PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE 20.2.2015

OUR FAMILY PICNIC/BBQ & GRADE INFORMATION EVENT
This was a resounding success as a result of high level involvement.
Thanks to all the families who came along and supported the new format for the beginning of the year orientation to our community and classroom teachers’ program.
Although the evening was a little cool the hot sausages, picnic food and games on the oval warmed everyone up and the teachers did a great job of introducing the classroom program to parents.
The races and novelty events were hotly contested and most entertaining, particularly the “pillow slip” races (thanks to Mrs Pert for lending her pillow cases to us).
A special thanks to the teachers for their preparation for and participation during the evening.
P/1C Hermione
For listening to feedback and working hard to improve her reading fluency.

P/1C P.E. Award Robbie
For helping with organising the Prep children and setting a good example.

P/1C Art Award Sam
For showing attentive listening and being very helpful and friendly during art class.

2/3E P.E. Award Seamus
For working so well in partner throwing and catching activities.

2/3E Lachlan
For completing a humorous recount.

2/3E Annika
For staying focused and avoiding all distractions.

2/3E Felicity
For showing interest, curiosity and enthusiasm for all of the class activities this week.

2/3E Enviro Ed Sandy
For working really well with Violet to record information about their micro climate.

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2/3E Enviro Ed Sicelo
For writing an interesting detailed recount using dialogue to build the story.

2/3E Ben
For exemplary behaviour in his first week at school, and being an excellent role model for the class.

2/3E Hunter
For concentrating on his work and doing his personal best on his work.

3/4W Jack
For always working hard and doing is best.

3/4W P.E. Award Jai
For demonstrating high standard catching skills with a tennis ball.

5/6W Sam
For working consistently hard across all areas. Well done!

5/6W Jeremy
For a fabulous sizzling start! Keep up the great work!

5/6W Art Award Holly
For being a focused, creative and passionate artist who always uses her class time to the fullest.

5/6W P.E. Award Kurtis
For demonstrating high standard catching skills with a tennis ball.
I announced the results of the voting for House Vice-Captains for our Year 5 children at School Assembly on Monday and I congratulate the successful children. They will be supporting the Year 6 House Captains and will form part of the leadership group in the school, helping with sporting and Tribes activities throughout the year. They are: House Vice-Captains: Bogong – Caitlin Jessopp, Corella – Kurtis Hartley, Lowan – Sam Murray, Moonah – Ryan Anderson.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2015
Our School Council for 2015 will consist of the following members:

SCHOOLS COUNCIL MEETINGS 2015
The first School Council Meeting for 2015 will be held on Monday 2nd March. School Council AGM & School Council Meeting from 7:00 pm in the School Staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 2015
The Official Opening of the School Year will be held on Monday 23rd February from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. This is a very special ceremony where the School Captains/Vice- Captain, House Captains/Vice-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. Chad Abersteiner (Year 7 Team Leader) from Upwey High School will be the invited guest speaker who will assist with the presentations.

NEW OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (BASC) CO-ORDINATOR
It is with great pleasure that I announce to the Upwey Primary School Community we will be welcoming a new Out of School Hours Care Program (BASC) Co-ordinator, Matilda Gifford-Chambers, to Upwey Primary School next week. (Likely start on Wednesday 25th February.) She has considerable experience in working with children and is very enthusiastic about the role. I look forward to her involvement in the program and observing her own personal touch to running our BASC program. Please make Matilda feel welcome as a staff member at Upwey PS.

SPORT
DISTRICT SWIMMING SPORTS
The District Swimming Sports are being held today at Belgrave Pool from 10:00 am. We sent a small but very enthusiastic team and hope they swim to their Personal Best. Thanks to Ms Wood and Sue for managing the team and to Kelly W for assisting and taking the marquee and sound equipment. Much appreciated.
Results will be available in next week’s newsletter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
TRIBES LEARNING COMMUNITY
The following agreements assist and guide Upwey Primary School to develop a strong foundation that is interwoven through all learning experiences and relationships. They are a vital part of our school culture.

OUR 7 AGREEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appreciation</td>
<td>showing empathy and thanks to others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attentive Listening</td>
<td>using your mind, eyes, ears and heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td>display truth, honesty, responsibility, loyalty and courage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual Respect</td>
<td>show respect, fairness, strength, consideration and sincerity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right to Pass/Participate</td>
<td>have time to think and become involved; Inclusiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resilience</td>
<td>develop courage, initiative, flexibility, humour and bounce back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Best</td>
<td>striving for personal excellence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOMEWORK
Our first formal Homework will be distributed today for all grades and this will be completed by Thursday 26th February before the following homework will be distributed on Friday 27th February etc. (All grades will have homework distributed on Fridays and due on Thursdays unless otherwise notified by the class teacher. Homework will be related to school classwork and will be compulsory.

HOMEWORK CLUB
For parents who would like to take advantage of a very generous offer there will be a Homework Club continuing for this year on a Friday afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30 pm in the Library with Danielle Q. This may help your child to get started on their homework commitments on the day it is distributed. Thanks to Danielle for this offer and her commitments.
TOTB (Thinking Outside The Box)- Extracurricular Program

The TOTB program offered to gifted and talented children in local schools is being held at Upwey PS in the Technology Room (next to Grade P/1 C Classroom) during Term 1. We will host the program and be welcoming Rhonda Ooi (teacher) and Suzanne Alphonso (teacher) for the continuation of the 4 or 5 -week program on Tuesdays.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT
PARENTS’ AUXILIARY/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

For parents interested in grassroots involvement in the school I can recommend the PA/Fundraising Committee. This group has done an amazing job in raising an enormous amount of money for the school and is such a vital part of supporting our children. Monthly meetings are held at the school and ideas for fundraising and providing fun events for the children are discussed. Please feel free to contact the office if you are able to be involved.

REMINDEERS
UPDATED PERSONAL INFORMATION

Student Information may need to be updated. If changes have been made please contact the office to update your details. It is important that contact details are current so please complete this task immediately if required. It is also important that information regarding involvement in such programs as Special Religious Instruction is completed so that this program can be offered if sufficient interest exists.

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.

ANDREW FULLER’S HANDY HINTS FOR IMPROVING LEARNING

The following handy hints for improving learning are extracted from Andrew Fuller’s book “Help Your Child Succeed At School”

Organising a Learning Space for Your Child – Lighting

Natural or indirect lighting such as a desk lamp is best for learning. It is best for your child not to study under fluorescent lighting as it is related to raised cortisol levels in the blood stream (an indicator of anxiety and agitation). Cortisol also suppresses language functions. If you are purchasing a desk lamp try to avoid fluorescent lights.

FOCUS AREA- MUTUAL RESPECT

Grades will continue focusing on Mutual Respect. 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 as part of our Tribes Learning Community approach in the school. Please support the school by also highlighting this focus area after school hours.

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

CHICKEN POX

I have had cases of Chicken Pox in the school reported to me this week. Please be aware of the confirmed case and take any necessary action; particularly drawing to the attention of any pregnant parents for whom there may be some risk.

HEADLICE

A remind to be vigilant in regard to your children’s hair. Tying back long hair is recommended to help avoid contracting headlice. All children were checked recently and although low numbers of lice were found parents/guardians need to be on the alert for eggs. Please follow information given recently.

HEAT HEALTH ALERT

The Education Departments has distributed reminders associated with the current hot conditions. The focus in particular is on the need to hydrate well. The other focus was on ensuring that children are never left unattended in a car and are protected from the sun. This becomes even more important after a recent fatal incident noted in the media. Sunscreen provided for children at school would be a good suggestion also. We do have sunscreen at school and children may request access if they have forgotten sunscreen from home or not protected during recess times.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

UPWEY BILLY CART RACES

The Upwey Billy Cart Races will be held this Sunday, Sunday 22nd February in Main Street Upwey. This should be another terrific day of entertainment so pop in if you have the opportunity. Good luck to all competitors but especially competitors from Upwey Primary School! Make great speed and take care!

ASSISTANCE PLAYGROUP

Thanks to Anne for volunteering to run the Play Group for this year. Anne ran the first session this week on Tuesday and will continue each Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:00 am in the Multi-Purpose Room (BASC). Please contact the office if you are available and interested in participating in the group. We look forward to this being another great activity group just like during the last few years. We will require a payment of $5 per child per session for the program & co-ordination.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal

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Malcolm Aspinall
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## P.A AND FUNDRAISING

We held our first PA meeting of the year last week and discussed possible events and fundraising ideas for the year.

We have decided to start holding a monthly craft get together. This will be on the first Friday of every month and be held in the BASC room. Bring along any crafting project you like, including sewing machines. Kids are welcome and toys are available for them to play with!

**First craft meet will be on Friday 6th March from 9am – 12pm.**

We would also like to start up a book swap where all parents will be able to swap or borrow books. If you have some good old reads, send them up to the office so we can get started! Before we go and buy a new book shelf, we thought we would ask our community if anyone has one they don’t need anymore. We were after a medium size as this doesn’t take up too much room.

Our next meeting will be the AGM, so we are asking all members to please attend and any new members are always welcome.

Next meeting (AGM): TUESDAY 17TH MARCH 2:00 – 3:30PM

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### Term 1, 2015 - Upwey Primary School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>23rd Feb</td>
<td>24th Feb</td>
<td>25th Feb</td>
<td>26th Feb</td>
<td>27th Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUN 21TH UPWEY BILLY CART RACES</strong></td>
<td>OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 2015 SCHOOL YEAR 2.30pm</td>
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<td>HOMEWORK CLUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>2nd March</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>5th March</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PREPS START FULL TIME</strong></td>
<td>SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM</td>
<td>ASSEMBLY 3PM</td>
<td>HOMEWORK CLUB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>10th March</td>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>12th March</td>
<td>13th March</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</strong></td>
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<td>HOMEWORK CLUB</td>
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UPPER FERNTREE GULLY JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Players Wanted for Season 2015
Under 8 – Born 2007
Under 9 – Born 2006
Under 10 – Born 2005
Under 12 – Born 2003
Under 13 – Born 2002

Register for Auskick at Upper Ferntree Gully and your Auskick Rego will be refunded, when you sign up to play with us.
Email upperferntreegul-

Buried In Treasures
A Group Work Program For People With Hoarding Behaviour/Clutter

Would you like to learn tips on how to de-clutter?
Join us for this group for people who are ready to be a little less cluttered!
Each week will offer activities which will build your confidence, and help to support you.

During the 6 week course you will learn how to deal with your clutter, and how to say goodbye to the group.

We’ll also check in with our individual progress, challenges, successes, and goals.

Start Date: 2nd March – 28th April 2015
Meet at trimmed down level 10 Melbourne Uni.
Mon or Wed nights from 6.30pm, every Monday from 7.45pm.
Cost: $12.00 for the workbook, $15 registration.

This group offers a judgment free environment for people ready to make changes in their life.

For referrals to the Wheatbelt, Mentone, Mornington and SPA regions
contact the Boulevard, Aged Care Link from Monash, 5850 1967.

In conjunction with the Belgrave Buskers Festival
www.bortoniorasonic.org.au
www.belgravebigdreamsmarket.com

Boronia Junior Soccer Club
Seeking new players for season 2015.

Open Day
Come and have a kick
Wednesday 11 February, 6pm @ Dobson Reserve
Sunday 8 March, 9am @ Dobson Reserve

Pre-season training @ Dobson Reserve, Ferntree Gully
Wednesday evenings from Feb 18 at 6pm for Under 8-11 (born 2004-7)
Sunday mornings from March 15 at 9am for Under 5-7 (born 2008-10)

www.boroniajsc.com.au

BELGRAVE BIG DREAMS TWILIGHT MARKET
Saturday 28th February
3pm - 8pm

CREATE | COMMUNE | CONNECT

In conjunction with the Belgrave Buskers Festival
New location St. Thomas More's Primary School, Reynolds Lane, Belgrave
www.belgravebigdreamsmarket.com
SPRING FESTIVAL BY 2/3E

Chinese New Year
Mr and Mrs Francis came to tell us about Chinese culture. They showed us how to write in Chinese. At the end they gave us dumplings and they were yummy.
by Sandy 19/2/2015

SPRING FESTIVAL
Today Angelina’s parents came to teach us Chinese. Angelina’s Mum taught us words in Chinese. It was fun. Angelina’s Mum taught us when our birthdays were on a Chinese calendar.
By Zach

SPRING FESTIVAL
Today Leah and Chris came in to celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival. We wrote words in Chinese and saw a picture made out of marble. The Chinese Spring Festival is for fifteen days. On the first day of the festival the kids get a gift. The gift is money in a red envelope. In China writing paper is made of cotton and the brushes tips are made of wolf fur or goat fur. There are 1.3 billion people in China; that is at least sixty times more people than in Australia.
By Ruby

Chinese New Year
Today we had Angelina’s Mum and Dad come to talk about China. We learnt that red is the lucky colour.
Writing- Chinese calligraphy brush. The tip is made out of a wolf or a goat, the handle is made out of bamboo.
When Chinese people write they write very differently to Australian people. They use a calligraphy brush.
By Caitlin

Spring Festival – Chinese New Year
I learnt that when you write in Chinese it is smaller writing than in English. The writing looks like characters forming words. Each year they have a character form an animal. This year it is the goat.
By Jessica

Spring Festival
Chinese New Year
Today Chris and Leah came in to Grade 2/3E. We did very well so all of 2/3E got dumplings because everyone did very well with the Chinese work. It was very interesting. It was very kind of them to come in to the classroom.
By Connor

Spring Festival
Today Angelina’s Mum and Dad came in to talk to us about China. I tried a dumpling and I did not like it at all, so I gave it to Caitlin. I finished the colouring sheet and it said Happy New Year.
By Charli

Spring Festival
China’s New Year
Chinese pencils use ink that you draw with, when you hold the end it is made out of bamboo, we got a colouring in sheet. Then I got a red paper to write on.
By Lachlan
Happy New Year