Dear all,

Only a few weeks of the year have gone and already there is much to report. March 4 saw our annual (thoroughly enjoyable) Swimming Carnival, this year closer to home at Belgrave Outdoor Pool. Thank you to all who participated either by helping out or swimming, a great day was had by all.

Our Prep-Year 10 Information Night back in February was very well attended. We hope that you found the night invaluable, had some questions answered and took the opportunity to talk with teachers and other families. We will continue to run these in the future when we feel there is a need, but otherwise please do not hesitate to contact us whenever you have questions you need answers to.

Over the last few weeks, we have been hard at work updating our website. It is a work in progress but please bookmark it in your browser and keep an eye on it. And thanks very much to one of our hard-working parents, Tamara Desiatov, who has taken on the job of looking after it for us.

On which subject…if you feel that you are able to help out the school in any way, there are opportunities to do so. We are trying to compile a list of families who feel they would be able to give a bit of their time in whatever capacity they can, such as helping man our stall at Kallista Market each month, getting involved with environment programs, or joining fund-raising efforts. If you think you may be able to help out in any way, let either Dot or Jackie know. We plan to contact families to chat about how you think you could best help. We really do appreciate your time and efforts.

All families should have received a recent mail-out, which will have included a form for you to nominate the time for your Parent-Teacher Interview, scheduled for Tuesday April 1st. Please return this to us as soon as possible to ensure your time is the preferred one. Also, please note that as these interviews are continuing all day, there are no classes and students should not attend school on that day.

Also in that last week of term, we have great pleasure in inviting all staff, students and parents to a whole-school BBQ on Thursday April 3rd at 5pm-7pm (and a Primary students sleep-over afterwards, of which more details to come). Bring along something to put on the BBQ and, if possible, a salad to share. We look forward to seeing the whole community there, a chance to celebrate our school and to welcome families old and new for another productive year.

Sue Holmes, Acting Principal
From the Office

The eldest student in each family has been given a large envelope containing a variety of administration required forms and documents. Can you please check and sign the forms and have them returned to me in the office. Enclosed is a letter explaining the relevant forms. Thanks, Dot.

AUSSIE SCHOOL PHOTOS

On Thursday 27 March, all students and staff will have their photo taken. Individual shots will be used by the school for ID purposes as well as the normal shots that can be purchased.

Aussie take multiple images of each student on the day and parents can choose a ‘standard set’ group and portrait package in preferred graphic design and return order in permanent sealed plastic bag with payment to photographer on the day.

OR

You can choose to wait for 48 hours to go on-line to VIEW the images taken, CHOOSE the image you prefer and CREATE a package to suit personal needs for content and price. Photographer will give each student a unique log-on code which will allow you to view your own images and order on-line.

www.schoolphoto.com.au

To ensure photos are included in the bulk delivery to the school, on-line orders should be made within 14 days after photo day which will be before 9 April 2014 or Ist Wednesday of the school holidays. There is no need to return the pre-payment envelope on the day if ordering on-line.

Any queries should be directed the Aussie Customer Service Department on 9707 6655.

SIBLING PHOTOS

All sibling groups will be photographed on the day if presented to the photographer.

PLEASE NOTE: Sibling photos are taken on a ‘Proof” system. NO PRE PAYMENT REQUIRED ON THE DAY.

Proof copies of photo taken together with order form and pack choices sent via the school with delivery of student photo orders. SIBLING IMAGES CANNOT BE VIEWED ON LINE UNTIL AFTER PARENTS RECEIVE PROOFS AND ON-LINE ORDER NUMBER.

SAMPLES OF PACKS ETC

Should you wish to see a sample of the available photos, please see Dot in the office.
**Chooks**

Our little chicks are now very large chooks but there seems to be a few roosters amongst them. I have never had a rooster but am told that it might not be a good idea. So if anyone out there is thinking of getting a rooster for a pet please let me know. They are show birds so are gorgeous looking. Hope to hear soon, thanks, DD.

**Sustainability/Ceres Programme Committee**

The school is part of a Ceres environmental programme which now requires a committee with students, parents and students to be involved. The programme will cover projects for the school’s improvement in sustainability and school grounds, development of a community garden and many more. We would love to involve some parents and students in planning and implementing our way to becoming a Resource Smart 5 star sustainable school. If you are interested maybe we can ‘meet’ in cyberspace? Using Google Docs or some other form of communication – let DD know if you would like to be involved in this exciting program.

**Grounds committee**

This group will meet at 2.10pm on the last Wednesday of the month in the VCAL room. First meeting is Wednesday March 26th, and we will discuss how the grounds can help our aim of increasing our biodiversity (as per Resource Smart). I would like to thank the VCE VET Certificate II Conservation and Land Management lads for doing such a great job of clearing the front and working on other projects around the grounds. All welcome.

**School Council**

The new School Council met at the AGM on Weds March 12th and office bearers were elected. Your School Council is made up of:

Rose Major (President, Community Member)
Ziggy Griffiths (Vice-President & Grounds Committee, Parent Member)
Paula Woodward (Secretary & Fundraising Sub-Committee, Community Member)
Michael Wilshire (Treasurer, Parent Member)
Kirsten Wiese (Education & Communications Sub-Committees, Community Member)
Brian Dempsey (Communications Sub-Committee, Community Member)
Tamara Desiatov (Communications Sub-Committee & Grants, Parent Member)
Tony Brooks (Fundraising Sub-Committee, Parent Member)
Andrew Holden (Education Sub-Committee, DEECD Member)
Amara Somasundarum (Fundraising Sub-Committee, DEECD Member)
Lara Wilson (Communications Sub-Committee, DEECD Member)
Joel Cordwell (Education Sub-Committee)
Sue Holmes (DEECD Member)
Nicci Roussouw (Parent Member)
Steve Piggott (Parent Member)

If you are interested in the work School Councillors do but weren’t able to commit to being on Council, there are many opportunities to become involved. Please let Dot know and she will forward your interest on to us.
Community Notices

- Registration is now open for Olinda Auskick 2014
- Register online only at www.aflauskick.com.au
- Clinic starts 15.03.2014 (venue to be confirmed, check website)
- Should anyone require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Lynda Sharp 0400483396
COME AND ZUMBA!
Just for Fun and Fitness
Monbulk Community Hub
Saturdays 9am-10am
Box Hill Aqualink
Wednesdays 10.45am-11.45am