FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Cycling Incursion: As part of the Sun Tour, Cycling Victoria will run a bike education session with the Grade 3-6 students tomorrow. If you haven’t done so, could you please ensure your child’s bike and helmet are here at school tomorrow.

School Captains: Congratulations to Tianna and Bryce on being voted as the School Captains for Semester 1. It is a role that is very important at our school and we are sure they will do a great job.

Active After School Care: Active After School begins next week and I’m excited to say that the two spots are basketball and skateboarding. I think many of our children will enjoy these sports and I’m looking forward to seeing their skills develop. Monday’s will be basketball and Tuesday will be skateboarding.

School Council meets twice a term and the first meeting for this term will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 6:00pm. School Council elections will be held at the March meeting and there are 4 vacancies. This is a great way to get involved with school and your child’s education, so please think about being part of this process. If you have any questions, please come and see me.

Literacy/Art Teacher: We are currently advertising for a Literacy Support and Art Teacher. This teacher will work with us three days per week and will work one on one with a number of students to boost their performance in literacy as well as supporting the classroom teachers during the literacy block. This person will also teach Art on two afternoons per week.

Parent Information Evening: Please keep the evening of Tuesday the 16th of February free for our parent information session. We will inform parents of all programs and plans for 2014 and this is a good opportunity to come in and ask questions and see what is happening here at school. The night will begin at 7:00pm and will go for approximately an hour. The children will prepare a scrumptious supper of scones, jam and cream. Please make this night a priority in your diary.

School Rules: Please find a copy of the school rules attached to the newsletter. These rules are made in consultation with the children at the beginning of each year. The rules are written in a positive form and focus on what we should do rather than saying what not to do. Also there is an attempt to make over riding statements that cover a number of actions.

Bus rules: Please also find attached a copy of the bus rules and forms. Together we have gone through the bus rules and expected behaviour. Your child will need to sign the bus rules to show their agreeance.

Head Lice: We have had a case of head lice reported. You might like to check at home for head lice. We will check once we have all of the permissions returned to school.

ATTACHMENTS

⇒ Book Club #1
⇒ School Banking information
⇒ Bus Forms and Policy
⇒ Magnetic Newsletter holder

Homework: It is a government requirement that students complete twenty to thirty minutes of homework in their Primary School years. We require that students read as their homework each evening. Reading at home supports school and doubles your child’s chances of becoming a good reader. Whilst many of our students are accomplished readers it is important to continue reading as part of one’s life and assists in children becoming life long learners.

Thanks,
Sally Gill, Acting Principal.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
It was Connor’s birthday this week and he turned 8! Many happy returns Connor.

THANK YOU
☐ To Jodi Brophy for collating the newsletter this week and last week.
☐ To Kathryn Sundblom for cooking the sausages this week for the Sausage Sizzle.
☐ To Lisa Stables for supplying the fruit for the Sausage Sizzle this week.

OPEN WATER LEARNING EXPERIENCE
The Grade 3-6 students will be attending an Open Water Learning Experience on Friday, February 14th. The cost will be $15.00. Permission forms were attached to the newsletter last week and must be returned to school on or before Wednesday, February 12th. Payment is also due by February 12th.

All students must bring the following items:
- Enclosed Shoes*
- Shorts
- Rash Vest/ T-shirt/ long sleeved shirt (no tank tops)
- Bathers / wetsuit
- Towel
- Broad brimmed hat (no caps)
- Water bottle
- Lunch/ snacks
- Warm clothes to change into afterwards

Please be advised that Life Saving Victoria strongly recommends the use of enclosed shoes by all program participants whilst participating in dry and water based activities (open water venues, not required for swimming pools). Thongs are not recommended.

IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY
This is a reminder that 100% attendance at school is important and if your child is absent, it must be accompanied by a note or phone call from a parent.

A number of pre-printed absence notes were included with the newsletter last week for parents to use whenever their child is absent and it would be appreciated if these could be used. More copies are available from the school office. Thank you.
PAST STUDENTS’ ACHIEVEMENTS
Several of our former students were presented with End of Year Awards at the Kyneton Secondary College Awards Night. Our congratulations to the following:
Year 7 Excellence Award: Jessica Kriewaldt.
Year 8 Excellence Award: Tom Bennett.
Year 9 Excellence Award: Tahlia Campbell, Chantelle Sciberras, Jasmine Sciberras and Leah Short.
Year 9 Outstanding Excellence Award: Ebony Kriewaldt and Sasha Sciberras.
Year 10 Outstanding Excellence Award: Sophie Gunter.
Year 11 Excellence Award: Brooke Bennett.
Special Awards:
Year 7-9 Student Leadership Group - Ebony Kriewaldt and Leah Short.
Boost Award - Nikita Moorfoot.
Music Encouragement Award - Celena Boyd.
Year 9 English Award - Tahlia Campbell.
Alpine Leaders Award - Ebony Kriewaldt.
Well done everyone - we are very proud of your achievements.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE
The Sausage Sizzle is every Wednesday. Students can purchase a barbecue 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

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 every day 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.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE
In 2014, the EMA payments to eligible parents will be:
- $200 for parents of eligible Prep students
- $150 for parents of all other eligible primary school students
- $300 for parents of eligible Year 7 students
- $250 for parents of all other eligible secondary school students up to the age of 16.
The EMA is paid in two instalments annually (70% in March and 30% in August).
To be eligible for the EMA:
1. Your child must be under the age of sixteen; and
2. Your child must be enrolled at a primary or secondary Government or registered school in Victoria on, 28 February 2014 for the first instalment and 1 August 2014 for the second instalment; and
3. You must on 28 January 2014 for the first instalment and 14 July 2014, for the second instalment:
   ◦ be a parent or legal guardian of the student; and
   ◦ be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder or
   ◦ be a temporary foster parent.
4. Submit your application to the school by the due date:
   ◦ 28 February 2014 for the first instalment*
   ◦ 1 August 2014 for the second instalment.
* Please note: you only need to make a second application in August if your child changes schools between March and August.

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.

STUDENT BANKING
A Student Banking information pack is included with the newsletter today for each child. This is a savings initiative of the Commonwealth Bank, with the emphasis on regularly deposits, not necessarily large ones. Information about opening a new account is also included.

School Banking Day is every Wednesday.

DIRECT PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL
The school is able to process payments via internet banking. If you would prefer to pay for the booklist, excursions, camps, etc. using this method, the school details are:

BSB 063 517 (Commonwealth Bank, Kyneton)
Account Number: 00903062
When making a payment this way, please identify it with your family name. Thank you.
Students have voted for Tianna Stables and Bryce Broadbent to be school Captains for the first semester of 2014. The students decided the Captains needed to be a good role model, a good buddy, be able to speak in public, be reliable, participate well and attend all school activities.

Congratulations Bryce and Tianna!