Wednesday 6 March 2013

Diary Dates Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Prep family night</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>GPS Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Stringybark Lodge Camp Information meeting at 3.40pm in the JLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>EDEC Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>7pm School Council &amp; AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>Family Bush Dance</td>
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<td>22 March</td>
<td>Ride to school day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Rock Ed Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 Early dismissal 2.30pm</td>
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Notes that have gone home:
- Prep home visits
- House Athletics grade 3-6
- Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser Order Form
- Information meeting for Stringybark Lodge Camp Grade 2
- Hip hop classes with a new teacher
- Bush dance incursion

All notes that have gone home are available on the school website: www.gembrookps.vic.edu.au

Bookclub
Bookclub brochures have been sent home. Please return any orders and payment to the school office by Monday 18 March.

There will not be an assembly this Friday 8 March due to the grade 3-6 House Athletics.

The Friday parent information session on literacy, facilitated by Dale Bigwood, will be in the library at 9am.

Grade 3/4 would like to thank everyone who helped with the produce market yesterday.

Thank you to Ann who guided the cooking process; all the parent helpers; and those who very kindly provided us with fresh produce. We wouldn’t have had such a great market without your help!!!
Ella Gerencser, School Captain, shares the events and activities that have shaped our school’s life over the past week. Thank you Ella!

Dear Families and Friends

Last Friday four students from grade 6 competed in Zone Swimming—Kaitie A, Lynton, Frankie and me. We swam in the freestyle relay and came third. I came third in individual back-stroke. Even though we didn’t get to the next round, it was a great experience.

On Friday evening, last week, we showed Wreck it Ralph, at a drive-in movie night on the oval. Thanks to everyone who put it together—it was a GREAT night.

3/4 E did an amazing job at the Produce Market yesterday! So many people enjoyed the yummy produce and the delicious homemade food. The help of all the parents and those who contributed produce was very appreciated!

Tomorrow there will be a Teddy Bear’s Picnic in the Circle of Harmony. Organised by Holly O and Kaitie A, this event will raise money for a program called Bricks for Bears, which helps bears that are treated cruelly in Pakistan. At playtime, you can bring a teddy bear and a gold coin donation and eat your playlunch in the Circle of Harmony with your friends and their bears.

Good luck to the 3’s-6’s with their Athletics on Friday.

Have a great week!

Ella Gerencser
Prep Family Night!

Thursday 7 March
6.00p.m. - 7.00p.m in the Junior Learning Centre.

Come along and see what your child is doing at school. There will also be an opportunity for questions.
Children with Nut Product Allergies
A most important issue for us is the growing number of children who suffer from a variety of allergies. Most serious are those allergic to nuts and nut products, and their severe reaction is known as anaphylaxis. At Gembrook, we have a number of children who are in this category.

The teaching staff have a number of procedures in place to ensure that appropriate precautions are in place. Parents are requested to be very conscious of the danger that nuts and nut products (e.g. peanut butter, nutella chocolate spread) pose for these children.

We ask you to support the health of these children by not sending peanut products to school in your children’s lunches. Peanut butter for breakfast and dinner but not for lunch! If you are sending food for sharing, perhaps a birthday, we ask that we are informed prior to the time, so that the parents of these children are given the opportunity to provide a special treat for them on the day.

INSIGHTS
by Michael Grose - No.1 parenting educator

Help your child ACHIEVE!

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child’s teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

5. Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes.
Life’s not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter. Friends move away, illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child’s teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. Skill children to work with others.
Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others are practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties.
Resist the temptation to solve all your children’s problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together in the best interests of the child.

8. Participate fully in class & school activities.
There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child’s schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child’s teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience.
Your child’s teachers are your child’s greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids and their objective professionalism put them in a strong position to make judgements about your child.

10. Talk up what happens at school.
Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by taking up your child.

This type of 10 point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child’s teachers.
GPS Family Bush Dance
Thursday March 21.

Come along and enjoy a fun family night of Australiana!
There will be a barbeque for pre-ordered sausages or burgers and salad, operating from 5.30—6.30pm. Cans of soft drink will also be available to purchase.

- “Closest to the pin” coin tosses for adults and kids
- Meat raffle
- Some great music and dancing

Family tickets $20
Available from the school office

Pre-ordered bbq form must be returned to school by 18 March

Family Name: ..........................................................

We would like to pre-order and pay for:

Beef sausages in bread ........................................ @ $2.50 each = .............
Beef burgers in bread with a choice of salads ...................... @ $4.00 each = .............
Vegetarian burgers in bread with a choice of salad .............. @ $4.00 each = .............
TOTAL .................................................. $ .............
Welcome to our new families and all those who have used our service in the past.

Our service provides care for primary school students from 6:30am until 6:30pm. Our educators are all qualified and deliver educational, exciting and engaging programs while providing high quality care. We are currently providing care on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3.30pm - 6pm and are gauging interest for Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We still have a number of permanent places available in our OSHC sessions, and can also provide casual care. Those families wishing to enrol can do so by contacting the Cardinia Shire OSHC Team on 1300 787 624 or oshc@cardinia.vic.gov.au.

We wish all families the best for the year ahead.
Art Smocks

Could all students please be provided with an art smock for their art lessons.

The smock should be easy to put on and take off—one of mum or dad's old shirts etc...

Birthdays for this week

March
11  Rhyce G

25 Nights Reading

Congratulations to all those children who have reached 25 nights of home reading. We are proud to publish your name in the newsletter when you achieve this reading milestone.

At 50 nights we applaud your success with a certificate at our weekly assembly.

When you reach 100 nights, Mrs Peterson will invite you to join her on a special visit to the park.

Happy reading everyone

Students from 3/4E
Jessica, James, Samuel, Tom, Grace, William, Megan

Fantastic Reading

We are very proud of you all!

Information Session
Kindergarten deferral/withdrawal

Is your child really ready for kindergarten next year?

The Children’s Services team recognise the importance of this decision on a child’s development and the issues faced by parents in making this choice. We will be holding an information session for parents/guardians to discuss kindergarten readiness and the option of deferral/withdrawal.

When: 7pm on Tuesday 12 March
Where: Hollins Children’s Centre, Atlantic Drive, Pakenham.
       Melway Ref: 318A4

As well as gaining an overview of the process, you will be able to hear and talk to early childhood and prep teachers. A panel member will also present experiences of deferral/withdrawal from a parent perspective.

To book your place in this session, contact Pre-School Field Officer on 1300 787 624
Star of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lauren</td>
<td>You are a fantastic helper! Well done Lauren!</td>
<td>Prep 1/B</td>
<td>Miss Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin</td>
<td>Well done Caitlin! You always try your best and are a respectful classmate. You are a star Caitlin!</td>
<td>Prep 1/H</td>
<td>Miss Hutcheson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlize</td>
<td>For being so persistent with your reading and writing. You always try hard and work diligently Charlize. You are fantastic! :)(</td>
<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
<td>You used very interesting words in your writing and we enjoyed listening to them. What a star writer you are.</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Mrs Bigwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage</td>
<td>You are making a big effort to share your learning, Sage and are speaking confidently in front of the class. Well done!</td>
<td>3/4S</td>
<td>Miss Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jett</td>
<td>You wrote such a creative and well presented Acrostic poem describing Respect, Jett! A fantastic effort.</td>
<td>3/4E</td>
<td>Mrs Everett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexia</td>
<td>Your organisation has been wonderful. It is great to see you arriving at Quicksmart on time. Keep up the great work.</td>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Mrs Alsop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connor Armstrong</td>
<td>For demonstrating a positive attitude towards all of your learning tasks and for being a helpful and co-operative class member. Well done, keep it up!</td>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Mr Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody (5/6F)</td>
<td>Great enthusiasm for planting cuttings and joining in during Eco. A fantastic job.</td>
<td>Ecolearning</td>
<td>Mrs O’Brien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie (2B)</td>
<td>for being such a good sport during competitive games and encouraging your team members. You are a great sport!</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Ms O’Neill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper (1/2S)</td>
<td>For being a keen learner of LOTE and origami arts. You are the youngest ninja-star master at Gembrook PS :)(</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Mrs Itchikawa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Family Maths

Work as a family to solve the weekly maths puzzle and you could be rewarded with a Computer Pass to be used in your classroom. Put your entry in the box in the foyer near the office.

Have fun! MATHS IS MAVELLOUS!!

What does this graph tell you?

![Graph showing the number of drinks preferred by Grade 2 students: Plain milk, Flavoured milk, Juice, Soft drink, Cordial]
Friends of Kurth Kiln
2013 Heritage Festival
Sunday 14 April
Start at 10.00am, with Official Opening at 11.00am by Mayor Brent Owen, Cardinia Shire Council and again featuring the “Weathered Heads Bluegrass Band”
Come and join in the fun at the picturesque historic Kurth Kiln site where there will be much to do, to see and hear, amongst other things:
A mock Stage Coach Robbery
Stage Coach rides
Blacksmith demonstrating his art
Axeman demonstrations
Historic and Heritage Machinery Displays
Craft Stalls
Environmental Displays
Sheep Shearing
Games & Face Painting for the Children
Meet the Huskies
and much more,
including short and long bush walks for walking enthusiast.
Refreshments will be catered for by the Hoddles Creek Red Cross
The Festival will be at the Kurth Kiln Picnic Ground in Kurth Kiln Regional Park, corner Beerame & Soldiers Roads, phone 0411 237 828
Free Entry and Parking

Gembrook Netball Club Inc
2013 Netball Registration
Thursday March 27th
5.00pm – Registration
Gembrook Netball Courts (behind football ground)

Aged between 6 -13 Boys and Girls (Ages 13, 14 and 15)

For those wishing to join
Registration fees April 10th 2013.
Games are played Saturday mornings (Colo/Esco and Emerald).

Contact Details
Please notify the school office if there are any changes to your contact details: email, mobile phone numbers, landlines, address, emergency contacts.

It is essential for parents/carers to be easily contacted in case of illness / emergencies.
Hoffy's Intensity
Health & Fitness

We have a new home........
All sessions will be at
Mountain Road Reserve
Cockatoo

Sessions Times as of March 6th:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
6am
Monday & Wednesday
7pm (Inside Stadium)
Saturday 7am & 8am

$10pp Casual
11 session pass $100
No bookings required
Enquiries call Hoffy 0488191119

School Holiday Fun at the RSPCA!
Calling all animal lovers!
If you go crazy for cats, dogs or want to have some fun with farm animals, then the
RSPCA Junior Holiday Program is the place for you!

Do you love animals and want to learn more about them?
Our holiday program offers animal lovers of all ages a chance to get up close and personal with their favorite creatures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 1st April</th>
<th>Tue 2nd April</th>
<th>Wed 3rd April</th>
<th>Thu 4th April</th>
<th>Fri 5th April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>9.30am-10.30am</td>
<td>9.30am-10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Dads</em> Ages 8-10</td>
<td><em>Dads</em> Ages 8-10</td>
<td><em>Dads</em> Ages 8-10</td>
<td><em>Dads</em> Ages 8-10</td>
<td><em>Dads</em> Ages 8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspector for a Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 10-14</td>
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<td>Ages 10-14</td>
<td>Ages 10-14</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 8th April</th>
<th>Tue 9th April</th>
<th>Wed 10th April</th>
<th>Thu 11th April</th>
<th>Fri 12th April</th>
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<tr>
<td>FULLY BOOKED!</td>
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<td>FULLY BOOKED!</td>
<td>FULLY BOOKED!</td>
<td>FULLY BOOKED!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 7-9 &amp; 10-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-9 &amp; 10-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-9 &amp; 10-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-9 &amp; 10-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-9 &amp; 10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSPCA Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 7-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-12</td>
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<td>Ages 7-12</td>
<td>Ages 7-12</td>
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Information
2nd April - 12th April 2013
RSPCA Education Centre,
Burnwood East
Please read our program information before making booking.

Enquiries:
01 9224 2286
Education department

Cardinia Shire celebrates
National Playgroup Week
17-24 March 2013
All events and activities are free!

‘Big play out’
When: Tuesday 19 March
10am-1pm
Where: Toonumbar Reserve,
Pakenham (Melway ref: 21E S)
PlayStart Van, kite making, Playgroup Victoria ‘Play days’, sausage sizzle, face painting, craft activities and much more.

‘Simon says’
When: Thursday 21 March
10am-12noon
Where: PB Ronald Reserve,
Pakenham (Melway ref: 317 EB)
Bring a picnic lunch and ride or walk around PB Ronald Reserve following our leader Simon and his crazy, funny actions.

‘Dads breakfast’
When: Saturday 23 March
8.30am-10.30am
Where: PB Ronald Reserve,
Pakenham (Melway ref: 317 EB)
Come and have breakfast at Anglicare’s new playgroup for Dads and children.

Contact Cardinia Shire Council for more information
1300 787 624 or visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

Hey Kids
Does your bike need fixing?
• Flat Tyre
• Broken Chain
• No Brakes
• Bent Spokes
• Loose Seat
• Buckled Wheel

Bring it along and join in the fun at
THE INNER TUBE
After school Wednesday at the rear of 339 Main Street, Emerald.
No charge for labour with health care card and parts at cost price.
For enquiries please call Mal: 0425 777 462 or Roy: 0407 871 500
Fitness Class for Parents

When: Wednesday morning 9.30-10.30
Thursday afternoon 3.45-4.45

Where: Gembrook Primary School multi-purpose room

Cost: $8 per session

What does it involve: a mixture of fat burning cardio work, strength and toning work, core strength as well as stretching and strengthening to enhance healthy posture.

Qualified instructor: Certified in many fields of fitness including advanced resistance training, personal training, group fitness, cycle and zumba. (And 1st aid, of course)

Experience: 20 years gym, aerobics, group fitness, personal training and 15 years fitness club owner/operator.

How fit do you need to be: come as you are. I encourage everyone to work at a safe level for themselves and I will guide you all the way.

What to bring: a drink of water, wear runners, bring a bath sized towel and….. yourself!

Further enquiries: Natasha, phone: 0412183329

Gembrook Primary School is a welcoming and respectful community that provides modern, flexible learning spaces that support a personalised, engaging and challenging learning program so that students will achieve the social, emotional, academic and physical growth to succeed in a global society.
Please return to your child’s teacher on their return to school

ABSENCE NOTE

Date/s of Absence

Students Name

Grade

Reason for absence

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.