Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the end of Term One is almost upon us. As I have walked around the school over the last two weeks, it has been wonderful to see the students busily working away on different activities related to their Integrated Units of Work during class and specialist sessions.

The Year 3 students have been enjoying exploring the properties of solids, liquids and gases through various experiments. During their session with the Monash Science Centre last Friday one activity challenged them to determine whether ‘oobleck’, a mixture of cornflour and water, was a solid or a liquid. Space exploration and its impact on our lives is the focus in Year 5 and 6 and students are coming up with some creative ways to present their investigations. In the Year 4 Learning Space there is much activity at present as the students use their artistic skills to create wonderful dioramas to present their knowledge about the First Australians.

School Assemblies and Performing Arts
Performing Arts has been a feature of the recent School Assemblies with some of our classes performing in some interesting disguises. On Monday our Foundation students appeared as a very cute bunch of little rabbits to delight us with their song about why do rabbits wear a powder puff on their bottom. At the previous school assembly our Year 2 students donned their masks and capes to entertain us with their ‘punchy’ Batman song.

Visual Arts
Next time you come into the school I encourage you to venture into the corridors near the Art Room and in the Year 1 Learning Space to see the beautiful and colourful art works on display. Mrs Freeland -Small has found many creative ways for the students to explore pattern and colour.

Well Being
As you may be aware we have been promoting the values of school – Happiness, Respect and Integrity to ensure that all children are respectful to one another and using appropriate language when interacting with each other and sorting our disagreements during their play. We are pleased to observe that the children are making positive choices and decisions about their behaviour with few reminders by the teachers. We also appreciate the support our parents are giving in reminding children about the importance of observing the Student Code of Conduct and helping to make our school a happy and safe place to be.

Cybersafety
School holidays is a time when we know the children love to play on their computers and often in the company of friends. At school we talk with the children about the importance of safe practice when using the computers and observing Cybersafety. We encourage you to have a conversation regarding these matters with your children when they are using their computers during the holidays and to be vigilant regarding computer activity.

Teapot Morning Tea
Congratulations to the students who were drawn out of the teapot this week for demonstrating our school values in various ways during school activities. I look forward to enjoying morning tea with them tomorrow. The following students will be participating - Hamish FH, Marielle FH, Heidi FS, Aryan 2B, Aden 3H, Alex 3M, Helena 4T and John 5/6D.
Wine and Cheese Night
On the evening of March 7 our Parents’ Association and School Council hosted a lovely social occasion for parents and teachers. Carolyn Macaulay presented an overview of the School Strategic Plan outlining the directions for learning at GIPS over the next four years, Jack Risos, the president of School Council explained the governing role of the School Council and work performed by the various sub-committees of the council and Sene-Li Wong gave us a few laughs as she promoted the important part that our Parents’ Association plays in the GIPS community. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank Sene-Li, Jack and their helpers for their time and efforts in putting on a most enjoyable and successful evening.

Working Bee
Thanks to the wonderful group of families who came along last Saturday afternoon equipped with tools, brooms and their talents. Our school grounds are all spick and span again. Almost all tasks on the list were completed before the heavens opened and put a dampener on our sausage sizzle. We are most grateful to those parents who took time out of their weekend to help out on the day. A special thank you to Ilias Mastoris for his wonderful organisation and coordination prior to and on the day.

Congratulations
Many congratulations to Danniel Smith our Year 5/6 teacher on his marriage to Sarah last Saturday. He reported that he had a wonderful time and that it was the best day of their lives. We wish them every happiness for the future.

Final Assembly for Term One
Next Thursday afternoon there will be a special School Assembly commencing at 1.45pm to celebrate the achievements and learning that has taken place during Term One. There will be presentations by students in Years 1, 3 and 5/6. Next term it will be the turn of the students in Foundation and Years 2, 4 and 5/6. Please note that the children will be dismissed after assembly at the earlier time of 2.30pm on this last day of term.

On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you for all your support this term and wish you a safe and happy time with your families during forthcoming school holidays.

Barbara Maclarn,
Acting Principal

Out and About in our Community
On Friday March 9, Kate Bellamy (Tom’s mum) came to talk to the children in Grade Two.
Kate came to talk to us because this term we are learning about our community. She talked about volunteers at St Vincent’s Hospital. We also knew that Kate has been a volunteer in our school community for many years.

Here are some interesting things we found out –
She talked to us about the volunteers that come in to visit people when they are sick. – Tom B
Not all volunteers are people. Some volunteers have four legs. Dogs visit the hospital to cheer some people up. – Samantha
Volunteers try their best to help. – Bailey
One boy started volunteering when he was seven. He plays music to cheer up the people that are sick. – Hannah
Volunteers do not get paid. It is a helpful thing to do to help our community. – Oscar W
A big ‘Thank You’ to Kate from all the children in Grade Two!

Meagan Cofield
PERFORMING ARTS
On Monday, our Foundation classes performed at the school assembly. They had worked very hard on singing with movements to their song, “The Wrong End”. They looked adorable and sang beautifully in their very first school performance. We are sure there’ll be more to come.

Bianca Deckert
Performing Arts Co-ordinator
Glen Iris Primary has jumped out of the blocks this term with many students representing the school in various sporting events. Below is a snapshot of some of the events and results.

**District Swimming**

On Thursday 21 February we had 34 students from Grades 4, 5 and 6 travel to Harold Holt to compete in the District Swimming Carnival. We competed against six other schools in the Glen Iris District. All the students gave their best efforts, showing some amazing talent and coming in first overall at the end of the day. Seventeen of our students who came first or second have been selected to go onto the Divisional Championships. Further, many people commented on how well behaved the Glen Iris Primary students were as well as showing good sportsmanship towards other students.

**Divisional Swimming**

On Thursday 28 February 17 students from Glen Iris Primary competed at the Monash Sports and Aquatic Centre for the Divisional Swimming Championships. It was a cold morning, however, that did not stop everyone from getting in the water and racing. All the students did an amazing job with special mentions to the following:

- Lachlan (Gr.5/6W) – two firsts in Freestyle and Backstroke,
- Ciara (Gr.5/6S) – third in Butterfly,
- Daniel (Gr.5/6S) – third in Breaststroke,
- Boys medley relay team – third place, and
- 12/13 boys relay team – third place.

Lachlan was then selected to go and compete in the Regionals where he did an amazing job coming fifth in Freestyle and eighth in the Backstroke.

**Grade 5/6 State Trials**

During February Grade 5/6 students were offered the opportunity to try out for the State Schools Victorian Team. We had a small group of students travel to different schools and ovals to try out. It was a great experience for those students as they had to show their talent to a panel of selectors. The selectors had a very tough decision to make as they were only allowed to pick 8-10 students to go onto the next stage of selection. We would like to congratulate the following students who will now go onto the next stage of selection later in the year:

- Daniel (Gr.5/6S) AFL;
- Annabel (Gr.5/6W) Basketball;
- Ryan (Gr.5/6D) Basketball;
- Liam (Gr.5/6K) Basketball;
- Declan (Gr.5/6K) Soccer;
- Lily (Gr.5/6W) Netball;
- and Olivia (Gr.5/6C) Netball.

Natasha Williams
PE/Sport Coordinator
Here are some snippets of the students’ artworks this term…
Charlie, Foundation S - Me dressed up!
Angus, 1J - Light catcher
Sophia, 2B - Bird’s Eye view of Glen Iris PS
Jemima 3H - Drawing with liquids!
Lucy, 4D and Oscar 4P - Tiwi sculptures
Brianna 5/6D - Space alien

Come and wander around the school to see more!
There will be an open evening at the Gallery at Zart Art early next term to celebrate the young artists’ achievements and to see Salt and Pepper on display!

Michele Freeland-Small
Visual Arts
The 2013 Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Purchases of the entertainment book can now be made online using the link on the school web site or by completing the form sent home and returning it to the office. Order your book before April 9, 2013 to receive additional offers worth over $150. Select the Pick Up delivery option and you will be notified when your book is available for collection from the office. GIPS receives 20% of all purchases, thank you for your support!

The payment page can be accessed from the school’s homepage or from the link below: https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/187w900

Julie Gray,
Parents’ Association

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Hello GIPS families!

Wow! It has been a power-packed first term. We had so much fun planning our first Wine and Cheese Night and it was a great success! Thanks to all the parents who attended the night and our wonderful teachers and staff. It was good to see everyone mingling and enjoying the wine and cheese that night. The wine was generously donated by the Brown Brothers Family via Rachel Estlin. Le Max (Leo's Hartwell) also kindly donated towards the night. Thank you Rachel and Leo's for your kind support!

We hope that the parents who attended have a better idea of the roles of the Parents’ Association and the School Council as well as a better understanding of the school strategy for the next four years.

We had quite a lot of interest from parents regarding how they can help. We understand that parents work so they are limited in how much time they can give to the school. While the giving of time is fantastic, we also welcome other ways that you can contribute to our children and their school.

We gave out some forms at the Wine and Cheese Night so that we can better understand our community and the opportunities we can tap into: by way of your time contribution, your existing skills and also your networks. I received a form from a dad who said that he knows how to use a hammer and would like to contribute. How fantastic! Thank you! We will be sending out the same form to each child so that those who couldn't attend can fill in the form and send it in so that it will give us an insight into how you would like to contribute. We welcome any contribution, no matter how small you may think it is.

Also, the GIPS Footy Tipping fundraiser is underway. Come and join in the fun!

Finally, as you plan the Easter break ahead, I hope that the holidays will be a time well spent with your loved ones. Enjoy every minute!

Sene-Li Wong

on behalf of the Parents’ Association

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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 are now open. The first match is March 22 (this Friday) so be sure to get in early!

Alex Goldhagen
gipsfooty@gmail.com

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LAST DAY OF TERM- DRESS UP DAY

Greetings parents,

The SRC team are having a 'Wear What You Wish' day. It will be a day of casual dress on Thursday 28th of March, the last day of Term 1. There will be a gold coin donation on that day. All proceeds will go towards 'Make a Wish Foundation'. The Make a Wish Foundation supports children with serious illnesses.

Please not that there will be no face paint, coloured hairspray, singlets or crop tops.

Thank-you for your support

Kind regards,
The SRC team

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Alex Goldhagen
gipsfooty@gmail.com

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The payment page can be accessed from the school’s homepage or from the link below: https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/187w900

Julie Gray,
Parents’ Association
2013 TERM DATES
Term 1 30 January to 28 March
Term 2 15 April to 28 June
Term 3 15 July to 20 September
Term 4 7 October to 20 December

2014 TERM DATES
Term 1 28 January to 4 April
Term 2 22 April to 27 June
Term 3 14 July to 19 September
Term 4 6 October to 19 December

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

Lunchtime Duty
Thank you to everyone who volunteered last term, it was a great response!
A notice is being sent home with the newsletter today for Term 2, 2013.
Please try to find a spare lunchtime, as your children would love to see you, and you will be allowing us to open the library each lunchtime for more play options. Remember you will need a current Working With Children Check to participate.

Justine Moore (9889 9547)
Justine3146@gmail.com
On behalf of Parents’ Association.

Working Bee last weekend.
I’d like to extend a big thank you for everyone who helped out with the Working Bee on Saturday.
I am particularly proud of Saturday’s effort. We:
• moved more leaf and other litter than we had for a while (literally months’ worth of rubbish!)
• almost fixed the irrigation system. Hopefully, over the next month we will have all the garden beds fed by our rainwater tanks
• prepared the groundwork for screening the rainwater tanks. This was a major effort that involved busting and moving concrete
• oiled the timber on the northern and eastern boundaries.
…and all this before the rain came down at 2.30pm!
Our next big shindig will be sometime in the second term – although there may be a couple of ‘small’ tasks such as planting the screen and finishing the oiling. (These jobs will involve 4 to 6 volunteers.)
Many of you would have signed in when you turned up on Saturday. If you helped out and didn’t sign in, please reply to this email with your name and child’s details - your contribution will be recognised at the next school assembly.
Best regards and I look forward to working with you again,
Ilias Mastoris

Glen Iris Primary School thanks our sponsors for their generous support.