FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

**Disco:** The Disco was a very successful fundraiser and the children really did seem to enjoy themselves. A huge thank you to Rebecca Simmonds who supplied the disco lights and smoke machine! Please see the S.R.C. report on the activities later in the newsletter.

**Parent Surveys.** These are due on Friday. If you haven’t returned your survey please do so by the end of the week. Remember this allows us to improve our service to you and meet the needs of our community. It is important feedback for us to know about.

**Aquarium Excursion:** We are heading off to the Aquarium on the 15th of this month. Please ensure forms and payments are organised so we can focus on having a fantastic day.

**Interview with a Marine Biologist:** Next Thursday on the 14th we are having a Skype interview with a marine biologist! Nicole Mertens is going to chat with the children about their wonderings. This is a wonderful opportunity to get a primary source of information and we hope the children take advantage of this. They can then follow this up when we go to the Aquarium.

**Book Week** is coming up and we are having dress up day on Thursday the 21st. It might be a good idea to begin discussions of what character they would like to dress in. Leaving it to the last minute can cause distress in families, so just having a pre-thought is a good idea.

**Grade 3/4 Camp:** We have 3-4 Camp on August 25 - 29th Camp forms are attached to this week’s newsletter. Please fill in and return as soon as possible. Camp costs can be difficult, please come and speak to Joyce about making instalments.

**Head Lice Check:** We had a follow up head lice check late last week and we can happily report that it was all clear. Please notify us if you have any further head lice issues so we can keep on top of them.

**School Captains:** We are pleased to announce that Brendan and Isy are our new school Captains. We wish them luck in their endeavours to lead for the rest of the year. We would also like to thank Tianna and Bryce who did a great job for the first half of the year.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

**AUGUST**

- **Wednesday, 6th**
  - School Council—6:00pm
- **Thursday, 7th**
  - Chess with Ron
- **Friday, 8th**
  - Due Date for Parent Surveys
- **Monday, 11th**
  - AASC—Skipping
- **Tuesday, 12th**
  - Due Date for Excursion permissions & payment
- **Thursday, 14th**
  - JIGSAW with Alison
  - SKYPE with Nic Mertens
- **Friday, 15th**
  - Excursion to Melbourne Aquarium
- **Monday, 18th—Friday, 22nd**
  - Book Week & Science Week
- **Thursday, 21st**
  - Coliban Water Talk
  - Book Week Parade
- **Friday, 22nd**
  - Enviro Day
- **Monday, 25th—Friday, 29th**
  - Enviro Week
  - Somers Camp
- **Monday, 25th**
  - Due date for 3/4 camp payments
- **Wednesday, 27th—Friday, 29th**
  - Grade 3/4 Cluster Camp

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ATTACHMENTS

- Grade 3/4 Camp permission forms/information
- Poster Competition—Parent Consent forms
- Parenting Ideas Newsletter
- CatholicCare Family Newsletter

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Thanks,
Sally Gill,
Acting Principal.
**WEEKLY AWARDS**

**Principal’s Award:** Zoe for her positive attitude and excellent start to Term 3.

**Class Award:** Tyler for his stellar approach to new things and Term 3.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Reegan’s birthday is coming up, along with Tim. We hope you both have a great day on the weekend boys.

**THANK YOU**

To Kylie Munro for cooking the sausages for Sausage Sizzle today.

**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

**WEDNESDAY:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cooking</th>
<th>Fruit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 13th</td>
<td>SRC</td>
<td>K. Sundblom</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20th</td>
<td>SRC</td>
<td>R. Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 27th</td>
<td>K. Munro</td>
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We very much appreciate the support we receive to run the Sausage Sizzle each week—the students really enjoy it. All proceeds from the Sausage Sizzle subsidise excursion costs for all families.

**Thank you for your support everyone.**

**S.R.C. REPORT**

On Friday night the school had a disco and we raised $126 and in profit we made $78, for the Red Shield Appeal. Thanks to everyone that came and we hope you enjoyed it.

**FARM HANDS**

Connor and Alex are the Farm hands this week. Well done and thank you!

**THIS WEEK’S VIPs**

Mia and Daniel are the V.I.P’s this week. Thank you very much!
MELBOURNE AQUARIUM EXCURSION
As part of the term theme ‘Ocean’ we will be heading to the Melbourne Aquarium mid-term. The excursion will be on Friday the 15th of August. Like last year we will be getting the train to and from the city. Students will be required to be at the Kyneton Railway Station at 8:00am and will be ready to be collected from the station at 4.30pm when the train returns. The cost for the excursion is $10 per student, a discounted rate as a result of donations. This cost covers train fares along with entrance to the Polly Woodside Tall Ship and the Melbourne Aquarium. Students are required to wear full school uniform and bring their lunch with them packed in their school bag – there will be no opportunities to purchase lunch on the excursion. A visit to the Aquarium really consolidates the learning about Oceans at school this term and we really encourage all students to attend.

Important Details:
Date: 15/08/2014
Cost: $10.00 per student
Drop Off: 8:00am @ Kyneton Station
Pick Up: 4:30pm @ Kyneton Station
Required to bring: Full school uniform (plus a coat/jacket) and a packed lunch/snacks/drink bottle.

Permission forms were attached to the newsletter last week and are due back at school by Tuesday, August 12th. It is important that payments (or a payment plan) are received by this date as well.

GRADE 3/4 CAMP
The Cluster Grade 3/4 Camp will be held from Wednesday, August 27th to Friday, August 29th. The School Council has resolved to subsidise the cost by $60.00 for each child. Subsequently the total cost for families is $150.00. If you would like to start a payment plan for the camp, please speak to Sally or Joyce.

Camp permission forms and information is included with the newsletter today.

PREP - TWO POSTER COMPETITION
The Prep - Two students have been working on posters in Science that focus on the concept of keeping our waterways clean from rubbish and other pollutants; also linking in with the concept of all water being connected, especially rivers to dams and the ocean. These posters will be entered in a competition run by Coliban Water for Water Week in September.

To be entered, each student’s work needs an entry sheet that requires parental consent. Permission forms are attached to this newsletter for P-2 students. Parents are asked to please fill out the forms and return to school.

PARENTS VICTORIA
Are you a member of Parents Victoria? Find out how to run a successful parents club and hear about the latest digital technologies and online resources at this year’s Parents Victoria Annual Conference. This year’s Parents Victoria Annual Conference will be held at the Melbourne Zoo on 29 and 30 August. Parents Victoria is a statewide democratic organisation representing parents of students in Victorian government schools, and provides parents with a voice, presenting an organised parent perspective to State and Federal Governments, educational bureaucracies and institutions, community organisations and the media. The theme for this year’s annual conference is Education for Everyone – let’s engage! Find out more information about Parents Victoria at: http://www.parentsvictoria.asn.au/

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING
The Australian Government has declared Thursday 7 August 2014 to be a National Day of Mourning, to honour the victims of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17.

As a mark of respect and mourning to those who lost their lives, all schools will fly the Australian National Flag, at half-mast on Thursday 7 August 2014.

A National Memorial Service will take place at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Melbourne, at 10:30am on Thursday 7 August 2014.

On the school’s website there is a link to an excellent article entitled “Helping kids make sense of the MH 17 air disaster” from Michael Grose’s Parenting Ideas Blog. The recent shooting down of the Flight MH 17 over Ukraine airspace may have taken place on the other side of the world but its impact is felt by us all including children.

[Go to the ‘Links’ page on the school website and click on the heading, “Michael Grose—Parenting Ideas” and a drop down list will appear.]

Redesdale Community Fundraiser

R O C K ‘N’ R O L L
D A N C E N I G H T

With

THE
HUBCATS

Beer, Wine & Soft Drink
available at Pub Prices;
BYO Spirits;

When: Saturday 30th August
Where: Redesdale Hall
Starts: 7:30 pm
Entry: $20.00 per person (pre booking essential)

Enquires please call 5425 3154

Redesdale Community Fundraiser

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Nurture your child’s thinking skills

Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning.

How can you nurture your child’s thinking life in the pre-primary and primary years? The purpose is not so much for your child to excel at school, but to instil a desire to learn and the ability to think for themselves and be resilient enough to resist following the crowd in thoughts as well as actions.

Children spend more time at home than at school yet parents often feel most children’s learning occurs behind the classroom door. Learning is natural and has no boundaries and can happen anywhere.

Parents teach their children both implicitly and explicitly. Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning. If your child sees you reading and taking an interest in a myriad of subjects he or she will be more interested in reading and more likely develop a sense of curiosity as well.

Curiosity may be the most important learning behaviour that your child develops. Bake a cake with your child and see it rise. Make a model plane and see it fly. Help your child dismantle a broken clock. Ask questions of yourself and of your child. Curiosity needs to be fed by experiences and they don’t have to be expensive or externally provided. They can be provided at home by parents.

It is worth considering how your home environment fosters a sense of curiosity and enquiry in children. Consider the following:

- **Spaces for doing and thinking:**
  Look at your home through the eyes of a child and his or her learning needs. Do you have spaces that invite your child to explore, create and think? Do you have a quiet place for reading and drawing? Do you have a space for kids to be creative and messy? Do you have a place for noise and music? Do you have a space for kids to be tactile with plenty of textures (this can be outside or inside)?

- **Materials:**
  Look at the materials available that can stimulate the senses of a child. These include art materials, books, costumes and masks, sketch pads, construction materials, puzzles and games. Take a minimalist approach. That is, the more bells and whistles that a toy has the less opportunity a child has to be creative with it. Kids don’t need much to be creative.

- **The role of television:**
  Some specifically designed children’s programs such as Playschool are great but much of television promotes a spectator mode of consciousness and suppresses active thinking. Don’t let the TV dominate your child’s free time.

- **Teachable moments:**
  Be on the lookout for teachable moments. These are the opportunities to explain, question and prompt exploration with your child. Looking at insect wings, ants walking in a line or moths flying around the lights can provide teachable moments as long as you are lead by your child and don’t get too heavy handed with the ‘lessons’ learned. Sometimes the experience is enough.

Nurturing in children the ability to think openly about their world starts with their own environment. It involves a mixture of free, open exploration on their own and interactions with adults that stimulate discussions and prompt them to explore new ideas and think. It is these types of experiences that can foster in kids a love of learning and thinking that can help them succeed at school and beyond.

Published by Michael Grose
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For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit:
www.parentingideas.com.au

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