Dear Parents,

Building Project and School Improvement
Thanks to the Federal Government Economic Stimulus Package, in the coming months Glen Iris Primary will benefit from new buildings and facilities. As well as additional permanent classrooms, a new library and multipurpose area, there will be a significant increase in the ICT equipment around the school. We are hoping by the end of this term to have interactive whiteboards located in every classroom. The funds will also go towards upgrading our playground space through landscaping gardens and passive recreation areas. This is a very busy and exciting time to see these projects come to fruition.

Student Safety
Ensuring our students are safe is of paramount importance at GIPS. Recent playground data indicates a significant drop in the number of incidents amongst students in the playground. However, we need to continually remind all children of the appropriate personal safety rules when they are moving between home and school, especially if not in the company of an adult. Road safety practices should be constantly reinforced through discussion and positive role modelling. Children also need to be coached about strategies to follow if they ever feel unsafe. Current advice suggests not referring to “Stranger Danger” with children on the basis that some real dangers actually exist amongst people that children know.

Some strategies parents can follow with their children include:
• Insisting that children leave school as soon as they are dismissed and walk quickly home. This ensures the surrounding streets are busy with school families.
• Pointing out to children houses on their route to and from school where they know the occupants, or that have “Safety House” badges.
• Trying to arrange for children to walk with a sibling or friend.
• Reminding children not to speak to people they don’t know.
• Letting children know that if there is ever a change to the family arrangements, that parents will contact the school to let them know. No one the children don’t know will be sent to pick them up.

Wine ‘09
Many parents and staff are looking forward to enjoying a social evening, “Wine ‘09”, on Saturday night. This is a major fundraiser for our school and money raised will assist with the further development of our ICT program, air conditioning and furniture and equipment for our new library and multipurpose centre. Thank you to Janet o’Meara, Liz Fowler, Kate Bellamy and the numerous other parents who have supported this event with sponsorship, organising and offering of donations. I’m sure it will be a great night of fun and a successful fundraiser too.

Traffic and Parking
Parking and traffic flow are always difficult around schools at peak pick up and drop off times. I urge parents to follow the parking and traffic by laws for the safety of all the children. Please stop only in parking bays and resist making U turns in the area of the school crossing. Remember our children learn most by what they observe from adults. If you want children to take notice of road safety instructions, they need to have positive role models to learn from. Traffic inspectors patrol near the school and will fine
drivers who break the law.

Can you help?
Some school families kindly assisted one of our Grade 2 families in need of support with transport to and from school last term. This same family has moved home and continues to need the help of our Glen Iris community. If you can assist with a transport roster from the Alma Street, Malvern East area, please contact Melissa Costa, class teacher of 2M in Room 15.

Congratulations Tommy.
Congratulations to Tommy (4D) on his recent performances in the Primary School Cross Country Championships. Tommy has moved through the levels to be placed 20th from 119 competitors at a regional level. What a fabulous effort! We are very proud of you, Tommy.

Yours Sincerely

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Have you visited our website lately?
There’s always something being added!

In Term 2, the students in Level 2 Enrichment Group: The Good Old Days of Glen Iris have begun a History Page. Go to the ‘Profile’ Tab and click on history. Read about famous pupils and their interviews with Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Widicombe. You might like to try a recipe from the International Cook Book of 1978.

Design a new ‘You Can Do It Ticket’.
Have you completed your entry in the SALT Arts Team Competition? Download an entry form. Go to the Student Learning Page and click on SALT Teams. Pop your entry in the box outside the Office.

Our Art Gallery
If you are visiting the school take a few minutes to view the paintings and sculptures in the hallways outside the Office and the Staff Room. Artworks are regularly changed and give our talented students the opportunity to display their work.

Board Games in the Piazza
In the walled circle area in the playground students can choose to play board games. Some comments have been:
“ It is sooooo fun!”
“My friend beat me twice in Uno so we’re going to play again tomorrow. I might win!
“This is the best idea.’

Premier’s Reading Challengers meet Gabrielle Wang
Most of the students participating in the Reading Challenge this year and our Lunchtime Writers Group met Gabrielle Wang, author who taught every-one to draw one of her characters. Visit her website- http://www.gabriellelewang.com/

Robyn Floyd

LOTE - LEVEL 4 ICT
This term I am trialling using a Wiki with our grades 5 and 6. Wikis are excellent tools for collaborative projects and research tasks, and they are accessible from school and home. On our Wikispace you will find the French program for Term 3, which includes making a brochure, creating games and movie making. Please feel free to visit and enjoy our evolving Wiki:
http://www.frenchlevel4.wikispaces.com/
Username: frenchlevel4  Password: frenchlevel4
A bientôt, Madame Payne.

LOTE - NOUMÉA 2010
We are now considering the possibility of an excursion to Nouméa in 2010. In order to meet the current DEECD safety and risk management directives, we would like to know if there are any prospective parent participants with any of the following swimming/water activity qualifications:
• Current AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety Certificate;
• Current Bronze Medallion of the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia;
• Current Patrol Bronze Medallion of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia;
• Current Surf Rescue Certificate of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia;
• Snorkelling experience and qualifications
If you possess any of the above and you would consider participating in a Nouméa excursion next year, could you please leave your details at the office for Madame Payne.

Merci à vous, Madame Payne.
Bookings for “Wine 09” have closed and we’re looking forward to a fabulous evening this Saturday at Camberwell High School. Please return sold and unsold raffle tickets to the School Office by Friday. Make sure you read the “Wine 09” notice with today’s newsletter - our fantastic auction items are listed and it is possible to put in an early bid!

See you Saturday!

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

SRC NEWS
$433.70 was raised for the Make A Wish Foundation on the Free Dress Day, the last day of Term 2. A cheque for this amount will be sent to the foundation from the school.

Glen Iris Basketball Club Inc.
After huge demand within the local area for another basketball club, the Glen Iris District Basketball Club Inc. has been formed. This new club will form a part of the Waverley Basketball Association, playing games on Saturday morning at the Waverley Basketball Stadium in Chadstone. Children from Glen Iris and surrounding areas will be asked to be a part of our new Club. Our first season will kick off in October as a part of the Summer 09/10 season.

With this newsletter, you’ll receive a registration form for the new Club. Why not get a group of friends together and form a team. Basketball is a great game that allows kids to be fit and active whilst learning what it’s like to be a part of a team. No previous playing experience is required with teams going through grading games to determine where they’ll sit in the competition.

As this Club is brand new, we will be forming a Committee to run it. Our first meeting will be held on Thursday 20 August with the venue for this meeting to be confirmed. If people wish to register their interest to be on the new Committee they can email Kate Bellamy at kbellamy@bigpond.net.au We are in particular need of a good Treasurer for the Club.

The first playing group of the Club will also get to vote on the Club’s nickname – Glen Iris Spirit, Glen Iris Flames, Glen Iris ??????. So get your basketball boots laced and game face on, and fill out your registration form today.

All registration forms need to be handed in with payment, via the office, by no later than FRIDAY 14 AUGUST. (Note: Cheques must be made out to Glen Iris District Basketball Club Inc.)

Cheers, Andrew Cavell.

Research Participants Needed for PhD Project with the University of Melbourne
If you are currently working or have experience working with colleagues who are in different geographical locations (e.g. offices in different suburbs/states/countries), I would really appreciate if you could take part in a 2hr discussion about how the work team can still work effectively when its members are geographically distributed. Light refreshment will be provided.

For more information, please contact Imran Shaari at 0401 210 032 or ishaari@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au

GRADE 2 PARENTS PLEASE NOTE
Just a reminder that Term 3 Morning Tea for Grade 2 is being held this coming Monday 3rd @ the home of Kelley Hagenauer’s from 9.30 -31 Kerferd Rd, Glen Iris. Please feel free to bring a sweet or savoury plate to share.

RSVP to Hagenauer@bigpond.com or your Grade 2 Class Rep

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 27 February 2009 for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

EMA application forms are available from the school office.
LOST
Lost a three wheel blue Razor scooter (suitable for a 3 - 4 yr old). Left behind in the Prep/Grade 1 play equipment in the last week of Term 2.
If found please contact Trudy Vasta on 9885 1904.

MISSING
Polar fleece jacket, size 8, labelled Papavassiliou.
(Georgia 2CG)

REMINDERS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE
- Follow-up reminder to Prep families to send your child’s Immunisation Certificate to the Office if you haven’t already done so.
- To all families - if you are running late to collect your child/ren please phone the Office before 3.30pm as it’s much easier to relay a message to the children before the end of the day.

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER
- Glen Iris District Basketball Club Registration Form
- Wine 09 Auction List

It was amazing how all the staff at Sovereign Hill were dressed up as someone real back in the 1850’s. They wore old clothes and even put on a different accent to make it more realistic. By Tayla 5/6K

Glen Iris Primary School thanks the above sponsors for their support.

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