Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to all our families. It was fabulous to see our new Preps bouncing into school with so much enthusiasm, and to have the opportunity to meet so many parents (many new) in the Multipurpose room. Thanks to the parents who offered to serve the coffee and tea and make everyone feel welcome. There was a happy buzz in the room.

Mrs Morrison and myself have been delighted to see how settled and engaged our students are during our regular classroom visits. We know that our teachers have worked hard during their holidays to make classrooms educationally exciting and we thank them on behalf of their students.

Shelley will be AP on Monday and Tuesdays while I will be AP Wednesday and Friday. We will share alternate Thursdays. As is our expectation for all teachers in dual team teaching roles Shelley and I will be in daily contact so that we have a clear understanding of the daily program and there is always a smooth handover.

This week I began my work at Ashwood High and as an old Ashwood High gal I have been doing some reminiscing ...although almost all the old buildings have been replaced. To get my bearings in the secondary world I have been observing classes this week and enjoyed joining their new Accelerated program. It's also been great to met ex Glen Iris students whom I have (embarrassingly) barely recognised because now they tower over me! I also welcomed a new grandson Tihan (Teeharn) into the world last Sunday morning. I was honoured to be at the birth to have a cuddle when he was brand new and to support his parents. It has been such an exciting week for me. (Happy to show my brag book!)

Meredith is currently taking some personal leave and I am sure that when she returns soon she will be delighted to see how purposefully and happily the whole school is working.

**Kaye Norden**, Business Manager, will commence a period of long service leave followed by retirement in mid February. Whilst we will see Kaye in the first couple of weeks of school, it will be short lived as she heads off to grandparenthood. Over the past 8 years, Kaye's expertise in management of the school's finances has proven a great asset to the school. Not to mention the many other functions Kaye fulfills in the Admin team

Parent Involvement in School Council

I would like to acknowledge the dedicated and valuable contribution made to the School Council in recent years by our councillors. Our School Council comprises 8 parent members, 4 staff members, 2 community members (who can also be GIPS parents) and the Principal. Many parents enjoy participating in their children's school life and contributing to our school community. In fact, research suggests that parental involvement plays a significant part in children’s success at school. One way you can consider being involved in school life is by becoming part of our School Council. This group meets once each month and guides policy and budgetary decision making in the school. Whilst they play an important part of school operations, School Council members do not need any special expertise, experience or skills. The most important thing is a genuine desire to contribute to continually improving
learning opportunities for all children at Glen Iris.
School Council elections are conducted each year, with half the members of Council concluding their 2 year term of office. Nominations are currently being taken for 3 parent vacancies for 2016 / 2017. We are very keen to welcome new members to the Council. Nomination forms for these positions are available from Monday 8th February at the Office and nominations close on Monday 22nd February at 4pm.

For more information please feel free to contact Meredith Carracher (Principal) and/or Alex Goldhagen (Council President) through the school office.

Robyn Floyd & Shelley Morrison
Assistant Principals

Calling all parents:
Are your kids safe on their iPad, iPhone or iPod Touch?

Join us at iTandCoffee, (34 High Street Glen Iris) on Wed Feb 10th, 9:30-11:30 am
for Keeping Kids Safe on their iPad, iPhone or iPod Touch

Free one-on-one help will be offered in the hour after the class, for those who need assistance with resolving issues with setup of their child’s (or their own) iPad.
For more information or to book, call 1300 885 420 or visit the iTandCoffee website

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
In reference to media reports regarding threats to schools, we wish to advise the school community that we have our Emergency Evacuation Procedures in place.
All staff have recent training to manage emergency situations. We have regular evacuation and lock down drills. Naturally the safety of all students and staff is paramount. Under advisement from Emergency Services and the Education Department, parents would be contacted as soon as possible.

The Leadership Team:
Meredith Carracher
Robyn Floyd
Shelley Morrison
Barb Maclarn
Tanya Tomic
Nathan Gilliland

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 with their child to school 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
Hello all and on behalf of the Parents’ Association, welcome or welcome back to an exciting year at GIPS in 2016!

The PA always welcomes new members and input, so if you are keen to join in the fun please contact us or come along to our **first PA meeting** on **Monday 15th February 2016** at **7.30pm** in the school staff room. Meetings this year will be on the third Monday of the month at 7.30pm during school terms.

Our first event of the year will be the **Family Fiesta**, a casual BYO picnic at school on **Friday 19th February, 5.30-7.30pm**. Robert from Charisma Dance will be there to entertain the kids, plus there will be sausages, drinks, icy poles and jelly cups for sale. Please follow the link on the GIPS website to register your likely attendance and let us know numbers for catering purposes. We are also in need of parents to volunteer for a short duty on either the BBQ or in the canteen, so please let us know if you can help by filling out the bottom of the notice sent home and returning it ASAP.

The PA will again use the online booking site [www.carebookings.com.au](http://www.carebookings.com.au) for **Lunchtime Library Duty** and **Icy Pole duty**. The code is **BMTGG**. Please sign yourself up for a duty today! Thanks to **Justine Moore** and **Emma Verge** for coordinating these activities again this year.

Another great way to be involved and get to the other families in your class is to nominate for **Class Rep**. If you are interested, please fill out the nomination form sent home this week and return to your child’s teacher ASAP. For enquiries email **Nicola Thomas**, Class Rep Coordinator [gipsrc@gmail.com](mailto:gipsrc@gmail.com)

To have your details included on the class lists please also make sure you fill out the Class List permission forms which will come home soon.

Special thanks to **Katrina Hrelja** and **Kim Green** who have been super busy in the **second hand uniform shop**. They have collected a heap of donations, cleaned, tidied and put the shop into order, so if you just realised your child has grown (again!) and are in need of some pre-loved items, the shop is open Friday afternoons 3.15 – 4pm.

Save the date for the **Ashburton Village Festival** on **Sunday 28th February**, 12 noon to 7pm. Our choir, band and dance groups will be performing and we will have a stall set up. There will be the usual food trader stalls and rides and entertainment for the kids. We will be fundraising with advance purchase of wrist bands for rides and will need some volunteers for our stall. The wristbands will soon be on sale at the office at $25 each. Look out for more information to follow.

Best wishes for a great 2016 and hope to see you about school!

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

President GIPS PA 2016
Prep Sausage Sizzle

Children and their families are invited to join us for a sausage sizzle.

Date: Tuesday 9th February
Time: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Place: Prep Playground

Sausage in bread with cheese, sauce or onions and an icy-pole will be provided.
BYO drinks, picnic rug or chairs

We hope you can come along!

To assist with catering please complete the section below and return to your child’s teacher by Thursday 4th February.

Kind regards
The Prep Team

________________________________________________________________________

The ___________ Family will be attending the Prep BBQ on Tuesday 9th February.

Number of:  Adults  Children

Buy your wristbands at the GIPS Office from next week, cash preferred.
On sale until Wednesday 24th Feb.

UNLIMITED CARNIVAL RIDES WRISTBANDS

Ashburton 'til Twilight
February 28th 2016
12 - 7pm

SAVE $5
Buy your Festival UNLIMITED RIDE wristband NOW
Pay just $25 ($30 on the Day) for
7 hours (12-7pm) of
Unlimited Carnival Rides

Rides available include:
- UFO Thrill ride
- Spin Out thrill ride
- Surf Shack Slide
- Chair 'o' Swing
- Junior Pirate Ship
- Thomas the Tank Train
- Egyptian Play House
- Hi Striker
  and lots more.......

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.

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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.

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Don’t forget to check the Community Noticeboard on the GIPS website!
This week’s notices:

Ashy Redbacks Registration Day
Sunday 7th Feb 2016 — 9.30-11.30am

Riversdale Soccer Club Registration Day
Sun 14th Feb 2016 — 12-3pm
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
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
Bedtime Storytime
Pyjama Party!

Monday 8 February at 6.30pm
Ashburton Library
154 High Street, Ashburton
Phone 9278 4666

The whole family is welcome!
Wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite cuddly friend.

Lego Club
Love Lego? Love creating?

A club for building and playing with Lego for primary school-aged children.

Ashburton Library
154 High Street, Ashburton
On the following Wednesdays at 4pm
10 February, 13 April, 8 June, 10 August, 12 October

Camberwell Library
549 Camberwell Road, Camberwell
On the following Tuesdays at 4pm
23 February, 23 March, 26 April, 24 May, 21 June, 25 July, 23 August, 13 September, 23 October, 20 November

Kew Library
Corner Cottenham Road and Clink Drive, Kew
On the following Wednesdays at 4pm
17 February, 16 March, 20 April, 16 May, 18 June, 20 July, 17 August, 14 September, 19 October, 16 November

Everything is awesome!
No bookings required.

Raise a Reader
Monday 29 February at 7pm, Ashburton Library

An information session for parents/carers of babies, preschoolers and early primary aged children.

This session will provide useful tips on reading aloud and developing early literacy skills as well as encouraging a lifelong love of reading. Suitable books for different age groups will be discussed and a copy of the library’s “Readers’ Reading Kit” will be given to each participant.

Please note, this is not a session about teaching your child how to read.

Free event, bookings essential.
Light refreshments will be available.

Book online at:

If alternate childcare arrangements cannot be made, children can be accommodated.

Crafternoon

Fold, cut, glue, paint and decorate. Creative craft sessions for primary school aged children, using our materials and your imagination!

Ashburton Library
154 High Street, Ashburton
On the following Wednesdays at 4pm
9 March, 11 May, 13 July, 7 September, 8 November.

Hawthorn Library
534 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn
On the following Tuesdays at 4pm
16 February, 19 April, 14 June, 16 August, 11 October

No bookings required, just come along and create!
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.
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.

2016 TERM DATES

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<th>Term</th>
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<td>Term 1</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
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<td>11 July to 16 September</td>
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2017 TERM DATES

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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>30 Jan (Teachers) to 31 March</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
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