Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is now only a couple of weeks away and what a busy time it will be. In that time, you will receive Student Reports and Grade and Teacher details. It will also be a time of soirees, class parties, Grade 6 Graduation and other end of year fun. Check the calendar on the website for details.

**2014 Booklists and School Levies – Don’t forget 31 December!!!**

By now, I expect all families will have received notices regarding the student requisites and levies for 2014. This important information provides details of the new process for families to follow to prepare for the new school year. Whereas in the past, you have had to find time to call at the school, wait in line, collect, check and pay for your children's school requirements, soon you will be able to do all this without leaving home, work or your holiday destination. **Families need to place orders on line by 31 December to ensure you receive your requirements before school resumes.** Your payments will be forwarded to the school by supplier, OfficeMax, and your book box of student materials will be delivered to your door or preferred address.

Some things to remember:

- The Curriculum Materials payment of $160.00 covers the student book box (delivered to home) and bulk classroom materials (delivered to school).
- Excursion Levy increases are largely due to the inclusion of costs to cover the School Concert.
- If the new arrangements are causing you financial difficulties, please contact me at the Office. It is crucial that all student materials are ordered by 31 December.

We hope this makes “Back To School” easier for everyone in 2014.

An issue when determining student requisites each year is the need to purchase some items repeatedly such as pencil cases and textas. Whilst we strongly encourage students to care for their belongings and to consider the environmental impact of wastage, some children manage to care for these items whilst other items are lost, damaged or worn out. The School Council discussed this at length and care was taken not to order items that we have in stock in the school. It is important that all children have all the necessary equipment to ensure a smooth start to the year. Generally, children like to have the same items as their classmates. In the future, we hope to be able to provide the option for families to select whether they need these items or not. If families have surplus items, such as pencil cases, textas, pencils, pens – either new or in good condition – that they would like to see put to good use, a collection will be made at the Office that will then be donated to a suitable charity. Items can be left at school until the end of the school year and in the first two weeks of term 1.
Principal For The Day – Welcome Principal Jemima!!
A Silent Auction prize at the Twilight Market was the opportunity to be Principal For The Day. Our lucky recipient was Jemima M (3H). Jemima will be Principal at Glen Iris next Monday, December 9th.

Look out for a notice from Jemima outlining her plans for her reign as Principal. I’m sure she has some fun planned for her students.

Parent & Community Helpers’ Morning Tea – Wednesday 11 December
We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful, supportive community at GIPS. Different parents demonstrate their support in different ways. Please join the staff for morning tea so we can thank you all for your assistance in 2013 and wish you well for the festive season. Morning tea will be held from 10:45am – 11:30am on Wednesday, 11 December in the multipurpose room.

News from the Art Room.
Throughout the school, classes have been working intently in the art room with Mrs Freeland-Small to produce felt work, silk painting and embroidery to create a wonderful art installation for our foyer. A taste of what is to come is hanging in my office – courtesy of the Prep classes. Please feel free to drop by to see for yourself. The children are proud of their efforts and I love it!!!

Prep Art Auction
This is your lucky day!!! We have three pieces of art work produced by each of our Prep classes that was to be auctioned at the Twilight Market. As the pieces were not offered for sale, we are now able to offer them separately. There are three canvasses that have been created with each child in each grade.

A page with photographs of the pieces is up on the website for you to see. The pieces can also be viewed on display in the foyer. What am I bid for these precious mementos of a first year of school?? Bidding forms are available at the foyer display. Bidding closes at 4pm on Friday, December 13th.

Transition Up!
The children from Prep to grade 5 are currently participating in a series of activities to help them settle into their new classes in 2014. Each week a different activity is planned culminating in a session in the new class with the new classmates and teachers. If you would like to discuss the transition program or how you can assist your child to prepare for this process, please feel free to contact your class teacher.

Staffing News
I am pleased to announce the appointment of Miss Alex Schifter who will join our teaching staff in 2014. Alex has completed a Masters of Teaching degree and recently returned from a teaching experience in India. Congratulations to Miss Kate Wipfli who has accepted a position at Korowa Anglican Girls’ Grammar School.

Yours Sincerely

Glen Iris Primary School thanks our sponsors for their generous support.

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PROJEC10 PALOOZA

The Grade 5/6 Students would like to invite the Glen Iris community to the Projec10 Palooza. The Grade 5/6 Projec10 Palooza will be held at Glen Iris Primary School on Friday 13 December from 2:30pm – 4:00pm. The Projec10 Palooza is a market afternoon where the Grade 5/6 students are working in teams to raise money to help educate students in Ghana. Each team has their own project stall, for example there will be a car wash, lemonade stall, raffles, face painting and a whole lot more!


We are looking for a parent volunteer to run the lighting and sound equipment for Grade 6 Graduation on the night of Monday 16 December and during our rehearsal morning on Monday 9 December. You do not need to have any experience in this area as we will train you during the rehearsal. If you are able to help out please see Danniel Smith in 5/6 D.

HELP WANTED!!
On Monday, 2 December, Grade One performed their dance to ‘Little Deuce Coupe’. This song is about an American car from the 1950s and it was used to support their class study of Transport. The song focused on rhythm, choreographed sequences and singing. They had lots of fun learning, performing and dressing up for the performance. They all looked very cute! Special mention should be made to Josh M (1B) who played the piano introduction to the piece – it was his first time playing solo in front of the school and he did a wonderful job.

Also at the assembly, Grade 5/6K and 5/6S performed their dance piece, ‘Grease Medley’. The classes had been working on their routine all term and researching dance choreography from the 1950s. Just like Grade One, they certainly looked the part and we definitely had some Dannys and Sandys amongst the group!

We were so excited when the sun came out for the Grade One and Two Sleepover and Games Night on Friday, 22 November.

All of the children participated in games and adventure activities hosted by Camp Australia on the oval. We worked up an appetite and had pizza, fruit kebabs and icy-poles for dinner. While it was then time to say farewell to the Grade One children, the lucky children in Grade Two stayed at school and enjoyed their introduction to the camping program with a sleepover in the hall.

A big ‘Thank You’ to the team of parents who worked together to assist in the smooth running of this event.

We can’t wait for camp in Grade Three!
Zart Art Student Gallery Opening
Thursday 5 December
4/41 Lexton Rd, Box Hill North
4:30-5:30 pm

Young artists from our school are exhibiting in the Student Gallery for Term 1 2014. It is an opportunity for the students to showcase their work to a wider audience. We congratulate the students from Grade 4 who will have their rhinoceros models on display along with the Grade 1 students with their oil pastel line drawings of ‘rubbish bins’

Textile Incursion
All the students have participated in being part of the whole school tapestry, exploring silk dyeing and felting. Watch the space in the school’s foyer for the unveiling! Thank you to all the parents who helped in the Art room and braved the mess!

Foundation Masterpieces
Don’t miss the opportunity to purchase wonderful paintings of the ‘Foundies’ first year at school… Look on the website for details of the silent auction.

Michele Freeland-
Small
Visual Arts Teacher
Should students be able to choose their Integrated Studies topics (e.g. Inventors and Inventions)?

Yes: 44.44%
No: 55.56%

I think students should not be able to choose their topics because it would be extremely hard to do projects. How would the teacher be able to set so many projects? I think teachers should choose them because then we learn more things even if we’re not interested in them. For example, if I had a choice I wouldn’t choose prime ministers and when I became 18 I wouldn’t really understand what I was voting for. Bella

I think that students shouldn’t be able to choose their Integrated topics because it’s more fun for us and it is easier for the teachers; otherwise some of us will just choose the easy topics that we already know about. We also learn more things that way. Olena

I think students should not be able to choose their topic to learn about because it will cause stress to the teachers and the teachers wouldn’t know what to do. People might choose silly topics to learn about which might not be suitable at school. If we got to choose our topics it would be mean because it would cause more stress and worries to the teacher. They would have to find out what people are learning about, find some creative ideas for them, organize different learning assignment for each child; just thinking about this puts me to sleep.

If teachers choose a certain topic, they choose it for a reason; they try to make something easy but not too easy. I find that most topics are very interesting. That’s why I think that students should not be allowed to choose their own topic. Jessica D.

Issue: Should the 5/6 students at GIPS be able to choose their specialist classes?

Yes 58.33%
No 41.67%

Grade 5/6s should be able to choose their specialist subject so that there is no moaning that they do not want to do a subject.

I think 5/6s shouldn’t be able to choose their specialist because most people wouldn’t do some subjects that were important to learn. Also how would the classes be sorted? I think choosing your subjects should just be for Years 10,11,12 or maybe even Year 9.

Students have their say on issues relating to them...

Parents’ Assoc’n News

The Parents’ Association has already begun planning in earnest for the 2014 school year. We are all looking forward to another rewarding year for our students, our families, our school and our community.

In addition to some of our traditional and more popular activities – the Walkathon, Special Lunches, Footy Tipping, Father’s Day breakfast, Icy Poles – we are hoping to stage a Student Art Auction in Term 3 as our major fundraising event for the year. We’ll also be helping out at the Foundation Morning Tea at the beginning of the school year and participating in the Ashburton Festival in February. We will be publishing a full calendar of events in the next few weeks to keep you fully informed of our plans and of how you can be involved.

The Parents’ Association is proud to support our school and pleased to report that your generous contributions have helped fund many aspects of your children’s education experience at GIPS. More details are available in the Parents section of the school website.

Meanwhile, we are hoping to bring on a few more parents to help out on our committee. We need one or two keen shoppers to help organise the Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stalls. We are also looking for someone to take over the coordination role for our inspirational “Friends of the Library” team. And, of course, we are always happy to take on “casual” members to help out from time to time as needed. None of these roles takes up much time and it is not absolutely necessary to attend our meetings, so if you’re interested in getting involved, please contact us through the school at any time.

Best wishes to you and to your families,
Alex Goldhagen - President
Australia Day Public Holiday 2014...
Yes we are open!

We know that the back-to-school rush can be a busy time of year, so our store will be open for regular trade on the Australia Day Public Holiday (Monday 27 January) to provide you with convenient shopping hours!*

*Please note: We will be closed Sunday 26 January. Lay-by will be unavailable in January and February.

AVAILABLE AT PSW MOUNT WAVERLEY
288-290 Stephensons Rd, Mt Waverley, VIC 3149
Phone: 03 9809 5477

TRADING HOURS
Monday to Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday CLOSED

www.psw.com.au - save time, shop online!

PLEASE NOTE: Our store will be closed from Saturday 21 December, 2013 to Sunday 5 January, 2014.