NEWSLETTER

Calendar
Monday 6th February
Tuesday 14th February
Wednesday 7th March

Friday 3rd February, 2012
Year 6 School Captain Speeches, 9.15am, School Assembly 3pm
Family Picnic & Games Evening, 6pm - 8pm
‘What’s Happening Hour’ & Sausage sizzle

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 3.2.2012
AN EXCITING START TO THE YEAR!
Welcome back to all children and parents. A big welcome also to our new students and families and we are confident they will adjust easily to the Upwey PS way of life.
I hope that everyone had a most enjoyable holiday time. I hope the children were able to be active and enjoy the Summer Holidays.

We have 21 new students enrolled at the school this year, including 14 new Prep children. This is an increase on the total school population of 15 compared with this time last year. Please introduce yourself to new parents if you have the opportunity and display the friendly approach for which Upwey PS is recognised.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PREPS
I would like to offer a special welcome to our wonderful new Prep children and their families. (Preps are coming every day until 2:00 pm up to Friday 2nd March.) They are adjusting to their new and exciting school life under the watchful eye of Mrs Lauren Hickey.
NEW STUDENTS
Our 21 new students are:
1/2 A: Molly S & Josh M.
3/4/5 G: Kiana G & Dee S
5/6 R: Libby E, Jasmine E & Max S

INTRODUCING OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS:
It is with pleasure that I introduce our new staff members:
Miss Skye Andrews – Classroom teacher for 1/2A. She is a Graduate Teacher who was appointed during the holidays.
Mr Greig Douglas – Music Teacher. He will be completing Music lessons for all grades at Upwey PS on Wednesdays. Congratulations to Mr Ben Gallaher and Mrs Angela Mitchell for gaining continuations to their contracts for 2012 after a selection process at the end of 2011.

BOOKLIST PAYMENTS AND EMA FORMS
The Office will be available for payments of booklists and receipt of EMA forms on Monday for those who have not already paid school fees and not returned EMA forms. Please ensure that forms are in and payments made in order to receive stationery Book Boxes. Book Boxes for those families will also be available for pick up on Monday. No books have been required for school work on Friday 3rd February.

FAMILY PICNIC & GAMES EVENING - ALL WELCOME
The Family Picnic and Games Evening to welcome the school community and herald the 2012 School Year will be held on Tuesday 14th February from 6:00 pm until about 8:00 pm. All parents, relatives and children are invited to attend. The evening will be organised into dinner at 6:00 on the school oval (bring take-away, picnic food, chairs and rugs). Tribes Games- 6:45. Races and Novelty events- from about 7:15. Everyone is welcome!

‘WHAT’S HAPPENING HOUR’ & SAUSAGE SIZZLE- DON’T MISS IT!
All children and parents are invited to attend our Information Sessions for the beginning of the year. The event will be held on Wednesday 7th March from 6:30 -8 pm. We will be starting the evening with a Free Sausage Sizzle for children and parents from 6:30-7 pm and then everyone (children and parents) will move into the grades to be provided with the “What’s Happening Hour” grade information for classroom routines.

SCHOOL CAPTAIN/VICE CAPTAIN ELECTIONS -
I will be instituting a similar format to previous years for the process of School Captain/Vice Captain elections. I have accepted nominations from students who will then present a speech to the grades. Presentation speeches will occur on Monday 6th February between 9:15 and 9:45 am in the school hall. All children in Year 6 will be required to take on a leadership role of some type during the year. (Parents are welcome to attend if available.) All Year 1-6 children and staff will vote in a secret ballot at the conclusion of speeches.

HOLIDAY WORK

TIDY SCHOOL GROUNDS
I would like to thank:
Mr Gallaher for mowing and brushcutting work over the holidays. (And helping get the Pirate Ship back in working order.)
Jenny S, Liam S & Kyle S for weeding and mowing/brushcutting this week.
Nanette A, Marshall B, Hannah B & Neve (and other) for attention to the Sand Pit area.
Sue L (and others?) for attention to the Vegie Garden. Thanks heaps to all. This shows commitment above and beyond the call of duty.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SPECIALIST LESSONS
The following is the day schedule for Specialist Lessons:
Tuesday: Art/Craft (Mrs Mitchell)
Wednesday: Music (Mr Douglas)
Thursday: Physical Education – PE (Mr Aspinall)
German LOTE is scheduled to be held on Monday (PH & 1/2A) and Thursday (3/4/5G & 5/6R) with Sharon Hefernan.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
I am encouraging all parents to consider becoming members of the School Council and actively becoming involved in school decision making and school activities. We not only appreciate this involvement but need it! Please see me if you are requiring any more information on commitment which includes a meeting on an evening once a month.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2012
The schedule for the 2012 School Council election process is as follows:
Friday 3rd February Announce election schedule and call for nominations.
Friday 10th February Nominations close.
Display list of candidates, nominators and seconders
Friday 17th February Ballot papers (if required) distributed by this date
Friday 24th February Close of ballot
Friday 24th February Count ballots and declare results
Monday 5th March School Council AGM & School Council Meeting

Current members continuing are: Annette Dare, Sue Comello, Kay Rowles and Malcolm Aspinall.
The parent member of the School Council whose period of office has expired is: Jenny Staff, Cindy Nyari, James Murray & Nanette Anderson (They are able to seek nomination for re-election)
The DEECD employee members of the School Council whose official period of office has expired are: Lauren Hickey & Irene Arvanitis.
They are able to seek nomination for re-election.
This means overall there are eight positions available for any interested parents.

Please note that nomination forms for parent and DEECD employee vacancies will be available on request from the office today (Friday 3rd February).
Please contact the school if you would like a nomination form to be delivered or posted to you.
SPORT
HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS
Our House Swimming Sports will be held on Friday 17th February at Belgrave Swimming Pool from 9:30 am until about 11:00 am. Children from Years 3 to 6 will be invited to attend if they have swimming competency. (Can at least swim 30 metres from the deep end to the shallow end, with possibly a little walking in the shallow end!) Any Parent of a Year 2 child who has swimming capabilities mentioned above may contact me regarding involvement if desired. The day will have some competition and fun elements. The school team for the District Swimming Sports will be selected from the results of the House Competition. The District Swimming Sports will be held on Wednesday 22nd February at Belgrave Pool. Parent helper volunteers are requested for both events. Please contact me or the office if you are able to assist. Permission forms will be distributed next week.

REMINDERS
SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
A Whole School Assembly will be held each Monday from 3:00 pm in Howarth Hall (our school hall).

SCHOOL STAFF CAR PARK
A reminder to parents that children arriving or departing in cars must be dropped off, and picked up, from Darling Avenue and not from the staff car park (except where some incapacity occurs). The safety of all children is a prime concern and Cheryl, our Crossing Supervisor, will continue to assist the children so that they cross the road safely.

MOBILE PHONES
Under school policy students are not permitted to have mobile phones during school hours. If it is necessary for a student to bring a mobile phone to school for some reason then they are required to pass it in to the office to be secured and it may be picked up after school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Under school policy students are to be in school uniform unless permission is gained via a note or contact with myself. Out of School Uniform days will be held on special occasions during the year.

A school hat (broad rim) is compulsory during Term 1.

JEWELLERY ETC.
Under school policy the following applies to all children: Uniform should comply with Health and Safety recommendations:

6.1 Only earring studs to be worn at school as other types of earrings (loops, sleepers, pendant earrings etc) should not be worn for safety reasons.

6.2 Long hair on all students is to be tied back at school to assist in avoidance of head lice infestations.

6.3 It is recommended that boys and girls wear track shoes or black shoes (THONGS, SANDALS & HIGH HEELED SHOES will not be permitted).

NO LUNCHORDERS ON MONDAYS
A reminder to parents that in the future there will be no lunch orders on Mondays.

CHILDREN’S LUNCH & PLAY LUNCH
I am seeking parent support in ensuring that children do not swap food items with other children and any food items not eaten at school will be taken home. We are also working at creating minimum rubbish at school and I ask that re-usable containers be used as much as possible. Particular emphasis is placed on Wednesdays for rubbish free lunches.

NUT ALLERGY
Children in 5/6 R will not be allowed to bring nut products such as peanut butter to school due to the allergies and risk of anaphylaxis of students in the class.

I would like to enlist the support of the whole school community with children in other grades avoiding nut products. This will eliminate the chance of affected children coming in contact with nut products. Please assist the school in providing this level of student safety.

CAFFEINE & GUARANA DRINKS, CHEWING GUM & BUBBLE GUM BANNED
I would like to remind everyone that drinks with caffeine or guarana are not to be consumed at school. Also chewing and bubble gum are not permitted at school. Both are for reasons of health and safety.

SHOES TO BE WORN AT SCHOOL
I am also seeking parent support in ensuring that children are wearing shoes at all times in the school grounds. Children may take shoes off in the classroom/hall according to teacher directed activity requirements. This is for safety reasons, especially with broken glass around. I am insisting on correct footwear. During Physical Education lessons on Thursdays I would also appreciate track shoes or similar being worn.

GAME BOYS, PS2, NINTENDO DS ETC
The above items and other expensive personal items are not to be brought to school for reasons of security.
### Term 1, 2012 - Upwey Primary School

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**Before & After School Care**

**Welcome back**

If you would like to book your child/ren into before or after school care, please contact Sam or the School Office.

We will be having some exciting and fun programs on offer.

**Mon - Fri:**
- 7am - 8.45am
- 2pm - 3.30 or up to 6pm (for preps if required)
- 3.30pm to 6pm for all other students
UPWEY BLOOD SERVICE VISIT
Location: Upwey-Tecoma Bowls Club
Chosen Avenue, Upwey

Monday 20th Feb  1:30pm - 7:30pm
Tuesday 21st Feb  1:30pm - 7:30pm
Wednesday 22nd Feb  1:30pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 23rd Feb  1:30pm - 7:30pm
Friday 24th Feb  9:30am - 3:30pm

On the day of your appointment
- Drink 4-5 glasses of water OR juice before donating
- Eat a healthy meal & snack before coming in to donate
- Bring photo ID (E.g. Driver's licence) OR your blood donor card in with you
- Smile!!! You are making a HUGE difference in someone's life

To secure your appointment;
Call 13 14 95
Or email dpallen@redcrossblood.org.au

**When booking please advise if you are currently a registered donor

SONG WRITING
Upwey Primary School, 2012
The program aims to develop students' creative and vocal expression.

Students could expect to learn basic song structures and easy accompaniment on keyboard or guitar, creating songs in any style of music they like.

No prior experience or skills required.

$30 per individual / $20 p.p. in pairs
Enquiries: Lisa O'Beirne ph. 97582420

Talking Teens and Alcohol/Drugs

Are you worried about your teens alcohol/drug use? Do you wonder what you can do about it?

Wondering how to make decisions when it comes to relationships and independence? How to keep them safe?

Come and join us for a chat around the everyday highs and lows of parenting.
Australia

Can you colour me in and name our states & Territory