Dear Parents,

Student Safety
I am sure many parents have been concerned about student safety following a serious situation at a nearby school recently. Schools are very aware of their duty of care to students and utilise several processes to maintain a safe school environment. At Glen Iris, all visitors are required to sign in at the office and wear a Visitor’s Badge whilst in the school. I understand this seems a nuisance if you are one of our regular parent helpers, however, if this procedure is not adhered to by everyone it will be less effective. Our playground is supervised from 8:45am until 3:45pm each day. Children leaving the classroom during class time always go with a partner. We have improved the fencing and gateway entries to the school earlier this year. Classroom programs reinforce personal safety and remind children of important safe behaviours.

An important thing to remember when considering the safety of our children is that we all play a vital role. It takes all of us all the time to look out for our own children and children from other families. Families can assist the school to maintain a safe environment for the children by supporting the following processes:

- Please sign in at the Office when at the school
- Please close the school gates if they are closed when you arrive at or leave the grounds
- Please do not leave children unattended at school before 8:45am or after 3:45pm.
- Student toilets are for Glen Iris Primary School students. Adults and other family members are welcome to use the staff toilets located near the art room and in the library.
- Remind children about personal safety and what they should do if they feel worried or unsafe.

Education Week
This week is Education Week in Victorian schools. On Tuesday, we offered a “Be a Prep” morning when families with pre-schoolers were invited to book in to join one of the Prep classes for their literacy lesson. This activity was very popular and the session was quickly booked out.

Last night, many families came along to enjoy our Family Learning Night highlighting our Writing and Spelling programs. Families moved through the school trying a range of relevant games, activities, puzzles and searching for the letters to the “Mystery 9 Letter Word”. Two parents involved in the publishing industry, Andy Cunningham – Publisher, and Kelly Mrocki – Author, shared their experiences. The winners of the “9 Letter Word” competition were Oliver S (1LN) and Nadine D (5/6D). Thank you to Andy and Kelly for giving up their time to speak with us on the night and to Shelley Morrison and Emily Burgess for coordinating the event.

Today was our Open Day when we invite prospective visitors to see the school in action. A large number of families took up this opportunity and enjoyed touring the school with our volunteer student and parent tour guides. Thanks to the parents who have helped as guides and with catering both today and next Monday evening for our School Information Night.

Engaging Classroom Curriculum
Teachers plan activities to stimulate children’s imagination and curiosity through the Integrated Curriculum program. At the moment, Grade 2 are hosting approximately 30 chickens that have hatched as part of their unit of work on Life Cycles. Grade 1 enjoyed a trip to Healesville Sanctuary as part of their unit of work, “Feathers, Fur and Fins” and Grade 4
explored their Australian History topic with an interactive incursion from History Story Box.

**District Cross Country**

Congratulations to our District Cross Country running team that competed in the Glen Iris District event yesterday. Approximately 60 students competed in the event with some moving through to the next level of competition. Congratulations to Lia M who won the 12 year old girls event. Thank you to Natasha Black for organising and training the team with some morning runs at Ferndale Park, ably assisted by Anna Tomlinson, Ginny Robinson, Kristen Meachem, Sally Pontifex and Dannel Smith.

**Curriculum Day**

A reminder to families that a Curriculum Day will be held on Wednesday, May 28th to support the student reporting process. Children do not attend school on this day.

**Walk –a –Thon**

Tomorrow, children throughout the school will participate in the annual Walk-a-Thon organised by our Parents’ Association. I hope children have been collecting sponsorship from family and friends to support this important fundraiser. Play equipment is always a popular item with the children and we are currently arranging replacement equipment for the Gr 5/6 children and this week we replaced and repaired the Grade 1/2 equipment. Thank you to Donna Polkinghorne and Vanessa Mackie for their organisation of the Walk-a-Thon.

Yours Sincerely

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**AP MATTERS: WRITE ON!**

Our focus for the Education Week Family Learning Night is writing and spelling so this week I thought I might talk about helping your child with writing. You don't have to be an expert or a writer yourself! One aspect of our writing curriculum that you can use at home is ‘modelled writing’. In the classroom teachers regularly model types of writing for their students, pointing out the features, and showing how they edit their writing drafts.

So what can you do? Choose an area of writing with which you feel confident. Share your writing experiences with your child. As you do so, talk about why you are writing something and who you expect to read it. It could be a letter, an email, holiday blog or photo book. Maybe you write little stories for your children. It is important that you explain to your child who you are writing for, and why they are writing, as this determines the tone and form that a piece of writing takes.

And...great to see how on time we have all been this fortnight. It has made a huge difference to the start of the day for many students. Congratulations to all the parents who have told me that they are ‘really trying this week’. I appreciate the effort it does take.

Robyn Floyd

PS. A request. If you are interested in exploring the newspaper archives and researching information on Glen Iris Primary’s history please come and see me as I am looking for kindred spirits to help me research for the 150th Anniversary book.

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**CYBERSAFETY**

There are so many questions parents have about cybersafety. One of the best sites for parents of students in upper classes and those who’d like to know more is the site created by Ivanhoe Grammar. Scroll down the posts until you find one that is useful. http://icybersafe.com/

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**HOURS OF SUPERVISION**

Please note that students are supervised in the yard before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm.
What’s going on at GIPS?
The year 3 enrichment group, ‘The Waste Warriors,’ have been busy setting up and promoting the use of our school’s worm farms. Around the school, you will start to see posters of what you can and can’t put into the worm farm buckets in classrooms. While we get the worm farms up and running, extra scraps will be placed into our school’s compost bin.

For more information on how to create your own worm farm, composting or mulching at home please visit: http://recyclingnearyou.com.au/compost/BoroondaraVIC.

PE/SPORT NEWS

TAEKWONDO AT GLEN IRIS PRIMARY

We are now taking bookings for Term 3 for our ongoing Monday lunchtime program. For more information email schooltaekwondo@gmail.com.au

Exciting news two of the GIPS Taekwondo Instructors recently won the Australian Taekwondo titles in Perth. They will be representing Australia at the Oceania Championships - Caroline Marton (Centre) and Jack Marton (Right).

This national event encourages Primary School children to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment. With a waste reduction focus in our school, it is a fantastic way to help reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles.
Searching for past students.
Do you know someone who attended Glen Iris Primary School? Please collect a postcard from the Office to give them.
Could you drop off a bundle of twenty to a local shop, community group, kinder, elderly citizens etc? Please collect a bundle from the Office and note the group in our 150th folder (just so the same organisation doesn't receive 3 or 4 bundles!)

A glimpse of the past ...
In 1936 our School Committee and Mothers’ Club was active in seeking better conditions for our students when numbers grew so fast that students had to sit three to a desk! The Argus reported:

'The Minister for Education (Dr. Harris) will inspect the Glen Iris State school and district to decide for himself between conflicting reports he has received from officers of the Education Department and a deputation from the school committee and mothers’ club which he received yesterday.

Introduced by Mr. Oldham, M.L.A., the chairman of the school committee (Mr. J. Prowse) said that accommodation was needed for 150 more children, in addition to the 400 now attending the school. There had been some talk of putting an extra class into a church near the school, but the building was 75 years old, and not fit to house the children all day. Another suggestion was that some of the children should attend the Ashburton school, which had plenty of accommodation, but mothers did not want to send young children more than a mile away and over a railway line when there was a school near their homes.

Dr. Harris said that information he had from the department differed with that put before him, and he would inspect the district himself. In his opinion children were quite capable of taking care of themselves over a mile walk and a suburban railway crossing. He had himself walked three miles to school every day.' (Dec 3)

If you have a reminiscence about Glen Iris please send it to Robyn Floyd.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS
If during the day you need to advise the school of your child’s pickup arrangements, please ring the school office at all times. Please do not send this information via email as we cannot guarantee this will always be seen by the office staff or teacher before the afternoon dismissal, and we want the children to be safe and accounted for at all times.

FOOTY CARD TRADING
FOOTY CARD CLUB begins Wednesday 4th June. Students at Glen Iris Primary School have the opportunity to join in a supervised lunchtime club that allows students to trade collectible cards. Guidance will be given to students to ensure, as far as possible, trades are fair and equitable and support will be given to students to develop good strategies for negotiation and fair play. The program will be expanded to include Preps and Year 1s. Students who chose to join this lunchtime club do so with the understanding that trades agreed upon in the session cannot be disputed once outside the group.
Tuesday 20th May – ‘BE A PREP’ for a morning 9.15-10.15am. Fully Booked

Wednesday 21st May National Simultaneous Reading Session 11.10am.
We are all reading ‘Too Many Elephants in This House.’

National Simultaneous Storytime is an important annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Now in its 14th successful year it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy using an Australian children's book that explores age appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Grades F to 6 and the pre-school Early Learning Years Framework.

Family Learning Night 6-7pm. This year parents and friends are invited to join their children to explore literacy activities with a focus on writing and spelling throughout the school. Our special event this year will be parents from our community with links to the writing world: Andrew Cunningham will talk about editing and publishing and Kelly Mrocki about publishing her picture story book.

Thursday 22nd May – Open Day Tours – Are you interested in being a tour guide and showing prospective parents of Glen Iris students our school with students from the Promotions Team. If so please return the slip on the notice sent home yesterday. This notice is also requesting offers of help by providing a small plate of food for the morning afternoon teas or to serve tea and coffee.

Friday 23rd May – Walk-a-thon (No Assembly on this day)
2.00pm Preps - Grade 3
2.30pm Grade 4 - Grade 6
Organised by the Parents Association. Volunteers are needed for this event.

Monday 26th May - Preps 2015 Information Night. 7.00pm-8.00pm
Hospitality on the night is organised by Robyn Challis. Again a notice was sent home yesterday asking if anyone can assist on the evening. Please return the form if you are able to help.

Robyn Floyd - Assistant Principal

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

Just a reminder all volunteers who work in our school with our children must have current Working with Children Checks as indicated in the policy approved by School Council.
The policy and further information is located on our website.
We have had some situations of parents turning up without these checks and unfortunately being unable to partake in rostered classroom or playground activities, sporting events or excursions.

Prep 2015 Information Evening
Monday 26th May 7pm-8pm
For further information including about our:
“Story Time” @ GIPS &
“TAKE OFF” Transition
See gips.vic.edu.au or contact the school on 9885 3624
Dear GIPS Parents,

Autumn’s pleasant greetings to all members of the GIPS community.

Just a timely reminder that the student Walkathon, traditionally one of our best and most popular annual fundraisers, is scheduled for this Friday at the school. We are optimistic that the recent run of unseasonably good weather will continue for the remainder of the week.

Donna Polkinghorne and Vanessa Mackie have worked very hard over the past few weeks to ensure that the Walkathon is another success for our students, families, staff... and, of course, the school, itself. On behalf of GIPS, we at the Parents’ Association thank them for their efforts and those of everyone else who have volunteered their time to help us organize and run this event.

Also, please note that our next Special Lunch is scheduled for 24th June. Needless to say, notices will be sent out closer to the day, but for now we thought you might like to mark your calendars to ensure that your children don’t miss out.

Meanwhile, preparations for our main event of 2014, the Student Art Auction, are progressing well at this stage. Michele Freeland-Small has been instrumental in conceptualizing the event and no less so in the creative involvement of our children. More details on this to follow in future announcements.

As always, we welcome all comments and offers to help. The next Parents’ Association meeting is scheduled for Monday, 2nd June at 7:30pm in the Staff Room, so please join us if you would like to be directly involved.

Kind regards to you and your families,

Alex Goldhagen,
President

CALLING ALL GIPs DADS did you know we had an over 35 AFL9s Footy Team.

Yes, the mighty VIKINGS are three games in to the autumn season and are struggling for numbers. As the name suggests we need at least 9 players. We currently have a committed 6 core players with some emergencies.

Roaring 40s AFL9s gets dads from primary schools together to enjoy a social kick of the footy while getting to know each other in a friendly atmosphere. No previous experience necessary.

What is AFL 9s
AFL 9s is a free-flowing game that involves 9 players on each team playing on a smaller field. Best of all, it can be played in teams of mixed or single gender ‘touch football’ with no tackling or bumping, making it suitable for people of any age or skill level. AFL 9s allows all forms of participants the opportunity to play AFL Football, regardless of previous experience or skill level.

There is no better way to get involved and meet other GIPs school dads than playing 9s.....so go on have a go and contact

Hamish Marshall at hmarshall@exoserv.com.au
Or
Stuart Mackie at r40s@bigpond.com

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

CELEBRATE Men’s Health Week
On Thursday June 12th
Between 12.30 - 2 pm
with
A Blokes Barbie

Enjoy good food, have a chat and a cuppa, come away with some great cooking ideas! All for FREE

Please book a seat on 9885 9401

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre
49 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, 3147
Opposite Alamein Railway Station

www.psw.com.au - save time, shop online!
Coughs, Colds and Asthma

Coughs, colds and the flu are one of the most common triggers of asthma. The common cold is caused by an upper respiratory tract infection and is a common illness for children and adults in Australia. As we approach the colder months, here are some tips to keep in mind to prevent and reduce the spread of coughs, colds and the flu:

- Avoid coughing and sneezing on or near others and wash your hands thoroughly to prevent the spread of disease.
- If your child is not feeling well, it is recommended that they stay home and rest, to reduce the spread of infections and to speed up their recovery process.
- Everyone should have the annual flu vaccination to ensure they are protected from this disease. You or your child may be eligible for the free flu vaccination. Details about who is eligible can be found here and can also be determined by your doctor.
- Prior to purchasing any medications or herbal and natural remedies, you should seek the advice of your doctor or pharmacist as some medications can react with asthma medications. Such as Aspirin, Ibuprofen/Naproxen (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications), Beta Blockers tablet and eye drops (used for high blood pressure and glaucoma), and ACE inhibitors (used to control blood pressure).

Stay warm this winter!

For more information, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462

Parent and Carer Asthma Information Sessions

The Asthma Foundation of Victoria is funded by the Federal Department of Health to provide free asthma education sessions to groups of parents and carers. These sessions can take place at the school or at a location of your choice. The session runs for approximately one hour and covers:

- Asthma triggers
- Signs and symptoms
- Asthma action plans
- Asthma medication
- Asthma First Aid

If you are interested in attending a parent and carer asthma information session, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria to arrange a session on 1800-ASTHMA or sdoherty@asthma.org.au

For more information, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or www.asthma.org.au
OPEN DAY
Fordham Avenue Kinder

SAT 24th May 2014
10.30am-12.30pm

Sausage Sizzle
Play Activities

enrich-communicate-nurture-feel-valued-confident-safe-happy.

AUD (03) 9836 9341
Cnr Fordham & Bringa Ave
Camberwell 3124
www.fordhamavekinder.org.au

CHILD CARE

OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE
We offer a safe and friendly environment where children can learn, play, create and explore at our wonderful Child Care Centre.

Hawthorn Community House
Child Care is located on William Street at Central Gardens.

Monday – Thursday
9 am – 3 pm
$45/session.

For bookings and Enquiries please phone 9819 2629.

CHILDREN’S FUN

MESSY PLAY!
Fantastic, fun, messy activities for pre-schoolers run by a fantastic teacher with a different creative theme every week. An excellent before school pickup activity!
Mon Apr 28, 1.30pm - 2.30pm. $92 per term (8 weeks).

BOLLYWOOD DANCING FOR KIDS
A fun, expressive form of dancing class for children 5 years and over.
Mon Apr 28, 4.30pm-5.30pm. $90 per term (8 weeks).

HAWTHORN PLAYCIRCLE
Fun and organic messy play activities for children 6-5yrs
with parents/carers.
Fri May 2, 9am-10.30am. $30 per term (9 weeks).

MOTHER’S GROUP & SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
Please phone 9819 2629 for enquiries.

LITTLE ST. MARGARET’S
AN ADVENTURE IN EDUCATION

85th YEAR CELEBRATIONS
Please join us and enjoy the celebrations at an Afternoon Tea Party for past students from 1920s – 1970s
Friday 30th May, 2-4pm
at Little St Margaret’s Kindergarten

Special Guest Ms Kelly O’Dwyer MP

RSVP events@littlesmargarets.com.au
or call 9822 7106 by 21st May

HAWTHORN COMMUNITY HOUSE

32 Henry Street, Hawthorn 3122
Ph: 9819 2629
W: www.hch.org.au
F: Follow us on Facebook

Summerhill Park Kindergarten

OPEN DAY
Saturday 24th May 10am – 1pm
46 Audrey Cres, Glen Iris
Come & explore, easy fun activities, meet our staff & view our programs
www.summerhillparkkindergarten.org.au
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.

BULLYING:
Prevention and coping skills for children and their parents

Examination of 23 prevention skills and 10 coping skills to empower you and your children

Wednesday 4 June at 7.30pm—9.00pm

Location: Rosstrevor Hall, Brighton Grammar Old Middle School, entrance off Allee St, opposite the new Middle School and the Girrawheen Chapel

Presenter: Melissa Anderson—Director of SHINE Academy for Girls and LONGFORD & FRASER for boys, resilience coach, counsellor, pharmacist

Cost: Nil. A gold coin donation to a selected charity is warmly welcomed

Bookings: 9592 4948