Thursday 6th March 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 10th March
Public Holiday – No Students at School

Thursday 27th March
5/6 Our Transition day to Braybrook SC. (Half day visit).

Friday 7th March
Grade 3 – 4 Tour of Sunshine Excursion

Thursday 13th March
Fundraising Morning Tea 9.00am

Friday 21st March
Harmony Day – Whole School Excursion to Federation Square

Friday 28th March
Out of Uniform Day – Donate an Easter Egg

Friday 4th April
Easter Raffle Drawn

Friday 4th April
End of Term – Dismissal 2.15pm Casual Dress Day

Thursday 22nd May
Twilight School – 1.00pm – 7.15pm

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you so much to all the parents and carers that were able to come along to the parent/teacher meetings last week. Developing a strong working partnership between a teacher and parent is very important for a child’s social, emotional and academic development. It was great to hear so much positive feedback from both parents and teachers about the evening. For parents that were unable to attend the evening or if you require a follow up conversation, please contact your child’s teacher to arrange another time.

There is also a buzz of excitement around the school as we prepare for our Harmony Day trip to the city! At assembly last week we spent the final ten minutes practicing our ‘flash mob’ number! Reminder to parents to please sign and pass on permission note to their child’s teacher as soon as possible. I’m really excited about being able to provide the students with an opportunity to do something different and to also realise how they can have a positive influence on others! Which is our goal on the day – to get as many other people involved in our performance?

I remember before my first child was born my wife and I talked a lot about how we wanted to be a positive influence on our children. We wanted our children to be risk takers, to be independent and to be creative thinkers. However, this sounded much easier to do when sitting around in a pre-birth class with other couples that were preparing for their first child! Not one person in the pre-birth class mentioned that sleep deprivation may hinder your ambitions or that a strong willed child can actually provide many challenging household moments. Or that sometimes you think you need to put yourself through things that you really don’t enjoy so that you don’t seem to be a negative influence on your children! For me this is every time my wife says ‘Let’s go to the beach!’ As I’ve mentioned in previous newsletters, the beach and I have a very rocky relationship. The beach thinks I don’t enjoy it enough, and I don’t like the fact that the beach likes to travel home with me in the car, clothes, towels etc. Which is why I was very hesitant when my wife suggested we go to the beach for a week over the school holidays. My daughters were jumping around with joy, while I was thinking how could I say no without dampening their enthusiasm! How would I respond if they asked why I didn’t want to go? To them the beach is a mountain of fun! Who doesn’t like the beach! Anyway, I decided to give it a go and fortunately it was during ‘that’ hot week!

Before heading off for our beach adventure, my wife suggested we purchase boogie boards for the girls. As someone, who has never used a boogie board before I didn’t really see the need for them and thought it wouldn’t be worth it. Luckily, my wife disagreed with me and picked up a couple of boards from K-Mart the night before we departed.
Personally, before experiencing the boogie board, I thought it was just another thing I’d need to carry on the hot sand – along with the umbrella, towels, sand castle tools and a bag full of stuff – not that I’m complaining!

As soon as we arrived at the beach on our first day we found a spot, set up our space and headed into the water with the boogie boards! The girls were a bit apprehensive at the start and were happy to just use them as a kickboard. However, things changed when a couple of experienced 12-year-old boogie boarders arrived and began riding the waves! This sparked 2 hours of absolute bliss for the girls and they enjoyed travelling aboard the many waves that rolled in throughout the morning! After a very long while, the girls decided they needed a rest. My youngest daughter handed me her board before heading for the sand.

So, here I was thinking I could give this a go while standing around in waste deep water holding a pink flamingo boogie board amongst a group of 8 – 12 year olds having the time of their life. I’m not sure how it looked or what people thought, watching a grown man riding a kid’s boogie board for the next hour. The only disappointing thing was that my family didn’t even see the only 5 waves that I caught for the day! I’ve got to mention that I nearly took out a young boy in my determination to catch the biggest wave. I’m sure he gave me a look that hinted that I should think about finding a different beach!

Boogie boarding gave me a reason as to why I might consider visiting the beach again. The sand that still resides in the car may be the only deterring factor. If anyone has a plan of how to fully enjoy the beach while not getting any sand in the car then I’d love to hear from you!

Anyway, I try to stay positive and the most important thing that I’ve discovered as a parent is that we are not perfect all the time! This is an important thing for our children to learn.

Harmony Day is a great chance for us to show the children how pleased we are that they get along and have a positive influence on so many people from so many different cultures. They respect other people’s beliefs, traditions and backgrounds, and this needs to be celebrated!

Hope everyone has a fantastic week.
Alex Artavilla
Principal

2014 Events Planner

Please note:
- Events planner will be updated regularly
- Changes may occur

| Student Free Days for 2014 | Monday 19th May  
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<td>Monday 3rd November</td>
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| TERM 1 – 2014               | - Friday 7th March Grade 3 – 4 Tour of Sunshine Excursion  
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29th January – 4th April   | - Monday 10th March Public Holiday Student Free Day  
|                            | - Thursday 13th March Fundraising Morning Tea 9.00am  
|                            | - Friday 21st March Harmony Day Excursion to Federation School  
|                            | - Thursday 27th March – 5/6 Our Transition day to Braybrook SC. (Half day visit).  
|                            | - Friday 28th March Out of Uniform Day – Donate an Easter Egg  
|                            | - Friday 4th April Easter Raffle Drawn  
|                            | - Friday 4th April End of Term – Dismissal 2.15pm Casual Dress Day |

| TERM 2 - 2014               | - Monday 28th April Parliament House Excursion Grade 5 & 6  
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22nd April – 27th June     | - Thursday 1st May Whole School – School Photos  
|                            | - Thursday 22nd May Twilight School 1.00pm – 7.15pm               |
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Presentations at Friday Assembly

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<tr>
<th>Prep A</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kayla Kagioglou</td>
<td>Jibril Dib</td>
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<td>Mara Rico</td>
<td>Jenny Tran</td>
<td>Katie Vo</td>
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<td>Nathan Byass</td>
<td>Saham Ali</td>
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<td>Saneha King</td>
<td>Maria Christodoulou</td>
<td>Sokratis Asvestas</td>
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<td>Prep A</td>
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<td>Mustafa Mesto</td>
<td>Jacob Anderson Weston</td>
<td>Emily Galle</td>
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<td>Prep A</td>
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<td>ICT</td>
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<td>Erin Saffarese</td>
<td>Joshua Tran</td>
<td>Luka Kujovic</td>
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CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE GREAT EFFORT!!

SPORTS TERM 1

Interschool Sports Term 1 2014

DATES:
- Friday the 7th of March away against Christ the King - Travelling by Bus
  (Situated in Churchill Ave Braybrook)
- Friday the 14th of March home against Sunshine North
- Friday the 21st of March TBA
- Friday the 4th of April away against Sunshine Harvester – Travelling by Bus
  (Situated in Dukes Rd, Sunshine)

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Some dates for your diary from the Fundraising Team.

Fundraising Morning Tea: Thursday 13th March, 9am in the PD centre.

Out of uniform Day - Donate an egg - Friday 28th March

Easter raffle draw: Thursday 4th April.
Twilight School Organisational Details
Thursday 22nd of May 2014

To showcase and celebrate the learning experiences offered at Sunshine Heights Primary School, on **Thursday 22nd of May 1:00pm – 7:15pm** the students will have the opportunity to experience a ‘Twilight’ school day. On this day the students will arrive at school at 12:45pm for a 1:00pm start with school finishing at 7:15pm.

Twilight School will give parents/carers/grandparents the opportunity to visit and enjoy their child’s classrooms in action. We will also use this event to invite our kindergarten friends and families!

The school day times on our Twilight School Day will be as follows:

- 1:00 – 3:00pm  Session 1 and 2
- 3:00 – 3:30pm  RECESS
- 3:30 – 4:30pm  Session 3
- 4:30 – 4:40pm  Eating time
- 4:40 – 5:30pm  OUTSIDE TIME (this may vary depending on the time that the sun will be setting)
- 5:30 – 7:15pm  Session 4 and 5

Students will be expected to arrive at class/school at 12:45pm. At the end of the school day parents will be asked to pick their child up from the classroom. No child will be allowed to walk home from school – this is the same policy that applies for school concert nights. Parents will also be asked to inform the class teacher in writing prior to the day of alternative picking up arrangements (e.g. uncle/friend picking up student).

We are currently looking at the idea of pre-ordered meal arrangements for the students. More information regarding food arrangements will be provided in the coming months.

Parents/carers are encouraged to arrive at any time of the day for as long as they would like to stay. However, it will be important for parents to remember that it is a normal school day and that students will be expected to stay at school until the end of the day (unless they have after school sports/music session - the decision to attend the session is up to the parent/student – parents are encouraged to pick up their child from school at any time to attend the training session/lesson).

We have contacted ‘World 4 Kids’ and before care will be provided on the morning of the Twilight School Day from 6:45am – 8:45am. We are providing parents with extensive notice to allow them the opportunity to make arrangements prior to the start of the school day. Parents are asked to contact the school closer to the date if they are unable to make arrangements for their child/ren.

More details regarding the day are currently being finalised with staff to ensure it is a successful school event and will be shared with families weeks prior to the event.

**Other important information:**

- Police will be contacted to support at school crossings if official school crossing personnel are unable to man crossings before school starts – between 12:30 – 1:10pm.
- Staff members will man all school crossings (not just the ones around the school boundary) used by students before school starts. Crossings supervision will commence at 12:30pm. It would also be good to have parent volunteers assist with school crossings.
- A map of the school crossings that will be manned between 12:30pm and 1:10pm will be provided to all families.
- Parents will be required to sign in at the school office prior to visiting their child’s classroom.

**Twilight School will prove to be an exciting day for the students and the whole school community!**

Please contact the school if you have any further questions regarding ‘Twilight School’.
MARCH NEWS

STUDENT GARDENING TEAM
Thanks to the Grade 5/6 students who helped us plant the last tree to go in the bird attracting garden near the staff carpark. Also thanks to all the students who helped plant the indigenous plants that the council have given us, as part of the Green Genes program. Have a look in the front of the school where the flags are to check their progress!

NEXT PROJECT
Landscaping the area in front of the portable classrooms and creating an outdoor classroom between the two.

what to plant this month:
broccoli
brussels sprouts
onion
peas

Fridays 9-10 am. Meet outside the uniform shop, or if raining in Conference room A for a cuppa.
Lisa 0423 329 734 vinlisa@optusnet.com.au

Our aim is to enhance the school grounds using sustainable plants and methods. Run by parents, we will help to reconnect the students with nature and become environmentally responsible.
Instrumental Lessons at School

DID YOU KNOW THAT MUSIC:
Develops mind, hand & eye co-ordination
Enhances Listening Skills
Improves Self Esteem & Is Fun!

"...to help young people discover that learning is not a destination, but a journey, an incredibly wonderful journey to be devoured, savoured and cherished."

Peter Losl Boonshaft - Teaching Music with Purpose 2006

Enrolment forms are available from the School Office or contact Genesis Music School Direct on 0421 426 674