FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Every day counts – school attendance
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible. From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

Yakkerboo
This year our theme for Yakkerboo is Space. Jess and Elouise are busy making preparations for our float and it is all happening. If you can help in any way either in the lead up to Yakkerboo or on the day, please speak to Jess or Elouise. I am sure they would love to hear from you.

School Council
Nominations for School Council have now closed and all the Ballot forms are in. Voting will take place for all positions at 7.30pm prior to next Wednesday’s meeting. We will hold the re-election of Officer Bearers and any other voting. All parents are invited to attend the meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inter-School Swimming – Zone Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Noble Park Aquatic Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.45pm Start of Events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meal Deal – Sausage Roll and Lamington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 6 Excursion to Sovereign Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 15th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pakenham Show – School entering Art competition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Footy Clinic with Richmond – Grades 3 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pakenham Football Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Council Meeting – 8.00pm in Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Voting to commence at 7.30pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Whole School Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.00 am onwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 30th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yakkerboo Parade – Theme Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April</td>
<td></td>
<td>End of Term 1 – Whole School Easter Activities and Bonnet Parade.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- 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 Jess Thalas and Elouise Johnson for taking on the role of co-ordinators of the Yakkerbooo Float for 2014. Well done girls.
- To all the parent helpers who come along each week and listen to students read, do their times tables, help with PMP and the million and one other things you do.
- To Jodie and Liz who are doing a great job organising our Foundation Students for next year.
- To Sue for the great job she does on the newsletter each week!
- To Mr B and Mr Adams for organising our Swimming sports last week. Also to Mrs Esler who is organising Zone today. Thanks guys!
- To Grade 1C for winning the Mrs Smith “Attendance Cup” for last week. A terrific effort by Mrs Cruise’ grade. Well Done!
- To Mrs Parker for organising our display at the Pakenham show this year and to everyone who has contributed Art Work to our exhibition.
- To everyone who supported Rotary Ride to Conference and our Free Dress Day last week. As a school we raised $345.00. Well done everyone!

Good Friday Appeal

The Good Friday appeal is one of the biggest fundraising efforts for our hospitals. The Junior School Council would like to help this effort by handing out envelopes to all families and asking for a donation. This money will go towards essential equipment, research and education to support the work of the Royal Children’s Hospital. Since 1931 the hospital has raise over $258 million which has had a massive impact on the improved care children get when needing medical attention.

This appeal is very important for our school as one of our students, Mitchell, ended up in tragic circumstances last year. He received third degree burns to a high percentage of his body in a tragic accident. Mitchell spent months in hospital, putting strain on him and his family. He continues down the road of recovery this year. On Good Friday the Royal Children’s Hospital will fund a long needed break and day out for Mitchell and his family. They will travel by plane to Sydney and a day at Wet’n’Wild before heading home that evening.

Our thoughts continue to be with Mitchell’s family and we wish to show our continual support for the Royal Children’s Hospital in the care of those children needing such medical attention.

The Junior School Council would like to encourage you to help our efforts and support those who have supported children like Mitchell.

Thank you
Junior School Council
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.

MEAL DEAL

This week’s Meal Deal is a Sausage Roll and a Lamington for just $3.00.
SWIMMING - ZONE EVENT: Wednesday 12th of March

Today children who were selected for the Lang Lang and District Swimming Team will compete at the Zone finals at the Noble Park Aquatic Centre. The first race begins at 12.45 pm and the children should return to School around 3.00pm. It would be great to see parents there to cheer on our students.

We wish all members of the swim team the best of luck in their endeavours. Participating and giving their personal best is what really counts.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Friday 21st March. Every child will receive today, an envelope for their order. Please return this envelope by the morning of Thursday 20th March.

There is a new way of ordering and paying for your photos this year. You can place your order online. Full details are on the envelope and information sheet. Any parent wishing to have a family group photo can pick up a “Family Envelope” from the office.

Thank you
Virginia & Sue

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.
2015 Prep Enrolments

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.

For those who have already handed your enrolment forms in, thank you. To complete the enrolment process, we need a copy of your child’s Birth Certificate and Immunisation Certificate. If you have not already done so, please ensure that both of these are returned to the office as soon as possible.

Family Portraits

Top Shots Photography will be conducting a family photo session at Cardinia Primary School Saturday 29th March. All you pay is $20 for the sitting fee. Our school receives a commission for every session booked. Get in early and book a time at the office. This would make great Christmas presents. Further details and a brochure can be obtained from the Office.

School Accounts

School Accounts were sent home last week. For those who did not receive an account, this means that you do not owe the School any money. For those who did receive an account, we would appreciate prompt payment. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please speak to Virginia or Allan.

Yakkerboo Festival

Once again this year the School will have an entry in the Yakkerboo Parade. As previously mentioned, our float will be based on the theme of Space.

The date of the Parade is Sunday the 30th of March and will commence at 10.00 am in the Henry Street Car Park Pakenham. (Please note the change of meeting place. Not the Racecourse.)
Keeping our kids safe

As parents and Teachers we all want to keep our kids safe when travelling in a motor vehicle. The ‘National Guidelines for the Safe Restraint of Children’ has been developed by Kidsafe and Neuroscience Research of Australia. They understand that children of different sizes and ages need different type of restraints. The guidelines include a 5 step test to access whether a child is ready to use an adult seatbelt. These are

- Can the child sit with their back against the vehicle seat back?
- Do the child’s knees bend in front of the edge of the seat?
- Does the seat belt sit across the middle of the shoulder?
- Is the lap belt sitting low across the hips touching the thighs?
- Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

The guidelines recommend that children use a booster seat until they are too tall for the booster seat or can achieve a good seat belt fit. A good adult seat belt is generally not achieved before children are approximately 145-150cm tall or 10-12 years of age. Further information can be obtained from www.kidsafe.com.au/crguidelines

Fantastic news the 10th annual Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge has begun and you can soon be part of it too. This year to celebrate its tenth year of running the challenge has some new and exciting additions. The PRC even has its own mascot, Lachlan the Reading Dog. You can visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/new.aspx to find out more about him. Also you will be able to watch weekly video clips from popular sports stars, well-known authors and TV hosts.

The rules of the challenge remain the same as previous years: Students in Prep to Year 2 who accept the Challenge need to read or ‘experience’ 30 books during this period while students in Years 3 to 6 must read 15 books. Students must choose most of their books from the Challenge book list and record their reading online.

If you would like to take part in the PRC you can pick up a form from the office. Once your permission from has been returned you will receive a username and password and you can begin entering your books online. If you have any questions you can find me in the Grade 3P Mon-Wed, Kasey in the Library or you can see Sue in the office.

Happy Reading

Mrs Preston
Harvey: Shark culling is a bad thing. It is like ripping open your pet bunny or choking your cat. This is why! Sharks are just trusting their instincts like any other animal. Sharks are very territorial. So if you go into their home they’ll try to throw you out. Even though sharks can be trouble killing them won’t help. We are a lot smarter than them. They don’t think … “I attack you, you attack me”. They think … “You’ll go away if I attack you.”

Culling big sharks is killing breeders, so the population will decrease, making the ocean a lot harder to clean because sharks are the seas’ maids. Shark culling is cruel and unnecessary because you can easily avoid them. You need to think like a shark and culling the breeders will get rid of the sea cleaners.

James: Shark Culling is it necessary or cruelty?

Shark culling! Really, do you find it funny? If you do, ask your neighbours, see what they think but most of them will say it is cruelty. For sure, shark culling is cruelty, it’s not nice. Just killing the beasts of the sea, for no reason whatsoever. It is their home! Leave them alone! We actually kill more of them than they kill of us. No question about it, getting rid of sharks is not necessary. Leave them alone. They find the dead stuff on the floor of the ocean and eat it so that our ocean is clean. If we kill them, the ocean is going to smell. Sharks are one of the most important ways that our oceans remain clean. Most of our air comes from the ocean. You might say trees give us more air but it is not the case. Why do we need to vanish them from our seas? They’re one of the cleaners of this world. No need for it! If you’re doing this, stop! The surfers are going into their home and all they see is a moving object that looks like a seal then they come up and take a bite.

Conclusion: I know for sure sharks have no right to be punished in this way. It’s their home and ours is on land, so if you think about it, when we go for a swim … well you’re entering their home.

Ashlee: Shark culling is most certainly cruelty. Culling is targeting a thing, in this instance sharks and directly going for the kill. So people are just killing sharks for absolutely no reason. There are three reasons why shark culling is positively cruel. Most importantly, shark culling is cruelty because sharks help in keeping the oceans clean. We need all of our sharks in our ocean, they play a big part. They prey on the sick and dying, they eat dead animals on the bottom of the sea floor preventing disease spreading around the ocean. Following on from that, shark culling is cruelty because there actually is not many sharks attacks. Believe it or not, there has only been 18 shark attacks ending in death in the last 215 years in Australia. That’s one death every 12 years! So when you stop to think, it’s not the sharks fault, it’s in the end our fault. Stop harming the poor creatures.

To finish up on, Shark culling is cruelty because we step into their world. Surely you feel sad for these sea creatures and their families. But when you enter the ocean you are really going into their home. If you do see a shark, just leave it alone and you won’t get hurt nor the shark. So just take this advice. Do you want the ocean clean? Then leave sharks alone, don’t kill them because sharks keep the ocean clean, there are very few shark attacks and we are entering their world.
Raise $$$ for your organisation and receive a beautiful 8x10 inch family portrait valued at $75.00
When you pay your sitting fee of only $20.00

Where: Cardinia Primary School, 2405 Ballarto Road Cardinia
When: 10am to 4.30pm Saturday 29th March

Here’s how it works
Book a convenient 20 minute time slot by visiting or calling your pre-school/school and paying your $20.00 sitting fee
On the photography day, the photographer will take as many poses as you wish within your timeslot.
After your photography session, your proofs will be e mailed to you together with easily affordable price options.
From there you may select your favourite 8x10 inch family photo and packages which can be made up of other photos taken.
Your photos will be sent to your organisation’s coordinator for collection

Book by visiting the school office or calling 5998 8323

*Please note: Your complimentary photo must feature at least one adult. The same person can not feature in two offers.