Dear Parents,

We want to thank you for the wonderful support you have given to our school throughout 2013. Our students and staff are extremely grateful to the many helpers who have pitched in and helped out in a wide variety of ways including: classroom help, canteen, uniform shop, excursions, camps, sport, working bees, School Council, PFA, fundraising etc. On Tuesday, a small number of helpers attended a thank you morning tea and we do understand that a lot of people are so busy at this time of the year and unable to attend. Please accept our sincere thanks for the wonderful support that you continuously provide. Our school is so much the richer for such a high level of volunteer support and involvement. Thankyou!

Our PFA mums had their final meeting for 2013 on Tuesday evening and what an outstanding year they have had. Congratulations to the PFA President, Bridget Ramaekers and her committee for continuous hard work and effort and thankyou to all of our families and friends of GK who supported a range of PFA run events throughout 2013. The PFA team is a marvellous example of what a dedicated team of people can achieve. Their last activity for 2013 is running the BBQ at the Christmas concert & drawing the raffle next Monday. Well done ladies and thank you!

Thankyou also to our School Councillors for the great job they have also done through the year, overseeing finance & budgets, facilities, policies and programs generally. Like the PFA members, School Councillors give of their time freely and together, they work on making fair and reasonable decisions that are in the best interests of everyone, namely the students.

**GK CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Our students are eagerly practising for their concert performance on Monday 16th Dec. Information has already been sent home advising parents about the evening and it’s also on the website homepage. Main things for parents to know include:-

- The PFA is running a sausage sizzle from 5pm. GK students will need to have finished eating and be ready to assemble in their grade groups by 5.45pm ready for a 6pm start. When in their grade groups, students can have their water bottle with them but no food. [Note: parents may still access the BBQ and drinks stall during the performance but not students]
- The audience needs to be seated and ready to start by 6pm please. We have a number of items to get through and once the program gets underway, toddlers and pre-schoolers need to remain seated with their parents and are not go to join their siblings. All students are expected to stay with their grade group and teacher until the end of the performance.
- There will be designated seating areas for the audience. Bring along rugs and chairs please.

So all is set for a great evening we hope! Fingers and toes are crossed for good weather too! We look forward to a fantastic GK community gathering in which teachers, students, GK families, friends and relativities come together to enjoy and be entertained by our students who have been working very hard to learn their items. Hopefully to see you there!

Thankyou morning tea and we do understand that a lot of people are so busy at this time of the year and unable to attend. Please accept our sincere thanks for the wonderful support that you continuously provide. Our school is so much the richer for such a high level of volunteer support and involvement. Thankyou!

**SCHOOL COUNCIL CHARGES & BOOK PACKS**

Thank you to the large number of families who have paid their children’s booklist and School Council charges for 2014. Book packs will be distributed to all children who have paid on Tuesday 17th December. As Bpay payments take 2 working days to appear on our account, Bpay payments should be made by 4pm Friday 13th. Book packs won’t be handed out until payments have been cleared. Credit or cash payments made next week will ensure receipt of book packs but late Bpays may mean book packs aren’t available until January 2014.

Our values: RESPECT, Resilience, Excellence, Safety, Persistence, Encouragement, Creativity and Tolerance
The ‘DO RIGHT DETECTIVE’ is still on the lookout for students showing great learning behaviours. Congratulations to the following students who received a ‘Do Right Detective’ Award at assembly this week:-

Angus M—PrepT
Ethan D— 2D
Hayleigh C—2D
Erin P—3R
Cade N—3R
Ashley W— 5R
Nathan H—5R

Artie L—5D
Rhiannon S—5D
Andrew F—6A
Ryley M—6A

Congratulations also to all students who have been noticed this year by the Do Right Detective for great learning behaviours. Well done and keep up the great effort!

CANTEEN

ROSTER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY &amp; DATE</th>
<th>NAMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th December</td>
<td>CLOSED FOR CLEANING – LUNCH RECESS SALES ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th December</td>
<td>CLOSED FOR CLEANING – LUNCH RECESS SALES ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th December</td>
<td>CLOSED FOR CLEANING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th December</td>
<td>CLOSED FOR CLEANING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL: AVAILABLE UNTIL SOLD OUT:  Erica Choc-Gingerbread Man 35g $1.20ea

Hope everyone that had the “Santa’s Sneaky Snack” this afternoon enjoyed it. Thanks to everyone who helped pack lolly bags or pack the snack ready for the students today. I appreciate all the help offered as these little treats wouldn’t be possible without it.

Please mark in your calendars that TOMORROW will be the last day for lunch orders in the canteen. I am starting to run down the stocks for lunch orders so there may be a couple of items that become unavailable. The children will be contacted if we need to alter their order. Counter sales will continue the last week of school at lunch recess while I have stock to sell.

I am currently working to fill the roster for 2014. I will be putting a tentative roster on the website before school finishes along with a menu for next year. Hard copies will be sent home at the start of next year. I am always happy to have people join the canteen volunteers so please contact me if you are interested.

Cheers Suzi Cunningham
## Canteen Roster 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **First week of the month** | Maxine Butterworth  
Sema Hasan | Melissa Trainor | Guljan Enayati  
Lisa Wilson  
Lorraine Tancredi | Yvette Whiteman  
Annette Miller  
Linda Brandt |
| **Extra Day** | **EXTRA DAY – 29th July** | **EXTRA DAY – 29th October** | **EXTRA DAY – 30th October** | **EXTRA DAY – 31st October** |
| **Second week of the month** | Peta Hill  
Lisa Pugsley | Vennessa Galea | Emma West  
Amanda Ciurlino  
Rachel Harper | Sharon McLaren  
Tammy Forbes  
Fiona Davies |
| **Extra Day** | **EXTRA DAY – 29th April** | **EXTRA DAY – 30th April** | **EXTRA DAY – 29th May** | **EXTRA DAY – 30th May** |
| **Third week of the month** | Christine McFarlane  
Jenny Robertshaw | Kylie Togni  
Brigitte Hecker | Sharon Bowen  
Janene Calovic  
Tracey Russell | Kim Jackson  
Amanda Luke  
Penny Gaskell  
(Jenny Robertshaw) |
| **Extra Day** | **EXTRA DAY – 30th July** | **EXTRA DAY – 31st July** | **EXTRA DAY – 29th August** | |
| **Fourth week of the month** | Catherine Robertson  
Sharon Mifsud | Narelle Sinclair  
Teone Smith | Amanda Peacock  
Felicity Armstrong | Paula Griggs  
Katherine Aggett  
Samantha Grant |

- Extra day 5th day of the month.
- If you are unable to attend, could you please try and swap with someone else or call the Canteen on 9431-1599.
SPORTS NEWS

Junior House Sports Day
The Junior House Sports Day was held on Monday 9th December for Grade Prep – 3 students on the school oval. It was fantastic to see the students dressed up in their house colours participating in the various events – shuttle relay, sack race, 50m sprint, vortex throw and hurdles. Students scored points for their house team on a standardised system, either 3, 2 or 1 pt depending on their placing or the distance they threw. Thank you to the many parents who assisted with the events and supported their children. Thank you to the Grade Prep – 3 staff who helped set up and run the events throughout the morning. Thank you to our Grade 6 House Captains who did a great job helping out. Thank you to the Mehmet family who donated water bottles that were given out as prizes to students that were showing our GK Values.

Eucalypt (Blue House) were the winner of the Perpetual Junior House Shield for 2013.

SUMMER SPORT FINALS
Summer sport finals for the Diamond Valley District were held last Friday 6th December. I would like to congratulate all teams for their performances throughout the season and thank all coaches for their work in training and coaching the teams.

RESULTS
CRICKET – GK Darks 4 for 39 lost to Apollo Parkways A 8 for 54
BASKETBALL BOYS – Apollo A def GK Darks 16-12
BASKETBALL GIRLS – GK Darks 37 def DCE 37-9
VOLLEYBALL BOYS – Hurstbridge 2 sets def GK Darks 0
VOLLEYBALL GIRLS – Sacred Heart 2 sets def GK Darks 0
BAT TENNIS BOYS – Apollo A def GK Darks
BAT TENNIS GIRLS – GK Darks def HURSTBRIDGE
ROUNDERS – GK Darks 17 def Apollo B 10

SPORTS TOPS
A reminder to parents that the GR 5-6 students need to return their GK Sports top to their team coach this week.

DAVID BLACKBURN
(Sports Coordinator)
Calling all Books
Library Books, Literature Books, Take Home Books!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It is the time of year when we ask all families to look under beds, on bookshelves and in school bags for any books which belong to Glen Katherine PS. It is important that all books are returned, as the cost of replacing lost books is taken from monies that would normally buy new titles.

Please have all library, literature and ‘Take Home’ books returned to school by the end of this week, Friday December 13th. This will enable staff to begin the time consuming task of auditing the many resources.

Children will no longer be able to borrow from the school library or from the ‘Take Home’ scheme from this week. Reading time of course does not end. Don’t forget to share many books from home or the local library.

Jenny Hopkin (Literature Coordinator)

LOST PROPERTY
THANK YOU
Please check the lost property tub (in office area) if you are missing clothing items. Anything without a name ends up in this tub.

A BIG thank you to the mums who regularly check and look after lost property – Mary Lennon and Amanda Luke. They do a great job of keeping lost property in check.

SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES
NEXT WEEK

MON 16th Dec 8.40am
Thank you to Mrs Hopkin (who is retiring after 21 years at GK)

FRI 20th Dec 8.40am
Final 2013 assembly and farewell to our Year 6 students
CHRISTMAS CONCERT SAUSAGE SIZZLE - Volunteers needed!

Once again the PFA will be offering sausages and drinks for sale on the evening of the students Christmas Concert Monday 16th Dec from 5pm.

I am in need of offers from Dads & Mums to assist with set up, food preparation, cooking & sales.

Are you available on MONDAY 16th DEC at any of the following times: 8.45 am - Oval set up, 4.00pm - Prepare BBQ's and stall &/or 5.00pm onwards - General assistance & selling.

Please contact Bridget Ramaekers (PFA) if you are able to assist at any point throughout the evening, contact 0407 243 024. Thanks in advance for your offers of assistance. It's sure to be another fabulous night for our community to come together.

Grade 3/4 Swimming Program

Over the past 2 weeks the grade 3/4 students participated in a swimming program at ‘Watermarc’. We had 10 X 40 minute classes. We were split up into eight groups according to our swimming ability. We learnt and practised strokes such as Freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly.

The two main events over the 10 days were the ‘Fun Day’ and our ‘Water Safety Day’. On the Fun Day we went on the water slides and the inflatable obstacle course. On the Water Safety Day, we learnt some basic rescue skills. They were floating, sculling, safe entry’s and exits and for some people wearing a life jacket for the first time!

Thank you to all the parents and teachers for organizing the 2 weeks and helping us out. It is much appreciated!

By Kika, Ashleigh, Chelsea and Elyse from 4L

On behalf of all the 3/4 students!
**GK Twilight Christmas Concert**

The GK Twilight Christmas Concert is just around the corner! The GK students have been busily practising their items and are sounding fantastic!

**Where:** School Oval

**When:** Monday 16th December - 6:00pm to approximately 8:00pm.

Children are asked to meet their classroom teacher on the oval between 5:30 and 5:45pm (at the latest). The Christmas Concert will begin at 6:00pm.

GK students will sit with their grade for the entire concert. We ask that toddlers and younger siblings stay with their parents/guardians.

The GK students will only have access to the Prep Toilets throughout the concert. These toilets will be supervised by GK staff members. Parents and family members will have access to the Canteen Toilets.

At the completion of the concert, parents will need to sign out their child/children from class teachers.

Families are invited to bring along picnic rugs and chairs to comfortably enjoy the evening. Please be mindful of the line markings and ensure that you keep to the designated viewing areas.

The P.F.A’s Sausage Sizzle will be starting at approximately 5:00pm. We ask that GK students eat prior to the concert as they won’t be able to have sausages or drinks during the performance.

The P.F.A will also be drawing the Christmas Raffle during the performance. Tickets will be available to be purchased earlier in the evening.

*We hope to see you all there!*

---

**SCHOOL BOOK RETURNS**

Could parents please ensure their child/children have returned all Glen Katherine Library books and Take Home Readers back to School.

A good search under beds, behind the couch, in the car and of your own bookshelves may reveal some of our missing books.

It is the expectation that lost Library books are paid for so if books are not returned by Monday 16th December 2013, a request for reimbursement will be sent out.

Thanking you for your assistance.

Astrid Batthen, Gail Elliott

**BOOK SALE**

The Library is not an Archive centre and as such we often have to cull old titles or others we have multiple copies of in order to make room for new, more current, popular, in demand titles.

We will be having a clearance sale of some of these books during lunch breaks from Monday next week.

Students can bring along their pocket money and they might find an old treasure to purchase for holiday reading.

There will also be a small quantity of posters.

Books are 50 cents and posters 10 cents.
Volunteers needed for Stagwatch

Where: La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary

When: Tuesday 17th Dec
Time: 730pm onwards

Our last big volunteer event for 2013 will be a Stagwatch to determine arboreal mammals occurring in the sanctuary and estimate their abundances.

Stagwatching involves counting the number of individuals of each species as it emerges from every tree with a hollow/nest box. In order for us to do this we need large numbers of people.

We promise a fun evening, refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to wildlife@latrobe.edu.au
GUITAR AND DRUM LESSONS FOR 2014

I am now taking bookings for next year’s guitar and drum lessons. If you are interested please give me a call on 0412 816 564 or email adroachl@hotmail.com. Also if you are interested in participating in the rock band in 2014 that is held on a lunch time please let me know.

Adam Roach

Keyboard Lessons

2014

Places are now available for any child who would like to learn the piano/keyboard during school hours Beginning Term 1 - 2014

please contact Peter Raymakers (B. mus., A.mus.A, Dip. Lib. Arts)
on:- 0431 817 470

DATES FOR YOUR 2014 DIARY

Tue Jan 28th - Teachers return, NO STUDENTS at school. Office Open 10am—3pm

Wed Jan 29th - CURRICULUM DAY, no students at school. Office Open 10am—3pm

- Uniform Shop Open, 10.00am-11.00am

Thu 30th Jan - Gr1 - 6 students start school; Prep interview day

Fri 31st Jan - Preps - Gr6, all students at school

Uniform Shop Open 8.30am-9.30am

Tue 11th Feb - PFA ‘s Annual General Meeting
WANT TO PLAY NETBALL IN 2014
NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER
ELTHAM NETBALL CLUB IS NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 2014 CALENDAR YEAR.

Training is based at St. Helena S.C in Wallowa Road, Eltham North, on either a Tuesday or Thursday nights.

GAMES ARE PLAYED AT THE LARGE AND POPULAR DONCASTER AND DISTRICTS NETBALL ASSOCIATION IN TEMPLESTOWE, FIVE MINUTES FROM CENTRE OF ELTHAM. THEY CATER FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES.

TO REGISTER EMAIL JULIE AT info@elthamnetballclub.com.au

Fees for the full calendar year
9/u to 15/u $160 if paid within two weeks of registering. This is for the two 2014 seasons and INCLUDES YOUR GAME FEES NO MORE TO PAY EACH WEEK.

17/u $190 if paid within two weeks of registering and like other age groups no more to pay game fees included.

Open – Different fees for night and Saturday competition. We cater for all levels of play in the open with teams playing on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday’s nights and Saturday afternoon.
Australian Open
Holiday Tennis Programs
at St. Mary’s Tennis Club - Greensborough

Junior Clinics: Jan 20, 21, 22, 23.
(Students can do one, two or all sessions).
Cardio Tennis: Jan 21 & 23

Morning Clinics (Ages 5 to 18)
Afternoon Tournaments (Ages 7 to 18)
Full Day Clinic & Competitions (Ages 7 to 18)

For information or bookings:
phone: 0488 722 538
email: info@thetennisguru.com.au
web: www.thetennisguru.com.au

Launch into tennis lessons of Glen Katherine P.S.
Topline Tennis has been setting the standard for tennis coaching in the North East suburbs of Melbourne for over 20 years.

For more information please call the Topline Tennis office on:
9432-3706
Web: www.toplinetennis.com
Email: info@toplinetennis.com

LOCATION: Glen Katherine Primary School Tennis Courts
LESSON TIMES: All lessons start after school from 3.15pm