

The Torch

February 25th, 2016



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Principal's Report

Dear parents, students and friends of Ararat Primary School 800,

Feedback on our Year 3 to 6 "Let's Have a Go" Swimming Sports, conducted last Thursday at the Ararat Fitness Centre, has been very positive, and I commend all of our participants on their enthusiasm, determination, sportsmanship and outstanding behaviour. Our House Captains' coordination of their teams and activities during the day was a great achievement, and I congratulate them on their efforts as role models and leaders. Once again, well done to Henty on their points win – the first in many years! A report on the event, written by House Captains, Lucy Harwood and Tom Bartlett, is featured overleaf.

The success of our sports days depends heavily on effective preparation and organisation. Sincere thanks to Adrian Pilgrim, Darren Beer and Travis Hewish for their coordination of the event, and our staff team for their support. A huge thank you also to the large team of parent volunteers and audience members who worked tirelessly to make the day such a great success – your enthusiastic assistance was greatly appreciated.

As a consequence of our swimming carnival, a twenty-two person Black Ranges Division squad will represent us in Horsham next Tuesday. Best wishes to our team members – Louise Cooper, Elly Galoso, Erin Peter, Gracie Bakker, Navasha Madex, Tori Ralph, Ella Flamsteed, Holly McAdie, Sevahn Maxwell, Sophie Cooper, Summer Merrick, Ashlyn Wheeler, Jim Jennings, Sonny Kettle, Hugh Toner, Jack Manning, Josie Lind, Adam Quiao, Lachie Cranstoun, Amiel Lillis-Pattison, James Mullin and Keira Milsome. Special thanks, once again, to Mr Pilgrim for his coordination of the event.

With our Term 1 Swimming Program wrapped up, we're pleased to announce the commencement of our lunchtime extra-curricular activities:

Monday – Chess Club for students in Years 1 to 6

Tuesday – Junior Choir for students in Years Prep to 3, and Senior Choir for students in Years 4 to 6

Wednesday – 800 Decibels (Band) for students in Years 3 to 6 and Finger Knitting Club

Thursday – Writers' Club for students in Years 2 to 6

Friday – Lego Club

We look forward to children of all ages joining us for these special sessions. The following after-school extra curricula activities are also planned: commencing Thursday, February 25th – Rock and Roll dance lessons; commencing Wednesday, March 2nd – Bamboozle rehearsals.

Nominations for School Council closed last Monday, with all

Parent and Community Category positions filled. We're pleased to announce that Louise Gray, Leah Heinrich and Adam Merrick have been appointed as parent and community representatives, and Heidi Jerram and Adrian Pilgrim as Department of Education and Training (DET) representatives on Council for the next two years. As one DET Category vacancy remains unfilled (two-year position), we extend a call for further nominations. This process will close at 4:00pm on Thursday, March 3rd.

Head lice checks will commence next week for all authorised students. We sincerely thank our screeners who give so generously of their time and expertise to assist us in the management of this pesky problem. Our program involves screening only, using the 'dry' comb checking method. Children are not treated, conditioner is not used, and infection control measures are strictly adhered to. We thank you for your ongoing support of our screening program.

Also looking forward to next week, we invite you to join us for our whole-school mid-term assembly this coming Wednesday afternoon, from 2:15 in the Learning Centre. Our gathering will feature the presentation of mid-term student awards, a solo cornet performance by Walter Pope, and a special presentation by our Preps. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please note that our first term 3-Way Conferences are set to take place on Tuesday, March 8th for students in Years Prep to 2, and Wednesday, March 9th for students in Years 3 to 6. Invitations for parents and guardians to book an interview time to meet with individual children and class teachers has been included with this newsletter. All students are expected to attend school as usual on these days - they will be withdrawn from their class to attend conferences.

Congratulations to our Circus stars who enjoyed their first NICA session for 2016 last Saturday. As always, their behaviour was outstanding, their attitudes overwhelmingly positive, and their achievements quite remarkable. "The Power of Yet" and having a "Growth Mindset" were clearly demonstrated by the team, for whom having a go without fear of failure is the norm. Still on the Circus front, best wishes to our Bamboozle team who are booked to perform at the annual Willaura Market on March 6th. Please note this date in your diaries.

Finally, a reminder that next Monday is Census Day for all Victorian government schools. Please notify us if your child will be absent.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

School values: Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging

STUDENT FREE DAYS

Please note the following Student Free dates:

Friday, May 20th - 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

SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS AT ARARAT PRIMARY . . .

Last Monday, the entire staff of Ararat Primary took their first steps on a new and exciting journey – the implementation of the highly recognised School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework (SWPBS). But we're not on our own in this venture, as we shared the learning experience with staff from Ararat West, Ararat North, Ararat College, Stawell West, Great Western, Willaura and Mt Blowhard schools.

The Ararat Primary SWPBS journey will be a lengthy one, taking a number of years for full implementation. Regular updates will be featured in our newsletter, and we look forward to discussing the program with parents and carers as part of our Community Conversations program.

What is SWPBS?

School Wide Positive Behaviours Support is an evidence-based framework for creating a positive school climate, a culture of student social competency, and an open, responsive management system for school leaders, staff, students and parents/carers.

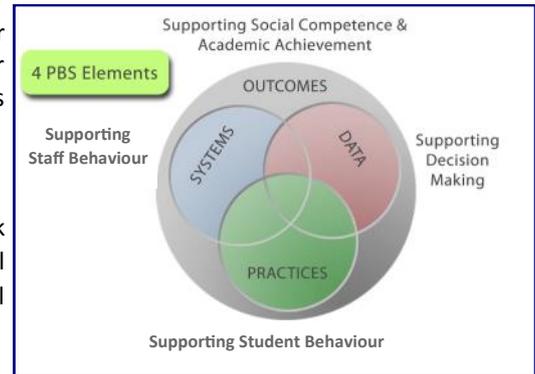
What are the key objectives of SWPBS?

To build and maintain:

- Safe, inclusive, highly predictable and orderly learning environments
- Positive school and classroom learning environments as platforms for improved engagement, wellbeing and learning outcomes for all students
- The capacity of school leadership teams, teachers and school support personnel to address identified barriers to learning for children
- The establishment of systems for effective use of data for decision making at the school-wide, classroom and individual student level
- School-wide systems for early identification and intervention for students at risk of disengagement from learning.

Why SWPBS at Ararat Primary School?

We are committed to creating opportunities and the environment for successful learning for every student in every classroom across our school. We strongly believe that high expectations, consistent strategies for recognising positive behaviours, and the nurturing of an engaging learning environment will enable every Ararat Primary School student to thrive – to be the best that they can be.



3 Way Conferences . . .

Our 3 Way Conferences are being held on Tuesday March 8th for Prep to Grade 2 students, and Wednesday March 9th for Grade 3 to 6 students. You need to book your interview online, and you can do so at:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter School code: **sepzu**



Bookings close Monday March 7th, 2016

"Have - A - Go" Gr3-6 Swimming Carnival . . .

On Thursday the 18th of February, the Grade 3s to 6s had their swimming sports. Congratulations to all of the students who competed in the events. Lots of people tried their hardest and achieved personal bests. The Grade 5/6s went to the pool at nine o'clock to do their events, then the 3/4s followed at 11 o'clock. At the halfway point, **Henty** was coming third, but only just. At the conclusion of the program, **Henty** came first on 269, **Sturt** were second on 234, **Flinders** came third with 219 and **Mitchell** came fourth with 202. We all had a fantastic day! Thanks to Mr Beer, Mr Hewish and Mr Pilgrim for organising our 2016 Swimming Sports.

By Thomas and Lucy



Balloon Launch & Buddy Family "Welcome Games" . . .

Good Afternoon Jennifer,

Attached is a photo of myself with the balloon card I found today at 2:00pm on the Deakin University Burwood campus site and a Google Map screen shot showing exactly where I found it (in the carpark just outside my office window).

I hope the Prep kids get returns from many more balloons.

Regards

Duncan Wingrave
Library Facilities & Project
Coordinator



Deakin University



Buzzy Bee Mission Statement



In Buzzy Bee World at Ararat Primary School, we will always challenge ourselves to do our best. A growth mindset will help us achieve our goals. When overcome with challenges in our learning community, we will try our hardest to build upon our stamina, and stretch our brains, to achieve our learning goals. In 2016, Grade 1\2 Buzzy Bees will use the power of YET to be the best they can possibly be.

Middle School Mission 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.



In Prep we will:

- ◆ Make lots of new friends
- ◆ Help each other
- ◆ Learn lots of new things
- ◆ Care for each other
- ◆ Always try our best
- ◆ HAVE FUN



Senior School Mission Statement

As responsible and positive ambassadors, the Senior School at Ararat Primary will be respectful and honest. We will always have a go, and continue to practise a growth mindset.

We will look to our strengths and challenges, to help each other achieve.



Hello,

Today our family took a trip to Seaspray Beach, Victoria. We were very intrigued by something gold and shiny in the distance...excited to find that the balloons and ribbon had travelled all the way from Ararat Primary School. The find was made by Thomas who is a grade three student at Mirboo North Primary School and his sister Alice who has just started grade Prep, along with their little brother Clancy who attends Mirboo North kindergarten and 19 month old sister, May. Our day was about being together as a family and learning how to fish, which had its challenges, whether it was losing our bait, getting a snag or being bitten by mosquitoes. We pretty much decided to call it quits and head to the beach to find some shells. We will try fishing again and hopefully what we learned today will bring us a little more success next time! Your mission statement had a profound effect on our day as we took the time to reflect on how much our family has grown and what passionate learners they are. We wish you all the best for 2016 and beyond!

With warm regards

Emily, Ben, Thomas, Alice, Clancy and May Williams.
Mirboo North

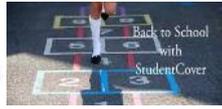


Seaspray, Gippsland is 242Km east of Melbourne



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



Happy Birthday to:

Feb 26th J.W. Van Straaten

28th William & Isobel Leggett
Charlotte Ramsay
Ethan Fenn

Mar 1st Cayden Fisher



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:

- ROOKIE**
- STAR**
- MASTER**

ALL PARTICIPANTS CAN RECEIVE A FANTASTIC MYGOLF GIVEAWAY PACK

- Drawstring bag
- MyGolf cap
- PVC golf ball
- Your own golf club

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 gala 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 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

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.

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

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays	 SUNSMART POLICY Hats must be worn when outside during Term One	25th 3-Way Conference Bookings Open. Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #1	26th LUNCH ORDERS
29th Assembly Preps commence full time SCHOOL CENSUS DAY	March 1st Black Ranges Swimming Carnival School Council - Training	2nd Bamboozle 3:30 - 4:30pm	3rd Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #2	4th LUNCH ORDERS Sporting Schools #3
7th	8th Prep - 2 3 - Way Conferences	9th Gr 3 - 6 3 - Way Conferences Bamboozle 3:30 - 4:30pm	10th Prep Exhibition	11th LUNCH ORDERS Regional Swimming Warrnambool Sporting Schools #4
14th Labour Day Holiday	15th Harmony Day Division Hockey School Council	16th Bamboozle 3:30 - 4:30pm	17th	6th Willaura - Bamboozle 18th LUNCH ORDERS Sporting Schools #5

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

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.