

The Torch



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August 11th, 2016

Principal's Report

Dear parents, students and family members of Ararat Primary School,

Our highly successful Chinese visitation program wrapped up on Sunday morning, with the departure of Kitty, Hannah, Steven and Lewis, along with their twenty school-mates and teachers. The team were headed for Melbourne, before flying to Sydney for the second week of their adventure. It was a great pleasure having the children with us during the week, with very strong friendships formed and lots of reciprocal learning taking place. We were all full of admiration for the children, and the courage and resilience they showed, given that they were ten years old, a very long way from home for two weeks, and staying and going to school with total strangers who spoke another language. An amazing achievement! Once again, thanks to Mrs Jerram, our host families, staff and students for their wonderful generosity and support.

Parent Opinion Surveys were posted back to the Education Department yesterday, and we extend thanks to all families who took the time to provide us with feedback. Congratulations to the Ramsey family who were the lucky recipients of the gourmet hamper for returning their survey response. Please note that we have reopened the online Student Report Surveys for another week, so that further feedback can be gathered. This can be accessed via our website or Facebook page. Once again, your reflections and opinions will be appreciated.

Our **Year 5-6 School Production, "Danger Kids"** is due to hit the stage at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre from 7:30pm on September 1st and 2nd. **As of today, tickets are available to the general public through the website, <http://www.trybooking.com/MMAQ>. The booking process is very straight forward – after entering the school-specific site, please nominate your preferred night and seating requirements. Payment is by credit card, and all seating is allocated.** Best wishes to our Senior School students and staff as they commence intensive rehearsals next week.

Still on the performance front, thank you to Ararat College's "How The West Was Won" team who invited our Senior School students to preview their show during yesterday's dress rehearsal. Feedback was very positive, and we hope the College's performance season is a successful one.

August is **Education Support Month** in Victoria, recognising the outstanding work undertaken by our ES staff every day – working

for and with our students, staff and families to improve learning outcomes for all. Ararat Primary School is very fortunate to have an outstanding team of Education Support staff working with us, assisting teachers in the care and education of our children, and facilitating school operations - Kate and Lisa, our Business Manager and Administration Officer; Marg, Jenni, Carol, Karen, Kate, Melissa, Zach and Tammy our Integration Aides and Teacher Assistants – and our back-up team – Christine, Tara and Tracey. **We invite you to join with us in thanking the members of our dedicated and talented team next week - a 'thank you' or a kind word will make a world of difference!** I'm also pleased to welcome our new maintenance person, George Swetman, to our staff team for the second half of the year. George will work with us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, so if you see him out and about, please say, "Hello".

Our next round of **3-Way Conferences** are scheduled for Monday, August 29th (Years 3 to 6) and Tuesday, August 30th (Years Prep to 2). Invitations for parents and guardians to book an interview time to meet with individual children and class teachers has been included as an insert with this newsletter. Just in case the insert doesn't arrive home, the web address and log in code are as follows: www.schoolinterviews.com.au **4xxud**. Please note that all students are expected to attend school as usual on these days. They will be withdrawn from their class to participate in the conferences.

Congratulations to our students who received mid-term award during yesterday afternoon's assembly:

Prep S – Hannah K and Ned S
Prep D – Jackson W and Tilly R
1-2 FJ – Emma K and William H
1-2 K – Cokey G and Neve W
1-2 V – Jai McN and Ruby P
1-2 TB – Jye H and Aleara M
3-4 B – Olivia G and Rhyllan I
3-4 C – Gio McK and Sophie C
3-4 H – Ava K-p and McKenzie G
5-6 C – Dakota B and Tylah M
5-6 D – Logan C and Eloise McA
5-6 KP – Lucy H and Joel McN
Specialists' – Madi H, Angus C and the students of 1-2V
"Play the Game" Office awards – the students of Prep S
Bounce Back awards – Rhyllan I, Sevahn M, and Chelsea B

Well done, everyone! Photos from our assembly will be included in next week's newsletter, along with the winners of our Lucky Numbers and numeracy estimation activities.

School values: Respect

Honesty

Self Awareness

Learning

Belonging

Key Dates for Term 3

GR 5/6 Production: "Danger Kids" evening Performances

Thursday	September 1st	7:30pm
Friday	September 2nd	7:30pm

Tickets available through 'Trybooking' from **August 11th 2016** <http://www.trybooking.com/MMAQ>



Tickets

Adults \$15 each
Children \$5 each
(Under 18)

TERM DATES 2016

Term 3:

11th July - 16th September

Term 4:

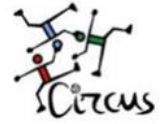
3rd October - 20th December

Finally, illness has hit our school hard during the past two weeks, with diagnoses of influenza, bronchitis, tonsillitis and slap-cheek, as well as a few tummy bugs. Thank you to all families who have notified us of their child's illness and absence. While we're constantly pushing for maximum school attendance, we're very appreciative when families make the call to keep children at home, to prevent the spread of disease. Hopefully, we're through the worst of it! Please remember, however, that 'flexi-days' are not helpful to your child's learning.

Kind regards,
Jennifer Molan

Bamboozle forms . . .

Recently, forms have been handed out to Bamboozle students. Unfortunately, there have not been many completed and returned, as requested.



If you haven't returned your forms regarding the forthcoming performances, could you please do so as soon as possible.

Ms Fís



Childcare Update

Grampians YMCA have advised us that, due to low attendance, they are unable to offer after-school care on Friday afternoons. We encourage families to make the most of the before and after school care programs offered by the YMCA, as it is a valuable service to our school community, and will be lost if not utilised.

Please note that school supervision ends at 3:40pm, and families requiring childcare beyond that time should contact the YMCA.

We build strong **PEOPLE**
strong **FAMILIES** strong **COMMUNITIES**



Mini Olympics and Buddy Activities . . .



Bamboozle at Eventide homes . . .



Prep World . . .

Last Thursday, we celebrated our 100th day at school and had lots of fun making fruit skewers, writing about something we have learnt since we started school, decorating our certificate, dressing up and doing some crazy dancing. We are very proud of ourselves! Now we want to challenge ourselves to work out how many days of Prep we have left for 2016.



Buzzy Bees . . .

In Buzzy Bee World we have had a fantastic start to Term 3. Discoveries projects are coming along wonderfully, with our topic of the Olympics. We have also been making trips down to the Retirement Village to practise reading and to find out a bit about what the Olympics were like when the residents were younger. In maths, we have begun multiplication and everybody is enjoying this new challenge.



Middle School . . .

3/4C and 3/4B were lucky enough to have two Chinese exchange students in their class last week.

In 3/4C, we had Steven and Lewis, who were hosted by Jim and his family.

In 3/4B, we had Kitty and Hannah who were staying with Summer and her family.

The students in 3/4C and 3/4B really enjoyed having these students in our classes. We learnt lots about China from them and enjoyed teaching them things about Australia. The Chinese students joined in with all activities throughout the week.

We gave them a surprise farewell party on Friday, as well as a few gifts and cards.



Senior School . . .

Half way through the term, and our 5/6 students continue to kick goals in their learning. This week is a great example of how our Grade 6 students show leadership and a willingness to be involved in the community. Today we have had the pleasure of seven Grade 6 students, from Ararat North, coming to our school to spend time with their peers at Ararat 800. It has been a great experience for all involved to plan activities and showcase some of the uniqueness of our school, such as the Circus program. Well done to Joel, Angus, Tom, Caleb, Arianna, Talia, Cherysh and Jake.

Our Senior School Production is coming up very quickly, and we hope that everyone is organising their tickets. Rehearsals are full speed ahead and are going well. We will soon be having full day rehearsals at the Town Hall to refine and put the finishing touches on the performance. Please tell your neighbours, friends and loved ones. Remember, 'Danger Kids' are everywhere'.

Senior School Team



SRC Events . . .

Our first event for this term is going to be a casual clothes day next Thursday, October 18th. Sam Allgood from Ararat West Primary School has asked us to help him raise money for the local Ararat Skate Park to upgrade the equipment. We would like to help him out by supporting him and our local community. Each classroom SRC member will remind you about the event next week and collect the \$1 coin donation.



Our second event for this term will be a Footy Colours Day towards the end of term. The SRC will hold footy activities during lunchtime on the day. We will give you more information when it gets closer.

-Ava and Sonny

FOOTY COLOURS DAY
SHOW YOUR TRUE COLOURS!

The Ararat and District Badminton Association Inc.

**Junior Badminton
for learners**

No Charge

**Mondays from
3:30pm to 5:00pm
at**

Alexandra Hall

Runners only requirement

**For more information
phone Joy on 5352 1522**



**Happy
Birthday**

August 14th Ruby Cavanagh

17th Jessica Hope

18th Tilly Ramsey

Eliza Farrington

Talia Rhodes



Danger Kids



Ararat Primary's Senior School Production 2016.

Venue: Ararat Performing Arts Centre

Tickets available for purchase at

<http://www.trybooking.com/MMAQ>



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking is processed on Tuesdays		11th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal Scenes 4,5 and 6	12th LUNCH ORDERS Golf Clinics
15th Assembly	16th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	17th Production rehearsal School Council at 6:30pm	18th Casual Clothes Day \$1.00 Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal Scenes 7,8 and 9	19th LUNCH ORDERS Golf Clinics
22nd Assembly Children's Book Week	23rd Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal Marian College Transition	24th Production rehearsal	25th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	26th LUNCH ORDERS
29th 3 - Way Conferences 3-6	30th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am 3 - Way Conferences P-2	31st Bokes' Breaky Fathers' Day Stawell	September 1st Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production: Dress Rehearsal @ Ararat P.A.C. 1:00pm	2nd LUNCH ORDERS
DANGER KIDS : 7:30PM Thursday & Friday Evening				

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