FROM THE PRINCIPAL:
At last week’s School Council meeting it was decided that we would trial a change to the daily structure of the day during Term 2. This is in line with the School’s new pedagogical vision and desire to utilise the best learning time of each day, to the maximum. It will also mean split sessions in Art, Music, PE and Library will be eliminated. As a result of this restructure we will be pushing back the Lunch Break by half an hour, allowing for 2 lots of 2 hour sessions in the morning and an hour session after lunch. An additional healthy snack break /fruit break will be provided in the second session.

**The Time Table for Term 2 will be:**

- **9.00am – 11.00 am:** Session 1 (Including a fruit break)
- **11.00 am- 11.30 am:** Recess
- **11.30 am – 1.30 pm:** Session 2 (Including additional fruit break)
- **1.30 pm – 2.30 pm:** Lunch
- **2.30 pm – 3.30 pm:** Session 3
- **3.30 pm:** Dismissal

**Parents’ Club Questionnaire:**
On behalf of the Parents’ and Friends Club, all families will be given a questionnaire to complete and return as soon as possible. The purpose of the questionnaire is to ascertain from our Parent Body their views on the Parent and Friends Club and how it may grow and develop to suit the changing needs of our School Community. If this body is going to continue to support the school and its students and have a strong membership of willing workers then we need to know how we can make it more attractive to our community All responses will be kept in the strictest confidence. A box will be placed in the office for the completed questionnaires to be placed in. Children returning the questionnaire will receive a Freddo Frog for their troubles.

**Dates to Remember**

- **Thursday 28th February**
  - Meal Deal – Salad Roll and Choc Wedge

- **Friday 1st March**
  - Grade 6 Excursion – Sovereign Hill
  - Clean Up Australia – Community Activity
  - Grades Prep – 5 Cleaning up our School Environment
  - Sponsored by Woolworths – KooWeeRup

- **Thursday 7th March**
  - District Swimming Event

- **Monday 11th March**
  - Labour Day – Public Holiday

- **Saturday 16th March**
  - Pakenham Show

- **Thursday 28th March**
  - Easter Bonnet Parade and Activities
  - End of First Term

- **Sunday 21st April**
  - Yakkerboo Parade – Australiana theme.
• PLEASE take care at all times in the Car Park areas. Caution and alertness needs to be uppermost in everyone’s minds when in these areas.
• It is very important that if any parent or friend of the school has any concerns, queries or problems regarding any aspect of the school to bring it to the attention of your child’s teacher or Allan straight away.
• Students are reminded that the bringing of electronic games and other valuable items to school do so at their own risk. If such items are misplaced or damaged then the owners of such items are responsible for any cost incurred.
• Mobile phones and Ipods need to be handed into the office on arrival to school and then collected at the end of the day. Students don’t require these items during the normal school day.
• Deb Beale the School Chaplain is available on a weekly basis to support children, parents or families in a wide variety of areas. Please feel free to contact Deb or the school if you would like to use this service. Deb is in attendance every Wednesday of the month this term.

THUMBS UP

To all the Parents and friends who came along and supported the children from Grade 3 -6 in the swimming sports. Thank You.

To everyone who supported the Pink Stumps Day in one form or another on Friday. A big thank you in particular to Trudie for organising the activities and ensuring the activities ran so smoothly.

To the families who have returned School Library books and those who had a good look around to see if any were at home – greatly appreciated.

To Hayden B (Grade 5D) for doing an exceptional job at the Swimming sports – filling in where-ever he could and for his work around the school with the younger children. Well done Hayden.

To the Parents and Friends who are assisting in the classrooms around the school – your contributions are invaluable. Thank You.

To our School Captains and Vice Captains who are doing a fantastic job in their leadership roles around the school and always willing to assist in any way that they can.

To the families that have deposited their old mobile phones in the box outside the office. Your support is very much appreciated and your donations support the fight against cancer.

To the Grade 5 group of students who are running and organising dance sessions/classes on Thursday lunchtime. Their first hit out last week was very impressive.

To the mums who carried out last week’s Meal Deal – a very good effort ladies and thank you for your time.

To all the students who represented our school so proudly on Friday at the Inter-School Swimming Sports. A great job to all of you and best of luck to those progressing on to the next stage of this sporting event.

Clean Up Australia Day:
School Community effort – Friday 1st of March
This Friday all students from prep to Grade 5 will be involved in cleaning up our School environment as part of the Clean Up Australia annual campaign. Mrs Chidlow is co-ordinating this event in conjunction with Woolworths – KooWeeRup.
Thanks to the generous support of Woolworths, all students will be supplied with a sausage sizzle lunch, fruit and Prima drink before embarking on cleaning up the school grounds, plantation, hall area and the recreation reserve (Grade 5 students only). Disposable gloves will be supplied and students won’t be asked to pick up any broken glass etc and be given a talk about what is safe and what isn’t safe to pick up. If students want to bring along their own gloves or tongs they are more than welcome to do so.
The lunch will be served and cooked by staff from Woolworths but parents are more than welcome to join us in this activity. If time permits we can also clean up the Animal Farm area and the gardens.
ITEMS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST:

- **After School Care** is available each evening after school until 6.00 pm. The cost is between $4.00 and $8.00 per evening – depending on the rebates available to you. Taya the co-ordinator of the program will only be too happy to explain the program and take you through the enrolment process.

- **Auslan** will be commencing next Tuesday for Grades 3-6. Elouise will again be taking students for these sessions each and every Tuesday.

- We have a number of missing library books – please have a good look at home to see if any of them are hiding out in your bookcases, under beds or in bedrooms. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

- Michael Wallace will be returning to Cardinia Primary School to continue his music Lessons each Thursday. We have some spaces for students who are interested in Electric guitar and drums. If you would like your child to attend these sessions please see Virginia or Sue at the office. The cost is $8 per session payable upfront at the beginning of each term. Students participating are expected to catch up on the work they miss during class time.

- **The Attendance Cup** for this week went to Prep A. Well done guys and remember to keep up the fantastic attendance.

- The School is a signed up member of Parenting ideas – Michael Grose. Newsletters from Michael will appear regularly in the Newsletter and around the school. If you require information around parenting /schooling asked Kaye or your child’s teacher and specific articles may be able to be sourced by the school from Michael’s website.

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**Friendly Reminders:**

When parking on Cardinia Road – school side please leave space between the fence and your car to allow for a clear walkway for parents and children to walk in safety to the school entrance. Walking along Cardinia Road needs to be avoided as much as possible.

It is important that children arrive punctually at school, 5 – 10 minutes before bell time in the mornings so that their day can commence on time and in a casual manner.

Cardinia Road and the front of the Hall car park are available for parents to park and pick up students or there are limited spaces in the Church Car park, located off Dalmore Road but please don’t park on the Nature Strip or block the driveways in this area.

It is School policy that all students need to be collected by an adult, at the end of the day, to avoid an accident from occurring in these congested areas, which get very hectic at the end of the day for 15-20 minutes. Your assistance, patience and understanding in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Parents and Friends of students are reminded that smoking and the consumption of alcohol is not permitted on school grounds or when participating in school activities when students are present.

If you haven’t brought along your two boxes of tissues for student use in 2013 could you please do so as soon as possible. It would be greatly appreciated.

Lollies and sugary drinks (particularly soft drinks) are not to be ordered as part of School Lunches. Please consider the nutritional value and healthy nature of the food items ordered from the shop when placing your orders. Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

If you can assist with Meal Deals, please see Karen or the notice board outside the office. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.
This Friday the 1\textsuperscript{st} March, Portia Battiscombe (1H) and Isabella DeJong (1C) will be participating in the Cardinia Relay for Life. The two girls will be part of a team that will walk laps of the Toomuc Reserve for 18 hours to raise money for the Cancer Council.

The girls are hoping to raise funds by running a foneraiser. If anyone has any old mobile phones, working or not or even missing parts, it would be greatly appreciated if you could bring them to school and put them in the foneraising box at the office before next Monday.

Thank you very much.

Swimming Update

The Swimming Team that represented Cardinia Primary School went to the Koo Wee Rup pool last Friday to compete in the interschool swimming sports. It was terrific to see the great attitude that our team had with many students jumping at the chance to fill in any gaps, some competing in higher age groups.

Congratulations to Hayley, Jason, Romi, Mitchell, Catelin, Tori, Bailey, the boys under 11 freestyle team, the girls under 11 freestyle team and the girls 9/10 freestyle that all made it through to the next stage. They will swim again at Noble Park Aquatic Centre on Thursday March 7\textsuperscript{th}. We would love to see parents and family support our students again. Please remember to return permission slips as soon as possible.

A big thanks to all our wonderful parents who helped support our team and provide transport last Friday.

**Sovereign Hill – Final Reminders:**

- The excursion is this Friday the 1\textsuperscript{st} of March.
- The Bus leaves the School at 6.30 am and will return at approximately 8.00 – 8.30pm
- Lunches have been pre-ordered for students who have returned their bakery order forms. Children may wish to bring along a snack/drink (water) in a disposable bag.
- Tea is at McDonalds on the way home – students pay for this themselves. (Money can be given to Trudie in an envelope for this on the morning of the excursion)
- It is free dress but suitable footwear for walking (runners/laced up shoes) must be worn – no thongs and no singlet tops.
- Remember hats and Slip /Slop / Slap

Remember all this and we will have a wonderful day – a very long wonderful day. We thank School Council and Parents and Friends Club for providing the bus for this activity.
GRADE 1 BOXES
Thanks to all who have collected boxes for our models. We have begun making them today and have enough boxes – thank you very much!!!

Grade 1 and 2 Parent Teacher Interviews
Grade 1 and 2 Teachers will be holding Parent Teacher interviews beginning Monday 25th February. We would like to see all parents. Can you please write your names on the timetable outside your child’s classroom.

Thanks
Grade 1 & 2 Teachers

MODEL AIRFIELD CATERING

Parents Club have been asked to run the canteen at the Model Airfield in Cardinia on the 17th March & 7th April. As this is one of the many ways we raise funds for the school we are asking for some helpers on the day to assist in the canteen.

If you can spare 2-3 hours in the morning or afternoon on either or both these dates, please call Donna (0438 401 906) or speak to Virginia or Sue in the office.

School Council Elections:

Each year half of the existing School Council Membership is up for re-election / nomination. The following Councillors are in this category: Dean Alderson (Parent) Catherine Manning (Parent) Ray Weinzierl (Parent) Raelene Stokkel (Parent) Liz Alderson (DEECD) Michelle Henson (DEECD) Meaghan McNeill (Community Member) and Andrea Kendall (Community Member).

On behalf of School Council I invite any interested Parents/Guardians who are interested in being part of this very important governing body of the school to come along to our first meeting for the year on Wednesday evening. School Council is an integral component of the school and is responsible for the continued growth and development of the school’s physical environment, facilities and the programs offered and implemented by the school – in line with Department regulations and guidelines. Being part of School Council gives you a deeper understanding of the School’s finances and desired direction of the School over the short term and long term scenarios.

The Timeline for the process is as follows:
20th February: Nominations called for. Nomination Forms distributed.
27th February: Close of Nominations. (Today)
6th March: Ballot Papers sent out if required.
13th March: Ballot Closes. (Election and vote counting.)
20th March: AGM and New Council Meets for the first time.
Slip Slop Slap:
For the First Term all students and staff are expected to wear a hat while outside at recess, lunchtime and during sport or other outdoor activities. Children who are not wearing a hat at these times will be expected to play in a shaded area around the school and will not participate in sport or outdoor class activities. Children are also asked to remember to apply sun screen before coming to school and to re-apply, if necessary, during the day from the lotion container in the First Aid room. If your child is allergic to certain types of sunscreen, please inform the office and your child's teacher. Every one's co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Size 6 t shirt x2
Jumper size 8
Woollen jacket size 8
Navy blue boys short
size 4
$20 for the lot
Contact Zel 0421570142.

We have had head lice detected at the school. Parents please check your child’s hair and if eggs or lice are detected treat according.
Further information can be found at:

Join us! At the inaugural
Koo Wee Rup Quilt Fest
Quilt Display and Sales
9.00am - 3.00pm
Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March 2013
at the Koo Wee Rup Masonic Lodge
Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup

Stalls including quilting fabric, cards, cushions, hand-made bags, jewellery and much more!
Devonshire teas and light lunch available
Raffle and door prize
$5 entry, with proceeds going to the Breast Cancer Foundation
For more information contact Di on 0427 540 494

We have had head lice detected at the school. Parents please check your child’s hair and if eggs or lice are detected treat according.
Further information can be found at:
EASTER RAFFLE

As you are all aware Easter is fast approaching. Each year as part of the school's fundraising efforts we hold an Easter raffle with some great hampers up for grabs.

All we ask in return is that each family donate an Easter related prize (eggs, toys etc). If you could please pass on your contribution to Virginia in the office it would be greatly appreciated.

This year’s prizes also include a family pass to Phillip Island Nature Park as well as some great Bobble Art kid’s bags and accessories.

CLASS OF 2014

Just a reminder to parents who are wanting their child to attend Cardinia Primary School next year. Please come into the office to obtain an enrolment package. It is important that we get an indication of numbers for our class planning for 2014.

If you have a Pre-School child who will begin Prep at Cardinia Primary School in 2014, could you please visit the office as soon as possible to ensure we have your child’s details.

YAKKERBOO MEETING

Thank you to the parents who came along to our Yakkerboo meeting on Monday where we continued to work on this year’s float. Your support is much appreciated!!!!

Our next meeting will be this Monday 4th March in the BER building.

REMEMBER....NEW PARENTS ARE WELCOME
It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true.

The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school everyday, on time.