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Volume 3, Issue 3

Our mission:

To develop a school community of empathetic and critical thinking citizens with a sense of purpose and an ability to make an effective contribution to the world

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Newsletter

Principal's Point



Hello everyone. Winter is upon us and we have had some very cold days here on the mountain. The end of semester one is rapidly approaching and all of those events that happen around this time of year will be on the timetable.

At the end of last term Kerry Bennetto, our Assistant Principal left to take up a position at Upwey South Primary School. We wish Kerry all the best in her new position and she will be greatly missed. Kerry is the person who had the timetable in her head and I used to envy her ability to immediately know where things would fit. Now we will have to resort to some actual timetable software to do the same job. I am very lucky to have Sue Holmes as my acting assistant principal until we advertise the substantive position. Sue, like me, is on a steep learning curve doing all those things that Kerry made look so simple.

On Wednesday 8th we had a power blackout from 9.30 am until 5.30 pm. It got very cold as you can imagine. Luckily for us the cottage is on a separate meter and we still had power down there. We decided that the primary students were the ones we could safely accommodate down there without overloading the space. They had a lovely day with the music students who gave a few impromptu music performances. A big thank you to Luc and his crew.

Recently we were chosen to take part in the Programme for International Student Assessment. This programme (PISA) is conducted for 15-year-old students across the globe. It then ranks countries according to reading, mathematics and scientific literacy. In the last programme Australia came 9th behind Shanghai (China), Korea, Finland, Hong Kong (China), Singapore, Canada, New Zealand, and Japan. 13 of our 15 year olds were randomly selected to take part.

If you have driven into the car park in the last day or so you will have noticed some changes. The bus company advised us that buses are no longer permitted to back buses on school properties. This created a few issues for us as our car park is quite tight and there was not enough room for a turning circle with the existing configuration. US Bus lines have been fantastic and came to work out the logistics on Wednesday. They even brought a bus so we could see exactly how much space was required. After losing the six car parks in the centre of the car park we were able to create enough room to turn the bus and park it in a safe place for students to board. The lost car spaces will be replaced by the removal of some dead stumps and the addition of some more road base to create a safe and non-boggy spots for parking. By the time we have completed the alterations we will have more spaces than before. Hopefully we will cut down on the mud as well. If you arrive to pick up your child/ren and the bus is here already you can park in the centre area near the bollards and new shrubs that have been planted. If the bus is not already parked you must leave the centre portion free to allow the bus to turn. These changes should alleviate some of the congestion we have suffered in the car park in the past.

Work is continuing in the primary building and we are still on schedule to finish by the end of term. We will be doing some work on the driveway during the holidays and next term should see us returning to normal and no longer trying to operate on a building site.

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Our website has not been updated for some time and the ex student who created it is no longer free to manage it for us. I am currently negotiating to join many schools in EMR who use the Sponsor-Ed free websites. These are very attractive and the price is excellent of course. The reason they are free is because they have advertising banners on the sites. The school will be notified of which advertising is coming up and we have the chance to veto anything that is not suitable for us. Tecoma use them so if you want to see what they look like you could visit Tecoma Primary School's site. We will be able to make it much more interactive with all newsletters and timetable dates regularly updated.

We are very pleased to announce that Yasmin Frank, mother of Zac and Taryk has taken over as canteen manager. Kathy has not been well and has decided to concentrate on her school council role. Yasmin has been producing some wonderful muffins and hot foods for the students and I for one, am greatly enjoying her freshly made raspberry and white chocolate muffins.

On a sad note I have to report that our beloved cleaner Rhonda had a terrible accident at school on Friday 27th May. She slipped on the grass and broke her femur. This was early in the morning before anyone was here. An ambulance was called which drove up to the year 6-8 area to collect her. Unfortunately as they were attempting to drive out they became bogged and another ambulance had to be sent for to take her to hospital. A tow truck then towed the first ambulance out later. Rhonda is still in hospital and will have a long road to recovery and we wish her all the very best. Our cleaning service has arranged a replacement cleaner to do the job while we wait for Rhonda to return.

Please feel free to let us know what you would like to see on the website and in your newsletter. We are always very happy to see our parents around the school.

Kind regards
Anne

From the Desk of the Acting Assistant Principal – Sue Holmes



As this is my very first article for the Sherbrooke Community Newsletter in the capacity of Acting Assistant Principal, I would like to say a big hello to all families. Since taking over the position at the beginning of this term, I have thoroughly enjoyed the many new experiences and challenges that the position offers. I am kept busy teaching my Year 6-8 Literacy group as well as taking care of the day-to-day organisation of the school.

The following are a number of **important dates** for your diary.

Reports for semester one, are currently being written for all students from Prep to Year 12. These will be distributed via your child on Friday 1 July, the last day of term. Please also note that students will be dismissed from the school hall at 2.30 on this day.

Also as part of their assessment, all students from Years Prep to 10 will be involved in Sherbrooke Community School's Roundtable Assessment Program. Roundtables involve individual students presenting to a panel consisting of parents, peers and for the upper levels a community member as they reflect on their learning for the year. This assessment process has been highly recognised winning The Eastern Metropolitan Region Schools Award for Curriculum Innovation.

The Roundtable presentations will take place in Term 3 on Wednesday 3 August. You are invited to take part in the process as a parent/guardian or family member. Being on the panel involves listening to your child's presentation and being part of the feedback process. Roundtables really do give families a fantastic insight into their child's learning as the student is in control of the



Below: Yasmin Frank – our new canteen manager responsible for a whole range of delicious, healthy food for our growing kids! The halloumi cheese pies are very popular!



process. Watch out for further notification closer to the date. Students are not required to attend school that day except to attend their allocated session time.

As the end of a very busy semester approaches, I wish all students every success with their examinations and an enjoyable and relaxing mid semester break.

Regards
Sue Holmes

News from the Primary Unit

Staffing

We had the opportunity to have Chris James in the P-2 room on Monday to meet the students. Chris will be taking over from Naomi. He will be in our classrooms from next week to ensure a smooth transition. We are going to be very sad to say goodbye to Naomi. It has been wonderful working with her and the students will miss her. Andrew Holden will be Sarah's replacement and will be starting at the school toward the end of next term.

New Primary Building

Our new building is taking shape. We are still expecting it to be finished by the end of term. We will be looking for parental help to pack and move. If you may be available please let Sarah or Leanne know.

Months of the Year and Dragon Snot Performance

Staff, Students and Parents thoroughly enjoyed the Prep – 2's performance at Morning 'Meeting last week.

Proposed Primary Excursion

As part of Investigations and Sustainability we are planning to take all students to the Museum to visit Bugs Alive and the Children's Museum. We are planning to travel by train with the students. We will require a number of parent helpers on this day. It is likely to be a Wednesday, early in Term 3. If you are able to accompany us, please let Sarah or Leanne know.

National Partnership Grant

We have been fortunate to receive a National Partnership grant to purchase more books to further enrich our take home readers and guided readers. You will notice that our reading levels are changing to a numeric system.

Change of Clothes and Warm Clothes

Could you ensure your child has a full change of clothes in their bag? As the grounds remain wet and extremely muddy many students have needed to change during the day. Students are welcome to bring slippers to wear inside the classrooms.

Mini Round Tables

Our Mini Round Tables will be held on Wednesday 3rd of August. Students will only be required to attend school with their parents for their mini round table appointment.

2011 Great Victorian Bike Ride

Starting in Swan Hill and finishing in Castlemaine, this year's ride promises to be a great adventure along the Murray River. DD and I will be starting fortnightly training rides next month and encourage all students participating to come along. Neither DD nor I have broken an ankle this year so fingers crossed; training will be running on schedule.

The 590km ride will begin on the 26th of November, finishing on the 4th of December.

PERFORMANCE NIGHT!

CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO ALL STUDENTS WHO PERFORMED ON PERFORMANCE NIGHT. PERFORMERS WERE TERRIFIC! THE HALL WAS PACKED AND ROCKIN'.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO BEN, ANNA AND TIM FOR THEIR EFFORTS WITH THE INSTRUMENTS, STUDENTS AND SUPPORT.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES AND MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WHO ATTENDED THE NIGHT.

THE NEXT BIG CONCERT WILL TAKE PLACE SOMETIME IN OCT/NOVEMBER.

KEEP ROCKIN' SHERBIES!

LUCIANO

BELOW: LUC WITH THE PREP-YR2 UP AND COMING MUSICIANS!



Over the 9 days of the ride we'll see and do so many great things. This ride is packed with a bit of everything. There'll be challenges, thrills, breathtaking scenery, lazy rest times, loads of opportunities to meet new friends and the warm welcomes from beautiful Victorian country finish line and completed the Great Victorian Bike Ride with a great sense of achievement. Students from last year's ride all displayed tremendous growth and strength of character both during and since the ride.

The Early Bird (before 29th of July) Fee for students is \$199 for Primary (grade 6 only) and \$499 for Secondaries. These prices are already reduced by a \$100 supplement from the school. There are limited places and much interest already. Students who have registered their interest will be given a registration form with further information for parents to consider. The school has a set of bikes that may be used for training and the ride if students do not have their own bikes.



Cheers,
Nick

Beat the bite:

If you're planning to go on holidays over the break, here is some important information to know from the Department of Health.

Its holiday time and lots of families will be heading to areas where mosquito activity has been high – and they're not just annoying; some mosquitoes can transmit serious diseases.

There are simple ways you and your family can protect yourselves and Beat the Bite:

Wear light coloured, loose fitting clothing when outdoors.

Use mosquito repellents containing DEET or picaridin on exposed skin.

Try to limit outdoor activity if lots of mosquitoes are about. Dusk and dawn is when most mozzies are active.

your accommodation.

On holidays make sure your mosquito netting or screens are properly fitted.

If you've got a baby in your family, it's safer to spray or rub insect repellents on their clothes rather than directly onto their skin.

For more information www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Student exchange information sessions:

Student Exchange Information Sessions during School Holidays!

Find out more about your opportunity to spend a summer, semester or year overseas as an exchange student. World Education Program (WEP) Australia is running a number of special information sessions at their Melbourne office during the winter holidays for interested students and their parents. Spaces are limited! RSVP required. Please call 1300 884 733 or visit www.wep.org.au for dates, times and directions and to RSVP your attendance.

Year 9 student, Shauri Baily's outstanding photography composition.



For more information on holiday fun at Montrose or Mooroolbark Community Centre's, please visit www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au.



Oshcare 4 kids:

OSHCare 4 KIDS welcomes and invites all Sherbrooke Primary School families to their After School Care (ASC) beginning Monday the 18th of July.

ASC: SESSION TIMES: 3:30PM - 6.00PM (Monday to Thursday)
FEE: \$15.00 PER SESSION/PER CHILD (The fee will reduce if you receive Child Care Benefit & the 50% rebate)

VENUE: Multipurpose Room

Program Contact Number: (03) 9758 6744

Children attending from Sherbrooke Community School will meet at the office, where the bus driver will ensure all scheduled children are on the bus before departing. The bus driver will drop the children off at Olinda Primary School entrance, where they will be greeted by an OSHC staff member and who will mark off the attendance roll.

What will be provided:

Food:

When your child/ren attends the OSHCare 4 KIDS After School Care at Olinda PS they will be provided a Nutritional Food afternoon tea in line with the Heart Foundation. We at OSHCare 4 KIDS understand the importance of afternoon. Some of the foods that will be provided are; sandwiches, with a variety of spreads, salad wraps, cooking every week, and seasonal fruits every afternoon.

Activities:

There are a variety of activities provided to children in line with OSHCare 4 KIDS '7 Areas of Learning and Development'. We provide a stimulating program that is structured and flexible catering to the needs of all children that attend. Keep your eye out in the school's newsletter, as we will be advertising our exciting activities we program each week.

Qualified Staff:

All of our staff are qualified and trained in the following areas:
First Aid Level 1 and 2 Anaphylaxis Food Safety Level 1 and 2 Diploma/Cert 3 in Children's Services.

Enquiries:

All enquiries can be directed to Head Office or simply visit our Head Office- 1A/1244 Burwood Hwy Upper Ferntree Gully. All Enrolment Forms and Debit Form can be downloaded from our website.

P.O. Box 7082 Upper Ferntree Gully Victoria, 3156 Phone: (03) 9758 6744 Fax: (03) 9758 6747 Email: admin@oshcare4kids.com.au

Winter Wonderland at Phillip Island's Churchill Island - We bring the snow to you!

Make snowmen, toss snowballs & win prizes!

**IMPORTANT
DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY:**

School term ends at
2.30pm on 1 July

Reports to go home
with students:
1 July

School terms starts:
18 July

Early Bird fee for
Bike Ride:
29 July

Start of round table
meetings:
3 August

Anyone who thinks
the art of
conversation is
dead ought to tell a
child to go to bed.

~Robert Gallagher



Snow on Churchill Island? Absolutely!

It's going to be an incredible 'winter wonderland' for one special day during the July school holidays at Phillip Island's Churchill Island Heritage Farm.

On July 5th, from 11.00am kids and adults will be able to revel in 10 tonnes of fresh snow on the Island!

The freshly delivered snow, covering an area of 30 square metres, is part of the Nature Parks' Wild White Winter promotion.

Kids and adults will be able to make snowmen, toss snowballs, make snow domes and even do some cooking – including making delicious igloos using biscuits and marshmallow!

There will also be face painting, prizes to be won and some very special guests – Pete the Penguin and Frosti the Frog!

And that's not all, every child will receive a free snow bag to take home which includes snow themed colouring sheets, puzzles, word searches, drawing and writing sheets plus activities to do at home.

Put it in your diary today! All snow activities start at 11.00am, and are free with a Churchill Island entry ticket, or a Nature Parks 3 Parks Pass. Mt Baw Baw Resort will have some great promotions on show – including the chance to win a fantastic \$4000 snow holiday!

To top it all off, Churchill Island Café will feature special wintery drinks and food, including soup, hot chocolate and traditional gluhwein!

Winter promised to be heaps of fun at Phillip Island's Churchill Island Heritage Farm this winter! Visit www.penguins.org.au for all Snow Day details.

Media Enquiries: Ms. Sue Davies, Communications Executive, Phillip Island Nature Parks Tel: +613 5951 2825 Mobile: 0400 956 310 E-mail: sdavies@penguins.org.au Web: www.penguins.org.au

News from the front office:

Yellow student enrolment forms

Personal detail enrolment forms and other forms were sent home earlier this year. If you have as yet not returned yours to the school please check the details and make any corrections necessary and return the form back the office. This will enable us to ensure your contact details are up to date and any other changes are recorded on the system. Even if no changes are necessary please return the form and initial each page.

Paracetamol

The school is not permitted to administer paracetamol to students, however if you wish your child to have paracetamol, please give some to the office with your child's name and dosage and we will be able to administer paracetamol. For emergency purposes, we will contact you by phone to give verbal permission.

Absences

With the new phone system now in place, could you please telephone the school and press 1 for absences. This frees up the phone system and eliminates the need for calls home by staff.



Gail and Dot
Office Managers