FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Whole School Transition Day:
Next Tuesday the 9th of December we will be having our Whole School Transition Day, where our new intake of Foundation Students will be in attendance and the rest of the school will move up into their new grade, classroom and in most cases their teacher for 2015. Any new pupils, at other grade levels for the 2015 school year, have also been invited along to get to know a little more about our school and their new classmates.

Not all teaching arrangements for 2015 are finalised at this stage, as we are currently in the process of filling a vacancy for next year because a member of staff is taking leave. Generally the class groupings will remain the same, with minor changes. If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to see me.

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 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.
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

To the Grade 6 boys – Jason, Matt, Dom and Alex for all their assistance yesterday in stowing away our school supplies for 2015.
To Sue Friend for all her efforts in the office yesterday, flying solo and ensuring our 2015 supplies were taken care of.
To the Students in Grades 5 and 6 for their efforts with Money Maths over the past couple of days. All students were fully engaged in this activity. Well done.
To Mr White for all his work in organising and putting together this year’s concert. Well done Nathan.
To all Staff for all their efforts in putting together their reports for the end of the year. This is a mammoth task and takes many hours of work to complete.
To the Grade 6 students for all their efforts last Friday at the Major Games Day. A very successful day was had by all involved.
To Mr B and his helpers from Grade 2 who do a fantastic job each Friday emptying bins and putting them away for the weekend. Very much appreciated.
To Chantelle for watering our plants during this current dry spell. Well done.
To Danielle Nihill for taking our Playgroup photos yesterday. Thank you Danielle.
To Mitchell King who proudly hangs our flag on the pole outside the office every morning. Well done Mitchell!
To Mrs Holland for her donation of a bucket of jelly beans. Thank you Mrs Holland!
To Nicole P for the art and craft supplies. Thank you for your generosity.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

This Week’s Meal Deal is a Hot Dog and Jelly

Please Note: Meal Deals are $4.00.

HELP!

If you purchased a Salt Lamp from our Christmas Market Night and are missing the electrical cord, you can collect it from the office.
PARENTS’ CLUB CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

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

Notices have been sent home today 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.

GRADE 6 LUNA PARK GRADUATION

Our Grade 6 are heading off to Luna Park on the 12th of December. Permission Forms have already been sent home. Please return your permission forms as soon as possible so we have an idea of how many are going.

Items of Interest

- This week students in Grades 3 to 6 will have two sessions of Jelly Beans to make up for the session missed during Camp Week. The sessions will take place on Wednesday and Thursday.
- The Life Education Van returned this week to complete the program that commenced a month ago. All grades will have participated in the program by the end of Friday.
- Jodie and Liz have been very busy over the past couple of weeks visiting Kindergartens and Child Care Centres as part of our Transition program. These visits to the Early Learning Centres are invaluable in preparing for our new Foundation Students in 2015.
- Next Tuesday is our Full – Day Transition event. All our new Foundation Students and some of our new students for 2015 will be in attendance. Current grades will in most cases spend the day in their new classroom and with their teacher for 2015.
- 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.
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.

ART PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Mrs Parker will be available on Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th from 3.30 - 4.00pm for any parent to discuss their child’s progress in Art.

Grade 6 Round Robin Sports
Last Friday the Grade 6 students travelled to Bunyip to compete in a Round Robin Sports Day against Bunyip Primary School, Bayles Primary School, Tooradin Primary School, Koo Wee Rup Primary School and Lang Lang Primary School.
The school had two cricket teams, with 8 students in each team, who won 3 games and lost 1, two Netball teams who won 3 games and lost 1 and a T-ball team which won 1 game.
Well done to everyone who participated, it was a great fun day.

IT’S A BOY!
Congratulations to the Lewis & Max on the safe arrival of their baby brother. Both bubs and Mum are doing well.
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.

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**The Little Brown Bird**

**By Zoe Farmer (5D)**

There was once a little brown bird; he spent most of his life in a little golden cage. His owner was an old lady who was very sick at the time and spent most of her time in hospital, which led to the neighbour to occasionally switch the water and food for the little brown bird. As the other birds sang their songs while flying in the sea of clouds, on an otherwise perfect day, the little brown bird was watching in gloom; as if all the other birds were mocking him. He then let one tear of sorrow escape from his eye.

Soon came the sorrowful day when the little brown bird’s owner died from her sickness. Though sad, the little brown bird was happy; he thought he would be set free. Sadly this was not the case. While the old woman’s will was read out to her family, the little brown bird was given to the family of the old woman’s youngest child.

As the bird lay in his cage with his new surroundings, a couple of mocking jays, mocked the imprisoned bird. The little brown bird decided he had had enough of it, he started thrashing about the cage in pain and frustration. The new owner witnessed this and walked away in thought.

Half an hour passed as the little brown bird gave up but as the bird was about to lay down two smiling faces ran up to the cage. Walking behind them were taller figures. The little brown bird was confused as to why they were there.

Then one of their hands crept closer and closer to the cage door and swung it open. The little brown bird hesitated for a moment but got to its feet, fumbled out of the cage, flew up into the sea of white fairy floss and sang songs of happiness other than angst. The bird was finally free!
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 stationery, 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. 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.
SCHOOL CONCERT- 2014

Our annual School Concert will be held on 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.

Car Parking!

When parking on Cardinia Road, on the School side of the road, please park as close to the bollards and barriers as possible. Children and parents need to use the pathway allocated between the fence and bollards to enter School safely.

Cardinia Road and the front of the Hall car park are available for parents to park and collect students. There are also limited spaces in the Church car park located off Dalmore Road. Please do not park on the nature strip or block driveways in this area. There is also no parking in front of the School Crossing when the flags are showing.

It is School policy that all students need to be collected by an adult at the end of the day. This avoids accidents from occurring in these congested times. Please also be aware of your surroundings when parking your vehicle. If you are blocking other cars or the flow of traffic it makes it very difficult for other parents to access parking spaces. Your assistance, patience and understanding in this matter would be greatly appreciated.
Tooradin Dalmore Junior Football Club
Registration Day — Players Wanted

Take the opportunity to meet the Committee and share in the family
friendly atmosphere that is Tooradin Dalmore Football Club.

Come along and join in the fun.
Join your coaches and have some fun with the footy!

Free sausage sizzle and more...

Date: 7 December 2014
Time: 12.00—2pm

Location: Tooradin & District Sports Club,
South Gippsland Highway Tooradin
FREE CHRISTMAS EVENT
SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER
WITH A SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA CLAUS

$500 WESTFIELD SHOPPING GIFT VOUCHER WITH ANY CAR PURCHASED ON THE DAY

SHOW BAGS & BBQ + JUMPING CASTLE
FACE PAINTING + FUEL VOUCHERS & XMAS HAMPERS TO GIVEAWAY

PLUS

WIN AN iPad

1300 761 291 · CARMEGAMART.COM.AU
Rose Garden Kids

Has arrived in Tooradin

- Family owned and operated
- Casual bookings on request
- 3 & 4 year old Qualified kindergarten program
  - 3 nutritious meals a day
  - Quality (Babylove) nappies provided
- Letterland Literacy and Numeracy program
- School holiday care for primary ages kids
- Before and after school care (drop off/Pick up for Tooradin Primary school)

71-73 Sth Gippsland Hwy, Tooradin 3980 PH: 5998 3973
(ex: Kidz Kastle Childcare)

tooradin@rosegardenkids.com.au

Drop in to have a look around and meet;

Director Miss Kerrie and 2IC Miss Nicki.

Now taking enrolments for 2015