Principal Message

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many parents attending our “Get to Know You” interviews over the last few days. We had a terrific attendance for what are important meetings where teachers and parents can get to know each other and pass on useful information. If you were unable to attend and would like to make an appointment please ring the school.

We had another major science incursion this week when “Off this Planet” was presented to all the classes over Monday and Tuesday. Once again we got lots of good feedback from students and teachers about how engaging and interesting the presentation was. The planetarium dome was especially popular.

On Wednesday our grade 6 students spent the day at Baimbridge College. This is their first visit as part of the transition program to secondary college. There will be more opportunities to get used to the secondary set up later in the year.

Next week we will be getting our Junior School Council organised. Elections will be held to elect two representatives from each year group and those elected plus our two school captains will represent the students on the Junior School Council. At Assembly on Friday I will remind students to have a think about whether they would like to be nominated and about who they would vote for in an election.

At some point next week we will be having an evacuation drill. This is part of our Emergency Management Plan and is an important part of keeping our students and staff safe by making everybody clear about what they need to do in an emergency. With the drill next week we will be evacuating to Trotters car park.

The big event next week is of course our True North Adventure Challenge. Students are very excited about the Mudda – it should be terrific day!! Hopefully lots of parents can make it along!

Also next week we have the first of two golf clinics for our older students. Tony Collier will be delivering the lessons. Tony is a pro golfer who comes over from Ballarat and does a great job. I think I might join them as I could do with some help!!
Good luck to our tennis players today. Jordan Walter, Will Walter, Shaya Walter, Rylan McCona
chy and Riley Arnold will be representing the school and competing in the District Primary Schools Competition.

Many thanks to Jenna McNamara who has been with us for the last three weeks. Jenna is a student teacher in her last year of training and has been working in Mrs McCallum’s grade. Jenna has done a great job and we wish her all the best with the rest of her training.

A reminder that Grades 2/3P and 2/3J will be presenting at Assembly on Friday morning. Will and Jade will be leading the assembly.

Have a great weekend everybody.
Regards,
Don Beaton

Preliminary Notice - Student Free Day
There will a pupil free day on Friday 11th March for teachers and staff to undertake professional development.

School Invoices 2016
Family Invoices have been sent home today, together with an information sheet outlining anticipated costs for 2016. Also enclosed is a financial arrangement form for parents to complete and return to the school. Invoices should be finalised by the end of Term 1 unless other arrangements are made.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF). If you claimed CSEF last year, you will need to reapply in 2016. Forms are available at the office and parents and guardians are encouraged to submit their applications before 29th February 2016 so payments can be issued from March 2016.

Have you moved? Changed Phone Numbers? Changed Circumstances?
Parents are requested to inform the school office of any change in address, telephone number, or guardianship. With family court or custody issues we ask for supporting legal documents. It is important to keep your details up to date in case of emergencies.

Asthma Medication
The changeable autumn weather often triggers asthma symptoms and students diagnosed with asthma must have their ventolin and spacer in their school bag at all times. We are equipped to deal with an emergency situation requiring ventolin, however it is not our practice to administer ventolin on a regular basis.

Rugby Jumpers
Please check for the following missing named rugbys – Nick Robertson-Townshend & Mikayla Bygate

Please ensure that your child’s rugby jumper is named clearly and correctly. Too many jumpers are being found and lost property staff are pulling their hair out trying to match jumpers to children.
**School Uniform Orders**

Uniform orders placed in the first order for Term 1 have arrived and are ready for collection from the office.

Rugby jumpers ordered at the end of last year are also ready for collection ($85 each).

A reminder to families that uniform can only be purchased through the school’s ordering system. Parents/guardians need to determine what uniform they require for their children and order in advance. A small supply of uniform is kept for new students. We are unable to hold stock for parents who miss the ordering process.

Order forms are sent out with the newsletter twice a term, with the next order form due to be sent out next Thursday 25th February.

Limited supplies of second hand uniform items are available for purchase at any time.

**Wellbeing Update**

**YOUR CHILD & SCREEN TIME**

Today’s children are growing up in a world of screens – tv, ipads, ipods, lap tops, xbox, play station etc. Sometimes it seems hard to disconnect from a world that relies on technology to stay connected. And whilst there are many great games, apps and social media opportunities that our children benefit from we also need to be mindful there are some games that are not appropriate for children. Games such as GTA5 carry an R18+ rating as the content includes violence, explicit language, drugs, nudity and sexual references. As parents and teachers it is important that we guide our children in playing games that are appropriate for their age. Websites such as Common Sense Media provides independent reviews, age ratings, & other information about all types of media.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**HDSA Athletics**

During P.E. sessions children in grades 3 to 6 will be training for the District Athletics which will be held at Pedrina Park on Thursday 17th March. Tryouts for each event will be held over the coming week and more information will be sent out once the squad has been confirmed. The backup day is Wednesday 23rd March.

**Runners Club** has been developed as a general fitness program to help keep our school community fit. It is held on Monday and Wednesday mornings between 8.30am and 8.50am. Children can join in at any time. Parents who would like to help mark the runners passports would be most welcome. Just turn up on the day. Leanne Wilder

50 Lapper

Todd D
Junior F - What we like about school.

I like playing outside. Archer
I like doing maths. Jackson
I like Art because we paint pictures. Max
I like drawing. Harry
I like Harry. Joshua
I like computers because it’s fun. Scarlett
I like PE. Xavier
I like art because we get to paint. Molly
I like craft because we make stuff. Jett
I like playing on the slide. Ned
I like playtime and music and Italian. Nevaeh
I like playtime. Darcy
I like Show and Tell and I like art. Amely
I like Art because you get to make something and you can make anything. Lara
I like circle time because you can do Traffic Jam. Logan
I like playing with Harry and Josh. Jet
I like to go to assembly because we can show our pictures. Chanelle
I like computers and Italian. Makayla
I like doing maths because I can count to 100. Aidan
I like playing with my friends. Tyler
I like playing. Oscar
I like school because I like helping people when they don’t know what to do. Saskia
Head lice

Head lice myth buster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myth or truth</th>
<th>State of hair</th>
<th>Length of hair</th>
<th>Spread of lice</th>
<th>Itchy scalp?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Myth</td>
<td>Prefer clean hair</td>
<td>Prefer long hair</td>
<td>Jump and can spread via clothes/towels</td>
<td>Always means itchy scalp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truth</td>
<td>Infect both clean and dirty hair</td>
<td>Infect all lengths and types of hair</td>
<td>Walk from head to head</td>
<td>Only itches if allergic to bites/faeces</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Q - What is head lice’s favourite musical?
A – HAIR!

Is it true that head lice only like clean hair? No. Head lice are not selective. They don’t care if hair is long, short, blonde, brown, washed this morning or last week. As long as they are warm, and have blood to drink, then they are content.

Do head lice fly or jump? Head lice do not have wings so they cannot fly. They can't jump because they do not have knees.

So how do head lice move around? Head lice CRAWL very fast and require head to head contact for transmission. It is possible that because of the way young children play, head lice are seen more widely amongst primary school children than adolescents or adults.

Do head lice live in carpets, clothes, hats or sheets? No. Head lice very rarely fall from the head. They require blood to survive. Head lice feed three to four times a day and without blood will dehydrate in six hours in a dry climate and 24 hours in a humid climate. An egg requires warmth to hatch and is the reason why they are laid close to the scalp. The further away from the scalp, the less likely they are to survive.

What parents can do:

- Be aware if your child is scratching their hair, especially around the neck and ears, and regularly check your child’s hair for signs of lice and eggs.
- Ensure that long hair is tied back in a ponytail, braid or bun.
- Using the conditioner and comb method every week is the best way to detect head lice early and minimise the problem.
- Treat cases of head lice with recommended lotions available at chemists, hair salons and supermarkets.
- Many parents will complain that they are doing the right thing but other parents aren’t. Placing the blame will not achieve anything. Instead of pointing the finger, help each other.
- Children with cases of head lice should not return to school until treatment has begun. Please advise the school of any treated cases of head lice before your child returns to school.

Thank you to all those families who have donated items or offered their time to assist in the running of **THE TRUE NORTH ADVENTURE CHALLENGE OF 2016**. We are still looking for families to assist us on this day. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

All donations can be left at the office.

We have an **Indemnity Form** for any parent who wishes to take part in the Mini Mudda. This form must be signed before commencement of the Challenge.
**THE TRUE NORTH ADVENTURE CHALLENGE OF 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Set Up Thursday 3.30pm</th>
<th>Activities Friday 1.30pm</th>
<th>Pack Up Friday 3.15pm</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>Abbott/Patterson</td>
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<td>Coates (Bec)</td>
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<td>Witcomb</td>
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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef