FAMILY PICNIC & GAMES EVENING

The Family Picnic and Games Evening signalled the beginning of the 2013 School Year in style on **Tuesday**. The whole evening was most enjoyable and certainly entertaining. A pity to see a slight hamstring strain during the father’s sprint but other than that the races went extremely well and were hotly contested. Involvement in the parachute activity, one of the Tribes Games, was a highlight with enthusiastic participation by all. Thanks to all families who attended and participated in the fun evening. Thanks also to staff members for coming along and enjoying the social interaction which is a feature of our school.

We’re not sure who had the most fun, the Parents or the kids!
Prep 1C Art Award
Hunter
For showing kindness and compassion towards your new classmates, as they settle in to the new school year.

1/2E Adam
For being able to count from different starting numbers, to target numbers up to 20. 100% accuracy.

1/2E Hayden
For being able to count from different starting numbers, to target numbers up to 20. 100% accuracy.

1/2E Indi
For being able to count from different starting numbers, to target numbers up to 20. 100% accuracy.

1/2E P.E. Award
Chelsea
For great resilience during hot conditions by completing all activities - without missing a beat!

3/4G Deborah
For completing a team high score in the P.E. game involving throwing skills.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 2013
The Official Opening of the School Year will be held on Monday 4th March from 2:30 to 3:30.
This is a very special ceremony where the School Captains/Vice Captains, House Captains and Junior School Council representatives will be invested.
Parents and relatives are invited and welcome to attend this formal occasion. Make sure you bring your camera, especially if your child is being invested in a position of responsibility. An afternoon tea for parents, relatives, guests and visitors will be held at the conclusion of presentations. We are fortunate to have Mr Tom Daly (Upwey High School Principal) attending with our 2012 School Captains, Nathan D & Marguerite T. I will look forward to seeing as many visitors as possible.

The following children will be invested during the ceremony:
School Captain (boys) – JAY TAYLOR
School Vice-Captain (boys) – JOEL MOWAT
School Captain (girls) – LILY HARTLEY
School Vice-Captain (girls) – HAYLEY RUDDELL

HOUSE CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following students who have been voted in to leadership positions for this year.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL
Congratulations also to the following who have been voted on to the Junior School Council. They will be presented with their badges at the ceremony.
Prep - Kaitlin (Katy) Shaw
Year 1 - Eva Lawes
Year 2 - Chelsea Moss
Year 3 - Ryan Anderson
Year 4 - Deborah Mowat
Year 5 - Mary Polglase
School Captains - Lily Hartley & Jay Taylor

Bogong -
Capt. – Karralee Stewart
Capt. – Jack Hay
Vice Capt. – Stella Storrar

Corella -
Capt. – Karma Edwards
Capt. – Marshall Blair
Vice Capt. – Kiana Gray

Lowan -
Capt. – Daniela Gisler
Capt. – Joel Mowat
Vice Capt. – Rhaine Scully

Moonah -
Capt. – Jasmine Eley
Capt. – Tiger Chamoun
Vice Capt. – Julian Desira
INTEGRATION AIDE PRACTICUM – Grade 1/2E
On Monday 18th February we will be welcoming Cassandra Speechley to the school and in particular Grade 1/2E. She will be on Practicum Work in 1/2E for the next two weeks as part of her course requirements. She will be assisting on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We look forward to some great assistance in the class and Cassandra builds up her experience in working with children. Please make her feel welcome if you see her around the school.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2013
This is the final week for nominations for parents to become involved in the 2013 School Council. Nominations will close today, Friday 15th February at 5:00 pm.
The first School Council Meeting for 2013 will be held on Monday 4th March. AGM at 7:00 pm and Ordinary School Council Meeting at 7:30 pm

SPORT
DISTRICT SWIMMING SPORTS
The District Swimming Sports will be held on Wednesday 22nd February at Belgrave Pool from 10:00 am. Parent helper volunteers are requested. Please contact me or the office if you are able to assist. Permission forms will be distributed on Monday for the District Sports and are due to be returned by Wednesday 22nd February. The team will be posted on notice boards on Monday and will be selected according to the results of the House Swimming Sports.

REMINDERS
ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PLAN
Parents of children who have asthma are required to complete the Asthma Management Plan. Please complete the plan and hand to the office. Parents are also asked to leave a spare ventolin/asthma spray or similar at the school office as a separate inhaler is required for each child in case of need/emergency. All this is a department requirement and supports the welfare of children involved.

CAR PARK FOOTPATH
A reminder to all children to please use the footpath along the staff car park entrance/exit and not walk or climb on the stone wall as it could be dangerous. I would appreciate parent support in reinforcing this expectation.

PREP EARLY FINISH
Early finish time of 2:00 pm for Preps will be continuing until Friday 1st March. The Prep children will be having their first full day of school on Monday 4th March and full school days will apply from that time onwards.

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE
We are proud to announce the opening of the new school website located at www.upweyps.vic.edu.au
Thanks to Mr Gallaher for co-ordinating the website and final preparation of the new format for its introduction during the holidays. There is a Blog section for comment and Newsletter section for easy access to the newsletter content. Take a look and let us know what your think!

PAYMENTS AND EMA FORMS
The Office will be available for payments and receipt of EMA forms for those who have not already paid school fees and not returned EMA forms. Please ensure that forms are in and scheduled payments made.

LIFE EDUCATION 2013
We will be having a visit from the Life Education Van on Wednesday 13th March and Thursday 14th March. This is an Incursion with all grades completing an interactive lesson in the van as a part of our School Curriculum. This visit occurs only once every two years. Life Education Staff will also provide a parent education session in the van on Wednesday 13th March from 9:00 – 9:30 am for parents to gain an insight into the program offered. The lessons relate to Drug and Health & Wellbeing Education as part of the Harm Minimisation approach to drug education consistent with the National Drug Strategy. The cost of the incursion will be $9 per child. A separate notice was distributed yesterday. The proposed timetable will be:

- Prep Children – 10:00 to 11:00 am on Wednesday 13th March
- Year 1 & Year 2 Children – 11:30 am to 12:30 pm on Wednesday 13th March
- Year 3 & 4 Children – 9-10:30 am on Thursday 14th March
- Year 5 & 6 Children – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Thursday 14th March

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
PARKING ALONG DARLING AVENUE
If you are dropping off or picking up children at school along Darling Avenue please ensure that you obey the parking restrictions as I have it from a reliable source that the Parking Officers will be on the lookout and booking drivers for illegal parking. Please take care for the children’s sake, as well as your own.

STUDENT INSURANCE
We will be distributing brochures from companies for you to consider 24 hour student insurance for your child(ren). We are not endorsing any insurance company or the need for student insurance as it will be a decision parents will need to consider for themselves. The main two companies who provide insurance are JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd and EBM. Today the EBM insurance information will be distributed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN & PROCEDURES
Emergency Closures on DEECD Website
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) website has recently been modified so that parents and carers can more readily access information about emergency closures of schools, early childhood facilities and bus services. The website is: www.education.vic.gov.au

UNIVERSITY OF NSW-INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS 2013
Application forms with associated costs are now available 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 were distributed with the newsletter last week. Please return with payment by Friday 22nd 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 2013. Only children in Years 3-6 will be given the opportunity to participate.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal
Our House Swimming Sports were held today Friday 15th February at Belgrave Swimming Pool for our Year 3 – 6 children (and a few extra capable swimmers).

The results are not available at time of printing but the children did a terrific job and all tried their personal best; having a go wherever possible. Congratulations to all those children who participated and put in a great effort and enjoyed the perfect conditions.

The relay at the end of the competition was a fitting conclusion to an enjoyable morning.

Thanks to our band of reliable helpers for assisting on the day. They were: Kelly W, Michelle Mo, Chrissy D, Nolene D & Jenny S. Thanks also to those who came along to watch the children swim. The help ensured the event went smoothly and timing was accurate! Thanks to Mr G for starting each race and being official photographer.
Meet Thomas the Tank Engine and the Fat Controller at Puffing Billy's EMERALD town station. Entertainment for the entire family!

'Thomas' Attractions

- A steam train ride with Thomas and Diesel
- Thomas and the Fat Controller pantomime
- Meet the Fat Controller and his friends
- Green Bulgy Bus ride
- Animal Nursery
- Jumping Castle
- Thomas Colouring Marquee
- Thomas DVD Show
- Face Painting
- Photo Opportunities
- Refreshment facilities (food and soft drinks) and an extensive range of Thomas merchandise are available for purchase onsite.

FARES

- Adults and Children (4+ years): $24.00
- Toddlers (1-3 years of age): $12.50
- Infants (under 1 year): Free

Session Times

- Saturday 2 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
- Sunday 3 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
- Saturday 16 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
- Sunday 17 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
- Saturday 23 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
- Sunday 24 March: 9.30am, 10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.45pm
Entry forms available at school office.

This huge event is held in conjunction with the Knox Festival. Over 18 brigades and 300 firefighters will march with lighted long stem torches from the Ferntree Gully fire station in The Avenue FTG, along Station St, Spring St & Brenock Park Drive. Please line the streets along the march to the oval.

In conjunction with Knox Festival

Knox CFA Fire Brigades Group is holding a Torchlight Parade at Ferntree Gully Saturday March 2nd 2013 at 8.30pm from FTG fire Station, in The Avenue.

Knox and Dandenong Ranges residents are invited to come and support their local CFA Fire Brigades, as well as those coming from far and wide!

CFA volunteer brigades will include Upwey, Bayswater, Boronia, Ferntree Gully, Scoresby, The Basin, Upper Ferntree Gully, Dandenong Ranges brigades, Korumburra, Carrum Downs, Diamond Creek, Caroline Springs and Rochester.

This huge event is held in conjunction with the Knox Festival. Over 18 brigades and 300 firefighters will march with lighted long stem torches from the Ferntree Gully fire station in The Avenue FTG, along Station St, Spring St and Brenock Park Drive to the oval. They will be accompanied by three of Victoria’s best pipe bands.

Victoria Police Pipes and Drums
Ambulance Victoria Pipe Band
& Ringwood RSL Pipe Band

After the bands have come together to play Amazing Grace, a spectacular fireworks display will commence.

Members of the public are requested to show their support for these fire brigades and line the streets to the Ferntree Gully football ground.

For further information, Graham Crichton on 0429 060944 or Google for the Ferntree Gully Fire Brigade website.

KNOX FIRE BRIGADES GROUP

Do you want to play football? Upwey Tecom Junior Football Club wants you! C’mon be a Tiger

Registration Day
Sunday 24th February

Come along and visit our staff from 10am onwards at the

Upwey Billy Cart Races
Main Street Upwey

We are after players for the 2013 season in the following teams:

U9 (born in 2004/5)  U10 (born in 2003)

Our AFL accredited coaches provide great coaching and our facilities are second to none.

If you require more information on any of the above please call:
President: Gary Stokes 0423 006 722
Vice President: Anton Henderson-Riosala 0488 444 181
Secretary: Sharon Meads 0466 218 799

Go Tigers!

Play Tennis
Enrol Now!

Lessons Daily in Belgrave
Belgrave Heights & Upwey Tecom
FREE Introductory Tennis Lesson*
Group & Private Lessons
‘Hot Shots’ Deliverer
Elite Pro Tour Program

Limited Places Filling Fast!
Call Sean or Kylie on
0402 424 482 or 0411 225 461
Email: tennisinstitute@optusnet.com.au
*Conditions Apply, Bookings Required

Sunday 24th February
Entry forms available at school office
**Term 1, 2013 - Upwey Primary School**

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<td><strong>Gardening Club</strong></td>
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**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Hi all.

Here’s what’s on at BASC next week.

**MONDAY** - Making our own stamps

**TUESDAY** - Games in the hall

**WEDNESDAY** - Super Science

**THURSDAY** - Cooking

**FRIDAY** - Cubbies & Construction

Sandy in prep made some great patterns with the blocks

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**P.A. FUNDRAISING MEETING**

**Tuesday 19th February**

2pm

in the staffroom

If you have considered joining the P.A, please come along!

Toddlers are very welcome.
What's a Monotreme?

A Monotreme is a rare sort of mammal found in Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea. The reason they are so rare is that they lay eggs! This group includes the Platypus and the Echidna (spiny anteater).

The platypus is a semi-aquatic creature with webbed feet, a bill (sort of like a duck), waterproof fur and a flat tail (like a beaver). They are between 1 and 2 feet long and between 3 or 4 pounds. Some of their bones are a lot like a reptile's and it lays eggs like a reptile. But it's still considered a mammal. It eats insect larvae, shrimp, frogs and fish eggs.

Echidna's have spines and VERY long, sticky tongues that they use to catch termites and ants. Echidna's are also between 1 and 2 feet long.