PRINCIPAL’S REPORT 19.4.2013
Welcome everyone to Term 2.
This will be a very busy and important term with NAPLAN Testing (Year 3s and Year 5s), EDUCATION WEEK, CROSS COUNTRY SPORTS, WINTER ROUND ROBIN (Years 3 to 6) and WRITTEN REPORTS all coming up.

FOCUS AREA - PERSONAL BEST
At assembly this week I requested all children in the school to focus on Personal Best at the beginning of Term 2. This is one of Our 7 Agreements and is such a vital area for children to be applying themselves to all aspects of academic, sporting, behavioural and social development. Please support the school by also highlighting this focus area after school hours.
UPWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL BILLY CART GRAND PRIX

After the postponement of our Billy Cart Grand Prix last term we managed to get through the reserve day unscathed. The Billy Cart Grand Prix was held on Tuesday 16th April this week and was another enjoyable event with skilled driving and strong engine horsepower (child-push-power!) being observed during the morning and early afternoon. Thanks to the parents and visitors who came to watch the children and witness considerable entertainment. Special thanks to David M for assistance and the Year 6 School Captains/Vice Captains (Lily, Jay, Hayley and Joel) who did a great job of timing/scoring and “being the rabbit” to follow on the course.

Our winners and placegetters for each Year level were:

Prep-Sandy S (2nd Caitlin M, 3rd Felicity M)
Year 1 – Nathan D (2nd Eva L, 3rd Indi J)
Year 2 – Jai B (2nd Dylan C, 3rd Ash Q)
Year 3 – Sam M (2nd Ryan A, 3rd Caitlin J)
Year 4 – Micaela D (2nd Imogen M, 3rd Sienna Q)
Year 5 – Jimmy H (2nd Caitlin S, 3rd Caleb L)
Year 6- Marshall B (2nd Jay T, 3rd Rhiaine S)

Staff-Mr Gallaher (No other competition!!)

Congratulations to all who drove and those who pushed the billy carts. Thanks to the parents/children who brought along their own billy carts to showcase what great machines were on offer to the drivers!

The Victory Ceremony was another great feature and I am sure the parents who witnessed the conclusion were entertained.

TEACHER PAY DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN SIGHT

We are pleased to see the end of the ongoing industrial dispute with recommendations being made to the AEU members for final approval regarding a new pay structure. I anticipate we will be progressing with normal routines as it is likely that all work bans will be lifted. I thank the staff for their cooperation during the period of dispute and appreciate that their actions have always been mindful of the impact on the school programs and children’s/school’s educational priorities.

YEAR 6 WINDCHEATER

The Year 6 windcheaters and Year 6 Polo Tee Shirts have arrived and children are wearing them proudly. They really look great with a terrific design completed by the children with final graphics organised by Cindy. All windcheaters are now available at the office after full payment is completed.

A WELCOME BACK TO MRS KITTREDGE

We will be pleased to welcome back to Upwey Primary School Mrs Andi Kittredge next week. Mrs Kittredge will be continuing regular volunteer work after several years of family leave. She will be attending on Tuesday mornings for classroom assistance and will take on a welfare role.

ANOTHER WELCOME BACK – THIS TIME TO MRS HICKEY

We will be having a proper staff farewell for Mrs Hickey next week in order to wish her all the best for her family leave and birth of her first child.

ANZAC FUNDRAISING

We have Anzac fundraising items for sale at the office. Our Junior School Council has supported the sale of a variety of items to support the ANZAC Fundraising effort. Wrist Bands ($3), Badges ($2 & $5) and Temporary Tattoos ($1) are available for sale until Wednesday next week.

ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

This year the ANZAC Day public holiday will be held on Thursday 25th April. This will mean that no Music lessons will be held next week.

SECONDARY PLACEMENT FORMS FOR 2014

The secondary placement forms are being distributed with the newsletter. All Year 6 children and parents are reminded that the 2014 Secondary Placement Forms are due in by Friday 17th May. These need to be completed for the selection of secondary school for 2014 and must be completed for every child, even if anticipating attending a private school.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS

A big welcome to our new students Bryn and Sophie. Bryn is in year 6 with Mrs Rowles and Sophie is year 3 with Mr G. They have both had a great start to Term 2, please make them feel welcome along with their parents Helen and Adam if you have the opportunity.

REMINDER FOR STUDENT DETAILS

A reminder to all families that have not returned the student details please do so as soon as possible. It is really important that you check all details and return even if there are no changes. A second copy will be coming home today for those that have not returned them.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next School Council Meeting will be held on Monday 6th May at 7:30 pm in the staffroom. School Councillors will receive information by hard copy and email.

COMING EVENTS

ANZAC CEREMONY FOR GRADE 5/6R

Grade 5/6 R children will represent the school at the Legacy Anzac Ceremony for local schools on Wednesday next week. The ceremony will be held at the Ferntree Gully National Park. The grade will walk to and from the ceremony where they will lay a wreath in memory of those who have lost their lives in Wars. Thanks to Sandra, in anticipation, for making the wreath from local flowers and plants. A permission and information notice will be distributed with the newsletter.

ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL – MT BURNETT TELESCOPE

Grade 3/4G and Grade 5/6R will be attending an excursion to the Mt Burnett Telescope observatory on Thursday 2nd May during the morning. Thanks to James Murray for organising the excursion, in collaboration with Mr Gallaher, and gaining the sponsorship of the Melbourne and Swinburne University. Due to this financial support the excursion will be provided free. A permission note providing further details will be distributed with the newsletter.
RESPONSIBLE PET EDUCATION PROGRAM
All grades will be completing an education session through the Responsible Pet Education Program on Monday 29th April. Prep to Year 2 children will have a combined session in the library from 10:15 until 11:00 am and the Year 3 to 6 children will have a combined session from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm. This program is provided free of cost and I thank the program co-ordinators once again for bringing the program to Upwey PS.

VISITING STUDENT TEACHERS
In coming weeks we will be welcoming several visiting student teachers completing teacher training at Deakin University. Grade 3/4G, Grade 5/6R and Grade 1/2E will be welcoming the student teachers.

SPORT
KNOX RAIDERS BASKETBALL CLINICS
On Wednesday 1st May I have organised in co-operation with the Jordan Canovan from The Knox Basketball Schools Program to have basketball clinics at school during the Physical Education Program. Coaches from Knox Raiders and affiliated clubs will be running the clinics for all grades on this day during the normal PE lesson. The clinics are provided free of charge. The anticipated timetable is:
9:15 – Grade 3/4G
10:15 – Grade 5/6R
11:30 – Grade Prep/1 C
12:15 – Grade 1/2E
I look forward to the children completing the clinics with highly qualified staff and seeing how the children respond in developing their skills. We will also look forward to attending a whole day clinic with coaches later in the year at Knox Stadium as part of the program.

HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION
The House Cross Country Sports will be held on Friday 3rd May in the morning between 9:15 and 11:00 am. Children will be able to attend in House Colours to show their allegiance. All children will be required to participate unless excused for reasons provided in a parent letter, or obvious injury! Children will be running over appropriate distances according to their age level, with the Year 5 & 6 children running over 2-3 kilometres. The course will be on the school oval and across Upwey High and the Upwey Reserve. Children may walk the event which is part of our PE and Sports Program in the school. Any parent helpers would be much appreciated for the morning. Please contact me or the office if you are able to assist.

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY
The results from the House Cross Country Competition will assist in determining the school team for the District Cross Country Sports.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS
SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY
With the advent of some cooler weather it is an opportune time to remind everyone about School Uniform. Please be aware that only school uniform, including school windcheaters and bomber jackets are permitted. The only exception is when some clothing is unavailable for a reason presented in a parent note to the class teacher or myself. Please ensure your child is keeping to this requirement. Infringement notifications will be distributed to those not abiding by our policy.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal

ANZAC APPEAL

HONOUR & SACRAFICE
COURAGE & COMMITMENT
LEST WE FORGET
Aussie veterans, both young and old, are a humble lot by nature; they rarely ask for help, but sometimes they need it.

Be a hero to our heroes;
Support the ANZAC Appeal this April

Badges: $2 - $10
Wristbands: $3
Tattoos: $1
Available from the school office
TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
Autumn Authors
The Dandenongs Rising Writers Festival

**MAY 2017**

An afternoon of literary adventure with special guest
Andy Griffiths
Saturday 13 May 2.30pm - 5.00pm
Bookings essential

Readings & Events
For more information about this event contact
Tessa Looker 0418 908 330

NO MACCAS IN THE HILLS
EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY MEETING
TECOMA PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL
SUNDAY 21ST APRIL
2PM

**HEAR THE AMAZING PROGRESS OF THIS CAMPAIGN**
**YOUR CHANCE TO SEND A DIRECT MESSAGE TO MACCAS HQ**

CALL TO ACTION!!
WWW.BURGEROFF.ORG

Bush Dance
The Bones & Bodhran Bush Band
Come & enjoy a great evening of fun & dance and support the very needy men, women & children of India
Saturday June 15th 7.30 - 10.30pm
MCF Concert Hall, 84b Old Emerald Road Monbulk
Admission $15
Concession - Students & Pensioners $10
Families 2 Adults & 2 Children $40

MINI BEASTS FESTIVAL 2013
Come and join the fun!
Sunday 21st April 11am - 3pm
Birdsland Reserve, Belgrave Heights

Experiments! Fun! Games! Investigate!

Sunday 21st April
11am - 3pm
Birdsland Reserve, Belgrave Heights
Children of ALL ages welcome!

Come and find out about the mini-beasts all around us
PLUS
Find out about the new Birdsland Environment & Gardening Gang
BBQ Provided by Belgrave Preschool
REALLY Good Coffee and tea available!
Hi all.
It's been a wonderful first week back of term & good to see everyone again.
Here's what's on next week.
MONDAY- Knitting/Crochet/Finger knitting
TUESDAY- Cooking
WEDNESDAY- Rock Caterpillars
THURSDAY- Free play
FRIDAY- Fairy jars.
Have a great weekend and see you all Monday.

P.A. FUNDRAISING
Our next P.A. meeting is on
Tuesday 23rd April
2pm in the staffroom

Happy Birthday
April 19th - 26th April
Leeson
Mary
Tyson
Marshall
Imogen