ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S NOTES:

WELCOME BACK MRS RAMSAY!
Today we welcome back Mrs Ramsay from her working holiday in Canada. Although I have missed having Mrs Ramsay at school, I know the educational experiences she has had visiting a large number of schools in Canada will be terrific in framing what we do well and where we can possibly improve as a school. Welcome back Jill!

CURRICULUM UPDATES

AusVels
The implementation of AusVels has begun at GK. Since 2006, schools in Victoria based their curriculum on the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). Other states across Australia had their own curriculum organisation. This year marks the start of the implementation of a new Australian Curriculum that all states have signed up to. This is a staggered implementation over three years, with Literacy, Numeracy, Science and History targeted in 2013. AusVels is the combination of these four Australian Curriculum core subjects and the remaining VELS learning areas.

Our staff will be reporting to you at the end of this term using their current teaching and learning programs and knowledge. We are slowly auditing and overhauling our VELS curriculum plans to align with AusVels which involves rethinking how we are addressing the learning needs of our students. This can only strengthen our programs and benefit the learning of our students. Later this term a more comprehensive outline of our AusVels reporting process will be shared with you.

Intervention - BOOST & LIPs

Term One allowed teachers to set up the learning environments in the classrooms, get to know the children and identify their next point of learning. A part of this process involves all teachers, Jill and I in collecting and analysing learning data to determine what the core needs of grade levels, classes and individuals are. Unfortunately not every child reaches the expected level of learning at the same time as their peers for a whole range of reasons. To assist and support these students in moving forward in their learning we offer a BOOST Program. Our Boost program is managed by Kate Rodgers and Carol Opperman, who work alongside classroom teachers in supporting identified students in need. These BOOST sessions could occur for 5 week intensive blocks, extend to a term or longer if needed.

Currently we have placed Kate and Carol in the Grade 1 and 2 area to support Literacy needs of selected students. BOOST may move to the Grade 3 and 4 area later this year depending on the needs of our students, which will be determined late this term.

Not all children participate in BOOST however if your child is needing additional assistance in Literacy, a letter will head out to you to notify you of this as well as discussion initiated by you child’s classroom teacher.

Learning Improvement Plans (LIPs) are developed for students who can’t be supported by the BOOST Program but have been identified as needing specific support in reaching their expected level of learning. Classroom teachers communicate to parents via the LIP what a child’s learning challenges are, what is happening in the classroom to assist the child in reaching specific short term goals and home task suggestions. In week 5 of this term (13th May) teachers will, if they haven’t already, meet with parents to share a LIP if your child is in need of this support. Not all children need LIPs, some only for a short period of time. We are all different with different needs at different times. Working with parents, a LIP is a way to monitor learning collectively as a team.

STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR is on Saturday 27th of July.
We have 47 GK kids performing in this Hisense Arena event. If you are interested in seeing one of the two shows, Pre-Sale ticket information is attached in this Linkletter.

DO RIGHT CITIZENS!
The following students were drawn out of our Do Right Box by our School Captains this week for displaying ‘Do Right’ behaviours; Jack M PT, Brigette C 2Q, Amy S 2Q, Daniel W 2A and Mitch D 6W. I’m very proud to have you in our school—keep up the great effort.

Leanne Tingwell
GRADE 2 EXCURSION

Our topic for Term 2 is “Wondering About Our Past”, so on the 23rd of April, all the Grade 2s went on an excursion to St Katherine’s Church and cemetery, Alistair Knox Park and ANZAC Memorial at the Diamond Creek Cemetery.

We were lucky enough to go on a double decker bus!

Our first stop was St Katherine’s Church. All the Grade 2s got to meet Bev. Bev is a lady who works at St Katherine’s Church and we learnt about Anthony and Katherine Beale and how the church was built. We all enjoyed it very much. We also saw some people in the graveyard and there was one who had ANZAC as their middle name.

After, we travelled to Alistair Knox Park to learn more and have lunch. The Grade 2s were working in four different groups- there were groups 1, 2, 3 and 4. We learned about Walter Withers and Alan Marshall. We also learned about the Trestle bridge and what Alistair Knox Park used to be. Alan Marshall was an author and he lost his leg when he was young. Walter Withers was a famous artist. He once lived in England and then moved to Australia. He painted pictures of Eltham.

Finally we went to the Diamond Creek Cemetery and saw a little ANZAC garden, we also saw some ANZAC symbols like poppies, the Australian flag and a cross that said, ‘Lest We Forget’

It was time to go back to Glen Katherine so we got on the bus. The bus driver’s name was Laurie but he said we could call him Truck. On the way Laurie sang the Collingwood song, but it wasn’t really. He really sang Twinkle Twinkle Little Star!

Thank you to all of the Grade 2 parents and teachers who helped on the day! Thank you for reading our report.

Amy S (2O) and Brigitte C (2O)
Woohoo! Pinch yourselves kiddies, Slushies are back in action from next Monday! All new machine with all new fruit mix. Flavours are Rad Raspberry or Fruitola Cola and 220ml cup for just $2.00. (Keep your fingers crossed!!)

Also, on Monday I will be sending home order forms for our next Special Lunch. This one will be extra special as it is our GK BIGGEST MORNING LUNCH and $1.00 from every lunch will be donated to the Cancer Council. Please note that it will be held over 2 days, Grade 3-6 on Wednesday, 22nd May & Prep-2 on Thursday, 23rd May. Orders have to be in by Friday, 17th May and no later. If anyone can give us an extra hand on either of these days, please complete the bottom section of the form.

**SPECIALS** until sold out:
- ANZAC COOKIES 50c each
- Frozen 250ml OJ tetra box 50c – *only available over the counter at recess.*
- Pretzels 30g 50c each
- 8pk Mini Cookies & Cream Cookies 30c each, 2 for 50c or 4 for $1.00

Also looking for extra help on the following days:
- **1st, 2nd & 4th MONDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED FOR EACH OF THESE DAYS
- **2nd & 4th TUESDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED FOR EACH OF THESE DAYS
- **2nd FRIDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED

If you are available on any of these days or for our emergency list, I would really appreciate hearing from you. It is just once a month, 9am to 11.45am.

Cheers, Suzi Cunningham

### REMINDERS:

1st instalment of Bulk Billing excursion payments now over due.

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### FIRST AID NEWS

It is important that parents notify the office on 9431-1599 if their child is diagnosed with chicken pox.

Thanks.

Leanda Hudson
FIRST AID OFFICER
SPORTS NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING
Excellent numbers attended the first training session on Tuesday morning. Fantastic support was given by teachers Ms Angel, Ms Murray, Mrs Green and Mr Lincoln who ran with the students.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT
Interschool sport commences this Friday 3rd May. GK LIGHTS play Laurimer away. GK DARKS will have practice due to Diamond Creek PS being away on camp. Footballers will have a practice at Anthony Beale Reserve. All other sports will practise at the school.

Please ensure that your child is well prepared for their sport – Footballers will need mouthguards to play and drink bottle and football boots. Football jumpers and shorts will be provided.

Soccer players will be provided with shin guards for their matches.

Please be aware of the Diamond Valley Sports Association Code of Conduct.

For the benefit of parents whose children are involved in interschool sport – I have included some information about the sport policy of our governing body – School Sport Victoria (SSV). The code of conduct is very different from what is acceptable in children’s sport outside of school. Please be aware that there is to be no coaching by teachers or parents during GAME TIME of affiliated events. Coaching can only occur during breaks in play by the nominated coach. This policy becomes more important as children/teams progress towards the state finals. Sometimes however, at the lower levels, coaches agree that the main emphasis of the game should be on educating the children about the game (rules, positioning etc.) If you come along to watch your child compete, please be aware that telling the children where to position themselves, who to pass to, when to run etc, is deemed inappropriate. Abusing umpires and opposition player is totally unacceptable. Of course applauding good play is quite OK. Everyone who attends our games and events needs to be aware of the difficult position the teachers could potentially be placed in if parents/spectators break the ‘code’. Children (and teams) who have deemed to have been coached during events (such as swimming and cross country) can be disqualified.

Please come and see me if you have any questions or would like to read the SSV code of conduct in full.

David Blackburn

Carlton Footy Clinic

On Tuesday the grade fours were lucky enough to meet David Ellard and Andy McInness. They are players from the Carlton Football Club.

They taught us some football skills like: kicking, handballing and marking. At the end we asked questions such as: When did you start playing football? How old were you when you started playing footty? What team did you go for before you started playing for Carlton? Believe it or not David Ellard used to go for Collingwood Football Club. Then we got autographs!!!!

We had LOADS of fun with them during the session!!!
By Hayley Russell and Kayley Robertshaw from 4L
ITALIAN NEWS

What a wonderful start to our LOTE learning...the Gr 5/6’s have experienced first hand the importance of “Carnevale” in Italian culture. It is held prior to our “Pancake Day” or Shrove Tuesday. It is a period of fun and frivolity, where anything goes, before the strict 40 day period of LENT, observed in the Catholic religion. “Carnevale” is derived from the Latin word meaning to abstain from meat, hence the “no meat on Friday” tradition!

Children and adults dress up with traditional and modern masks (maschere), and a variety of parties are scheduled in every Italian town. There are many parades (sfilti) with very elaborate floats (carri). Children typically carry around a bag of coloured paper confetti (coriandoli), which they throw at people, or they blow stelle filante: strings of paper rolled up in circles. Per uno scherzo means to pull a joke on someone, and Carnevale is that time of the year when you should expect to be the victim of jokes.

The most famous Carnevale celebrations: Venice

Venetian masks can be made in leather or with the original papier-mâché technique. The original masks were rather simple in design and decoration and often had a symbolic and practical function. Nowadays, most of them are made with the application of gesso and gold leaf and are all hand-painted using natural feathers and gins to decorate.

Vivarelli: The Carnevale of Viareggio is one of the most famous in Italy. It lasts a month with night and day celebrations, floats, parades, district celebrations, masked dances and fireworks, much like our Moomba celebrations.

Commedia dell’Arte were a group of travelling actors who performed improvised theatre in Italy in the 16th century. Performances were unscripted, held outside, and used few props. They were free to watch, funded by donations. A troupe consisted of ten people: eight men and two women. Outside Italy the form was also known as “Italian Comedy.” In Italy, the characters of the Commedia dell’arte are still very popular and widely used for Carnevale disguises.

Some of the most famous Commedia Dell’Arte Masked Characters:

Arlecchino: is a clown, acrobatic and mischievous. He is a servant, and is recognizable by the colourful diamond-shaped patches that traditionally were part of his costume. Arlecchino also tries to trick his masters and is always plotting and planning, but his plans never work. Arlecchino is a mask from Bergamo.

Children in Gr 1/6 recently completed the Carnevale unit by designing and creating their own maschere!

Bravi Ragazzi!! Visit the LOTE BLOG

Make sure you visit our wonderful LOTE blog on the school website and feel free to comment. LOTE BLOG. There is a wealth of interactive language games for the whole family to enjoy and practice their Italian together.

If there are any queries about the LOTE Italian Program, feel free to contact me on Mondays or Thursdays.

Arrivederci e grazie. Sandra Pistorio LOTE ITALIAN Teacher.
How to get More out of Reading with your Child

"Reading" is the process of looking at a series of written symbols and getting meaning from them. When we read, we use our eyes to receive written symbols (letters, punctuation marks and spaces) and we use our brain to convert them into words, sentences and paragraphs that communicate something to us.

During the early years of schooling children develop skills needed to ‘decode’ written symbols. They learn basic strategies that can help them decipher the ‘message’ on the page. Initially the children are taught to use the pictures, the letters and the sounds they make and whether the word they read 'makes sense'. As the children become more fluent in their reading, there is a greater emphasis on ‘reading for meaning'; a way of getting information. Regardless of a child’s reading ability, whether a toddler, a pre-schooler or in grade 6, all children are aware that a message is being conveyed from what is being read to them or what they are reading.

Adding questions to reading time can significantly improve children’s language skills. Using books to prompt discussion helps children develop a greater understanding of the text and hear language they may not hear in normal day to day conversation. A child’s vocabulary grows through rich conversation. Questions which prompt discussion, help children clarify their understanding of a text and can be used to help make a link between the text and their own experiences.

Books can capture children’s imagination. Regardless of whether the child is in Prep or Grade 6, whatever their reading ability, the type of text they are reading or having read to them, all children will glean a lot more from text when questions are used to prompt discussions. It will get them thinking about what they are reading or looking at.

How questions can turn into discussions:

Ask simple questions such as “what is it called?” or “who was in the story?”
Then ask more complex questions such as “Why do you think?” “How did ... feel about...?” “How did you know that?” “What do you think will happen next?” “Why?” etc.
Always acknowledge the child's response and help them with new vocabulary. “Have you heard that word before?” “Where did you hear it?”
Encourage the child to make a connection to their own experiences or something they have seen or read before.

Jenny Hopkin (Literacy Coordinator)

Don’t forget the reading nights coming up soon:

Learning to Read – for parents of children Prep – Gr 2  May 9th 7.00 pm
Reading beyond the Early Years – for parents of children Gr 3-Gr 6 May 16th 7.00 pm

RSVP and return to class teacher by Tuesday May 7th.

Name:_____________________________Child’s Name and Grade:_________________________

I would like to attend Learning to Read/Reading Beyond the Early Years (circle).
I would like information about………………………………………………………………………..
# 2013 FUNDRAISING/SOCIAL SCHEDULE

**Term 1**
- GK Mega Fete

**Term 2**
- Entertainment Books
- Mother’s Day Stall
- Skaterz Family Night

**Term 3**
- Pie Drive
- Father’s Day Stall
- GK Disco

**Term 4**
- Calendars

This year our aim is to raise over $30,000 through the above activities. Please do all that you can to support these fundraising & social activities.

# ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Entertainment Books have been sent home to families. We encourage families to purchase these Books and utilize the savings available. Each book sold is profit for our School. Ask family if they are interested – additional books are available. Contact Paula Griggs on 0422 997 897

# EARN & LEARN STICKERS

Safeway Supermarkets again have their Earn & Learn Sticker Campaign which we are participating in. Please remember to ask for your Stickers at the Checkout. There is a GK collection box at St Helena Safeway or you can return completed sheets to the Office. This is a great opportunity for our School to receiving additional Sporting and Educational Resources. Thank You to **Amanda Luke** for again co-ordinating this activity.

# MOTHER’S DAY STALL — NEED DONATIONS & HELP

**Happy Mother’s Day!**

PFA is seeking donations for our Mother’s Day stall on Wednesday 8th May. If you have any small gifts, soaps, wrapped lollies, wrapped chocolates or anything you think our lovely mothers would appreciate, please place it in the box at the office labelled MOTHER’S DAY STALL. All donations, big and small, are very much appreciated.

We also require help to wrap gifts prior to the stall and to assist on the day of the stall. If you would like to help in any way (can be for as little as 1 hour or more) please contact Renee on 0408 175 676 or email renee@magpies.net and leave your name, contact number and how you would like to assist.

Thanks.
Renee and Maxine
Mother’s Day Co-ordinators

# CAN YOU...

- Volunteer for the Mother’s Day Stall
  Call: Renee 0408 175 676

- Work in the Second Hand Uniform Shop
  Call: Amanda 0405 718770

- Canteen Volunteers
  See Susie in the Canteen

ou would like to help, contact the person listed above or Email: glnkpf@gmail.com and your message will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

# GK WEBSITE

Don’t forget to look on the GK Website regularly for upcoming events, ways to help and useful information for parents. PFA information is found under the “PARENTS” tab.

[www.glenkps.vic.edu.au](http://www.glenkps.vic.edu.au)

# LOST PROPERTY

Remember to LABEL your child’s clothing with a SURNAME!

You can check lost property, in the office, for any lost items.

**Note:** At the end of each Term any unnamed items will be sent to the Second Hand Uniform Shop.
Volunteers are needed to help run the second hand uniform shop on Monday and Friday mornings between 8.30am & 9am. Please call Amanda on 0405 718 770 or drop in and see us if you can help.

If you have school uniform to sell that is in good, clean condition, simply write your child’s name & grade on an envelope for each item and send it to the uniform shop. As the second hand uniform shop is a fundraising activity for the school, a small percentage of the sale price is deducted and the balance returned to the seller. All of the funds raised during the year are put towards resources for the school. More information can be found on the school website.
VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS
Spectacular
THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

EXCLUSIVE PRE-SALE OFFER

ADULT $20
CHILDREN UNDER 15 YEARS $12
LIMITED SEATS, DON’T MISS OUT!

OFFER OPENS MONDAY 13 MAY AT 10AM
To purchase tickets, simply visit www.ticketek.com.au/spectacular
ENTER CODE: SPECTACULAR
Or call Ticketek on 132 849, or visit one of their box office locations.
General release tickets go on sale Monday 27 May at 10am.
Adults $28.50 / Concession $23.50 / Children under 15 years $15.00
Offer expires at midnight on Sunday 16 May, booking fees may apply.

HISENSE ARENA, MELBOURNE PARK
SATURDAY 27 JULY 2013 / 11AM & 5PM

“DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IN A ROCK BAND?”

“Do you want to play in a rock band?”
Learn to play a musical instrument now or ever with a private teacher and unlock your talents from your classroom.
Music Tuition available in Guitar, Singing, Drums, Piano, Bass, Clarinet & Flute/Trumpet

ENROL NOW FOR THE TERM AND GET THE FIRST LESSON FREE
Give your child the gift of music.
Learn to play in a fun, enjoyable and less stressful environment.

Minimatics School of Music
4/6, 500 Blackburn Road
Dandenong North 3175
info@minimatics.com.au

9439 4800

DIAMOND CREEK
BLUE LIGHT
10th May
Community Bank Stadium
Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek
7pm-10pm (8-13 year olds)

Cost: $6.00
Contact: Senior Sergeant Wayne SPENCER
03 9438 8300

Sign up to the Blue Light Website at www.bluelight.org.au
### Value Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student's Name</th>
<th>Reason for Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep D</td>
<td>Nick S</td>
<td>Congratulations Nick for showing excellence in your work. I can see you are trying very hard to achieve your best. You should be very proud. Keep up this fantastic work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep H</td>
<td>Zach C</td>
<td>Congratulations Zach for always trying with your work and “bouncing back” when you are unsure of something. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Sophia L</td>
<td>Congratulations Sophia for always working really hard on every task and for being a kind and caring friend to others. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep T</td>
<td>Zara J</td>
<td>Congratulations Zara for always showing excellence in everything you do. You complete tasks extremely well and always think about what you can do to improve your work. You are a star!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Aimee B</td>
<td>Congratulations to Aimee for using manners. You are always polite to your classmates in and outside the room, a pleasure to have in 1A. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Erin L</td>
<td>Congratulations Erin, for your enthusiastic attitude and for showing persistence with your learning tasks. You are always trying to do your best. Fabulous effort!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Will P</td>
<td>Congratulations Will, for your fantastic attitude towards your learning and for your excellent number work and clever maths thinking. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Charlie N</td>
<td>For always showing respect and kindness to others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Chloe C</td>
<td>For your wonderful attitude and persistence towards learning tasks. You are always trying to do your best - you are a superstar!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2O</td>
<td>Madison G</td>
<td>For showing persistence during maths lessons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Sarah B</td>
<td>For carrying out all tasks required of her in an excellent manner and for displaying beautiful manners at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3O</td>
<td>Sophie N</td>
<td>For always demonstrating excellence and creativity in all given tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Michael M</td>
<td>For his efforts with homework and in class. It is excellent the way he has his hand up to contribute answers so often.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Josh S</td>
<td>For tolerance and respect to all others. Josh, an energetic monitor in class, is enthusiastic, helpful and considerate to other students at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Hamish D</td>
<td>For working cooperatively in group activities and encouraging others to do their best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Ryan L</td>
<td>For being a helpful, reliable and considerate member of our class who always tries his best with all set tasks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>