Principal’s Report

Dear Parents,

It’s been fantastic to see how all of the students and staff have settled in to the school year. Everybody is very happy and actively engaged in learning.

Picnic
Thank you to all of the parents who supported us in attending the School Picnic last Friday. Despite the hot weather the event was very well attended and the students loved to have their parents and extended family come to the school to see what they’ve been up to.

6th March Curriculum Day – No Students
On Friday 6th March the school will be holding a Curriculum Day. Teachers will be participating in some targeted Professional Learning about the effective teaching of Writing. Students are not to attend school on that day.

9th March Public Holiday
Monday 9th March is the Labour Day Public Holiday. Students are not to attend school on that day.
Principal’s Report cont.

Bikes and scooters
Please note that in the interest of the safety of all, students are not to ride bikes or scooters within the school grounds or on the footpath directly outside the school fence. We've had a couple of near misses in the last week, so please walk bikes and scooters until clear of foot traffic around the school.

Communication
The staff at New Gisborne Primary School value clear communication and partnership with parents. In order to ensure that we are all on the same page and that we all have the information that we need, we encourage parents to ensure that they keep close contact with the teachers of their children. All teachers are available via email (email addresses are listed on our website), by phone (all staff have a voicemail system that they can easily access) and in person (by appointment). Teachers are more than happy to meet with you to discuss your child. If you have any concerns regarding your child or the school please don’t hesitate to contact us at the earliest convenience. Also, please remember to book your meet and greet session online. Instructions for how to book were sent home with the students (Yrs 1 - 6) or they are available from our website.

School Hours - Drop Off and Pick Up
We expect that students will arrive at school at around 8.35am in order to spend a little time with their friends prior to learning time beginning at 8.55am. Please do not drop students at school unattended prior to 8.30am as the yard is unsupervised until after this time. The Before and After School Care program is available for those families who need to use this service. Our school day ends at 3.20pm. If you are running late for picking up your child, please phone the school and let us know. We’ll ensure your child is looked after at the office until you arrive.

Visitors
It’s important that we are fully informed about who is in our school at any particular time. The following procedures assist with this:

- Apart from drop off and pick up times, we expect all visitors to report to the office to sign in and receive a visitors badge. All non-staff members encountered within the school during school hours without a badge will be referred to the office for this purpose.
- If your child arrives late to school, we expect that parents will report to the office with the child to sign in to receive a late pass that the child will then take to class and hand to the teacher.
- If you need to pick up your child early from school we ask that you to report to the office first to receive an early dismissal pass. This is then handed to the teacher. No child will be allowed to leave the school with somebody who is not their parent without verbal or written parental consent for this to happen – this may mean that we need to phone parents in order to obtain it.

School Values
In the pursuit of life-long learning at New Gisborne Primary School we value:

- Respect and Integrity in all dealings with others
- Providing the skills and knowledge to become life-long learners
- Using initiative and taking responsibility for actions
- Effective partnerships between teachers, students and parents and the broader community
- Setting high expectations and striving for excellence while recognising, understanding and catering for a diversity of needs across the school

Thought
Meeting with some of our new Prep parents this week we discussed the importance of a strong home-school partnership. Underpinning this partnership are two key things: clear expectations and strong communication.

Frustration only occurs when our expectations aren’t met. Therefore, it’s very important that our expectations are realistic and are clearly communicated. We endeavour to meet all reasonable expectations with regard to the education of your children, however we also have our own expectations of parents and families with regard to how they support us to do our work. The school values (listed above) set clear guidelines that underpin our expectations and behaviour.

When you feel that your expectations of the school aren’t being met, please ensure you have a conversation with us as soon as possible so that frustration doesn’t set in.

Have a great week,

Jonathan Lowe
Principal
Maths for Parents

Please note that Maths for Parents session is on Monday 16th February from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the New Gisborne Primary School Library. Full details are available on our website.

Parents’ Association

I hope everyone has had a great start to the new school year. This term we are looking at running a bulb drive and family portrait photos. So keep an eye out in further editions of the newsletter for dates.

Our first meeting of the Parents’ Association will be this Friday, 13th February at 9.00am in the School Staff Room. Joining the Parents’ Association is a fantastic way of getting involved in the school and helping to raise some funds for additional items for the students or the school grounds. If you would like to come along to a very informal meeting and find out what we are all about then please do not hesitate to do so. If you have young children then please don’t let them stop you from coming along as we are more than happy for young children to come along as well. Alternatively, if you would like to know anything about the Parents’ Association, please do not hesitate to telephone me, Tracey Calnan on 0409 757 338. I hope to see some new faces at our meeting on Friday.

Tracey Calnan
President

School Sport Victoria (SSV)

Each year, talented Victorian school students have the opportunity to trial for a place in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) Team Vic state team and participate in annual School Sport Australia (SSA) Championships. Sixty two teams are selected across twenty one sports, involving over nine hundred primary and secondary school students representing 'Team Vic'. The sports include Australian Football, Baseball, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Diving, Football (Soccer), Golf, Hockey, Netball, Orienteering, Rugby League, Softball, Surfing, Swimming, Tennis, Touch, Track and Field, Triathlon, Volleyball and Water Polo.

Although this will only impact on a selected few, it’s important that every parent understands the process that needs to be followed to nominate your child for Vic Team State Trials. Parents are responsible for completing a nomination form and bringing the form to me. It is your responsibility to be aware of details relating to trial dates, times, venues and costs if your child’s nomination is accepted. Nominations are now open for students to register to trial for SSV Team Vic State teams. Information on how to register to trial for SSV state teams is available from the 'Team Vic' page on the SSV website at: https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic then click on the relevant sport. If you have any issues locating the forms or information, I’ll be more than happy to assist.

It is important to understand that completing a form does not guarantee a nomination as there is a process I need to follow at the Macedon Ranges District level before it can be approved. There are usually only 3-4 nominees per sport for the entire district.

Track and Field and Cross Country Vic Teams will be chosen based on their performances at State level. To get to State level the students need to perform exceptionally well at District, Division and Regional levels. The nomination form must be signed by me before I send it to the appropriate organisation.

Due to the high number of participants’ trialling for Australian rules, Soccer, Netball and Basketball, your child may need to attend Divisional, Regional and state trials before they are selected in the final team. If you have a child that is excelling in any of these sports and they have represented the sport at a high level, please see me so I can determine whether they are a suitable candidate or not.

A high level can be defined by your child having participated at representative or Interleague level. This is a minimum requirement and doesn’t mean the school will nominate your child. If your child has not played at representative or interleague level and you believe that he/she should still be considered, please contact me. I will then need to obtain additional information from coaches, clubs, teachers and you before I decide whether it’s appropriate to nominate your child.

For any other questions in relation to this process please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Michael Goodyear
Sports Coordinator

Please note that nominations are now open for 12 Years and Under Cricket Teams and the closing date is 20th February.
Hello and welcome to keyboard for this year.

A warm welcome back to all our existing students. We look forward to seeing you and we are excited about our year ahead. For any students who would like to enrol in our keyboard program, please return your enrolment form to the office, or email it to us (vkamusic@bigpond.com) as soon as possible to secure your place.

Any enquiries, please contact us via email or call Dianne on 0404 469 220.

See you all soon, Dianne Trickey, VKA
Kids with Confidence

Bendigo Health Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Cobaw Community Health are running a program for children aged 8-12 living in families affected by mental illness.

The program will run in Woodend for five weeks from the 24th of February 2015.

It includes education about mental illness, mental health and coping strategies.

For more information please contact Cara on 5421 1666

The program is FREE

Second Bite of the Cherry

Dromkeen Homestead Open Day & The John Barrow Collection

Sunday February 15th 10-5.00pm

A short introduction to the exhibition and the current Dromkeen Homestead will be given at 2.00pm.

RSVP Thursday February 12th
info@dromkeenillustrated.com.au

(nibbles provided but prams in the ground will be welcome & cafe will be open)

Don’t miss the opportunity to celebrate the return of children’s literature to Dromkeen Homestead & see the exhibition of the amazing John Barrow Collection – a fabulous collection of original children’s book illustrations from the 90’s, 90’s & 2000’s. So many classic & memorable books from an era when many of our well known illustrators were just starting out and you may well rub shoulders with some of them on the day!

Possums Netball Club inc.

Net-Set-Go!

A program of Netball Australia

Would your child like to learn to play Netball? Then come and join our Pygmy Possums team!

It is with great excitement that we announce the start of a new season of the NetSetGo! program. Net Set Go! is Netball Australia’s Junior Netball Program. This program is aimed at girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 10 and is an introduction into the game of netball. It incorporates skill activities, minor games and modified matches over an 8-10 week period and will be held in the New Geelong Primary School gymnasium during their lunch hour between 1.30pm and 2.00pm. The program will cost $70.00 and every participant will receive a NetSetGo! Kit comprising netball shirt and ball. The program will start on THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY, 2015 AT 1.30 PM. The first session will be an introductory session but if your child is keen and wants to continue with the program, a registration form must be completed and the registration fee paid by week 3. If you have any queries in relation to the program or would like to receive a registration pack, please contact Lauren Marks on 0407 329 583.
Young artists wanted

Junior entries are sought for the 40th Woodend Lions Art Show over the Labour Day long weekend.

There are prize categories for 12yo and under; 13-14yo; and 15-16yo. Those aged over 15 are eligible for the Open sections. Artwork is invited in any medium and all entries must be available for sale.

The show will open to the public at St Ambrose Hall, Woodend on Saturday, March 7 from 10am to 5pm and run throughout the weekend until 4pm Monday.

This year there will be a dedicated area for 3D art and photography in addition to the paintings displayed in the main hall. Visitors will be invited to vote for their favourite artwork in the People’s Choice Award.

Entry forms are available on the Lions website www.woodend.vic.lions.org.au and strictly due by February 20. A maximum of three entries per artist is allowed. Art must be delivered to St Ambrose Hall, Woodend on March 2, 3 & 4.

More details: Linda 0438 363 242 or Nadine 0439 399 838.

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**SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL**

Saturday
28 Feb 2015
10am–4pm
Woodend
Community Garden and Hub
47 Forest Street

**FREE**

KIDS ENTERTAINMENT coaching, games and activities
Food and drinks available

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**Macedon Tennis Club**

**OPEN**

Sunday 15 February

4 pm to 7 pm
Come and join us for a game of social tennis and family fun!

**Tony Clarke Reserve**

Waterfalls Road
Macedon

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

Coach Poul Callow and his team will be on-hand for practise sessions and tips and advice on how to improve your game

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For further information,

web: www.macedontennisclub.net
email: macedontennisclub@hotmail.com
phone: 0439 433 665

**Woodend Tavernia**