will not be able to participate in the activity. We would appreciate your support and co-operation with these matters. Thank you.

LATE PAYMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

CANTEEN NEWS

New price lists for 2014 for the canteen are now available at the School Office. You can also view it online at our website www.kilberryps.vic.edu.au

Our canteen now serves Gluten Free items so please ensure that you mark your lunch orders accordingly if you need to select this option.

Please remember also that if you DO NOT provide a bag for your lunch order that you MUST pay 10 cents so that the canteen can provide one for you.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter

The canteen is now OPEN for sales.

VICTORIAN SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES

Enrolments are now being taken for 2014 for Sinhala Language at the Victorian School of Languages, Hampton Park Secondary College, Fordholm Road, Hampton Park.

The classes are for Prep-VCE and are held every Saturday from 9am-12.15pm

For further information please contact Thushari Perera on 9705 2082 or 0425 754 920

DIARY DATES –TERM 1 2014

Tuesday 4th March – School Photo Day
Monday 10th March – Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 18th March – Harmony Day Concert (2.15pm)

School Crossings Victoria Inc.

Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?
Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2014/2015 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

Pick up a nomination form online at www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au

Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

Closes Friday 2nd May 2014

KILBERRY VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADVERTISING

Please Note:
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not endorse the products or services of any private advertisers. No responsibility is accepted by DEECD for accuracy of information.

WELFARE CORNER

10 tips for parents

1. When your child wants to show you something, stop what you are doing and pay attention to your child. It is important to spend frequent, small amounts of time with your child doing things that you both enjoy.

2. Give your child lots of physical affection – children often like hugs, cuddles, and holding hands.

3. Talk to your child about things he/she is interested in and share aspects of your day with your child.

4. Give your child lots of descriptive praise when they do something that you would like to see more of, e.g. “Thank you for doing what I asked straight away.”

5. Children are more likely to misbehave when they are bored so provide lots of engaging indoor and outdoor activities for your child, e.g., play dough, colouring in, cardboard boxes, dress ups, cubby houses, etc.

6. Teach your child new skills by first showing the skill yourself, then giving your child opportunities to learn the new skill. For example, speak politely to each other in the home. Then, prompt your child to speak politely (e.g., say “Please” or “Thank you”), and praise your child for their efforts.

7. Set clear limits on your child’s behaviour. Sit down and have a family discussion on the rules in the home. Let your child know what the consequences will be if they break the rules.

8. If your child misbehaves, stay calm and give them a clear instruction to stop misbehaviour and tell them what you would like them to do instead (e.g., “Stop fighting; play nicely with each other.”) Praise your child if they stop. If they do not stop, follow through with an appropriate consequence.

9. Have realistic expectations. All children misbehave at times and it is inevitable that you will have some discipline hassles. Trying to be the perfect parent can set you up for frustration and disappointment.

10. Look after yourself. It is difficult to be a calm, relaxed parent if you are stressed anxious or depressed. Try to find time every week to let yourself unwind or do something that you enjoy.

Zania Cope—Assistant Principal

MONDAY
10TH
MARCH
LABOUR
DAY
PUBLIC
HOLIDAY

Cathy-Lea
dance.music.drama.
directing.talent.creating.stars.
www.cathy-lea.com 9704-7324
