From The Principal

Dear Parents,

It is very good to be back at school at Glen Iris after my recent trip to the USA. I have had a wonderful experience and learned a great deal about the work being done around School, Family and Community Partnerships, my area of research. Visiting a range of schools in Pennsylvania gave me the opportunity to reflect on the similarities and differences in the two education systems. In the end, I think, the main things remain consistent: kids are kids! The need of children for safe, supportive learning environments and engaging, stimulating learning are the same wherever you are. The differences are about how each system approaches the provision of these basic needs which is strongly linked to the culture and values of the particular schools, communities and countries. Some initial observations:

- Equity of educational provision across a range of schools in the USA is diverse;
- Schools and communities in both countries work tirelessly to provide the best possible opportunities for children;
- Some government schools in the USA had the most amazing facilities I have ever seen in any educational setting;
- Student learning common to Victorian schools seems more individualized to the needs of students.

The children at Glen Iris have been most interested in the schools I visited where “playtime” and “lunchtime” are not part of the school program. Students eat lunch, supervised by teachers, in the cafeteria then return straight to the classroom. I don’t think that would be very popular in our school with students OR teachers!

Thank you to Robyn Floyd, Susie Walton and staff who took on additional responsibilities and duties while I was away. What a team!

Grade 4 Campers

Last week, our Grade 4 students enjoyed a three day camp at Cave Hill Creek Camp at Beaufort. The children loved the exciting range of outdoor activities: canoeing, archery and abseiling, just to name a few. Thanks to Jill Barlow, Pete Dickinson, Andrew Cavell, Barb Maclarn, Vern Bowles, Janet O’Meara and Darren Flanigan for giving up their time to provide this opportunity for the children.

School Organisation 2010

Final arrangements are in train to ensure a smooth and successful school program for the children at Glen Iris in 2010. Our school will comprise 19 grades organized in a similar structure to our current classes. This will mean an additional class at the Grade 4 and Grade 5/6 levels. Our specialist program will operate much the same as this year, with some modifications to accommodate our building program that should be well underway at the beginning of the year.

2010 will see significant changes of staff at Glen Iris. This happens in all schools from time to time as teachers make choices related to their career and families. As previously mentioned, this year we will farewell Linda Thurmer, Hazel Dixon, Jill Barlow, Margaret Gleadall,

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### NOVEMBER

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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18</td>
<td>School Council 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>Prep 2010 Take Off Session 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 23</td>
<td>Brainstorm Productions - The Human Race</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24</td>
<td>Prep - Ferndale Park Walk 11.15</td>
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<td>Wednesday 25</td>
<td>Prep 2010 Take Off Evening Session 7.30 - 8.30pm in Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27</td>
<td>Grade 2 Sleepover</td>
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<td>Prep 2010 Take Off Session 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30</td>
<td>Christmas Service</td>
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### DECEMBER

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2</td>
<td>House Swimming Carnival Grs.3 - 6</td>
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<td>Monday 7</td>
<td>Piano &amp; Guitar Soirees 6.30 &amp; 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8</td>
<td>Grade 6 Orientation day at Government Secondary Schools</td>
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<td>Band, String Group &amp; Choir Soiree</td>
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<td>Wednesday 9</td>
<td>Grade 6 Melbourne Sports &amp; Aquatic Centre</td>
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<td>Monday 14</td>
<td>Grade 6 Awards Assembly</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Evening</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation lunch &amp; entertainment at the Cuckoo</td>
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<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>End of Term - Dismissal 1.30pm</td>
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Email: glen.iris.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au  
Website: www.gips.vic.edu.au
It was lovely to see all the children so enthusiastically involved in French Day last Friday. There were so many splendid costumes, and the puppet shows were most entertaining.

As always, a highlight of the day is the French Special Lunch, and I would like to thank all our dedicated parents who make this happen. There is much organization and planning leading up to the provision of the lunches, as well as a huge effort on the day. It is thanks to our parents’ hard work that we can offer such enjoyable activities. Merci beaucoup a tous nos parents!

For those parents of children in Prep to Grade 2, an illustrated book of the play presented to them on French Day is available for purchase. ‘Sindbad and the Enchanted Horse’ contains an English text and has French, German & Italian Games. The price is $24.55, including postage. If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact Madame for an order form.

Merci et au revoir! Madame

National School Pride Program
It was exciting to see the fruition of some of our school projects funded by the Federal Government, National School Pride Program, on my return to school.

- Classes were already benefitting from the nine additional interactive whiteboards.
- The large, heavy door into the corridor near the art room has been automated making it safer for student use and more effective in maintaining a pleasant atmosphere inside the building.
- A new LCD screen in the school foyer is enabling us to present visual displays of student work and school events. Pop into the foyer and see a photo display of the Grade 3 camp from earlier this year.
- Not exciting, but necessary, improvements have been made to drainage and guttering throughout the school.
- Shortly, bike racks will be installed between the two infill buildings so that children can ride bikes to school in the future. Stay tuned for a School Council policy and guidelines outlining the arrangements for bike riding at Glen Iris soon.
- Extensive landscaping and fencing will be undertaken in the coming weeks along the eastern and northern boundary. This will provide a much more stimulating and attractive environment for the children.

Parents’ Association 2009 / 2010
Last week, the Annual General Meeting for our Parents’ Association was conducted. A number of important roles were filled by our generous volunteers and the following office bearers were elected:
President: Carolyn Currie
Vice President: Rachael Pinchbeck
School Council Liaison: Tracey Seignor

Thank you to all those who are supporting our school through their involvement in the Parents’ Association.
I would also particularly like to acknowledge the time and effort of our outgoing Parents’ Association who have worked tirelessly for the children and the school. Thank you to Liz Fowler, Kate Bellamy and Janet O’Meara who have all been involved on Parents’ Association in a range of roles for a number of years. We really appreciate your commitment to Glen Iris Primary School.

ZONE BASKETBALL COMPETITION
Congratulations to who competed in the Zone Basketball Competition and came 2nd overall. Well done girls!

Theatre de Marionnettes.
Hi Everyone,
As the incoming President for Parents’ Association, I’d firstly like to thank those who attended the AGM on a very hot evening and volunteered to help out on the 2010 Committee. Actually, I may have volunteered Rachel’s services for her but we can argue that out later ..... A list of the new committee is below. Please give them your support. We are looking forward to a fun year in 2010!

If anyone would like the minutes from the AGM or our regular meetings emailed to them please let me know, otherwise there is always a copy displayed outside the Library on the noticeboard.

Carolyn Currie
Email: carolyncurrie@optusnet.com.au
Mobile: 0438 898 904

2010 GIPS Parents’ Association Committee
President - Carolyn Currie
Vice President - Rachel Pinchbeck
Special Lunch Coordinator - No appt.
Book Club - Trudi Vasta & Viv Cameron
Icy Poles - Susan Sieber
Uniforms - No appt.
Main Event - No appt.
Morning Tea - Kelley Hagenauer & Kerrie Bowman
Stalls - Tracey Frater
Yard Duty - Sarah Hangar
Class Rep Coordinator - Anna Tomlinson
School Council Liaison - Tracey Seignior
Fathers’ Day Breakfast - Penny Ashby & Sarah Sherson
Footy Tipping - Trish Burrows
Walkathon - Katrina Hrelja & Bebhin Cashin

SPECIAL LUNCH THANK YOU
Carolyn, Kiah and I would like to pass on a very big thank you to all the mums and one dad who have helped with the collating, counting, preparation and serving of the Special Lunches this year. We couldn’t have done it without you! We have had so much fun and hope the GIPS students and teachers have enjoyed all their meals. The French lunch was definitely the winner with just over 90% of students ordering.

We are now looking for some new volunteers to take over our roles next year, as Carolyn takes on the big job of Parents’ Association President and Kiah and I move on to new commitments. So why not find a group of 3-5 friends and have a great time organising the Special Lunches in 2009. If no one volunteers, it will mean no more Special Lunches. It is a very rewarding way to contribute to the school and make new friends. All the procedures are well documented and we are around to answer any questions. If you are interested, please contact myself on 0418 454 084 or Carolyn on 0438 898 904 a.s.a.p.

Lastly, I would like to thank Kiah and Carolyn for all their enthusiastic assistance in helping me make sure the Special Lunches have run smoothly this year.

Cheers,
Penny Ashby

RICE COMPETITION
GIPS has recently registered to participate in a competition for Australian primary schools being conducted by SunRice in support of UNICEF.

If you would like to get involved, we would appreciate your support by doing the following:
1. Purchasing SunRice with the blue Unicef logo (or checking if you have some already in your pantry)
2. Pop the rice into a container
3. Bring the empty pack to school and place it in the box provided in the front office by Monday 30 November.

GIPS’s involvement in the competition is being coordinated by Jo Lawson (1C). If you need any further details, or would like to ask a question, you can contact Jo on j-lawson@bigpond.net.au or phone 0400 595 359.

Thanks for your support of this program.

CRE teachers invite families to participate in the GIPS CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES
MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER, 2009 in the Church Hall
Prep - Gr.2 - 9.15am
Grs.3 - 6 - 10am
Carols, stories and the Empty Christmas Tree

Each year we ask the children to contribute to the Christmas Hampers distributed by Camcare to local disadvantaged families to help make a special Christmas meal. Some suggested goods are:
• tinned ham, tinned fruit and vegetables, tinned salmon, pasta sauce (no baked beans)
• tinned Christmas puddings and Christmas cakes, packets of mince pies and shortbread
• sweet or savoury biscuits, chips, cordial, soft drinks, fruit juice, coffee, tea, Milo or Quik

If children would prefer to bring small presents rather than food, the only request is that the present is not wrapped.

The gifts are collected as children enter the hall and a ‘symbolic goodies’ basket is placed under the empty Christmas Tree at the appropriate time during the service. CRE teachers deliver these goods to Camcare after the service.

Margaret Duncan, Convenor CRE Teachers
INFORMATION BASKET
Copies of this information are available in the basket at the front office:

• Art’scool for Kids – Xmas Holiday Program and Term 1 Art Program 2010 Glen Iris Ph.9885 1195
• Walk Against Warming 12pm Sat 12 Dec at the State Library. SMS your name to 0447 100 275 and we’ll send you a reminder, or visit www.waw.org.au
• Anxiety Disorders Association of Victoria - public lecture Weds 9 Dec 7.30 - 9.30pm, Hawthorn Library Meeting Room. Topic - Stress Management Session for Christmas and beyond! Ph.9853 8089
• Basketball Camps for beginners to experienced, for boys and girls aged 8 to 14. Dec to Jan. Ph.9348 1364 or visit www.ausbasketball.com.au
• Purple Lotus Beauty Salon has opened above Peers Hairdressing, 1525 High St, Glen Iris. Ph.9885 4485
• Family & Junior Great Australian Run, Sat 28 Nov Albert Park, Melbourne. Enter at - www.greataustralianrun.com.au
• “Raising children in more than one language” - Free seminar for parents Sun 29 Nov, Melbourne University 12.45 - 5pm. Registration essential - email rumaccc-info@unimelb.edu.au
• 2009 Circus Showcase - National Institute of Circus Arts Season runs 3 - 12Dec. Tickets from easytix.com.au For more information visit www.nica.com.au
• Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon - for children between 7 & 15. Online registrations are open now at www.weetbix.com.au or contact 1800 989 999. In Melbourne this event is on Sunday 14 March.
• Market Sale at St Oswald’s Anglican Church in Glen Iris on Saturday 21 November 9.30am - 2.00pm.

GARDINER PRESCHOOL
Judy Rutherford is leaving Gardiner Preschool at the end of the year after 30 years service. There will be a Commemorative Book at the GIPS Office on Thursday 26 and Friday 27 November. Past and present families are invited to write a farewell note to her.
Any queries, contact Diana Gray 0421 920 568
There will also be a Farewell Function for Judy on Sun 13 Dec 4.30 - 7.30pm. RSVP by 4/12/09 9885 4040 (Please respect this is an adults only function.)

GARAGE SALE
77 Summerhill Rd, Glen Iris (cnr Ariel Ave, garage in Ariel Ave) - Ex cond baby/kids clothes, toys, bike, ski, h/hold, furn, material, buttons, tools, pram etc. Saturday 21 November 8am - 5pm

BABYSITTING
Ph. Steph 9885 2162.

FOR SALE
Adidas Basketball boots - white/navy trim. Size 5(US) 4.5 (UK) VCG worn 1 basketball session $20
Kerrie 9889 9285