Welcome back to a very busy and exciting term. We hope that you enjoyed the Easter break. The students have definitely come back to school focussed and ready to learn.

Is regular attendance at school important?

YES

If your child misses the basic skills in primary school they can experience difficulties with their learning.

Regular attendance is essential to make sure your child’s learning is not disrupted.

Congratulations to the following students from the Senior School that their class teacher has identified as having excellent attendance during term one.

Alisha – 6d  
Dylan – 6L  
Victoria – 6d  
Jade – 6L  
Chris – 6d  
Brooke – 6L  
Finn – 6d  
Lacey – 5A  
Michael – 6d  
Sian – 5A  
Kaleb – 6L  
Ciaran – 5A  
Patrick – 6L  
Uriah – 5A  
Matthew F – 6L  
Lauren – 5O  
Hayleigh – 6L  
Hayden – 5O  
Luke – 6L  
Suzanna-5O  
Brittany – 5O  
Dylan – 6L  
Jade – 6L

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY

On Tuesday April 24th at 2.30pm Sunbury Heights will hold its own ANZAC Day Ceremony on the school basketball court. We are hoping that as many of our school community can attend the ceremony as well.

The program for the ceremony is outlined below

2.30pm – School flag is lowered to half mast for the start of the ceremony.
2.35pm – Introduction: by Carmel Ross
2.40pm – The poem “A Brown Slouch Hat” to be read by Hayleigh Gilpin from 6 Langmaid.
2.50pm – A talk by Gordon Ross about the meaning of ANZAC
2.55 pm – “Can you hear Australians hero’s Marching” - A school wreath to be laid under the flagpole by a school captain.
3.00pm –Ode, The Last Post, a period of silence and rouse
There is **NO SCHOOL** on Wednesday April 25 due to the ANZAC Day holiday. All students in school are invited to take part in the march and attend the wreath laying ceremony. The students need to be in full school uniform and meet outside the railway station for the march beginning at 10. We will then march to the memorial area on the Village Green where our School Captains will lay a wreath on behalf of the school. This will take place at approximately 10.15-10.30. As this is not an official school excursion parents need to attend the event to ensure their own child’s supervision.

**Transition News**

Next week we will begin taking grade 5 students to our local kindergarten in Learmonth Street as part of our transition process. The weekly visits are intended to help kindergarten students become comfortable around older children. I am not sure who gets the most out of it and has the most fun, the little kids or the big kids! Last year, when I attended with the grade 5 students, they enjoyed playing in the kitchen corner, building roadways with blocks and making cakes out of play dough just as much as their small counterparts. Thank you to Claire, Denise and Tammy for welcoming Sunbury Heights to Learmonth Street.

The transition process is also underway for our grade six students. Prior to the end of term both local secondary colleges visited our school and our grade 6 students and their families are now in the process of making the choice for their secondary education. Enrolments forms are due back at Sunbury Heights prior to Friday, May 18th.

**Annual Report to the School Community**

In 2009 the Victorian Government released a strategy that enhances transparency and accountability for school improvement in Victorian schools. The Victorian Government’s transparency strategy is based on a firm belief that enhancing transparency helps the community hold schools, the system and Government accountable for improving student outcomes.

The Government wants everyone to be able to access the information they need and work together to achieve excellence and foster a shared understanding between parents and carers, schools, the school system and Government of how every school is working and improving.


It is also available via our school website [http://www.sunburyheightsps.vic.edu.au](http://www.sunburyheightsps.vic.edu.au).

This performance summary gives you an overview of how our school is performing, and how our performance compares to all other Victorian government schools.

This information covers our performance in the areas of student learning and student engagement and wellbeing.

Alongside the raw data, which has been available to you in our Annual Report, there is a new measure that tells us whether our school, taking into account our students, is performing higher than, lower than, or broadly similar to other Victorian government schools, taking into account their students.

We have also prepared for publication a one-page ‘What our school is doing’ statement to accompany the performance summary. This statement shares with the community how we are using our data to put in place strategies that will continue to improve outcomes for our students.

**Attitudes to School Survey**

Over the next few days our school is conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School survey is an annual student survey for Year 5 to Year 12 students offered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of July.

The **Attitudes to School** survey assists schools to gain an understanding of students’ perceptions and their experience of school. The survey provides schools with valuable data on students’ views of their wellbeing, school in general, and teaching and learning.

At Sunbury Heights we use the data in a number of ways, to:
- monitor levels of student engagement and wellbeing
- compare school level data on engagement with state-wide benchmarks
- stimulate discussion within the school community about how to improve engagement
- assist in the identification of areas for improvement

**Mother’s Day Stall and Mother’s Day Raffle**

This year’s Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Friday 11th of May. There are great gifts for your child to buy for you from the stall. The prices of gifts range from $1.00 to $5.00. Thank you to Cathy Williams, Allison Rosser, Anna Maria Tancevski and Krystal Carey for taking on the organisation of the raffle and the prizes.

Thank you to our play group mothers who have also provided support. If you are available to help at the stall on Friday 11th please leave your name at the office.

**We also have another fantastic raffle.**

We are sending home for you a book of raffle tickets for you to have the chance to win some lovely prizes. Tickets are 50c each or the book is $5.00. Raffle tickets will also be sold on the day of the stall.

Some of the great prizes to be won include:
- $100 Escape Travel Voucher
- 1 month Gym Membership at Curves
- 6 month Gym Membership at 24/7
- Jolly Miller voucher
- Michel’s Patisserie voucher
- Pasta Bella voucher
- Blue Plus Cafe voucher
- Muffin Break voucher
- Spendless Shoes voucher
- Flag of India voucher
- Vic Cucina Bar voucher
- Hair Cuts voucher
- Plus Many More voucher

Raffle money and tickets are due back on Monday 7th May, 2012.

**Chocolates**

Thank you to everyone who has made an effort to return the money from the chocolate fundraiser. There are still 30 boxes outstanding. This equates to $1500.00 outstanding. This money has been paid out already to the company and money needs to be returned ASAP. If there are any issues please contact the school. There are still 20 boxes of chocolates left to sell. If you can help us out and definitely sell a box please contact Cathy Williams at school.
Did you know according to latest research announced in the media last week, 60% of children are being driven to and from school so participating in Walk Safely to School Day 2012 is more important than ever.

WSTSD promotes the vitally important message - Active Kids are Healthy Kids. All Primary School children will be encouraged to walk safely to school on Friday May 18.

The aim of the day is:
To promote the health benefits of walking
To reduce the level of traffic congestion
To help create regular walking habits at an early age
To reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour
To reduce the car dependency habits
To reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles

As we farewell Jaclynn Jones we wish her all the best for her future endeavours. The staff will celebrate Jaclynn’s career at a retirement function which will be held at Rupertwood Mansion on Sunday 29th April. Jaclynn will be presented with a gift on behalf of our school community for her contributions to Sunbury Heights over many years.

Regards
Kaye Mills

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To the following students to the 22nd April
Savannah Butler, Chelsea-Rae Taggart, Ethan Quinlivan

SCHOOL BANKING DAY IS TUESDAY

Who will be the new Dollarmite?
As part of the Commonwealth Bank’s centenary celebrations we want to find Australia’s best School Banking Saver! As such between 16 April and 30 June 2012, we are running a fun and exciting School Banking competition with the winning child being transformed into their very own Dollarmite character.

Being part of the competition is easy. A student simply needs to make 5 deposits at school during the competition period and then provide us with their best savings tip.

The winning school/class will receive 25 iPads and a $1500 excursion! For the winning student, as well as being ‘Dollarmized’, they will receive an annual movie pass for their family.

There also 50 runner up prize packs that include iPads, excursions, movie tickets and thousands of Dollarmites consolations prizes for the students.

A flyer with all competition details will be issued soon.

ART ROOM
Donation of the following items would be appreciated for activities in art:
old hardcover books, wool, clean takeaway food containers, ice cream containers, jar lids and plastic shopping bags.

SAND TOYS
Dear Parents,
We are in search of good quality toys for our sandpit. If you have any toys that you no longer use, it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate them to Sunbury Heights for students to use in the sandpit at lunch time.

Bringing many smiles to our yard, could you please drop them off at the office during or before school hours.

Kind regards
Alisha Clarke
Junior School Council

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PUPIL OF THE WEEK – SEE NEXT WEEK

PLAYGROUP
FRIDAY MORNINGS
9.00am – 11.00am
Come along Mums, Dads and Bubs, have a coffee and share experiences with our kids.
Kids can play and parents can have a chance to be with others.
Don’t be shy; it’s great fun for all.
Join us on a FRIDAY from 9-11am. Cost $2.00