Dear Parents

Last week was a week of special events at Glen Iris. Some of these events are outlined below.

**French / Art Parent Workshop**

Everything “ooh – la –la” was happening in the Art Room on Wednesday. Our specialist team invited interested parents to join them for a taste of the kinds of activities the children are involved in during specialist lessons. Approximately thirty parents learnt some French vocabulary and contributed to a ceramic artwork whilst enjoying a café au lait and some French goodies. Thanks to our specialist team: Michele Freeland Small (Art), Laurence Barre (French), Bianca Deckert (Performing Arts), Kathy Jacobs (Integration), Robyn Challis (Reading Recovery) and Robyn Floyd for their efforts in presenting this occasion.

**Grade Ones Step Back in Time**

Last Friday I accompanied our Grade One classes on their excursion to “Ripponlea” as part of the unit on “The Olden Days”. It was a pleasure to spend the day with such a friendly and engaged group as the children explored the mansion, gardens and lifestyle of long ago. Maybe I was there as another exhibit of the olden days?

**Grade 5/6 Camp**

Last week saw our Grade 5/6 classes head off to Camp Coonawarra in East Gippsland for the week. Accompanied by teachers Melissa Costa, Danniel Smith, Kate Wipfli, Nikki Szwarcbard, Amy Kocpiewicz and Natasha Williams and parents Frank Tudic, Craig Bowman, James Tomlinson, James Pangrazio, Neil Scott and Matt Weaver. The children were provided with an exciting program of personal and team challenges. In speaking to the students this week, it has impressed on me the value of our camping program. In one classroom, virtually every student indicated that they had tried something they had never done before. For some it was horse riding – a very popular activity – whilst for others it was canoeing, raft building, the flying fox, the giant swing or the high ropes course. A very big thank you to the teachers and parents who attended the camp and enabled the children to make the most of this opportunity.

**State Schools Spectacular**

Throughout Semester One, 29 students from Grades 3 and 4 have been preparing to perform as part of the massed choir in the State Schools Spectacular. On Saturday, I attended their performance at Hisense Arena along with almost 3,000 other primary and secondary students from across the State. The three hour show incorporated singers, dancers, musicians, circus performers, acrobats, gymnasts, cheerleaders and roller skaters all of whom attend government schools. What a truly spectacular show it was!
was amazed and moved by the performances of all the participants. I am delighted that students from Glen Iris had the opportunity to be part of a professional show with a full complement of sound, lighting, special effects and direction. I am reliably informed there was twice as much lighting in the “Spectacular” as was used at the recent Pink concert. Congratulations to the children from our school for their wonderful performances after a lengthy and complicated preparation. Thank you to the families who supported their child’s involvement in the choir and assisted the group in many ways. A huge acknowledgement must also go our Performing Arts Coordinator, Bianca Deckert and instrumental teacher, Emily Watson, for their organisation, preparation and supervision of the choir. Well done everyone!

Curriculum Day
A reminder to parents that Monday 12 August is a Curriculum Day for our school. Teachers will participate in professional learning on Maths and Spelling. Children do not attend school on this day.

Foundation/Prep 2014
Soon it will be time to start making plans for our school for next year. To assist with planning, families intending to enrol a child to commence in Foundation or any other grade level at Glen Iris Primary School for 2014 are asked to complete an enrolment form and forward it with the relevant documents to the School Office. Enrolment forms are available from the website or at the Office. Parents who wish to discuss their child's school commencement are welcome to make an appointment to meet with me. If you have neighbours or friends wishing to enrol children next year, please bring this to their attention. Boroondara schools request enrolments be received by August 31, 2013

Yours Sincerely
Meredith Carracher

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Cybersafety Information Night
Wednesday 28 AUGUST 6.30 pm

ThinkUKnow is an internet safety initiative which aims to raise awareness of the issues which young people face online and whilst using mobile phones. It is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Microsoft Australia, and is now proudly supported by ninemsn and Datacom. Our school will be hosting a ThinkUKNow presentation on Wednesday 28 August and all parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend. This presentation will cover topics such as how young people are using technology to have fun, online grooming, cyber-bullying, inappropriate content and e-security.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about how young people have fun online, how you can help them to stay in control on the net, and how to report a problem. For more information, you can visit the ThinkUKnow Australia website at: www.thinkuknow.org.au

Mick Garrett who presented two years ago has agreed to return after strong positive response last time – and with the speed of change in cyberspace he will share new information that I’m sure we will all find useful. We look forward to seeing you all at the presentation.

Robyn Floyd

BAKE-CAKE DRIVE
WEDNESDAY 7 AUGUST 2013

to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy Research

The Community Action Team (Sales for Research) have decided to raise funds for this wonderful cause by selling homemade cakes. We will be visiting grades with our cake trolley at morning recess and before lunch to sell to all year 3s to 6s for a gold coin donation. There will be cakes available for those students with food allergies. More information soon. Any cakes unsold may be purchased by parents after school. We have a number of students with food allergies so it is important all ingredients used are listed.

Thanks on behalf of the team, Angus W (5/6S)

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The closing date for applications is 2 August 2013. For more information go to the Notices tab on the School’s website and click on EMA.
Whilst the ‘happy campers’ were out of town, many parents participated in a fun filled workshop exploring clay and speaking in French!
During Education Week, the students made hundreds of clay olive leaves that have since been glazed and fired in the kiln…a trunk was required!
So the task began, design and build an olive tree using clay. Challenging somewhat, as Laurence also gave instructions in French to see who was concentrating!
We all enjoyed the tasty olive breads, cheeses and croissants along with the amazing fresh coffee, served by our barista Bianca!
Here are some snapshots taken by photographer, Kathy.
The job is not complete so a return visit would be great.

Many thanks,
Michele Freeland-Small
Friends of the Library (FOTL) 2nd Hand Book Stall

FOTL are now collecting book donations for our 2nd Hand Book Stall which will be one of many GIPS stalls at our school Twilight Market in November. Suitable fiction and non fiction books for adults or children would be appreciated. No text books or magazines please. Any unsold items after the event will be donated to charity. Members of our school community will be purchasing these items therefore we ask you only donate books of good quality and appropriate content. Books you would be happy to see your friends or your child’s friends purchase. Over the months ahead if you plan to declutter book shelves... please keep FOTL in mind by placing excess books into a box to leave at the library. An area outside the library is designated for leaving your box of books (look for the sign). Please drop boxes off prior to 9am.

Any questions, queries or offers of assistance can be directed to: Vivienne Eager (russ.ches@bigpond.com) or Julie Gray jsgathome@gmail.com on behalf of GIPS Friends of the Library.

Thank you!

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Friends of the Library (FOTL)

FOTL’s August meeting is next Monday: 9am 5th August, meet at the library.

Siblings are welcome and parents are invited to attend for any length of time which suits your individual schedules. The meeting is facilitated by GIPS staff and includes updates on library purchases, activities, general discussion and feedback on library use and facilities. Please let me know if you will be able to attend, as a suitable meeting area will be arranged for the expected numbers.

Julie Gray
0411 110 537
jsgathome@gmail.com

This week is National Literacy and Numeracy Week!

National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW) is run by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. NLNW represents a collaborative approach by all Governments and school communities to highlight the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for all children and young people, with a focus on school-aged children. NLNW gives schools the opportunity to get involved in a range of literacy and numeracy activities. The Week aims to recognise locally the achievements of students and the work of teachers, parents and members of the community who support young people to develop stronger literacy and numeracy skills.

During NLNW, students at Glen Iris Primary School will be exploring a Graeme Base story during GALAXY. We will be holding a ‘No Pens Wednesday’ during our morning block from 9.00am to 10.40am, Wednesday 31 July, and participating in a mass simultaneous read of the Read for Australia selected book. The book selected for Read for Australia in 2013 is Herman and Rosie by Gus Gordon. Set in New York, it is about friendship, music and following your dreams.

A range of exciting numeracy activities will be happening around the school.

For more information see http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

Thanks, Emily Burgess

Glen Iris Primary School
**Knitting Club**
We are in need of helpers for our Term 3 Lunchtime Knitting Club. If you are able to knit/crochet and able to help with a small group of children on a Tuesday from 1-1:50pm please let the office know ASAP. I am hoping to start this program in week 5 however, it won’t be able to run unless I have some adult helpers. You do not need to have advanced skills. We are only teaching the basics of casting on, knit stitch and casting off.
Any helpers are also required to have a Working With Children’s Check so please make sure you have one and have shown the office before volunteering.
Thank you,
Natasha Williams

**INVITATION**
A Morning Tea is being held between 9am - 10am on Friday 9 August in the Multi-purpose Room for parents/carers/grandparents of children with a disability.
For more information contact Josanne Joseph - josanne.joseph@optusnet.com.au

The following information sessions may be of interest to some families:
- **The Hidden Disability: Discovering Aspergers** Saturday 3 August, 2pm at StMark’s Uniting Church, corner Burton & Edwards Sts, Chadstone. All welcome (no charge). For more information ph. 9807 4430
- **Dr.Wendy Lawson. The Passionate Mind - How People with Autism Learn** Wednesday 31 July, South Croydon Anglican Church, 199 Bayswater Rd, Bayswater, 7.00 - 9.00pm, cost $50, bookings - 9720 1118

**COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD**
Now in a new format, you will find the new expanded Noticeboard under the News tab.

**TODAY’S NOTICES**
- Father’s Day Breakfast (blue, eldest, reply slip)

**Buildings and Environment, and Friends of the Library Working Bee**
Our third term working bee is upon us, and is scheduled for:

**Saturday 3 August**
**12.30 to 3.30pm**
This is a combined “Buildings and Grounds” and “Friends of the Library” working bee.

Please come along and help out the school.
A sausage sizzle will be fired up from about 3pm.
Children are always welcome.

Our tasks this time round include:
- **Library** - the Friends of the Library will be organising the school’s book collection
- **General grounds keeping** - Cleaning up litter, collecting leaf litter, cleaning drains, sweeping and putting in fresh sand, cleaning the oval, raking wood chip under play areas.
- **Gardening** - Weeding, transporting some apple trees to a new home
- **Disposing of old furniture** - We have a lot of old furniture that will need to be removed from under the school, sorted and where necessary, put in a skip.

So please bring your gardening gloves, garden broom and work boots and pray for sunshine!

Regards
Illas Mastoris