Dear Parents,

We enjoyed a great evening last week meeting all of our Prep families at the Welcome Barbeque. Despite the first planned evening being a “wash out”, a happy crowd of children and adults came along to join the fun. Thanks to Carolyn Currie, Parents’ Association President, the Garrett family and the Prep teachers for all their efforts in organising and running the night.

School Council Elections
This year, there were 4 parent vacancies for School Council. At the close of nominations, there were 3 nominations for the 4 vacant positions. I am pleased to declare Barbara McKinnon, Trish Burrows and Meredith Dahlsen duly elected for a two year term. I now call for further nominations for the remaining position. Further nominations can be made on the nomination form available from the Office by 4pm on Thursday 3 March.

Information Nights and “Meet The Teacher” Interviews
Class level Information Nights and “Meet The Teacher” interviews are being conducted this week and next week. Both these occasions are important elements of the school’s reporting to parents processes. Thank you to the teachers for the time and effort they have put into providing these opportunities for families and thank you to the many families who have made the most of the occasions. I have attended all four Information Nights and have been impressed by the depth of information provided by class and specialist teachers. Next week, parents will be able to meet their children’s teachers and share some important information that will be significant for the year ahead. If you have not already returned a form to arrange a time to meet the teacher, forms are available from the website.

District Swimming Carnival
On Tuesday 22 February approximately 40 children represented Glen Iris Primary School at the District Swimming Carnival at Harold Holt Memorial Pool. Congratulations to all the competitors who, I know, will have tried their best on the day. Special congratulations to Matt T. 5/6N who will progress to the Zone Swimming Carnival. Thanks to Andrew Cavell and Amy Kopciewicz for organising and supervising the team.

Separate Lunch Times
Last Friday, we trialled running a double lunch time to provide greater flexibility in the school ground. Children from Prep – Grade 2 had lunch and play from 12 noon until 1.00pm. Children from Grade 3 – 6 had lunch and play from 12.50pm – 1.50pm. These lunch arrangements will continue for the duration of the current playground restrictions. It is difficult to make these arrangements on other days due to the impact on the specialist and classroom programs.
Ashburton Community Festival
The Ashburton Community Festival will be conducted this Sunday from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Glen Iris Primary School will have a stall at the Festival providing information about the school and Fairy Floss. The stall is being organised by the Parents’ Association with assistance from our Grade 5 and 6 Promotions Team. Any families able to assist on the stall should contact Carolyn Currie to volunteer.

Bag Bell
This year, we have introduced a bell at 8:55am each morning to prompt children to stop playing and come into school to prepare for the day. This has not altered the time that the doors to classrooms and buildings are opened. Most classrooms are open from 8:50am if the teacher is available to be in the room. At times, teachers are involved in meetings or class preparation that may delay the opening of the doors. We are conscious that the area in front of the infill buildings is crowded as the northern end of the path is closed off. Every effort will be made to have the buildings open by 8:50am to alleviate the crowding. Please still take the time to help your child settle, pop in and see the children’s work or catch up with the teacher. However, when parents do not need to visit the classroom, they could farewell their children near the Prep play equipment for the short time the northern end of the path is closed.

Flood Damage
Finally, the works to repair water damage in the Prep W and Grade 2T classrooms has been completed. In both classrooms, the carpets have been professionally dried, steam cleaned and relaid. In the Grade 2T classroom the underlay has been replaced. Further work will be carried out in the Prep W classroom once the additional drainage work is carried out.

Theft from Cars
In recent days, there have been reports that cars parked in streets near the school have been broken into and items stolen. These incidents have been reported to the police who have investigated. This is a timely reminder to us all to not leave valuables in cars and please report any further matters to the school and the police.

Yours Sincerely

HELP NEEDED IN THE LIBRARY
We are seeking volunteers to help cover books for our library. We will supply the materials for you to work at home. If you are able to assist, would you please send a note with your child to the School Office, stating your contact details.

Thank you,
Kay Borrow

PARKING NEAR OUR SCHOOL
Please take every precaution to follow parking and traffic regulations when dropping off and collecting your children from school. Most importantly, we want to ensure the safety of all the children. Staff on duty are often surprised by some traffic behaviour, for example, double parking, observed near our school. Please put safety before convenience.

Education Maintenance Allowance
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 28 February 2011 for the first instalment.

EMA application forms are available from the school office.
HOURS OF SUPERVISION
Please note that students are supervised in the yard before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm.

GLEN IRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS
8.30am until 4.30pm

GIPS Ashburton Festival Stall
Thank you to all those who have offered to help with our stall on Sunday, the weather forecast looks good so hopefully we will get our 2011 fundraising off to a strong start! A roster will be emailed out today.

Bunnings BBQ
We are still in need of a few more parents for the 10-12 and 12-2pm shifts, both on the BBQ and food/money handling. If you are able to help us out for even an hour, please return your yellow form to the office asap or email me directly – carolyncurrie@optusnet.com.au.

Have a great week everybody,

Carolyn Currie
President, Parents’ Association
Tel: 0438 898 904
carolyncurrie@optusnet.com.au

WIN FOR GIPS – YOPLAIT SNOW BLASTED COMPETITION!
Does your family purchase Yoplait Go-Gurt or Smackers yoghurt tubes?
Look out for specially marked packs in the dairy case at the supermarket, enter the unique code online and you could help GIPS win one of three fantastic prizes including a Snow Blasted School Yard or computer and sporting equipment. There are also 200 ipod shuffles to be won for entering.
We are already hovering from third to fifth position on the leaderboard, so it would be fantastic to see if we can improve on this before the closing date of 1 April.

Further information on the promotion can be found at www.gogurt.com.au or www.smackerssnowblast.com.

For any assistance or queries please contact Jo Lawson (3S)
jlawson@bigpond.net.au.

Update on Proposed Development on Corner of Glen Iris Road and High Street
Although the proposed six storey development with reduced car parking (!) was rejected by Boroondara Council, the developer is appealing the decision making process to VCAT.

What can you do?
If you objected to Boroondara Council last year, you should have received a letter about 10 days ago from the developer’s representative notifying you of the appeal process. This includes the form which will allow VCAT to consider your objection to the development. If you wish your voice to be heard, you need to follow the instructions on the form immediately, as you only have 14 days from receipt of the letter to submit your objection.

What else can you do?
We are currently surveying the use of the two carparks that would be most severely affected by the development and counting how many of us cross the laneway that would be the entrance and exit point for the development car park, rubbish collection and goods delivery. We will be counting until 4th March, so if you would like to help, please leave your name at the school office or contact Barbara McKinnon directly: barbara.mckinnon@bigpond.com

Barbara McKinnon on behalf of School Council
Glen Iris Primary School thanks our sponsors for their support.

2011 TERM DATES

Term 1  4 February to 8 April
Term 2  27 April to 1 July
Term 3  18 July to 23 September
Term 4  10 October to 22 December

2012 TERM DATES

Term 1  1 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

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Copies of this information are available at the office:

- Personalized Home Cleaning - 2hrs/$60, 3hrs/$85, 4hrs/$110. Speed, efficiency & tailored results. Call Tammy 0410 490 084
- Childrens Performing Company of Australia - classes in dance, drama & song for boys & girls aged 5 - 18. 18 venues across Melbourne. Ph. 9384 1644 or visit www.cPCA.com.au
- Sunnyside Kindergarten in East Malvern has a 4 yr old position available for 2011. Ph. 9571 4429
- Auskick is back ........ Register for Auskick 2011. For boys & girls from Prep to Grade Six. Go to http://www.aflauskick.com.au/ type in your postcode and sign up to one of the following Auskick centres - AUJFC Ashburton, AUJFC Burwood and AUJFC Ferndale/Nettleton Park. Registration Day will be held at each centre on 19 March 2011 from 9.30am to 11.30am.
- Ashgrove Calisthenics Club - now recruiting new team members - dancing, singing, acting, performing - classes held on Tues & Weds at Ashburton Uniting Church. Ph. 9807 9419
- Registrations are now open for the Glen Iris District Basketball Club. Please visit www.trybooking.com/MAZ to register or email the Club at glenirisdistrict@gmail.com Registrations close 7 March, 2011.
- Dads Matter (I) What Kids Really Need From Their Dad - foundation course for fathers - Anglicare, Parentzone - 666 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater. Thurs 3 March - 7 April. Ph.9721 3646
- Kids R Go! - at Re-Creation gym Glen Iris for children aged b/wn 8 & 13 to engage in kid specific exercise, games and activities, in a non-competitive environment. If interested contact Melissa 0403 895 471 or email kidsrgo@gmail.com
- The Ark Clothing Co is looking for staff - retail exp an advantage but not always necessary. Offering flexible days on a monthly roster - if interested contact Kate Dear Ph.9912 2710, 0409 003 175 or email kate@theark.com.au
- Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteer host families to host international exchange students arriving in July 2011 for a stay of one or two semesters. Visit www.scce.com.au or ph. 1800 500 501
- Interior Design Workshop - 4-week course - 12 hrs - $295 Hartwell. Ph.0413 800 817
- Music World Music School - now enrolling for lessons on piano, guitar, singing, drums, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone and more! Ph. 9572 3391 or visit www.musicworldenterprises.com.au
- New community choir in Ashburton - Our Community Sings Launch Party - Mon 7 March, 6.15pm Ashburton Baptist Church - free supper Ph.8679 6088 or visit www.creativityaustralia.org.au
- Waverley Gymnastics Centre offers Gymnastics classes full of fun & learning for 5-12 yr old girls & boys on Tuesday & Friday afternoons, 7 Saturday mornings, at their Armadale Campus located at Lauriston Girls’ School. 2011 BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN!! Anyone interested in trying out a class should contact 9887 9611.

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.

For Sale:
Multi Station Home Gym - ex.cond. $1,500
Trampoline 9ft x 6ft - good cond. 4150
Ph. Darren 9886 9890

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

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