The first full week of school for 2015 has continued very smoothly and the children are becoming used to the class routines and expectations very quickly.

The Year 5 & 6 children have been allocated buddies in Prep & Year 1 and the children have completed familiarisation activities together. The program has begun extremely well with the older children supporting the younger children so well, especially during lunch times for those requiring assistance.

OUR TERRIFIC PREPS

Our Preps are settling in well to school in Grade Prep/1C and Mrs Christofis is doing a marvellous job in ensuring they are getting used to classroom routines and adjusting to school life. They are a wonderful group of children and the more experienced Year 1 children, have done a great job in leading the way and setting the example for the Preps. Thanks to the parents who are supporting the children so well with their introduction to primary school.
A reminder to Prep parents that the “Get To Know” Primary School Entry Interviews will be continuing from 9:00 am next Wednesday. Parents please check the timetable for your interview time.

**FAMILY PICNIC/BBQ, GAMES EVENING and GRADE INFORMATION EVENT**

A new event for this year is being trialled by the staff with a combined Family Picnic Evening and Grade Information Event to streamline involvement. All parents and families are invited to attend the fun and informative evening on **Tuesday 17th February from 6:00 pm**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 to 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Grade Prep/1 C and Grade 2/3E Parent Information Event in classrooms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 to 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Grade 3/4W and Grade 5/6W Parent Information Event in classrooms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 to 7:15 pm</td>
<td>Subsequently we will be inviting all families to participate in the Free Family BBQ. Grab a sausage in bread before or after the Information Event or bring your own Picnic Food and settle on the amphitheatre or school oval (bring drinks, picnic food, chairs and rugs etc.).</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 to 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Games equipment will be provided on the oval for free play.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 until about 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Everyone will be invited to attend the Races and Novelty Events.</td>
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</table>

The agenda for the evening will be:

- It is anticipated that the system will allow parents with several children at school to attend two shorter information sessions rather than previously when all grades held the information sessions at the same time which forced many parents to share their time between more than one grade without gaining information from the complete session. The other major benefit is to complete a Grade Parent Information Session earlier in the year.

- I hope the trial will be well-received by families with involvement of all teachers and families and that our aims are achieved for maximum participation in both events.

**PLEASE come along and make this an even more successful event than previous years.**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2015**

There is still one more week for nominations for parents to become involved in the 2015 School Council. Nominations will close on Friday 13th February. I am still looking for a couple of parents to express an interest in being involved with the School Council. Please see me if you are considering and need further information.

**SCHOOL CAPTAIN/VICE CAPTAIN ELECTIONS**

The School Captain/Vice Captain elections have been completed today after some excellent presentations from the candidates. All Year 1-6 children and staff have had the opportunity to vote in a secret ballot at the conclusion of speeches. The children who nominated and presented will be informed of the results on Monday afternoon with the school community being informed at School Assembly. Thanks to all those who presented. There will be some happiness and some disappointment but I want to remind all candidates that they need to support each other and the school as a result of the decisions made.

**HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS**

Our House Swimming Sports were held today Friday 6th February at Belgrave Swimming Pool. Children from Years 3 to 6 were involved. Results were not available at the time of printing and will be included in next week’s newsletter.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION HOMEWORK**

Our Homework Policy was revised in 2014 and Homework is compulsory for all children. I am expecting that for the first two weeks of the year children will complete reading as their homework. Starting on Friday 20th February all grades will be given their first formal homework 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.

**REMINDER: SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIME**

Just a reminder to clarify that children are expected to arrive at school between 8:45 and 9:00 am and not earlier. This is the time that teachers supervise the yard. If children arrive earlier then they will be required to have parents book them in to Before School Care or be supervised by the parent.

Children will be placed in Before School Care or a suitable location if they arrive too early and parents will be charged accordingly. Children need to be supervised for safety and legal reasons.

Several children were relocated from the school yard as a result of the decisions made.
BOOKLIST PAYMENTS
The Office will be available for payments of booklists again next week for those who have not already paid school fees. Please address this immediately if not already completed. Please ensure that forms are in and payments made in order to receive stationery Book Supplies.

Book Bags and required stationery items will only be distributed to children whose families have paid the Booklist component of the fees or have organised a payment plan with me.

School books will now be required for classroom work but children whose parents have not organised booklist payment will only have access to temporary supplies.

PREP HOURS
During February Prep children will be attending all day on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Prep children will not attend school on Wednesdays. Prep parents and children will also be involved in a Prep School Entry Assessment/Interview during the first weeks of Term 1. Mrs Christofis will organise the timetable for this process.

Prep children will attend school full time from Monday 2nd March.

SPECIALIST LESSONS
These will continue each week although Wednesday morning next week will be the House Swimming Sports. The following is the day schedule for Specialist Lessons:

Tuesday: Environmental Studies (Mrs Kittredge)
Wednesday: Art/Craft (Mrs Kittredge)
Thursday: Physical Education – PE (Mr Aspinall)
Thursday: Japanese (Toshi Takahashi) Grade 3/4W & Grade 5/6W
Thursday: German LOTE for Year Prep to Year 2 children (Sharon Heffernan)

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. Some parents have been fortunate so far to be given a warning about the restrictions. Do not park over the yellow lines during crossing times!

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT - PA & SCHOOL COUNCIL
I am encouraging parents to consider becoming members of the Parent Auxiliary/Fundraising Committee or School Council and actively becoming involved in school decision making and school activities. We not only appreciate this involvement but need it! Please see me if you are requiring any more information on commitment which includes a meeting on an evening once a month. Please speak to me if you are interested in becoming involved and would like to find out what is involved.

Please note that nomination forms for parent and DEECD employee vacancies will be available on request from the office on Monday. Please contact the school if you would like a nomination form.

WE NEED YOU !!!

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2015
The schedule for the 2015 School Council election process is as follows:

- Friday 30th January Announce election schedule and call for nominations.
- Friday 13th February Nominations close. Display list of candidates, nominators and seconders
- Friday 13th February Ballot papers (if required) distributed by this date
- Friday 30th February Close of ballot
- Friday 30th February Count ballots and declare results
- Monday 2nd March School Council AGM & School Council Meeting

Current members continuing for their 2nd year are:
Andrew Gannon & Louise Hartley,

The parent/staff members of the School Council whose period of office has expired are: Jenny Staff, Nan Anderson, Sue Comello, Steve Wickenton & Wendell Herbert. (They are able to seek re-nomination.)

The DEECD employee members of the School Council whose official period of office has expired are: Kay Goodall & Cindy Nyari. (They are able to seek nomination for re-election.)

This means overall there are five positions available for any interested parents/staff.

SCHOOL STAFF CAR PARK
A reminder to parents that children arriving or departing in cars must be dropped off, and picked up, from Darling Avenue and not from the staff car park (except where some incapacity occurs). The safety of all children is a prime concern and Cheryl, our Crossing Supervisor, will continue to assist the children so that they cross the road safely.

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS
HEADLICE
Now that the school year has begun and children are in contact with a greater number of other children please continue to check your child’s hair in our continued effort to eradicate infestations. We will be conducting a Headlice check of all students on Tuesday 10th February.

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. Sunscreen provided for children at school would be a good suggestion also.

ASSISTANCE
PLAYGROUP
We are seeking a replacement for Emma to run the Playgroup on Friday mornings from 9:30 until 11:00 am. If you know of anyone who is willing to take the group or combine in a shared co-ordinator I am keen to hear from them so please contact the office or me if you have any suggestions or contacts. I was hoping to have the Playgroup up and running for Friday 13th February but this will depend on being able to staff the program. We are considering requiring a payment of $5 per child per session for the program co-ordinator.

Malcolm Aspinall
Principal
### BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Welcome back to a fresh start to 2015.

We are in the process of employing a new BASC co-ordinator but we would like to thank Kym who has been filling in for the first week of term.

Thanks to all the parents who have returned the booking form. If you require a booking form, please pop into the office or call and we will send one home.

We will keep you informed on any updates in the following week.

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### Term 1, Upwey Primary School

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 4</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>9th Feb</td>
<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>11th Feb</td>
<td>12th Feb</td>
<td>13th Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>16th Feb</td>
<td>17th Feb</td>
<td>18th Feb</td>
<td>19th Feb</td>
<td>20th Feb</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ASSEMBLY</td>
<td>FAMILY PICNIC AND INFORMATION EVENING</td>
<td>DISTRICT SWIMMING SPORTS</td>
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<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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<td></td>
<td>SAT 20TH UPWEY BILLY CART RACES</td>
<td>ASSEMBLY</td>
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Happy Birthday

23rd Jan - 13th Feb

Jai
Cierra
Kurtis
Callum
Caitlin
Britney
Kylie
SELBY NETBALL CLUB
REGISTRATION DAY

Selby netball club are having their 2015 Winter registrations on Saturday 14th February. Come along and join in a short training session and see how fun netball is. Bring a drink bottle and wear comfy clothing.

9.00 – 10.30am for all U11’s & U13’s players
10.30 – 12.00pm for U15’s, U17’s, U23’s & Open players.

Registrations to be held at our clubrooms: Belgrave South Reserve - Mount Morton Road – Belgrave South (behind the football oval)

Any queries or if interested but cannot make it to registration day please call Lisa Grigoriadis on 0424 00 88 28.

PLAYERS & VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR 2015 RUGBY LEAGUE SEASON

The Eastern Raptors Rugby League Club provides the opportunity for Boys & Girls to play Rugby League from 5 – 18 years and League Tag for Girls 12 – 18 years.

The Club invites all interested players to come and have a TRY at one of our upcoming events!

Sunday 15th February 12-3pm – Early Bird Registration Day with Melbourne Storm Players in attendance. Join in a game of League Tag, meet the coaches, players, volunteers & have some FUN!

Sunday 15th March 12 – 3pm - Registration Day & League Tag Games

Wednesday 8th April 10-12pm – FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC (bookings required)

FREE training is also available for Volunteers in Coaching or First Aid Trainer so get on board now!

The Club is located at Colchester Reserve, Colchester Road Boronia

For further information or to make a booking: please call Rebecca Marnock on 0421 154 776

www.easternraptors.com.au or visit us at www.facebook.com/easternraptorsRLC

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ERICA’S TUTORING

Erica Schembri
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Prep-Year 9

5 Fuller Street, Belgrave
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$30 an hour or $50 for 2 hours for small group
(max 3 students)
0434 891 165
ericaschembri@hotmail.com

YALKA DAYAN
ABORIGINAL CULTURAL PROGRAM

Yalka Dayan Language Program

Yalka Dayan (formerly ‘Mali-Dhupurr’) is from the Yorta Yorta language group and translates to ‘Child’s Play’.

Wednesday 18th February
4.00-6.00pm
Cost $25

To enrol ph: 9754 2039 or E. selby@selbyhouse.com.au
1 Minak Rd, via Charles Street Selby Mel 75K10
We couldn’t have asked for a better day for the HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS. Well done to all of our Swimmers, we hope you enjoyed your icy poles!