From The Acting Principal

It’s an exciting time to sit in the Principal’s seat as our building plans start to evolve and we begin to plan for 2010. By the time you read this Meredith will be just about to arrive in New York with two suitcases, one small suitcase packed with brochures and posters of the great things happening in the Glen Iris Community. On Thursday she will be visiting the Midtown West Elementary School in Manhattan, www.midtownwest.net, so we’ll be eagerly waiting to hear her news.

The English Online Interview is being administered with children in Preps, Years 1 and 2. This is a new Government initiative to assess oral language reading and writing providing valuable data for teachers and level teams.

As always there is a range of activities happening that encourage the talents of our students and I’ll talk about just a few I’ve been part of as I walk around the school. On Monday morning I was lucky enough to be at the World Premiere of ‘The Greatest Teacher’ written, produced and directed by 2S. Whether they win or lose it was obvious that they had a great time making the movie.

The Prep Choir spent Tuesday afternoon singing to the Glen Iris Uniting Church Kindergarten children accompanied by Mrs. Elliot and were loudly applauded. Walking through the Year 1 & 2 infill I noticed a swimming pool, not for paddling - a science experiment. The beach has been spoilt by pollution and every-one can see what happens when you dump rubbish into rivers. The 5/6 Area resembled a Marketing Company as groups of students assessed and analysed products in order to write articles for canny consumers.

Some recent excursions have extended learning into other environments. Year 4s spent a day at Heide last week, led by Mrs. Sargeant, encouraging students to explore modern art in outdoor/indoor environments. On Friday, Year 3s will be taking part in an indigenous cultural activity: creating art, participating in face painting and watching dreamtime stories performances.

Finally, some of our students visited Strathewan Primary School with Miss Costa today to present a cheque for $684 on behalf of our sister school Nene Valley Primary, UK. After reading our emails about the bushfire, their students’ concern for schools affected by the bushfire was translated into a practical ‘Be an Aussie Fundraiser’ to support the purchase of much needed materials.

Robyn Floyd,
Acting Principal
VICTORIAN STUDENT NUMBER
Introduction of the Victorian Student Number
Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.
The VSN is a student identification number that is being assigned to all students in government and non-government schools, and students in Vocational Education and Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student’s school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to stable information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).
The introduction of the Victorian Student Number will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from, the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria. The Department collects information to track improvements made to the education system, identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will improve the accuracy, reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them.
You will see the VSN appear on student report cards, enrolment confirmations, and exit confirmations.
If you want to know more about the VSN please see http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm

HOOPTIME BASKETBALL
On Tuesday 20 October the Year 5/6 girls Hoop Time team played four basketball games in the regional finals day. Over 3000 teams across the state competed in Hoop Time and we were one of the 150 teams that made it into the regional finals. We all played really well as a team and enjoyed having the opportunity to play basketball against different schools. Thank you to Mrs. Walton for coming and coaching on the day and to Emma Plowright and Tricia Kourambas for driving us to the stadium and scoring.
The Hoop Time Girls
Susie Walton
Acting Assistant Principal

Children’s Week 2009
24 October to 1 November 2009 A Caring World Shares
Invitation to have fun!
Join in the FREE Children’s Week fun activities taking place across Victoria.

MELBOURNE ZOO FAMILY FUN DAY! Sunday 25 October 2009, 10am – 3pm
Come and see The Wonderful World of Mr. Men and Little Miss Live on stage, plus join in a Sing-A-Long with Blinky Bill® Entry is FREE for children 15 years and under.

MELBOURNE MUSEUM FAMILY FUN DAY! Sunday 1 November 2009, 10am – 5pm
FREE activities include kite and puppet making workshops, children’s book author appearances, physical activities, sports and games, arts and crafts, and much more! See www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek for information on FREE admission to this event.

www.education.vic.gov.au 1800 809 834
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
An important event at this time of year is the Parents’ Association AGM which will be held on Tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Library. We are looking for volunteers to fill many roles next year. 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. Please feel free to come along with a friend and be part of it.

ECO BAG FUNDRAISER
This week the Eco Bags are being decorated. Many thanks to Mrs.Sargeant for her support with this activity and also to the following parents who have administered this fundraiser: Tracey Frater, Prue Santamaria, Jenny Harper, Petra Lambert, Fiona White and Julie-Ann Taffe.

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

UNIFORM SHOP
Please note the Uniform Shop will not be open on Monday 2 November, the day before Cup Day. The retail outlet at Mt.Waverley will be open.

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.

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER
- French notice (all, white)
- Swimming notice (Prep - Gr.4, white & payment envelope)
- Bookclub brochures (all)
- Special Lunch (all)
Opportunity for students who’d like to participate in the:

**JUNIOR GREAT AUSTRALIAN FUN RUN.**


Irish Olympic Silver Medallist SONIA O’SULLIVAN (Sydney 2000 and Australian Commonwealth games team member 2006) is offering students the opportunity to train with her and participate in this event.

Training will begin this week and continue each Wednesday evening at 4pm at Ferndale Park with Sonia. Students need to meet at the Ferndale Park playground, bring a drink and wear their trainers. As this is not a school event parents are responsible for dropping off and collecting their students.

**INFORMATION BASKET**

Copies of this information are available in the basket at the front office:

- Vicswim - Enrol online for the January Summer Kidz Program - for enrolments, venues & dates visit www.vicswim.com.au
- Anniepie - Handmade children’s clothing for special occasions - babies to 12 yr olds. Ph. Ann 0412 123 780

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