LEANNE’S MESSAGE

MULTICULTURAL MORNING
Tuesday morning provided us with a splash of colour and energy, as many of our students and teachers came to school dressed in culturally significant costume. Sandra Portaro, our LOTE teacher, lead the morning with an accordion player entertaining us all with tunes from around the world. Impromptu dancing took place before breaking off into our communal groups. Teachers took sessions that immersed our cross age groups into a variety of cultural tasks. We saw a humpy being built in the Science precinct, Gold searching in the sandpit by some ‘Chinese’ students, the making of dream catchers, Mexican ponchos, carnival masks, dragon puppets, toy soldiers and much more. It was a wonderful celebration of our growing diversity and cultures, while also allowing different teachers and different students to work together. The day was completed with the Year 5 & 6 students, as part of their Italian studies, viewing ‘La Comica’ skits and ordering gelati from the visiting gelati van. Much fun was had and I thank Sandra and all the teachers for their work in making the day so successful. Take a look at some of the photos on the next few pages.

TEACHERS TEACHING TEACHERS
A very big part of a teachers time at school is dedicated to personal learning. Each week we have structured professional development (PD) that is usually aligned to our Annual Implementation Plan or areas of need. This learning largely goes unnoticed because it is just what we do to keep moving towards the excellence we all collectively want at GK. Tuesday night our staff participated in a Communities of Practice Professional Development opportunity where all schools across the Nillumbik and Banyule School Network come together to learn. GK offered up two PD’s, Special Needs Education in mainstream schools and Cued Articulation. They attracted nearly forty teachers from across the networks to come and learn from us. Our staff also visited other schools to build their knowledge and expertise in a range of areas. Learning is fun and needed to strengthen what we do and Tuesday was great in doing just that.

LOCK DOWN PRACTICE
Each year as part of our Emergency Management processes, staff and students are taken through a range of emergency scenarios so we are prepared should we encounter a real one. Last week we had the scenario of wild, unsafe weather outside which forced all staff and students into a LOCKDOWN. Children were told that it was a practice but that we were going to do exactly what we would do if their happened to be an emergency. In a few weeks we will be having an EVACUATION, where we will all be exiting building as quickly and as safely as possible to a designated assembly area. So if you hear that sirens or bells have been ringing and children have been asked to head under table or huddle, this is why. It isn’t some new age teaching method.

CURRICULUM DAY ON MONDAY
Staff will be at school, however children are not required at school on this day. Have a great long weekend.
### IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOV</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY</td>
<td>1 MELBOURNE CUP DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOV</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 PREP Information Night School Council 7.30pm</td>
<td>17 Grade 1 Happy Campers Day</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOV</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Swimming Monday-Friday</td>
<td>22 PREP VISITS 11.00-12.10pm</td>
<td>23 PREP VISITS 11.00-12.10pm</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Swimming Monday-Friday</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Prep Transition Day 1 9.00am-11.00am</td>
<td>6 Grade 6 Orientation Day</td>
<td>7 School Council 7.30pm</td>
<td>8 2017 Prep Orientation Day 9.15-10.30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Special Retirement Assembly Moving Day</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14 GRADUATION Canteen Closed</td>
<td>15 Christmas Concert Afternoon 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Grade 6 MSAC Excursion</td>
<td>20 FINAL ASSEMBLY 1.10pm LAST DAY</td>
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### IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2017

- Friday 27th January -Office Open
- Monday 30th-31st Staff PD days
- Wednesday 1st February Year 1—6 Students First Day. Prep ‘Getting To Know You Meetings’
- Thursday 2nd-3rd Prep Assessment Interviews Begin
- Monday 6th February 1st Day For PREPS 9.15am
Congratulations to our P-2 students. Your certificates will be presented to you at assembly on MONDAY 7th November.

2017 Planning REMINDER

We are currently looking at projected enrolments, which includes our 2017 Prep cohort, staffing, class structures and of course budgets that align to all of this.

You can help with our 2017 planning by informing us:

- **in writing**, if your child/ren will not be attending GK in 2017.
- if you have a 2017 Prep child who will be attending GK but as yet is not enrolled.

At this stage we do not yet know the composition of our classroom structures (whether there will be the need for any composites, for example) or student and teacher placement. We do not consider teacher requests however if you have any concerns regarding your child’s class placement in 2017, please forward an email or letter to the school addressed to me. Please note that we only take into consideration concerns/requests that could be detrimental to the educational and social wellbeing of the students. These requests will be considered by a team of people but not guaranteed. If you have concerns and they are not raised now it is likely to be too late to address these after classes are announced later this term.

SCHOOL UNIFORM—I NEED YOUR FEEDBACK - Thanks to those parents who have already provided feedback regarding uniform. This survey link will be open for another week. I appreciate and value your thoughts so if you have time, please complete the very short survey.

**SURVEY:** [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9666NF](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9666NF)
**State Athletics Champion – Kane M**

Gr 5 student Kane M won the Gold medal in the 1500m and Silver in the 800m at the State Primary Schools Athletics held at Lakeside track on Monday. Kane performed brilliantly to win gold in the 1500m. He recorded a time of 4min 49secs, 3 secs inside his personal best.

Kristian F produced an excellent performance in the 11boys hurdles final to finish 7th overall. GK is very proud of both of these boys efforts.

![Kane M](image1.jpg) ![Kristian F](image2.jpg)

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**CANTEEN**

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<tr>
<th>DAY &amp; DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1st Nov</td>
<td>CUP DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 2nd Nov</td>
<td>N Peerman (Swap J)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd Nov</td>
<td>S Grant; K Gersch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th Nov</td>
<td>B Lowe; W Kilcullen</td>
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**LIMITED LUNCH ‘MEAL DEAL’ SPECIAL**

VEGETABLE LASAGNE, MUFFIN & CHOICE OF JUICE (or water) - $5.00

**EXTRA SPECIAL – POTATO BAKE (Gluten Free) $2.50 until sold out**

If anyone can spare some time we need help in the canteen on the following dates:

*Friday 4th November, Friday 11th November or Wednesday 30th November.*

If you can help on any of these days, please just contact me here in the canteen on 9431-1599, Tues to Fri 8.30am to 1.30pm or email cunningham.suzanne.s@edumail.vic.gov.au or sms 0408 172 788.

We’d also love to hear from you if you would like to do canteen in 2017.

Cheers, Suzi
MULTICULTURAL MORNING

Our wonderful Year 6 Italian student leaders, Nick and Erin, did a fabulous job yesterday as roving reporters, kick starting our festivities and celebration of GK’s diverse multicultural community. Students of various ethnic backgrounds wished staff, parents and friends a “good morning” in many languages. Most students dressed in costumes related directly to their cultural heritage. This diversity was celebrated with dances and songs from around the world: - Koorie, Italy, Greece, France

Students were then placed in mixed multi age groups from P-6 and were involved in various activities including learning about Aboriginal dreamtime stories, creating African jewellery, Hiroshima paper cranes, Chinese lantern making, Eiffel Tower construction, Carnevale masks, Mexican fiesta flag celebrations, Japanese origami, Chinese dragons, Babushka dolls, Play dough Terracotta warriors, Japanese matsuri chains, Edelweiss pictures, creating personal Mexican Ponchos, Native American Indian Totem poles, playing bocce, learning about the Thai culture, Henna hands from India, Carp making, fan making and cherry blossoms from Japan.

To complement their Italian studies, Yr 5/6 students enjoyed a comical performance “Mission Gnocchi “ by La Comica. Afterwards, they also ordered a gelati in Italian from the visiting gelati van. Many thanks to all parents who prepared the students beautifully. These events cannot happen without your assistance.

A wonderful cultural celebration!

Signora Sandra Portaro
GIGLIOLA Shopping Night

Thankyou to everyone who attended the Ladies night at Gigliola on Friday night it was a great success as a social and fund-raising event for the school.

It was such a success we will do it again.

I'd like to thank Gill from Gigliola, the Windy Mile and Mira Crivelli who donated a voucher for the raffle valued at $220.

Sharon & Kate
Starting Secondary School
TAKING THE JOURNEY FORWARD

✓ PREPARE Attend information sessions, orientation programs and school tours
✓ PLAN Talk to your child about going to secondary school. Listen to their concerns.
✓ PROVIDE Young people need a supportive, caring environment. Discuss expectation and guidelines about greater independence.
✓ POSITIVE Help them to see beyond problems to see possibilities and opportunities
✓ PATIENCE Be patient as it may take some time for your young person to settle in. Be flexible and diverse in your approach.

‘Change gives us branches letting us stretch, grow and reach new heights.” – Pauline R Kezer

WAYS TO HELP YOUR YOUNG PERSON MOVE FROM THE FAMILIAR TO THE UNKNOWN

✓ Recognise that your child may need extra support during this time.
✓ Keep communication lines open
✓ Look and listen to your teen...you will learn.
✓ Encourage new friendships and stay connected to the old.
✓ Stay involved with their friends – offer your home as a meeting place.
✓ Make the school your friend – they are there to help.
✓ Set up a suitable homework area and be available to assist with homework and projects.
✓ Encourage your teen to keep a healthy balance of work and play.
✓ Support your teenager's interests outside school.
✓ Be prepared for ups and downs.
✓ Remind them that it takes time to adjust to change.

For a regular supply of great parenting ideas subscribe to HAPPY KIDS email newsletter at Parentingideas.com.au.
You'll get a fabulous FREE Kids' Chores & Responsibilities Guide when you do.
COMMUNITY NEWS

GLEN KATHERINE P.S

TEEN LESSONS

Location: Glen Katherine Primary School Tennis Courts

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