

NUMBER 15

25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



### REMINDERS FOR WEEK SEVEN: TERM TWO 2017

Friday May 26 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division cross-country</li> <li>• <b>ASSEMBLY 3pm</b></li> </ul>
Monday May 29 <sup>th</sup>	•
Tuesday May 30 <sup>th</sup>	• AFL Clinic (Carlton) Grade 4/5/6 1pm
Wednesday May 31 <sup>st</sup>	• Winter Series
Thursday June 1 <sup>st</sup>	• Reconciliation
Friday June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	• <b>ASSEMBLY 3pm</b>

### EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS – Grade 4/5A

Our Exceptional Students this week are Amelia Oliver, Mitch Finck and Tirana Keegan.



Amelia is an exceptional student because she has a wonderful attitude towards everything she does. She is a terrific friend to all her classmates as she is caring and considerate of everyone. She has shown wonderful confidence this year in the way she has adjusted to her new school and made lots of new friends. Amelia is a persistent young lady who tries her hardest in every aspect of her learning. Sensational effort Amelia.

Mitch is an exceptional student because he is always cheerful and gets along with everyone in our class. He shows wonderful persistence and resilience because he doesn't let anything bother him and always gets on with the task he needs to do. Mitch is a problem solver who finds creative solutions to any problem and puts terrific effort into his work so he can be proud of the outcome. Fantastic work this year Mitch.

Tiarna is an exceptional student because she is consistently organised and has wonderful determination to do her best in everything she tackles. Tiarna works cheerfully with all her classmates and is often heard encouraging others or congratulating them on their hard work and success. It is wonderful to see her confidence when sharing her ideas and having a go at something unfamiliar. What a wonderful attitude Tiarna, well done!

*Our Exceptional students will be presented with their awards at tomorrow's assembly at 3pm*

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### **ACADEMIC EFFORT/ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT/ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

**William Rethus** has shown outstanding academic effort, improvement and achievement by counting by 15's from 15 to 600. The class were learning to count by 5's and were encouraged to do this as homework. William went the extra step and did counting by 15. William displayed his great counting skills at assembly last Friday in front of over 100 amazed onlookers.

Other students in Grade 1/2E who excelled with this homework were Zarah Bott, Shantae Keegan, Claire Munday, Melanie Price, Julia Stiles, Eva Tait, Banjo Taylor and Ed Thompson.

### YOU CAN DO IT! STARS

#### **Organisation – Caught 10 times**

Esther Thompson Nomes Amundsen

Alex Twomey

Lilly Swanson

Angus Impey

Amelia Oliver

Brandon Wood

Tiarna Keegan

Taya Field

Gina Shemeld

#### **Resilience – caught 10 times**

Briah Burford

Abby McFarlane

Samuel Herbertson

#### **Getting Along – Caught 10 times**

Jayden McCluskey Samuel Herbertson

Sam Fidge

Angus Impey

Briah Burford

Elaina Cocks

Luke Fidge

Tiarna Keegan

Jonathon Goode

Eli Herbertson

#### **Persistence – Caught 10 times**

Luke Fidge

Briah Burford

Samuel Herbertson

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**Organisation – Caught 20 times** Kade Perkins Rebecca Goode Annabel Sutherland

**Academic Excellence – Caught 10 time**

Alex Twomey Sanjay Fenton Esther Thompson Annabel Sutherland

*Our stars will receive their awards at assembly tomorrow,*

## **WELCOME YARINDA INTARAKSA**



Last Wednesday we welcomed a new family to our school. Mr Ewan Thomas, Mrs Janyagon Thomas and their daughter Yarinda.

Yarinda is from Thailand and is in Grade 1. She has settled into our school extremely well. The students in 1/2E have been very welcoming with a special mention to Zarah Bott who has been Yarinda's special buddy.

If anyone knows of a Thai-speaking person who would like to volunteer some of their time to help Yarinda settle into school please let us know.

## **SPORTING SCHOOLS – Soccer**

Starting Monday June 5th our students will have the opportunity to be part of the Sporting Schools program. Jake Davies (Soccer Coach) will conduct the program at lunch times. Each student will have the option of attending at least 4 session.

## **WINTER SERIES – Wednesday May 31<sup>st</sup>**

All Grade 5/6 students will be involved in the Winter Series next Wednesday playing football, netball or soccer. All students participating have received extra information.

## **AFL CLINIC (Carlton) – Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup>**

All Grades 4/5/6 students will travel into Portland for the AFL Clinic. Students can bring football jumpers and football boots to change into for the clinic. All students should come prepared for physical activity.

## **RECONCILIATION WEEK ACTIVITIES – Thursday June 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Grade 4/5/6 students will be attending Reconciliation Week activities of Traditional Aboriginal Language and Games on Thursday at the Portland Civic Hall. They will leave school at 10.10am and return at 1pm. Students will need a packed lunch, water and fruit will be provided.

## **ENROLMENT WEEK – JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>**

If you have a child starting Foundation in 2018 we encourage you to enrol in the week starting Monday June 5<sup>TH</sup>. Any parents wanting to have a look around our school can make a time for a tour during this week.

All schools in the Portland and District area encourage students to go to their Neighbourhood School.

**WORKING BEE – SUNDAY, June 25<sup>th</sup> 1pm: details to follow**

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MAY 2017**

There was some good discussion (and learnings for us "ordinary" Council members!) from Lee's Principal's report at our last meeting, as always a lot has been achieved in all the areas of *Achievement, Engagement, Wellbeing, Productivity and other*. I encourage all of our parents to ask about these things when they arise in the newsletter, I think we sometimes just glaze over them, not really knowing or understanding what they are or how they play a part in shaping not only our children's learning but their overall growth and social perspective. I was particularly interested and impressed, with the not only what they were but also in the learnings and outcomes achieved in the Graffiti Education (for grades 5/6), and the "catching on" refresher attended by Lee and Beth. As I said there is a lot that goes on that we just tend to read a one-liner about, and when we take the time to ask a question and find out more we really get to see the bigger picture and the up side of all the "other stuff" our children are exposed to.

Separate to Lee's report, he took us through the Behavior Audit, how it works and the benefits he sees from doing the audits, and the opportunity it provides both the students and teachers. We all know what the students get out of it, but it is the information and analysis of what is provided (by the students) that is a great tool for the teachers – especially in terms of emerging patterns of behavior (both good and not so good) and how, when picked up early things can be put in place to rectify or celebrate the behavior.

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I keep batting on about “engagement”, and how we need to continue to engage our school community. It is a really important goal for Council to have as many of our families engaged, involved and feeling comfortable to come into the school and help out, volunteer, make suggestions or just have a chat. I believe that family and community engagement is a vital part of a truly successful school. Families who are engaged have a better understanding of their child’s learning needs and progress, are more confident in the school environment, are invested in their child’s education, feel more supported and have a greater level of satisfaction and confidence in the work the school is doing.

As a Council we thought it would be a good start by holding a working bee each term to bring our families together, so.... the next working bee will be held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June from 1pm, it would be great to see you all there. The working bee will centre around the school grounds proposal, which was sent out with the last School Council report. We will obviously send out information closer to time, but the types of things we will be looking at doing include: tidy up and upgrade to the Cubby area, seating and planting in the old sand pit area, line marking of the netball court as well as general clean-up /weeding etc. Followed by a BBQ.

PS Just on engagement.... Volunteer Surveys are still available from Nicole if you would like to fill one out!! We really want to encourage a community feel around our school .... the more we get to know each other, each other’s children, other teachers etc. the more robust and positive the outcomes for our school will become.

We will be applying for a grant from Portland Aluminium where, if successful we will look at putting colour bond around the music room, as you would be aware the boards and the outside of the building require a lot of TLC and after shopping around for quotes we believe the colour bond is a cost effective and beneficial way of maintaining the building. You would remember that this building and all its maintenance is now owned by the school – this was part of the negotiations struck when we had the portable removed. If you know of any other grants that are available to apply for please let me (or someone) know, grants, when successful are a really great way of getting things done that we would ordinarily have to fundraise for.

As always please feel free to talk to me about anything you may like to bring up at school council or if you have any ideas on things we can be doing to improve our school.

Cheers Anna

## **GREAT SOUTH COAST HEALTH BEHAVIOURS STUDY – Friday June 19<sup>th</sup>**

The Great South Coast Health Behaviours Study is an exciting study that is being conducted at your school. All Grade 2, 4 and 6 students at your school are being invited to participate. This study will examine influences on healthy weight and related behaviours (physical activity, sedentary behaviour, diet quality and quality of life) among children and adolescents across the Great South Coast region of Victoria. We ask that you please read the information carefully, so that you can make an informed decision about your child’s participation. We ask that you only return the **OPT-OUT** consent form should you and or your child decide **NOT TO** participate. We are using an OPT-OUT consent process whereby your child’s participation in this study is assumed unless you indicate via the return of the signed **OPT-OUT** consent form that you do not wish for your child to participate.

If you and your child agree to participate we would like your child to complete the following activities:

- Complete a brief physical activity, sedentary behaviour, food intake and health and wellbeing questionnaire **(Grade 4 and 6 only)**;
- Have their height and weight measured in a private and professional manner with trained researchers **(All Grades 2, 4 & 6)**;
- Some children will be asked to wear a match box sized activity monitor (accelerometer) on their right hip during waking hours for 7-days. They will need to return this monitor to school at the end of the week **(Grades 4 & 6)**.

All activities will be conducted throughout a normal school day, in school time.

All information obtained in connection with this research that can identify your child will remain confidential. Your child’s data will be made anonymous during analyses, therefore, your child will not be identified in any report, publication or presentation.

Results of this study will provide information about effectiveness of current efforts to improve the health of Victorian children and adolescents. This information will be used by educators, policy makers, health service providers and researchers in future efforts to improve the health of Victorian children and adolescents.

If you require further information or have any problems or concerns regarding this research, you can contact Dr Claudia Strugnell.

With warm regards,

Claudia Strugnell

Research Fellow,

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Deakin Population Strategic Research Centre

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## IMPORTANT EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 2 DATES

<b>May</b>	Friday	26 <sup>th</sup>	-	Division Cross-Country in Warrnambool
	Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup>	-	AFL Clinic
	Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup>	-	Winter Series (football, soccer & netball – Grade 5/6)
<b>June</b>	Monday	5 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parents Club 9am
	Friday	9 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Report Writing Day – Student free day</b>
	Monday	12 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Queen's Birthday Holiday</b>
	Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	-	School Council
	Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup>	-	Working Bee 1pm
	Friday	30 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Last Day of Term 2</b>

**LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL**

## iPAD LEASE PAYMENTS

Term 2 iPad Lease Payments are now due. Statements are attached to today's newsletter.

### 'DIRECT CREDIT' Deposits for School Fees/Charges

2 'Direct Credit' deposits, with reference ERPACS, were made on 17/5/2017 and 19/5/2017, but no reference as to whom these payments are to be allocated. Would the person who made these deposits please call the office or pop in and see Nicole so that the payments can be allocated to the correct account.

***When making direct credit deposits please be sure to reference a family name.***

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Zeek Roos who turns 8 on Wednesday.

## PARENTS CLUB

**Lunch Roster:** Tomorrow –Anitha & Sarah. Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June (Pumpkin Soup) - Anitha and 1 more helper please. Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June.(Hamburgers) – Anitha and 2 more helpers please. Please add your name to the list in the office.

**BOOKCLUB ISSUE 4** which was distributed today, is due back at school by Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> June.



AUSTRALIAN BREASTFEEDING ASSOCIATION  
PORTLAND PRESENTS THE  
25TH ANNUAL

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BONANZA  
GARAGE SALE**

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11am - 1pm

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**SUNDAY 28 MAY 2017**

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PORTLAND RUNNERS CLUB PRESENTS

# 2017 WINTER SOLSTICE FUN RUN *June 18*

**5K - 9K - 15K**

WALK OR RUN PLUS A KIDS RUN

*'Light up the shortest day'*

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## Chaplain's Corner – Hoarder or chucker?

I think I'm a selective hoarder. Not like those people you see on the TV news thankfully. The people whose homes are filled from top to bottom, front to back with stuff. The high fire risk houses. Often with 29 cats to complete the picture.

Well, we do have a couple of cats and, currently, some kittens which we think their mum has stashed away in a nearby haystack. Standard practice. But, yes, I do hang on to some bits and pieces. If it's auto related, or tools, or bits and pieces of corrugated iron, guttering, or workshop type gear, it stays. As do old books and certainly old cars. Like it or not, I have to admit to various obsessive ways. So be it. In an odd kind of way, there could be some ways in which hoarding – or throwing out – could relate to families. Consider....

- **Hang on to some things** – A much loved, tired little Chrysler Lancer went to Rotary for recycling as a fundraiser years ago. But I cleared out the glovebox and the boot first. Hung on to the owner's manual, the touch up paint, the jack. Not much value there really.
- **But there was an unexpected bonus** – One of our boys landed an old Rolls Royce for just a tad more than a burger at Maccas. It needed a real touch up. Yes, you've guessed it. The now rusty old can of Lancer touch up matched the old Roller perfectly. A good save there.
- **The frustration of chucking** – Some people throw out anything that doesn't move. My experience? The item I chucked out or gave away last week is what I desperately need this week. Always predictable. That's why I tend to hang on to odd bits and pieces.
- **It's great to have stuff lying around** – Needing to replace some guttering last week. No problem. Had the exact length of unused guttering from a few years back, still as good as new. Fitted perfectly. A great win there.
- **What do families need to hang on to?** – It's more than various items lying around. An example? Hang on to time. Not an easy one. Odd working hours, community and other commitments can easily rob kids of their parents. You can't get back time once it's gone.
- **And hang on to boundaries** – Kids are smart. They'll try to outwit mum and dad. They need lines in the sand to drive home what's right, honest and acceptable and what isn't. Families who throw away the boundaries breed kids who don't understand respect.
- **Hang on to fun and celebration** – Sure, there are tricky issues to unravel in any family. All the more reason to opt for the enjoyable. Games, together activities, visits, treats, one on one times. Kids never forget these moments. Don't throw them away. Create and keep them.
- **But some things need to go** – Any form of abuse, verbal or otherwise, has to be dumped. Constant put down, faultfinding, pointing the finger by any family member is out. Along with sustained anger and hostility. Yes, we may get worked up but it has to be within limits.
- **Selfishness has to go too** – Every family is a community but very easily fractured if its members only want to do their own thing. Simply put, the home can't function. The house descends into chaos. The way out is service, helping each other, doing it warmly.
- **We need to hang on to hope** – It's easy to lose it. Every family has their one big challenge. It could be anything: finance, health, behaviour, priorities, your call. In working through these soul-searching big deals, hang on tight to hope, that all will work out in the long run.

Are you a hoarder or a chucker? I try to be a bit of both but chucking is a slow second, let me admit. Just make sure you hang on to the very best things for your family and dump what doesn't help.

**John** – stay in touch [revsimmo@gmail.com](mailto:revsimmo@gmail.com)