From The Principal

We have recently completed our School Council nominations and poll for new members. I would like to officially announce the following members for 2013.

PARENT REPS
Mrs Meredith Dahlsen
Mr Anthony Moore
Mr Illias Mastoris
Mr Ivan Mellado
Mr Jack Risos
Ms Trish Burrows
Ms Irene Bruman
Mr Peter Holmes

DEECD Reps
Mrs Jenni De Villa (DEECD Rep)
Miss Mary-Anne Jansen
Miss Megan Cofield
Mrs Robyn Floyd
Mrs Carolyn Macaulay

I would like to thank Ms Fi Harrison and Mr Gary Bennett for their contribution over the last two years. This evening we will be holding our General Meeting where Office Bearers will be elected.

The invasion of the Soldier Beetle
We currently seem to be pestered by flying creatures around our gazebo. We have consulted with our pest exterminator and they have identified them as Soldier Beetles. We have been advised that they don’t bite, don’t eat timber, are seasonal and therefore will move on. Several children have indicated some concern over these pests; please re-assure them that although they are annoying they are not harmful.

Library Display
Mrs Floyd and I have enjoyed working with every grade over the last week decorating a template shaped as a person. Each grade level was provided with two colours only to use. This has resulted in a beautiful display in the Library, with every child...
contributing. Please make sure you pop in and see it. Thank you to Mrs Freeland-Small and Mrs Kate Van der Jagt for helping with the idea, resourcing and display.

Next Edition
The next Principal report will be written by Ms Maclarn who will be in the Principal chair whilst Mrs Floyd and I will be enjoying a holiday. Mrs Floyd in New Zealand, and my family cruising on the Voyager of the Sea. Mrs Floyd will return on Monday 25 March and I will be back on the 27th.

Regards,
Carolyn Macaulay,
Acting Principal

From the Assistant Principal:
Curriculum Issues

KEEP READING TO, AND WITH, YOUR CHILD: PROOF OF BENEFITS

Following the example of a teacher friend I continued reading to my children even after they could read for themselves, choosing to read books that were beyond their capacity to read alone in order to develop vocabulary and introduce them to literature they may not choose to explore. I continued to read to Kellie weekly even when in year 7, books like *Anne of Green Gables* and *Seven Little Australians* (definitely not on her ‘list’) and enjoyed my re-reading as much as she did.

This week while enjoying my morning wake-up coffee I was interested to read an article in *The Age* about research funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development by Professor Guyonne Kalb that confirmed what we already know: the more children are read to from an early age, the greater the positive effect on their reading and thinking skills.

This was a longitudinal study that followed the reading skills of more than 4000 children, aged four to five years in 2004, through to age 10 to 11 and the results show that

- Children four to five years old who are read to three to five times a week have the same reading ability as children six months older (who are read to only twice or less a week).
- Reading to children six to seven days a week puts them almost a year ahead of those who are not being read to. It was also found that reading to small children has a positive effect on the development of numeracy skills.

Perhaps a holiday project might be to find a book that the whole family can ‘listen’ to. I’d love to hear about your family literature adventures!

Robyn Floyd

SCHOOL WORKING BEE

Don’t forget!
The First Term (Autumn) School Working Bee will be held on:

**Saturday 16 March**
**12.30pm to 3.30pm**

GIPS needs you to help with grounds-keeping, gardening and other maintenance activities. Families that have not contributed to the Working Bee Levy are encouraged to participate.

A sausage sizzle will be provided and children are always welcome.

If you are interested in participating and have not yet nominated yourself, please contact:
Ilias Mastoris
ilias.mastoris@pc.gov.au

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
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 1PM TUESDAY
Dear Parents and Students,

As you may have heard, 5/6K is creating an amazing Media Studio. We’ve already got a green screen and some cool microphones. We’ve got more equipment to come, such as big lights and an Apple Mac. Royden Daniel was very generous and gave up his time to paint our green screen. To make it work we need block-out blinds. We are wondering if there is anyone who can help us by sewing the curtains. You need to have your own sewing machine but we will provide material. If you can help, please have a chat to Miss Kopciewicz.

Jessica and Matthew (5/6K)

Thanks to my dad. Without him, we wouldn’t have a green screen!! Jessica 5/6K

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**A REQUEST FROM THE PROMOTIONS TEAM**

Dear parents and students,

The Promotions team is organising clothes donations throughout Term 1. The charities that we are donating the clothes to are the RSPCA and the Caroline Chisholm Society. So we would like you to donate your unwanted clothes. Please make sure that they are wearable and don’t have any holes. We will be collecting baby and toddler clothes for the Caroline Chisholm Society and any type of clothes, blankets or scarves for the RSPCA. All of the items have to be in by the end of Term 1 (Thursday 28 March, 2013). They also have to be clean. There will be a basket in each classroom for baby and toddler clothes and a separate basket for scarves, blankets and clothes for any age.

Thank you,

The Promotions Team

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**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

Glen Iris Primary School will, once again, be participating in the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge in 2013. This challenge will be open to all GIPS students. If your child would like to register to be a part of this challenge, you will need to fill out the consent form (on the GIPS website) and return it to me by Wednesday 20 March, at the very latest. Forms handed in after this date will not be accepted.

If you would like more information on the Challenge, please go on to www.education.vic.gov.au/prc or see me.

Kate Van der Jagt

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**TODAY’S NOTICES**

- Premier’s Reading Challenge (eldest, pink)
Hello GIPS Community!

Wow! How time flies! We are now in the month of March. It is so surreal. I am sure I celebrated New Year's Day not so long ago.

There has been a flurry of activity at the Parents Association as we plan the wine and cheese night. We have been truly amazed by the generous donation of lovely wines from the Brown Brothers Family. Thank you to Rachel Estlin for helping us out with that. We are truly grateful.

Well, we look forward to meeting you in person at the Wine and Cheese night. There is so much for us to share with you - the school vision, introduction to the GIPS School Council and the Parents’ Association, and of course, the chance to meet with the other parents. Here's your chance to find out more about the school and its community and the ways you can be involved.

See you all there! If you haven't yet filled in the form or submitted your interest online, please do so, so that we know how many to cater for. Come along and join in the fun!

Till then,  
Sene-Li Wong

FootyTipping

The GIPS Parents' Association invites everyone in our school community to join the 2013 AFL Footy Tipping competition.

We are offering great prizes this year for all students, parents, staff and friends of GIPS. All proceeds will be used for the school.

Please check the Footy Tipping link on our website to join. Registration opens on Friday 8 March. The first match is March 22 so be sure to get in early!

Alex Goldhagen  
gipsfooty@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

2013 TERM DATES

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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>15 April to 28 June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>15 July to 20 September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>7 October to 20 December</td>
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2014 TERM DATES

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<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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