PRINCIPAL’S NOTES:

2014 CLASSES AND TEACHER PLACEMENT

Over recent weeks all staff have been working on the process of establishing a suitable class and teacher placement structure for 2014. The final structure aims to accommodate the academic, social and behavioural needs of all students including those with special learning needs. There also needs to be a balance of males and females and class sizes need to be kept in the low 20’s in the Prep-2 area and 28 or less in the 3-6 area. As the final structure needs to have some vacancies for new enrolments, the upper class size limit is also an important factor.

As always, the development of next year’s class structure has presented a number of challenges which we have attempted to overcome. As our aim is to create the best possible learning environment and teaching teams possible, teachers also are placed according to their particular skills and strengths and this means that some changes are made regarding teacher placement. Primary school teachers are trained to teach across all grade levels and can also be expected to take up a range of Specialist/Support teaching roles.

To develop a structure that suits everyone (students, staff and parents) is an impossibility. We believe however, that given all of the things that have to be taken into account, the 2014 teacher and grade structure will deliver comparable class sizes, maximum learning opportunities for children and strong and effective staff team work. Regrettably, we will farewell several of our current staff members at the end of this year for a range of reasons including retirement, parental leave and/or travel: Jenny Hopkin, Lucy Miller, Amy Murray, Ken Hopkin, Merrin Tunnecliffe and Rita Vitelleschi-Zauzich. We are indebted to each of these staff members for their hard work and commitment to our students and the school and say ‘thank you’ and wish them every success and happiness in the future. In particular, to Jenny Hopkin who has been at GK for 21 years, we say a HUGE thank you for the wonderful job she has done in the many roles she has undertaken over the years and always with a cheerful smile on her face. Thank you Jenny!

On Thursday 12th Dec, the 2014 Preps will find out their class teacher and room for next year. Then on Friday 13th December, the students in Prep-Gr 5 will find out which class they have been placed in and they will also have the opportunity to visit their new room and meet their teacher for 2014. We hope that parents appreciate the time and effort that goes into developing a class structure as well as understand how difficult it is to create a workable structure that suits all students, staff and parents, not just the interests of a few. There will be happiness for some and unhappiness for others as it simply is an impossible task to please everyone. We do our best and know that in developing resilient children, we need to remain positive and supportive in helping them to adjust to and accept change.

We certainly appreciated the input of parents in the development of the class structure and say thank you to those parents who submitted suggestions and requests. All requests are considered along with all of the other variables that also need to be taken into account. For this reason, some requests will be accommodated but others won’t be. Ultimately the 2014 grade structure and student/teacher placements will be one that we believe provides the best possible teaching and learning arrangements for all students. The grade structure and teacher placement plan for 2014 is:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ms Bywater (new)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Mrs Totino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ms Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ms Downey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr1</td>
<td>Mrs Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr1</td>
<td>Ms Beley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr1/2</td>
<td>Mr Lincoln</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr2</td>
<td>Mrs Cleary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr2</td>
<td>Ms Osuin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr3</td>
<td>Mrs Rough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr3</td>
<td>Mrs Febbraro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr3</td>
<td>Mrs Di Lizio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr3/4</td>
<td>Mrs Owen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr4</td>
<td>Ms Brown (new)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr4</td>
<td>Ms Pye-Longo (new)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr5</td>
<td>Mrs Rodgers (formerly Erin Heddle who returns from leave)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr5</td>
<td>Ms Dunstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr5</td>
<td>Ms O’Reilly (new)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr5/6</td>
<td>Mr Fatchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr6</td>
<td>Mrs Whelan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr6</td>
<td>Mrs Rinaldi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr6</td>
<td>Ms Angel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Mrs Cosma &amp; Mrs Hollyoak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Mrs Simmonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Blackburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Mrs Portaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys Ed/Sport</td>
<td>Mrs Webb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Lenny A—PrepD  Caitlyn H—5D
Nathan C—1A     Carly P—5D
Daniel P—1A      Blake M—5V
Georgia P—4H     Harry W—6W
Elise M—4H       Teagan M—6M
Erin W—4H        Mrs Tingwell
Blake M—5V       Mrs Tingwell

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

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The Salvation Army Christmas Food Appeal

Thank you everyone for your fabulous donations.

LAST DAY FOR DONATIONS IS FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER

The Salvation Army annual Christmas Food Appeal is beginning! There are so many families in our community who depend on extra help at Christmas time and without your help The Salvation Army would be limited in what they could do for them.

If you are able to donate any of the goods listed below, it would be greatly appreciated – every little bit helps! All donations can be delivered to the office and placed in the barrel provided. Our Junior School Council will be reminding us at assembly each week about bringing in goods and updating us with how the donations are growing.

The donations will begin to be distributed to needy families during the first few weeks of December. So get into the GK spirit and give what you can to a very worthwhile cause.

Thanks in advance for your kindness,
Leanne Tingwell

SALVATION ARMY RECOMMENDED DONATION LIST:

1. Food items - non perishable, with use by date at least January 2015 - suggestions would be pasta, pasta sauce, breakfast cereal, uht milk, plum pudding, uht custard, fruit mince pies, biscuits, canned foods - especially tomatoes and fruit, tuna, ham, corn, beetroot, vegetables, soup, beans, etc., coffee, tea, packets of gravy, sweets, anything you would appreciate receiving in your own Christmas hamper.

2. Toiletries are acceptable, however, perfumed items such as soap can taint the other items in the hampers, so probably best to stick to food if possible.

3. Food items are preferred, however, gifts are acceptable provided they are new. We do not distribute second hand toys or gifts. Also, we must check all items, so please do not gift wrap items.

4. We cannot distribute alcohol or tobacco products.
Roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day &amp; Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th December</td>
<td>P Hill; L Pugsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11th December</td>
<td>L Carter; V Galea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th December</td>
<td>E West; A Ciurlino; R Harper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th December</td>
<td>S McLaren; L Tancredi; J Robertshaw</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

The “Santa’s Sneaky Snack” afternoon tea flyer is due in 9AM Friday. Make sure you fill in your choice of either ‘Rudolph Red’ (apple raspberry) or ‘Grinch Green’ (lemon lime) for the Quench drink. No late orders will be accepted and no refunds given.

**Please mark in your calendars that FRIDAY, 13TH DECEMBER will be the last day for lunch orders in the canteen.** I am starting to run down the stocks for lunch order 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. Helpers are only needed 9am to 11.45am once a month. I can be contacted 8.30am to 1.30pm Tuesday to Friday should you wish any more information, or you can complete the form with this Linkletter or on the website and send it in through the grade lunch tub.

Cheers, Suzi Cunningham

**SPORTS REPORT**

**SPORT** | **VENUE**
--- | ---
Volleyball | Apollo Parkways
Cricket | Anthony Beale
Bat Tennis | Apollo Parkways
Basketball | Community Bank Stadium
Rounders | Apollo Parkways

**LIGHTS TEAMS** – will have a round robin games session at the school.

**SPORTS TOP RETURN** – students are required to return all sports tops to their sport coach as soon as possible.

**JUNIOR SPORTS DAY** – The Junior Sports Day will be held next Monday on the school oval from 9.30 – 11.00 am for Gr prep – 3 students. Students are to wear their House colours on the day. Parents are most welcome to attend.

David Blackburn
Term 4: Time for some THANK YOUs

As the year draws to a close it’s time to say thank you. Thank you to all those parents and grandparents who made it down to the Science Room to attend the Prep Science lessons for the last fortnight. I hope you got a taste of what we do in science.

Thank you to all parents for assisting our students in increasing their sustainability, such as bringing NUDE FOOD and full WATER BOTTLES to school each day. All these actions make a difference to the amount of waste we throw away at GK.

THANK YOU to all the GK Staff who have participated in the 5 Star Sustainable Classrooms initiative, introduced this year. It was introduced as an effort to increase awareness about how we can increase our environmental sustainability as groups in a school community. Many classrooms have attained their 5 badges and our winner will be drawn at assembly next Monday.

Also at assembly next Monday, I will be asking the Green Team to come forward so the school community can thank them as well! They have been an enthusiastic and energetic team this year and have enabled me to establish some new practices in the school.


Have safe and happy holidays, Mrs Webb.
These awards will be presented at assembly on Monday 9th December.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>Reason for Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Bronte Billings</td>
<td>For displaying excellence in all curriculum areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3O</td>
<td>Mitchell Dimech</td>
<td>For the assistance he willingly gives others during ICT tasks and the excellence and creativity he showed with his narrative writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Joshua Feeney</td>
<td>For excellence as a Junior School Council representative, attending all meetings and reporting back to the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Will Rymar</td>
<td>For the extra effort that he has been putting into his classwork.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Alex Lovis</td>
<td>For completing his homework tasks very well and reading regularly at home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Chelsea Constable</td>
<td>For always being considerate, helpful and a positive role model for the others to follow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Michael Davis</td>
<td>For demonstrating excellence in his attitude to completing school work. Well done, Michael!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5R</td>
<td>Isabella Salas Bull</td>
<td>For her continual persistence in challenging tasks especially in the area of maths. You have also worked very hard to be more confident when speaking before an audience. Your tremendous effort has been noticed!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5V</td>
<td>Nathan Williams</td>
<td>For being a kind and loyal friend. Nathan consistently makes those around him feel good and shows respect to all he interacts with. It has been a pleasure to witness the way you socialise with your peers. Well Done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>Jason Shaw</td>
<td>For showing excellence by not being afraid to have a go and extending his fraction knowledge and understandings. Jason, you should be very proud of your effort this semester. Keep it up next year!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Ben Gleeson</td>
<td>For being a responsible and highly organised ‘Bank Manager’ during ‘Earn and Learn’. You have demonstrated great mathematical skills and patience when working with members from ‘Mictoria’ and the wider school community. Well Done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Nick Thomas</td>
<td>For demonstrating leadership during Volleyball games. Every week you encourage others and show the school values. Great job!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>Jarod Deluca</td>
<td>For working extremely hard in his role as Deputy Prime Minister in the Earn and Learn. Well Done!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

The Premiers Reading Challenge ran from February to September this year.

The aim of the challenge is to promote the love of reading. It is not a competition, but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

Children could choose to read novels, picture story books, short stories, poems or non-fiction books to add to their challenge totals.

Children in Prep-2 had to read or experience 30 books and the children in grades 3-6 had to read 15 books. Some of the books had to be from the challenge list but they could also choose some of their own favourites.

At Glen Katherine 199 students took up the challenge. These students will be receiving a certificate from their teacher this week to recognise their achievement.

We hope that even more students take up the challenge next year.

Congratulations everyone and keep on reading.

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.
GUITAR AND DRUM LESSONS FOR 2014

I am now taking bookings for next years guitar and drum lessons. If you are interested please give me a call on 0412 816 564 or email adcoach1@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

THANKYOU to all families who were unable to attend the working bee but kindly donated money, it is much appreciated.

REMINDERS:

GK 2014 Grade 5/6 Camp

Payment 3 - $50.00 due Friday 13th December.

To ensure your child receives their bookpack final payment must be made by FRIDAY 13th December. There is no guarantee your child will receive a bookpack if payment is not received by this date.

PARENT HELPER MORNING TEA

All Parent, Guardians, Grandparents who have helped the school during the year (Canteen, Library, Classroom, Excursions, Camps, School Council & Sub–Committees, PFA, Fete, Uniform Shop, 2nd Hand Uniform) are invited to join the staff for a Thank You Morning Tea on Tuesday, 10th December in the Multi Purpose Building from 9.30—am—10.15 am.

Please cut and return:

Yes, I ____________________

will be attending the morning tea on 10th December.
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!
Please help support the PFA fundraising by selling raffle tickets for this year’s Christmas Raffle. They are $1 per ticket and each family gets to sell 5 tickets. There are 5 hampers to be won, drawn on the night of the Christmas Concert Monday 16th December. Please return ticket stubs & money or unsold tickets to the office by Thursday 13th December. Thank you, PFA.”

PFA CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Please help the PFA in their final fundraiser for the year by donating items to our Christmas Hamper raffle! Donations can be dropped into the GK office foyer in the donations box by Friday 13th December.

DATES FOR YOUR 2014 DIARY

**Tue Jan 28th** - Teachers return, NO STUDENTS at school

**Wed Jan 29th** - CURRICULUM DAY, no students at school

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

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

**Tue 11th Feb** - PFA ‘s first meeting

**Tue 11th Mar** – PFA’S Annual General Meeting
TERM 4 CRICKET CAMPS

MONTMORENCY CRICKET CLUB
Montomery Football and Cricket Club – 93 Para Rd, Montmorency

REGISTER TODAY!
Camps available for ages 5-12

www.cricketcamps.com.au

Call 1300 562 571

Diamond Creek Swim Club
Cnr Gibson & Elizabeth street, Diamond Creek
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0408 795 317

FREE TRIAL
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WHEN: 5/12/13
TIME: 9AM-9PM
WHERE: Greensborough store only
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Glen Katherine P.S
#243156

*Excluding gift vouchers