From The Principal

School Improvement Session for Parents
In the last newsletter, I outlined the school’s program of review for 2012. The review will target the areas of Student Learning, Student Engagement and Wellbeing, and Student Pathways and Transitions. A reminder that a Workshop for Parents to discuss School Improvement will be conducted tonight, Wednesday 21 March at 7:30pm in the Library. Parents are also invited to complete an online survey as a further means of communicating their ideas. The survey is available on the school website. Approximately 70 families have completed the survey so far.

Walk-a-Thon
Yesterday, in blazing sunshine, the children participated in the annual Walk-a-Thon at Nettleton Park. Organised by the Parents’ Association, the walk is a key fundraising activity for the school. Children walked with their GALAXY groups and enjoyed the chance to stroll, amble, hop, skip, jump and …yes …..even run around the course. Thank you to the chief organisers, Libby Talbot, Donna Polkinghorne and Vanessa Mackie. Thanks also to the many parents who helped with supervision on the walk to the park and during the event. I am sure we will have an impressive total to announce shortly.

Working Bee
A reminder to parents that the Term 1 Working Bee is being held this Sunday 25 March. I know that the Buildings and Environment Committee would appreciate any help offered. Thank you to convenor, Ilias Mastoris, for his persistent efforts in organising the working bee when inclement weather has caused a previous postponement. The working bees are a vital part of the school’s maintenance program.

Melbourne Zoo Stick Insects Program
Parents may be aware that, in 2011, some of our Grade 2 classes began keeping and breeding stick insects in the classroom as part of their work on Life Cycles. Recently, the Education Centre at Melbourne Zoo sought expressions of interest from schools interested in being involved in their endangered species research project to help rebuild a colony of Lord Howe Island Stick Insects. This species had been considered to be extinct until recently, when a very small population was discovered. Now, following an application from Natasha Williams, class teacher 1W, Glen Iris Primary School has been selected to be a host school for this program. Congratulations Natasha on this exciting initiative for the school. Stay tuned for more information.

Grade 3 & 4 Play Equipment
At long last, the refurbishment of the Grade 3 and 4 play equipment and the installation of further equipment for the same grades has commenced. With favourable weather, the works should be

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<td>School Council - School Review Workshop</td>
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<td>Thursday 22</td>
<td>Class Reps - Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Friday 23</td>
<td>House Cross Country</td>
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<td>Special Easter Lunch</td>
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<td>Ride to School Day</td>
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<td>Sunday 25</td>
<td>Rescheduled Working Bee (12.30pm - 3.30pm)</td>
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<td>Wednesday 28</td>
<td>Nude Food Day</td>
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<td>Friday 30</td>
<td>Free Dress Day - donation $2</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal</td>
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<table>
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<td>Monday 16</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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<td>Anzac Day - public holiday</td>
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<td>Monday 30 April - Friday 4 May</td>
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<th>May 2012</th>
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<td>Prep 2013 Information Evening</td>
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<td>Thursday 24</td>
<td>School Open Day</td>
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completed this week. Thanks to the Parents’ Association, and the many parents who have supported their fundraising efforts over the past year, for making this wonderful new facility available for the children. I know the Grades 3s and 4s are busting to start playing in their new areas.

Yours Sincerely
Meredith Carracher

SRC END OF TERM DRESS UP DAY.

Come dressed as your favourite Movie/TV or Rock Star on Friday 30 March (last day of term).

Students are reminded that they must wear appropriate sunsmart clothing and hat. Please remember that you also cannot wear any face paint or coloured hair spray on the day.

$2 DONATION

Money raised will be donated to the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute regarded as the preeminent child health research institute in Australia, and recognised globally for its child health discoveries.

National Ride2School Day

This Friday 23 March is National Ride2School Day. Please walk, scoot, ride or skate to school. If you live too far away from school you can drive some of the way and walk the rest.

On this day the Environment Team will be handing out stickers at the school gates to people who have walked, ridden their bike, skateboard or scooted to school. Please make an effort to participate, get active and save the environment!

Thank you,
The Environment Team

SRC Fundraising

ANZAC Day is the anniversary of the landing of troops from Australia and New Zealand on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey during World War I. The SRC will be selling ANZAC badges and wristbands every Wednesday lunchtime from 1:00 - 1:25pm in the covered area outside the Performing Arts room. The SRC will also be selling the ANZAC badges and wristbands after Monday assemblies in front of the Multipurpose room until Wednesday 25 April.

Thanks - The 2012 SRC Team

Nude Food Day

Next Wednesday 28 March, the Environment Team are holding Nude Food Day at Glen Iris Primary. Please support this day by ensuring your child has a healthy, nutritious and environmentally friendly lunch by filling it with fresh foods and eliminating all unnecessary wrapping. Environment Team members will visit each class to collect any wrappers that are brought on this day and the winning class will receive a special prize. Please do your bit for the environment and keep our planet clean by bringing nude food next Wednesday 28 March.

Thank you,
The Environment Team

School Working Bee: Sunday 25 March, 12.30pm to 3.30pm

The school working bee has been re-scheduled, after two false starts. The working bee will now be on a Sunday, given the weather outlook.

Jobs include gardening (planting and weeding), sweeping, collecting litter, laying on some soft fall under the playground equipment, painting, and removing some old fencing.

A sausage sizzle will be provided.

Please bring spades, shovels, forks, outdoor brooms, and especially, wheelbarrows.

I encourage all families to participate – help our school help our children.

Ilias Mastoris
mastoris1@bigpond.com

YARD DUTY

Thank you to everyone who volunteered last term, it was a great response!

Please email me if you are interested in a place for Term 2, 2012.

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)
Justine3146@gmail.com
On behalf of Parents’ Association.
Walkathon

A very big thank you to Libby Talbot, Donna Polkinghorne and Vanessa Mackie for their fantastic organization of our GIPS 2012 Walkathon. Thanks also to the many parent helpers who gave up their time yesterday to support the children and make the event a success. I think this was one of the first years we got lucky with the weather! Will let you all know the results at a presentation at assembly in the coming weeks. I'm sure the prize winning class will very much enjoy their special pizza lunch. Please return all forms and money to school by tomorrow.

The Entertainment Book

Once again we are offering The Entertainment Guide books as a fundraiser for our school. The books cost $65 and are full of fabulous restaurant offers, attractions and more across Melbourne. The flyer for purchase of the book comes home with today's notices, so please keep an eye out for it. Last year this project raised over $1300 for our school, proceeds of which went to the set up of new playground equipment. Any questions or book enquiries, please contact me.

Best wishes for a great week ahead.

Liz Fowler, President
0430 980 418

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Glen Iris Primary Out of School Hours Care

Rob just wants to say “well done to all the new Preps this year who have eased into the Before Care and After Care programs so wonderfully”……. Rob’s been working in OSHC for almost 5 years now and has never met such a confident group of Preps ……… WELL DONE!

Also just a reminder for the parents, that Camp Australia is running Holiday Clubs all over Melbourne (including within the CBD) with the closest to Glen Iris P.S. running at Hartwell P.S. and Korowa. Bookings and a review of Holiday Club’s activities and programs can be found online at www.campaustralia.com.au

Lastly, just to remind everyone, our tradition of Pancake Friday is alive and well with more and more kids going pancake happy!

Rob Bennett, Co-ordinator OSHC
Signposts Invitation

What is Signposts?
Signposts for building better behaviour is a free program to help families of children with a developmental delay or intellectual disability. It is for families/carers with children aged between 3 and 18.

Why do Signposts?
Families learn:
• positive ways of coping with difficult behaviour
• ways to encourage better behaviour
• how to teach children new skills.

How is it run?
There are a minimum of six sessions, usually run on a fortnightly basis. We will be delivering the program through small group sessions. All materials (booklets, video/DVD) are free of charge. All carers of your child are encouraged to attend, without children. Bookings are essential.

Where: Belmore School
Stroud St
Balwyn
9859 8762

When: Thursday mornings 9.30 -11.30 am
26th April
10th May
24th May
7th June
21st June
28th June
2nd August

For more information, please contact
Belmore School
9859 8762

signposts@parentingrc.org.au

www.parentingrc.org.au
TODAY’S NOTICES
- Mathletics Notice (all)
- The Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge (white, all, reply slip)
- Footy tipping (white, eldest, reply slip)
- The Entertainment Book flyer (eldest, reply slip)

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Glen Iris Primary School thanks our sponsors for their support.

2012 TERM DATES
Term 1  3 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

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

Holiday Workshop
in
STOP MOTION ANIMATION
Where · Balwyn Community Centre
412 Whitehorse Road Surrey Hills
When · 10th or 11th April, 2012
Sessions · 9.30 - 12.30 or 1 - 4pm
Cost · $55 (bookings of 3 or more $40 per person)
Bookings · online www.playanimation.com.au
look for “Holiday Workshops”

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