On Tuesday the 7th we had the Hot Cross Buns Band came to school to do a performance for us. There were a bunch of mentors who had to help lead the other kids. 3 of the mentors were from our school Sam M, Liam G and I, we also had 3 kids in the band who were from Upwey, and they were Ryan A, Sandy S and Ezekiel H. It was a great day we practiced for the whole day the at 2:30pm we did a performance in which we played 7 songs it was a fabulous day and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves it was a wonderful experience which I will never forget. We would like to thank Andrew McAllister, Lauran McAllister and all the other wonderful helpers. A special shout out to Dominic for helping conduct Jingle Bells. We would also like to thank Miss Caddy for letting us use the hall, BASC and the maths room to store all our stuff.

By Caitlin J
Mikayla
For a top effort using her reading goal – ‘Stretchy snake’. S-U-P-E-R !!

Noah
For fantastic work on his ‘How to be a good friend’ page. Great job Noah!

Mabel
For trying her personal best while reading. Keep up the great work Mabel!

Brock
For working hard to improve his reading and comprehension. Keep it up Brock!

Kylie
For a concentrated effort with the writing tasks to record her own ideas and complete within time limits.

Hayden
For your amazing attitude and focus during Literacy rotations.

Maddi
For fabulous concentration during maths sessions. “Stay focused”!

Zephyr
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: being a super mentor to the Preps during Partner reading. Fantastic work Zephyr

CEDAR
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: being an outstanding role model of our “Agreements” in and out of the classroom.

SAM
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: your calmness and willingness to do our best all the time.

Ripley
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: helping clean up in the classroom during your lunchtime.

Ruby
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: Helping clean up the classroom during lunchtime.

Ryan
Congratulations, you have been nominated by a school community member for: ALWAYS trying your best and helping others, even when you haven’t been asked to!

Prep/1B were very lucky to have the opportunity to make delicious bread rolls with Kay G.
Thanks Kay the staff enjoyed them too!
I’m a Hillbillian!
This Wednesday I was absent from school so as Shane and I could move from Pakenham to Selby. It was a massive day, but in the end we got there! Waking up on Thursday morning to kookaburras outside my window and the view of tree ferns in our yard was wonderful and made the whole craziness of the past few weeks worthwhile. Thank you to everyone for your support and well wishes during what has been a rather ‘hectic’ time. I’m now looking forward to having all those boxes unpacked and being able to enjoy the view from our new deck as I write our student’s reports.

Swimming Program – Monday 5th to Wednesday 14th December
As mentioned in last week’s newsletter our Swimming Program will begin in early December at a cost of $80 per child. Permission/payment forms were sent out last week and must be returned by Monday 28th November. Swimming and water safety does form a part of our Physical Education Program and hence it is an expectation that all students will attend. Due to the rail upgrades, we will be taking the bus to Belgrave, and walking as usual from Belgrave station.

Working Bee Week
Thank you to the following families who signed up for jobs for Working Bee Week. Your help is much appreciated and our grounds look so much tidier!
- Fratini-Rump
- Prochazka
- Myers
- Mosely
- Parin
- Quarmby
- Griffiths/Papaus
- Harris
- Gannon

School Council – Parent Member Position Available
As Zdenka (Mum to Sebi and Dominic) has taken on our Before School Care Coordinator role, she is now classed as a DET member of our School Council, meaning that we now need one more Parent Member. If you are available two Wednesday nights a term, from approximately 6:30 – 8:30pm and are interested in having a say in the policy that drives our school please come and see either Cindy or myself to express your interest.

School Uniform Reminder
At our last School Council Meeting School Councillors had the opportunity to review our UPS Student Uniform Policy and ensure that our documentation was still relevant to our students and needs as a school. Councillors agreed that:
- The appearance of our students is important, as community perception of our school can be positively or negatively influenced by how our students appear both inside and outside our school gates.
- Being dressed ‘in uniform’ allows students to feel ‘apart’ of our community.
- Current variation of uniform, such as the wearing of jeans, is causing issues during Physical Education lessons, as jeans are very restrictive.

Following discussion at the meeting I would like to reinforce the following points for families:
- All students are expected to come to school wearing our school uniform.
- Parents are asked to ensure that uniform items are clean, tidy and free from holes.
- All students must wear black pants, shorts, skirts or skorts in conjunction with their school polo. Jeans are not appropriate. Alternatively girls may choose to wear our school dress.
- Boys and girls with hair longer than shoulder length must tie it back to avoid outbreaks of head lice.
- Students who must come to school ‘out of uniform’ are required to bring a note from home, explaining the reason for the change of dress to their classroom teacher.
- Notes will be sent home with students who are identified as being ‘out of uniform’ and steps taken to ensure families are assisted where necessary to source the uniform items needed.

If you have any questions about our Uniform Policy or would like to see a copy of the document, please just come and see me in the office.

Emergency Management Planning
This Thursday I attended an Emergency Management Plan briefing in the city which detailed the process for creating our EMP. It was a worthwhile session. One thing that the presenter did reiterate was the importance of the planning process being team based and involving many different members of our community.

If as a parent you would like to have some input into our Emergency Management Plan please come and see me. It what be great to have a variety of people, with a wide skill base on our team.

If any of your family’s contact details have changed and you have not yet let us know, please advise us ASAP so as we can ensure all our plans are accurate. It is also crucial that we have emergency contact details of at least two adults for each student in the event that we are unable to contact you directly.

In the coming weeks I will share with you all parts of our Emergency Management Plan so as everyone is ‘on the same page’ about how we will act in the event of bushfire or other emergencies.
2017 Booklists

Shortly our 2017 booklists will be distributed to families. Here are some frequently asked questions about Parent Payments which I hope will assist families in understanding the purpose of these fees and their importance in providing a rich and well-resourced curriculum to our students.

I thought public education is free. Why have I been asked to pay?

Schools are funded to deliver a quality education based on the standard curriculum. Schools receive additional government funds based on the needs of the students or location.

Parent payments are a valuable contribution to enhancing and enriching the educational experience. These payments allow schools to offer enhanced programs and opportunities which their school communities expect them to offer.

Schools decide on the learning program they offer based on the needs and aspirations of the school community.

Some parents believe that public education is free. What is free in government schools?

Victorian legislation clearly states that instruction in the standard curriculum program must be provided free of charge to all students in Victorian government schools.

This ‘free instruction’ is the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

What is the standard curriculum program?

The standard curriculum program is made up of the eight key learning areas agreed to by the States, Territories and Commonwealth. These areas are: the arts, English, health and physical education, languages other than English, mathematics, science, and technologies.

The standard curriculum also includes the four capability areas: Critical and Creative Thinking, Intercultural, Ethical, and Personal and Social.

To clarify, ‘the standard curriculum for years F-10’ means the implementation of the Victorian Curriculum F-10. ‘The standard curriculum for senior secondary schools’ means a program that enables a student to be awarded a VCE or VCAL qualification.

Why can schools set their own payments?

The Act allows school councils to set their own payments in accordance with Department of Education and Training policy.

Schools serve different communities with different needs and expectations for the curriculum and are able to request payments to cover costs for their learning programs.

What can Schools Request parents to pay for?

You can be asked to pay for Essential Student Learning Items that the school deems essential to student learning in the standard curriculum including:

These items include:

- items which students take temporary or permanent possession of, including text books, student stationery and school uniforms (where applicable)
- materials for learning and teaching where students construct, consume or take possession of the finished articles (for example, home economics, ceramics, photography, materials for build-your-own-kits)
- activities that all students are expected to attend (for example, transport and entrance costs).

What ARE THE optional ITEMS?

Optional items are items or services that are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.

These items are provided on a user-pays basis and if parents choose to access them for their child they will be required to pay for them.

These items include:

- items the student purchases or hires such as school magazines, class photos, fees for guest speakers, functions, formals and student accident insurance
- activities the student purchases such as fees for extra-curricular programs or activities such as instrumental music tuition
- items and materials that are more expensive than required to meet the standard curriculum (for example, requesting payment for the use of mahogany in woodwork instead of the standard pine).
What are voluntary financial contributions?
Schools may invite voluntary financial contributions for the following.
- Contributions to a building or a library fund. These are contributions that have been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) are tax deductible.
- Contributions for a specific purpose identified by the school: for example, equipment, materials or services in addition to those funded through the Student Resource Package. This may include additional computers or student-related services.
- General voluntary contributions.

What support is available to help me pay these charges?
A range of support options are available, including:
- Access to State Schools’ Relief Committee support for clothing/uniforms (via the principal).
- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, which provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

Who can I talk to if I am having financial difficulty and unable to pay the charges?
We understand that families can experience financial difficulty or a crisis which makes the payment difficult. Laura Caddy and Cindy Nyari are our parent payment contacts and are happy to discuss your situation and assist you in making alternate payment arrangements.

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Upwey CFA

Join us at our open day Sunday November 27th
And be a part of the colouring in competition

The winner will be announced at our Open Day on Sunday Nov 27. We will have stacks of activities, hot jam donuts, emergency services vehicles for the kids to climb over, Captain Koala will be there, free BBQ, parents can learn how to prepare for Summer and we will announce a winner from your school who will win a prize.

(more CFA colouring in sheets are available from the school office)

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Get to know an Upwey-lian

Introduce yourself: Hi my name is Zoe Ford
Tell us about your family. I have a little brother in kinder, a mum and a dad.
Do you have any pets? I have nine chickens.
What is your favourite subject at school and why? I like maths because it helps me learn numbers in the thousands.
How would you spend $1000000? I would spend it on toys.
What do you like about Upwey PS? I like the playgrounds and the nature that we can see.
“THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD,
AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD:
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM,
NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN.

AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

“ODE OF REMEMBERANCE”
LAURENCE BINYON
A huge thank you to Sam M, for playing ‘The Last Post’ so beautifully……
We are so proud of you, and all of our students for the respect they showed today.

By Maddi

By Dylan
The Posh Ladies Tea Society presents

A Very Posh Royal Afternoon Tea

Sunday November 13th, 2016
12 noon – 2 pm
Upwey Primary School
Darling Avenue, Upwey

For an afternoon of women supporting women
Tickets $25 pp
Bookings essential (limited number available)
0402 839 852 (Kelly) or 0438 023 980 (Belynda)

Children’s Decorations Class

Merry Christmas

Burrinja, Tues 29th Nov
4.10 pm-5.40pm 6-12 yrs $15 each
$32 family discount (2 children)

We will be making 3 items:
Christmas wreath - made with vine
Bird decoration for tree
Peg Clip decoration

Every decoration will be unique. It will be lots of fun!

Book early! 10 places only!
Bev: 0449 654 343
bevpergl@hotmail.com

Ferny Creek Primary School, School Road, Ferny Creek

Get strong & stay strong
8 weeks for $49

Try our NEW Curves Body Basic Circuit

Host an Exchange Student in 2017!

Do you have a spare room? World Education Projects (WEPA) Australia, a non-profit student exchange organisation is looking for volunteers from families to host an overseas exchange student.

- $1800 for the year
- Host a student aged 15-18 from around the world
- Receive a $300 Hawke Gift Card
- Get to know the student
- Experience a different culture
- Enjoy a lively home environment
- We are committed to providing all students with the best possible student exchange experience

Meet some of our students!

Messy Church

Exploring Courage

Come along to our Messy Church Family Morning on Sunday November 13th, from 10am. We will explore Courage—about being brave with stories, crafts, cooking, painting, making things for others, pottering and planting in the Flanne Garden.

All ages and all families welcome—just bring yourselves and a little courage to step through our door.

Messy Church

Exploring The First Christmas

On Sunday 11th of December, at 10am, we are inviting you to help us explore the story of the first Christmas with kids, families and friends. We will be telling the story of the first Christmas by acting out a play, cooking, making, painting and music-ing!

Everyone welcome...