

# The Torch

February 18th, 2016



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## Principal's Report

Dear parents and friends of Ararat Primary School,

Our newly appointed House Captains had their first 'outing' yesterday, as they coordinated their House members for the Year 3 to 6 Swimming Sports. We're pleased to announce that Henty House was the overall points winner on the day, closely followed by Sturt, Flinders and Mitchell Houses. Congratulations to all of our students on their courage and efforts, thank you to our Sports Coordinators, Mr Pilgrim, Mr Beer and Mr Hewish for putting together a brilliant day, and to our outstanding team of staff, family assistants and supporters. More detailed reports on the event will be included in next week's newsletter.

**Still on the school leadership front, classes will be involved in Student Representative Council (SRC) elections next week, and we look forward to their presentation to our community at our mid-term assembly, scheduled for Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

This morning saw the staging of our annual **balloon launch**, celebrating the success of the "Quality Beginnings" program, and creating an opportunity for our students to share their class mission statements, goals and aspirations. The statements, along with our school contact details, were attached to helium balloons and released into a strong southerly breeze, much to the delight of our students and families, who cheered them on as they wafted skyward and disappeared into the distance. Hopefully, we'll receive letters of response from community members who discover our messages of hope for our futures.

Following on from our balloon launch, all students were involved in our annual 'Welcome Games', with our Year 6 students leading a rotation of fun activities, promoting friendship and community. Congratulations to all of our students on their enthusiastic participation, to Mr Collins on his coordination of the event, and thank you to our parents and friends who assisted and added to the special atmosphere of the morning.

**School Council elections** are currently in process, with nominations for our two Parent Category vacancies and three DET Category vacancies due to close at 4:00pm next Monday afternoon. Nominations forms are available from the school office. Please feel free to contact me if you require further information about the role of School Council or the election process.

Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> is **Census Day** for all Victorian Schools. To help us ensure that our enrolment and attendance data is correct, please contact us on 5352 1253 if you know your child will be absent, and follow up with a written authorisation. The latter is of critical importance. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Our '**Ararat Primary - Our School . . . Our Community . . . Our Commitment**' big-idea for 2016 continues to be a major priority for us, so included with this newsletter is a flyer advertising our "We Need You" community drive. We're very, very keen to maximise the level of parent and community involvement in our school, and the first step in that journey is to find out who is interested, what options are open to us, and what can be added to our students' learning opportunities. Please consider all that you have to offer to our school, secure in the knowledge that all that you contribute will be greatly appreciated, and that we won't take advantage of your generosity.

**Headlice checks** for all authorised students are scheduled to commence during the week beginning February 29<sup>th</sup>. Our School Council has authorised the implementation of the Health Department's Parent Managed Headlice Program at Ararat Primary School. We hope to increase the number of parent-screeners, and ask you to consider donating a little of your time to assist us. If you are able to volunteer, please complete and return the form included with this newsletter by Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Once again, your support will be greatly appreciated.

Best wishes to our students, staff and family members who will head to Melbourne on Saturday for their first National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) training session for 2016. We wish the team well as they embark on a program of acrobalance/tumbling, juggling, hat manipulation and hoops.

Finally, a reminder that next Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> is a student-free day at Ararat Primary School. All of our staff will be involved in School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework training at Ararat College and, as a consequence, our school office will not be staffed. The YMCA are offering child-care on that day, and can be contacted on 0400 886 524 for bookings.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

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

### STUDENT FREE DAYS

Please note the following Student Free dates:

**Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Whole School Positive Behaviours Framework PD

**Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** - Differentiating Number and Algebra PD

**To be advised** - Term 2 Report Writing Day



### TERM DATES 2016

**Term 1: 1st February - 24th March**

**Term 2: 11th April - 24th June**

**Term 3: 11th July - 16th September**

**Term 4: 3rd October - 20th December**

## Prep World . . .

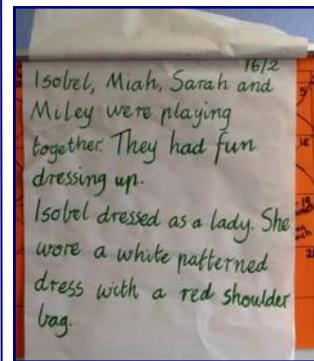


We have had a busy few weeks settling into Prep World and it is great to see so many smiling faces come in the door each morning. We have been enjoying lots of new experiences and meeting people around our school. Each day we collect our fruit scraps to feed our chickens and we really liked playing in the POD with some of the Grade 1/2 students this week.



## Buzzy Bees . . .

In Buzzy Bee World today, we were very excited to begin our 'Play Pathway' in Discoveries. Isobel, Miah, Sarah and Miley decided to dress up. Mr Kean and Bernie's classes wrote about it afterwards.



## Middle School . . .



The Middle School has been very busy to start the year off. Our students have represented themselves very well in our swimming practice at the Ararat Fitness Centre, and thank you to all family members who volunteered their time to walk with us up and back.



Last week, all students worked really hard on making our mission statement for our balloon launch this Friday. We all used our growth mindsets and amazing learning attitudes to design a fantastic statement.

*"In the Middle School our mission is to persist and use a growth mindset"*

We will use our growth mindset to learn, 'get out of the pit' and leave our safe zone. As a resilient team, we see failure as a learning opportunity and work as a team to achieve our goals.

We would also like to invite all 3/4 family members to our very first 'Community Games' activities, which will be held on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm. The students will be enjoying some fun activities, such as Lego construction, Pod construction and board games, and we welcome all of you to come and participate with us.



## Senior School . . .



Hitting the ground running, the 5/6 area is bustling with activity. From completing our Quality Beginnings program, to participating in the swimming program, all of our students have shown positive and enthusiastic attitudes.



Our new Grade 6 students are looking very smart in their blue polo shirts. They are patiently awaiting the arrival of their Grade 6 jackets, which will arrive very soon. Our new arrivals to the Senior School, the Grade 5s, have transitioned really well into their new learning spaces, and with their new teachers.

This week gives all of our Senior School students a chance to be leaders and step up as positive role models. Whilst our Grade 6s have organised and will be running the Welcome Back Games, the Grade 5s will be leading their Prep buddies and Buddy Families around the various activities.

We have also started our new Investigations program. This has a new look compared to last year's model, but continues to provide great content, whilst giving opportunities for the children to learn independently.

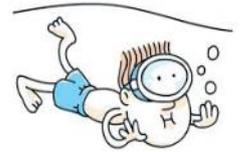


We look forward to an exciting year in the Senior School, working with our wonderful students, families and school community.

# Grade 3-6 'Let's Have-A-Go' Swimming Carnival

Thursday, February 18th at Ararat Fitness Centre

9:40 am - 2:30 pm



Do you want to make a difference in your community and help shape its future? The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is looking for motivated, community-minded project managers to fill up to 608 Area Supervisor positions across the state. These are temporary, casual positions with flexible hours.

Working on the Census is a great way to contribute to your community. The data you help to collect provides an important statistical snapshot that supports planning, policy and funding decisions for a range of local services and infrastructure – from funding schools and education centres to health, housing and transport.

Apply today at [www.abs.gov.au/careers](http://www.abs.gov.au/careers)



For a brighter future

**The Ararat and District Badminton Association Inc.**

**Junior Badminton for learners**

**No Charge**

**Tuesdays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at Alexandra Hall**

**Runners only Requirement**

**For more information phone Joy on 5352 1522  
or Teresa on 0427 521 812**



**Student Accident**

Low-cost protection for school-aged children against injuries.

The annual cost of a **StudentCover policy** is just \$29.00

For more information collect an EBM flyer from the office or go to [www.studentcover.com.au](http://www.studentcover.com.au)



## NICA FUNDRAISER

Icy poles will be available for purchase at lunch time \$1.00 per icy pole.

Funds raised will go towards bus transportation costs.



## Drum and Guitar Lessons at Ararat 800 Primary School

Students at Ararat 800 Primary School have the opportunity to receive drum or guitar lessons from Mark Gillett at Marian College.

For information, pricing and terms see Mark's website:

[www.markgillett.com.au](http://www.markgillett.com.au)

You can call or text Mark on 0417 574 499 or email Mark at [markgillett@exemail.com.au](mailto:markgillett@exemail.com.au)



## Happy Birthday to:

- Feb 18th Arlie Ramsay
- 21st Hayley Manning  
Jack Manning
- 22nd Hannah Khan
- 23rd Connor Robinson
- 24th Dakota Eagles  
William Hope  
Kyle Watts



Welcome to MyGolf, the Australian junior golf program. MyGolf is a fun, safe and healthy way for kids between the ages of 5-12 to start learning the basics of the game. Every MyGolf centre across Australia has the same goal; to make golf a fun experience for all kids.

There are three levels of the MyGolf program depending on your age and skill level:

- BIGGIE**
- SEAB**
- MASTER**

ALL PARTICIPANTS CAN RECEIVE A FANTASTIC MYGOLF GIVEAWAY PACK

- Drawing bag
- MyGolf cap
- PVC golf hat
- Your own golf ball

MyGolf is a structured program which provides all participants the opportunity to get out on the golf course to demonstrate their skills in the final week's gate session.

There will be cool competitions, promotions and opportunities for MyGolf participants to attend the biggest golf tournaments of the summer, so make sure you don't miss out and visit [mygolf.org.au](http://mygolf.org.au) today.

MYGOLF.ORG.AU

**Chalambar Golf Club**  
8 Week MYGolf Junior Program  
Starting Monday 22nd, 29th Feb  
7th, 14th, 21st March,  
4th, 11th and 18th April  
Time : 4:00 - 5:00 Cost \$45.00  
Bookings MYGOLF.ORG.AU



**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016**  
U13 Registration & Information Night  
**(5:00 – 6:00pm)**  
Association AGM  
**(6:30 – 7:00pm)**  
Where: Richardson Oval



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays	 <b>SUNSMART POLICY</b> Hats must be worn when outside during Term One	18th <b>SWIMMING CARNIVAL</b> Gr 3-6 	19th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Balloon Launch & Buddy Family "Welcome Games" from 9:00am
22nd <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>	23rd	24th	25th 3-Way Conference Bookings Open. Details in next week's Newsletter Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #1	26th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Sporting Schools #3
29th Preps commence full time <b>SCHOOL CENSUS DAY</b>	March 1st Black Ranges Swimming Carnival	2nd Assembly	3rd Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #2	4th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Sporting Schools #4
7th	8th Prep - 2 3 - Way Conferences	9th Gr 3 - 6 3 - Way Conferences	10th <b>Prep Exhibition</b>	6th Willaura - Bamboozle 11th Regional Swimming Warrnambool Sporting Schools #5

## Price List for 2nd Hand Uniforms . . .

We now have set prices for our 2nd hand uniform pieces.

School Jumpers	\$5-00
Dresses	\$2-00
T'Shirts & Bottoms	\$1-00



All funds raised are used to support the circus program.

