Dear Parents,
Welcome back to Term 4, 2010. I hope everyone has had a relaxing break from the routines of school.

**Congratulations Thomas 1C**
Special congratulations to Thomas Olsen (1C) on his participation in the AFL celebrations. Thomas was one of 22 children awarded “Auskicker of the Week” during the 2009 season. As part of this, Thomas and the other recipients were guests at a Presentation Dinner; featured in the AFL Parade; attended the Grand Final as guests of the AFL and then presented a Grand Final medallion to one of the Geelong players. Well done, Thomas! I am sure there are many other footy fans of all ages that would have loved to have this experience. The only down side is … Thomas barracks for St. Kilda!

**Interactive Whiteboards (IWB)**
Over the holidays, nine new interactive whiteboards were installed at Glen Iris. Most classrooms now have their own IWB with the infill classrooms sharing one board between two rooms due to space constraints. These purchases have been made possible through the Federal Government National School Pride funding and Parent Association fund raising. Thanks to Robyn Floyd for her efforts in negotiating a competitive deal and overseeing the installation in the holidays. There are now even more opportunities for the children to experience the latest digital learning.

**School, Family and Community Partnerships Leadership Conference**
This month, I am fortunate to be representing the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development at a Leadership Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. The Conference, conducted by the Centre for School, Family and Community Partnerships at John Hopkins University, focuses on the links between strong community partnerships and improved student learning outcomes. The visit will also provide me with opportunities to visit award winning schools in different areas of the States. I will also meet with other educators to discuss the achievements of our respective schools in the area of community partnerships. With Glen Iris’ strong reputation for community involvement, I am sure I will have plenty to offer as well as to learn from this experience. I look forward to sharing information gained on my return.

During my absence, Robyn Floyd will fill the role of Acting Principal and Susie Walton will fill the role of Acting Assistant Principal.

**Staffing News**
I am pleased to announce that Miss Barbara Maclarn and Mrs. Susie Walton have been appointed as Leading Teachers at Glen Iris Primary School with responsibilities for Assessment and Reporting and Differentiated Curriculum respectively.

Mrs Linda Thurmer, Mrs Hazel Dixon and Mrs Margaret Gleadall have all notified me of their intention to retire at the end of the 2009 school year. All three teachers have had long and loyal service to our school contributing to the learning of many students.
Miss Melissa Costa has informed me of her intention to spend 2010 travelling and working overseas. I wish her well for this exciting venture.

**Class Placement 2010**

Shortly, teachers will begin the lengthy process of developing well-balanced classes for optimal learning in 2010. Input from class teachers, parents and children are taken into account in conjunction with learning, social and personality considerations. Parents with particular information they would like to be considered during this process may put their request in writing to me **no later than Friday, November 6**th. Requests may relate to social, family or learning matters. Requests relating to individual teachers will not be considered. If you would like to discuss your request, please feel free to make an appointment to speak with me, or Robyn Floyd in my absence, by Friday, November 6th, to ensure your request can be considered in the timeframe for the class placement process. By following this process, we are best able to meet your request.

**Plans for 2010**

It is already that time of year when our school must make some major decisions regarding our operation for 2010. Families can assist us with these important decisions by letting us know if they will not return to Glen Iris in 2010. If your child will not return to GIPS in 2010, please notify the Office in writing by the end of term.

**New Crossing Supervisor**

Boroondara Council have appointed a new Crossing Supervisor to the Glen Iris Road crossing. His name is Andrew Kot. Andrew was welcomed and introduced to the children at assembly on Monday 14 September. I am sure he will receive a warm Glen Iris welcome from us all. Thank you to the parents and staff who kindly assisted supervising the crossing whilst we awaited Andrew’s appointment.

**Working Bee Thank You**

Last term an intrepid group of parents led by Barbara McKinnon again worked tirelessly on Sunday 13 September. The whole school community gratefully acknowledges their efforts and thanks them for giving up there valuable time to help maintain and beautify our grounds.

Regards

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**FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S DESK**

It's not every week you walk into your classroom and find an exciting teaching and learning tool has arrived over the holidays! Parents who visited classrooms this week will have noticed that all classrooms in the Main and Prep/1 Library Buildings have Interactive Whiteboards. Rather than a 'one size fits all' installation of our IWBS, they have been designed to complement our teaching and learning program and the needs of students in each level so you'll find that in the:

- **Level 4** area we have smaller boards fitting snugly above the fireplaces and up to 2100 mm from the ground
- **Year 4** area, the boards are placed strategically at the side and rear of the classrooms to enable their use for group work away from the main teaching area
- **Prep and IC** classrooms the boards are mobile and motorised and so low that preps can reach the full board
- **Infill classrooms**, there is one IWB between each two classrooms

**Make Us Your Homepage**


Those who have the school website as their homepage will have noticed the animated graphics that change regularly. The most recent ones have been created by our Liz Devenish. This week we have an IWB with our name appearing. If you missed the Cheshire Cat in Geelong colours that appeared after the final... perhaps it'll be back next year.

Statistics on Webpage downloads:

- Last month our community opened our website 7000 times.
- Our aim for this month is 12000. Friends and family can also have GIPS as their homepage.

**ANAPHYLAXIS LAUNCH**

There were over 890 downloads of Anaphylaxis Animation after the Boroondara Network Launch which is fantastic. The Red Cross is thrilled with the response.

Robyn Floyd

Assistant Principal

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**UNIFORM MATTERS**

A number of children have mislaid named items. Please check your child’s clothing in case they have accidentally taken home the wrong uniform.
Welcome back! Hope everyone had a great break. Below are details of two important PA activities to begin the term:

**ECO BAG FUNDRAISER**
This year we are selling the environmentally friendly Eco Bag in the fabulous GIPS colours instead of running a Christmas Stall. These bags will be decorated by your child in their art class. Please see the flyer for more details. Thanks to Tracey Frater for organising this.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
It’s that time of year again! The AGM will be held on Tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Library. Some of the areas that the Parents’ Association coordinate are: Special lunches, Icy poles, Father’s Day Breakfast, Main Event, Book Club, Christmas Picnic, Footy Tipping, Second Hand Uniforms and New Uniform and School Council Liaison. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Further details will be sent home soon.

Liz Fowler, GIPS Parents’ Association
efowler@bigpond.net.au Ph. 0425 704 874

**SRC NEWS**
The SRC raised $423.15 for the Fight Cancer Foundation on the last day of Term 3 when students arrived at school in a multitude of footy & sporting colours. Thank you to everyone for your generous support.

**Jump Rope for Heart**
As part of the “Go for your Life” program, Glen Iris Primary School decided to take part in the National Heart Foundation “Jump Rope for Heart” fundraising activity. The students have been participating in a four week challenge to improve their skipping and fitness skills and their hard work and determination will conclude with a “Jump Off” afternoon during their Galaxy session next Tuesday 13 October. In the last week of term 3, each student took home a sponsorship form so that parents, family and friends could sponsor them and in turn raise money for the National Heart Foundation. Please encourage the children to continue practicing their skipping over the next week and help us raise some much needed funds for such a worthy cause. We ask that all sponsorship money and forms be returned to school by Friday 16 October.

Natasha Williams and Caroline Jacobs.
Share Your Thoughts on Parenting
Share your thoughts and ideas about parenting and programs to support parents, as part of a project conducted by the Parenting and Family Support Clinic (PFSC) at the University of Queensland. We are looking for parents of a 2-10 year old child to complete a survey and view some short videos about parenting programs. The study is available online at: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/engagement. Alternatively if you reside in the Brisbane metropolitan area, you can complete the survey at the PFSC by contacting Faye Nitschke (Email: faye.nitschke@uqconnect.edu.au or Ph: 07 3365 7307).

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER
- Eco Bag Fundraiser - All
- Morning Tea Help Request T 4 - Eldest
- Kelly Sports T4 - Prep to 4

Glen Iris Primary School thanks the above sponsors for their support.

2009 TERM DATES
Term 1  2 February to 3 April
Term 2  20 April to 26 June
Term 3  13 July to 18 September
Term 4  5 October to 18 December

2010 TERM DATES
Term 1  1 February to 26 March
Term 2  12 April to 25 June
Term 3  12 July to 17 September
Term 4  4 October to 17 December