From The Principal

What a year 2012 has been!

Although I have only been here for 52 days I do feel like it has been a lot longer. I am incredibly excited to be remaining here as School Principal in Term 1, continuing to work within such a positive and vibrant learning community. I would like to particularly acknowledge the Office Staff and Ms Robyn Floyd who have gently reminded me when things need to be done and generally supported me within my role.

Glen Iris Primary continues to thrive; solid results in literacy and numeracy, sporting prowess in both individual and team forms, and the performing arts featuring strongly – most notably the students’ opportunity to shine in Disney through the Ages. One of the biggest attributes at GIPS has been the positivity in our school community, with high levels of spirit and engagement of both our student and parent populations. This was of course captured through the school musical, but also during working bees, Friends of the Library, Classroom/Camp/Sport Helpers, Parent Reps, Yard Duty volunteers, Parent Association and School Council. Our teachers are wonderfully committed to our school but can’t do everything, and it is this level of support that allows us to provide so many opportunities for our students. We look forward to building on this success next year, and I thank all the staff, parents and students who contribute to our strong positive culture. I especially would like to say thank you to Liz Fowler who is stepping down, after two years as Parents’ Association President and a warm welcome to Sene-Li Wong who has taken over the role. Special acknowledgement also of the GIPS School Council. They provide an important representation of our school values and beliefs. Thanks to all for giving up your time to contribute to the shaping of our future generation.

Last week our 2013 staff teams met together for Planning Week, with each team having most of the day to prepare for Term 1. Early in Term 1 teachers will send home a summary of planning for 2013 and other important information to encourage the school year to move ahead as smoothly as possible. We were recently advised that Mrs Marg Sargeant will continue her leave into year 2013 and we are currently in the midst of the process of appointing a replacement. We would also like to say thank you and a fond farewell to the following staff: Mrs Anne Sharplin, Ms Karen Glasscock, Mrs Karen Sutton (who has been with the school since 1978, Ms Elissa Toll, and Ms Jennifer Finley. All of the above mentioned have been valued members of staff and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

Student should all now be aware of their graded placements for 2013. I thank staff for the many hours that have been spent in carefully considering each student’s academic, social and emotional factors, as well as child nominations of four friends who they would like to be in a class with. Combining these factors along with parent requests has been a tough task, and whilst I appreciate the families who took the opportunity last month for input, thanks for trusting our staff team’s judgment. Furthermore, having seen these lists and understanding all the priorities (and respecting the dutiful discussion and drafts) there will not be any changes made to our 2013 class lists due to the impact one change can have on too many children and possibly on other grades.

Today your child has brought home an important notice regarding Working with Children Checks. Please ensure that you are fully aware of its implementation.
It is also that time of the year when we say goodbye to our graduating Year 6s. I want to personally congratulate these children as exceptional role models, setting high standards for their peers. To this end, I am amazed at our students and the magnificent job they do at school each day and each week - making speeches at assembly or performing on stage. This comes about from the wonderful experiences that they are provided with over the years at GIPS. Compare their efforts to mine and I have no doubt that the students will win out! I have appreciated the children’s efforts as remarkable student leaders, who have risen to every challenge. I wish the Year 6s a memorable and enjoyable last day of school on Friday and wish them the very best for the future.

We also say goodbye at the end of this year to a number of families leaving the school after their children graduate; others moving to new schools. Families we are farewelling this year are: Amos, Billias, Bland, Carrasco, Chesler, Coote, D’Onghia, Dudley, Eyres, Frater, Hanger, Harper, Hopkins, Kouranbas, Kwong, Lange, Lazzara, Ligdett, Lockwood, Mather, Niglio, Oliver, Pearson, Pidduck, Plowright, Preston, Quarrell, Salehi, Satur, Sgarioto, Shinnie, Siadis, Snell and Torney. Many thanks to these families for their contributions and commitment to the strong culture of Glen Iris PS.

Have a very Merry and Safe Christmas and I look forward to re-joining you in 2013.

Carolyn Macaulay
Acting Principal

END OF YEAR FINISHING TIME

Please note that school will finish early at 1.30pm on Friday 21 December following our final whole school assembly. As there will be no “lunchtime” we encourage children to bring a large “snack” to have at the day’s only recess break (between 11:00 – 11:30am).

END OF YEAR MESSAGE FROM MRS. CARRACHER

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

I have been noticing what an exciting time you have been having in all of your end of year activities and I was delighted to see the Grade 6 students at their Graduation on Monday evening. I felt very proud of the way each of the graduates presented themselves and addressed the audience. Good luck at your new schools in 2013, Grade 6ers!

My family and I are having a busy time caring for my daughter through her illness. There has been a very small improvement in Grace's condition, however, she will require further care and support from me in Term 1. This will mean I am unable to return to Glen Iris until Term 2. I am keenly looking forward to that time when I can be at school every day. In the mean time, Mrs. Macaulay will continue as the Principal, ensuring our school runs smoothly and helping the teachers to deliver great learning programs.

Thank you for the many expressions of well wishes that have been sent our way. Your kind thoughts have been very helpful and much appreciated.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and have a great holiday.

Regards

Meredith Carracher

From the School Council

We have been very fortunate to have Carolyn Macaulay as Acting Principal this last term while Meredith Caracher has been away. She came in at short notice and together with Robyn Floyd, the leadership team and the staff, has steered the school extremely well in all regards.

Her role was to end this term, but as you will all now know Meredith is not be able to return in term one 2013, but is aiming to return in term two. We have been in consultation with the Regional Office and Carolyn has been offered, and has accepted, the Acting Principal role for term one next year - an excellent outcome for GIPS.

So on behalf of the school council and the school community I'd like to (again) welcome Carolyn to GIPS, and look forward to 2013.

Jack Risos,
School Council President
Our final “long table” Teapot Morning Tea - guests - Nicholas, Noah and Tahlia (Prep), Harry and Mia (Gr.1), Sophie, Matthew, Harvey and Jemima (Gr.2), Lucy, Emma, Joshua, Siena, Maddie and Mitchell (Gr.3), Nicholas and Harry (Gr.4) and Angelique, Emily and Max (Gr.5/6). Mrs. Macaulay’s at the head of the table!

“for collecting a classmate from the Buddy Bear tree and giving up your game of soccer to play with them and make them happy” Nat

“for helping another Prep when her nose started bleeding” Matthew & Aeden

“cleaning up the school yard on Sunday with their Dad and Mum, and collecting all the lost property” Chris & Peri

“for seeing someone who was struggling to carry something and going to their assistance without any prompting” Amy
**Grade 6 Graduation**

On behalf of the Grade 6 Graduation Committee we would like to thank everyone for participating in the night and making it a great success for the Grade 6 children.

A special thank you to Janet O’Meara for taking on the mammoth task of organizing the refreshments and to the Grade 5 parents who supplied food and assisted on the night. The food was delicious.

Thank you to Merryn Bland and her team of creative artists who also undertook a mammoth task of compiling the Grade 6 photobook. The children are lucky to have a wonderful keepsake to cherish.

Thank you to Annabel Amos for donating a gorgeous bouquet of purple and gold flowers. They looked stunning in the hall.

Thank you to all the Grade 6 parents who assisted with decorating the hall on Monday morning and who attended planning meetings. Many hands make light work!

Thank you to Glen Iris Uniting Church for allowing us to use the hall and your wonderful kitchen.

A special thank you to the Grade 6 teachers and Robyn Floyd, for all their hard work in planning the Graduation. The ceremony was amazing and heartwarming. Thank you for supporting and encouraging the children. They all stood up and spoke so confidently and professionally.

A very special thank you to the lovely ladies in the school office for all your support and assistance throughout the planning process. From collecting money for various endeavours, printing notices and just being a wealth of knowledge. Your support has been invaluable and your readiness to assist has not gone unnoticed.

Lastly, a special thank you to the Grade 6 children for being an amazing group of kids. Your singing and dancing was entertaining, the speeches were interesting and informative and your behavior was excellent. We are all very proud of you and wish you all the best for your future endeavours.

**LOST PROPERTY**

We have a huge amount of lost property (unnamed) at this time of year. It is located near the Staffroom for any parents or students who would like to check for that missing jacket, windcheater etc. Items which have not been claimed by Thursday afternoon will be sent to the Second-Hand Uniform Shop.

**Community Announcement from Hawthorn Secondary College**

Hawthorn Secondary College Council has requested that the Minister for Education endorses the formal closing of Hawthorn Secondary College at the end of 2013 and endorses the opening of a new College on the same site at the start of the new school year in 2014.

The nature, shape and focus of the proposed new school will be provided to the Minister no later than the end of Term 1, 2013.

The new co-educational college will be informed by the new directions indicated by the Minister in “Victoria as a Learning Community”.

As a clear indication of its commitment to those enrolled at the College in 2013, these students will have an automatic entitlement to enrolment in the new College in 2014.

The College seeks capital works funding to enable it to develop facilities to cater for future enrolments from its neighbourhood area.

The College seeks a start-up grant to support the development of new curriculum structures, administrative processes and procedures, and related professional learning.

**Virginia Murray**

Acting Principal, Hawthorn Secondary College

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

Thank you Anna Tomlinson for ensuring the balance in many of our students’ bank accounts has grown this year.

**TODAY’S NOTICES**

- Working With Children Information (white, all)

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**2013 TERM DATES**

Term 1  31 January (students start) to 28 March

Term 2  15 April to 28 June

Term 3  15 July to 20 September

Term 4  7 October to 20 December
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
Copies of this information are available at the office:

- **Glen Iris Scorpions U8 Basketball 2013** - if your daughter is U8 or younger on 31/12/2012, she is eligible to play next season. A Hoop time clinic will be held in Feb, 2013 to give girls the opportunity to try basketball. All inquiries can be made to Kellie, glenirisdistrict@gmail.com
- **Limelight Drama School** is offering Performing Arts Holiday Workshops in Hawthorn from Jan 21 - 25. Ph.0407 537 305 or visit www.limelightacting.com
- **Camberwell South Netball Club** on Sat mornings at Bialik College - limited places available for Gr. 3s or beginner Gr.4s. For more info 0402 308 805
- **Bowen Street Community Centre** - Terms 1 & 2, 2013 Languages / Cooking & Personal Skills Ph.9889 0791 or visit www.bowenstreet.org.au
- **Annual Christmas Eve Children’s Service** at St.Oswald’s Anglican Church, 100 High Street, Glen Iris, Monday 24 December, 4pm.

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