Dear Parents,

**School Council Elections**
I remind you that nominations close for the School Council Elections at 4.00pm Wednesday 20th February.

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

- 2 year term x 3 positions

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. Nomination forms can be collected at the school office.

**Year 6 Camp**
The Year 6 camp was another resounding success with the students undergoing many activities that tested their persistence and presented them many challenges. The four days are packed with activities that test their teamwork, ability to try new experiences and develop great social awareness of living with people other than immediate family for a week. I greatly thank the staff and parents who attended this camp. I always very much appreciate the willingness to leave their own families for this time to ensure the students have this opportunity.

I was fortunate to spend a day at the camp when we walked along the Mt Martha boardwalk from The Briars to the beach and back. This is a beautiful walk and I recommend it to you as a family one weekend.

**Parent, Teacher, Student Meetings**
We will be conducting the Parent, Teacher, student meetings this year in the week of the 11th March. A couple of classes will need to schedule these the following week due to staff taking leave but if this affects you, you will be sent a special notice informing you of that.

These meetings are an opportunity for you to talk to the teachers about your child and the little things we need to know to assist them to have the best year possible.

These are not a reporting session to you, as the teachers have only known your child for a short time. However, as we introduced last year, one purpose of the meeting is to set an Individual Development Plan for your child. Your child’s teacher will have given some thought to what might be in the plan, but this will not be finalised until you and your child have also had input. In this way you can work closely with your child’s teacher to focus on a couple of things everyone agrees will ensure your child gets the best out of the year.

The online booking system will be open on Wednesday 27th February. We will inform you via a notice that will be sent home to families how to book your appointment.

**What’s happening around the school?**
During the first couple of weeks of the school year we focus on establishing a positive, caring learning environment for our students. Each class discusses this and talks about what this will look like in their room. It is great to visit classes and see what they have determined for their class this year.

Some of the signs around the school read:

- Attention you are entering awesome territory!
- Warning: Hard at work!
- Knowledge is power, independence is everything!
- Circle of friends, friendship circles.
- When you enter this classroom you are the reason we are here – you are authors, designers, a friend, writers, musicians etc.
- When you enter this
- Little room
- Consider yourself
- One of the special
- Members of a group who
- Enjoys learning together
We have also commenced Inquiry Investigations across the whole school. These have a strong focus on ‘community’ and are outlined below. If you have any skills or experiences in these areas please ensure you let your child’s teacher know so you could assist.

Inquiry investigations for Term 1

Level 1 (Year Prep)
Communities function more effectively when rules and routines are shared with all members.
We are learning to follow rules at school and at home and understand why we need them.
We are learning to get along.
We are learning to be responsible.
We are learning what a community is.

Level 2 (Years 1 and 2)
Being responsible and following rules keeps our community safe.
Everyone has a right to be safe.
Our actions and our choices have an impact on our safety and the safety of others.
Rules help us stay safe and ensure everyone is treated fairly.
There are people who help us keep safe.

Level 3 (Years 3 and 4)
There are different rules and laws that are designed to fairly dictate the behavior of citizens.
There is a difference between rules and laws.
Different societies have different rules and laws.
Being fair doesn’t mean everyone gets the same.

Level 4 (Years 5 and 6)
Australia: A democratic nation shaped by many voices over time.
Everyone’s responsible for the development and perception of Australia.
The value of a democratic society and its impact on everyday life.
Knowledge and understanding of significant events in Australian history.
Excursions, incursions and class activities have been organised to provide immersion experiences for students to engage and formulate questions to drive their learning forward. For example, the senior school organised an excursion to Parliament House and the Museum last Friday and this coming Friday. The reports back say it was a very interesting and informative time. I am sure this week’s group will also enjoy it and learn a lot.

ACMA Cybersmart Program
Cyber Safety is becoming more important every day and we are offering a session for you to come along and learn positive ways to use the ever-growing digital world. The session will highlight some pitfalls to avoid and also give many important hints to ensure safety online. I encourage you to attend. Please read the flier further on in the Valley Views.

Have a great week and keep smiling!

Neil Cunningham
Principal
I liked the pancakes with honey.
Ben

It was fun making the pancakes and I had mine with butter.
Zinab

Pancake Day was very enjoyable.
I liked eating the pancakes.
Ashmit

I enjoyed the pancake with butter and sugar.
Emily

I thought the pancakes were super awesome.
Jessica

I loved Pancake Day because I got to eat pancakes.
Jarrod
18th February to 24th February, 2013

Student Birthdays

Chanumi 0CM
Nicolas 0JB
Thisara 1CS
Ava 1CT
Anoj 2SJ
Jerrell 3SC
Roman 3TS
Charlie 3YH
Alyssa 3YH
Sharvin 4DR
Liam 4JW
Isabeau 5JS
Kanksha 5LT
Taylor 5SM
Brodie 6AM
Billy 6LC

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:


Student of the Week

Monday 11th March
Labour Day
Public Holiday
Students do not attend

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) 2013—Last Chance to Apply

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for EMA, you must be the holder of a current Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit, that is a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card, or Health Care Card, or Pensioner Concession Card, be a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, or be a (temporary) foster parent. Eligibility dates (as per stated on card):

Term 1 29th January 2013
Term 3 15th July 2013

To apply for 2013 EMA please complete the new EMA Application Form (available from the School’s Administration Office) and present your Health Care or Pension Card for photocopying.

Applications close Friday 22nd February, 2013.

No late applications can be accepted.
Kilberry Valley Primary School

ADVERTISING

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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.

KILBERRY VALLEY NOTICES SENT HOME

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

GRADE 5 CAMP
Consent forms and a non-refundable deposit of $50 MUST be received by Friday, 22nd February, 2013. Final payments will be due by Thursday 28th March, 2013. The approximate cost of the camp is $235.

MEET A LIFEGUARD (GRADES 1 & 2)
Consent forms and payment MUST be received by Friday, 8th March, 2013. The cost of this incursion is $4.

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

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.

DIARY DATES FOR TERM 1 2013

Monday 11th March:
Labour Day Public Holiday