

Principal's Report

Dear parents, friends and students of Ararat Primary 800,

A significant highlight of the past week at our school has been our involvement in recognising **ANZAC Day 2016**. As a school community, we are very proud of our demonstrated commitment to honouring Australia and New Zealand's service men and women. Preparations for ANZAC Day 2016 began in early February with the planting of our school-grown marigolds in the playground. Care and watering in the very dry conditions was taken over by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, in the lead up to harvesting, and the preparation of our stunning ANZAC Day floral display at the Ararat Cenotaph on Sunday. Meanwhile, back at school, our students and their families had the opportunity to add to our "Lest We Forget" floral message, using flowers generously donated by the Hopkins Correctional Centre, local families and a Bendigo 'supporter'. It was a remarkable team effort by students, staff and volunteers from our school community. A particular 'thank you' to the following families who made a formal commitment to assist: Ramseys (Arlie and Jorja), Wheelers (Ashlyn, Stella and Grace), Johnsons (Mackenzie), Kalluris (Sruthi and Rishi), Bajers (Arianna), Sladdins (Ned), Kennedys (Emma), Ralphs (Tori), McNaughtons (Joel), Clarkes (Amy and Clare), Hansons (Sam), Broadbents (Amity and Indiana), Wilkins (Jackson), Bowdens (Holly and Claire), Powells (Jacob), Toners (Flynn, Hugh, Patrick and Poppy), Bartletts (Thomas, Bella, Jack and Charlie), Murphys (Lilly and Jessi), Leggetts (Isobel and William) and Sobey's (Haylee, Tahnee and Gemma). **Thank you, one and all!**

Major undertakings, such as the floral display, require careful planning and team coordination. I commend our staff member, Jenni Jacobi, for her outstanding leadership of the project again this year, ably supported by Heidi Jerram and Marg Dyer. On behalf of our community, I extend sincere thanks to the following staff and community members, who gave so generously of their time and expertise over the weekend, and during the months leading up to ANZAC Day 2016: Leah Sharp, Carol Turner, Melissa Hope, Jim Dunne, Bill Jones, Gaye Williams, Sally Bahl, Jeannie McKinnis, Jess Dowie, Tracey Bell, Judy Leggett, Kara Bartlett, Marg Kelly, Nareen Boyd, Kelly Sobey, Sri

Kalluri, Lee Murphy, Emily Toner, Tammy Ralph, Tracey Bushby, Sam Barwick, Adam Barry, Kylie Plunkett, Louise Grey, Leila Croft, Allycia Kelly, Lyn Carthew, Heather and Harold Reid, Mr and Mrs Fitzpatrick, Baker's Brew, Hopkins Correctional Centre and the Ararat RSL.

Congratulations to our School Captains and Vice Captains, Olivia McGrath, James Mullin, Holly McAdie and Flynn Toner on their fine work as ambassadors for our school on Monday morning. Thank you, also, to our Senior Choir members, staff, students and families who joined us at the Cenotaph - it was an outstanding community effort, of which we should all feel very proud. A photo-story of our ANZAC Day 2016 journey is published overleaf, recognising the 60-year tradition of our floral display. Of note is the fact that **Mr Jim Dunne has been involved in the preparation of the display for the past 59 years! What an achievement!**

A reminder that our Mothers' Day stall will be conducted on Wednesday morning of next week. Please ensure that order forms and payments are to the office by Monday. Preceding the stall will be our 2016 "Girls, Giggles and Games" breakfast event. We look forward to catching up with mums, grandmas, aunts and friends for this girls-only event in celebration of Mothers' Day, 2016.

Best wishes to our **Cross Country team members**, who will represent Ararat Primary at next Tuesday's Black Ranges Division event in St Arnaud - Izaiyah Turner, Sonny Kettle, Darnell Naawi, Hayley Manning, Sophie Cooper, Gretta Fennell, Ella Flamstead, Bella Bartlett, Joel McNaughton, Walter Pope, Thomas Bartlett, Bailey Turner, Nikhita Ewen-Jones, Elly Galoso and Kiera Milsome. Good luck, everyone!

Further best wishes to our thirty-strong **National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) team**, who head back to Melbourne on Saturday for their second circus workshop for 2016. We hope they have a brilliant time!

Our school will be a busy place this time next week, with the arrival of the **Northcote High School Bands**, on their annual pilgrimage to the national "Generations in Jazz" competition in Mount Gambier across the weekend, where they'll join

School values: **Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging**

Dates to remember in Term 2

Friday 20th May
Monday 30th May
Monday 13th June

Staff PD - Student free day
Report Writing Day - Student free day
Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday



TERM DATES 2016

Term 2: 11th April - 24th June
Term 3: 11th July - 16th September
Term 4: 3rd October - 20th December

over 3600 secondary school musicians from across the country. The large contingent will perform for our students from 9:00am in the Learning Centre on Friday morning, prior to their onward journey. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for this special event. We wish the bands well, as they try for back-to-back wins!

A reminder that our Grade 3 and 5 students will be involved in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing on May 10th, 11th and 12th. NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in the areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. To gain an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a

Writing task can be accessed on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au.

Finally, our Breakfast Club is up and running, with a fabulous response from our students, families and staff. This morning, well over 60 students joined us, enjoying a nutritious breaky in a friendly, social environment. Once again, we couldn't provide the opportunities, and achieve all that we do, without the remarkable generosity of our volunteers. So, on behalf of our appreciative students – "thank you".

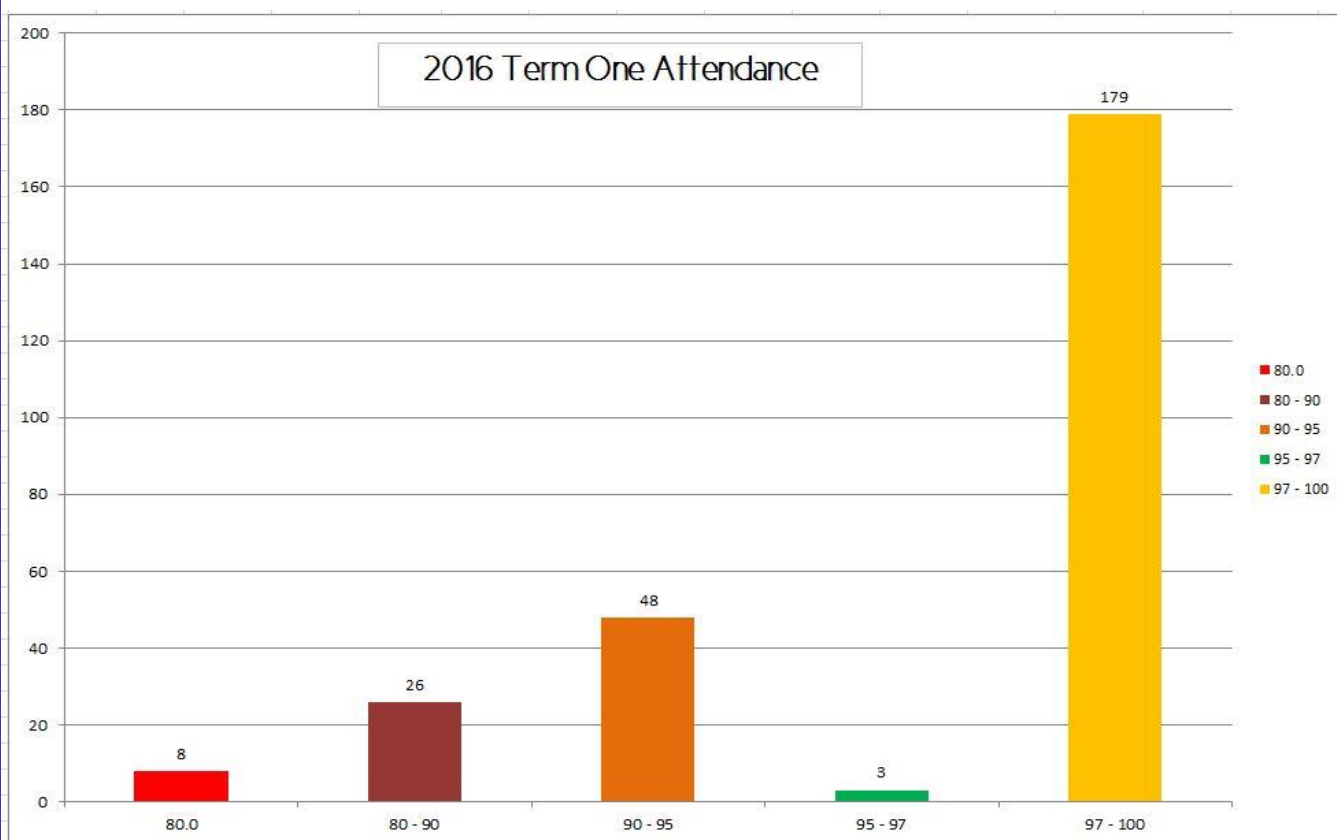
Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

Drought Assistance Relief Forms . . .

Applications for Drought Assistance Relief funding closed on Wednesday, 27 April 2016 and have now been finalised and lodged with the Department of Education. Thank you to all families who returned their forms—we had a 95% return rate! Funding may not be received until Term 3, based on the experiences of other schools in drought declared areas. Unfortunately, late applications for Drought Assistance cannot be accepted and families who did not submit an application will be contacted.

Term One Data Attendance . . .



The importance of daily school attendance cannot be underestimated, and we're very pleased that our families share that understanding and commitment. As you can see from the graph above, 68% of our students were "Star Performers" during first term, with an attendance rate of over 97%. Well done, everyone!

Breakfast Club Launch . . .



Breakfast Club started last Thursday, with a successful first turn out of students and helpers.

We invite all students to attend Breakfast Club, which will continue to run every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30am to 8:50am



ANZAC Preparations . . .



LEST WE FORGET — ANZAC DAY 2016



Chinese Dragon Body . . .

The Dragon Body sewing workshop, scheduled for this term, will be postponed due to the fact that we're still completing Prep panels and sourcing the fabric for scales. Please keep an eye on this spot for further updates.






Girls, Giggles & Games
 on
Wednesday 4th May 2016
 8:15am
 in the
Learning Centre
Girls only
 (Girls, Mums, Grandmas, Aunties . . .)

Mothers' Day Stall

Wednesday 4th May 2016
 Order forms and money to be returned to the office
 by Tuesday 3rd May 2016



April 23rd	Zara Khan Levi Davies-Harrison
24th	Lachlan Mullin
25th	Zabina Starick
28th	Emmalee Jones Tilly Belcher

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School banking processed on Tuesdays		28th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal - Scene 3 3:30pm to 5pm	29th LUNCH ORDERS
May 2nd Assembly	3rd Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Division Cross Country	4th Girls, Giggles and Games Mothers' Day Stall Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	5th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal - Scene 4 & 5 3:30pm to 5pm	6th LUNCH ORDERS Northcote College Band performance
9th Assembly	10th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am NAPLAN Language Conventions and Writing	11th NAPLAN Reading Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	12th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am NAPLAN Numeracy Production rehearsal - Scene 6 & 7 3:30pm to 5pm	13th LUNCH ORDERS NAPLAN Catch-up day
16th Education Week launch and 'READ IN'	17th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Ararat College Education Week Expo	18th Mystery Storyteller Education Week mid-term assembly Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	19th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Open School and Fete	20th NO LUNCH ORDERS STUDENT FREE DAY Staff PD

Stay up to date with all our news and events by following us on our website. All school notes sent home can be found in our virtual office.

You can find us at: www.araratps.vic.edu.au