Dear Parents,

I would like to thank all families for the support they have shown the school and staff in 2014 as we work together to provide a high quality education for the children of Glen Iris Primary School. A special mention to our terrific School Council and Parents’ Association for their dedication and commitment.

Farewell to Grade 6 students
On Monday evening, we celebrated the end of primary school for 54 Grade 6 students. Teachers, families and guests watched with admiration as the students performed and each addressed the audience. The boys and girls should feel very proud of their achievements over the past seven years and I wish them well for the years ahead at secondary school.

Farewell to staff
At this time of the year, it is always sad to farewell people who have contributed to the program at GIPS. The following staff will be absent from the school in 2015:

- Integration Aides, Mrs Nili Guneratne and Mrs Belinda Hartung will conclude their time at Glen Iris at the end of the year. Nili arrived at GIPS in 2008 and has been an integral member of our staff working in various classrooms throughout the school supporting students with additional needs. Nili is completing studies in Aged Care Administration and will seek employment in that field. Belinda commenced work at Glen Iris in 2013 offering individual assistance to students in the classroom and playground. Belinda has recently completed her teaching degree and plans to seek teaching employment.
- Integration Aide, Kristy Tomlinson will be employed at Camberwell High School, continuing to support a current Glen Iris student.
- Christine Hallam will take 12 months leave in 2015 to travel, returning to GIPS in 2016.
- Two teachers, working on short term contracts in the later part of the year, Michelle Vincitorio and Ian Box, will finish at Glen Iris when their contracts end in January. Both Michelle and Ian have done an exceptional job filling the teaching roles in Physical Education and Grade 5/6B since September. It is always a challenge to start a role mid-year and both teachers are to be congratulated for the enthusiasm and commitment they have put into their teaching. Michelle will work at Springside P – 9 College in 2015.

- Mrs. Sarah Hunting will commence Maternity Leave in January.
- Our French Language Assistant, Mademoiselle Chloe Laborde, concludes her program working at Glen Iris and Camberwell High School in 2014. It has been wonderful to have Chloe’s involvement in the Languages Program and she has been an asset to our school community. Good luck, Chloe on your return to France and for your next adventure.

School Council 2014 and 2015
In the first few weeks of the 2015 school year, we will be electing new school councillors for our school. Due to a range of circumstances, several members of our Council will be unavailable to continue. This will result in an increased number of vacancies on the Council. I ask interested parents to give serious consideration to nominating for Council in 2015. It will be a year of rebuilding the group and an exciting time to be involved as we move towards the school’s 150th anniversary in August / September. Most roles on Council require no special expertise and skills other than a desire to support the continuous improvement of our school. A particular need on Council is a parent or parents willing to fill the role of Treasurer. Ideally, this role is filled by someone with an accountancy background. The position involves reviewing the monthly reports, advising the Council on financial matters and assisting in developing the annual budget. I would be pleased to discuss School Council involvement with any interested parents in the new year. Nominations will open in mid-February.

I would like to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of all of our school councillors, especially these long term Councillors moving from Glen Iris who
will not continue next year.

Jack Risos, School Council President, has been involved with the Council since 2007, at least. Jack was also an active councillor during an earlier period of time with the school. Jack’s leadership, guidance and support for everything related to our school have been significant over close to 20 years. His wise counsel will be missed in 2015 when he and his family move to live in Bali. Thank you so much, Jack. Best wishes to you, Lisa, Alex and Julian.

Meredith Dahlsen joined School Council in 2011, taking on the role of Treasurer. Meredith has been an integral member of the Council generously sharing her professional expertise. Best wishes on your return to live in Sydney, Meredith, Geoff, Jeremy, Cameron and Nicholas. You will be much missed at Glen Iris.

Trish Burrows has been an active Councillor since 2009 making a significant contribution to many Council projects and decisions in that time, including the development of our Library/ICT/Performing Arts complex. Trish’s family will move on from GIPS in 2015. Thank you, Trish, and best wishes to you, Michael, Maggie and Toby.

Irene Brumen has been a member of School Council since 2012 as both a co-opted and elected member. Thank you, Irene for your valuable contribution throughout this time.

**Don't Forget!! Book Pack Orders and School Levies**

Have you ordered your student requisites for 2015?? Remember, December 31st is the cut-off date to ensure your supplies arrive in time for the start of school.


I urge families to contribute to the Buildings and Grounds Fund and Library/ICT Fund. These contributions are vital for us to maintain and develop the programs, facilities and resources to the high standard we all wish for the Glen Iris students.

Have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours Sincerely

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**From the Assistant Principal**

**Grade 5 Leading into 2015**

Traditionally while the Grade 6s are at the Cuckoo, the Grade 5 students work with Shelley Morrison and myself, enjoying lunch together. This year our program was different as we focussed on being leaders of the 150th Year of Glen Iris Primary School.

We looked at photos and videos of school in the 1900s, 1940s and 1970s and analysed similarities and differences. The websites for these videos are on our blog. Interesting viewing if you went to school during the 70s! No backpacks, just cases and satchels. After recess we investigated some of our historical artefacts and created Museum display cards for our new Sesquicentennial Museum next year.

This poster of the circulatory system would have been hung on the blackboard. Students would have copied it to learn about the human body and pressure points. In 2014, another way for students to learn about the human body was to use ‘Google images, posters, health websites and videos. Sam, Jayjin, Cari, Charlotte, Siena, Jess.

Here is an old school bag used by Debra Samson (an ex-pupil and later parent) in the 1980s. It feels like plastic and is quite light. It was very small and would hardly fit one of our lunchboxes. We use backpacks to carry our diary and lunch.

Do you have any photos that could be scanned or memorabilia you might like to loan us please contact us next year?

We would also like to build a data base of potential speakers who are ex-students.

Robyn

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**TERM 4 2014**

Last day Friday 19th December.

School finishes at 1.30pm.

**TERM 1 2015**

Students start Friday 30th January.
From the Assistant Principal

ROBOTICS
Both the Block Eds and the Robotheads did extremely well and we were very proud of their persistence and the time commitment to learning programming. The Robotheads won an ‘Overcoming Adversity Award’ for keeping positive when some unforeseen challenges arose on the day. Thanks to Claire Schwarz who continues to work with me to build our programming capacity, with verve and patience. Also thanks to Dan Schwarz and Ian Petherbridge who also offered their expertise as well as previous team member Ethan Boyd. We also appreciate the King David School students, and Robogenius Milorad Cerovac who have continued to mentor us. The teams are going to share their expertise with Grade 4 students before the end of the year.

FIREMONKEYS DESIGN STUDIO END OF PROGRAM CELEBRATION
After attending one of our before school robotics programming sessions Bruce Sutherland arranged for us to meet with Denise Christie and her keen and creative team of Game Artists, Producers, Designers and Engineers and tour the studio. We were lucky enough to be the VERY first people to see their new game ‘Need for Speed’ which was being launched that day. Front Left – Amanda Schofield (Sims FreePlay Producer), Denise Christie (Studio Director of Product Development/COO), Nathan Barnes (Need For Speed Artist), Erin Dupuy (Need For Speed No Limits Designer), Bruce Sutherland (Need For Speed No Limits Software Engineer) missing from photo - Brandon Meester (Sims FreePlay Software Engineer), Karolina Pysz (Studio Product Marketing Manager) Hunter, Brandon, Ethan, Gen, Jess, Emma

150th ANNIVERSARY
Have you checked out our history blog yet?
150th Anniversary Blog

Robyn Floyd - Assistant Principal

Season’s Greetings!

I hope that you and your families have enjoyed the school year and that you are now looking forward to a well-deserved break.

The Parents’ Association will continue to plan events and activities for 2015 over the holidays and will be in touch with updates.

In the meantime, we are still looking for volunteers to be Class Reps for next year. Traditionally there are two parents per class. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved with the school – especially for those who are relatively new to GIPS – and also a great way to meet other parents. If you are interested, please contact me anytime during the break (alex@jagmi.com).

On behalf of Jane Lukins (incoming President in 2015) and the rest of the Parents’ Association, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Kind regards,
Alex Goldhagen,
President

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.
PLEASE NOTE: FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER

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

Boroondara Youth Resource Centre
School Holiday Activities   Jan 2015   Age 10-18

Boroondara FReeZA committee
Looking for new crew members for 2015     Age 15-25

Making Learning Hebrew Fun
Boys and Girls         Prep-Grade 6        Mondays

Hawthorn Community House
School Holiday Programs            Cooking or Drawing
4-10 years old

Riversdale Soccer Club
2015 Junior Program
Expressions of Interest

Bits and Pieces Craft Studio
School Holiday Fun

JUST A REMINDER

To go online to order your student requisites and for payment of your school levies for 2015.

Booklists submitted after December 31st are not guaranteed delivery prior to the commencement of the school year.

Online payment of school levies closes on December 31st.

After this date, levy payments need to be made directly at the school office.

PLEASE NOTE:
There will be no icy poles sold on the last day of school

There will also be no uniform shop opened on the last day of school
SCHOOL STARTS FOR PREP TO YEAR 6 ON FRIDAY 30 JANUARY

GIPS Uniform Shop open in 2015 on:
Every Tuesday from 8.30am until 9.30am
Every Friday from 3.00pm until 4.00pm

SCHOOL HOURS

8.55 am Bag Bell: Students enter classrooms
9.00 am: Instruction begins
Children eat morning tea: 10.40 - 10.45am
Morning recess play: 10.45 - 11.10am
Children eat lunch: 12.50 - 1.00 pm
Lunch play: 1.00 - 1.50pm
All children are dismissed at 3.30pm

TERM DISMISSAL

At the end of Terms 1, 2 & 3 dismissal time is 2.30pm.
At the end of Term 4 dismissal time is 1.30pm.

HOURS OF SUPERVISION

Please note that students are supervised in the yard
before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

8.30am - 4.30pm

2015 TERM DATES:

Term 1: 30th of January - 27th of March
Term 2: 13th April - 26th of June
Term 3: 13th of July - 18th of September
Term 4: 5th of October - 18th of December
Please note:
The last classroom cuisine for 2014 was on Monday 15th December.

There will be no classroom cuisine on Friday 19th December.

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 30 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

Are you interested in starting a string instrument in 2015?

Biana Goldenberg teaches strings at GIPS on Thursdays. She is an experienced and highly qualified teacher and player. Biana is from a family of four generations of musicians, who have been playing and teaching around the world. She also plays with a number of professional groups. She teaches violin, viola and cello.

There is an opportunity for a few students to commence lessons with Biana in 2015. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact her on 0432 571 407 or by email on ygoden@walla.com. Instrument hire can also be arranged. Enrolment forms will be available at the school office.