Dear Parents,

Meredith is on leave this week so I am hijacking her column to talk about my passion – curriculum. Last week I attended a Principal’s briefing about the new Victorian Curriculum. To put it simply, the Victorian Curriculum is basically the way the Australian National Curriculum is taught in Victorian schools.

The new Victorian Curriculum incorporates and reflects much of the Australian Curriculum but differs in some important respects, most notably the representation of the curriculum as a continuum of learning and the structural design. There are nine curriculum areas: the Arts, English, Health and Physical Education, The Humanities, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Design and Technologies and Digital Technologies.

The Victorian Curriculum also includes capabilities, which are a set of discrete knowledge and skills that can and should be taught explicitly in and through the learning areas, but are not fully defined by any of the learning areas or disciplines. A key distinction between the Australian Curriculum and the Victorian Curriculum is the provision of content descriptions and achievement standards in the four capabilities which are Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical, Intercultural and Personal and Social.

Teachers at Glen Iris have been meeting to discuss the changes and we are excited about the design and its simplicity and coherence. The associated achievement standards enable teachers to plan, monitor, assess and report on the learning achievement of every student.

http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au

The buzz word in education news at the moment is STEM programs. The simplest definition is what it stands for is science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The ultimate goal of STEM education is to encourage students to take an interest in STEM subjects at an early age. Some of the programs we offer that encourage students to use a combination of these skills include robotics (all year 5s participated in a program this year) and Junior Scratch (year 3s). This year we have joined the Scientists in Schools program which releases a scientist from their work for a day and so Claire Schwarz will be working with our robotics team in November. If any-one else has skills they would like to share we just need to apply each year.

Next year we aim to refit our old LAB area with cupboards to house the technology equipment we have. If anyone has brilliant solutions for storing Lego parts please see me! We want it to be a FAB LAB which can be used for continuing to teach STEM skills.

Yours sincerely

Robyn Floyd - Assistant Principal

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 6</td>
<td>“Take Off” #1 Transition Program Prep 2016</td>
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<td>Assembly</td>
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<td>Sun 8</td>
<td>Lego - 9am to 12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9</td>
<td>Gymnastics starts in PE</td>
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<td>Tues 10</td>
<td>4 Steps For Life CPR - 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>Gr 6 Shrine of Remembrance Exc.</td>
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<td>Thurs 12</td>
<td>CHS Band Performance 5/6</td>
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<td>11.10 - 1.00 in PA room</td>
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<td>Fri 13</td>
<td>“Take Off” #2 Transition Program Prep 2016</td>
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<td>Gr 2 “Fairytale Fiasco”</td>
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<td>Sat 14</td>
<td>Working Bee—3.00pm-6.00pm</td>
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<td>Sun 15</td>
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<td>Mon 16</td>
<td>Parents’ Association AGM - 7.30 pm</td>
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<td>Tues 17</td>
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<td>Wed 18</td>
<td>Gr 1 Beep/Honk/Zoom Excursion</td>
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<td>Thurs 19</td>
<td>Gr 5/6 ACMI Excursion #2</td>
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<td>4 Steps For Life CPR - 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20</td>
<td>“Take Off” #3 Transition Program Prep 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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**HATS**

All students are required to be wearing their school hat for all outdoor activities this term.

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**Reminders**

**Before and After School Supervision**

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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**150th Anniversary Excursion Bags – some still available**

Support sustainability at Glen Iris Primary School and purchase an excursion bag. On excursions we ask students to bring drinks and lunches in light plastic bags. These are difficult to tie and untie and create waste. Our excursion bags have an easy draw-string and can be reused again and again. They could also be used as a library bag!

**Special deal until sold out. Purchase an excursion bag for $10 and you’ll find a 150th badge and washable tattoos inside.**

**Christmas hamper idea**

Buy a 150th shopping bag for $8 and fill it with goodies. (Yes, rather than using a hamper basket… that’s my brilliant Christmas idea this year for all...)

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**From the Assistant Principal’s desk ……**

**School Policy Updates**

The Education and Community Partnerships Committee oversees the updating of school policies on a three year cycle in consultation with parents. This year we will be updating our First Aid, Anaphylaxis, Occupational Health and Safety, Homework and Technologies policies to Departmental Guidelines. These will be available for parent consideration Friday 23rd October from the General Office. School Council will ratify them at the November meeting.
Fundraising has been active this term with some great results:

- **Walk-A-Thon**: Thanks to Fiona Freemantle and Kristin Meachem for organising this event and to all the children for their laps achieved. Please hand all sponsorship forms and payment to the office by tomorrow.

- **The 2015 signed Hawks Footy Jumper** was hotly contested on eBay. The final price paid was $660. Thanks to the Yze family (Noah, Grade 3) for making this possible.

- We have one **Soccerwise voucher**, valid until the end of the year, available at the bargain price of $100 – First in best dressed (see the office).

- **Mango** orders have now closed, they will arrive at school during the week beginning 7th December. If you regret not placing an order contact Julie Gray or Jacqui Brown, they may be able to help.

**2015 PA Annual General Meeting** will be held in the staff room on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend. We will be seeking new and enthusiastic members to join!

**YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE!**

The Parents Association is pleased to be able to offer **CPR sessions FREE** to GIPS parents. Thanks to Ambulance Victoria’s “4 steps for life +” program and to the McFarlane family for giving us the impetus. **Epi-pen education** will also be available.

Please see the flyer for session times. There will be limited places available in each session, so book via the link on the [GIPS website](#) now.

Jane Lukins - President GIPS PA 2015

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**Glen Iris Primary School Parents Association**

Invites you to attend a

**4 Steps for Life Plus CPR session**

**When:** Tuesday 10th November, 7.30pm OR Thursday 19th November, 9.00am

**Where:** GIPS Multipurpose Room

Please Bring: a pillow to practice CPR skills

Cost: FREE for GIPS parents

Session will also cover **Epi-Pen use**

**Places strictly limited to 30 people per session**

Please book via link on [GIPS website](#)
Well done to all the children for completing a successful walk-a-thon around the school grounds this week. Many of them completed quite a few laps!

If you have not already done so, we would like to remind you to return your completed sponsorship forms (with payment) to school before Friday 6 November 2015.

Thank you once again for your continued support of our fundraising efforts.
Fiona Freemantle and Kristin Meachem - Parents’ Association.
Congratulations Taj!

Taj will represent our school in the 12 year old girls’ High Jump at the National State School Athletics Competition in Canberra. To help support her we will be selling raffle tickets from School Sports Victoria. These are available at the Office for $2.00 each.

MoDEC
Mothers Day Event Committee

✓ NEXT MEETING: Thurs 3rd December at 6PM,
✓ BAREFOOT BOWLS - $15 per player
✓ LOCATION: Outdoor bowling green, East Malvern RSL, Stanley Grose Drive,

ENQUIRIES: Mal Osborne-Smith
mal.osbornsmith@gmail.com 0417 667766
(No RSVP required)
LEAVING GIPS ???

If your family plans mean that your children will not return to Glen Iris Primary School in 2016, could you assist by advising the Office as soon as your plans are known. We work on the assumption that children will return to the school unless we hear otherwise.

Thankyou—Office Staff

The final working bee for 2015.
Sat 14th November
3.00pm-6.00pm

Glen Iris Primary School
UNIFORM PRICE LIST 2016

YOUR UNIFORM IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE
PSW MOUNT WAVERLEY STORE
288-290 Stephensons Road,
Mount Waverley VIC 3149,
Phone: 03 9768 0335
HOLIDAY PROGRAM AT GLEN IRIS PRIMARY!

Team Holiday is a multi-award winning holiday program provider for children and teens across Melbourne and greater Victoria and are now starting up at Glen Iris. We provide full-day activities to over 35,000 children aged 5-15 every year. Our programs are perfect for working families or for kids who are just looking for fun activities to do during their holiday break.

95% of families rate Team Holiday as the better than any other program they’ve ever used.

Fast Facts:

- Our service is fully approved for Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebates.
- We provide a huge variety of the me days and activities Monday to Friday throughout most school holiday periods.
- We open at 8am and close at 6pm, however you can drop off as late as 9.30 and pickup as early as 3.30pm (provided we’re not on an excursion!). We do not offer half days.
- Activities include sports clinics, swimming, cooking, giant outdoor games, pamper princess days, scooter riding days, arts and crafts, loads of incursions and excursion and much, much more! Check our website outs for upcoming themes www.teamholiday.com.au
- We provide two programs: a 5-12 year old program and a 10-15 year old program.
- Team Holiday only employs fully qualified staff, all with working with children checks, first aid, anaphylaxis training, asthma training, lifeguard/austswim certificates and are either qualified teachers, studying in the field or coaches in specialist fields.
- Team Holiday welcomes all children from any school. You can choose to enrol into as many, or few days as you like.
- For more information, please visit www.teamholiday.com.au or call 03 953 20366 to speak to one of our friendly team members.

SINGLE PARENTS ACTIVE KIDS PROUDLY PRESENTS:

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY
Elwood Park, St. Kilda St Brighton, 67c5
SUNDAY 20th of November
STARTING 12 Noon.
FREE BBQ, ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS:
MEMBERSHIP SPECIALS/RENEWALS AND MORE.
EVEN IF YOU CAN’T ATTEND THERE ARE PLENTY MORE OPPORTUNITIES. HERE IS A LINK TO OUR VERY ACTIVE WEBSITE http://www.singleparentactivekids.org/
LIKE MINDED SINGLE PARENTS TO CHAT WITH, ACTIVE KIDS WANTING TO PLAY WITH YOUR ACTIVE KIDS, WIN WIN!
“SINGLE DOES NOT MEAN ALONE”
PLEASE RSVP TO info@singleparentactivekids.org or call Mounah on 0430 504 119.
INTERNATIONAL GAMES DAY @ YOUR LIBRARY

Saturday 21 November
GAME ON!
2015

Join in the fun from 10am to 5pm. Free event, no bookings required.
Games include Ticket to Ride, Takagami, Smallworld, Pandemic, Alhambra, Forbidden Island and Story Dice.

Ashburton Library
154 High St
Ashburton

Camberwell Library
340 Camberwell Rd
Camberwell

Hawthorn Library
584 Glenferrie Rd
Hawthorn

Bedtime Storytime

Join us for a
Teddy Bears Picnic!
The whole family is welcome.
Wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite cuddly friend.

Monday 9 November at 6.30pm
Ashburton Library
154 High Street, Ashburton
Phone 92784666
National Novel Writing Month
1 to 30 November

Young Writers! Can you complete a novel in just one month?!?
Challenge yourself and prepare to write like crazy.

‘Writer’s block’ drop-in sessions will be available on 10, 17 and 24 November from 4pm – 5pm at Camberwell Library.

We will help with editing, brainstorm plot problems, provide inspiration and the opportunity to meet other young writers.

Camberwell Library
340 Camberwell Road
Phone: 9278 4666

No need to book, just turn up.

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Australian Government
Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner

Internet safety
Free Internet safety awareness presentation for parents and guardians

Tuesday 10th November
6.15 - 8pm

Bookings essential
Ph: 9822 3247
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.

Don’t forget to check the Community Noticeboard on the GIPS website!
This week’s notices:
Past GIPS student - Babysitting etc
You are invited to attend SAFEMinds At Home, a free forum that aims to help parents and/or carers effectively identify young people experiencing the early signs of a mental health issue. SAFEMinds is a comprehensive learning resource that has been developed by both headspace and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

**SAFEMINDS AT HOME: HEADSPACE HAWTHORN**

Location: Hawthorn Town Hall, Zelman Room, 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn  
Date: Monday 16th November, 7-9PM  
Cost: Free and a light supper will be provided  
Eventbrite Registration: www.eventbrite.com.au, search 'SAFEMinds At Home'

You will also have the opportunity to ask questions and learn about other local services including; headspace Hawthorn, Austin CAMHS, Boroondara Youth Services (360), Relationships Australia Victoria, Inner East Drug and Alcohol Service, Victoria Police, Child FIRST, Camcare and Parentline.

**SAFEMINDS ONLINE**

SAFEMinds Online uses an immersive, video-based experience, to tell a series of personal stories of children and young people, their families and teachers. This approach aims to develop the knowledge and understanding of the whole school community – school staff, parents and carers – about the many different forms of emotional distress children and young people may experience, and how these might be presented. Supporting resources, further background information and the NIP it in the bud Toolkit can also be found in SAFEMinds Online.

To access SAFEMinds Online go to deedtech-savvy.com.au, select SAFEMinds and enter the password SAFEMinds-Guest.

**SAFEMINDS: IN PRACTICE**

This training will focus on local decision makers within schools becoming ‘Champions’ in the use of the NIP it in the bud Toolkit and SAFEMinds Online materials; and how to incorporate SAFEMinds into their school’s existing professional learning and student wellbeing policies and initiatives.

**SAFEMINDS: AT HOME**

SAFEMinds offers parents and carers a series of information forums which will focus on helping parents and carers understand their role in supporting their child’s mental health and wellbeing and connecting them with school and mental health resources within their local community. In addition, parents will have access to a targeted version of SAFEMinds Online and Toolkit resources.
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.

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.

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

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.

LATEST NEWSLETTER

Want to receive an alert when our latest newsletter is online? Go to the GIPS website homepage and click on the orange link: Subscribe to Newsletter.
**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**2015 TERM DATES**

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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>13 April to 26 June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>13 July to 18 September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>5 October to 18 December</td>
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**2016 TERM DATES**

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<tr>
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<td>29 Jan (Students) to 24 March</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>11 April to 24 June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
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