OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 2012
The Official Opening of the School Year Ceremony held on Monday was a great success. Thanks to the many parents, relatives and visitors who attended to see the School Captains/Vice Captains, House Captains and Junior School Council representatives invested.
A special thanks to Mr Tom Daly (Upwey High School Principal) and our 2011 School Captains, Jayden C & Hailey M for attending and assisting with the ceremony presentations.
Thanks also to the PA/Fundraising Committee for organising the afternoon tea and Michelle Mo (and friends) for setting up and allowing us to use her sound system.
I will be looking forward to working with the children who have taken on roles and responsibilities through the year.
The draft of the School Strategic Plan for 2012 – 2015 was presented and adopted.

A Sustainability Policy was presented for perusal and ratification at the next meeting.

**PLAYGROUP STARTS AT UPWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Play group once a week at school for interested parents.

Please contact the office if you are interested. Thanks Emma G and Kay G for organising the group and for those who participated or volunteered to assist. This trial will be a new and welcome addition to the school and will be held in the BASC Room each Friday.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS**

We are requesting donations for inclusion in the Easter Hampers for the Easter Raffle. Please pass on any donations to the office if you are able to assist the PA/Fundraising in this fundraising activity.

**UPWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL BILLY CART GRAND PRIX**

This annual event is planned for Tuesday 27th March from 9-12. Get those billy carts ready. Entry will be available for all year levels. Entry forms and more details coming soon.

**UNIVERSITY OF NSW-INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS 2012**

Application forms with associated costs will be available soon for parents who want their child to be involved in the ICAS University of New South Wales Testing Program. The order form for these competitions will be distributed with the newsletter next week. Please return with payment by Friday 23rd March if you are interested in your child participating in any of these competitions.

I am encouraging children to participate in the UNSW –ICAS Competitions for 2012. Only children in Years 3-6 will be given the opportunity to participate. The notification with full details will be distributed with the newsletter today.

**CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The CRE Program continues for children who are permitted to attend lessons.

Prep H children – Wednesdays from 12:30 – 1:00 pm (Julie Dzioba)

Grade 3/4/5 G children- Wednesdays from 11:30 – 12:00 or 12:30 -1. (Mrs Hicks for Term 1)

I have been able to acquire the services of volunteer VIT approved staff to support the CRE program in Grade 5/6R and Grade 1/2A and now this will begin in Term 2. More information soon.

**ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS INCURSION –**

**Grade 1/2A**

Grade 1/2A will be involved with the Animal Encounters incursion on Wednesday 21st March. Permission notices have been distributed early due to the cost of having a selection of live animals involved in the show. The incursion is related to the topic of Endangered Animals that the Year 1s and 2s are completing during Term 1 and costs $15

**SPORT**

**KNOX RAIDERS BASKETBALL CLINICS**

On Friday 16th March we will be completing basketball clinics at school. Coaches from Knox Raiders will be running the clinics for all grades on this day. The anticipated timetable is:

9:00 – Grade 3/4/5G
10:00 – Grade 5/6R
11:30 – Grade Prep H
12:15 – Grade 1/2A
REMINDERS
BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE
A reminder to parents that children must be booked in to the BASC program to be assured of a position. Everyone needs to be aware that 15 children is the maximum number permitted to attend our program at any one time. If the program is full then no more children are able to attend. Permanent bookings have priority.
Please be aware that cancellations for permanent bookings need to be notified to ensure you are not charged. Charges will be made for permanent bookings if we are not informed about non-attendance.
Accounts have been distributed and payments are due now. Please attend to accounts as this will dictate permission for continued involvement in the program.

NO LUNCH ORDERS ON MONDAYS
We have now deleted Mondays from the days for providing lunch orders. Lunch orders will continue from Tuesday to Friday each week.

“What’s Happening Hour”
& Family Sausage was well attended on Wednesday evening
Thank you to all who attended

HAYLEY’S HAIR CARE
THURSDAYS AT 2nd BELL IN THE GERMAN ROOM
COME LEARN HOW TO BRAID/PLAIT
BRING YOUR OWN BRUSH, COMBS, HAIR TIES, RIBBONS & GLITTER JELL

NO SHARING BRUSHES OR COMBS
MAX 15 STUDENTS FOR THIS NEXT TWO WEEKS THEN WE WILL CHANGE OVER.
WRITE YOUR NAME DOWN ON THE LIST AT THE OFFICE

Thank you to all who attended.
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
School Holiday Fun at the RSPCA

Calling all animal lovers!
If you go crazy for cats, dote on dogs or want to have some fun with farm animals, then the RSPCA School Holiday Program is the place for you!

We have sessions running from Monday 2nd April until Friday 13th April (excluding Easter public holidays).

There will be lots of animal interaction, art and craft, as well as a behind the scenes look at the RSPCA. Sessions for children include:

- Dog Day
- Behind the Scenes
- 3Rs (Rabbits, Rats and Really Cute Guinea Pigs)
- Horses and Ponies Day

Visit [www.rspcavic.org](http://www.rspcavic.org) for more information about any of our programs. Call Penny on 9224 2286 to book a place.

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Do you really know what Upwey High School has to offer?

A comprehensive secondary school education...
- Academic program, pathways into all major universities, and TAFE, top ATAR in 2011 of 99.95, year 11 and 12 students accessing over 70 different programs...
- Extensive camps and tours program, this year including tours to Central Australia, Queensland, Japan, Thailand and Europe
- Full instrumental music program
- Extensive sports program, including elite Volleyball and Surf Lifesaving programs
- School based apprenticeships

A TRIBES school with core teaching teams at each level. Year 7 to 9 students have 2 significant teachers (two-thirds of their week). Differentiated instruction.

All Year 9 to 12 students receive a free netbook computer. Extensive student learning management system; all learning materials and class notes are available over the web 24/7.

Renowned year 9 programme incorporating PC2 Challenge.

Check out for yourself how our young people grow and develop... at Upwey High!

School Tours:
9 am-10:30 am: 7 Mar, 14 Mar, 21 Mar, 28 Mar, 18 Apr, 24 Apr, 26 Apr
1 May, 2 May, 3 May, 10 May
Please ring: 9754-2838 to book a time

Open Night: Thursday 3 May
- Sausage sizzle from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
- Tour the School in Action: 6:00 pm, 6:20 pm, 6:40 pm
- Principal’s Address: 7:30 – 8:00 pm

At the Presentation Space, follow the signs around the school

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LOST PROPERTY

We have an absolute mountain of lost property in our sickbay.
Please pop in and have a dig through.
All unclaimed items will then be resold as second hand uniforms.
A reminder to parents that all uniform items need to be clearly labelled.
**Before & After School Care**

**What's on at BASC this week**

**MONDAY** - Closed, public holiday

**TUESDAY** - The Amazing Race. Follow the clues & first one to the end wins!

**WEDNESDAY** - Doing our own play (written by the one & only Rhys.O!)

**THURSDAY** - Cooking ANZAC biscuits

**FRIDAY** - Plasticine, playdough, clay fun!

I hope you all enjoy the long weekend and see you on Tuesday.

Sam :)

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**Monbulk College Presents an Information Evening for Daughters & Caregivers**

Understanding the changes for teenage girls.

**Issues facing teenage girls – facts & statistics**

When: Monday 19th March
Where: Monbulk College Theatre
Time: 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm
Cost: $10 per family payable with the RSVP

The evening will conclude with a hot drink & biscuit.

We have a limit of 100 places for this event (50 daughters with 50 Caregivers) and ask that the RSVP be made to secure your place on the night – phone or return slip below.

RSVP: Wednesday 14th March to the General Office at Monbulk College
Ph: 9751 9000.
Parents Association News

Thanks to all those who have taken roles on P.A. Fundraising committee this year. Last year’s committee raised over $6000 for the school and we look forward to bettering that this year…with your help! Please remember that we don’t expect that everyone can support every initiative we put to you, but we appreciate your support where you can…and every little bit helps your children have a spectacular educational experience at Upwey Primary.

P.A. Committee for 2012 is as follows:

- President: Sue Comello
- Vice President: Michelle Morton
- Treasurer: Kristy Bush
- Secretary: Michelle Myers
- Assistant Secretary: Natalie Oaks
- Ordinary Members: Sam Emmett, Annette Dare, Nannette Anderson, Kelly Wickenton

Dates for your Diary

Relay for Life – Saturday 24th March
We need helpers to man our ‘curry & rice/soup’ stall from 3.00 – 8.30pm. Please consider giving us a little time for a great cause. 10% of all profits will be donated to the Cancer Council, so please help this worthwhile cause.

Easter Raffle – Donations are being collected now and we ask each family to donate an item for the raffle…doesn’t have to be chocolate so be creative! Tickets books will be sent home this week, costing $5 per book, so please ask for more tickets at the office if you can sell more. Raffle will be drawn on Friday 30th March at our final assembly for Term 1.

Scholastic Book Club issue 2 for the year is coming home today so look out for some great bargains. With your support we can gain great classroom resources for all children to experience and enjoy. Orders are due back by Tuesday 20th March, delivery for books will be in the last week of Term 1.

Hot Dog Day for the Billycart Races at Upwey Primary on Tuesday 27th March.

For Term 2 we are planning:
- Bulb Drive with ‘Garden Express’ from Monbulk
- Mother’s Day Stall
- Bingo Night for the grown-ups!

We have plenty of ideas, but can always use more so please feel free to pass on any ideas for fundraising! Or if you would like to help with a particular event but not go on committee, that is fine too!

Looking forward to a successful year of fundraising…if you would like to help, please feel free to come to our next meeting on Friday 23rd March at 11.30am or let us know what you would like to help with! Toddlers are welcome too.
Playgroup has commenced at Upwey Primary School
9.15 - 10.45, every Friday in our Multipurpose room.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Emma Goodall. I will be running Playgroup on Fridays at Upwey Primary School.

I am a qualified childcare worker, with over 10 years experience. I am a Mum to 3 gorgeous kiddly winks, Tyson 7, Tahlia 4 and Karli 2.

My children and I have always enjoyed going to playgroup. It is a great way to meet new faces and for your child/yourselves to have fun in a relaxed environment. Families and friends from the school/local community are welcome to come along.

I will be setting up a variety of activities for the children to enjoy. I will also be helping out wherever needed during the session.

More information will come soon.

If you are interested or have any questions please don’t hesitate to talk to Kay in the Office on 9754 2369.

Thanks, Emma 😊

We are looking for resources for our playgroup:

- Tea set and play food.
- Plastic or wooden animals.
- Wooden blocks.
- Matchbox cars.
- Play dough cutters etc.

Playgroup has commenced at Upwey Primary School
9.15 - 10.45, every Friday

If you know of any young families in our area, who would like to be involved in our playgroup please pass this flyer on.

There is no charge for our Playgroup but please contact Kay or Cindy in the Office to book your child/ren in.