Dear Parents,

Tomorrow is the last day of Term 1 and I can’t believe how quickly it has gone. Although a short term we have achieved a great deal. As an example only:

- The ongoing success of AASC
- The community night with storyteller
- Prep Basket Supper
- Literacy Information sessions
- Cybersmarts with Tony Richards
- 24 hour Skype with 5/6F
- Election of a new School Council
- Ride to School
- Formation of a netball team
- Fundraising activities

It is also pleasing to note how well the students have been working on their learning and I must congratulate the teachers on their hard work for the school.

Thanks also to the strong parent community for their support in the classrooms and to the fundraising group for their efforts. Our school continues to thrive because of our teamwork.

I wish everyone a happy and safe Easter and an enjoyable holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone in Term 2.

Take care
Kerry McGuffie

**ANZAC DAY BADGES**

Badges are for sale in the Office, ranging from 50c to $5

**CASUAL DRESS DAY TOMORROW**


---

**All Victorians urged to become a Bully Stopper**

On 15 March 2013, the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, the Victorian Government launched a major bullying prevention campaign: **Bully Stoppers: Make a Stand, Lend a Hand.**

The campaign is based on a series of resource available online that empowers students, parents, teachers and principals to ‘make a stand, lend a hand’ and stop bullying.

**Bully Stoppers** supports parents, teachers and principals in working together to make sure schools are safe and supportive places, where bullying is taken seriously and not ignored.

Psychologist Andrew Fuller and cyber safety expert Susan Mclean have provided tips and advice to help you support your child if they have been affected by bullying and how to ensure they stay safe online.

All schools have been asked to take the **Bully Stoppers** Pledge. Pledges have been sent to all schools in Victoria and they’re a great way for teachers, parents and students to all show that they are going to ‘take sand, lend a hand’ against bullying.


**EASTER RAFFLE – DRAWN TOMORROW**

The raffle prizes are going to be great. Don’t forget to get your raffle books back to school. The books are $5 each, with tickets being 50c each. Please use both sides of the tickets to write name and phone numbers on. If a winner is not from the school community they will be notified with a phone call. More tickets for sale at the Office and can be purchased tomorrow before Assembly.
DATES TO REMEMBER:

Mondays  Active After-School Communities Gr 3-6 start 3.30-4.45pm
Tuesdays  Student Banking
Wednesdays  Active After-School Communities Gr P-2 start 3.30-4.45pm
Fridays  Subway lunch orders

WEEK 9

Thur 28th March  Grade 1 to launch of the “Dragon Play Space” in Hargreaves Mall
Thur 28th March  Casual Dress Day—Gold coin donation
Last day of Term 1—EASTER RAFFLE DRAWN
2.30pm FINISH

TERM 2

15TH APRIL—28TH JUNE
Mon 15th April  First day of Term 2
Market Place Competition starts
Friday 19th April  Breakfast at school (Money from Book Sales)
Saturday 20th April  Netball competition starts

WEEK 2

Tues 23rd April  Incursion—Tony Bones Puppet Show—A Fractured Fairytale
Wed 24th April  Zone Cross Country Grades 3-6
Thurs 25th April  ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY

Tues 7th May  Fundraising Meeting @ 2.30pm
Friday 10th May  Mothers Day Stall
Thurs 23rd May  Soup Day
Sunday 26th May  Market Place Competition Finishes
Friday 31st May  Curriculum Day
Saturday 1st June  Bunnings BBQ (Fundraiser—BBQ’ers required)
July  Gym Program—dates TBA

TERM 3

15TH JULY—20TH SEPTEMBER
Mon 12th August  Fundraising Meeting @ 9.30am
Thurs 15th August  Soup Day
Friday 30th August  Fathers Day Stall
Friday 20th Sept  Footy/Pie Day

TERM 4

7TH OCTOBER—20TH DECEMBER
November 11th-15th  Swimming program (5 sessions—4 grades)
November 18th—22nd  Swimming program (5 sessions—4 grades)

OFFICE NEWS

Subject Contributions $80 per student—
Statements should have been sent home yesterday with your child. Please remember that instalments can be made at the Office. If you would like to deposit the money directly into the schools bank account, please see me for details.

PARENTS BOOKS

Please remember that holiday reading is available for parents. There is quite a large collection of books that have been donated by families. There’s some good reads too. Come into the Office and I’ll point you in the right direction.

EPSOM CHOOKS

Please remember to save your vegie scraps for the chooks.

VARIOUS CARDS FOR SALE AT THE OFFICE—50c EACH

BOOK SALE

I banked $65.20 from the sale of pre loved books.

ICY POLE FRIDAY

$120.40 was banked from the icy poles.
CASUAL CLOTHES DAY—TOMORROW
On the 28th of March, the Junior school council will be hosting a gold coin donation to buy a “foosball table” for the children’s entertainment. Your child is recommended to wear casual clothes for this occasion and bring a gold coin.

By Junior School Council President
Caitlin

GRADE ONE STUDENTS ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE OUT OF UNIFORM DAY—THEY SHOULD BE IN UNIFORM TO ATTEND THEIR EXCURSION INTO BENDIGO.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Online Parent Interview Bookings
Mrs O’Connor, Mrs Hayward are conducting interviews in the second week of next term and and Mrs Stone in the first week. Go to http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the code BL6QU. Anyone who doesn’t have internet access is very welcome to call into the school and use one of our computers.

Grade 3-6 ZONE CROSS COUNTRY RUN
Due to circumstances beyond our control the Zone Cross Country Run has been brought forward to April 24th. (Week 2 of Term 2) Because of the date change, training time for this event will be considerably shortened. It is strongly recommended that children do some walking/jogging/running in the holidays to prepare for the run.
Once again we require 2 parent helpers to assist as marshals on the day.
If you can assist please contact the school.

NETBALL NEWS
A note has been sent home with players in the 13/Under and Grade 3 Clinic teams. The first round is on Saturday April 20th. Please contact me with any queries.

Jan Brunswick
PE Coordinator

HOLIDAY GARDENERS WANTED
If you are around on the holidays and would like to maintain the school grounds and look in on the chooks, please come and see me in the Office or send a note in and I will send a gardening key home.
Thank you to the Chris Grant for volunteering for holiday gardening…..more families required.

Gardening keys are sent home once a year (at the most) to families, in alphabetical order. One hour of gardening per year is a great contribution to our school and keeps it looking tidy.
Any parents who arrive early to collect their children are welcome to do a bit of a tidy up/sweep around the place. The Green Bin is in the gardening shed to use for the green waste.

Deanne Hendy – Environmental Coordinator

GYM PROGRAM—JULY
The gym program at Palmers Gym is in July. I am waiting for details to cost this program. As soon as I have the information I will be able to inform families of the cost.

SWIMMING PROGRAM—NOVEMBER
In November our students do 5 swimming sessions at the YMCA in Eaglehawk. The cost for these sessions this year (including the bus) will be $46 per student. Please be aware that instalments can be paid at the Office in the lead up to this program.

ICT Responsible Use Policy
Students in years 3-6 have brought home our Responsible Use Policy (RUP) for using digital equipment and online learning spaces at school. They have also brought home the agreement contract that needs to be signed by both you and your child. Each child needs to return the pink contract to their class teacher ASAP.
Please read the RUP and if you have any questions please feel welcome to come and ask.

Many thanks from Jenny Ashby
ICT specialist
BOOK FAIR—APRIL 22ND—26TH

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the second week of second term. The fair will be open before and after school for the week. Our school receives a percentage of sales which we take in the form of new books.

Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal

This year we won’t be handing out fundraising envelopes for the Good Friday Appeal. Community members can donate on the link below. This will take you to our school’s page which will be open until January 2014.


Bendigo Northern District Community Enterprise continues to assist Community Groups complete projects from Bendigo East, White Hills, Epsom, Huntly to Goornong, including: $1000 towards White Hills Pool for shade and outdoor furniture, $1000 for Epsom Kinder towards furniture, $1000 towards beautifying Epsom Primary School Chook House, as well as funding 4 defibrillators in our local area. You too can assist our local Community Enterprise by completing the enclosed pledge form.

With no financial costs to individuals or businesses, simply expressing your interest in your local community by filling in the pledge form and returning to White Hills Bank Branch, the Bendigo Bank and Community Telco pay the Enterprise a commission towards Community Funding. ‘Our towns, Our Future’ is our motto, join us now to make a difference!

RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY LAST FRIDAY…..

Our biggest year for participants. Well done!