



## Principal's Report

Dear parents, friends and students of Ararat Primary 800,

With the conclusion of the School Council election process on Thursday of last week, we're pleased to announce our Council membership for 2016:

### Parent Category:

Nareen Boyd	Louise Croft
Anna Greene	Lorelie McGrath
Adam Merrick	Kylie Plunkett
Kosta Prassopoulos	Jamie Toner

### Community Category:

Leah Heinrich	Christine Powell
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### DET Category:

Darren Beer	Leonie Cowey
Heidi Jerram	Adrian Pilgrim
Jennifer Molan (Executive Officer)	
Kate Harwood (Minute Secretary – non-voting)	

Congratulations and thank you to our new and returning Council members. We hope you find your leadership roles rewarding. Our new Council will meet for the first time next Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at which time office bearers for 2016 will be elected. Our Annual General Meeting will be conducted from 6:00pm on April 19<sup>th</sup>, when the 2015 Annual Report will be presented to our school community. As the AGM is an open meeting, all members of our school community are welcome to attend. Thank you to our Councillors who were able to participate in our Strategic Planning training session last week, which proved to be highly informative about the role of Council in the school review process, which we'll undertake this year.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have made themselves available to attend **Three-Way Conferences** this week. Your input and engagement in your child's education is critically important – and greatly appreciated. Families who have not yet organised conferences will be contacted by class teachers to find a mutually convenient meeting time.

As part of our **community engagement and school improvement commitment**, transition surveys were distributed this week. Your responses will provide us with invaluable feedback about our 2015-2016 transition processes, so that we can further streamline our practices. Please take a moment to complete this very simple document, and return it to school by the end of term.

Work on the implementation of **School-Wide Positive Behaviours framework** has commenced at our school, with our staff identifying **RESPECT** as the first area of focus. Printed overleaf is a 'start-up' matrix of expected behaviours that demonstrate respect in our school. The areas of focus may change over time, as we collect data, seek feedback from parents and students, and reflect on progress. Please take a moment to read through our expectations with your child, maintaining a positive focus.

The next week is shaping up to be an incredibly busy one at our school, with a range of special events taking place. Our students will participate in Clean Up Australia Day for Schools and Sporting Schools soccer coaching tomorrow. We ask all students to come prepared for our community clean up with tongs, gloves and plastic buckets. Thank you to our Earthlings team for organising our participation in this annual event.

Next week is '**Cultural Diversity Week**', and all students will be involved in **Harmony Day** on Tuesday, celebrating our commitment to the motto: "Everybody Belongs". Children are also asked to add something orange to their school uniform on Tuesday as a sign of support for Harmony Day.

Friday of next week, March 18<sup>th</sup>, marks another significant day on our wellbeing calendar, as we join schools across Australia in recognising the **National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence**. This day presents an opportunity for students, teachers, parents and the whole community to take a stand together in saying 'Bullying. No way!', and to strengthen our everyday messages that bullying and violence at school and in the community are not okay, at any time. Further information on this special day will be published in next week's newsletter.

Thank you to families who have donated Easter eggs for our **SRC raffle** – the prizes are looking spectacular! Please remember to return tickets and money to the office by Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you, also, to the small number of community members who have responded to our "**We Need You!**" campaign. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you haven't yet returned your form . . . We Need You!

**Finally, our school will be closed next Monday for Labour Day.** We hope your long weekend is safe and relaxing.

Kind regards,

Jennifer

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

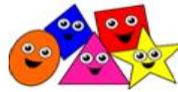
**Term 1: 1st February - 24th March**

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

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

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

## Prep World . . .



Everyone in Prep World is very excited to be hosting our first Discoveries Expo for 2016 today. We have all been working really hard to learn our 2D shapes and how to make patterns. We were busy on Wednesday morning making our shape biscuits and they look great! Thank you Tammy for your help!



Thank you to everyone who attended the 3-Way-Conferences on Tuesday. We hope you found the appointment valuable to catch up with us about your child's learning.



## Buzzy Bees . . .



In Buzzy Bee World, we have been busy practising for the upcoming Athletics Carnival. The Preps have also been joining in with us. We are practising our shot put, long jump, relay races, tunnel ball and our running. We would like to thank Judy Leggett for coming to help us. We are very excited about the sports and will keep practising over the next two weeks.

Kobe H - "I like doing long jump and shot put - it's lots of fun!"



Ella C - "I like doing tunnel ball because you get to use the ball and run! YAY!"



Jordan J - "I am excited about the sports. I like running and shot put!"

Kassie S - "I like practising long jump. The sports day is going to be great fun!"



## Middle School . . .

We have had a lot of fun learning about fractions over the last week and a half. Most of us understand that a fraction is an equal part of a whole.



Fractions was really fun for us the first day. We got to write and draw fractions about a packet of "m&ms".



We made fracterpillars. They were a lot of fun to make. We had to learn how to fold shapes into equal parts. We found out the triangles can be tricky to fold. Don't our fracterpillars make our classroom look great?!

$\frac{1}{9}$

We also made our very own fraction walls to use during maths. We have been using them to compare the size of fractions and to find equivalent fractions.



Another fun thing was playing against a partner to fill a fraction wall on our netbooks. You would get a fraction and you would have to work out how to colour it in.

Gio worked out that you could colour  $\frac{1}{2}$  in by colouring in  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{8}$ , if there weren't enough fourths or eighths. You can play this game at home by following the link

## Senior School . . .

We can't believe the term is almost over. It has gone very quickly. In the 5/6 area we have been busy with our Investigations program on 'Identity'. The students have learnt all about how they learn, different stereotypes and systems of the body. We had some excellent models created on different body systems, using different items, such as boxes, bottles and newspaper. It was great seeing the creativity across the three classes.

As you may have heard from your child, hopefully with excitement, we have started initial rehearsals for our Senior School Production. This year we are performing a piece called, 'Danger Kids'. It has a spy theme that includes characters such as Carmen San Francisco, Max and agent 98.6. It looks to be another successful and jovial production. Before the end of term, we will be holding auditions for the major roles, with the aim to have those confirmed and scripts handed out prior to the end of term.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

The Senior School Team.



## Bamboozle at Willaura Market . . .



Bamboozle had a great time at the Willaura market last Sunday, which was our first performance for 2016. Our team of thirty students were well supported by families and friends. The acts we performed were Juggling, Poi, Flower Sticks, Hoops, Staff, Tumbling and Diablo and, for our finale, we did Acrobalance. Our personal favourites were our Acrobalance finale and Flower Sticks.

We would like to say a special thank you to Ms Fis, her team of helpers and our families for organising the day for us. Although it was very hot, the Bamboozle team still had great time.

By Walter and Millie



## State Government schools emergency SMS service . .

Dear parent/caregiver,



As you are probably aware through recent media coverage, a number of schools across Victoria and Australia have recently received threats via automated telephone calls. Schools that have received threatening phone calls have had to enact their emergency management plan.

Ararat Primary School regularly conducts drills as part of our emergency management plan, including evacuations and lockdowns. Staff and students have consistently conducted themselves very well during these practice runs.

We have subscribed to the State Government schools emergency SMS service.

This service will enable our school to alert parents and carers to an emergency. To help us contact you in an emergency, parents and carers should ensure contact details are up to date; this includes email addresses, phone and mobile numbers.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jennifer Molan



## Student Values - Matrix School—Wide Positive Behaviour . . .

	Friends	Learning spaces	Toilets	Corridors	Playground	Online	Excursions
<b>We Are Respectful.</b>	We speak respectfully to others; no put downs, racist comments or swearing.	We let our peers learn in their own way.	We leave the toilet area clean, tidy and graffiti free.	We use quiet voices.	We take care of the equipment we are using.	We use respectful language on social media.	We respect the property of others.
	We show kindness and care for each other.	We listen to people's thoughts and suggestions. We use a polite voice. We use equipment with care.	We use quiet voices.	We walk calmly and quietly on the left side. We hold our footballs/ basketballs/ sports equipment until we are outside.	We put equipment away when we have finished using it. We share the space and make sure that everyone is safe.	We tell an adult if we see something that's not right.	We take care of our own belongings. We choose our words carefully and use our manners.



### SRC Easter Raffle . . .

Our new SRC's are organising this year's "Easter Raffle"

Raffle tickets are included in this newsletter, which we encourage you to sell and return by **Monday March 21st** (This includes all unsold tickets as well)

The raffle will be drawn on Thursday March 24th at end of term assembly.

All money raised will be donated towards purchasing Library resources.

Donations of Easter eggs are being accepted at the front office.

### 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.

### Ararat Jail House Rock Festival 2016

Presents.....

## Under 16 Rock n Roll Disco @ J Ward Cell Block

Friday Night 18th March 2016

Introducing Junior Rock n Roll Disco to the Cell Block @ J Ward

4:00pm - 8:00pm

This event is strictly for the Kids - Under 16 entry only

\$10.00 entry - \$20.00 donation - \$10.00 sponsored

Weekend event

FEATURING: New Line Band in Ararat, Rodger & The Runners

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays	 <b>SUNSMART POLICY</b> Hats must be worn when outside during Term One	10th <b>Prep Exhibition "Shaping Up" Learning Centre 2:15pm</b>  Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #3	11th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Clean up Australia Day Sporting Schools #5
14th <b>Labour Day Holiday</b>	15th <b>Harmony Day</b>  School Council	16th  Bamboozle 3:30 - 4:45pm	17th  Rock 'n' Roll Dance Lesson #4 Jailhouse	18th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> <b>Bullying. No Way! Day</b> <b>Regional Swimming Ballarat</b> Sporting Schools #6
21st <b>Prep to 6 Athletics Carnival</b>	22nd	23rd  Bamboozle 3:30 - 4:45pm	24th  <b>Assembly at 12:00</b> <b>1:20 dismissal</b>	25th  <b>Good Friday</b>
<b>School Holidays - Term 2 commences on Monday 11th April</b>				

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](http://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.