ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY off to a great start

It has been very pleasing to see our students arriving at school using good manners, smiling and eager to begin the day. We have also had a very good start with being on time to school in the morning. It is critical to begin the day with good routine and habits that support the learning expectations for the rest of the day. Our partnership in getting children to start the day in a positive and consistent manner is very important, so thank you for ensuring this is the case.

CARPARK and DROP-OFF ZONE reminders

School carparks and drop-off zones remain a challenge to manage for all school communities and we are no different at GK. We have what we feel is a very safe and fluid communities and we are no different at GK. We have what we feel is a very safe and fluid

• CAR PARK SPOTS are ONLY FOR STAFF MEMBERS at all times. We have 57 staff members on any given day and every car park spot is needed for easy access by staff. Some parents have taken these spots in the morning or early afternoon rather than move in the drop off line or park in the street. This cannot occur due to late arriving staff (OHSC staff particularly) requiring spots. Parking must occur on the street only.

• SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS—there are some students in our school with special needs who may have special permission from me to park in the visitors carpark or in the loading zone. These students have mobility/safety issues so have permission to take these spots. Without this permission, cars should not be parking in the loading zone, visitor’s park or in front of the skip bins, which has been the case recently.

• DROP-OFF Process— The Drop-off Zone is designed to quickly and efficiently move students in and out of the school in the morning and afternoon. It is necessary for students to have independence during this process and for this reason you will need to judge whether your child is ready to use the drop-off zone or not. Fundamental processes that everyone is expected to adhere to include:

  - Cars do not park or stop for extended periods at all in the drop off zone (except at the very beginning of afternoon pick up)

  - Students MUST EXIT on the left hand side of the car for safety reasons (if baby seats etc are on this side it is preferable for children to exit over these)

  - Stopping to get bags out of boots slows the process down so if this can be avoided it is appreciated

  - Children are expected to independently exit cars without adult assistance. (The beginning of the school year may require some habit forming with younger students but beyond this it is expected students can do this themselves)

  - Cars are expected to travel right along the drop-off zone until the traffic stops to let children out. Stopping at a specific spot in the line is not appropriate as it restricts the flow that is needed with traffic

By becoming fully aware of our carpark and drop-off zone practices, we are ensuring the safety and developed independence of our students. I thank you in advance for your support in adhering to the above expectations.

Leanne Tingwell
Principal
CAR DAMAGE REPORTED

Unfortunately on Friday 19th February, a staff members car was damaged in our carpark. The car is a light blue Aurion and it received scratches and dents to the passenger side. It was parked about midway up in the staff carpark.

The damage occurred sometime in the afternoon as prior to this there was not a car parked beside it. It is disappointing that the person who damaged the car did not leave any contact details. For this reason we are seeking any information about this. If anyone saw what happened could you please contact the office to let us know.

CRE (Christian Religious Education) and the changes for 2016 and beyond

Previously at GK we have offered CRE to our Grade 3 & 4 students. This has involved students participating in Christian Education classes with volunteers each Friday during class time. There has always been an option to exclude your child from these classes, hence we have always had a percentage of students in or out of these sessions.

With a very crowded curriculum and teaching load throughout the school, we have always targeted one group of students for additional SRI education. Our P-2 classes target fundamental literacy and numeracy focus and 5-6 classes extend to extra curricula responsibilities.

2016 brings significant changes to the delivery of Special Religious Instruction (SRI—previously CRE). In summary, changes include;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>SRI delivered during lunchtime for 30 minutes (Students own time)</td>
<td>SRI delivered during classroom time</td>
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<td>or</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRI delivered in the hour before or after school (Students own time)</td>
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In order to gain feedback from our community, parents of our current Year 3 & 4 students have received a note to inform them of the significant changes. We are requesting whether parents would like their children to participate before or after school, or during lunch breaks. Once this information is received, we will ascertain whether we have a community need to continue SRI this year at Year 3 & 4 level. This information will be shared with you in the near future.

Leanne Tingwell

Apple Recall Wall Chargers

Apple has made the decision to recall a number of its AC Wall Plug Adapters. The recall is due to a fault with a small number of these adapters. Apple will replace the adapters with new ones free of charge. It may be best to contact your local Apple store to ensure they have replacements in stock before you visit. Full details of the exchange can be found at the following website


L Fatchen
Admin Information

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
The School Council election process opened last Thursday and nominations close this afternoon at 4pm. Once the election process has been finalised we will confirm our 2016 members and their roles within the Council.

NEW WOODEN SIGN:
Eagle eyes parents would have noticed the new wooden sign at the front of the school at the front of the “drive in” driveway on the left hand side. The poles have also been given a paint so the whole sign looks lovely & new & we hope the local graffiti artists leave it alone! Thanks to our wonderful PFA and school community for assisting us with the funding of the sign, it looks great!

PARENTS SIGN IN & SIGN OUT BOOK:
Thank you to those parents who are now signing in and out when they are at the school. This assists us in knowing who is on the grounds especially in the case of an emergency,

REMEMBER—CSEF — Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund
We can accept parent application forms until 3 June 2016. Forms available from the office.

QKR & SKOOLBAG:
We have added the Grade 5&6 Sports payment to Qkr and the new Special Lunch day will also be added to Qkr—it’s so easy to use and pay for all school related charges so please download and give it a try.

We are using Skoolbag more this year to stay in touch with our GK Community so please also give that a try!

BULK BILLING:
We are in the process of finalising Bulk Billing of excursions for 2016 and we hope to have notices out to all families by the end Term.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 15th March and Wednesday 23rd March

Parent/Teacher meetings provide an opportunity for parents to meet with their child’s teacher and discuss progress to date along with any identified concerns or issues. These meetings will take place on Tue 15th March (3.10-4.30pm) and Wed 25th March (3.20pm-7pm) and will be of a 10 minute duration. Please note there are also extra and different times setup for Grade 4A and all Grade 5 classes which will be detailed in the grade level notices to parents.

On Friday the 4th March, a notice regarding forthcoming parent/teacher meetings will be given to the eldest child in each family. The notice will include a PTO logon code for parents. Please go to the school’s website, click on the PTO link, login using the code provided and book your preferred meeting times. The PTO booking site will be active from 8am Monday 7th March until noon on Friday 11th March.
SPORTS NEWS

DISTRICT TENNIS TOURNAMENT
Congratulations to Flynn C and Harry L who produced outstanding tennis at the recent diamond valley district tournament to qualify for the next level. Both boys were undefeated after 5 matches.
Good luck at the next level.

SPORT RD 3
GK A vs YARRAMBAT - HOME
GKB vs DIAMOND CREEK – AWAY

FITNESS RUNNING
Students from grades prep -6 have started their fitness running in preparation for the school fun run. Students have been running laps of the 280 m track and recording their lap scores after 10 mins of running. There have been some pleasing improvements with the record set by Kane M with 11 laps in 10 and half minutes. Our preps have been participating with some students completing 7 laps from Mrs Totino’s grade.
The Fun Run will be held on Thursday 17th March at the school.

David Blackburn

CANTEEN

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<tr>
<th>DAY &amp; DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 1st March</td>
<td>K Togni; D Henderson</td>
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<td>Wed 2nd March</td>
<td>F Tragardh (S Long in for L Pugsley)</td>
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<td>Thurs 3rd</td>
<td>S Grant; K Gersh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th March</td>
<td>F Davies; B Lowe; S Ktistakis</td>
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Handy Canteen Hint: Have a special ‘canteen purse or wallet’ to bring to school so we don’t have birthday/Christmas money appearing – this is a great habit to start early as it could easily be lost in the playground during recess. Also a reminder that ice-creams, slushas, fruit cups & jellies can’t be order on the lunch bags, students must come over to the canteen to purchase during lunch recess.

Thank you for wonderful response to my request for help, our roster is nice & full for the moment. I can always do with names on the emergency list, especially in the cooler months and occasionally have mum’s who move on mind year due work or other commitments.

Thanks also to my canteen Angel who knew it would very busy on Tuesday and came in to help us through the counter sales in the scorching heat. Also one of my lovely canteen helpers has left their top behind in our cupboard. Just pop in to collect it or let me know the student to send it home with.

Suzi Cunningham
We welcome all Prep parents and children to our **PREP FAMILY ‘GETTING TO KNOW YOU’ BBQ**

**Wednesday 2\(^{nd}\) March**

**5.30pm-7.00pm**

Our PFA will be providing a **free BBQ Sausage Sizzle** during the evening, serving from 6pm.

**We ask you to bring drinks, snacks and picnic rug/chairs** and find a spot on the oval close to the Prep Playground.

(If weather is too hot/rainy we will move to the undercover area)

**We hope you can make this casual opportunity to connect with parents in our community.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** While teachers will be joining you for the afternoon to chat and get to know you better, they will not be there to manage and care for the children as classroom teachers. The children will be your responsibility whilst attending this event so we ask that you ensure their care and safety throughout the evening.

A flyer has come home with your child this afternoon requesting attendance information. If this could be returned to school tomorrow it would be appreciated.
**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 sends 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.
Helping your child with Mathematics

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
8. Help your child’s teacher

2. Working things out for themselves

People learn, not so much by being told things, as by working things out by themselves and linking new ideas to ideas that they already have. You can help by asking your child questions, letting them work out answers for themselves, and then discussing their answers with them.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES—LENGTH

We often compare objects and distance by length and height. Children can first do this without using units, then using informal units (like steps). Then they learn about metres, centimetres and kilometres. Also:

⇒ When you are measuring with sewing or building materials, ask the children to estimate where a particular mark would be.
⇒ Put up a height measurer for children marked in centimetres on which the children can record their height at progressing intervals, such as once every two months. The children take an interest in the way that they grow, and it also provides a language for describing how their height is changing.
Twilight Conference on Cyber Safety

Commencing at 6pm, St Helena Secondary College is proud to host our first Twilight Conference on Cyber Safety.
- When: 6pm
- Where: Theater
- Finger food and a drink on arrival

Guest presenter Brett Lee, founder of INESS will be exploring his work as a Police Officer for 22 years, 16 of those as a Detective in the field of Child Exploitation. In his last five years of service, he was a specialist in the field of undercover internet child exploitation investigations. Brett has been personally involved in the online investigation, arrest and prosecution of numerous offenders, who’s medium for preying on children is the internet.

We will also have
- Area specific stalls in relation to child and student safety online, including ELTHAM Bookshop with a table of relevant books for sale,
- Q & A session hosted by members of the community, so think about those hard hitting questions,
- Various workshops run by
  - Victorian Police
  - Local Councils
  - Past students
  - … and so much more

Head to http://bit.ly/cybersns to secure your place in this event. For more information, please contact us and ask to speak to Anna Shearman, our Wellbeing Co-ordinator of the College.
COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE
Movie
IGA Car Park, Diamond Creek
SAT 5TH MARCH

MINIONS PG
Entertainment - 6.30pm
Movie - dusk (8.00pm approx)
BYO chairs, beanbags or scatter cushions

Partnering with

For further information visit: diamondcreekspringer.com.au

GLEN KATHERINE PS
TEEN GIRLS 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 9432 - 3706
Web: www.toplinetennis.com Email: info@toplinetennis.com

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

St. Helena Preschool
Learning and Playing Together

Open Day
Saturday 27th February 2016
9am—12.00pm

Come and meet our teachers, explore,
have your face painted and enjoy
morning tea and a sausage sizzle.

22-26 Wallowa Rd, Eltham North 3095, Vic.
COMMUNITY NEWS

GREENHILLS MONTMORENCY BASEBALL CLUB
IS RECRUITING FOR THE 2016 WINTER SEASON

Malcolm Blair Reserve, Karingal Drive, Greensborough
All skill levels welcome
Enquiries: Paul (Junior Co-Ordninator)
juniors2016@montybaseball.com.au

LEARNING BASIC FIRST AID COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

Would you like to learn some basic first aid skills?
Local resident, volunteer and paramedic Craig Hazelwood will provide a general introduction regarding CPR, water safety and first aid.
Please join us...
DATE: 15 March 2016  TIME: 10.30am - 12.30pm
VENUE: Vicki Ward’s Office - 718 Main Road, Eltham
Register your details via email to vicki.ward@parliament.vic.gov.au or phone the office on 9439 1600.

Vicki Ward MP
STATE MEMBER FOR ELTHAM
51A Main Road, Eltham, VIC 3095
T: 9439 1600  E: vicki.ward@parliament.vic.gov.au
P: vicki.ward@parliament.vic.gov.au
W: www.vickiward.org.au

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

MR SCREENS - Phone & Tablet Screen Repairs
Is your iPhone or iPad screen shattered or cracked? Accidents happen! Call Mr Screens Doreen on 0499 944 540 or message us through our Facebook site for a competitive price and speedy service.
Facebook.com/MrScreensDoreen

iPhone & iPad REPAIR

ELTHAM CALISTHENIC COLLEGE