Dear Parents and Students
Lots of things happening around the school as we prepare for the school sports next week and our Japanese visitors in the last week. We were also very pleased to see lots of Easter donations coming into the office too!

SCHOOL COUNCIL:
After close of nominations I am pleased to announce that Murray Grigg, Wendy Kennedy and Lee Steenholdt have been re-elected to School Council for a 2012/13. We also welcome Anna Nauta as a new School Council member this year. As the number of vacancies was equal to the number of nominations, no election was necessary. Thankyou to all nominees for agreeing to be part of our school council and I am sure we will have a great year together. The annual meeting to elect office bearers (etc) is next Tuesday, 20th March at 7.30pm.

SCHOOL SPORTS:
Once again Rob has been flat out organising next Wednesday’s sports on behalf of the district rural schools. His information note will appear in this newsletter however I would also like parents to note the following important safety information:
* All children from Prep to six are involved in teams and need to be there from 9am to the finish at approx 3pm.
* Staff will be on duty from 8.30am for any students needing to be dropped off early.
* There is no after School Care on that day and parents must also arrange to pick up their children at 3pm so that we can pack up the sports ground and equipment.
* All students must stay with the school group in the designated area. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome to join us.
* Please read Rob’s note CAREFULLY and see us if you have any enquiries.
The day is all about participation and having fun together - Go Darnum!

UNIFORM NEWS:
There are still a number of secondhand dresses, polos etc for sale. See the office.

PARENT READING WORKSHOPS:
I encourage all parents to consider attending this opportunity offered by Liz Berry. Liz has some fantastic ideas to assist you with your child’s reading, not to mention many years of experience to pass on.

JAPANESE EXCHANGE VISITORS:
During the last week of term, 11 children and 6 adults from our exchange program in rural Japan will be here to take part in a variety of activities. They are being hosted by a number of our Darnum families and will spend nine days with us in total. On Tuesday 27th they will spend the whole day at school. On that day we would like to hold a whole school shared picnic lunch. This is quite a tradition at our school and we ask that each family send a small plate of items to share, such as sandwiches, cakes, slices, party pies etc. (There would be no shop lunch orders on that day). We would also need some parent helpers at about 1pm to assist. This should be lots of fun!

JAPANESE HOST FAMILY MEETING:
We will hold a final preparation meeting on Thursday 22nd at 7.30pm at the school.

OFFICE NEWS:
Sharyn is away this week after a knee operation. We wish her a speedy recovery. There are also appears to be a ‘stomach bug’ going around at present as a number of students and adults have experienced illness this week. Headlice is still an issue - please check your children daily!

Regards
Chris & Staff
Hello Folks,
Hope everyone enjoyed their long weekend. It has occurred to us that there has been a lot of rubbish around the school, so if you see any make sure you put it in the bin.

**MYSTERY RIDDLE:**
Answer from last week:
Future

**THIS WEEK’S RIDDLE:**
When you buy it, it is black
When you use it, it is red
And when you have finished with it, it is grey
What am I?

School Captains

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### Students of the Week
Zane Milton
Elyse Kerr
Hudson Ronalds
Benjamin Farmer
Sean Farmer
Ethan Mills

### DIARY DATES

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<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20th</td>
<td>School Council meeting</td>
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<td>Wednesday 21st</td>
<td>Athletic Sports</td>
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<td>Friday 30th</td>
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<td><strong>APRIL</strong></td>
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<td>Wednesday 16th</td>
<td>Term 2 Begins</td>
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### PREP PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
If you haven’t seen me to arrange a new meeting time, please call in and we can organise a suitable time.
Thanks,
Sharon

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### CAPTAIN’S CORNER

Hello Folks,
Hope everyone enjoyed their long weekend. It has occurred to us that there has been a lot of rubbish around the school, so if you see any make sure you put it in the bin.

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School Captains

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### GRADE PREP & ONE HELPERS
We are now ready for helpers in our classroom. Please call in and see us if you are able to help.
Mums, Dads, Grandparents etc.
Most Welcome
Thanks Sharon & Laura
ATHLETIC SPORTS - WEDNESDAY MARCH 21ST

Everyone is looking forward to the Sports next Wednesday. We hope many parents, grandparents, relatives and friends will be there to support the children and cheer them on.

Some important reminders:-

♦ Children should be at the Geoff Watt track in Warragul by 9.00am for a 9.15am start.
♦ If the weather is either too wet or too hot a decision will be made the day before and communicated to parents at school. If there is a postponement the back-up day is Friday March 23rd and school will proceed as normal.
♦ We will assemble together at our school banner.
♦ Children should wear the school colours. They should have runners (and must wear them all day). They must all wear a hat and sunscreen.
♦ Children need to bring lunch and plenty to drink.
♦ The kiosk will also be operating.
♦ The children’s ages for the morning rotation of events is taken as of January 1st 2012. This can be confusing for those children who have a birthday between then and now.
♦ Parents are responsible for toddlers and must ensure they stay clear of participating children.
♦ The sports usually finish at about 3.00pm. It would be appreciated if children could be picked up promptly.
♦ To try and avoid the problems we have had previously with the toilets, we are encouraging parents to use the public toilets on the other side of the tennis courts. This would be a good spot to park too.
♦ Parking: Please note on the map that one entrance has been designated as an entry and one as an exit. If you are only dropping off your child please turn to the left after you enter.
♦ Attached is the timetable. Please keep this as a reference.
♦ Also - There is some chance your child will be photographed for the Warragul gazette. If you do not want your child’s photo taken please contact your child’s teacher.
Parent Reading Workshops

Want to help your children with their reading at home and at school?

We are holding three Reading Workshops showing some of the best ways to help develop your children’s reading skills as used in the classroom. This is beneficial for parents with children starting in prep through to grade six.

The following three workshops will include:

**Reading Workshop One: Tuesday 20/03/12**

- Helping Beginning Readers
- Beginning Readers
- What you can do to help your child in reading
- Book introduction-how important they are
- The 3 Ps
- Reading Behaviours

**Reading Workshop Two: Tuesday 27/03/12**

- Strategies in Reading
- Beginning Readers +
- What strategies do good readers use to get to meaning
- Meaning, structural and visual cues
- Rereading after working on a word or reading on
- Phrasing and fluency
- Finger pointing and when not to finger point

**Reading Workshop Three: Tuesday 24/04/12 (term 2)**

- Comprehension
- Thinking Hats for children in grades 2 to grades 6
- Your child has developed good reading strategies but needs a little help with comprehension
- What are these thinking hats and how can my child apply these to reading

All workshops:

- **Starting time:** 9.00 am - 10.00 am
- **Venue:** Multipurpose Room

Please indicate below which workshop would interest you and return the slip to the office.

Liz Berry
Reading Recovery teacher

Please return this slip to the office.

Name: __________________________________________________________________

I would like to attend the following workshop/s:

**Workshop 1:** Yes / No   Tuesday 20/03/2012  9.00 am

**Workshop 2:** Yes / No   Tuesday 27/03/2012  9.00 am

**Workshop 3:** Yes / No   Tuesday 24/04/2012  9.00 am