DIARY

2013
Fri. 8th Feb.
Summer Sport
comprises Gr 5 & 6

Tues. 12th Feb.
Fete Stall Holders
Meeting 7.30 pm in Staff
Room

THUR 14TH FEB
PENDING STATE -
WIDE STOP WORK
ACTION BY
A letter will go home
with every child on
Monday informing
parents about the
classes likely to be
affected with staff
taking action.
Information will also be
on the website

Mon. 18th Feb.
District Tennis Trials

Fri. Feb. 22nd
Curriculum Day
(no students at
school)

Tues. 26th Feb.
District Swimming

Wed. 27th Feb.
Welcome Back Special
Lunch Grades 1—6

Thurs. 28th Feb.
EMA Applications Due

PRINCIPAL’S NOTES:

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The School Council election process begins today and anyone who is interested in the work of
School Council and / or would like to nominate for a position on School Council is encouraged
to read the information published in this edition of the Linkletter. Our School Council members
comprise both parents and staff and together, we oversee the school’s facilities, finances,
policies and operations of some of the school’s programs (eg. Canteen, Out of School Hours
Care Program, school uniform requirements, cleaning contractual arrangements).

Further information about School Council is also on our website. (About Us tag / School
Council and / or would like to nominate for a position on School Council is encouraged
taking action.

VOLUNTARY PAYMENTS
Thank you to all of our families who paid for their book packs and supplementary voluntary
payments last year. A number of families indicated that they would make their voluntary
payments at the beginning of the school year so as a reminder, notices were sent to a number
of our families this week. We certainly appreciate the parent support we receive when it comes
to paying the voluntary payments. Without these payments, all we could provide is a ‘no frills’
education. Government funding alone provides simply for the basics with nothing extra.

Without voluntary payments, we couldn’t do the following:- have a dedicated first aid
officer; regularly replace a lot of high use reading & maths materials and equipment (e.g. the
take home materials that get a bit tattered and torn from regular use); regularly replace and
upgrade our computer equipment (notebooks, digital data projectors, printers, all of which wear
out, become superceded etc); maintain and make improvements to our grounds and facilities,
providing a safer and more interesting place to learn and work, both in and out-doors; provide
air conditioning across the whole school as well as maintain and replace air-conditioners across
the school. (note: government does not provide any funds for air-conditioners, they only do this
for schools in northern Victoria.)

In formulating the annual program budget each year, School Council anticipates a high
proportion of parents, if not 100%, paying the School Council charges including the voluntary
payments. If we don’t receive the anticipated amount then allocated budgets across all
programs need to be pruned accordingly. Please help us to meet budgets and provide what
your children deserve, which is more than a ‘no frills’ education.

Parents experiencing financial difficulties in making the voluntary payments are asked to contact
our Business Manager Pauline Zealley (9431 1599) to discuss alternative payment
arrangements.

MEET & GREET SESSIONS
Originally planned for 13th Feb, these late afternoon / evening meet the teacher sessions are
temporarily postponed pending industrial action involving a number of school staff across
Victoria which prevents staff from working more than a 38hr week. We hope to run these
sessions at a later date.

Jill Ramsay
Sadly, I have to make an alteration to the Price List – I am no longer able to source guaranteed ‘nut friendly’ ingredients for the canteen made “Rainbow Bubble Slice” so I can not recommend it as safe for children with a nut allergy. It will still be available at 50c a slice.

I have a separate ordering system for children with allergies. They need to use a lunch order bag (which can be purchased through the canteen – 10 for $2.00) and pop their orders into the Allergy Tub as they come into school. This tub is kept in the office area & gets collected each morning by me or a canteen volunteer. Feel free to pop into the canteen to check out the ingredients of any of our items so that you can decide whether this is ok for your child.

There are also a couple of new items on the menu: a new Tuesday Special of a fresh canteen made Pizza sub. This will be half a wholemeal roll topped with either, Margarita (pizza sauce & cheese), Vegetarian (pizza sauce, mixed capsicum & cheese) or Cheese & Bacon (pizza sauce, diced bacon & cheese) for $2.00 each. I have included a Potato Bake which is gluten free and also Cheese & Bacon Puffs (6 for $3.00 & tomato sauce is included in the price) made in the canteen and these two items will be available every day. I also have available JJ’s Mini Noodle Snacks in BBQ or Chicken for 30c and Chocolate Smarty Pants Cookies for $1.50.

I still have quite a few days with no or little help and I would like to fill them as soon as possible:

**1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th MONDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED FOR EACH OF THESE DAYS

**2nd, 3rd & 4th TUESDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED FOR THE 2ND & 4TH TUES, 2 HELPERS NEEDED FOR 3RD TUES AS I HAVE NO HELP ON THIS DAY AT PRESENT

**2nd WEDNESDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED

**3rd FRIDAY** – 1 HELPER NEEDED (I need at least 3 helpers on each Friday but am happy to have an extra if anyone is free!

If you are available on any of these days or for our emergency list, I would really appreciate hearing from you. I am in the canteen 8.30am to 12.30pm every day. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!

Cheers, Suzi

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**INTRODUCING OUR 2013 SCHOOL CAPTAINS**

At Monday’s assembly, our 2013 School Captains introduced themselves to everyone and were presented with their badge of office. We certainly look forward to their involvement in a range of school programs including leading school assemblies during the year ahead.

**Our School Captains for 2013 are:-**

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH
10am to 3pm
5 ½ weeks to go!!!

STALL HOLDERS MEETING – Tuesday 12th February 2013 @ 7.30pm in the Staff Room
This will be our last formal meeting for stall holders before the big day. Please come along to collect some information, work out where your stall will be, make the final preparations and ask any questions. If you are unable to attend please contact the committee (details below) so we can arrange to get the information to you. Anyone interested in helping is invited to come along to see what is planned and find out what they can do to help.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED
We are looking for marquees and trestle tables to use on the day. If anyone has any of these one that we can borrow, please contact Helen Giannakos.

CHOC-A-BLOCK CHALLENGE
The challenge has begun! Every time someone from your grade brings in a block of chocolate, get a raffle ticket from your teacher to place in the entry box in the office. One lucky ticket will be drawn out just before the fete and that grade will receive a hot chip lunch after the fete. The more entries your grade has – the better your chances are of winning!

GRADE LEVEL DONATIONS
This year we have split the donations request list into grade levels. Please take note of the items we are requesting from your year level and keep an eye out for bargains while you are shopping. We are requesting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Block of Chocolate &amp; wrapped lollies</th>
<th>Block of Chocolate &amp; small plastic bowls OR Paper towel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Block of Chocolate &amp; stickers or wrapped lollies</td>
<td>Block of Chocolate &amp; Paper Plates OR Al- um. Foil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Block of Chocolate &amp; Cake Decorating supplies (eg. Icing sugar, sprinkles, mini marshmallows, etc.)</td>
<td>Block of Chocolate &amp; Tomato Sauce OR BBQ Sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Block of Chocolate &amp; a Prima Drink Pack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STALL ORGANISERS WANTED FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:
Drinks Stall
Raffle (ticket coordinator)
Painted Nails & Hair
We need someone to help sort/price second hand goods. Please call Christina on 0468 466 731 if you can help. These are the last coordinator positions we have to fill. If we do not get any interest we may have to drop an activity.

AUCTION ITEMS
If you have any items suitable for the auction please let us know asap.

STALL ORGANISERS WANTED FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:
Drinks Stall
Raffle (ticket coordinator)
Painted Nails & Hair
Spinning Wheel
These are the last coordinator positions we have to fill. If we do not get any interest we may have to drop an activity.

WEBSITE
Make sure you visit the GK Mega Fete website for more information and a copy of our latest newsletter. While you are there, play our “Spot the Difference” game with Megy and see how quickly you can find the differences.

2013 Fete Committee Contact Info:
EMAIL: gkfete@gmail.com
Amanda Fraser 0405 718 770
Fiona Davies 0418 611 311
Helen Giannakos 0438 588 894
Tracey Russell 0412 581 887
School Council Elections Notice 2013

Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

◊ A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

◊ A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

◊ An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.

DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

• standing for election as a member of the school council
• encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. School Council nomination forms are available from the school office. Once completed, please return the nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the week following close of nominations. Remember .... If you are interested and need more information, please don’t hesitate to contact the Principal.

Schedule 4 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Glen Katherine Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school website or office and must be lodged by 4.00 pm Wednesday, 27th February, 2013. A ballot (if required,) will close at 4.00 pm on Friday, 8th March, 2013. Following the close of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted in the foyer. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>No. of Positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Category</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD Employee Member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Junior Football Club has teams from Under 9’s to Under 17’s as well as a fantastic Auskick program. We have specialist coaching programs for skills improvement for all players. All coaches are accredited and have received specialist training with an emphasis on kicking, speed and agility. Weekly team BBQ’s and team photos are also included in the registration fees. There will merchandise available to purchase on the day. Any queries please call Justine Girdlestone (Secretary) on 0417 844 493.

REGISTRATION DAY
ELTHAM JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
The Eltham Junior Football Club will be holding its Registration Day on Sunday February 10th from 9:00am to 1:00pm at Central Oval, Panther Place, Eltham. Teams from U9’s through to 17’s. Existing players, please go online and follow the steps for registering for 2013. For new players, please download our registration paperwork from www.elthamjfc.com.au (Registration Form, Medical Profile and Player and Parent Codes of Conduct). You will also need to supply a copy of your birth certificate to bring along on the day. For any queries, please contact Deb Mallard on 0414 442 195.

ST HELENA SAINTS BASKETBALL CLUB
Looking to recruit new players, both boys and girls teams. In particular, under 8, 12 and 14 boys, but all new players welcome. Very community focused club, teams play and train locally. A great way to keep fit, make new friends and have loads of fun. For more info, please call 0409 561 452.

SACRED HEART AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS CLASSES
These classes start on Monday February 11th at 4.00pm in the Church. Enrolments will be taken until the end of February.
Enquiries Jenny Kennedy 0416 132 102

ELTHAM LACROSSE CLUB
33rd Annual Schools Competition
WEDNESDAYS—FEBRUARY 20TH TO MARCH 13TH 2013
5.30PM TO 6.30PM
LOWER ELTHAM PARK, MAIN ST, ELTHAM
• This is a free activity provided by Eltham lacrosse club
• All necessary equipment supplied for the competition.
• Wear appropriate footwear, shorts/skirt & school sports t-shirt.
• Transport is to be provided by parents/guardians.
Ask your PE teacher for more information!
ELTHAM LACROSSE CLUB
Pauline Maher Junior Director
9432 0769 juniordirector@elthamlax.com
www.elthamlax.com

MONTMORENCY JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
JUNIOR CLUB OF THE YEAR 2011
REGISTRATION DAY
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17 2013
9.30-1PM AT PARA RD CLUBROOMS
Come and play at Montmorency in 2013. This season the Magpies have
AUSKICK
3 GIRLS TEAMS (U12, U15 & U18)
BOYS TEAMS FROM UNDER 9 - UNDER 17

We are actively seeking new families in all age groups in 2013 to become part of a progressive and highly awarded Junior Football Club. Our Club has outstanding facilities and excellent coaches. The Club place a premium on participation and enjoyment for the entire family. For more information visit http://www.facebook.com/pages/Montmorency-Junior-Football-Club/149809768445100
www.Montyjfc.com or contact President Peter Gray pbgmjf@gmail.com or 0412 480 809
SPORTS NEWS
INTER-SCHOOL SPORT

GK DARKS vs Sacred Heart - away
GK LIGHTS vs Greenhills - home
Matches start this Friday commencing at 9.30am
David Blackburn
(PE and Sport Co-ordinator)

SAFER INTERNET DAY

On Tuesday all the children in grade 5 and 6 joined thousands of other students in a live conference about being safe on the internet. We learned all about the scams and cyber safety. We now know that posting pictures on the internet could end up anywhere, and to never share your passwords with anyone, even your best friends. After the conference we had to do a quiz on the computer and it was so much fun! The quizzes were about what you would do if you were in a situation like being bullied or scammed on the computer.

By Sam J and Andy M 5/6L

GKPS YEARBOOK 2012

There are a few copies of the 2012 GKPS Yearbook available to purchase from the office at a cost of $10. If you missed out purchasing one last year or would like another copy, please contact the office.

“Want to play netball in 2013”

Eltham Netball Club is now taking registrations for the 2013 seasons. We cater for all ages from 9/u to open and all abilities from beginner to experienced. We train on Tuesdays and Thursday nights and games are on a Saturday commencing 16th March.

If you would like any information please contact Julie on info@elhamnetballclub.com.au Players are welcome to come to training for a “come and try” session.

ST MARY’S GREENSBOROUGH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

REGISTRATION DAY 2013

The Club Registration Day will be held on Friday 15th February 2013 at Whatmough Park from 4pm to 9pm.

All players who register will receive a Club Towel and $30.00 Credit towards the purchase of other Club Merchandise.
ELTHAM REDBACKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Players Wanted for 2013

Play at a family friendly soccer club with the best football facilities in the district
Saturday skills program for U5 – U7
Small Sided games for U8 – U11
Boys and Girls teams U12 to Seniors
“Spiderlings” program for 3 & 4 year olds

Check out our website at ELTHAMREDBACKSFC.ORG.AU

INFORMATION DAY Saturday 9th FEB
10AM – 2PM
WATTLTREE RD ELTHAM NORTH

Boys & Girls Teams
From 3 years to Senior Men & Women
Email Enquires to ssfu7@elthamredbacksfc.org.au

Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg

Applications for Enrolment for Year 7, 2014 close on Friday 1 March 2013.

School Tours are held throughout the year on normal school days. We also have Twilight School tours available. All tours last for approx. 1.5 hours. To make a booking, please call College Reception on 9459 2511.
GLEN KATHERINE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUPER SUMMER SPORTS
DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS HOT CATCH SUPER SUMMER SPORTS! A wide range of tennis and track programs (2-4 weeks), these include: Basketball, Cricket, Soccer and Gymnastics. This Program will not only provide an essential basis for your children’s motor skills and help build awareness, coordination and friendship all in an enjoyable environment.

DYNAMIC DANCE
LET THE BEAT SEEP IN! Our specialized dance coaches can get your child's new element: footwork and flexibility hopping to all of modern contemporary martial arts. Sign up before places are filled and let our coaches teach, inspire, ignite your child's love.

COST
$150 (before 1/2/13) for $100 at: www.kellysports.com.au/zones/pennyvalley & search your school.

GLEN KATHERINE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ONLINE ENROLMENT

ENROLMENT FORM
☐ Super Summer Sports (After School) ☐ Dynamic Dance (After School)
School
First Name
Middle Name
Last Name
Address
City/Region/Post Code
Phone
Email
Medical Condition

Overnight Stay:
No
Yes

I acknowledge all of the above and have read the above form and understand my child’s participation.

Parent / Caregiver Name
Signature

Amount Paid: $ Credit Card Payment: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard
Card Number
Expiry Date
CVV Number

ELTHAM CALISTHENIC COLLEGE

Performing ★ Friendship ★ Team Spirit

Calisthenics combines gymnastics, ballet, singing and theatrical stage performance in choreographed routines to music.

Eltham Calisthenic College is a friendly, well established competitive college with qualified and dedicated coaches, and offers reasonable rates.

We aim to nurture the development of self-esteem and team spirit whilst striving to perform at our best.

Diamond Creek Junior Football Club

Registration Day
Season 2013

SUNDAY 17th FEB
10am-2pm

At the Coventry Oval Clubrooms
1 Elizabeth Street, Diamond Creek

Cash, Cheque & EFTPOS Facilities
Merchandise available. Sausage sizzle.

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Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16. From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points. In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250. The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years. From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent. * i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis. Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.