Dear Parents,

We believe Glen Iris Primary School is a great school serving a wonderful community; however, it is what you think that really matters to us. It has been very pleasing to have parents make the time to comment on aspects of our school that they value and appreciate. In recent days, I have had parents comment on the breadth of the Phys. Ed programs, the quality of the student artwork and gratitude for the Reading Recovery program to name a few things. We are always striving to improve our school and welcome your input at any time, no matter what the issue. If you are pleased, share your views widely and if you are displeased please bring your feelings to our attention so we can attempt to meet your expectations. Parents are welcome to write, phone or pop in to see me about any matter. Also, all our teaching staff are available in the playground each afternoon after school and would love to hear how you and your children are finding school in 2014.

Hooray for GIPS!! District Swimming Carnival

Yesterday, our Swimming Team competed in the District Swimming Carnival at Harold Holt Pool against seven other local schools. For the third year running, Glen Iris won the meet. Approximately 40 children from across the Grade 4 – 6 areas competed, each one striving to do their very best. Now 21 students will move on to the next level of competition. Of course, there is pleasure in winning; however, the very pleasing thing for me is HOW the Glen Iris children win. Lessons about being good winners as well as good losers are important. I was so proud to see the children encourage each other and congratulate each other no matter what the outcome. When the announcement was made that our team had won the sports, the children cheered and celebrated in a good natured way without arrogance or bragging. These attitudes are instilled at home and through our programs at school.

Congratulations to all the members of the Swimming Team and thanks to our parent helpers and Phys. Ed teacher, Natasha Williams for her organisation and coordination.

School Council and Class parent Reps.

Community involvement is a cornerstone of our school and something that makes GIPS a special place to work and learn. Visitors to the school regularly comment to me what a happy, welcoming “feel” the school has. Evidence of the community support for our school is shown in the generous offers of assistance we receive from parents. Since school commenced, we have called for volunteers for both School Council and our Parent Class Representatives. The vacancies on School Council have been filled by Jack Risos, Gary Bennett, Alex Goldhagen and Jacqui Brown. Thank you to these parents for accepting nomination for the positions which were unopposed.

We have had a large response from parents offering to fill the class contact role for each grade. In most instances, we have been able to appoint two parents to share the role. I know that parents and teachers rely on these reps. to facilitate communications and social occasions for the class. A full list of class reps will be published soon. A couple of grades are still looking for a class rep. 5/6K are still in need of a rep. If any parents feel able to help out, please contact the class teacher.

Ashburton Festival

On Sunday February 23rd, many of our families will visit the Ashburton Festival. Look out for the Glen Iris Primary stall selling popcorn and cold drinks. Also, watch out for our performance groups – band, dance and choir – on the stage between 3:00 and 4:00 o’clock and show your support for our performers. Thanks to the Parents’ Association, especially Alex Goldhagen and Rachel Thompson for their organisation of the stall and to Kate Van der Jagt, Lauren Crowley, Danniell Smith and Kate Stanford for training the performers.
Bike Riding Policy

At last night’s School Council meeting, our current Bike Education policy was discussed. The Council recognises that the needs of our school have changed since the existing policy was implemented in 2010 when there was no provision for children riding to school. We are in the process of amending the Bike Riding Policy to provide greater flexibility for families and this new policy will be in place in the next couple of weeks. As soon as the policy has been ratified by School Council and staff, it will be circulated to the School Community and implemented. In the meantime, we will continue to operate under the current policy. Thank you for your understanding.

Children and Hot Cars. No Exceptions. No Excuses.

All government agencies have been asked to remind parents of the dangers associated with leaving children in parked cars. Personally, last weekend I came across two small children, an infant and a preschooler, left in a car in my local supermarket car park. Occasionally, I find a similar scenario outside our school. As parents, we need to be prepared to put our children’s wellbeing ahead of our own convenience. On hot days, it is important to remember that children should never be left alone in a car. The temperature inside a car on hot days begins to rise as soon as the door closes and within minutes the temperature inside can be double the temperature outside. Leaving children in hot cars – even for a moment – can result in injury or death. Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks. Victorian legislation makes leaving a child unattended in a car a criminal offence, with penalties ranging from fines of $2165 or three months in prison. If you are travelling with a child in a car and you need to get out, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses.

For more information, see: Kidsafe Victoria

Kerferd Road School Crossing

Boroondara Council has advised me of their intention to close the school crossing in Kerferd Road due to little use. Data indicates between 6-8 primary school children using the crossing in the afternoons. This does not warrant a supervisor and flags are not being displayed. This causes confusion to pedestrians and motorists. Parents who wish to discuss the closure of the crossing are advised to contact Boroondara Council.

Yours Sincerely
Meredith Carracher

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: TERM 1 2014

Dear Parents

Our Enrichment programs have started for 2014! Enrichment programs are provided each term to enable small groups of students to work with a teacher in a high interest area. In 2014 we will run our Enrichment Programs fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons for 50 minutes. Parents will be notified if their child is involved in one of these programs. Each term there is a focus for a particular grade level. All grade levels will have the opportunity to be involved over the year. This term we are excited to offer Enrichment programs for students in Grades 2 – 6.

Grade 2: (Miss Williams) – “How Does Our Garden Grow?”
Grade 3: (Miss Hallam) – “Waste Warriors” a sustainability program
Grade 4: (Madame Barre) – “Poésie française” a French poetry program
Grade 5/6: (Mr Smith) – “Rockin’ GIPS Band

Shelley Morrison

GET THE LATEST SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS ON YOUR PHONE

DOWNLOAD THE FREE KONNECTIVE MOBILE APP

For iPhone users - get Konnective from the AppStore
- Download the App and click Register to create your account

For Android users - get Konnective from the Google Play Store.
- Download the App and click Register to create your account

For other smartphone devices or if you don’t have a smartphone, use our website version.

Once you have registered and logged in, go to My Connections to connect to the relevant school feeds.
Dear Friends,

We hope that your children are settling smoothly into the school routine at this early stage, and that you are looking forward to a terrific year at GIPS.

I am pleased to report that the Parents’ Association hit the ground running last week when we met for our first meeting of the new school year. In addition to progressing a number of our plans for 2014, we broke the attendance record for a single meeting from all of 2013. Thanks to all in attendance for your time and contributions on the day!

Regards,
Alex Goldhagen - President

GIPS FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

FOTL will host its first meeting for 2014 on Tuesday 4th March, commencing at 9am in the Staffroom after drop off. Come along for any length of time which suits your individual schedules and please remember siblings are welcome. Being part of FOTL is a lovely opportunity to contribute to your child’s school environment in a flexible and easy way. The meeting is facilitated by GIPS staff and includes updates on library activities, resources and projects. Your input and assistance in keeping the library vibrant and interesting is encouraged and valued. We hope to welcome you on the day!

Education Maintenance Allowance

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

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 February 2014 for the first instalment and 1st August 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, a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health care card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) HOLDER; or be a 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.
5. *Please note: you only need to make a second application in August if your child changes schools between March and August.

EMA application forms are available from the school office or from our website.
LEAVING THE SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If you need to take your child from a classroom during school hours:

- Please fill in the Leave Pass Book at the Office.
- Hand the white slip to the teacher when you collect your child

OPEN DAY

Tuesday, March 25th
11.00am—1.00pm

INFORMATION EVENING

Thursday, March 27th
7.00pm—9.00pm

Full details will be provided in upcoming weeks

FAMILY DETAILS

Have any of your family details changed recently? Can’t remember? Don’t worry we all have those moments. Call in to the School Office or give us a ring if you would like to check the information we have on file. If you have changed address, phone numbers, emergency contact details and email addresses - ring, call in to the Office or send a note requesting a “Change of Student Information” form be sent home with your child.

It is very important to keep your details up-to-date.

Kaye, Liz, Kathy and Rose
GIPS Office Staff

HOURS OF SUPERVISION

Please note that students are supervised in the yard before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm.

GLEN IRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

8.30am until 4.30pm

SUNSMART

GIPS has a policy of “NO HAT, NO PLAY” from 1 September to 1 May.

NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Just a quick reminder that Glen Iris Primary School is a Nut Aware School and, as such, it is important that parents do not allow their children to bring any product to school that contains nuts of any type. Naturally this includes peanut butter, Nutella, nut health bars and cakes/biscuits that contain nuts. Please inform class teachers of all the ingredients of any food sent to school to share on special occasions. We appreciate your diligence in this matter.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Just a reminder to all to keep checking our community noticeboard on our website. There is new information every fortnight that many of you may be interested in.
THANK YOU to all the families who have donated Preloved Board and Boxed Games for the Library

We still have room for some more!

The library games nook has been a great hit with the children and we are keen to add to our supply of board and boxed games.
If you have any new or preloved games, or games that your children have outgrown please consider donating them to the school library.
Donations can be left at the school office in the box provided.

Thank you for your continues support!
Friends of the Library

MUSICORP
Would you like to learn a Musical Instrument and join the Glen Iris Primary School Band? Glen Iris Primary School together with Musicorp are excited to offer a variety of instruments for students to learn.
Flute, Trumpet, Saxophone, Trombone, Clarinet and Percussion lessons are available.
Please call Musicorp on 1300 858 911 or email Amber on amber@musicorp.com.au

PIANO LESSONS INFORMATION 2014
Jill and Emily have now completed piano lesson enrolments for this term, and are both at full capacity.

If you are interested in your child having piano lessons in the future, please add your name and details to the waiting list at the office. An information sheet is also available there.

If you would like to make an enquiry or check your progress on the waiting list, please email Emily Watson at emilywatson@y7mail.com or call on 0421 797 856.
*Please note: email is generally the best way to get in touch with Emily.
SECOND HAND UNIFORM

It’s that time of year when people have been having a huge cleanout of cupboards and as a result we have a lot of fantastic 2nd hand uniform. Come and see us. We are open every Friday from 3.15 to 3.45pm. Everything is $5. We also have school bags in great condition—also $5 each. Feel free to donate any school uniforms your kids have outgrown but only if it’s in useable condition.

KIM GREEN & KATRINA HRELJA

WANTED

Any pens, pencils, textas, exercise books etc. in good condition to be sent to overseas charities. If you have any of these stationery items to donate please drop them in at the office. Thankyou.

SCHOOL BANKING

- School Banking has already started. Remember bank books need to be brought to school on Mondays and processing of books occurs at 8.45am on Tuesday morning.

- Prep parents interested in School Banking with the Commonwealth Bank can collect an application kit from the School Office.

2014 TERM DATES

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>28 January to 4 April</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 April to 27 June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>14 July to 19 September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>6 October to 19 December</td>
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2015 TERM DATES

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<td>13 July to 18 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>5 October to 18 December</td>
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NEU MODE

Design & Construction
Multi MBAV Award Winner

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Email: michael@neumode.com.au
www.neumode.com.au

JEREMY TRAPPETT
Qualified Carpenter
Specializing in property maintenance and repairs
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Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2014/2015 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

Pick up a nomination form online at www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au.

Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

Closes Friday 2nd May 2014
JOIN....
12.00 NOON "TOTALLY LOCALLY" STREET PARADE
ALL welcome to march in Community Bank® Street Parade
Dress in your organisation’s uniform or put on your most colourful dress up - Special Prizes for the best costumes and imaginative ‘on-sets’.
Meet at Coles Local (Shell Service) at 11.45am

FREE ENTERTAINMENT
WARD ST. STAGE
10.30am Haro Dance Group
11.00am Ashburton Primary Dance
11.15am Ashburton Primary Choir
12.05pm Street Parade MEETS at Coles Local 11.45am walks to Welfare Pole
12.25pm Festival Welcome
12.30pm The MIK MAK$ - Fun Kids Entertainers
1.15pm The Time Wasters will ‘rock your socks’!
2.15pm Bethany Fisher “Teen Sensation” - join in & dance to favours from Justin Bieber, Hannah Montana, High School Musical & more

MARQUIS PLAYSPACE
10.30am 100 Clk workout - Everyone can take part
11.00am The MIK MAK$ - Fun Kids Entertainers
12.00pm Street Parade starts at Coles Local 11.45am walks to Welfare Pole
12.30pm Diamantina Circus - Be Amazed.
1.15pm Solway Primary Choir
1.30pm Rudiments
2.30pm Regularity

SEE
Australia’s best Animal Farm, Live Snakes & Crocs, Roving street performers, Magic, Music, Mayhem

LEARN
Sustainable Ashburton See + Learn Tour
Local Ashwood Permaculture Garden, Ashburton Honey Suppliers, Ashburton Food Forest, Ashburton Community Gardens

WOW
NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE & RENOVATED LIBRARY
OPEN FOR VIEWING & PERFORMANCES
10am - 2pm Ashburton Community Centre ART Show
12.30pm The Magpies Choir
1pm - 4pm Ashburton Library presents world famous book artist Nicholas Jones (work has to be seen to be believed)

GRAB A BARGAIN
from wide variety of Ashburton Traders

TRY
TAI CHI
Netball HOOP SHOOT - Women's District Netball Association
FOOTY HANDBALL - Ashwood High School & St Mary's Footy
KICK A GOAL - Ashburton Soccer
CRICKET FAST BOWL - Eastern Victoria Cricket Club
CLIMBING WALL - Scout activities
HEAVY HAULERS - Kids Games
KIDS MACHINES - Ready, steady, go Kids

Fabulous Food from Ashburton Cafes & interesting exotic offerings