FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

We had a great evening last night at our parent information evening and it was great to see people come out and hear about what is going on here at school. We all enjoyed the scones and the excellently whipped cream made by the children.

School Council Elections: Tonight is School Council and we have two nominations for our vacant position. Nominations close on Tuesday, March the 4th, and it is a great way to be involved with your child’s education and to contribute to the community.

Goal Setting and I.L.I.P. Meetings. Next Tuesday and Wednesday we are holding Goal Setting and I.L.I.P. Meetings. This is an essential part of your child’s education and gives you the opportunity to speak with your child’s teacher and convey any concerns. Please make a meeting time on the attached flyer and return to school as soon as possible. We will then make an appointment and send it home with your child next Monday.

Open Water: We had an excellent day last Friday going to Open Water and the Library. It was nice to share our bus and the day with the Grade 5 and 6 Langley students. We learnt a lot about swimming in open water, such as dams, seas and lakes. This is essential knowledge for our children who live rurally and hopefully such a program helps to keep them safe around water.

Bike Education: Following on with our bike education we are planning to take part in Ride to School on March the 20th. This entails a ride from school to the Agnes Mudford Reserve oval, around it and back to school. We will be running classes using our bikes and practicing riding a distance. If your child has a bike please send it to school so we can conduct these sessions.

Melbourne Zoo: Please find attached a permission form for your child to visit the Melbourne Zoo. We will be leaving by bus from school at 8:00am and returning at 4:30pm. Parents are welcome and this excursion encompasses our theme of Wildlife. It is hoped that each child will see the animal they choose to study on the day and get information.

The cost of the excursion will be $20.00, which has been subsidised by half by proceeds from the Sausage Sizzle. We are very grateful to the families who continue to support this fundraiser for the school, which assists everyone with excursion and camp costs.

Thanks,
Sally Gill, Acting Principal.
THANK YOU

To Jo Smith for cooking the sausages for the Sausage Sizzle this week.
To Jodi Brophy for the home grown cherry tomatoes and Lisa Stables for the beautiful plums.

ZOO EXCURSION

The whole school will be travelling by bus to the Melbourne Zoo on Friday, March 7th, leaving school at 8:00am SHARP. All children are required to be at school by 7:45am. The bus will return at 4:30pm. The bus will not be running that day, so children will be required to be dropped off and picked up from school. The cost of the excursion is $20.00 per student.

Children must wear school uniform (including their school hat) and will require their lunch, snacks and plenty of drink for the whole day.

Parents are invited to join us for this excursion at a cost of $20.00 per person. Please speak to Sally to book your seat.

Permission forms are attached to the newsletter today and are due back at school by Wednesday, March 5th. Payment is also due that day. Payment plans are also an option if you would like to discuss this with Sally.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

A reminder to those who wish to apply for EMA, to please submit your application to the school by Friday, February 28th, 2014 for the first instalment.

The Pension Concession Card (PCC) or Health Care Card (HCC) is subject to electronic confirmation with Centrelink to verify that the cardholder is receiving a benefit.

FAMILY STATEMENTS

Family statements are attached to the newsletter today. This year’s book lists and voluntary contributions are included, along with the excursions held so far this year. Payment can always be done in instalments. If you would like to do this, please speak to Ms. Gill.

INSURANCE

Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Parents/guardians have the option to purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

A reminder also that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking Day is Wednesday. Deposits are processed and banked each week. This is an initiative of the Commonwealth Bank, with the emphasis on regularly deposits, not necessarily large ones. More information is available from the school office.
SAUSAGE SIZZLE
The Sausage Sizzle is every Wednesday. Students can purchase a barbeque lunch for $3.00 (sausage in bread, drink and fruit). Extra sausages can be purchased for $1.00 each. There is no option to not have fruit or a drink.

**Prices per student are as follows:**
- 1 sausage in bread + drink + fruit = $3.00
- 2 sausages in bread + drink + fruit = $4.00

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<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>Cooking</th>
<th>Fruit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 26th</td>
<td>J. Brophy</td>
<td>J. Brophy</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>K. Sundblom</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>R. Blake</td>
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All proceeds from the Sausage Sizzle subsidise the cost of excursions.

Thank you everyone.

SCHOOL LUNCH DAYS
We continue to encourage students to have healthy lunches at school. Foods such as salad sandwiches, wraps, salads and quiche are recommended as everyday foods. Foods such as pies, sausage rolls and pizza are recommended as sometimes foods. The days for heating food for Term 1 are as follows:

**Thursday** - Food may be heated in the oven.

**Friday** – Toasties [School Captains will toast the children’s’ sandwiches].

Please do not send foods that require boiling water to be added as this is a safety issue for staff and students. We are unable to microwave any food.

DyslexiClever
Macedon Ranges - Dyslexia Support and Action Group

Is hosting a presentation evening for parents:

**How to Support Your Dyslexic Child**

at Home and School.

**Guest Speaker: Karen Starkiss.**

Wednesday 5th March 2014,
7.00pm – 9.00pm
Woodend Community Hub
47 Forest Street, Woodend.

Places are limited. Please book your seat via email dyslexiclever@ymail.com

Entry will be a donation of $5 per person or 2 people for $8. Limited places will be available at the door on the night.

DyslexiClever is a volunteer group, supporting families of children with learning disabilities. The DyslexiClever support group holds an informal coffee morning at Ethic Café, 63 Urquhart Street Woodend, on the first Friday of the month from 9.30am. All welcome.

For further information email dyslexiclever@ymail.com or Marg ph. 5427 2581.
Open Water