Dear Parents and Students

Congratulations to everyone involved in last Friday’s sports day. We were excited to be the joint winners alongside Nilma Primary School however, the best part of the event was seeing our students having a terrific time and giving 100%. Of course, special congratulations and thanks to Rob Ferguson who organises the entire event for the district.

EASTER RAFFLE:
Our super ‘one week’ raffle kicks off today. A booklet of tickets will come home today with this newsletter. Please have all tickets back in by 9am next Thursday, 28th March. The raffle draw will take place at 1pm and all students will receive a free easter gift. Extra books are available at the office. Please send along your donation for the prizes when you can.

Finally, parent helpers are needed at 9am on the 28th to make up the prize hampers - meet at the canteen.

LAST DAY TERM 1:
Thursday 28th March is the last day of term 1 we will be finishing at 1.30pm after the Easter Raffle. Please note there is NO After School Care available that day. Thanks

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The annual meeting of school council took place last Tuesday evening. We welcome Gagan Singh to our meeting as our new member. The office bearers retained their 2012 roles with Steve Pompei as President, Naomi Robinson as Vice president, Wendy Kennedy as Secretary, Mary- Rose Cawcutt as Assistant Secretary and Lee Steenholdt as Publicity Officer. The other school council members are Chris Eeles and Kristine Smithett, Amanda Barton and Anna Nauta.

School council meetings are only open to elected members, however these members are happy to bring up suggestions and ideas on your behalf.

SCHOOL PHOTOS:
We had 100% of our students at school yesterday for the school photos. The children and staff looked great and we expect to receive the proofs, etc, soon after the holidays.

EXCITING NEWS:
Congratulations to Leona & Matt Nankervis who are expecting their first child in mid September! WOW!!

JAPANESE HOSTS:
I have received an offer from one family so far - still looking for one or two more families who could host our new teacher, Shiori, for a few weeks (or a term) during 2013. You would need to provide Shiori with her own room and be able to bring her to school, however the school pays board to assist with costs. It’s a great experience for everyone. Please consider hosting her and contact me if you can assist, - even for a short period.

IMPORTANT DATES:
We apologise for the short notice on a few of our events during term one – it seems to have flown past so quickly that we are still catching up! We will endeavour to list the years locked in dates at the start of each year to assist parents with planning around work etc.

As a start: here are the known dates & events. Please understand that some events get changed due to weather or other circumstances.

More news over the page>>>>>>>>>>
IMPORTANT DATES Cont......

TERM TWO: Starts Monday 15th April
   - Friday 3rd May - Winter sport Gr 3-6 starts
   - Thursday 27th June - Report day - no school for students
   - Friday 28th June - Last day of term two, 1.30 close.

Other known dates:
   - October 21st - 23rd - Gr 4-6 camp
   - November 4th - Curriculum day - no school
   - November 5th - Melbourne Cup - no school
   - December 19th - School Christmas Party (pm)
   - December 20th - Last day of school year.

Dates such as Writer’s Café’ and P–3 excursions are yet to be set.

Regards
Chris & Staff

DIARY DATES

MARCH
   - Thursday 28th - Last Day Term 1. 1.30 finish!

APRIL
   - Monday 15th - Start of Term 2

MAY
   - Friday 3rd - Gr 3-6 Winter Sports starts
   - Tuesday 21st - School Council Meeting

JUNE
   - Tuesday 18th - School Council Meeting
   - Friday 21st - Last day of Winter sports
   - Thursday 27th - Report day - No School
   - Friday 28th - Last day of term two

Students of the Week

L > R
   - ANTHONY GLEESON
   - ARCHIE MARTEL
   - KURTIS VAGANA
   - MORGAN COOK
   - CALEB RONALDS
   - ASHWYN SINGH

Boing, Boing, Boing here comes the Easter bunny so get all your chocolate in for the raffle.
Congrats on the awesome job at the sports on Friday.
DON’T FORGET WE OPEN CAPTAINS CUPBOARD ON FRIDAY!!!!
Cya later!!
ATHLETIC SPORTS

Congratulations to all children for their wonderful efforts at the athletic sports. It was great to see their performances during the morning rotation and of course, in the team events in the afternoon, where we drew with Nilma Primary School.

An enormous **THANK YOU** to the parents & grandparents who came along and supported the children and helped us out in any way. It is much appreciated. It can be a long tiring day but certainly very worthwhile for the children.

Again we specifically thank the Cawcutt family for organising the hay bales for us.
Last week the grades 4 to 6 focused on ‘Mobile Phone Common Sense’.

**What’s the Issue?**

Being able to process several things simultaneously in a media-rich world can be a real skill. When kids are constantly being interrupted by phone calls and texts, multitasking can help them keep many balls in the air at once without dropping them. But it is also easy for kids to slip into habits with mobile phones that put their safety, well-being and reputation at risk!

**Why It Matters!**

Studies show that multitasking doesn’t do much for intimate family relationships. We all know that kids’ friends trump their parents and often responding to text messages from friends can be more important to a child than holding a conversation with others physically present in the same room! Kids need to learn when it is appropriate to make phone calls and respond to text messages and that mid conversation with others is not always the ideal time for this! Kids can also get into the habit of walking with their heads down as they text, talk or play games, making it hard for them to pay attention to their surroundings. This dangerous habit may linger as they get older and begin walking to school, start crossing streets alone, riding their bikes and driving.

**Common Sense says:**

**Start good habits early!**
Establish boundaries for your children. Have them turn off their phones during homework time, dinner time and bed time.

**Establish consequences for misuse!**
Inappropriate use and messages are not acceptable. Want to make your point? Remove their phone for a period of time and they will quickly learn!

**Model what you preach!**
This means no checking your phone while asking your kids how their day was!

**Encourage active listening!**
Help kids understand and practise what it means to give a friend, family member or parent your undivided attention.

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**Ride2School Day- Friday 22nd March**

Friday 22nd March marks the seventh National Ride2School Day. 140,000 Australian students are expected to ride, walk, scoot or skate to school. Why not join them?

**MELBOURNE AQUARIUM**

To win an annual membership to Melbourne Aquarium tell us in 25 words or less your favourite way to get active in the water.

Email your answer to The.challenge@sport.vic.gov.au by Friday 22nd March.

The winner will be contacted in mid May so please provide a contact number.