Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope all families have enjoyed the vacation period and a break from the routine of school. Welcome to the following children and families who have joined our school this term: Martin H, Tiana R, Mila T, Jiayi W, Santiah and Dante L, and Declan C. Lachlan, Amelia and Matilda C are also returning from overseas next month.

Winter Weather
I am sure we have all noticed the onset of some very wintery days in recent weeks. We are fortunate that our school is well equipped to keep us all warm, cosy and dry but I would also encourage parents to consider the children’s school wear. Just as I would encourage children to remove their jumpers in the height of summer, I would equally encourage children to put on their jumpers and jackets in this cold weather. Even on cold days, the children usually spend the play breaks outside, unless it is raining. I know some children do not feel the cold as much or are especially active; however, some families feel wearing shorts and tee shirts all year has become a “fashion statement” rather than an indicator of children’s level of comfort. Whilst this is not a school rule, I would ask parents to consider the appropriateness of their children’s school attire.

Grade 5/6 Camp
Yesterday, I had the pleasure of visiting the Grade 5/6 campers at Anglesea for the day. To say the group were having a great time would be an understatement. Yesterday was the day the surfing program was scheduled and we were very fortunate to enjoy a clear, blue sky and sunshine for the duration of the lessons conducted by “Go Ride A Wave” facilitators. Blue sky, gentle, rolling waves and children squealing in delight … it doesn’t get much better than that. Approximately 80 children took up the surfing option; decked out in wetsuits and boards they really looked the part! Several of our teachers and accompanying dads also hit the waves and I think they had as much fun as the kids!

I returned from camp feeling immensely proud of the children for their perfect behaviour and positive attitudes. Throughout the day with 110 children, there was not a cross word or need to remind anyone about how to behave appropriately. They enjoyed their activities and participated enthusiastically in everything from surfing to sandcastles. In short, the children were an absolute delight!

A huge “Thank You” goes to our team of staff and parents who have been instrumental in organising and conducting the camp: Nikki Szwarcbard, Meg Neal, Dannie Smith, Amy Kopciewicz, Nathan Gilliland, Niki Judd, Shanae Hill, Peter Holmes, James Tomlinson, Brad Mason, Zelko Maric, Frank
Tudic, Gary Bennett and Chris Ryan. These people take time from their own families to offer these great opportunities to the children.

Art Auction – Don’t’ be late for a very important date!
I hope everyone has Saturday, August 9th clearly marked on their calendar and is keeping it free to attend our Student Art Auction. Working on an “Alice in Wonderland” theme, the children, under the guidance of our amazing art teacher, Michele Freeland-Small, have produced both individual and class pieces. All works will be exhibited on the night and in the lead up to the event. The 20 class pieces will be offered for auction. The Art Auction is our major fundraiser for 2014 and is always a fun night. We hope to see as many of our GIPS parents and friends as possible support the event organised by our Parents’ Association.
On Friday, August 8th, the children throughout the school will enjoy their own Mad Hatter’s Tea Party when they can wear a special hat, enjoy a tasty treat and inspect the exhibition. A notice outlining the details will be circulated shortly.

Specialists Program Morning
Yesterday, a group of interested parents took the opportunity to participate in some workshops conducted by our specialist teachers to get a taste of the diverse programs the children are involved in at school. This is the second year we have offered this event, an initiative of our Assistant Principal, Robyn Floyd. When our Grade 5/6 classes are on camp, there is the flexibility in our timetable to offer some different activities. Parents who attended had the chance to produce a short video using our ICT equipment; try some athletic skills in PE; dance like no one was watching in Performing Arts and try some French conversation over a coffee and croissant. Thanks to Natasha Black, Kate Van der Jagt, Robyn Floyd and Laurence Barre for presenting these sessions. If that sounds like something you would enjoy, look out for the invitation again next year.

Want to read about our school highlights?
Our 2013 Annual Report to the school community is now available in the State Register on the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority’s website: http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/StateRegister/Search.aspx/Search?SearchType=0. The annual report is a key legislative and regulatory requirement, but it is also an important way to keep our school community informed about how we are performing and what is being done to improve the learning, engagement and wellbeing of our students.
Providing information about our school in this format helps the community to become involved and engaged in discussions about the school and how further improvements can be supported. I encourage you to have a look at our report.

Parent Opinion Survey 2014
The Annual Parent Opinion survey will be conducted in the coming weeks. This process is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) project to drive school improvement. The survey includes many aspects of school operations. Families are randomly selected using DEECD software and only a limited number of surveys are available. These families will receive a letter including the survey and instructions. Surveys are anonymous and complied by the central office. I would urge parents who receive a survey to find a few minutes to respond to provide us with a valid data sample. Of course, I always welcome parents to share any thoughts they may have about how we manage our school at any time. It is not necessary to wait for the annual survey. Families who do not receive a survey this time can always put forward their thoughts to me, or through either one of our parent bodies or in the suggestion box at the office.

GIPS Concert 2014
The Bi-Annual school concert will be held on Friday, October 17th at The Besen Centre early in Term 4. Preparations are well underway for the concert and rehearsals will commence next week with children participating in weekly dance lessons, led by choreographer Kate Stanford, in Performing Arts. Even the teachers are beginning their dance lessons before school lessons next week. This means one of two things. Either the staff item will be a sight to behold, or, we are going to need a large amount of training before we are ready to perform on the night. You be the judge!

Yours Sincerely

Meredith Carracher

Meredith Carracher
From the Assistant Principal

AP Matters:

What do flip cameras, shot puts, croissants and dancing have in common?

They were all part of the experience for parents who joined the Celebrate Our Specialist Program morning on Wednesday. While our grade 5 and 6 students were on camp our specialists organised a program for parents to allow them to experience the school program as a ‘kid’. This year a group of parents used flip cameras to film ‘excitement’ about our 150th Anniversary next year (Visual Literacy), analysed their shot put skills using the iPad app Ubersense (PE), had fun dancing (Performing Arts), ordered coffee and croissants in French (LOTE) and enjoyed eating them! Watch out for the promotional video about our 150th! Thanks to Natasha Black, Laurence Barre, Kate Van der Jagt, French assistant Chloe and also Helga Shaw and Robyn Challis. We look forward to this annual event.

150th ANNIVERSARY
20 August to 6th September 2015

From the archives:

GLEN IRIS OVERCROWDED
In 1936 a deputation from the School Committee and the District Mother’s Committee complained about the overcrowding at the school. There were 400 students and it was suggested that another 150 could be accommodated with extra buildings. A wonderful photo can be accessed on TROVE of students sitting in rows reading.

We have had a fantastic response to our search for Alumni. We have even had a reply from Canberra! Please pass on information or collect a postcard to give ex-students.

Robyn Floyd
Wow, what a great turn out for our special Pyjama Free Dress Day on the last day of Term 2! We had a most impressive “Tower Of Giraffes” as pictured above. The amount raised for The Smith Family Winter Appeal was $427.70. Thank you to everyone for supporting this important fundraiser.

SRC

Sports Survey

The City of Boroondara is developing a new Sports and Recreation Strategy. As part of the consultation process children and young people are invited to share their views through the completion of a short online questionnaire. Feedback from young people is particularly important as it ensures that the sports and recreation initiatives that Council supports meet the needs of the youngest (and often most active!) members of our community. The Sports and Recreation team is currently seeking feedback from children aged 5-15 years to ensure this demographic is strongly represented.

The survey is available online using the following link, PRIMARY SCHOOL SURVEY: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JB9H5BY. The survey contains a small number of multiple choice and short answer questions and should take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

FREE Sports Equipment for Your School!

In order to promote interest, for a limited time the City of Boroondara will be offering $100 SPORTS EQUIPMENT VOUCHERS to schools in Boroondara who can achieve 40 survey responses from students aged between 5 and 15 by 10am Monday 21 July.
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

1. Your child must be under the age of sixteen; and
2. Your child must be enrolled at a primary or secondary Government or registered school in Victoria on 28 February 2014 for the first instalment and 1 August 2014 for the second instalment; and
3. You must apply by 28 February 2014 for the first instalment and 1st August 2014, for the second instalment: be a parent or legal guardian of the student; and be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health care card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) HOLDER; or be a foster parent.
4. Submit your application to the school by the due date: 28 February 2014 for the first instalment*, 1 August 2014 for the second instalment.
5. *Please note: you only need to make a second application in August if your child changes schools between March and August.

EMA application forms are available from the school office or from our website.

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Thank you to all those wonderful families who have already helped in the Library/Playground this year!
We are still seeking extra parent helpers to assist again at lunchtimes in Term 3. Together with the Yard Duty teachers the Lunchtime Duty Parent/s will supervise the library space or alternatively be in the playground.

Please try to find a spare lunchtime, as your children would love to see you.

Remember you will need a current Working With Children Check to participate.

Thank you.
Justine Moore (9889 9547)
Justine3146@gmail.com
On behalf of Parents Association.

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Mrs Floyd enjoyed chocolate cake, strawberries with Daniel 56GJ, Sophia 3G, Emily 3G, Eleanor 2S, Julian 4G, Julia 56K, Marielle 1H, Maggie 4B, Amelia PB, Jade 1H, Mia 1H, Alex 1H and Sophie 1J.
Welcome back to the second half of the school year. We hope that you’ve all had a good mid-year break.

**Art Show & Auction**
We are pleased to inform you that preparations for our major fundraising event for 2014, the Student Art Auction, are well progressed at this stage. The children’s artwork is “wonderful”. It promises to be a fun and exciting social event for all of our parents so please don’t miss out.

Also, a reminder that you can order admission tickets for the Art Auction through the website and the school office. Also, we will placing baskets for hamper donations outside classrooms in the next few days to make it easy for our families to contribute to these gifts which will be raffled on the night.

**Sausage Sizzle**
Meanwhile, we are still looking for volunteers to help with our sausage sizzle at Masters in Tooronga on Sunday 27th July. Please contact Jacqui Brown at: brownjacqui@hotmail.com if you are able to help out on the day.

The next PA meeting is scheduled for Monday, 21st July at 9:00am (after morning drop off) in the Staff Room. All GIPS parents are invited so please join us if you can.

With kind regards and hoping to see you soon,

Alex Goldhagen,
President

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**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 picking up their children after school to please 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.

Thankyou for your consideration

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**GET THE LATEST SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS ON YOUR PHONE**

**DOWNLOAD THE FREE KONNECTIVE MOBILE APP**

For iPhone users - get Konnective from the AppStore.
- Download the App and click Register to create your account

For Android users - get Konnective from the Google Play Store.
- Download the App and click Register to create your account

For other smartphone devices or if you don't have a smartphone, use our website version.

Once you have registered and logged in, go to My Connections to connect to the relevant school feeds.

For assistance or further information, please contact support@konnective.com.au or visit www.konnective.com.au

konnective.com.au
At Glen Iris Primary School, things are getting curiourser and curiourser...

Presenting
The Wonderland Series
student art exhibition and auction
a special tribute to Lewis Carroll’s timeless classic ‘Alice in Wonderland’

So join us down the rabbit hole
$20 per ticket for finger food, music and curiousness! Wine and beer on sale – Works of art to be auctioned

tickets: www.gips.vic.edu.au

Saturday
9th August
7.30pm
@ GIPS
COMMUNITY NOTICES
Just a reminder to all to keep checking our community noticeboard on our website. There is new information every fortnight that many of you may be interested in.

TAEKWONDO AT GLEN IRIS PRIMARY
We are now taking bookings for Term 3 for our ongoing Monday lunchtime program. For more information email schoolstaekwondo@gmail.com.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.

Calling Mount Waverley High, Mount Waverley Secondary College ex students & staff
Mount Waverley Secondary College turns 50 in 2014, and we are calling on alumni, ex-students and staff to help us celebrate. Our celebration is planned for October 11, and we will have reunions, memorabilia displays, a cocktail party and rooms themed for each decade.

Join our Facebook page to receive exciting updates or register on our website:
www.mwsc.vic.edu.au

2014 TERM DATES
Term 1 28 January to 4 April
Term 2 22 April to 27 June
Term 3 14 July to 19 September
Term 4 6 October to 19 December

2015 TERM DATES
Term 1 28 January to 27 March
Term 2 13 April to 26 June
Term 3 13 July to 18 September
Term 4 5 October to 18 December

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