



SUNBURY HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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19th February 2015

February

Friday 20 th	Athletic Sports – Years 3 to 6
Monday 23 rd	Year 4 leave for camp - DOXA
Wednesday 25 th	Year 4 return from DOXA camp
Wednesday 25 th	Year 5 leave for camp – DOXA
Wednesday 25 th	Prep – Western Water Activity
Thursday 26 th	Twilight Swimming Sports
Friday 27 th	Year 5 return from DOXA camp
Friday 27 th	Casual Clothes Day Gold Con Donation

March

Wednesday 4 th	1/2 Information night
Monday 9 th	Labour Day – Public Holiday
Tuesday 10 th	Return date for chocolate money and any unsold chocolates
Wednesday 11 th	3/4 Information night
Friday 13 th	District Athletics
Wednesday 18 th	Curriculum Day – No School
Friday 27 th	Last Day Term 1 – 2.30pm dismissal
****	5/6 Stepping Up Evening...early Term 2

Payments

Payments can be made directly into the school's bank account? Transferring \$5.00 weekly/fortnightly into your account (layby system) really adds up over the year and when payment is required this money is credited off the charge.

If you have questions or concerns regarding paying for school activities please see Kaye or Kerry Hicks.

FUNDRAISER – CHOCOLATE DRIVE

Just a reminder that monies and all unsold chocolates to be returned to school on or before the **10th of March**...amended date due to Public Holiday on the 9th. Don't forget the first 50 children who return their money and the top sellers from each grade receive a block of chocolate. Every child that returns their money and any unsold chocolates on or before the date will receive a surprise!



MOBILE CANTEEN AT THE ATHLETIC SPORTS – FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Please visit the mobile canteen at the Athletic Sports.

Goods available for purchase are: Sausages \$1.00

Drinks \$2.00
Snacks \$0.50

NEWS AND INFORMATION

What a great opportunity it was for me to attend the Prep BBQ last night and meet with the families of our 2015 Preps. The families enjoyed a sausage sizzle and then had the opportunity to enjoy some fun PE, Art and Science activities that our specialist staff had had set up. Families took the opportunity to visit the classrooms to see the learning that has taken place in the short time their child has been at school and to meet the specialist staff, the educational support staff and classroom teachers who will be teaching the children this year. The parents and students also had a chance to meet Deb, and the staff from Complete Kids who run our school OSHC Program. The preps and their siblings certainly loved the face painting that was provided by the team.

Thank you Rebecca Lewis, Angelique Kelly and Tracey Baldwin for organising the evening and to our specialist staff, Donna Payton, Jennifer Caddaye and Leanne Ratkowski for all their efforts to ensure it was a great night. Thank you to canteen helpers Cathy Williams, Sammi and Steph for coming back to school and operating the canteen. Also thanks to Wayne Lewis for cooking the BBQ.

Each teaching team are holding their information evenings over the next few weeks and I hope that all families take the opportunity to come along with their child and learn about the classroom program for the 2015 school year.

Pancake Day

Tuesday's Pancake Day was a resounding success with over 500 pancakes being flipped. The day would not have gone as smoothly as it did without the organisation of the day by our canteen manager Jo Miller and her merry band of chefs. Thank you to Jenny, Anashree, Julie, Christine, Wendy, Maria, Kristy and Laura for all their efforts in preparing and cleaning up to ensure everyone could celebrate Pancake Tuesday. Miss Portelli's class wrote some short stories about the Runaway Pancake Man later on that day. Here is a selection of some student's writing:

The pancake ran into a dog. The dog said 'Ohh you are one delicious pancake.' And the pancake said, 'No I don't want to be eaten by a dog!'

Lizzy Faato

Once there was a delicious looking pancake that bumped into a pony who then chased the pancake.

Marley Barnes

The Pancake ran into a bull and he ate a little bit of the pancake!

Luke Williams

The pancake ran into a cat. The cat tricked him to bring him to her kittens. The kittens got hungry so they ate him! 'No!' His last words were.

Charlotte Lynch

Once there was a yum pancake. The pancake ran into a bull. The bull tricked the pancake. The bull ate the pancake.

Riley Bennett

Chocolate Drive

This week we handed out 250 boxes of chocolates and have ordered another 50. Thank you to the 43 families who have already handed back their fifty dollars having sold the whole box. The students from these families were very excited when Amanda Beggs from Parents and Friends and I visited the classrooms this morning to give them their reward, of a large block of Cadbury Marvellous Creation chocolate.

We hope this arrives home in one piece for the family to share!

Thank you to Krystal, Kristy, Amanda, Tamika, Laura, Tracey, Zena, Sarah, Sharon, Annette and Tim for all their hard work in organising such a major fundraiser. We will certainly put the funds raised to good use for the benefits of our students.

Athletic Sports

Hopefully many of our parents and family members will be able to attend the House Athletics Sports this Friday. Weather permitting, it is always a great day and your child looks forward to seeing you there. **A mobile canteen** will again operate on the day and Miss Ratkowski will once again be grateful for any assistance you can offer.

The Jungle Book

We are fortunate in Sunbury to have an excellent local theatre company. The Boiler House Theatre Company's next production is The Jungle Book. The show begins on Friday 27 February and would be a fantastic entertaining introduction to theatre for your children.

See the flyer on page 4..

Every Day Counts – School Attendance, a message from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

New laws introduced last year mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Sunbury Heights PS Payment Plan Option

Sunbury Heights is sympathetic and understands the differing circumstances of individual students and families. We have offered a payment plan option if families have difficulty paying for books, camps, excursions etc.

To take advantage of the plan families have to commit to paying regular payments by instalments. If you have taken advantage of this opportunity please ensure you are honouring this service and have begun to make regular payments. Term one accounts will be sent home soon.

Please ring (9744 3377) or come in to see Kerry Hicks, Business Manager, at the office or myself. All conversations are strictly confidential.

School Council Elections

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. In 2015 there will be 4 vacancies on the Sunbury Heights School Council for parent representation. Next week's newsletter will outline the process and timeline.

Who is on the School Council?

For most school councils, 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 – members are

co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires 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.

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 or 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 of election 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 at that school. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, 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 if a vote is required..

Contact me for further information.

Nomination forms are available from the school office

Thankyou

Thankyou to Kaitlins mum, Kym for the donation of a bread maker to the school...much appreciated.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Grade	Student	Reason
PREP K	Toni Muscat	For putting 100% in to all her work.
PREP L	Alesha Hardie	For trying her best during all work tasks.
1/2R	Riley Bullen	For a great start to Year 2 and giving 100% all the time.
1/2P	Marley Barnes	For always being ready to help others.
1/2H	Jake Szabo	For being a positive role model.
3/4K	Jaymee Foss	For showing great maturity in and out of the classroom.
3/4D	Eboney Bentley	For a brilliant effort with her addition pre-test.
5P	Chloe Morgan	For her demonstration of excellent persistence at the swimming sports.
6L	Chloe Bromage	For being a sensational buddy.
6O	Alyssa Wallace	For a great start to Grade 6.
ART	Brodie Carton	For a great effort with his rainbow Artwork.
SCIENCE	3/4K	For being calm and quiet when handling the hermit crabs.

Welcome back to School Banking for 2015.



TUESDAY is our Banking Day.

Please ensure all yellow wallets are handed into your child's teacher first thing in the morning to ensure their deposit is processed.

All money should be securely enclosed in the Velcro pocket and deposit slips MUST be completed.

Save from as little as 5c per week.

Each deposit earns a SILVER TOKEN this should be kept safe at home....when they collect 10 tokens they can redeem for exciting rewards!

If your child would like to join the program please visit your local Commonwealth Bank with photo ID for yourself and your child's birth certificate – too easy!

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives \$5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To the following students, until the 22nd February, 2015

Xander Webster-Cox, Kaiden Mitchell, Hailea Wood, Rakiah Ball, Odin Holt



COMPLETE KIDS NEWS

Are you wanting to do a course after hours of maybe join a gym? Not sure how you can do it all? Complete Kids offers Before and After School care for as little as \$3.00 per session. If you are trying to juggle lifestyle, career and family, then we are here to help. Our service runs at the Sunbury Heights Primary School from 7am – 8.45am for before school care and from 3.15pm – 6.30pm for after school hours care. Please call 9740 2111 for further information.

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Parish Sunbury
First Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation - 2015**

Information meetings for Parents and Guardians of children in Year 3 or later, wishing to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion, will be held at the Parish Centre, 101 Riddell Road, on Wednesday 4 March at 2 pm or 7.30pm.

The meeting will provide you with details of the preparation arrangements for 2015 and the involvement required of candidates and parents. Enrolment forms will be distributed at this meeting.

For further information contact the Parish Office on 9744 1060.