Calendar

Friday 13th December 2013

Parent Helpers Morning Tea, 11am
Whole School Excursion to Cameo Belgrave & “Christmas in the Hills” Family Evening
Year 6 Graduation Evening
Last Day for Term 4, Early finish 1.30pm

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT 13.12.2013

The Bunnings Sausage Sizzle held at the Scoresby Bunnings store last Saturday 7th December was a huge success with over $1,500 raised thanks to the wonderful effort of the PA/Fundraising Committee. Thanks to our many volunteers who staffed the stall during the day and gave up hours of their time to the benefit of our children.

December Written Reports (Semester 2, 2013) will be distributed today. They are addressed to parents and should be opened by parents. Enjoy reading the reports and contact the classroom teacher if you have any queries. A cover page with information about the report and a school/class list will also be included in the envelope indicating the grades/teachers for 2014.

Our Inter-school Summer Round Robin was finally held on Friday 6th December. It was originally scheduled for the start of this term but bad weather forced the organisers to cancelled. With the way the weather looked in the morning, we might have had another cancellation. We had an unusual choice of sports mainly due to the rescheduling. The rainy weather did clear up by mid morning. It cleared up so much that many of us got caught out and ended up with sunburn. From freezing cold with rain to sunny, hot and sunburnt. Only in Melbourne!

Thanks to all of the specialist coaches who came out and ran us through drills, taught us the rules and then refereed the games. It was great day.
P/1C P.E. Award
Bella
For displaying great energy during P.E. Games.
PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

P/1C Bella
For working hard to complete her underwater diorama and helping others to complete theirs.

P/1C Ben
For completing a fantastic ranking ladder (graphic organiser) about threats to the ocean.

P/1C P.E. Award
Violet
For displaying great energy during P.E. Games and trying hard with catching.
PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

1/2E Adam
For concentrating hard to complete the plan and draft for his story over several days.

1/2E Hayden
For exploring patterns in numbers and thinking about fractions (1/2 and 1/4) as well.

1/2E Regan
For working hard to improve his reading and using the skills he has learnt during “Toe-by-Toe”.

3/4G Araya
For achieving her Joining Licence.

3/4G Kanye
For achieving her Joining Licence.

3/4G Sienna
For achieving her Joining Licence.

3/4G Sophie
For achieving her Joining Licence.

3/4G Flute
Imogen
For playing Christmas Carols on the flute so beautifully to 5/6R. Thankyou

3/4G Tyson
For achieving his Pen Licence.

5R Rhiannon
For playing Christmas Carols to 5/6R on her flute, so beautifully. Thankyou

5R Caitlin
For playing Christmas Carols to 5/6R on her flute, so beautifully. Thankyou.

THIS WEEK AT UPWEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE
As mentioned above this was an outstanding success. Thanks to the PA/Fundraising Committee for organising the annual Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, and in particular Sue C, Kristy B and Kay G for their major part in preparations. Thanks to the following for volunteering to support the Sausage Sizzle by cooking and selling: Cheryl S, Sue C, Michelle Mo, Elizabeth E, Kelly W, Sandy, Kristy B, Helen/Adam Taylor, Michelle My, Mark D, Jessica M, Bayden M, Andrew G, Wendell H & Deb S. You did a great job and we appreciate your involvement.
DISTRICT ROUND ROBIN
The District Round Robin event was held last week and after a rain interrupted start we managed to attend and compete in a variety of sports. Some of these were new sports and required some explanation and demonstration. The children competed and involved themselves extremely well. Unfortunately the Lawn Bowls was cancelled due to the condition of the Bowls Green. (Children who paid for the sports will have the amount credited against their account.)

Thanks to the staff involved in supervising the events and parents who transported children to and from the venues. We could not have done it without you!

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – FIRE DRILL
Today we completed a Fire Drill as part of our Emergency Management Procedures.
We enacted an Off Campus Drill (Evacuation to Main St, Upwey). This required an assembly on the basketball court before an evacuation to the south, Upwey Shops (Assemble near the Bendigo Bank and the playground area).

ORIENTATION DAY - YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY
Our Year 6 children attended their secondary school Orientation Day on Tuesday 10th December this week and by all accounts had a most enjoyable day meeting the new teachers and fellow students for 2014.

TRANSITION EXPERIENCE
Next week on Monday 16th December the whole school will go into Transition Experience mode in preparation for 2014. All children will move to their new grade for 2014 and get a quick taste for what will be expected with their new teacher. The Transition Experience will occur from 12.30 to 1.00 pm on Monday. Year 6 children will be with Mr Aspinall for that time since they have already had their transition activity this week.

GATHER AT THE GATE – BUSHFIRE AWARENESS
We are fortunate to have an offer from the CFA to be involved in the Gather at the Gate Program this year. At school pick up time from 3:00 until 4:00 pm on Wednesday 18th December an officer will be attending the front gate of the school (near the crossing) and assist in education parents about Bushfires. This is an opportunity for information and questions regarding Bushfires.
Then from 4:00 until 5:00 pm we will be having a Teacher Information session on Bushfires from the CFA representative.

RED FACES 2013
Practice sessions will be the order of the day! The annual, and highly regarded, Red Faces event will be held on the last day of school, Friday 20th December. Children will need to be prepared and rehearse in readiness for their performances.
Children will be able to nominate themselves for an act/ performance on Monday 16th December in their classroom with their class teacher.
Parents and friends will be welcome to attend the event. Start time is anticipated to be 9:30 am and acts will continue until about 11:00 am.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY AND CLASS PARTIES
Our Out of Uniform Free Dress day and Class Party day will be held yesterday on Thursday 19th December. On the Class Party day children will be invited to attend in Out of Uniform and provide a gold coin donation as fundraising for the charity decided upon by the Junior School Council.

CLASSROOM KRIS KRINGLE
The staff has again decided to support a Kris Kringle activity for the Class Party day of school this year (Thursday 19th December). All children will be invited to participate within each grade and bring a small gift for another child in the grade (no food items thanks). It is a choice activity - not compulsory for children to participate. The value of the gift is requested to be up to $8 dollars. A separate notice has been distributed detailing the Kris Kringle activity.

EARLY DISMISSAL ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM 4
Please note that on Friday 20th December dismissal will occur at 1:30 pm with a lunch hour being eliminated. The final assembly for the year will be held at 1:15 pm and all parents are welcome to attend. There will be no lunch time at school on this day and children will be encouraged to have a larger than normal play lunch. The Christmas Hamper Draw will be drawn at the final assembly as will the Working Bee draw which will include all those who have attended working bees this year.

STAFFING CHANGE FOR 2014 – FAREWELL MRS MITCHELL
It is with regret that I inform the school community that Mrs Angela Mitchell will be leaving Upwey PS next year to take up a position at Wesley College for several days a week. Angela has been the art teacher over the last few years and encouraged the children to produce high quality work. She has been a terrific staff member and as much as we will miss her skills I wish her all the best with her new employment opportunity.
To temporarily fill this vacancy Mrs Andi Kittredge has agreed to take on the Art role for the beginning of the year ahead of which time the position will be advertised. Mrs Mitchell’s last day will be on Tuesday 17th December.

STAFFING CHANGE FOR 2014 – FAREWELL MS OXWORTH
I am also informing everyone that Ms Catherine Oxworth will be finishing at the end of this year after just one year in the job. I thank her for her involvement in the school and appreciate all the work she has done with the Music program this year and in particular with the recorder program. Thanks and good luck for next year.
In Ms Oxworth’s place we will welcome back Mrs Hickey for one day a week in 2014. Ms Oxworth’s last day will be on Wednesday 18th December.

FINAL SPECIALIST LESSONS FOR 2013 NEXT WEEK
Specialist staff have now completed work with the children for the year. Thanks to the specialist teachers for their great dedication to their field this year. Particular thanks to Sharon Heffernan who has provided German LOTE lessons on a voluntary basis. This shows great commitment to the school and our children. Great effort Sharon!
Again, thanks to Mrs Mitchell and Ms Oxworth who will be finishing at the end of the year. I thank them for their dedicated effort and commitment to the school during the year.

GOOdsay!
ACCOUNTS SETTLED FOR 2013
I am reminding all parents to please settle any accounts owing at the moment before the end of the year. It is essential for accounts to allow us to pay our final accounts. Please contact the office and Kay & Cindy will be only too pleased to assist you.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAW
Booklets of tickets have been distributed to families last week. If you have not received a booklet and wish to purchase some tickets for the draw please contact the office where we have plenty of spares.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Our Final School Council Meeting was held on Monday 9th December.
We passed the 2014 Budget, approved the early finish to school on Friday 20th December (1:30 pm finish), were informed about final staffing placements and approved another Hall Hire proposal from Kelly Mini Sports for 2014. We finished the evening with a lovely Break Up Dinner at 7:30 pm.
I wish to thank the School Councillors for their wonderful efforts this year in leading the school and I appreciate their commitment to the children at Upwey Primary School.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED
LIBRARY ASSISTANT
Jenny Mathews has indicated that she would love to return to Upwey PS and assist in the Library for 2014. As she will be taking some time off I am requesting the assistance of a parent to be trained up by Jenny in working in the library for a morning each week. If you are available and interested in this role please contact me.

WEDDING BELLS
MISS CROFT’S IMPENDING WEDDING!
Just to let you know that Miss Croft will be getting married on Saturday 11th January during the School Holidays and will come back a different woman....Mrs Christofis. I join with the whole Upwey Primary School Community in wishing Danni and Dimitrios a wonderful day and terrific honeymoon to follow over the holiday period. Hope everything goes smoothly and that the bride and groom look magnificent. Congratulations and good luck for the future.

COMING EVENTS
CHRISTMAS IN THE HILLS - FAMILY PICNIC & CAROLS EVENING
The annual event will be held on Tuesday 17th December from 6:00 pm on the school oval. We would expect an appearance from Santa Claus at some time. We are also anticipating some organised singing from the Junior School (P/1C & 1/2E) to look forward to. All families are welcome to attend and have a relaxing time with some games and exercise for the children. Carol singing will be the closing feature of the evening at about 7:30 pm.

PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA – Monday 16th December
Invitations have been distributed for our Special Morning Tea for school helpers/volunteers. This event will be held on Monday 16th December (not Monday 9th December as previously indicated) from 11:00 am in the staff room. See you on Monday.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION- DINNER & PRESENTATIONS
The Year 6 Graduation Dinner and Presentations will be held on Thursday 19th December at Marybrook beginning at about 6:00 pm (arrivals and photos) with dinner at 6:30 pm. The formal part of the evening involving parents and family members will be held from about 8:30 pm.

REMINDERS
ACCOUNTS SETTLED FOR 2013
I am reminding all Year 6 parents to please settle any accounts owing at the moment before the end of the year. It is essential for accounts to be paid to ensure involvement in all Graduation events. This is also an opportune time to remind all parents that any overdue accounts need to be settled before the end of the year. Please contact the office and Kay & Cindy will be only too pleased to assist you.

BOOKLIST & VOLUNTARY LEVIES FOR 2014
School Fees for 2014 will be $280 for the first child and $230 for the second child (This includes a $50 B & G levy-refundable on attending a working bee.) The Booklist component of the school fees will be $150. The minimum payment anticipated will be $150 (booklist section) and will be due during the hours indicated on the booklist information. Payments may alternatively be made before the end of the year or at the beginning of 2014. Direct Deposit will available.

LIBRARY BOOKS
Jenny Mathews is requesting any final books be returned to the library. Please get those books back to make the job easier for our volunteer staff.

CHRISTMAS CARD GIVING
I am sure that many children will want to organise Christmas Cards for friends/staff at school. I am requesting that this is only done during the last week of school from Monday 16th to Friday 20th December and NOT any earlier.
Please ensure that any Christmas Cards given show respect for recipients.
I would also recommend the following tips:
- cards are not handed out as a “popularity contest”
- a “to…” and “from …” without a personal message is not really a heartfelt message envelopes are put into the recycling bin rather than the rubbish bin

REGULAR FEATURES - EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
SUSTAINABILITY - “CARRY IN, CARRY OUT” Rubbish Free day will finish on Wednesday 18th December.

FREE FEED FRIDAY - BREAKFAST
The Soupees Breakfast continues each Friday morning. The final breakfast for the year will be held on Friday 20th December from 8:30 am. Don’t forget that all children are invited to come and have breakfast in the hall with Gavin, Linda, Chris & Sue providing all the necessary ingredients, and labour, for free!

PLAYGROUP – BREAK UP PARTY
The final Playgroup session for 2014 was held today with a Christmas Party. Thanks again to Emma G, with continued assistance from our wonderful Crossing Supervisor, Cheryl. Your work again this year in running the playgroup has been fantastic and we appreciate your time and effort. Hope the party went well and that maybe Santa made an appearance.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal
Hi all.
Well the last week is upon us. Here's what's on at BASC next week.

**MONDAY** - Christmas decorations
**TUESDAY** - Outside play/construction
**WEDNESDAY** - Making shortbread
**THURSDAY** - Wreaths
**FRIDAY** - End of year party.

Remember that school will be finishing at 1:30 on Friday the 20th so if BASC is needed please book ASAP.

Have a great weekend.
Sam.

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**NOTICES SENT HOME**

- **YEAR 6 GRADUATION PERMISSION FORM & PAYMENT**
- **Cameo Excursion, Preps to Grade 6**
  Due back Monday 16th December
Thank you so much Emma for running our Playgroup and thank you Cheryl for being so involved. It’s been a fantastic year. Thanks to all the families who have joined our Playgroup in 2013, see you next year :)

BUNNINGS – Saturday 7\textsuperscript{th} December – Thank you all the families and staff who volunteered their time and helped out at the Sausage sizzle. It was a great day and we raised approx. $1500 for OUR school.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Notices went our last week for donations towards our end of year Christmas Raffles, each class will create their own Raffle Prize basket, so if you are unsure what to donate, please talk to your classroom teacher. The raffle will be drawn at the last assembly on Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} December.

RAFFLE TICKETS have been distributed to all families. We have more books available from the school office.

P.A. CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} December at Café Grounded in Upwey

DANDENONG RANGES EMERGENCY RELIEF DONATION BOX IS SITUATED AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE, WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS ON MONDAY, PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FAMILIES.
Mrs Rowles’ Care Group

Once upon a time there was a lion who ate pears. He liked them so much he got sick from eating them. Since the lion was sick he ate a new fruit which is called zucchini, then he felt much better. Then he kept eating zucchinis. But one day he got sick of that and started eating a different kind of fruit — passionfruit.

Then he met a little birdy that was sick so he gave the birdy some passionfruit and they became friends.

The bird was amazed by the flavour of the fruit. He was impressed by the lion. Then because the bird was so smart he thought the lion should have meat instead.

When the lion started eating meat he liked it too much and got sick again. He discovered that passionfruit was a type of medicine.

After that a very smart donkey came along and said, “What about a fruit and meat salad?”

And when the lion was full he fell asleep and snored so loud he woke everyone else up.

This story was by:
Laura, Caitlin J, Molly, Marley, Hannah, Jessica, Holly & Sandy