FROM THE PRINCIPAL

School Attendance:
Over recent weeks there has been a lot of discussion regarding the State Government’s new policy on attendance and its expectation that all children attend school. When a student has been absent for more than five days in a term for any reason, (indicating attendance falling below 90 per cent) a new process will be implemented. This will require more documentation and could result in Parents receiving fines. Parents and guardians need to be aware that it is no longer “Cool to Be Away” and the Education Department is taking this matter very seriously. From March the 1st a more rigorous process will be implemented and details of this process will be included in future newsletters.

School Leaders:
In addition to our School Captains and Vice Captains that were announced last week I have pleasure in announcing the additional Student Leaders for 2014.

Student Council President: Zoe H  Vice President: Jay R

House Captains:
- Ridgway: Corey W / Trinity P
- Hobson: Romi E / Blake C
- Bould: Hayley R / Jason S
- Conroy: Chloe P / Courtney C

Congratulations to these students and I wish them all the best in executing their roles in our Student Leadership Team in 2014.

Safety:
Please! Please! Drive carefully and very cautiously in and around the school car park areas at pick up and drop off times. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated and will certainly avoid an unwanted accident from occurring. A bit of patience and understanding at peak times would also be appreciated.

Wednesday 12th February  Grade 2 Parent Information Session at 3.40pm
HOCKEY Clinic Grades 2-6 (Free)

Thursday 13th February  Swimming Trials – Grades 3 to 6 – KooWeeRup Pool
Parent’s Club – Corn Chucking (peeling and cutting corn) 2.00pm at Vizzarri’s Shed
Hockey Clinic Grades 2-6 (Free)

Friday 14th February  Whole School Picnic
Cowes – Philip Island
Meeting at 10.00am at Cowes or departing School at 9.00am

Wednesday 19th February  February School Council Meeting
8.00 pm Start – Staffroom – all welcome.

Friday 21st February  Inter-School Swimming Sports
(Selected team from Grades 3 - 6)

Wednesday 5th March  Olympian Jacqui Cooper visit to Cardinia – 2.00 pm

Friday 7th March  Free Dress Day – Gold Coin Donation –
Supporting Rotary Club’s Ride To Conference

Monday 10th March  Labour Day - No SCHOOL

Friday 14th March  Grade 6 Excursion to Sovereign Hill
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. Under no circumstance should parents/guardians approach other students in the school grounds.

THUMBS UP

To all the parents who have come along to date to the various Parent Information Evening. Your attendance and participation is greatly appreciated by the staff that organise these activities.

To our Animal Farm monitors who are doing a great job with the animals. If anyone wants a Guinea Pig to take home, please don’t hesitate to come and ask!!

To all the parents who attended the Parent/Friends’ Club Meeting last week. Fantastic to see so many parents in attendance.

To the following Grades who tied for last week attendance: Foundation A, Grade 4E and Grade 6T. Just a fantastic effort by all involved.

To Dom for retrieving a little boy’s ball from under the school building yesterday. Much appreciated Dom.

To Bailey and the Young Family for coming to school last Saturday (in all that heat) to work on Bailey’s project – “Matchbox Car City”.

To all the students who are wearing their full uniform each and every day. Less than 10 students were out of uniform on Tuesday and this was largely a “Hat” issue. Great effort guys!

To our Parent and Friends’ Committee for all the work they are doing in preparing for our School Picnic on Friday.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

After School Care:
Camp Australia is our official provider of After School Care. It is available to all families attending Cardinia Primary School, Monday to Friday from 3.30 pm to 6.00pm each evening.

The cost per session for each child is in the range of $4.58 - $8.60. The cost is based on each family’s income but the maximum payment for any child attending the program would be $8.60 per session.

In the past some parents have had some difficulty accessing this service at short notice or have had difficulty in navigating the on-line enrolment process, working with Camp Australia we now can overcome this issue with Parents/ Guardians accessing enrolment and placement through Virginia in the office when you need After School Care at ‘short notice’, haven’t access to a computer or having difficulties navigating the website. Virginia will be able to arrange for students to be placed in the After School Program immediately and then Christine (After School Co-ordinator) will assist you with completing the full enrolment process on line and answer any queries you might have about the program.

Our Art Room needs any old magazines, especially ones that feature trucks or cars. If you are able to donate any please leave them in the Art Room. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Emma Parker
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 at all times.

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 can 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.

How do I raise an issue or make a complaint?

It is very important for any school to know if any families or individuals have any concerns about the school their child/ren are attending so that the issue can be addressed, misconceptions corrected or issues followed up. Cardinia Primary School is no different and it’s important that such concerns are taken to the school directly and that the school should always be the first point of contact. We need to know if you have any concerns about your child’s education or well-being. Teaching and learning works best when parents and teachers talk to each other and work together to solve any problems.

When contacting the school:

- Plan what you want to say, so you can clearly explain what the problem is. (You might want to take notes.)
- Have some ideas as to how the problem could be solved.
- Talk about the problem with your child’s teacher/s or principal by telephone or organise a face to face meeting. Most problems can be solved this way.
- If you still have a concern after talking to your child’s teacher/s you need to speak to the principal.
- Remember you can be supported at any meeting by a friend, colleague or representative from a support organisation if you wish.

Due to the Whole School Picnic being conducted this week, there will be No Meal Deal.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause but this service will resume again next week.
Student Medication

If you completed a Medication Request Form last year for your child/ren and wish to continue having medication kept at school the Department of Education requires you to complete a new Medication Request Form.

The Medication Request Form is available at the Office. Medication cannot be given to students without this form being completed.

We are unable to give students medication that is past its expiry date so please come in and check if the medication we hold for your child is still within its expiry date.

Medication to treat asthma or anaphylaxis does not need to be accompanied by a Medication Request Form as it is covered by a student’s Asthma Care Plan or Action Plan for Anaphylaxis.

Asthma

If we have an Asthma Care Plan (previously known as a School Asthma Action Plan) for your child and it is more than three years old we will be requesting that you have this reviewed with your doctor and a new plan completed.

BERRI JUICE RECALL

Berri Juice has recalled their “Tropicool Twirler” flavour of Juice Boxes. The recall only applies to certain dates and this flavour only is affected. Please see the following website for more information.

http://lionco.com/2014/02/07/prima-tropicool-twirler-fruit-drink-6x200ml-product-recall/
First SUNDAY of every month

8:00am - 1:30pm

KOOWEE COMMUNITY MARKET

Supporting the Local Community

KOOWEE RUP CFA

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KOOWEE RUP RSL

www.kooweemarket.com.au

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COCHRANE PARK,
ROSSITER ROAD, KOOWEE RUP

CONTACT: 0428 971 071
EMA
Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to any Parent who holds a current and valid Health Care Card or Pension Card. Please see Virginia at the office for an application form. Any applications must be completed by the 28th February 2014 (no late applications can be accepted).

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
If a student lives more than 4.8km from this school and this is their nearest school, the parent may be entitled to Conveyance Allowance. Please also see Virginia at the office for a form to fill in.

PERSONAL DETAILS
If any of your personal contact or medical details have changed please let the office know. It is very important that we have students’ up to date information in case of emergencies.

TISSUE BOXES
Every year we ask our school families to donate 2 boxes of tissues for students to use in their classrooms. This helps us immeasurably by keeping our school costs down each year. If you haven’t already could each family please supply 2 boxes of tissues (can be any brand) and hand them into the office.

DISABLED CAR PARKING
Just a reminder that the Disability Car Parking Section in the School Car Park is designed for those who have a Disabled Sticker on their car. Please do not park in this spot unless you have the correct sticker.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
Michael Wallace will be returning again this year to run Instrumental Music lessons. Those who have attended in the past will receive an expression of interest form today. Please complete this form and return to the office. Anyone else who is interested can collect a form from the office.

STUDENT LUNCHES
If your child brings noodles or left overs to school for lunch please ensure that their name is on the container or packaging with a note to say how long to warm it up for. They will also need their own a fork or spoon bought from home.
WHOLE SCHOOL PICNIC:

The Annual – Whole School Picnic – is taking place this Friday the 14th of February. This is a traditional event of the Cardinia Primary School community and is held at the start of the year to give parents, students and staff the opportunity to meet and greet in a more informal atmosphere and is a great way to kick off the School Year.

Students who require a lift to this event need to be at school by 8.45 am and wait near the main entrance to the school. (Hall Car Park). All transport will be leaving the school at 9.00 am and returning to school as close to 3.30 pm as possible. Families who are going direct or providing their own transport do not need to come to school but can drive directly to the picnic area.

*** Remember if your child requires a lift and is 7 years or under then you will need to provide us with a booster seat for the trip. This is a legal requirement.

Following is a brief outline of the day:

10.00 am Everyone arrives and rolls are taken by class teachers.
10.15 am Slip Slop Slap takes place and any announcements made.
10.30 am Start our Walk along the beach.
11.00 am Buddy Sandcastle / Beach Sculpture competition
12.00 Noon Lunch time for all – sausage in bread, corn, watermelon and cordial
12.30pm Beach activities
2.00 pm Pack up and return to school for those students requiring transport.

Things to bring along:
Water Bottle / Drink Cup
Bathers worn under clothes
T-shirt or rash vest to be worn at all times – even when in the water
Snack
Hat
Appropriate footwear for the beach. No Bare Feet under any circumstances
Change of clothing / towel
Sun Screen

Please Don’t Bring:
Any extra beach toys, except for plastic buckets and spades.
No flotation devices or boogie boards.

Friday the 15th is a normal school day for all students attending the picnic and as such they will be under the supervision and direction of staff from 10.00 am to the conclusion of the activity at 2.00 pm. All children are expected to be part of the planned activities and parents and friends are more than welcome to join in. At 2.00 pm all children are expected to exit the beach area and we will pack up. Families who are staying longer can return to the beach area after the clean-up has been completed.

STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WEAR THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR THIS ACTIVITY.
For the last few years, our Parents’ Club has run the canteen at the Model Airfield in Wenn Road, Cardinia as a fundraiser for our school in lieu of the Bunnings BBQs. Unfortunately, most of the parents involved in this catering are now unable to continue. If anyone is interested in taking this on, either individually or as a group, could you please contact either Donna Eager on 5998 8070 or speak to Virginia in the office, as soon as possible. This year’s dates are Sunday 23rd March and Sunday 6th April.

**SLIP SLOP SLAP**

During 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 contained in the First Aid Room. If your child is allergic to certain types of sunscreen can you please inform the office and your child’s teacher. Everyone’s co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

**Autism Workshop for Parents**

There is a free 2-day workshop being offered to parents of children with Autism. There are 2 venues and times available.

**Pakenham Cultural Centre 18th and 19th March**

**Ramada Encore Dandenong 20th and 21st March**

If you are interested in attending or just want to find out more I will leave flyers at the front Office for you to collect. If you would like a digital version so that you can register on-line please email me at armstrong.kathryn.m@edumail.vic.gov.au and I will forward it to you.
2015 Prep Enrolments

With the 2014 Preps settling in, it is time to start planning our 2015 intake!

If you have a Pre-School child who will begin Prep at Cardinia Primary School in 2015, could you please visit the office as soon as possible to ensure we have your child’s details.

Please do not assume we know your child will be attending our school. With so many new families it is a huge job to keep track of all possible future Preps. You will need to provide the office with your current email address as well as your Preschool child’s full name, date of birth and the name of the Kindergarten she/he currently attends.

A 2015 enrolment form will then be given to you and these are due back fully completed by the end of term 1.

Please see Allan or Jodie if you have any questions regarding the 2015 Prep Enrolment procedure.

This year I am being brave and shaving my head for the Leukaemia Foundation’s ‘Be Brave and Shave’ campaign. If anyone wishes to sponsor me or my team which is called ‘Brave Babes” you can donate online at www.worldsgreatestshave.com or place your donation in an envelope and hand it in to the office. There is also a Jar of Jelly Beans at the office. If you can guess how many jelly beans are in the jar you can register your guess. The cost is 50cents for 1 guess or 5 guesses for $2.

Thank you
Belinda Cook (3A)
Student Attendance: (From DEECD)

Schools should consider follow up and improvement strategies when a student has been absent more than five days in a term for any reason (indicating attendance falling below 90 per cent), even for parent approved health-related absences. They should also follow up and implement improvement strategies where:

- the absence is having a significant impact on a student’s educational attainment, achievement and development
- a student has been truanting (absent without parental consent)
- a parent reports that a student refuses to attend school
- there has been no explanation for the student’s absence
- a parent repeatedly fails to provide a reasonable excuse for their child’s absence.

This follow up is recommended as an early intervention approach that may possibly identify an underlying issue affecting attendance which may differ from the explanation originally reported by the parent, or identify support the school can offer to assist the student’s ability to attend school.

The impact of absences on a student’s educational attainment, achievement and development will depend on the:

- number of days of absence
- number of consecutive days
- reason for the absence
- time of year
- age of the student
- type of learning that will occur outside school.

All these factors need to be considered in choosing appropriate follow up or intervention strategies.

When following up absences, schools should:

- further investigate the reasons for the student’s absence (the actual reason may differ to the explanation initially provided)
- organize a meeting with the parent and a relevant teacher or other staff member at the earliest opportunity to identify the issues related to the non-attendance and to plan for improvement
- ensure they notify a parent in writing each time the school considers they have not provided a reasonable excuse for the absence.
Swimming Trials!

The Inter School Swimming Sports are to be held at the Koo Wee Rup Swimming Pool on Friday 21st February. Trials will be held on Thursday 13th February (1pm-2pm) and a team will be selected to represent the school. Any students in Grades 3 -6 who think they can swim 50 metres competently may choose to try out (age groups 9/10, 11, 12/13) and a team will be selected to represent the school. Notices went home last week and should be returned by today. Any questions please see Mr B.

TENNIS TIME AGAIN!!

Anyone interested in tennis we do group coaching on Wednesday nights at our local tennis courts from after school 3.45 to 4.30 or so. Any questions please ring Joy on 5998 8220.

Corn Chucking Help Needed

We need help with the preparation for our Whole School Picnic. On Thursday 13th February, we will be peeling and cutting approximately 500 cobs of corn. It would be great to have plenty of hands on deck at 2pm in ‘Vizzari’s Shed’ which is on the corner of Koo Wee Rup and Ballarto Roads. If you are able to help, and don’t mind a chat while you work, please see Raelene (3A), Donna (3P), Sharon (2W) or Virginia.
Once again Cardinia Primary School will be supporting the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup Lang Lang District 9820 Ride to Conference. Cardinia Student Council will be conducting a “Free Dress Day’ on Friday 7th March. Students wanting to wear free dress will need to bring along a $2.00 coin. Additional donations are more than welcome. Our Student Council Leaders will collect the donations on the day.

This year the 50 riders will cover 600 Kilometres approximately over six days arriving at a Civic reception in Bendigo at the commencement of the Rotary District 9820 Conference on Friday 14th March 2014. To date our rides have raised approximately $750,000 for Rotary charities. In 2014, the bike riders will be riding for Life Education, Disaster Aid, Rotary Centenary House and TRAG (Teenage Road Accident Group).

**Life Education**
Life Education is a non-government, independent registered charity which motivates and encourages young people to make smart life choices for healthy future, free from the harmful effects of drugs. Their website is [www.lifeeducation.org.au](http://www.lifeeducation.org.au)

**Disaster Aid Australia**
This is a global humanitarian project that aims to provide shelter, warmth and comfort to people around the world who have been left homeless after natural disasters and wars. The Disaster Aid box contains a ten person tent, thermal blankets, collapsible water container and other basic survival equipment. Disaster Aid Australia has been developed by the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills (District 9820) Their website is [www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au](http://www.disasteraidaustralia.org.au)

**Gippsland Rotary Centenary House**
The goal of this project is to provide affordable, comfortable, supportive and secure accommodation facility for patients and their families attending the Cancer Care Centre at Latrobe Regional Hospital (LRH) or undergoing treatment there. Their website is [www.centenaryhouse.org.au](http://www.centenaryhouse.org.au)

**Teenage Road Accident Group (TRAG)**
Presentation in schools target student sin years 10, 11 and 12. An introductory video places the audience at the scene of several serious accidents on the Mornington Peninsula, viewed from the point of view from an Ambulance Officer, a CFA Firefighter and a Police Officer. Surviving victims and relatives of road accidents tell of the lifelong effects of road trauma. TRAG wants young people to drive safely and responsibly. Their website is [www.trag-vic.org](http://www.trag-vic.org)

This year with your sponsorship and support the goal is to raise in excess of $60,000 for these four charities. Major sponsors have their name printed on ride shirts and on the polo shirts that we wear when not on the bikes, and the name and logo of all sponsors is prominently displayed on our support vehicles, In addition, riders can be available for any promotions along the route and sponsors’ valuable contributions are acknowledged at the District Conference before about 1,000 delegates from all over Gippsland and the Mornington Peninsula.

Further details can be obtained by calling Joy or Rudy De Jong on 5998 8220. Please give generously and thank you for your support.