Dear Parents,

Already Term 1 has flown by in a flurry of school commencement and special activities: Welcome Picnics, Information Nights, Parent/Teacher Interviews, excursions and much more.

**Opening of the Garden**

On Monday 4 April, we officially opened our landscape garden project, undertaken in 2009 and early 2010, with a special assembly. This work was made possible by a grant from the Federal Government as part of the National School Pride Program. Our grades assembled on the oval, each child resplendent with a specially made flower. Our invited guests included Fiona Hurse (Botanical Traditions Landscape Architects), Barbara McKinnon (School Council coordinator of the project) and members of the family of Nick Collaris, our former School Crossing supervisor – Lorraine, Anthony and Claire Gioules, and Arthur and Michael Collaris. School Council, in seeking a fitting tribute to Nick, have decided to name the orchard section of the garden in his memory. A plaque will soon be in place in memory of Nick. Thanks to the parents who attended for helping make the assembly a memorable occasion.

**Working Bee Thanks**

Last Sunday 3 April, in preparation for the Garden Opening, a very successful working bee was conducted. Industrious parents swept, cleaned, weeded and cleared many areas of the school making sure we were spruced up and looking our best for Monday. Thank you to Barbara McKinnon for her organisation and all the parents who assisted at the working bee.

**Best Wishes Sarah and Simon**

I am sure you will all join with me in offering our best wishes to one of our Grade 3 teachers, Miss Sarah John and her fiancé, Simon Hunting, for their wedding day on Sunday 10 April. We hope you have a wonderful day and a long and happy life together ahead.

**Get Well Soon, Jill.**

Parents will be sorry to hear that one of our instrumental teachers, Mrs. Jill Schofield, is unwell and will be unable to teach her lessons in Term 2. Jill has been diagnosed with leukaemia and is...
receiving treatment. We expect Jill back at school, fit and healthy, later in the year. In the mean time, Jill’s lessons will be conducted by Miss Emma Watson.

Acorns
We are currently managing our annual acorn “flood” that is an issue at this time of the year. The school has purchased a special piece of equipment that easily sweeps the acorns from the ground. To be effective, the sweeping needs to be done as often as possible; even daily at this time of the year. If there are any parents willing to spend a few minutes at the beginning or end of the day operating the “acorn sweeper” – non mechanised device, we would be most appreciative. Please see the Office for the equipment.

Enrolment 2011
Local families intending to enrol children for Prep or other grade levels at Glen Iris Primary School in 2012 are encouraged to make these arrangements as soon as possible. Enrolment forms are available from the Office or website. If you wish to discuss your child’s enrolment for 2012, you are welcome to contact the Office to make an appointment. Early enrolment will ensure your child’s place and assist the school with staffing and arrangements for the 2012 school year.

Ashburton Community Fun Day
On Sunday 10 April, the Ashburton Community Fun Day will be held at Markham Reserve in Ashburton. On this day, Grade 5 and 6 children will have the opportunity to participate in a Guinness Book of Records World Record Attempt at Tunnel Ball on the day, if they wish. Children interested in joining in the fun should return the notice to the school office, or take it with them on the day.

See You In Term 3
At the end of term, I am saying a temporary “good bye” to all at Glen Iris as I take Long Service Leave for Term 2. Thank you to the many people who have offered me loads of advice on things to do on my travels. I think I now know where all the best cafes, restaurants and interesting sights are in both Italy and France. I will miss Glen Iris and will look forward to seeing you all again back at school in Term 3.

Yours Sincerely

SRC FREE DRESS DAY
All students are invited to wear casual clothes, crazy hair and/or odd socks on Friday. Donation is a gold coin which will go to the Australian Red Cross for flood and earthquake relief. No coloured hairsprays but interesting braiding, gel and hair ornaments encouraged.

ANZAC Day badges are on sale at recess this week outside the library.

READING CHALLENGE
All students who have returned permission forms should have received their username and password. Most usernames and password remain the same as last year. Parents and students can log on and add books read immediately. Parents without computer/internet access should speak to Rachel or Robyn about alternatives. More information, including reading lists, is available on the school website.

Robyn Floyd and Rachel Pitson
**Mother’s Day Lunch**
Tickets are selling fast for our Mother’s Day Lunch at Undertaker in Hawthorn on Friday 6 May. Ticket price includes shared entrées, main course and a glass of wine on arrival. You will also of course be helping our fundraising efforts for this year. We hope to make this event a GIPS tradition so grab a few friends and come and join us (you don’t need to make up a table). If any local businesses have suitable prizes they wish to donate for our raffle on the day (facial vouchers, clothing vouchers etc) please contact me and we will ensure your business is suitably acknowledged on our website and to all attending.

**Note Tote**
All forms back by this Friday please (end of term). $7 from the price of each Note Tote comes back to the school so please support this terrific fundraiser. Forms are available on the school website if you need another copy.

Thank you for your support of Parents’ Association in Term 1, it has certainly flown by! Some of the social and fundraising activities PA has organized this term include: the Welcome BBQ for Prep families, Special Lunch, the Bunnings BBQ, Ashburton Festival Fairy Floss Stall and Book Club! Phew!

Enjoy your break everybody and have a great Easter,

**Carolyn Currie**
President, Parents’ Association, Tel: 0438 898 904, carolyncurrie@optusnet.com.au

**FUNDRAISING**
Exciting news, the Parents’ Association will be selling the 2011/2012 Entertainment Book as another vital fundraiser for the school. Each book sold will give $13 back to the school so start taking orders from friends and relatives.

**YARD DUTY**
Thank you to everyone who volunteered in Term 1, it was a great response! A notice is being sent home today for Term 2, 2011. Please try to find a spare lunchtime, as your children would love to see you, and you will be helping to make a safer playground for everyone.

**Justine Moore** 9889 9547
On behalf of Parents’ Association

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**WORKING BEE REPORT**
Our autumn clean up was a great success. Paths were swept, sand put back in the sandpit, weeds evicted, rubbish collected, garden beds tidied and pruned, the turf refreshed, leaves blown away, the breezeway cleaned, the shed completely cleaned out, the arbour repaired, the drains cleared and paving stones reconcreted. Look at the results!

Our heartfelt thanks to our hard-working helpers: Martin Prince, Debbie Pratt, Jason Davenport, Hamish Macneill, Francis Catterall, Mark Xerri, James Tomlinson, Paul Downes, Andrew Howes, Andrea Itowski, Ravit Tidhar, Jacqui Brown, Tetsu Yamada, Anthony Moore, Emma Plowright, Robert Meachem, Liz Cox, Steven Bell, Peter Wells, Jason Kwong, Meredith Carracher and Robyn Floyd.

**Barbara McKinnon**
Buildings and Environment Committee
Glen Iris Primary School thanks our sponsors for their support.

2011 TERM DATES

Term 1  4 February to 8 April
Term 2  27 April to 1 July
Term 3  18 July to 23 September
Term 4  10 October to 22 December

2012 TERM DATES

Term 1  1 February to 30 March
Term 2  16 April to 29 June
Term 3  16 July to 21 September
Term 4  8 October to 21 December

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Copies of this information are available at the office:

- Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre Term 2 classes - zumba, fit ball, French, computer and many more. Ph.9885 9401 or visit the www.alameinnlc.com.au
- For parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder - 6 week courses provided through the City of Boroondara and ABIA. For more information contact ABIA on 9830 0677 or email info@abia.net.au
- Free home-based program designed to increase your child’s activity levels for parents of children aged 10 - 12 yrs. To register your interest, please contact Helen Brown Deakin University Ph. 9244 6327 or email h.brown@deakin.edu.au
- Children’s Sustainable Art and Craft Activities at the Abbotsford Convent over the School Holidays - bush jewellery, recycled paper making, bee’s wax candle making and more. Bookings need to be made a week in advance ph. 0417 927 407.
- Guide Dogs Victoria’s Biggest Dog Wash - Sunday 10 April, 9am - 4pm at Flemington Racecourse. Details at: www.guidedogs.victoria.com.au
- Grasshopper Soccer - for children aged 2 to 12 yrs. Eight week soccer programs. Free Fun Days during May. Ph. 1300 520 720 or visit www.grasshoppersoccer.com.au
- Art'scool for Kids - Art Classes for Children with Ms Terry Taylor - Term 1 Holiday Program and Term 2 Art Program Ph. 9885 1195
- Crazy Feet Dance Studio - new classes in Term 2 for Preps and Kinder students. Ph.9808 3100 or visit www.crazyfeetdance.com.au
- CSIRO’s Double Helix Holiday Science Activities at Kew - workshops for children aged btwn 5 & 13. Book early online at: www.csiro.au/events/VicHolidayPrograms.html or phone to have a booking form sent to you 9252 6387
- School Holiday Fun at St. John’s Church - Play Skills at St. John’s - sewing, food art, woodwork during the second week of the holidays. Visit www.playskills.com.au or ph. 0434 513 606

NOTE: Advertisements are placed according to relevance and interest to the school community and are not a reflection of the school’s interest or beliefs.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property is brimming over with unmarked or illegibly marked clothing. If you have been looking for uniform items please check the lost property basket located under the stairs near Grade 5/6B. Eventually these clothes are laundered and, if in good condition, sent on to the Second Hand Uniform Shop.

REMINDER

ASHBURTON COMMUNITY FUN DAY
SUNDAY 10 APRIL
10AM - 6PM
Markham Victory Reserve, Ashburton (Melway 60 D/E 12)

TODAY’S NOTICES

- Yard Duty Term 2 (green, eldest, reply slip)
- Mother’s Day Stall Helper Request (pink, eldest, reply slip)
- Icy Poles - Helpers Required (cream, eldest, reply slip)
- Kelly Sports, Term 2 (white, all Prep - Gr.4, send form to Kelly Sports for enrolment)

NOTE: Advertisements are placed according to relevance and interest to the school community and are not a reflection of the school’s interest or beliefs.

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