Principal’s Message 7.3.2014

Our Official Opening of the 2014 School Year was held on Monday with leadership positions recognised through the presentation of badges to our School Captains, School Vice-Captains, House Captains, House Vice-Captains and Junior School Councillors. It was great to have Mr Tom Daly (Principal of Upwey High School) attend and speak to the assembly. It was also a welcome return for last year’s School Captains Lily H and Jay T who handed over the reins to the new captains. Thanks to our invited guests, parents and relatives who attended the ceremony.

I look forward to a wonderful year working with all our new leaders. I wish them all the best for the year and look forward to them representing themselves and the school to the best of their abilities.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable long weekend. I also look forward to everyone gearing up for the “What’s Happening Hour” on Tuesday next week after returning from the long weekend.

15 Darling Avenue, Upwey 3158 Vic Ph: (03) 9754 2369 Fax: (03) 9754 8148
Email: upwey.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Website: www.upweyps.vic.edu.au
**SCHOOL COUNCIL 2014**

The first meeting for the 2014 School Council, as well as the Annual General Meeting, was held on Monday. Congratulations to our committee members and to the office bearers who were elected at the meeting. I look forward to a strong working relationship with the School Council in 2014. The office bearers are:

- **President**: Andrew G
- **Vice President**: Jenny S
- **Secretary**: Cindy N
- **Treasurer**: Sue C

Items covered at the meeting were:

1. Approval given for a Community Painters/Artist Workshop Group to operate at weekends and have access to the basketball and Courtyard area to demonstrate and display their craft or art work.
2. Approval given to support the application for Jamie Oliver’s Pop Up Kitchen to visit the local area.
3. Delegate the Education Committee to review our old Homework Policy and draft a new version based on survey results and current directions.
4. Approved operation of a Camp Payment plan. (Parents may start paying for the Year5/6 Camp in August and the Year 3/4 Camp in September at any time now.)
5. Approved an early finish to school on the last day of Term 1 (Friday 4th April, 2:30 pm finish).
6. Approved the 2014 School Program Budget.
7. Approved the PA/Fundraising Committee’s proposed fundraising calendar.

**COMPUTERS – ACCEPTABLE USAGE AGREEMENT**

As a result our involvement in the eSmart Cyber Safety Program and the need for us to take greater responsibility in accessing computers and ICT we have developed a new Acceptable Usage Agreement for all children in the school. This agreement is being distributed with the newsletter this week and must be returned to the classroom teacher next week. From Wednesday 12th March the children will only be permitted to access computers and ICT the school when the agreement has been signed by both the child and parent/guardian. Please return the forms by Wednesday 12th March.

**MEDICAL & AMBULANCE COVER**

A reminder to parents that our school does not cover Medical and Ambulance costs. We strongly recommend that parents have up-to-date Ambulance & Medical cover. For your consideration, we have attached an application letter from EBM Insurance Brokers for Student Insurance. Children are covered for a low cost of $29 per year. Please note that Emergency Transport is covered up to $4000 maximum per injury but is a reimbursement of expenses. Please take time to consider adequate cover.
**HOMEWORK**

As a result of last year’s Parent Opinion Survey the School Council supported a Homework Survey at the beginning of the year to which we had a terrific response. The focus was to assess the level of support for homework in the Upwey PS community and then take action based on the results. As I indicated in the newsletter the results indicated an overwhelming support for formal homework. Whilst this process has been occurring I have made the decision to suspend formal homework for Term 1 until a clear direction has been gained and an analysis of staff and parent data has occurred, as supported through School Council.

Now that we have gained substantial support for homework and the Education Committee has been assigned the task of reviewing the current policy, so that we can respond appropriately and in a measured manner, I have now lifted the homework suspension and with staff support will introduce Interim Set Homework until the end of Term 1. Teachers will be detailing this homework to children and parents (at the “What’s Happening Hour” on Tuesday.) During this time the children will still be expected to complete reading and number/tables work.

Parent volunteers wishing to contribute to the Education Committee’s Review in the coming weeks are welcome to make contact with me to indicate their interest and availability. I am also anticipating a Parent Information Evening on Homework before the end of Term 1.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

‘WHAT’S HAPPENING HOUR’ & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: DON’T MISS IT!

All children and parents are invited to attend our Classroom Information Sessions for the beginning of the year to be held after the long weekend on Tuesday 11th March from 7:00 - 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 classrooms to be provided with the “What’s Happening Hour” grade information/activities for grade routines.

**UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL – “SIGHTS & SOUNDS – UPWEY ARTS FESTIVAL”**

Upwey High will be holding an Arts Festival featuring and Art Exhibition and Art Competition which will coincide with their Open Evening. Children and adults are invited to provide entries in the Art Competition in the following 3 categories: Primary School (Open Theme) – People’s Choice Award & Judges’ Award Secondary School (Open Theme) – People’s Choice Award & Judges’ Award Open Category (Open Theme) – People’s Choice Award & Judges’ Award

The Art exhibition is to be held in our school hall (Howarth Hall) The dates are from Sunday 23rd March until Wednesday 26th March. Entry forms are available at the school office for anyone interested in entering an exhibit.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE**

I am anticipating involvement from Mr G and Kurtis H (as well as others who have registered after receiving parent permission) in the World’s Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundations’ fundraising on Monday 17th March.

We will be asking children and families to support the fundraising ventures and sponsor a shaver as they demonstrate that they will “Be Brave and Shave”. Remember: sponsoring will help to reduce the impact of blood cancer by supporting the Leukaemia Foundation’s important work - supporting families through free emotional and practical services, and investing in research to find cures.

**UNIVERSITY OF NSW-INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS 2014**

Application forms with associated costs for parents who want their child to be involved in the ICAS University of New South Wales Testing Program are now available. Children in Years 3-6 will be given the opportunity to participate. The notification and order forms for these competitions were distributed with last week’s newsletter.

**REMINDERS**

**YEAR 6 WINDCHEATER**

A reminder for Year 6 children and parents to get your order in next week. Order forms have been distributed and printing has been organised. Thanks to Jamie for organising the purchase and printing of our design (as created by several Year 6 children with final presentation by Cindy). Please remember that the windcheaters will not be available until payment has been made and we are hoping for all to be completed before the end of term.

**UNIFORM DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES INTRODUCED**

As a result of refinement of Department Guidelines and our desire to maintain even greater uniformity with our Assertive Discipline procedures aligned to our Tribes Learning Community Approach the teachers have introduced a consistent Card System into each classroom. The system is centred on more time effective management and appropriate consequences for unacceptable behaviour. The consequences hierarchy developed will include:

- **BLUE CARD** – Warning (Read classroom rules. Read Our 7 Agreements from Tribes) No further action
- **YELLOW CARD** – Classroom consequence. Withdrawal within the room to complete a designated classroom activity appropriate to the Year level. (Children will no longer be given “Yard Duties” as a consequence.)
- **ORANGE CARD** – Withdrawal from classroom. THINK TIME DETENTION Withdrawal from playground for 15 minutes at morning recess. Complete a “Think Time” Activity sheet. Recorded in the classroom.
- **RED CARD** – DETENTION. Withdrawal from the classroom to Principal’s Office. Lunchtime Detention for 25 minutes (or after School Detention for 60 minutes). Detention Sheet completed. Parents contacted.

To round out the whole school approach to Student Engagement & Discipline we will continue with classroom rewards for positive behaviours which will far outweigh the consequences. These will include Golden Time, House Points, Tribes Awards, Achievement Awards, Classroom Awards etc.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal
### Term 1 2014 - Upwey Primary School

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**WORLD GREATEST SHAVE**

**MONDAY 17TH MARCH**

Come down and support Mr G and Kurtis H from 3/4G as they both shave their hair off for this great cause during assembly. Donations can be dropped off at the office or go to:

Worlds Greatest Shave
And search for Upwey Primary School
Thank you for your support

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**Happy Birthday**

7th Mar - 14th Mar
JASPER

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**Friday PLAYGROUP with Emma is Back**

**EVERY Friday**
9.30-11.30am

Enjoy a morning of fun activities, including craft, stories and music time. Mums and Dads, Grans & Gramps, can relax with a cuppa whilst your littlies are entertained and engaged.

**THIS IS A FREE COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP RUN IN OUR MULTIPURPOSE ROOM.**
SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INVITE YOUR FRIENDS
14TH MARCH

**OHS Care 4 Kids**

**April Holiday Program**
7th to 17th 2014
The Patch PS

**Autumn School Holiday Program**

Friday 4 April to Thursday 24 April
Suits ages according to program
Limited places

**Bookings Close Friday 21 March**

**Get 50% off! Ask how!**

**Extend**
300 366 437

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**Roll Up Your Sleeves and Give Blood**

**Upwey Mobile Unit**
Upwey Community Hall
1443 Burwood Highway.

Monday 24 March 1:30pm - 7:30pm
Tuesday 25 March 1:30pm - 7:30pm
Wednesday 26 March 1:30pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 27 March 2:00pm - 7:30pm
Friday 28 March 9:30am - 3:30pm

To book your appointment please call 13 14 95

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**Free Demo & Skate Session with Christaan Bailey**
World #2 Professional Wheelchair Skater
27th March from 4pm | Mount Evelyn Skate Park

**Yarra Ranges Athletics**

**Lilydale Lake Fun Run**
Sunday April 6th 2014 from 9am

**The Good Guys**

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**Selby Fest 2014**

Saturday 22nd March 11:00am - 6:30pm

To find out more or just socialise with your community,
you are invited to a free bacchanal on
Thursday 6th March at 6:30pm

We hope you will support us in one of the
different volunteer roles on the day.

Vegetarian options will also be available, see you Thursday!

More info: P: 9754-2039 or www.selbyhouse.com.au
Bulk billing available for children under 16, Pensioners & Healthcare card Holders
Child Psychologist now available!
www.mountmedical.com.au
Call (03) 8288 1350 for an appointment
Providing Assessments & Counselling
Service For Children between 4-14 years
Mount Medical Clinic-BELGRAVE
82881350, www.mountmedical.com.au

Local Artist Shel Kerin would like to welcome you to her first viewing

“Intuitive Soul Art”

Sunday 9th March, 2pm to 6pm
Come & meet Shel, she will be here to talk you about her art work
At Abitza Healing Centre, Café & Gifts
56 - 58 Main Street Upwey. Ph: 9754 6850,
email: goabitza@gmail.com

FOLLOW THIS LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION
http://www.rspcavic.org/services/education/holiday-programs/junior-holiday-program

#Curves $1* JOIN NOW
TELL YOUR FRIENDS

This week we held our AGM. The following positions were filled.
President: Kristy Bush
Vice President: Sue Comello
Treasurer: Danielle Gannon
Secretary: Michelle Morton
Current members: Michelle Myers, Melissa Herbert, Kelly Wickenton, Louise Hartley, Kay Goodall

Issues discussed at the meeting were:
1. Easter Raffle this term. We will be asking families for a small Easter donation to go towards prizes. One ticket book per family will be sent home at a cost of $5 per book.
2. We will be holding craft afternoons again this term. Every second Friday from 1:30 - 3:30pm from March 14th.
3. The fundraising calendar for the year has been approved by School Council. Most dates are yet to be confirmed. We would love to have people come and help out. You do not need to be a member of the PA! I have included it in this weeks newsletter.
4. Book Club Issue 2 distributed today. Due back Friday March 21st

Next Meeting Tuesday 1st April

FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR 2014

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<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PARENT ASSISTANCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Easter Raffle</td>
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<td>Parent donations required</td>
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<td>Hot dog lunch</td>
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<td>Helpers on the day needed</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Chocolate Drive</td>
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<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td>May 9th</td>
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<td>Family Movie Night</td>
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<td>Hot Soup Lunch</td>
<td>June 2nd</td>
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<td>Trivia Night</td>
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<td>Fathers Day Stall</td>
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<td>Footy Day Lunch</td>
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<td>Helpers to cook on day</td>
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<td>School Disco</td>
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<td>Helpers to set up</td>
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<td>Shopping Tour</td>
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<td>No help needed</td>
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<td>Election BBQ</td>
<td>29th Nov</td>
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<td>Bunnings BBQ</td>
<td>Sat Dec</td>
<td>Helpers on the day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Raffle</td>
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<td>Parent donations required</td>
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