Dear Parents,

I hope families are looking forward to a friendly, casual evening at the Family Picnic tomorrow night organised by our Parents’ Association. The pleasant autumn weather should ensure a great opportunity to catch up with other GIPS families and staff. Children will enjoy the entertainment provided so parents can relax. See you there between 5:30 and 7:30pm tomorrow.

A Busy Time at GIPS
Classes have been busy with a range of worthwhile, stimulating learning experiences that enhance our classroom programs.

- Last week, the Grade 4 students visited CERES, a Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies, in Brunswick to attend their Cultural Heritage program focusing on identity, art, culture and food as part of their unit of work on “The First Australians”.
- In Grade 5/6, the classes have been studying “Natural Disasters and Extreme Environments” related to the AusVELS National Curriculum in Science. I have marvelled at the amazing work students have produced in response to their research – 3D models, paintings, even a tsunami cake - as well as oral and written presentations. Next Tuesday, the Grade 5/6 classes will visit Marysville to learn more about the impact of the Black Saturday bushfires.
- Today, our Preps have a visitor to talk about “Responsible Pet Care” as they spend time talking about themselves, their families and interests for their topic “Marvellous Me”.

Twilight Market Photos
We currently have a lovely collection of photos from the Twilight Market on display on the foyer screen and in the photo gallery on the website. Thanks to parent, Robyn Campbell for her photographic skills and to Liz Devenish in the Office for arranging these displays. Find a moment to have a peek!

Annual Report to the School Community
At this time of the year, schools are finalising the Annual Report to the School Community presenting outcomes of school data such as NAPLAN and Attitudes to Schooling data. It is pleasing to note the successful outcomes for GIPS students in 2013. As a school that is compared to the highest performing schools across the country, we have performed at least as well as these schools, if not better. In terms of our students’ academic growth over time, the progress for students at Glen Iris is excellent. The Annual Report to the School Community will be formally presented at the School Council meeting on Wednesday, May 14th. I would encourage interested parents to attend to see full details of our school’s performance data. The Annual Report will also be available on the school website.

Education Week 2014 May 19th – May 23rd
Education Week is conducted annually in Victorian Government Schools in May. This event is an opportunity to showcase the work of our students and staff to our own community and to prospective families. The events we have planned for this year include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Family Picnic—5.30pm to 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 22</td>
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<td>• Working Bee—12.30pm to 3.30pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Year 5/6 Excursion to Marysville</td>
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<td>Wed 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Group School Tour—Prep 2015 11.15am-12.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<th>April 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Easter Special Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Marvellous Me—Prep Incursion</td>
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<td>Wednesday 2</td>
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<td>• Prep Alphabet Dress Up Day</td>
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<td>• Group School Tour—Prep 2015 9.30am-10.30am</td>
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<td>Thursday 3</td>
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<td>• Grade 5/6 Sport GALA Day</td>
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<td>Friday 4</td>
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<td>• End Term 1</td>
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<td>• Final Term 1 Assembly—salt badge presentation</td>
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<tr>
<th>Upcoming Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Be A Prep” Morning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep 2015 School Tours—AM and PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 26 May</td>
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<td>Prep 2015 Information Evening—7pm-8pm</td>
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- **School Open Day**  
  Thursday, May 22nd  
  9:30am – 10:30am / 2:00pm – 3:00pm  
  An opportunity for prospective families to visit the school and see our classrooms in action. Our current families are welcome, as always, to visit their children’s classrooms too.

- **School Information Night**  
  Monday, May 26th 7:00pm – 8:00pm  
  A presentation to prospective parents outlining our school facilities, programs and what we have to offer.

- **Family Learning Night – Writing / Spelling**  
  Wednesday, May 21st 6:00 – 7:00pm  
  We invite current families to come to school and participate in a range of learning activities through the school related to writing and spelling. Families will be able to move through the school trying out all sorts of learning activities, games and competitions. Please mark this date on your calendar.

**Welcome Mr Gilliland**

Mr Nathan Gilliland has been appointed as Grade teacher for 5/6HJ to replace Mrs Ronna Harris who resigned due to ill health. Nathan is an experienced teacher having taught in both primary and secondary settings in Australia and the UK. Nathan will job share with Mrs Niki Judd with Nathan teaching Tuesday – Friday and Niki teaching on Mondays commencing in Term 2. I am sure Nathan will be a valuable addition to our teaching staff and everyone will make him feel very welcome.

**Preps 2015**

Term 2 is traditionally the time when families are deciding and making arrangements for their preschoolers regarding school in 2015. At Glen Iris, we aim to maximise the opportunities for families to visit the school and experience the GIPS environment first hand.

Information regarding our program of activities to introduce prospective 2015 prep families to the school will be advertised on the website, in kinders, in The Leader newspaper and with a billboard soon. There are a number of activities for pre-schoolers for which numbers are limited and bookings required. If any of our current families have preps for 2015, you might like to check out the details on the website before the end of term for the “Be a Prep” morning and “Story Time @ GIPS” for your child. The details are as follows:

- **Group Tours:** Wednesday Mar 26th, Apr 2nd,  
- **“Be A Prep” Morning** Tuesday, May 20th  
- **School Open Day** Thursday, May 22nd  
- **Information Night for Prospective Parents** Monday, May 26th  
- **“Story Time @ GIPS”** 8 dates in Terms 2 & 3

Prep 2015 enrolments are open at the Office.

**Working Bee / Friends of the Library**  
**Saturday, March 22nd 12:30 – 3:30pm**

This Saturday, is our first working bee for the year to address playground and library tasks. It is a busy time of year to maintain our grounds, especially as our beautiful trees lose their leaves ... and acorns! Thanks to the Paton / Wells family who have been helping us with the acorns already. Your efforts are making a big difference. Even some children and I have been out with the broom on a few occasions to try to keep the play area safe.

Our Friends of the Library group will also be in action in the library this Saturday making sure our collection is kept in good order and making arrangements for the Premier’s Reading Challenge that will start next term. I know they would love to see new helpers.

Yours Sincerely

[Signature]

**LATEST NEWSLETTER**

Want to receive an alert when our latest newsletter is online? Go to the GIPS website homepage and click on the orange link:

*Subscribe to Newsletter.*
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.

PREP 2015

Open Day Tours
Thursday 22nd May
9.30am-10.30am
2.00pm-3.00pm

Prep 2015 Information Evening
Monday 26th May
7pm-8pm

Family Picnic
Friday 21 March

GIPS families are invited to get together for a casual, end-of-week picnic.

Time: 5.30pm to 7.30pm
Date: Friday 21 March
Where: GIPS Oval**
What to Bring: BYO Picnic & Drinks
(avoid glass where possible)

Grab a picnic blanket, some dinner & refreshments and join us at the school for a fun and relaxed evening with family and friends.

Entertainment provided by CHARISMA DANCE.

Alex Goldhagen - PA President

**NO BIKES OR SCOOTERS PLEASE
Dear Friends,

Thanks again to everyone who attended the Parents’ Association meeting this week. We had another good turnout this month and we are pleased to see so many of you wanting to be involved in our school.

Our next social event is the Family Picnic this Friday, 21st March. We have organized some entertainment for the children and hope that this will give you an opportunity to spend a bit of “quality” time with some of the other parents at GIPS.

Meanwhile, we are absolutely thrilled to inform you that we will be hosting a Student Art Exhibition on Saturday, 9th August as our main event for 2014. With the enthusiastic support of Mrs Freeland-Small, the school will be showcasing the collective artistic talents of our children throughout the evening.

We are excited by the prospect of how our students will approach the exhibition’s central theme, the timeless and ever popular “Alice in Wonderland”. More details will be provided closer to the date so please mark your calendars now to ensure that you don’t miss out.

If you are interested in being involved in organising the event, which will include food, drinks, music and a live auction, please contact us directly or through the school office. It promises to be an enjoyable night for all.

In the meantime, the next PA meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on Monday, 5th May. All GIPS parents are welcome so please join us if you can.

Kind regards from all of us at the Parents’ Association,

Alex Goldhagen, President
LUNCHEON DUTY

Thank you to all those wonderful volunteers who have helped in the Library this term!

We are seeking parent helpers to assist again at lunchtimes in Term 2.

Together with the Yard Duty teachers the Lunchtime Duty Parent/s will supervise the library space or alternatively be in the playground.

A notice is being sent home with the newsletter today.

Please try to find a spare lunchtime, as your children would love to see you.

Remember you will need a current Working With Children Check to participate.

Thank you.

Justine Moore (9889 9547)
Justine3146@gmail.com

On behalf of Parents Association.

REGIONAL SWIMMING

Congratulations to the swimmers who competed in the Regional Swimming Championships at the Nunawading Swimming Pool.

They all did an amazing job.

Results were as follows:

Charlotte H - 8th in the 9/10 year old 50m Breaststroke
Colby G - 11th in the 9/10 year old 50m Breaststroke
Blake L - 3rd in the 11 year old 50m Breaststroke
Tom W - 14th in the 12/13 year old 50m Butterfly.

Natasha Williams - PE/Sport Coordinator

2014 TERM DATES

Term 1  28 January to 4 April
Term 2  22 April to 27 June
Term 3  14 July to 19 September
Term 4  6 October to 19 December

2015 TERM DATES

Term 1  28 January to 27 March
Term 2  13 April to 26 June
Term 3  13 July to 18 September
Term 4  5 October to 18 December
Follow your waste beyond the kerbside

Ever wonder what happens to your rubbish and recyclables once they have been collected? Want to discover how to recycle items that can’t go into kerbside bins? Join us for a free, family friendly tour of the Camberwell recycling facility with Waste Centre Coordinator Sam DiGiovanni. See how your recyclables are processed and discover ways to recycle even more of your household waste.

Date: Saturday 12 April
Time: 10.00am to 11.30am
Refreshments provided

Bookings required as numbers are limited. Book online at www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/living-for-our-future

Further information will be sent once your registration has been received.

School holiday fun with the ‘Material Girls’

The City of Boroondara is offering parents and children the chance to join an exciting excursion to the Banyule Rethink Waste Wise Education Centre on Thursday 10 April. The excursion is provided free as part of the Waste Smart Schools and Families project.

- Take part in fun challenges and activities; visit the hypermart to make some sustainable shopping choices
- See how science and technology play a part in turning empty cardboard boxes, jam jars, soup cans, soft drink bottles and cans into glass, steel, aluminium, plastics, paper and cardboard.

More information
- The excursion is suitable for primary aged students.
- Meet at 8.30am. Finish at 1.00pm.
- Bus travel to and from City of Boroondara to Banyule Rethink Centre and activity are provided free of charge!
- Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver (18 years or over).
- Please bring a snack and a drink.

Places are limited so book now. Visit the Eventbrite website: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-fun-with-the-material-girls-tickets-10919892693

Further information will be sent to you once your booking has been received.

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

School Crossings Victoria Inc.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

We warmly invite you to attend a presentation and free workshop by Nathan Hulls (Teen Behaviour Specialist & Motivational Speaker).

WHEN: Wednesday March 26th

WHERE: Auburn High School, VCE Learning Common, Level 2 Main Building

TIME: 6.00pm till 7.00pm

The workshop will address reasons behind why teenagers behave the way they do and will also explore the ways to empower and communicate effectively with them.

We highly recommend this evening. Please refer to the flier attached for further details.
The University High School’s Gifted Students’ Program, the Acceleration Program, which commenced in 1981, is the longest running and most stable program in Australia. It has become an integral element of the school’s culture and community.

The Acceleration Program at The University High School is designed to:

- **Challenge**: The subjects studied are sufficiently advanced and delivered at a pace to sustain interest and challenge the learners in the program.

- **Offer Breadth and Depth**: Students are given the opportunity to undertake a range of subjects across the domain areas and are encouraged to explore special areas of interest to a high level of expertise.

- **Provide Complexity**: The curriculum reflects the capacity of learners to engage in abstract thinking and conceptualisation to a high level.

In 2014, the following selection procedures will be used to identify students for the 2015 Year 7 intake:

1. Test administered by EduTest on Saturday May 10th at 9.00am at The University High School.
2. Interviews with shortlisted applicants and their parents/guardians.

Please apply online via the link on our school website. [www.unihigh.vic.edu.au](http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au)

The closing date for applications is Friday May 2nd 2014.

For more information visit our school website and join us on our Open Day on Wednesday April 30th.
FREE session on
How to reduce your utilities bills

Information from Camcare on how to read and reduce your gas and electricity bills and help if you need a utility grant from the government

Wednesday March 26
from 11pm to 12pm
Please book a seat.

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre
49 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, 3147
Opposite Alamein Railway Station
Phone: 9885 9401 to register your interest
BOROONDARA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
ALMOND ST. BALWYN NORTH
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
FLETCHERS
MELBOURNE'S ESTATE AGENT

THE MAD HATTER'S
MARCH FAIR
SATURDAY
MARCH 22ND
1PM-8PM

Rides
Surfing competition
Melbourne Tigers Bus
Food stalls
Live auction
Pre-loved goods
Book stall
Tea room
Market stalls
Free decorated egg display
Entertainment
and more...

For further information or to purchase Ride Wristbands, call 9857 5157 or visit http://trybooking.com/IZBW

Thank you to our Sponsors
**Brentwood Secondary College Enrichment Program 2015**

Students entering Brentwood Secondary College at Year 7 in 2015 have the opportunity to apply for a place in the Curriculum Enrichment Program. The program is offered to Year 7 students who demonstrate academic skills above those of their peer group. Year 7 students in the program undertake the same core subjects as the rest of the year level, in addition to further enrichment and in-depth studies of the curriculum. There is a greater emphasis on higher order thinking skills, as well as independent learning and research. Students in the enrichment program will also be expected to engage in extension activities through academic competitions, excursions and school based activities. A compulsory Curriculum Enrichment program levy will apply. Participation in the program is dependent on students continuing to satisfy criteria reflecting the college values for learning and community.

The enrichment program will:

- accelerate the pace of learning in all subjects and add a broader range of enriching experiences
- accelerate by a whole year level in Mathematics - year 10 content completed by the end of year 9
- implement programs that are consistent with the AusVELS, the Principles of Learning and Teaching and Assessment and Reporting Guidelines
- eliminate repetition
- limit practice of already mastered skills
- ensure higher order thinking is an integral process in student learning
- make provision for in-depth study
- be culturally inclusive, and affirm students’ cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- include provision for the continuation of appropriate EAL and other support, where required
- ensure that accelerated learning leaves no significant gaps in a student’s knowledge, skills, behaviours and understandings.

Two dedicated homegroups comprise students who have been selected for the enrichment program, one HG studies German and the other Japanese. The program runs as a dedicated homegroup for the same group of students for 3 years. Students will be expected to study Language until at least the end of year 9. Students are encouraged to undertake a second language at the Victorian School of Languages.

**Application to enter the program** - Invitations are extended only to those students who have been offered a position in year 7 the following year. If Brentwood is not the closest school to your place of residence, parents are advised to wait until your son or daughter has been offered a position in year 7 at Brentwood before applying to enter the program. Parents of interested students are invited to register online to sit the edutest entry tests. The tests will be conducted on Saturday September 13, 2014 in the Brentwood Hall, as an entrance exam to the program. The 5 tests: Verbal Reasoning, Numerical Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, Mathematics and Creative Writing will be supervised by edutest between 9:00am and 12:00pm. The cost of sitting the entrance exam is $70.

**Selection to the program** - Selection will be based on the overall results of these tests. Students will have an option of studying German or Japanese. In a situation where one language class is full, based on student preference, students with the highest testing scores will be awarded their preference. Students who aren’t offered a position in the language class of their choice will be offered a position in the program, but in the alternate language class. A waiting list of students who were unsuccessful in their bid to join the program but still enrolled in year 7 at Brentwood could fill any vacancies that arise throughout the 3 year period. An interview panel will review the academic performance of Enrichment Program students and other interested candidates in Semester 2 2015 and Semester 2 2016 to offer places to students beginning the following year.

**Transition to VCE** - It is expected that students exiting the Curriculum Enrichment Program will undertake two VCE studies in year 10 in 2018.

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**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.*