FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

**Thankyou**
I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Trudie, Liz and Michelle for all the extra work they have carried out over the past week during my absence. We are indeed fortunate, as a school to have such staff members of their calibre. Also Kaye and I would like to thank everyone for their support and sympathy during a difficult time for our family.

**Sovereign Hill**
Our Grade 6 students had a fantastic day at Sovereign Hill last Friday. The day was a tremendous success and it was fantastic to see the students, as well as family members and staff, enjoying themselves while learning more about Australia in the 1850’s. Without the willingness of parents to have students at school early in the morning and having a much later pick up, this day would not have been possible. Well done everyone. There are some photos that were taken on the day in this edition of the newsletter.

**VCOP**
Four of our Teaching Staff attended a VCOP Training day this week with another to be held next week. We as a school are working towards a ‘Big Write’ across the whole school and this training will assist our teachers to enhance our writing skills across all grades of our School.

**School Council**
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 this week’s meeting on Wednesday. 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.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th March</td>
<td>Footy Clinic with Richmond – Grades 3 / 4 Pakenham Football Ground</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Council Meeting -7.30 pm in Staffroom (AGM commencing at 7.30pm - Annual Report / Election of Office Bearers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th March</td>
<td>Meal Deal: Pie and Fruit Salad ($3.00)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Photo Envelopes need to be returned by 9.00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21st March</td>
<td>Whole School Photographs 9.00 am onwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 30th March</td>
<td>Yakkerboo Parade – Theme Space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April</td>
<td>End of Term 1 – Whole School Easter Activities and Bonnet Parade.</td>
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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 all the students who contributed to our Art Display at the Pakenham Show and for Mrs Parker who once again organised our involvement in this community event. 3rd place was a terrific effort everyone!
- To Mrs Esler and Mrs Alderson who did a terrific job while I have been on leave over the past week or so. Thanks very much ladies for all your hard work and effort.
- To all the Grade 6 students and their parents for making the Sovereign Hill excursion such a successful event once again.
- To Mrs Esler for all her efforts in making sure the Sovereign Hill Event ran smoothly and everyone had a great time.
- To our students who represented our School and District at the Swimming sports last week. They should all be very proud of their efforts.
- To all the parents and friends who supported the students in their efforts at the Zone Swimming sports last Wednesday. And to those parents who help with transport. Thank you!
- To our school leaders for the great work they are doing around the school.
- To 6T for winning the Attendance Cup this week. Well done guys!!!
- To the Grade 1 parent helpers who assist with reading every week.
- To Mrs Smith who won a 2nd and 3rd for both of her cushions in the Craft section of the Pakenham Show. Well Done Mrs Smith!

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 raised 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 spend 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.
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.

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**MEAL DEAL**

This week’s Meal Deal is a meat pie and fruit salad for just $3.00.
SWIMMING - ZONE EVENT

Last Wednesday 12\textsuperscript{th} March a squad of Cardinia swimmers headed off to The Noble Park Aquatic Centre to represent Cardinia Primary School and the Pakenham District in the Division Swimming Carnival. All swimmers gave the best they could and should be proud of the effort that they put in. The best individual finishers came from Romi, who came 3\textsuperscript{rd} in the 11 girls breaststroke and Hayley, who came 3\textsuperscript{rd} in the 11 Girls butterfly. Again thanks to our loyal band of parents who have helped transport and support the swimmers throughout the various stages of the swimming carnival.

FAMILY POTRAITS

Just a reminder that Parents Club is holding a family portraits fundraiser. They will take place next Saturday the 29\textsuperscript{th} March. You will receive a complimentary photo for the small sitting fee of $20 & then have the option to purchase additional photos. It’s a great idea for upcoming Mother’s Day & a good excuse to get a whole family picture - one with everyone’s eyes open!

Please see the office ladies to book your time slot.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken this Friday. Every child should have received an envelope for their order. Please return this envelope by the morning of Thursday 20\textsuperscript{th} March. Please make sure children are in full school uniform for the photographs and that everything is spic and span for the photographs. It is a 9.00 am start so we need everyone to be punctual to school on Friday.

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.
Parents Club have been asked to run the canteen at the Model Airfield in Wenn Road, Cardinia this Sunday and Sunday 6th April. As this is one of the many ways we raise funds for the school we are asking for some helpers on both days 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 Sharon (0416 245 924) or speak to Virginia or Sue in the office.

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.

Raffle Tickets are being sent home today. The cost is 50 cents each or 5 for $2.00.

Thank you for your support of our school.

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.)
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 permission form from the office. Once your permission form 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

STOP PRESS!!

As an added incentive ALL students who register for the PRC will be entered into a draw to win 2x Village Movie Tickets for each age group. Don’t delay….enter today!!!
EASTER ACTIVITIES

On Friday 4th April we bring to a close the first Term of the 2014 School Year. School will be dismissed at 2.30 pm, at the completion of the traditional Easter Egg Hunt for all students and toddlers.

As is the tradition at Cardinia Primary School, much of the last day of term is given over to a number of Easter Activities to celebrate the end of Term and the coming Easter Break. Parents and Friends of the school are more than welcome to come along and join in the activities and assist in any way that they can.

The program for the day will be as follows, however the times might change slightly due to unforeseen circumstances.

9.30 – 11.00 am: WATER BOMB – Throwing and catching competition with Buddies and Friends

Easter Bunny might visit the various classrooms

11.00-11.30am: RECESS

11.30 -12.00 Noon: Easter Activities in the Classrooms (Teacher Directed)

12.00 -1.00pm: Whole School Celebration Lunch (Whole School Party organised by Parents and Friends Club)

1.00 – 2.00pm: Easter Bonnet Parade and Judging

Easter Raffle Drawn

2.00 – 2.30pm: Easter Egg Hunt

Seniors (Grades 3-6) Oval

Juniors (Foundation – Grade 2) Front of School

2.30pm: Dismissal

At the Easter Bonnet Parade a prize will be given to the Bonnet that is judged to be the best in each grade and a further ten prizes will be awarded in various categories determined by the judges. All children are expected to participate in this activity and they can create their own bonnet- using their own imagination, decorate an existing hat or utilise their bonnet created in class.

So come along and join us in this activity and see the great creations that students and their family members can come up with.

NEWSPOWER COLOURING COMPETITION

Our local Koo Wee Rup Newspower Newsagency has announced a colouring competition. Entry forms can be obtained from the office and need to be returned to the Newsagency in the main street of Koo Wee Rup no later than the 15th April 2014. The best entry for each store can win a ‘bunny pack’ which includes Staedtler crayons and pencils and each school can also win a price valued at $500. Grab your entry form now!
PHOTOS FROM SOVEREIGN HILL
38TH ANNUAL

YAKKERBOO

ART COMPETITION FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY STUDENTS

SECONDARY
1st $150
2nd $50

PRIMARY
1st $30
2nd $20

& Art Supplies
& Art Supplies

This competition is a great chance for you to get creative with this year's theme SPACE. You can use any medium to create your artwork that is no larger than A4 (210mm x 300mm).

OK SO HERE ARE ALL THE DETAILS...
1. Only 1 entry per artist. Entry is free of charge. Artwork must be the artist's own work, no larger than A4 and unframed.
2. Artwork must be labeled on the back with Title, Description, Artist Name, Age, School/Year level and contact number.
3. Art needs to be delivered to Pakenham Hall between 1PM & 7PM, Thursday 29 May.
4. Entries close...7PM, Thursday 29 May. No late entries will be accepted!
5. Judging will be based on the creative interpretation of the theme SPACE.
6. Winners will be announced at the opening night 7.30PM Friday 30 May 2014. TICKETS $15 or 2 FOR $25. Supper, Drinks and Catalogue
7. Art will be on display 10.00AM–5.00PM Saturday 31 May & Sunday 1 June 2014 Admission & Catalogue $2.
8. Art can be collected Sunday 1 June 2014 between 5PM-7PM.

For more info contact us via email artshow@yakkerboo.org.au

Exhibition at the Pakenham Town Hall

30 May - 1 June 2014

Proudly Sponsored By...

Pakenham Opportunity Shop
Office Works  Beaconhills College
Cardinia Shire Council
YOGA CLASSES

ADULTS YOGA & KIDS YOGA

LOCATION: Tooradin Public Hall,
11 Station Road,
Tooradin
PHONE: 0430 555 723 (Nadine)
EMAIL: nadine@sohumyoga.net.au
WEBSITE: www.sohumyoga.net.au
Costs: 8 Adult classes (valid 1 School Term) $80.00
       8 Kids classes (valid 1 School Term) $70.00
       Casual/Trial Adult class $12.00
       Casual/Trial Kids class $10.00

No Yoga experience is needed. New students arrive 10 minutes early to register. Bring a yoga mat and towel. Registration and Enquiries call Nadine 0430555723 or email sohumyoga.net.au

TIMETABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>CLASS TYPE</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>BEGINNERS</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>BEGINNERS</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4.30 pm</td>
<td>KIDS YOGA (ages 7-12)</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>BEGINNER/GENERAL</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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EFFECTIVE AS OF 22ND APRIL 2014 (Subject to change)

Please see our website for current information www.sohumyoga.net.au

SOHUM YOGA
sohumyoga.net.au
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 every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

It takes strong parenting...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as “It’s not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!”

Nice try. But the answer should be “No!”

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It’s reassuring to know that you increase your children’s chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.
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 Bailarto 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 organisation receives the full sitting fee and 10% of sales

Book by visiting the school office or calling 5998 8323

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