Dear Parents,

The warm weather is persisting at the moment and we have enjoyed lovely sunny days at school. Please continue to remind your children about the need to wear their school hats and sunscreen daily. As the mornings become cooler, there tends to be more jumpers left in the playground through the day. It would be a good idea to check if the names on clothing are still clear so you can locate that lost jacket, if necessary.

Parent Involvement – School Council Elections

We are very fortunate at Glen Iris to enjoy a high level of parental involvement and support.

I am pleased to advise you that our four parent vacancies on School Council have been filled by Alex Goldhagen (Mitchell Gr 4, Joel Gr 2), Nick Kwan (Sarah Gr 3), Jessica Shinnick (Aden Gr 6, Noah Gr 4) and James Kelly (Angus Gr 1). Congratulations to our new and returning Councillors and thank you for offering your time to support the school in this way.

Our continuing School Councillors in 2016 are: Carolyn Brumley (Natalie Gr 5, Marielle Gr 2), Lisa Waddell (Hannah Gr 2, Will Gr 1), Flip Connell (Declan Gr 2, Griffin Prep) and Greg Price (Amy Gr 5).

There are three remaining vacancies on School Council, one casual vacancy caused by the resignation of a councillor before their term had concluded and two Community Member positions. These positions are filled by co-option. One position will be filled again by Greg Price to represent the Parents’ Association on Council. In the coming weeks, School Council will determine who they will co-opt to fill the remaining two positions. Any parents interested in being considered for the co-opted positions are welcome to contact me at the School Office for further information. The First School Council meeting for 2016 will be held on Wednesday, March 16th at 7:30pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Class Representatives

Our Class Reps fill an important role in the dissemination of information, creating a culture of belonging and working in partnership with teachers at Glen Iris. Thank you to the many people who volunteered for the role. The table below sets out the Class Reps for 2016. A morning tea for the 2016 Class Reps will be held on Monday, March 7th from 9:00am – 10:00am in the staffroom. At this informal gathering, we will outline the role and answer questions about school matters that may assist the reps. Pre-schoolers welcome. We are still looking for Class Reps for Gr 5/6C to assist Miss Hallam.
Family Fiesta / Ashburton Festival

Our energetic Parents’ Association has already delivered two events for 2016 and I know there are many more on the horizon. Many families enjoyed the Family Fiesta on Friday, February 19th catching up with other school families despite the cool weather. Last Sunday, saw an impressive presence from Glen Iris Primary School at the Ashburton Festival; student performances and the Parents’ Association stall selling our 150th Anniversary book were both a great success. Thanks to the many parents who volunteered for the stall or arranged for their children to take part in performances by the Choir, Dance Club and Bands.

Gr 5/6 Family iPad Night – Wednesday, March 16th 6:00pm – 7:30pm

We are looking forward to a large number of Grade 5/6 families joining their children to learn more about the use of iPads as a learning tool in our classroom 1:1 iPad program. Apple Distinguished Educator, Phill Cristofaro, will facilitate the evening demonstrating what can be achieved with this important device. Phill and the teachers will also respond to any questions parents may have about the management of the devices at home and school. As a parent of a teenager, I know only too well how difficult it can be to stay in touch with the fast pace of technology to provide safe, appropriate access to ICT. I urge as many families as possible to take advantage of this opportunity to further their understanding of this school program. A small charge of $5.00 per student will be made to cover the cost of the activity.

Divisional Swimming

Last Monday, February 29th, Fifteen GIPS swimmers competed in a range of events at the Divisional Swimming Carnival representing the Boroondara division. Given the high level of competition, all our swimmers performed admirably doing their best and cheering on their team mates. Thank you to the many parents who supervised and supported the children at this event.

Good luck MS 24 Hour Mega Swim Competitors

On March 4th, four of our students – Claudia and Luke Rochow and Jackson and Angus Barry, are swimming in the Fitzroy MS 24 Hour Mega Swim to raise funds in support of people living with multiple sclerosis. Anyone who wants to support those afflicted with MS may like to sponsor our swimmers. You can sponsor a set amount or choose an amount per lap. As a team they have a target of swimming over two kilometres in total and even more importantly a total fundraising target of $600 to support MS Australia programs.

To sponsor Claudia or Luke – go to Claudia’s fundraising page or sponsor Jackson or Angus, go to Jackson’s fundraising page. It’s quick and easy and you can donate securely using your credit card by clicking the link below and searching for Claudia, Jackson or Luke’s name:

Donations can be made at: http://www.msmegaswim.org.au/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.donate

Yours Sincerely

SUNSMART

Dear Parents

As a Sunsmart school we would like to give some timely reminders regarding keeping our children safe from over exposure to the sun.

- Please ensure your child brings their GIPS broad brimmed hat daily.
- Please encourage your child to apply sunscreen before leaving home each morning.
- Please be aware that the provision of sunscreen is the responsibility of the parents and we encourage families to send sunscreen to their child if deemed necessary.

Sport and Physical Education sessions will be held in the morning whenever possible or provide shade relief for students during the afternoon.

All students are encouraged to bring a water bottle when attending outdoor activities.

Shelley Morrison

HATS

The GIPS District Swim Team finished 3rd out of 8 schools on Monday 15 February. We had 32 swimmers compete with 15 students going onto Booroondara Divisional’s last Monday. Thanks to our parent helpers Kristin Meachem, Kristy Howes and Amanda Parsons. A big thanks to Miss Hallam for assisting on the day also.

Congratulations on a great effort by all the students who competed in both these events.

Nathan Gilliland
What a wonderful night we had for the Family Fiesta. While we started the day a little anxious about the weather, the rain held off and allowed us to enjoy a fun night. We were able to connect with old friends as well as meet new members of the GIPS community. We were pleased that our Principal, Meredith Carracher, and many staff could join us. The school looked wonderful, the children enjoyed themselves while parents mingled. Altogether we managed to consume many sausages, drinks, jelly cups and icy-poles.

- On behalf of the parent community, I would like to extend a huge thanks to Jacqui Brown for her time organising such a great social event to start the year.
- Thanks also to the many parent volunteers who give up time on the night to help run the BBQ and canteen: Carolyn Currie, Katy de Valle, Susan Mateer, Emma Hirstle, Stuart Bavage, Tammy Vandersteen, Tony Christianen, Sarah Dunstan, Emma Maitland, Verity Bright, Rob Fisher, Robyn McKern, Julia Greene, Mike Lukins, Tetsu Yamada, Nia Toshniwal, Rachael Thomson, Deanne Gedge, Kara Smith, Lushani Goonewardena, Kelly Blue, Julie-Ann Taffe, Ashwini Reddy, Kerryn Aikman, Robyn Campbell, Carolyn Carr, Heng Liu, Fiona Freementle, Kate Robertson, Sarah Goldsmith, Jane Hughes and also to those who names weren't on the official list but who also stepped in to help out before, during or after the event: Julie Gray, Alex Goldhagen, Flip Connell, Greg Price for jobs such as set up, onions, BBQing, decorations, bins, and clean up. Kelly Blue, Wendy Clarke and Daniella Andrinos for making the jelly cups and Gavin Blue for his photography. It really was a real team effort with everyone just helping out where needed.
- I would also like to thank Robert from Charisma Dance who rocked out his tunes to entertain the kids and Imogen for her gorgeous face painting!

Of course the event would not have been a success without the school community getting behind it so thanks to all those families and teachers who joined in the fun.

I hope many of you were able to enjoy the Ashburton Community Festival on the weekend. I saw many GIPS kids and families there having fun on the rides and soaking up the atmosphere. Our stall looked great and it was good to engage with our community and be able to chat to passers-by about how wonderful our school is and what it offers.

- I would especially like to thank to those who helped set up and man the stall: Alex Goldhagan, Nicola Thomas, Jenny Millar, Kerryn Aikman, Sharon Watters, Kathryn Gower, Phillipa Low, Robyn McKern, Fiona Freementle, Siddi Aggarwal, Merryn Callaghan, Heng Liu and Jacqui Brown.
- While our aim was less about fundraising and more about a community presence, the PA raised approx. $500 from the sale of memorabilia, drinks and wristbands for the school. Again, well done.

On Monday 7th March there will be a morning tea to welcome the 2016 Class Reps. Thanks to those who have volunteered for the Class Rep role, I look forward to seeing you there with Nicola Thomas, our Class Rep co-ordinator.

In a few weeks we look forward to the Term 1 Cake and Produce Stall on Friday 18th March, 3.20 – 3.50pm, on the coloured squares. Look out for more information in the notice folders soon.

Then the March PA meeting will be on Monday 21st March at 7.30pm in the staffroom, all welcome.

- The PA is still seeking someone to fill the role of Secretary for the remainder of this year. Rest assured you will be well supported by myself, Jacqui and the rest of the committee, please let me know if you might be interested.

Jane Lukins - Mum of Emily (5/6H) and Daniel (3TJ)

President GIPS PA 2016
Chicken Care

We would love you to help us to look after Pepper and Muffin, the school chickens, over the Easter School Holidays. If you can come into the school for a few minutes over one or two days to replace water and top up food, then please contact Helen Beggs on h.beggs@bom.gov.au by Saturday 12th March. Please give the dates you are available, email address and a phone contact.

Dance Club at GIPS

Congratulations to all the children who were able to perform to a huge audience at Ashburton Twilight Festival on Sun 28th Feb.

A massive thank you to all the Dance Club parents and carers for your support.

As well as the children’s respectful and impeccable behaviour, their performances were brilliant!

The Choir and Band were truly fab and Dance Club were amazing, especially considering that some of the dancers had only 2 or 3 short rehearsals.

I was very proud of you all - well done everyone!

Kate :)

EASTER SPECIAL LUNCH
Tuesday 22nd March 2016

To Register and Order Online go to www.classroomcuisine.com.au.

2 Courses $7.95 or 3 courses $9.65

LUNCH ITEM ONE
Sushi - Chicken Teriyaki Handroll (2)
Sushi - Tuna Handroll (2)
Sushi - Fresh Salmon Handroll (2)
Hirami and Pineapple PITTA Pizza
Marronika Pita Pizza
Vegemite Sanchilli (2)

LUNCH ITEM TWO
Hot Dress Bun
choc chip cookie
Extra Juicy Apple Juice
Nippy’s Choc Milk Drink
Cold lightly salted popcorn

LUNCH ITEM THREE
Hot Cross Bun
choc chip cookie
Extra Juicy Apple Juice
Extra Juicy Orange Juice
Nippy’s Choc Milk Drink
Cold lightly salted popcorn

The cut off for orders is 5pm Friday 18th March, no late orders can be accepted.

- Don’t forget to update your child’s class details for 2016.
- All lunches will include a bite sized Cadbury Chocolate Easter Egg - If you don’t want your child to receive this please advise Rachael Thomson via email rachael@mypegasusgroup.com.au.
- This is the menu that we have requested Classroom Cuisine provide, no alterations can be made.
- If your child is sick or absent on the day orders can be collected from the canteen between 12:30-1:15pm.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Dear Parents

Just a reminder that children will be supervised in the yard from 8.45am and until 3.45pm.

Children should not be in the school ground without adult supervision outside these hours.

Please arrange with our Camp Australia program if you require assistance with child supervision at school.

Anaphylaxis Policy update

We are currently reviewing this policy. We remind parents that we are a nut-aware school but also have a number of students with food allergies. If you are bringing party food to celebrate your child's birthday you will need to check with the class teacher about potential allergies before bringing the food to school.

Community Noticeboard

Don’t forget to check the Community Noticeboard on the GIPS website!

This week’s notices:

Riversdale Soccer Club— registrations@riversdalesc.com.au and 0419 537 785
All players welcome—new and existing
Also establishing all-girl squads for U/8, U/10 and U/12 age groups

Glen Iris Scorpions Ladies Monday Morning Basketball Team
Season commencing in April, start of Term 2
Register your interest now with Kristie Howes

Futures Tennis
Tennis Coaching at GIPS
Thursday morning before school
**Inner East Community Health - Ashburton**

Community Dental Services
7 Samarinda Avenue, Ashburton
Call 9885 6822 to arrange an appointment

**Smile**

**FREE**
Dental checkups and general treatment for eligible children and teenagers.

**FREE**
0 - 17yrs for holders or dependants of Health Care Cards or Pensioner Concession Card

**FREE**
No Gap Bulk Billed Checkups and general dental treatment for children and teenagers 2yrs – 17yrs eligible for Medicare Child Dental Benefits Voucher

$32.00 FREE applies for non eligible children 0yrs – 12yrs for checkups and general dental treatment

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**ST DOMINIC’S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

145 HIGHFIELD ROAD, CAMBERWELL

**ITALIAN FESTA**

FOOD & WINE - RIDES - STALLS - ENTERTAINMENT

2pm to 6pm

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**The 11th Boroondara Volunteer Expo**

Wednesday 16 March 2016
1pm to 6pm

Discover how YOU can make a difference.
Talk to community organisations about the volunteer opportunities available to you.

Main Hall, Hawthorn Arts Centre
350 Burwood Road, Hawthorn
(Metro 45 010)

No RSVP necessary - just come along on the day
2nd Hand Uniform Shop

Please come and visit us in the 2nd hand uniform shop. We have been inundated with donations and have a lot of stock to clear. All clothing is $5. We also have a lot of school bags for $10.

We are open every Friday from 3.15pm till 3.45pm. Also feel free to clean out your cupboards and bring in donations, however only good quality—no rips or paint stains please.

Thankyou
Kim Green & Katrina Hrelja.

Are you interested in starting a string instrument in 2016?

Biana Goldenberg teaches strings at GIPS on Thursdays. She is experienced and highly qualified teacher and player. Biana’s family goes back four generations of professional musicians in her family who have been playing and teaching around the world and she plays with a number of professional orchestras. She teaches violin, viola and cello.

There is opportunity for a few students to commence lessons with Biana in 2016. Please contact her on 0432 571 407 or by email on ygolden@walla.com. If you are interested in lessons, or finding out more information. Instruments hire can be arranged. Enrolment form are also available at the school office.

Our School Values

Achievement - Doing your best
Resilience - BOUNCING BACK
Honesty - truthfulness
Respect - consideration
Empathy - caring

2016 Term Dates

Term 1 - 29 Jan to 24 March
Term 2 - 11 April to 24 June
Term 3 - 11 July to 16 September
Term 4 - 3 October to 20 December
Mums and Dads! Do you want to volunteer in your community but are time poor? Casserole Club may just be perfect for you!

Casserole Club allows its volunteers to assist in their community using as minimal time possible whilst still creating a big impact from the work they do.

We match people in the Boroondara area who would like to share an extra portion of their home cooked meal with an older person in their neighbourhood who may not be able to cook for themselves regularly.

This is a great opportunity to assist in your community, meet new and interesting people and to show your children the value of volunteering.

To find out more information please go to www.casseroleclub.com.au or call Lana Barnett at the City of Boroondara on 03 92784777.
Back to School asthma spike
Every year there is a well-documented rise in asthma flare-ups and hospitalisations when students return to school after the Christmas break. Asthma Australia has information for parents of students with asthma to help them prepare for school. Asthma Australia’s website and social media provide the latest information, including a checklist of what to do to help your child and a survey to complete to determine the impacts for parents/carers.

Asthma Australia recommends that you talk to school staff about your child’s asthma and the school’s medication policy, provide an Asthma Plan from the doctor and supply a spare reliever puffer and spacer for your child’s use at school.

For primary aged students:

Asthma Kids
Looking for a way to help your child understand more about their asthma or about a friend with asthma? Asthma Kids is an online, interactive tool to help primary school aged children understand what it’s like to have asthma and what they can do to help. Watch one of the introductory videos then take Chester’s Asthma Trail. There are prizes to win too!
www.astmakids.org.au
WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

Just a reminder all volunteers who work in our school with our children must have current Working with Children Checks as indicated in the policy approved by School Council.

The policy and further information is located on our website.

We have had some situations of parents turning up without these checks and unfortunately being unable to partake in rostered classroom or playground activities, sporting events or excursions.

LEAVING THE SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If you need to take your child from a classroom during school hours:

- Please fill in the Leave Pass Book at the Office.
- Hand the white slip to the teacher when you collect your child.

NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Just a quick reminder that Glen Iris Primary School is a Nut Aware School and, as such, it is important that parents do not allow their children to bring any product to school that contains nuts of any type. Naturally this includes peanut butter, Nutella, nut health bars and cakes/biscuits that contain nuts. Please inform class teachers of all the ingredients of any food sent to school to share on special occasions. We appreciate your diligence in this matter.

COMPASS SCHOOL MANAGER

JUST A REMINDER

You can now log your child’s absence online through Compass. This allows their teacher to be immediately aware of their absence and also saves the hassle of having to ring the office.

If you are having difficulties with the process there is a Parent Guide with easy to follow steps on our website under notices.

SWEDISH PILATES STUDIO

BIRGITTA THORBORG

w: theswedishpilatesstudio.com.au
e: birgita@newfitness.com.au
m: 0414 725 932

Shop 4, 108 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris, 3146

NEU MODE

Design & Construction
Multi MBV Award Winner

Phone: (03) 9885 2600
Email: michael@neumode.com.au

Extensions, Renovations and New Homes

www.neumode.com.au

Free back to school posture assessment for kids

Back In Motion
Camberwell
9889 3903
backinmotion.com.au
PARENTS/GUARDIANS

If during the day you need to advise the school of your child’s pickup arrangements, please ring the school office at all times.

Please do not send this information via email as we cannot guarantee this will always be seen by the office staff or teacher before the afternoon dismissal, and we want the children to be safe and accounted for at all times.

SCHOOL PICKUP

Just a reminder to all parents when picking up children after school please do not park in the school car park.

The disabled car park is specifically reserved for those who need it and everyone else is asked to please park out in the surrounding streets.

HEAD LICE

They’re back…

Head lice are common in school-aged children and are the most adaptable of creatures. They have survived living solely on human for 10,000 years. You may be reassured to know that they are commonly found in places other than Glen Iris Primary School.

Some of the reasons they have survived for as long as they have are:

- The six legs of a louse end in a claw, allowing them to grip the hair.
- They detect vibration and can hide - (conditioner will help fix this problem)
- Head lice can ‘hold’ their breath for 20 mins – looking like they are dead.
- The eggs are attached to the hair with a ‘glue’ like substance.
- Studies conducted on 45 different products to dissolve the ‘glue’ showed nothing would dissolve it.

The good news…

We know where they live and we know how to find them.

If you follow these steps, once a week, the control of head lice in your home will be greatly improved.

Step 1 Comb inexpensive hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This makes it difficult for lice to grip the hair or run around;

Step 2 Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue;

Step 3 Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs;

Step 4 If lice or eggs are found, the child should be treated;

Step 5 If the child has been treated recently and only hatched eggs are found, you may not have to treat since the eggs could be from the old infection.

If your child has head lice – tell anyone who has had head to head contact with them and ask them to check their family for head lice.

SCHOOL PICKUP

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2016 TERM DATES

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