LINKLETTER

Issue 33 - 7th November, 2013

DIARY

2013 - TERM 4

Fri. 8th Nov.
Gr 1 Happy Healthy Kids Day

Tues. 12th Nov.
Gr 5 Family Life Sessions start

Wed. 13th Nov.
Book Worm Special Lunch
Book Character Dress Up Day

Sun. 17th Nov.
Working Bee

Mon. 19th Nov.
Prep Fitness Worx Incursion
Gr 5 Family Life Sessions

Tues. 20th Nov.
2014 Prep Information Night
7.30 pm (Multi Purpose Building)

Mon. 25th Nov.
2014 Prep Orientation
Morning—St. Helena, Wattletree, & Briar Hill Pre-Schools 9.15—10.45 am

Tues. 26th Nov.
2014 Prep Orientation
Waroona & Eltham North Pre-Schools 9.15—10.45 am

Wed. 27th Nov.
2014 Prep Orientation
Morning—Other Pre-Schools and Childcare Centres 9.15—10.45 am

Healthy Kids Day—Grades 1 & 2

Tues. 3rd Dec.
PFA Meeting—7.30pm

Tues. 10th Dec.
Grade 6 Orientation Day to Secondary School

Wed. 11th Dec.
Grade 6 Graduation at Planet Shakers

PRINCIPAL’S NOTES:

2014 SCHOOL COUNCIL CHARGES

Many thanks to our families who have already paid their school charges for 2014 and thank you for being so prompt. In the ideal world, it would be great not to have to ask parents to supplement the cost of providing an excellent level of education. As stated in the information letter that went home to parents, government funds alone will only provide the ‘no frills’ version of education. Without parent support, we wouldn’t have a first aid officer. We wouldn’t have the variety and quantity of teaching and learning resources that are utilised in all class programs. We wouldn’t have many computers and other digital technologies. We wouldn't have air-conditioned rooms. And so the story would continue. GK is well recognised for the breadth of our curriculum programs and the opportunities provided along with ever improving facilities and grounds. We gratefully acknowledge and thank parents for their contributions over the years which have substantially helped us to provide, as adequately as possible, for the learning needs of our students. We look forward to the continued support of all of our families.

GRADE 3 & 4 CAMPS

What a terrific time was had at the grade 3 & 4 camps last week! The grade 4 students headed off to camp from Monday - Wednesday followed by the grade 3s who attended camp from Wednesday - Friday. The recreational camp at Mt Evelyn is a fabulous setting and there are plenty of activities on offer for active and energetic children. The grade 3s have provided an account of their experience in today’s Linkletter. A visit to our website and the grade 3 & 4 Blogs will also provide plenty of information about what the students did at camp and how much they enjoyed their time together in this camp setting.

As with all extra-curricular activities, a significant amount of time goes into planning and organising an off-site activity such as a camp. There is an enormous amount to do and we are extremely grateful to the teachers for accepting the challenge of planning and attending a camp where they are literally on duty for the duration of the camp from the time of leaving school to returning. Special thanks to both Sherryn Owen and Helen Cleary, camp leaders, for their effective organisation, collaboration and leadership. A big thank you also to other staff members who worked alongside Sherryn and Helen in ensuring the success of the camping experience was very much a team effort - Ken Hopkin, Jai Lincoln, Sandra Febbraro, Annemarie Webb & Sandra Embling. We are also very grateful to and thank the following parents who attended camp and provided great support to the teachers and students - Mark Nolasco, Penny Gaskell, Clint Ramaekers, Brent Tweedale, Ian Scheyer, Glenn McFarlane, Kylie Howell, Kylie Longley, Shona Stickland and Krystyn Gardner. Finally, well done and congratulations to our students for their cooperation, encouragement, respect, tolerance, resilience and safe and excellent behaviour. A great effort everyone!

Jill Ramsay

Our values: RESPECT, Resilience, Excellence, Safety, Perseverance, Encouragement, Creativity and Tolerance
The ‘DO RIGHT DETECTIVE’ is still on the look out for students showing great learning behaviours.

No assembly this week meant that there were no certificates to be awarded.

The Salvation Army Christmas Food Appeal

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.
**CANTEEN NEWS**

**ROSTER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY &amp; DATE</th>
<th>NAMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th November</td>
<td>P Hill; L Pugsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th November</td>
<td>L Carter; V Galea (&amp; extra volunteers for Special Lunch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14th November</td>
<td>E West; A Ciurlino; R Harper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15th November</td>
<td>L Craig; K Jackson</td>
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**SPECIAL: AVAILABLE UNTIL SOLD OUT:** Erica Choc-Gingerbread Man 35g $1.20

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

**REMINDERS:**

**GK 2013 SCHOOL MAGAZINE** Don’t be disappointed!

Orders (orange form distributed this week) are due by **4PM FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH.** The school magazine will showcase our students, staff and parent support and provides a great memory for the 2013 school year, for many years to come.

**SHOE & SHOE LACE COLOURS REMINDER**

A number of students are currently being reminded about shoes & shoe laces which must conform to the school colours (ie black/blue/white/ grey are the predominant colour). We have a uniform policy and we really do appreciate the support we get from most of our families in ensuring that children wear the correct uniform. Thank you!

**FIRST AID NEWS**

For your information, we have had a reported case of Scarlet Fever in Year Level 2. The following websites have been provided by the School Nursing Program—Department of Education & Early Childhood Development:


Leanda Hudson - **FIRST AID OFFICER**
SPORTS NEWS

GK SWIMMING TRIALS
Swimming trials were held at the Greensborough WaterMarc Pool on Wednesday 6th November. Gr 3-5 students competed in freestyle, back stroke, breast stroke and buuterfly events to determine which students will represent the school at the 2014 District Swimming Carnival. I commend all students involved for their excellent behaviour and endeavour. Thank you to teachers Mr Lincoln, Miss Dunstone and Mrs Elliott for their assistance on the day and to the following parents for their help with the judging – Jodie Watts, Robyn Rowse, Tracey Russell, Peta Hill, Steve Howell and Nick Broomfield.

STATE ORIENTEERING
The State Orienteering team will be held at Maroondah Reserve in Healesville next Friday 15th November. A team of 100 Gr 3-6 students will represent GK. Good luck to the team.

SPORT THIS WEEK RD 11
GK DARKS vs GREENHILLS – Home
GK LIGHTS vs LAURIMER B – Away

WORKING BEE
A reminder that the school Working Bee will be held next Sunday 17th November starting at 9am. The major job will be re-development of the garden area near the front school sign.

Please commit a couple of hours, particularly if you haven’t attended a working bee lately. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. A free BBQ and drink will be provided after the Working Bee. Look forward to seeing you there.

DAVID BLACKBURN
Grade 3s at Mt Evelyn Camp

On Wednesday 30th October, the grade threes headed off to Mt Evelyn for their first ever camp! There was much excitement in the air as students farewelled their parents and got on the bus for Silvan Dam. Once there they had morning tea then headed off for a walk through the rainforest to camp. After an hour’s walk through dirt tracks, over bridges and under logs they finally made it to the picturesque valley in which the camp was situated. Despite being tired, the students soon found the energy to get their luggage and go find their rooms with their friends.

After some free time students were organized into their groups in which they would do their activities together. And what activities they were:

- Ecowarriors — learning about ways in which we can help the local environment;
- Bike Ed — learning about being safe on bicycles and riding around the camp area;
- Giant Swing — harnessing ourselves onto a big swing and challenging ourselves to a point that we felt safe to let go ....;
- Low Ropes — learning about spotting each other safely to be able to negotiate a rope course together;
- Teacher Initiatives — a series of team challenges in which students had to help each other;
- Meet the Wildlife — learning about native and feral animals that make up our country.

Punctuated throughout the day was food, food and more food — muffins, fruit, pancakes, bacon and eggs, toast, pizza .... phew! At night, after journal writing the students wound down with Teddy Olympics and a disco. Much fun was had by all. Thanks to all the students, parents and teachers who put so much into these memorable three days and a highlight of the 2013 Grade 3 calendar at G.K.

Sincere thanks to the wonderful parents that came to the Grade 3 Camp!
Penny Gaskell, Mark Nolasco, Clint Ramaekers & Brent Tweedale.

Sherryn Owen, Sandra Febbraro, Annemarie Webb and Sandra Embling.
**GK Twilight Christmas Concert**

**Monday the 16th December!**

This year’s **Twilight Christmas Concert** will once again be happening at GK, on our school oval. It is a great opportunity for families to come along with their picnic rugs and dinner to watch some amazing performances from our talented GK students.

Please keep an eye out for further information in coming weeks!

Lucy Miller and the Arts Committee

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**PUT A SMILE ON YOUR CHILD’S FACE**

.... And on ours’ as well!

One way to put a smile on your child’s face is to become one of our valued volunteers in the Canteen! The excitement is written all over their faces as they come up to see you helping us in such an important role. All we ask is for a small commitment of a few hours of your time (9am to 11.45am) once a month.

Being on our Emergency List is also a great way to assist us as quite often we know we will be short the day before and can give you early notice.

Feel free to pop in and chat to us Tuesdays to Thursdays between 9.30am and 1.30pm to find out all about how the canteen works and how you can help.

**NB.** Unfortunately, no younger children are allowed to come with parents who work in our Canteen as it is a Health and Safety issue. Also, government regulations require all persons working and volunteering with children to have a Working With Children card. This is free to Volunteers (there is a small fee if you don’t have a current passport size photo) and more information is available at your local Post Office.

Thanks for your time,

Suzy Cunningham (Canteen Manager)

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**CANTEEN ROSTER 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME:</th>
<th>PHONE NO.:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHILD’S NAME:</td>
<td>GRADE:</td>
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Once a month (please circle your preferred day)

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<tr>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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Would you be prepared to go on our emergency list? (please circle) **YES** **NO**
These awards will be presented at assembly on Monday 11th November.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>Reason for Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Hannah Griggs</td>
<td>For displaying her persistence at camp and learning how to ride a bike. What a great achievement Hannah. Well done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3O</td>
<td>Courtney Freeman</td>
<td>For her persistence and excellence she demonstrated in everything she undertakes. Well done Courtney and keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Owen Pisani</td>
<td>Owen is respectful to teachers, always remembering his manners and being keen to do his best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Rhys Pocock</td>
<td>For energy and enthusiasm ... having a cheerful “have – a – go” attitude to all activities and duties at Mt Evelyn Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Daniel Owen</td>
<td>For having a positive attitude when attempting all activities and encouraging others at camp to ‘have-a-go.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Yunwen Liang</td>
<td>For her persistence and attitude to all activities and duties at her very first camp at Mt Evelyn Camp. Yunwen has now tried ‘Aussie Vegemite’!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Book Character Dress Up Day

When: Wednesday 13th of November

JSC are raising money for a new fitness area at our school. To raise money we are holding a ‘Dress Up as Your Favourite Book Character Day’. Children that dress up are to bring a gold coin donation.

Some ideas include:

- The three little pigs
- Harry Potter
- Cinderella
- Bob the builder
- Mr men and Little Misses
- And lots more!

We look forward to seeing your creative costumes!

By Elizabeth & Dior on behalf of JSC
Diamond Creek Swimming Club

Cnr Gipson & Elizabeth Streets, Diamond Creek

www.diamondcreekswimmingclub.com.au  Contact President : David Neilson 0408 795 317

- Do you enjoy swimming – beyond Swimming Lessons?
- Love having fun and being with other kids?
- Enjoy being your Best?

Then Diamond Creek Swimming Club is right for YOU!

DIAMOND CREEK SWIMMING CLUB is an entry level Swim Club which has been established for over 30 years! We are a not for profit organisation with a strong emphasis on family involvement. We cater for entry level swimmers right through to District & State abilities.

Whether you just enjoy swimming laps and like to keep fit, or you want to achieve more – Join our Squad sessions 1, 2 or 3 sessions a week. Junior & Senior Squads available. Members can swim at Club Nights and can participate in Interclub & District Competitions. It’s up to YOU!

FREE TRIAL
Receive 2 Complimentary Club Night Sessions
Just bring this flyer!

- Individual & Family Memberships Available

- Club Nights commence Thursday 7th November 2013