Dear Parents and Students

CAPE PATTERSON BEACH PICNIC - FRIDAY FEB 24TH:
The weather is looking fantastic for our big beach day tomorrow.

Some important points

1. Due to increased student numbers we have booked a second (small) bus.
2. Staff will arrange times throughout the day whereby all students will re-apply sunscreen.
3. We have repeated our safety message below - this must be strictly followed, thank you.
4. Please double check that your child/children have sunscreen, food, drinks, hat, bathers and spare clothes and a bag suitable to contain wet towels & bathers for the trip home.
5. Children are most welcome to take buckets & spades, small beach toys, snorkels & masks, but no large items such as boogey boards, etc. (These are available from the lifesavers).

We look forward to a wonderful day and we hope to see you there!

SAFETY NOTICE:
Each staff member will take a student list and contact details for the students in their class. All children must be ‘signed off’ by a parent or guardian with their child’s teacher before we depart Cape Paterson at (approx) 3.00pm. It is also important that all parents assist with the supervision of their children, especially pre-schoolers, throughout the day.

There are a couple of important reminders about the excursion:

1. The bus is due back at Darnum at about 4.30pm.
2. Ensure a staff member knows if you are either leaving early or staying later and that your child/children are signed off as not coming on the bus.
3. All adults are asked to assist the staff to supervise all children, regardless of age, so that we can have a safe and happy day.
4. After School Care **IS** available after we return.

Finally please check all details on the ‘Cape Paterson’ note regarding what to take, map etc.

I encourage everyone to attend this great event. We especially love to have grandparents etc join us on the day. As mentioned, please help us with supervision to ensure everyone has a safe, stress-free day and please be ‘Sunsmart’!

SCHOOL COUNCIL PART 1:
The annual (election) meeting of School Council will be held on Tuesday 20th March. The following members are due for re-nomination:-
Murray Grigg, Naomi Eggens, Wendy Kennedy and Lee Steenholdt. We are also seeking to fill one vacancy being vacated by Debbie O’Connell, whose children have completed their education at Darnum Primary School.
Nomination forms are available at the office over the next two weeks. Parent members must be nominated by other parents. The school council consists of 10 members, (8 parents and two staff).
We encourage you to consider joining our school council - it’s a very friendly group that work together to run our lovely school. Many thanks to Debbie for her fantastic work over many years.
**SCHOOL COUNCIL PART 2:**
School council meetings are held monthly and are for elected members only. School council members welcome your input and suggestions and will table these at meetings. (One recent example is a parent suggestion for improvements to the road and parking which we are currently following up.)

**2012 SCHOOL LEVY:**
The school levy remains unchanged at $65.00 for the first child and $60.00 for additional children. Families who have current EMA or applying for EMA in 2012 (see note below) do not need to pay this levy as it is directly paid to the school.

**EMA:**
Holders of Government Health Care Cards can apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA). Please see Sharyn for this. There are also new forms for all EMA recipients to enable payments to be made by direct deposit. These are available at the office.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY AND PARKING:**
To assist us to keep our students safe, please note the following regarding traffic and parking around our school:
* There is a permanent 40Kph limit at all times along the road (Graham St)
* The car park is for staff and visitor use. There is limited space for dropping off/ pick up which you are welcome to use, however the MARC Van requires turning/ parking space on Tuesdays so please avoid using it on that day thankyou.
* Please be vigilant at all times to keep our students safe!

**SCHOOL CAPTAINS:**
Congratulations to our 2012 school captains: Kelsey Stapenell, Bridgette Davidson, Jarrod Grigg and Bailey Wright - we hope they enjoy this year representing our school and students.

Regards  Chris & Staff

**CAPTAIN'S CORNER**
Hi we are the new School Captains, Kelsey, Bridgette, Jarrod and Bailey. We are proud to be School Captains and we will write something for the newsletter each week. Hope you’re all looking forward to Cape Paterson this Friday. Make sure you bring your hat and a snack and Slip Slop Slap!

Mystery Riddle
A cowboy rides in on Friday and leaves on Friday, but only stays in town for 3 days.
How is this possible?
(The answer will be in next week’s newsletter).

The School Captains
**Students of the Week**

MICAH CAMERON  
JARROD GRIGG  
WILL BATTLEY  
CLOE MAXWELL  
COOPER COOK  
GEORGIA CHAPMAN

**CAFE PATERSON**

Those travelling by car may either go directly to Cape Paterson or follow the bus. It is strongly recommended that sunscreen is applied at home and that children have a rash vest or spare T-shirt to swim in. We will be getting all children to re-apply sunscreen at lunchtime.

* Broad brimmed hats and plenty to drink are a must.*

We will be leaving school at about 9.10am so could all children be at school by 9am.

We expect to leave Cape Paterson at about 3.00pm to arrive back at Darnum close to 4.30pm.

* No boogy boards can be taken on the bus.
* To avoid winding roads, we will be travelling down Westernport Road (via Drouin), then along the South Gippsland Highway to Wonthaggi.
* Note that we are going to the first bay beach NOT the surf beach of Cape Paterson.
* Please take picnic rugs and shade shelters if you have them.
* Lots of sunscreen, hats and drinks must be taken.
* Children & families need to provide all drinks and food.

The school council will purchase icy-poles.

* Children are NOT to take spending money and we ask attending parents not to buy extra items for their children (eg. ice-creams) during the day.
* Please assist us with supervision! All attending are asked to assist the staff and lifesavers with supervision of all children throughout the day. Staff must be informed if you leave earlier than our scheduled departure, thankyou.

**2012 School Captains**

Bridgette  Kelsey  Bailey  Jarrod
Dear Parents,

The School Council has adopted the following process for the 2012 requisite levy. This follows recent Department Education Guidelines regarding parent contributions to the purchase of student requisite and stationary needs for the school year (e.g. pens, books, glue, diaries etc.). Most schools, including ours, have done this for many years by organising bulk purchases so that all children receive the correct number and type of each item, at a reduced cost. The school also freely provides (or heavily subsidises) many other activities throughout the year. This includes sports association fees, swimming subsidy, picnic/excursions, M.A.R.C. Van levy, visiting performances subsidy and special art/craft items to take home.

As a result of this levy, School Council will NOT ask families to pay a 'Voluntary Contribution Levy'. (Most schools have a booklist which parents need to purchase for their child, as well as a Voluntary Levy, and both are usually substantially more than our levy). We are committed to provide a top quality education but keeping costs to an affordable levy.

As all students have already been supplied with their requisites, it would be appreciated if the Student Requisite Levy could be paid by the end of Term One.

The 2012 payable fee is $65.00 for the first child and $60.00 for subsequent siblings. (If you are in receipt of E.M.A. allowance this fee will be automatically paid to the school.

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STUDENT REQUISITE LEVY

Oldest child -$65.00    Subsequent Children -$60.00

Family Name:____________________________________

I have included payment for the 2012 Student Requisite Levy of $ ________ for my child/children.

Banking Details:   Darnum Primary School Council
Commonwealth Bank Warragul
BSB 06 3532  A/C NO 10082108