NEWS AND INFORMATION

What a special event Monday’s assembly was! The grade one students entered to a fan fair as they paraded in wearing the glasses they had made to celebrate 100 days of school. Each year the 100 days of school celebration focus in the grade 1/2 classrooms provides the students with much maths, reading, writing and creative activities. Through this learning the students also focus on the research that “every day counts.”

Primary School Attendance
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important
- 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.
- If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years 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.
- Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early
Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do
- The main reasons for absence are sickness – there are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.
- It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.
- Day off – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.
- Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school 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 as early as possible.
- Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional
Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice. 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.

Further information
For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

Class Captains
It was also pleasing to see so many of the family members of our Semester Two class captains present. The students certainly enjoy sharing this good news around and we are certain that they will be great role models and ambassadors for our school in the remainder of the year.

ICAS English Test
Congratulations to the final list of students who have been selected to sit the ICAS English test next Tuesday. The test begins at 9.00am. If your child has been selected it is imperative that they are on time.

Grade 4 - Shayla Hendahewa, Kimberly Deeble, Adam Quirke, Kyle Atkinson, Dion Cotis
Grade 5 - Georgia Sciberras, Rakiah Ball, Arnav Saxena, Odin Holt, Emily Guthrie
Grade 6 - Jack Price, Jamie Pender, Tegan Newell, Violet Bastos, Holly Pickering

Parent Opinion Surveys
Parent Opinion Surveys were distributed this week to 45 randomly selected families. I would like to thank all the families who have already returned these to us and those who have not yet returned them, you have until Friday 29th to return them to the office.

Parent Occupations
Today you will have received a letter requesting information about your occupation. This is information which you would have provided on your child’s initial enrolment form and information which the department asked us to update every year so they can determine how much funding we receive.

We would therefore ask that this information is returned to us by Wednesday, 3rd August at the latest to give us time upload this information before carrying out the Department Census on Friday. Thank you in advance for taking the time to do this.

Parent Payments
We advised you late last term that the Department has asked us to ensure that Family accounts are finalised by the end of Term 3. You will therefore be receiving family statements over the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the office should you wish to check the balance of your account or make a payment.

Playground Upgrade
On the weekend works in the ‘grave yard area’ between the BER and the junior school classrooms will begin in preparation for the laying synthetic turf. Late last week I completed an expression of interest for $25,000 of funding for a shade shelter or structure. With shelter and shade this would become a very well used recreational and outdoor learning space for our students.

COMPLETE KIDS - OSHC
Loom bands offer a range of psychological and therapeutic benefits such as building self-esteem and confidence, extending children’s attention span & concentration. As well as developing fine motor, social and perceptual skills. This activity to the children was just FUN, especially as our bands were bubblegum fragranced. Blake enjoyed making an arm bracelet for himself and his little brother.
This term, children in grade Prep are learning about safety in our community.

Last Friday we had two special visitors from Ambulance Victoria. Jake and Stretch came to Sunbury Heights to teach us about how to recognise a medical emergency; learn that Triple Zero (000) is the number to call in an emergency; and identify community members who can help in a medical emergency. The children were able to tour the ambulance and listen to a story exclusively developed for Ambulance Victoria.

On Tuesday our school Crossing Supervisor, Bronwyn visited the Prep rooms to talk about the importance of crossing the road safely. Then, we all went outside and practiced crossing the road. Children showed excellent listening skills and successfully demonstrated everything they had learnt from Bronwyn.

Our Grade 5/6 students were lucky enough to be invited to Sunbury Downs on Wednesday to watch their production of ‘Hairspray the musical’. Some of our students had siblings who starred in the production!
P&F Movie Nights

I would like to Chrissie, Mellisa and Julie for such a great job organising the P&F Movie nights. Forms went out to students this week and we have already received a huge amount of interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAH INGLIS</th>
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<tr>
<td>KYANA DUFFIN</td>
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<tr>
<td>MADISON SHAW</td>
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**PREP – GRADE 2**
Friday 12th August
3.30 – 5.00pm

**GRADE 3 – GRADE 6**
Friday 19th August
3.30 – 5.00pm

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**Pupil of the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>STUDENT</th>
<th>REASON</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep K</td>
<td>Paityn Coad</td>
<td>For great improvements in writing letter the same size</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Azile Tuilau</td>
<td>For always trying to sound out new words and having a go!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Max Smith</td>
<td>For remembering to put up his hand when contributing to class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Toni Muscat</td>
<td>For your enthusiasm when participating in class discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2H</td>
<td>Maddison Street</td>
<td>For being careful and persistent with writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Michael Webb, Hannah Inglis</td>
<td>For amazing descriptions in their narrative writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Skye Atkinson</td>
<td>For working hard to subtract with re-naming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4d</td>
<td>Mitchell Crossland</td>
<td>For his enthusiastic attitude to his learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K</td>
<td>Olivia Clarke</td>
<td>For great work in fractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6PA</td>
<td>Andre Xerri</td>
<td>For always doing the right thing in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIENCE (Mrs Tyers)</td>
<td>Isabella Sculli</td>
<td>For her fantastic diorama of her volcano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Dexter</td>
<td>Noah Carey</td>
<td>For using persistence and resilience to improve his reading and writing</td>
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Rupertswood Cricket Club Inc

“Birthplace of The Ashes”

**REGISTRATION DAY**
Saturday 20th AUGUST 2016
9am – 12 midday

INTERSPORT
Sunbury Square Shopping Centre
Evans Street Sunbury

New Players and Females welcome

Online Registrations and Forms
Available on Club Website
http://www.rupertswoodccc.org.au
Or
Email Request
rupocc@optusnet.com.au

Enquires
0413 867 725 or 0421 991 519