OPEN AFTERNOON
Thank you to the many parents and grandparents who were able to visit our classrooms on Tuesday afternoon. Many visitors were sighted playing games that the children had been learning which was great to see. We understand outside commitments do prevent some families from attending such events and because of this we endeavour to mix up both the nights and the times for community events throughout the year. I hope there was opportunity for your child to introduce you formally to their teacher for this year and give you a tour of their learning spaces.

LEADERSHIP begins in Year 6
This week our Year 6 students looked very smart wearing their new school jackets. This is symbolic of their leadership in Year 6 and within our school community. They have also been introduced to their Prep Buddies which is always an exciting time.

I am pleased to announce key leadership positions for 2016, with the following students being presented with their badges during our Monday 22nd February assembly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>House Captains</th>
<th>Art Captains</th>
<th>Italian Captains</th>
<th>Green Team Captains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward B</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>McKinley T</td>
<td>Nick K</td>
<td>Sarah B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua F</td>
<td>Angus S</td>
<td>Jessica B-B</td>
<td>Erin P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitlyn L</td>
<td>Elly H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makayla F</td>
<td>BLue</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloe A</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Connor M</td>
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<td></td>
<td>YELLOW</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitch T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charli L</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>GREEN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nieve T</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darcy B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents enter Mr. Michael Ymer’s Class...
Last Thursday evening, we had a terrific representation of our parent community attend Michael Ymer’s Parent information Session. Over 50 parents participated in sample games as well as learn how children at GK are engaged in maths. Feedback from the parents in attendance has been overwhelmingly positive. The YMER EXPERIENCE has proven yet again to be invaluable to our school community as a whole and we look forward to your children talking excitedly about maths at home.
Building on the work we have been doing with Michael Ymer at GKPS, each week we will be bringing you some Maths ideas to try at home!

**BIG IDEAS**

1. **Building on success is important**
2. Working things out for themselves
3. Time to think
4. Talk
5. Use mathematical words
6. Read children’s books with mathematical themes
7. There is no hurry

**1. Building on Success is important**

Create the impression that being successful in Mathematics is desirable. Reward effort and try not to criticise ideas.

**SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES—ESTIMATING**

Estimating is an important activity and applies to all aspects of Mathematics. Whenever possible, ask your children to guess quantities. Some examples of estimating that’s that you might ask the children to do are:

⇒ Estimate the number of jelly beans in a jar
⇒ Estimate how many people are in a room
⇒ Estimate how many pieces of bread are in a loaf
⇒ Estimate the biggest house number in that street that you have just turned into
⇒ Estimate how far it is to a particular point in the distance whilst driving
⇒ Estimate how long it will be until you walk to a particular point
⇒ Take 15 second, for example, to walk to the other side of the room
⇒ Estimate how many steps there are from the bottom to the top when you are walking up some stairs

On *some* occasions, work together to find the actual amount, distance, time etc.
2016 STAFF LIST as at Term 1

TEACHING STAFF
Principal
Leanne Tingwell

Assistant Principal
Karen ter Haar

CLASS TEACHERS
Grade       Name
Prep D      Elizabeth Downey
Prep L      Hannah Longo
Prep P      Marisa Pace
Prep T      Angela Totino
01C         Vanessa Certoma
01L         Jai Lincoln
01R         Luisa Rinaldi
1/2C        Helen Cleary
02B         Jessica Bailey
02P         Bianca Perry
02S         Jess Szczepaniak
03F         Sandra Febbraro
03K         Anna Kapnoullas
03R         Madeline Rough
3/4M        Amy Murray
04A         Sally Armstrong
04J         Amy Johnston
04W         Jamie Whichello
05B         Daniel Boulton
05G         Mary Green
05K         Katya Gaiotto
06F         Leigh Fatchen
06H         Sarah Hill
060         Sherryn Owen

SPECIALIST TEACHERS
Welfare/Wellbeing  Shannon Whelan
Italian            Sandra Portaro
Phys. Ed           David Blackburn
Art                Nadia Cosma
                   Lucy Miller
Performing Arts    Emma Hankinson
                   Melinda Djkic
Science           Annemarie Webb
Support           Julie Collins
                   Carla Di Lizio

ADMINISTRATIVE / SUPPORT STAFF
Position             Name
Business Manager     Jodee Jackson
Administration       Jenny Bourke
                     Louise Ramsdell
First Aid            TBA
Integration Aides    Sandra Embling
                     Sharyn Mackay
                     Tamara Faulds
                     Deanne Clamp
                     Margie Haynes
Library              Gail Elliott
Computer Techs      Ben Iacobucci
                     Andrew Fox
Out of School Hours Care
                     Narelle Seivers (Co-ord)
                     Carolyn Smith (Ass.Co-ord)
                     Kaye Frangos
                     Flora Torcasio
                     Leanda Hudson
                     Sandra Embling
Canteen             Suzi Cunningham
Maintenance         Glenys Schubert
Admin Information

CAR PARK REMINDERS:

Parents/grandparents are advised that the carpark is not to be used for parking and walking students to/from classrooms. We are a large school and need all of the parking spaces for teachers, non teaching staff, and others who visit the school on school business (tradesmen, psychologists, speech pathologists, pre-service teachers etc.) We have a number of part time staff who have different start and finish times so spaces need to be available for the parking needs of all staff and school business visitors.

Further information regarding how the pick-up and drop off zone works can be found on our website (Community/Pick-up and Drop-off Zone).

PREP CHAIRS:

Last chance to grab some free Prep chairs, they will be going to tip soon so be quick!

REMEMBER—Parents Sign In & Sign Out Book

We have a new process for all Parent helpers at GK. If you are assisting at the school in any capacity, be it in the classroom, canteen, uniform shop etc all parent visitors must now come to the office and sign in & out so we are aware of who is in the school at all times especially in emergency situations.

REMEMBER—CSEF — Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

The CSEF payments will commence from March onwards. We can accept parent application forms until 3 June 2016. Application forms are available from the office and we also need a copy of your concession card with the completed form.

Grade 5 and 6 Sport:

A note has gone home this week re the Grade 5 & 6 Sporting Program. Just to clarify that this charge of $170 covers buses, referees, employment of additional coaches, venue hire, specialist equipment, provision of uniforms etc. This charge also covers all costs associated with teams being in finals . Please note that allowances are made for weeks where there are washouts by having extra rounds at the end of Term. If you have any queries regarding any School charges, please contact our Business Manager Jodee Jackson.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

A reminder that orders for Issue 1 close Friday 19th February [if paying by cash sent to school] and via Scholastic LOOP on line Sunday 21st February.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The School Council election process opened last Thursday, nominations are open for our 2016 School Council and close next Thursday 25th at 4pm. 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 several of the school’s programs (eg. Canteen, Out of School Hours Care Program, school uniform requirements, cleaning contractual arrangements).

School Council meetings are held monthly, on a Wednesday evening. Members also belong to at least one or two sub-committees which also have evening meetings, sometimes monthly or once a term, depending on the needs of the sub-committee.

The composition of GK’s School Council comprises a membership of 15 people as follows:

⇒ 1 Executive Officer (Principal)
⇒ 7 Parent category members
⇒ 4 Department of Education and Training category members
⇒ 3 Community (or co-opted) members.

Each year, half of the memberships’ term of office expires. Members can renominate and/or nominations are received from others. An election is held if the number of nominations for vacant positions exceeds the number of positions available.

Further information about School Council is on the next page of today’s Linkletter, also information can be found on our website. (Our School/School Council). I am also very happy to respond to any inquiries about School Council membership so please contact me if you would like to learn more.

Leanne Tingwell
**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS NOTICE 2016**

**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 Thursday 25th February, 2016. A ballot (if required) will close at 4.00 pm on Friday, 7th March, 2016. 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>
</table>
| Parent Category           | From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018. | 4 positions  
4 x 2 year terms |
| DEECD Employee Member     | From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018. | 4 positions  
2 x 2 year terms |
| Co-opted Members          | From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018. | 2 positions  
2 x 1 year term  
(1 is designated for PFA) |
**SCHOOL SWIMMING TRIALS**

The school swimming trials were held at the Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool on Monday 15th February. Over 70 Gr 3-6 students participated in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events. The students are to be commended on their good behaviour and endeavour to try their best on the day. Thank you to parents Helen Giannakos, Jodie Watts and teachers Mary Green, Jamie Whichello, Sandra Febbraro and Gail Elliott for their terrific assistance on the day. From the trials a team has been selected to represent GK at the District Sports to be held at WaterMarc next Thursday 25th February.

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**SPORT THIS WEEK RD 2**

**GK DARKS vs APOLO A (Home)**

**GK LIGHTS – Bye – practice back at school.**

DAVID BLACKBURN
(PE TEACHER)

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**CANTEEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY &amp; DATE</th>
<th>NAMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 23rd Feb</td>
<td>C Robertson; S Mifsud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Feb</td>
<td>S Sharples; L Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 25th Feb</td>
<td>S King; R Diffey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26th Feb</td>
<td>P Griggs; J Robertshaw; L Cooperwaite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Handy QKR Hint:** Always double check the date selected when ordering on QKR as you can order up to 2 weeks in advance.

**Tip for ordering on bags:** Always make sure your name & grade is on the paper bag – if you don’t have a bag your order may be written on an envelope or a slip of paper placed in a snap lock bag.

A reminder that you can upgrade your Wedges, Toastie or Burger order on Tues to Thurs with a canteen made muffin & choice of water or juice for a lunch total of just $5.00 (please note that Burgers purchase on their own are $4.00 and Wedges & Toasties are $3.50 per serve).

I would urgently like to fill a couple of spots on the roster – 2nd & 3rd Friday for anyone who would like to help out in the canteen. All you need is a current Working With Children Card & a spare few hours once a month!

Suzi Cunningham
GK Parents & Friends Association

*** NEW MEMBERS REQUIRED ***

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 8th March 2016
7.00pm

GK STAFFROOM, Supper & refreshments provided!

THE AGM WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

New members, fresh ideas & people power are needed!

At our monthly meetings you can: grab a cuppa, chat about new PFA initiatives & fundraising ideas, catch up on school news with Leanne Tingwell & staff and enjoy supper.

Meetings also provide an opportunity to voice ideas, suggestions and give feedback.

You are NOT expected to take on any major role; there are lots of little tasks that pop up throughout the year. Put your hand up if and when you are confident. We work as a team!

WHAT IS THE PFA?

PFA: Parents and Friends Association

The PFA is not just about fundraising, did you know we also:

- Provide a link between the community and the school council.
- Assist with the Prep Transition Program, including Cheers & Tears morning tea for the parents on their first day.
- Contact and welcome new families to the school.
- Arrange social & family events, e.g.: Fetes, Movie nights, GK disco, Trivia Nights.
- Provide Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stalls for students to purchase gifts.
- On-sell second-hand uniforms
- Organise and coordinate Grade Communicators
- Provide refreshments and assist with tours for Education week.
- Organise guest speakers to provide important information to parents about issues relevant to our children.

I would love to see you at the meeting, please consider coming along to find out what it's all about. If you have any queries please contact me, Bridget Ramaekers (Current President) 0407 243 024 or

* JOIN OUR PFA EMAILING LIST

If you are not able to attend regular meetings but would like to be included on our PFA emailing list please send your details to: glenkpfia@gmail.com. We will keep you informed of upcoming events or tasks that require volunteers via this link so that you can get involved in activities that suit you.

Note: Email details will only be used for PFA related matters.
In order to have a Fete in 2017 volunteers are required NOW to Co ordinate this event.

A Mega Fete committee needs to be formed this month to commence preparations for next year’s fete. Date’s need to be set, rides ordered and planning started to ensure this great day for our children can occur. It is not only a fantastic way to raise a substantial amount of fundraising dollars for GK but is also a wonderful day to show case our school and bring families and the community together.

The core committee general consists of the following positions/roles: Convener, Finance, Operations, Sponsorship/Donations

CAN YOU HELP?
ARE YOU INTERESTED?
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE A FETE?

Contract Bridgete Ramaekers 0407 243 024 or email glenkpfpa@gmail.com for any further information.

Please complete the form below and return to the school office

I am interested in assisting with the 2017 GK MEGA FETE
Name: ________________________________________
Mobile:________________________________________
Email:_________________________________________
Eldest Child: _________________________ Grade:____

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Young Artists Community
The Young Artists Community is a unique program that gives children the opportunity to play and create as they learn about themselves, their connection to one another and the natural environment. Children are supported to relax, be themselves and to experience a sense of creative freedom through a variety of individual and group projects. Each child is encouraged to collaborate and share their ideas freely, allowing them to develop a deeper appreciation for themselves and the valuable contribution that they bring to the group.

Dates 3.15pm - 5.15pm on February 27, March 12 & 19
Venue: The Victory Room, Warrandyte Community Centre
Cost $16/week for 3 sessions or $45/term and casual
Bookings essential.
Website: themyoungartistscommunity.com
Email: info@themyoungartistscommunity.com

Napthine Williams (B.A, Arts Therapy) is a Creative Arts Therapist who developed the Bright Spots Creative Arts Program. She has been facilitating individual Art Therapy sessions and Creative Workshops for children over the past 11 years.

Cara Corcoran is a Qualified and Accredited Speech Pathologist and her area of special interest is in working with children who have Social Communication Difficulties and delays.
COMMUNITY NEWS

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH 2016**

**LOWER PLENTY PRIMARY SCHOOL CAR BOOT SALE**

TO BOOK A STALL CALL LPPS
(03) 9436 2585
$20 EARLY BIRD
$25 AFTER 27/2/2016

Everyone is welcome to our friendly School Fete!

HUGE JUMPY CASTLE & SLIDE
HOME MADE BREAKFAST & BBQ
COFFEE & CAKES - PLANTS & CRAFTS
HEAPS OF KIDS ACTIVITIES

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**GLEN KATHERINE PS TENNIS LESSONS**

Location: Glen Katherine Primary School Tennis Courts

WE SPECIALISE IN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

**BOUNCE INTO OUR TERM 1 SUMMER SPECIAL**

FOR FIRST 10 NEW STUDENTS

Enrol Now & RECEIVE 30% OFF YOUR FEES

and also receive a FREE HEAD Tennis Racquet Pack valued at $50

Enrol Now for Term 1 2016 Lessons

For more information please call Topline Tennis on 0432 - 3708
Web: www.toplinetennis.com Email: info@toplinetennis.com

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**GREENSBOROUGH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**Registration Day**

Sunday 14th Feb 10am - 1pm
Tuesday 16th Feb 5pm - 7pm

Anthony Beale Reserve, St Helena

***SEASON 2016***

New players welcome

Under 9 - 17

New Female Teams
Under 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

Promoting participation, enjoyment & ongoing development!

Enquiries: Secretary Chris 0421 543 343
www.gjfc.org.au

FREE BBQ

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**ELTHAM RUGBY**

PLAYERS WANTED!
Eltham Rugby Club is looking for players of all ages 5 to 65 to join us for 2016. Both boys and girls can join in a fun and inclusive sport that welcomes people of all abilities and backgrounds. Whether you have played before or don’t know much about rugby there is a position for everyone on and off the field. Come try a sport and a club that is inclusive, fun, supportive and safe.

Registration Day Sunday 14th February 2016 11am to 3pm

www.elthamrugby.com.au
facebook.com/elthamrugby
COMMUNITY NEWS

GREENHILLS MONTMORENCY BASEBALL CLUB
IS RECRUITING FOR THE 2016 WINTER SEASON

Are you aged 6 to 16?
Have you ever wanted to play baseball?
Now is the time to give it a go!

PLAYER SIGN-UP DAY
Friday March 4th 2016, 4pm - 8pm
Malcolm Blair Reserve, Karingal Drive, Greensborough
All skill levels welcome
Enquiries: Paul (Junior Co-Ordinator)
juniors2016@montybaseball.com.au

We invite you to discover all of the wonderful things that Rivers of Yarrambat have to offer at our unique ‘Lifestyle Centre’ this month!

Rivers Total Wellness Day
Friday Feb 26th
Come and experience “Total Wellness Day” at Rivers of Yarrambat.
Our program highlights:
FREE treatments, talks & demonstrations, ‘come & try’ fitness sessions, food tastings, day spa tours and more!
What: Total Wellness Day
Who: Everybody welcome including children
Time: From 9-3pm
Details: For our full program, visit our website www.riversofyarrambat.com and don’t forget find us on Facebook!

Ovarian Cancer Charity High Tea
Sunday Feb 28th
Come together with your family and friends to bring awareness, to raise funds and show your support for this charitable event. Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea featuring a fine selection of homemade sweet and savoury finger foods with tea and coffee.
What: Ovarian Cancer Charity High Tea at The Gallery
Who: Everybody welcome
Time: From 3-5pm
Details: $45 per person
To book call 9436 3213
*5% from each ticket donated to OCA in support of Ovarian Cancer Australia

ELTHAM CALISTHENIC COLLEGE
Come & Try Calisthenics
Classes resume the second week in February.
First two classes FREE for new pupils

For more information contact:
Carolyn Milburn
Phone: 0417 599 623
Email: contact@elthamcalistheniccollege.com.au
www.elthamcalistheniccollege.com.au

Blue Light DIAMOND CREEK
FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY
CONTACT:
SENIOR SERGEANT WAYNE SPENCE 9436 8200
For more information contact:
Carolyn Milburn
Phone: 0417 599 623
Email: contact@elthamcalistheniccollege.com.au
www.elthamcalistheniccollege.com.au