FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Whole School Transition Day:
Yesterday’s Transition Day was very successful with all of our Foundation Students for 2015 being in attendance. It was fantastic to see them all, being so excited and happy to be at School and to be with their Buddies. We also had a number of older siblings and new students attend the day in various grades across the school and we welcome them also to our school and everything that it has to offer them. The School’s net enrolment will remain static next year as we have 45 Grade 6 students moving on to Secondary School and a further 7 changing schools.

We trust our Year 6 students had a great experience at the various Secondary Colleges that they are attending in 2015 and are excited about the year ahead of them. This year our students will be moving on to 10 different Secondary Colleges in the local area and we wish them all the best.

School Fees – 2015:
The 2015 School Fees (Essential Supplies) will remain at $150 per child to cover the costs of supplying consumables and access to technology. The School Maintenance Voluntary Levy remains at $40.00 per family and the Voluntary Levy, in lieu of being able to assist in a voluntary capacity throughout the year, will also remain at $50.00 per family. Full details are attached to this newsletter.

School books and stationery will be available to collect from the 8th of December 2014.

Please note due to the changes that were made to the EMA Payment policy by the previous State Government (at this stage) Cardinia Primary School or Parents will not receive any payments under this scheme in 2015. As such, parents and guardians will need to pay this amount directly to the school. On receipt of payments students will be given their box of books, otherwise they will be distributed on the first day of the school year in 2015.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Meal Deal – Pizza, Garlic Bread and an Icy Pole for just $4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Activity – Luna Park</td>
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<td>Sunday 14th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>School Council - Christmas Gathering at the Armstrong residence in</td>
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<td>Pakenham Upper</td>
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<td>Monday 15th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>December Reports issued to all Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>School Christmas Concert – 7.30pm Start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Last Day of the 2014 School Year</td>
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<td>School Dismissed at 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28th</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>Buddy Presents given and received. Teachers Return to Work for 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>Students resume School for 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>Parents’ Club morning tea in the Technology Room – 9.15am</td>
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PLEASE take care at all times in the Car Park areas. Caution and alertness need 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 it should be brought 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

嫁给 everyone who assisted with our very successful Transition Day yesterday. It was fantastic meeting all of our new students and families.

嫁给 our Senior Buddies who did a fantastic job assisting with the Foundation Students yesterday.

嫁给 Mr White for getting our Sound System up and running in time for this year’s concert despite a nervous wait.

嫁给 Mrs Esler for all her work in organising and arranging the Grade 6 Graduation event to Luna Park on Friday. Fingers crossed for some nice weather.

嫁给 Carmel and everyone else who have been busy collating and preparing the report packages that are distributed on Monday the 15th of December. Fantastic effort.

嫁给 Michelle for her tireless work in ensuring all the reports are printed in time for signing and checking by class teachers – terrific work.

嫁给 the staff that have put in long hours the last two weeks to conduct parent-teacher interviews in what is a very hectic time of the year. Much appreciated.

嫁给 Tracey Orchard for her fantastic work in supporting children with speech difficulties throughout the year. Due to her efforts these children have made remarkable progress.

嫁给 Congratulations to all the students who have been involved in the Reading Recovery Program. Under Carmel’s guidance, and work back in the classroom and home, these students are very successful readers. Well done guys!

嫁给 everyone who is busily selling raffle tickets and donating to our Christmas hamper. Thank you for your wonderful support.

This Week’s Meal Deal is Pizza, Garlic Bread and an Icy pole.

Please Note: Meal Deals are $4.00.

HELP!

Missing!!

Liam J in 1C is missing his green Smiggle pencil case. It disappeared from the classroom while we were on camp. Can you please hand it in to the office if you find it?
PARENTS’ CLUB CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Christmas is fast approaching and that means Parents’ Club is preparing for the festive season by organising our raffles and other goodies for the concert night.

Notices have been sent home asking for donations for the raffle prizes, e.g. biscuits, a decoration, coffee, up to the value of $5. If we could please have these handed into the office by Tuesday 16th December it would be greatly appreciated. (Additional items are always more than welcome.)

Any further info or if you have any suggestions please feel free to let me know. I'm usually hovering most days between the Foundation rooms & Junior Learning Centre or you can contact Lana Van Berlo or Lisa Cartmel via the school Facebook page.

Items of Interest

- Student Books and supplies for 2015 have arrived and available for collection. They will be distributed on receipt of the 2015 Fees and Voluntary Levy.
- Please remember that the Christmas Concert commences at 7:30 pm sharp, with the first items being from Foundation and the Junior School. It would be appreciated if all students could be at school just after 7.00pm in readiness for this event. Students will need to sit and remain in their designated area until Santa arrives at the conclusion of the concert.
- A new sound system has been installed on the basketball court and repairs made to the existing system. We now should be all systems go for the concert and no excuses for not hearing the announcements.
- Works on the Mod 5 continue – nearly all of the electrics have been installed, also data cables and minor repairs completed. Carpet and internal painting should be completed within the week. In any case the fencing will be removed near the building prior to concert evening.
- We had our new intake of students for 2015 visit us – given the number of students progressing to year 7 and other students leaving across the school we will begin the year at around our current figure of 288 students, in 13 grades.
- In 2015 the Grade 6 students will be taking over the new Mod 5 – complete with new furniture and a lot of space!!!
CHRISTMAS CONCERT SUPPER
THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER

We are asking families to please donate an item of food for the adults’ supper after our concert this year. Cakes, slices, biscuits, crackers and chips are some suggestions.
All food can be left in the Tech Room kitchen on Wednesday after school or before the concert.
Supper with tea & coffee will be served straight after the performance for the adults. All children receiving a gift from Santa will also be given a treat and a Juice Box.

PLEASE NOTE: WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT ANY ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING CREAM.

Lost Property will be on display from Monday morning on the pathway to the office at the front of the school.
Any items that are not claimed after Monday will be either donated to a local opportunity shop or washed and used as second hand items available for purchase.

FROM PARENTS’ CLUB

Please remember to hand in your raffle tickets and your prize donations to the lovely office ladies. If you require extra tickets they are available up until the day of the concert. Donations of all shapes and sizes are welcomed for our raffles as we generally end up with quite a few prizes to hand out to some lucky winners.

On a personal note I would like to announce that I will be stepping down from my role in Parents Club at the conclusion of the school year. I hope to then pass on the torch to another willing parent who can carry on (the first meeting of the year has already been planned as noted in this week’s newsletter).
Anyone who has any queries regarding what is involved or is interested in taking over is free to contact me via Facebook, in person or alternatively speak with Mr Armstrong to determine whether or not they feel that it is a role they wish to take on.

Thank you
Lana Van Berlo - President
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 is/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. Here are some tips 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.

School Captains – 2015

The School Captain selection process is in its final stages prior to the announcement of our new School Leaders at our School Christmas Concert. Students who self-nominated for the position reiterated their reasons for wanting to be School Captain, prior to all students in Grades 3 -6 voting. The votes will be counted after all students are involved in an interview process with the Senior School teachers. We wish all of the students the best of luck, as all would be very worthy School Captains in 2015.
A huge **THANK YOU** to Barry (James’ Dad) for creating the wonderful Elf, Snowman and Santa that are in the Grade 1H room. They are a work of art and the kids are all looking forward to having a turn in them! Just wait to see what we do with the pictures...

MEAL DEAL NEWS!!

This week will be the last meal deal, next week there will be no meal deal on Thursday. Instead we will have our whole school Christmas lunch on Friday the 19th, the last day of school.

The children will be given a lanyard each which will entitle them to:

- 2 sausages in bread (minimum)
- 1 Prima
- 1 icy pole
- 1 Christmas treat lolly bag

There will be a standard $4 per child fee for lunch and if this can be paid to the office in an envelope labelled (whole school Christmas lunch) asap so shopping can be arranged.

We will need lots of helpers on the day; we will require a few people to cook sausages from 10am-12pm and then we will need lots of helpers to serve the kids after that. If you can help please let me know.

Thank you
From Karen Muntz and the meal deal mums
SCHOOL CONCERT- 2014

Our annual School Concert will be held next Thursday the 18th of December. The concert will commence at 7.30 pm but students are asked to be at school at 7.00pm, as we would like to start the concert at 7.30 pm sharp. As well as the children from Foundation to Grade 6 performing various items for your enjoyment and entertainment it is also a celebration of the 2014 School Year with various awards and prizes being presented to students and members of our Parent Community.

*Please remember that this is an Alcohol Free Event and no smoking is allowed within the School’s Grounds*

Presentations will be made to all of our Grade 6 students comprising of a Book and Certificate donated by the Cardinia Primary School Council.

Citizenship Awards – Junior and Senior donated by Ian Ridgway and Family

Grade 5 Encouragement Award – donated by Ian Ridgway and Family

Rotary Club of Pakenham – Academic Excellence Award

KooWeeRup Senior Citizens – Encouragement Award – Grade 6

Kooka Awards for all-round studentship – Boy/Girl for each grade.

2015 School Captains announced and Badges presented.

Presentation to Parents from Parents Club

Raffle Drawn

At the end of the night’s proceedings a Jolly Man in Red might make a surprise visit and give everyone a little present and a bag of goodies.

Some Christmas Cheer from Mitchell K
12th Dec

Pakenham BLUE LIGHT

PAKENHAM HALL
JOHN STREET, PAKENHAM
6.30-9PM (9-14 YEAR OLD) | COST: $5

CONTACT: SHARON PATTERTON OR CATH EMMETT
03 5945 2500

Pakenham Blue Light Disco
Ask your parents to like the page if you are under 13

WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU
CARDINIA PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS CLUB

WELCOME MORNING TEA
29/01/15
9:15am
TECH ROOM
(timber building in the front section of the school)

Over the past few years our Parents club has made valuable contributions to the well being of our school community. One of the main aims of Parents club is to raise money for the benefit of our school.

The meal deal we run weekly is our constant contribution.

We have lots of fun working hard to put various fundraising events together. It is an enjoyable opportunity to meet new people at all stages of planning and implementation.

We are always looking for new ideas and new helpers. Please get involved if you can, your children will benefit from your participation.

Come along, meet everyone and learn a bit more about what we do. Both new and present parents welcome.
Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Booklists and Parent Contributions for 2015

Victorian legislation provides that instruction in the standard curriculum program must be provided free to all students in Victorian government schools. Free instruction includes the provision of learning and teaching activities, instructional supports, materials and resources, and administration and facilities associated with the standard curriculum program.

To support the delivery of free instruction, School Councils may request payments from parents for student materials and services charges. These payments fall into three main categories:

- Essential Education Items, which parents are required to provide or pay the school to provide (e.g. stationery, text books and school uniforms where required).
- Optional Extras, which are offered on a user-pays basis and which parents may choose whether their child accesses or participates in (e.g. school magazines and extra-curricular programs or activities).
- Voluntary Financial Contributions, where parents and guardians are invited to make a financial contribution for school grounds projects, library funds or new equipment.

Essential Education Items

In 2015 Cardinia Primary School Council is seeking payment of $150.00 per student for Essential Education Items and Booklist items. This amount covers items such as:

- Initial books and stationery for each student in Prep to Grade 6.
- Supplies for Art, Music and Physical Education.
- Classroom Reference Materials, including dictionaries and computer programs, such as Reading Eggs, Mathletics and Ziptales
- Classroom stationery items and equipment, including photocopying.
Voluntary Financial Contributions

In addition, School Council is seeking two further Voluntary Financial Contributions per family.

Voluntary Contribution 1
A contribution of $40.00 per family to assist the school in its efforts to:
- Maintain a grounds beautification program.
- Assist in our Library refurbishment and resource improvement program.
- Provide additional IT equipment and access.

Voluntary Contribution 2
For families who are unable to assist in the many voluntary activities which are part of the school ethos, and wish to support the school in another way, an additional contribution of $50.00 per family. This is in lieu of attending working bees, assisting with Meal Deals, providing assistance in the classroom and/or being an active member of School Council or Parents Club.

School Council endorsed the new fee structure at its meeting in November last year to ensure that the school can meet the ever growing demands on its budget. There hasn’t been a fee increase for over two years. Cardinia Primary School’s fees still remain quite modest in comparison to other schools in the area and still has one of the lowest essential and voluntary fees structures in place.

In regards to initial books and stationary, the school orders the books and materials required for each student. The supplies come to the school pre-packed as a complete kit. The cost of each package is very economical as we have access to quality products at reduced prices through bulk purchasing.

Payment for the Essential Education Items can be made prior to the end of the 2014 School Year or on the first day of the 2015 School Year. All payments and contributions can be made by BPay, cash or cheque to the school Office. Your family Bpay details are on the attached statement. Upon receipt of your payment your child will receive a box containing their booklist items.

All children will receive this box of supplies on the first day of the school year regardless of whether parents have made the Essential Education Items payment to the school or not.
Financial Difficulty

Parents and guardians who are experiencing financial difficulties are welcome to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the Principal that suits both the parents and the school.

Several support options are also available to assist parents and guardians with education expenses, including:

- Schoolkids Bonus (formerly the Education Tax Refund) is available to assist with expenses such as uniforms, books, school excursions, stationery and other costs like music lessons. Further information about the Schoolkids Bonus, including eligibility criteria, is available from the Australian Taxation Office.

- Additional support may also be available through the State Schools Relief Committee.

Parent Payment Policy

A copy of our Parent Payment Policy is available from the School Office.

Yours sincerely,

Allan Armstrong                     Gerard Kennedy
Principal                           School Council President

Payments can be made and books picked up at the office from the 9th December.