From The Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT CLUB.

Thank you to our school community members who have responded with enthusiasm and nominated for School Council. As a result of your support there will be no need for an election. The AGM will be held on Wednesday March the 12th.

If nominating to School Council was not your ‘cup of tea,’ I’d like to strongly encourage you to consider putting your name down to be a member of the Parent Club committee.

The parents that make up this committee are the life blood of the school. I know first-hand how excited and pleased many families are with the recent installation of air-conditioning in the upstairs classrooms. Without Parent Club this would not have been possible and a strong group moving forward will help us make more improvements to the school that will ultimately benefit your child. ‘Many hands make light work,’ so give it a go if you have a few extra hours here and there and working with a group of fun people is your ‘thing.’ An added bonus to the satisfaction you will get is the great new friendships you will form.

The information and a form to fill in are included in this newsletter and the Parent Club AGM is on Friday February 28th.

3-4 SCHOOL CAMP

An exciting week ahead for our Grade 3-4’s as they head off to camp in Neerim South next week. The children will leave on Monday to return on Wednesday and we hope they have a lovely time and that the weather is kind to them. I’ll look forward to seeing all the photos and hearing the funny stories when they return. I had planned to attend the camp on Monday; however, Mr Bernau and I will be attending a Principal’s Network Conference in Creswick from Wednesday to Friday which makes it too difficult to get away to Neerim in the same week.
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTISES

As a whole school we continue to implement a restorative approach at the school in all classes. I hope you have noticed relational circle activities taking place in your child’s classroom. If you haven’t had an opportunity to see them in action, have a little chat with your child about learning in circles at school and the type of activities they are doing. This will be a good way to reinforce the relationship building strategies we are implementing at school and help them to embed their skills.

Having children, (and adults for that matter) work together in circles is productive on a variety of levels and is frame worked by shared values as explained in the excerpt from Marg Armstrong’s work with us.

Circles- Value Statements

- Children are essentially good people if they are treated with respect.
- Teachers are responsible for a supportive and accepting classroom environment.
- Using fear to control behavior is neither effective, nor does it encourage self-motivation
- The teacher has the responsibility to convey and model acceptance and encouragement
- Young people need practice to become self-reliant adults and to be able to make healthy choices
- The ability to make good decisions is dependent on self-knowledge and knowledge of others
- Young people need the skills of listening, speaking and empathizing to help resolve conflict.

Adapted from Bliss, Robinson and Maines

Some of the different types of circles your child may be participating in are:

Celebration Circles – Birthdays, a job well done, special work/event etc.

Community Building Circles (Relational Circle time) – Building and enhancing student relationships – building community

Learning Circles – Discussing a book, poem, piece of writing, characters, plot etc., reflecting on learning, planning new topics – what do we already know, what do we want to find out, how do we want to work together to find out that information

Dialogue Circles – Discussing a topic of interest/community concern. Sharing perspectives/ideas

Class Conference Circles – Class conferences when harm has been done and the class has been affected – eg no-blame conferences, class community conferences

Problem Solving Circles – Issue – feelings, affects, how we can resolve it

As you can see from the variety of ways in which circles are being implemented they are not an add-on to the busy nature of class time and curriculum, but more so, an alternate organisational strategy that is embedded into the current classroom practice that delivers personal and interpersonal skills integrated into all activities and is very much enjoyed by the students.

CHILDREN’S LUNCHES: Over the past two weeks we have had an average of 4 – 5 students each day coming to school without lunch. The staff do try to find something for these children to eat from the staffroom; however, we would much prefer that there is consistent organisation at home to ensure each child has their lunch in their schoolbag before leaving home in the morning.

I hope you all have a wonderful week,

Marcelle
Parent Contributions 2014

Thank you to all families who have made their Parent Contribution through OfficeMax. These payments have now been receipted.

Others have made arrangements of payment by instalment or EMA. Instalment 1 will be deducted tomorrow.

To all other families this payment is now due.

Statements will be coming home to those families with outstanding amounts in the next week. Please check your statement and finalise payments as soon as possible

With thanks

Robyn Wilson

School Photo Envelopes

Today, EACH child will bring home an envelope for ordering school photos. These can be ordered ONLINE. Please read all the instructions.

If you require a sibling envelope (for brothers and sisters who attend the school), they are available on the stand in the foyer. These sibling orders MUST BE RETURNED to the school.

EMA Last day to lodge application

TOMORROW is the last day to lodge your application.

If you hold a Health Care/Centrelink card valid on the first day of school you will need to collect an EMA form from the stand in the school foyer, complete the details and present your card for photocopying. The closing date to lodge your form is FEBRUARY 28th.

We are unable to accept LATE APPLICATIONS. Please contact the office for further information

Clean up Australia Day – Friday 28th of February

Tomorrow it is Clean up Australia Day. The students at Mentone Primary School will be cleaning up the school grounds during the last 10 minutes of lunch time. If students have gloves at home they may like to bring them along.

From the Sustainability Club
## Dates for Your Diary

**Whole School Assembly in the Multi-Purpose Room every Friday at 2.50pm.**

**Families welcome.**

Reminder that Preps will not attend these assemblies until the 21st March.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28th February</td>
<td>Parent Club AGM</td>
<td>Staffroom at 9.15am Toddlers welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28 February</td>
<td>EMA</td>
<td>Last day to lodge application at the office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28 February</td>
<td>Hot Dog Lunch Day</td>
<td>Payment by QkR or cash due by Tuesday 25 February. No late orders accepted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28 February</td>
<td>Prep Family Picnic</td>
<td>From 5:30pm at Mentone Primary School.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5 February</td>
<td>Prep children do not attend school on these days</td>
<td>You will be asked to bring your child to school for a short Literacy and Numeracy test with the Classroom Teacher. A list will be posted outside the classroom for you to choose a suitable appointment time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 February</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 February</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5 March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd March</td>
<td>Parent Club AGM</td>
<td>9.05am in the Staff room. All Welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 3 to Wed 5 March</td>
<td>3/4 Camp</td>
<td>Forrest Edge Camp. Children must be at school by 9am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>No school on this day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>Please wear full school uniform. All sibling order envelopes must be returned to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th March</td>
<td>Crazy Hair Day</td>
<td>Info in this newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 March</td>
<td>First full time week for Prep children</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th March</td>
<td>3-6 House Cross Country</td>
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Parent Club AGM Tomorrow

Our Parents’ Club is a group of parents within a school who work together for the benefit of the children at school. This includes fundraising, social activities and educational issues. The Parents’ Club provides a forum for all parents to discuss issues, exchange and share information and concerns, and work in co-operation with School Council.

Parent Club meetings are held in the Staff Room at 9.15am on the first Friday of each month. The meetings run for approximately one hour and parents are welcome to bring toddlers if necessary. The Parents’ Club stimulates interest in the school and encourages participation in all elements of school life. **Parents’ Club is open to all parents, grandparents or guardians of students at the school.**

All positions on the committee will be made vacant at the A.G.M. Current office bearers can be nominated again.

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**COMMITTEE ROLES**

**PRESIDENT:** Chair meetings, liaise with school Principal and School Council, generate Interest and support for Parent Club Activities.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Assist president; take over duties if president is unavailable for a period of time.

**SECRETARY:** Take minutes of meetings, prepare agenda and deal with correspondence.

**TREASURER:** Give a report at each meeting (financial statements supplied by the school office).

**UNIFORM SHOP COORDINATOR:** Manage the running of the uniform shop on a weekly basis.

**CLASS REPRESENTATIVE COORDINATOR:** Organise a class representative for each class and assist class representatives when required.

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER:** Organise all communication from parent club to the school community.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:** Attend monthly meetings and give an update on parent club activities and then report at parent club meetings.

**CATERING COORDINATOR:** Organise catering for all parent club events

**MOTHERS DAY COORDINATOR:** Purchase gifts to sell, organise raffle tickets & prizes and organise mum pamper night

**FATHERS DAY COORDINATOR:** Purchase gifts to sell, organise raffle tickets & prizes & organises father’s day breakfast

**LOST PROPERTY COORDINATOR:** Sort into named & unnamed and if unclaimed donate to uniform shop or dispose.

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS:** Advertise (liaise with communication officer), order books, distribute, and follow up.

**CHOCOLATE DRIVE: END TERM 2:** Order chocolate, advertise (liaise with communication officer), coordinate distribution, organise helpers, delegate, follow up.
SPECIAL EVENT COORDINATORS: Throughout the year we have fundraising events planned. Class reps. will organise volunteers but each event requires someone to oversee and coordinate the fundraiser. We hope this will be shared around – “many hands make light work”:

**Easter events**
- **Easter egg hunt Friday 4th April**
  Organise Easter raffle tickets, call for donation for raffle & Easter egg hunt

- **Senior Roller disco Friday 12th September**
  Advertise, send out invites (liaise with the communications officer & catering) arrange sign in & out book for entrance, liaise with Skate World

- **Junior Disco Friday 25th July**
  Send out invitation (liaise with communication officer), organise helpers, order glow sticks, coordinate signing in & out of children on evening/contact number etc on class list.

- **Lap-a-thon Fri. 7th November**
  Liaise with teacher, organise incentive prizes, oversee return of sponsorship

- **Movie night’s x 3**
  - Preps, 1’s & 2’s family movie night - Friday 13th June
  - 3’s & 4’s family Movie night Friday 1st August
  - 5’s & 6’s Scary movie night (Not Very scary) Friday Oct 30th
  Advertise, invitations (liaise with communication officer & class representatives) coordinate evening

- **Christmas events**
  Organise raffle tickets, purchase prizes & advertise (liaise with communication officer & music teacher & catering) & coordinate carols by candle light
  Please return ASAP

I am not able to attend the Parent Club AGM, but I am willing to volunteer for the following role:

_____________________________________________________________________

Name: ______________________________________________________________

Student’s Name: ______________________________________________________

Grade: ___________________ Mobile No. ________________________________
MENTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL’S 
HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION
Dolamore Reserve
Tuesday 18th March
9:00am – 11:15am

Our School’s House Cross Country Competition is to be held on Tuesday 18th March for students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Training has already commenced at school but students would benefit from more training in their own time if possible.

Please remember:
• to wear comfortable running shoes.
• your house coloured T-shirt and running shorts.
• to bring a drink bottle of water.
• hat and sunscreen.
• water proof jacket.
• personal medication e.g. asthma puffer.
• a snack and lunch.

There will be six races:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9 &amp; 10 year old girls</th>
<th>9 &amp; 10 year old boys</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 year old girls</td>
<td>11 year old boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; 13 year old girls</td>
<td>12 &amp; 13 year old boys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fastest eight children in each race will represent our school at the District Cross Country Day at Bald Hill Park in Clarinda, on Monday 19th May. Students must be a minimum age of 9 years in 2014. The distances at the District Level are: 2000m for the 9 & 10 year olds & 3000m for all other age groups.

Anyone interested in helping on Tuesday 18th March, could you please complete the slip below and return it to the school office.

Thank you,

Trish Stone.
P.E. Teacher

Cross Country School House Competition
I am able to help on Tuesday 18th March from 9:00am to 11:15am at Dolamore Reserve.
Parent’s Name: __________________________ Mobile number: __________________________
Child’s Name: __________________________ Grade: __________________________
Crazy Hair Day!
Crazy Hair Day is on Friday the 14th of March. We are having Crazy Hair Day to support the Leukaemia Foundation! Please bring a gold coin donation to help us raise money for this cause!

On Crazy Hair Day you can spray your hair, wear a wig or have a silly hair style. Ruby Renfree will be shaving her hair at the Friday assembly, so let’s support her! Start planning your crazy hair!!! From the SRC!

The Newsletter For Sustainability
Hi everyone,

This week we have been really busy doing lots of different things like- the very helpful chicken girls collecting the yummy eggs and they’re on sale at the office, 6 for $4 and $6 for 12! The very Responsible Recycling girls and boys are emptying the paper into the big new bin.

Bye for now see you next week
From the Sustainability club.

Tip of the Week
Cancelling lunch orders that have already been paid for

To cancel a food order from your itemized eReceipt:
1. Sign into your QkR account and scroll down to ‘My Receipts’ section
2. Select eReceipt for order you wish to cancel
3. You will see a red circle containing the ‘minus’ symbol beside your child’s photo. Tap this. A pop-up box will appear asking if you wish to proceed. Tap ‘yes’

If your eReceipt contains food orders for more than one child, you will need to cancel one by one.

To cancel a food order from the calendar view:
1. Sign into your QkR account and go to calendar view for food orders
2. Select date for which you wish to cancel order
3. Tap ‘Cancel Items’ on the pop-up box which appears
4. Another pop-up box will appear asking if you wish to proceed. Tap ‘yes’

To reduce school costs, orders that you cancel are converted to a credit note that is automatically applied to your next QkR food order. A ‘Refunded’ stamp will now appear on your eReceipt confirming that the order has been cancelled and a credit note for food orders has been applied to your account.

Note that you will need to contact the school office directly to cancel any other school payments.
District Swimming Results 2014

If your name is in the rectangle below, then you are to be congratulated on representing Mentone Primary School at the:

2014 DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Fynn, Makar, Tom, Boyd, Charlie, Meg V, Meg L, Mali, Kym, Erin, Indi, Madeleine, Lauren, Billie, Zara, Casey, Chloe, Joel, Ella, Caitlin, Jordyn, Akshay, Frank and Joey.

All our students competed superbly against ten other local primary schools at the Noble Park Aquatic Centre on Wednesday 26th February. We are so proud of your results and good sportsmanship.

THANK YOU to Mr Bernau and all the parents who helped at the swimming carnival by marshalling, recording results, first aid, general supervision and cheering our team members from the sidelines.

RESULTS
1st - Makar K in the backstroke for 9 & 10 year old boys.
1st - Makar K in the butterfly for 9 & 10 year old boys.
1st - Fynn B in the breast stroke for 11 year old boys.
1st - Tom L in the butterfly for 11 year old boys.
2nd – Tom L in the freestyle for 11 year old boys.
2nd - Frank X in the backstroke for 12 & 13 year old boys.
2nd – Billie U in the freestyle for 11 year old girls.
2nd – Lauren T in the backstroke for 12 & 13 year old girls.
2nd – Erin A, Zara B, Casey Q, Lauren T in the 4 x 50m freestyle relay for 12 & 13 year old girls.

Winners of the above races will progress to the Kingston Division Swimming Carnival to be held at the Carnegie Swim Centre on Tuesday 11th March. It will be the responsibility of parents to arrange transportation to the venue and supervision of their child.

Good luck Mentone 😊

Trish Stone
Physical Education Teacher
Math Mind Benders

See if you can work out the answer to the Math Mind Bender question.

How many squares do you see?

Place this sheet with your answer in the Math Mind Bender box outside the Office by Thursday of next week. The winner will be drawn at Friday assembly next week.

Answer: ____________________________________________

Name: ________________________________________________

Grade: _____________________________________________

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ENVELOPE AND ORDER INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Parents & Students... PHOTO DAY is Tuesday 11th March 2014

School photo order envelopes will be distributed to every student on Thursday 21st February. It is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

Important Information

*Online Ordering: If you choose to pay and order Online the order envelope does not need to be returned to the school. Instructions are included on the Flyer enclosed in your envelope. The code for online ordering is printed on your envelope (top right corner).

*Sibling (family) Photo envelopes are available from the stand in the foyer. These MUST be returned to the school on or before photo day in order to be photographed.

To pay for Sibling photos online go to www.advancedlife.com.au

Step 1. Enter your code: FAM or SIB

Step 2. Click No (no 9-digit code required)

Step 3. Complete student and Credit Card details.

Step 4. A 9 digit receipt number on envelope (bottom left corner)

or enclose Cash or Cheque in the order envelope.

Your Sibling envelope must be completed and returned to school for your order to be completed.

Payment Options are as follows:

1. **Online Order and Payment**: Instructions are on the Flyer, which is enclosed in your envelope.

2. **Online Payment Only**: Instructions are on the Flyer, which is enclosed in your envelope.

3. **Cash**: enclose correct money in order envelope and return to your school before or on photo day.

4. **Cheque**: enclose in order envelope and return to your school before or on photo day.

*Please note that all your payment and ordering instructions are included on the Flyer enclosed in your Student order envelope.

Feel free to contact AdvancedLife Photography for further assistance. (See details below)

Email: info@advancedlife.com.au

Phone: 9651 1133

From the team at AdvancedLife Photography.
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is not associated with a CAE program and is not affiliated with any business or school for business.
FREE PARENT SEMINAR

Melissa Anderson presents an essential evening for parents

How do I raise a resilient child?

- What are the three crucial elements of resilience at any age group?
- Is resilience something learned or is it genetic?
- Could developing the building blocks of resilience be an immunisation against depression and mental distress?

Melissa Anderson is a counsellor, pharmacist and the Director of SHINE Academy for Girls and LONGFORD & FRASER Leadership Academy for Boys.

Wednesday 19 March 2014
Rosstrevor Hall
Brighton Grammar Rosstrevor Campus
(Enter via Allee Street, Brighton)
7.30pm - 9.00pm
Children aged 10 and above are welcome.
This is a FREE event, however a gold coin donation to charity is greatly appreciated.

For bookings phone (03) 9592 4948

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Community learning and fun during holidays and after school

Share Community Campus
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Make the most of this school year

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning and their school in particular. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Parental withdrawal from children’s education is a big problem these days as increasingly parents are worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities.

But the message for parents is clear – become involved in as many aspects as practical in your child’s education. Their chances of success are better when kids see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning and their school in particular. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Make the most of the opportunities that schools offer to assist in the classroom including, hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Parent participation is much broader than helping out in the classroom. Hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and with plenty of sleep are important aids to learning.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

1. Make sure your kids start each day well. That means they should get a good night’s sleep, have a healthy breakfast and arrive at school on time with all their learning requirements as well as a healthy lunch.

2. Attend school activities such as open days, concerts, parent evenings, sports events and celebrations. Read the school newsletter and other forms of communication so you can stay in the loop with what’s happening at your child’s school.

3. Consult with your child’s teacher about homework expectations and practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school. Each teacher has his or her own expectations about how you can help so make sure you work within their guidelines.

4. Find out what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Support a broad, balanced curriculum that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3 R’s. School discipline is always more effective when it’s supported by parents so be supportive of their attempts to promote good behaviour in your child.

5. Become an advocate for your child’s school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven criterion for student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school-life.
**This Week’s Newsletter Sponsored By:**

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**Holiday House, Rye**
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APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS STILL AVAILABLE
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- Sleeps 12+
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- Email: thesancillscottage@yahoo.com.au

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