From The Principal...

**School Council:**
Just a quick reminder that our first School Council Meeting for the year is being conducted tonight commencing at 7.30 pm. Our student leaders have been invited to attend. All parents and friends of the school are more than welcome to attend. Remember if you wish to nominate for the School Council for 2015-2016 please complete the attached nomination forms and return them to the office by 4.00pm on the 4th of March.

**School Picnic:**
A huge thank you to all the students, families, friends and staff that supported our annual School Picnic to Cowes. With over 500 people participating in this event it is a fantastic achievement for the school to be able to conduct such an iconic event and cater for all those who attend. A huge thanks to our parent helpers and organisers for their efforts in ordering, preparing, cooking and serving all those sausages, pieces of corn and fruit. Well done everyone!

**Inter-School Swimming Squad:**
We wish our Swimming team for Friday all the very best when they represent the School in the Lang Lang and District Sports Association Swimming Carnival.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**February:**
- **Wednesday 18th** – School Council Meeting
  7.30 pm start – School Captains / Vice Captains invited to attend.
- **Friday 20th** – Lang Lang and District Sports – Swimming Carnival at KooWeeRup Pool. (Selected Squad)
- **Monday 23rd** – Playgroup resumes in the Technology Room – 9.15 -11.00 am New families and members welcome.
- **Friday 27th** – Grade 6 Excursion to Sovereign Hill

**March:**
- **Wednesday 4th** – Close of Nominations for 2015 School Council positions.
- **Friday 6th** – Curriculum Day – Student Free Day
- **Monday 9th** – Public Holiday
- **Wednesday 11th** – District Swimming Finals
- **Friday 20th** – School Photographs (proposed)
- **Saturday/Sunday – 21st / 22nd** Pakenham Show – School Art Exhibition
- **Friday 27th** – Last Day of Term 1 – 2.30pm dismissal.
School Picnic

The School Picnic was last Friday and the day could not have gone ahead without the help of many people. On behalf of our School Parents’ Club we would like to thank the following people who helped before or on the day.

Darren and Sharon King  Cara Massa  Raelene Stokkel
Jenny Bonham  Donna Eager  Lauren Ward
Lauren Bowman  Lisa Cartmel  Belinda Cook
Dave Glover  Merv Stokkel  Mark Bonham
Ralf Arnold  Stacey Kearney  Amy Beard
Wendy Campbell  Bridget Weinziel

If you would like any information about joining our wonderful Parents’ Club you can speak to either Lisa Cartmel or Virginia or Sue in the office.

SLIP SLOP AND SLAP

During first term all students and staff are expected to wear a hat while outside at recess, lunchtime and during sport activities. All students need to wear the school approved brimmed, bucket or legionnaire style hat. 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 who consistently forget to bring along or wear their hat will have to stay in the Quiet Areas throughout lunchtime.
Grade 6 students will shortly be given a special Grade 6 hat to wear for their final year at Primary School.

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.

We have had a mild dose of Chicken Pox reported to the school from one of our classes. For further information please see:  
Thumbs Up

- To Mrs Smith who has kindly donated a new lounge for the School’s reception area. Greatly appreciated and undoubtedly will be enjoyed by many.
- To everyone who assisted with the School Picnic – your efforts are greatly appreciated.
- To all the parents and friends who have supported the Parent Information sessions this week – greatly appreciated.
- To the staff who provided the transport for the 20 or so students who needed a lift to the Picnic. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.
- To Merv for towing the trailer to and from the picnic on Friday. No blown tyres! No blown fuse! Well done Merv.
- To Sue for the continued work she does in the Library ensuring books are catalogued, shelved and ready for borrowing.
- To Kara for her efforts in supporting the Grade 1 students with their Library and reader borrowing. Much appreciated.
- To Jo Arnold and Bev Eades who have been busy covering new books for the Library. Thank you Ladies.

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. We all have mornings that can be crazy however constant disruptions can affect not only your child’s learning but other students in the classroom. If you are late, please remember to sign in your child at the office.

Play Group

Play Group sessions are now on a Monday from 9am-11am. Anyone interested in coming along please do. Ages are from 10 months to Pre-School. The cost is a very reasonable $5 per session paid on a term basis. You will also need to register with Playgroup Victoria for Insurance purposes.
First session is free to see if it is what you are looking for.
Meal Deal this week is a Salad Roll and Choc Wedge for just $4.00.

Please make sure your child’s lunch bag is clearly named and indicates what they would like in their salad roll.

Curriculum Day
Our first proposed Curriculum Day – Student Free Day for 2015 is Friday the 6th of March (to be endorsed by School Council at it’s February Meeting.) The purpose of this day will be for all staff to participate in a Professional Development on the “Curriculum Organiser” teaching tool that was a suggestion that came out of the school’s recent School Review. As the name suggests, this tool helps staff organise their curriculum and streamline planning for all students, all grade levels and curriculum areas in accordance with AusVels.

Part of the day will also be given over to finalising the School’s Strategic Plan which has to be submitted by the end of this term to the Department.

SWIMMING SPORTS
This Friday 20th February the school will be competing in the interschool swimming sports at Koo Wee Rup swimming pool. The day will kick off with the first event at 10.00am concluding with a presentation around 1.15pm. The squad to represent the school was selected from the trials last week. Well done to those who had a go at trying out and congratulations to those who were selected. A massive thanks to all the parents who helped provide transport. To proceed to the next stage swimmers will have to finish 1st in the field of events.

Any questions you can see Mr B or Mr Adams.
**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.

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**2016 Foundation Enrolments**

With the 2015 Preps settling in, it is time to start planning our 2016 intake!

If you have a Pre-School child who will begin Prep at Cardinia Primary School in 2016, could you please visit the office as soon as possible to ensure we have your child’s details? You will be given an enrolment form and a Kindergarten information sheet that will need to be completed and returned to the office by the end of Term 1.

All siblings of students currently enrolled at the School are assured of a position in 2016. With so many new families wishing to attend in 2016, it is a huge job to keep track of all future Foundation enrolments.

Your prompt attention to the enrolment process will assist us in managing our enrolment process moving forward.

Please see Allan or Jodie if you have any questions regarding the 2016 Prep Enrolment procedure.
School Council Elections – Information for Parents
School Council Elections 2015

**What is a school council and what does it do?**
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

**Who is on the school council?**
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:
- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school. A mandated elected DET employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

**Why is Parent membership so important?**
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

**How can you become involved?**
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:
- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

**Do I need special experience to be on school council?**
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future. What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

**Remember**
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.
School Council Elections Schedule 5 A: Self-nomination
Form for Parent Member Category
I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name

Residential address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of , who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

- an undischarged bankrupt
- of unsound mind
- currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
- a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate ................................................ Date / /

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on 03 5998 8323.

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
School Council Elections Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

CANDIDATE'S DETAILS

Name

Residential address

Contact phone (mobile or landline)

Email

I am the parent/guardian of , who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator ………………………..Date / /

CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE:

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

• an undischarged bankrupt
• of unsound mind
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence
• a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate ………………………..Date / /

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate and to nominate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll. Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes. You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on 03 5998 8323. If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
SCHOOL PICNIC PHOTO’S 2015
Cardinia Primary School

Playgroup

Come try playgroup! Everyone Welcome.
Cardinia Primary School in Tech room
9am - 11am Monday mornings

*cooking* *sensory* *fine motor* *gross motor* *art & craft* *games* *outside play* *friendly* *story time* *show n tell*

Most of all, we are here to have fun!

Enquiries: Cardinia Primary School
Playgroup Coordinator Tressa or Virginia
5998 8323
WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU

Blue Light

Pakenham

Blue Light

Friday, 20th Feb

Pakenham Hall

John Street, Pakenham

6.30 - 9PM (9 to 14 Years Olds)

Cost: $5

Contact: Sharon Patterson or Cath Emmett 03 5945 2500

Pakenham Blue Light Disco

Ask your parents to like the page if you are under 13

BLUELIGHT_VIC
Less than 10 minutes drive from Pakenham

Come and be a part of a country style and family orientated club. We are

Located at

Or visit us at www.cobrazjuniorfootballpulsenet.com

Email: cobrazjuniorfootball@gmail.com

For further enquiries please call 0481 350 349

Training Wednesdays 5-6pm & games played Sundays
South East Junior Football League
U9s to U12s

Auskick Programme

Players - Girls & Boys Wanted!

Upper Pakenham Reserve (home ground)

Cobras Junior Football Club