

The Torch



ARARAT PRIMARY SCHOOL 800
PO Box 225 / 70 -78 Moore St
Ararat VIC 3377
P: 03 5352 1253 F: 03 5352 4926
E: ararat.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
W: www.araratps.vic.edu.au

May 26th, 2016

Principal's Report

Dear parents, families and friends of Ararat Primary 800,

Looking back to last week, thank you to all of our students, families and staff for your enthusiastic support for our Education Week activities. A major highlight of the week was the staging of our first Education Week Open School and Fete event on Thursday. A brilliant time was had by the large number of students, parents, family members and friends who joined us, as they visited classrooms and experienced education as it was in the past, is in the present, and maybe in the future. Special thanks to Mr Beer and our students and staff team for creating this fabulous opportunity for our 'learning community'. Congratulations to the winners of our Education Week raffle – Jye Hull of Year 1 and the Sargent family.

Still in Education Week, thank you, also, to our Mystery Storyteller, Mrs Smart, whose public-address-system rendition of "The Terrible Blob" was greatly appreciated by students and staff – and nearby residents! Our special events wrapped up on a high note on Friday with teaching staff working with Dr George Booker on Numeration, Additive and Multiplicative Thinking, while our classroom-based Education Support team attended an extended workshop at Horsham Special School. All in all, the week was a great success, and a credit to our community of learners.

Last Wednesday's mid-term assembly featured the presentation of Achievement Awards, which recognised our School Wide Positive Behaviours focus on 'Respect', in every context in our school. Congratulations to the following students who received these very special Education Week awards:

- Prep S: Caleb Breen and Wykita Rutter-Gill
- Prep D: Tatum Schirmer and Xavier Wilson
- 1-2TB: Jack Bartlett and Lily Murphy
- 1-2V: Jakobi Cooper and Lucas Clarke
- 1-2K: Sarona Melenhorst and Miharo White
- 1-2FJ: Indianna Broadbent and Archer Pfeifer
- 3-4C: Amity Broadbent and Emmett Murphy
- 3-4B: Rhiarna Richards and Darnell Naawi

- 3-4H: Chloe Bond and Brodie Jensen
- 5-6C: Haylee Sobey and Bayden McDonald
- 5-6D: Braiden Mill and Clare Clarke
- 5-6K: Amelia Greene and Jack Manning
- Specialists: Hayley Ridd, Hugh Toner, Amy Clarke, Bailey Pennycad and the students of 3-4B and Prep D

Bounce Back Awards: Eboni Charter, Hannah Khan, Zara Khan, Tatum Schirmer and Eliza Farrington

Office Awards: Ruby Jackson and Larni Sargent. Well done, everyone! Our School-Wide Positive Behaviours approach continues to gain momentum. In recognition of our students' efforts, we will hold our first school-wide '**Respect**' celebration on Wednesday, June 15th. All students are invited to bring along their favourite games for a fun afternoon in their classrooms – and our parents, friends and family members are welcome to join us.

School Council staged their May meeting on Wednesday of last week, at which time a new policy was ratified, clarifying the use of **Drought Assistance Funding**. A copy of the document is attached to this newsletter, has been posted on our website, and through our Facebook page. Please feel free to contact me if further information is required. Funds have arrived in the school, and individualised family statements will be forwarded to you.

Congratulations to our Senior School netballers, soccer players and footballers who represented us at the Black Ranges Division Winter Sports on Tuesday. A great day was had by all, with our footballers winning the B-grade grand-final. Special thanks to our family supporters, and Mr Pilgrim and the Senior School staff team for organising the day.

As you read this newsletter, our Year 3 and 4 students will be on their way home from Melbourne, following their "**Big Day Out**". Progress reports throughout the day indicated that everything was going to plan, and an outstanding learning-time was being had by all. Reports on the excursion will be included in next week's newsletter.



G.J. Garden.
Ararat:
92 Barkly St, Ararat
(03) 5352 3298
Visit: gjgardner.com.au

School Values: Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging

Dates to remember in Term 2



- Monday 30th May Report Writing Day - Student free day
- Wednesday 1st June Community Conversation at 3:30pm
- Thursday 2nd June Community Conversation at 8:30am
- Monday 13th June 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

Today also saw the arrival of our new garden beds, complements of GJ Gardner Homes. The **"GJ Garden"**, as it will be known, has been installed in the area adjacent to our big shed, and will be overseen by the Earthlings. At this stage, we will be planting an initial crop of seasonal vegetables, complements of Autumn Blaze Nursery and McKay Earthworks.

Looking forward to next week, all families and friends are invited to join for our **2016 Circus Showcase** events on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Our students have been furiously practising their routines, and look forward to demonstrating their skills to an appreciative audience. A showcase schedule was sent home earlier this week, along with a reply slip, so that we have some idea of numbers attending. We hope you're able to join us.

Next week will also see the staging of two **"Community Conversations"** sessions, conducted by our School Councillors. Parents and students are invited to join us in the Learning Centre from 3:30pm on Wednesday afternoon or 8:30am on Thursday morning to provide feedback in the lead up to our school review. The questions we will put to you are as follows:

- What is our school doing well?
- What could we do better?
- What is most important to you about our school?

Families are welcome to provide written feedback using the form included with this newsletter. Your ideas and suggestions can be left in the "Ideas Box" in the school foyer – we look forward to your input. **Including your name on the bottom of the form will mean that you are eligible for inclusion in our "Lucky Draw" – a family pass to the Halls Gap Zoo.**

A reminder that next **Monday, May 30th, is a student-free day at Ararat Primary School**; our staff team will be involved in report writing on that day. Childcare may be available, but is dependent on enrolment numbers. Please contact the YMCA on 5358 1100 for details.

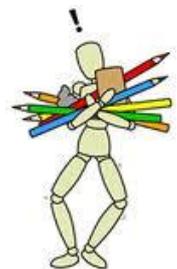
Finally, our SRC students have organised a casual dress day for next Wednesday, and invite all students to participate by making a gold-coin donation. All proceeds will be put towards the purchase of new shelving in our Library. The money raised from last Friday's fete activities, and the upcoming student disco, planned for June 17th, will also go towards our shelving purchase.

Kind regards,
Jennifer Molan

Specialists' Report . . .

The Specialist Teachers enjoyed sharing the Specialist teaching and learning areas as part of our Open School event. Thank you to all parents who visited our classrooms during the Fete. It was great to spend some time with you all. We hope you enjoyed participating in the different free activities we provided.

Mrs Jerram, Ms Fiscalini and Ms Sharp



Education Week Fete and Open School. . .



Black Ranges Winter Sports . . .



Soccer . . .



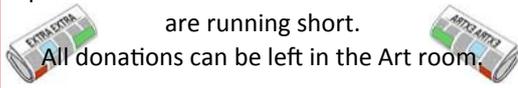
Netball . . .



Football . . .

Newspapers for the Art Room

If you have any spare newspapers at home and you have finished reading them, please donate them to our Art room as we are running short.



All donations can be left in the Art room.

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

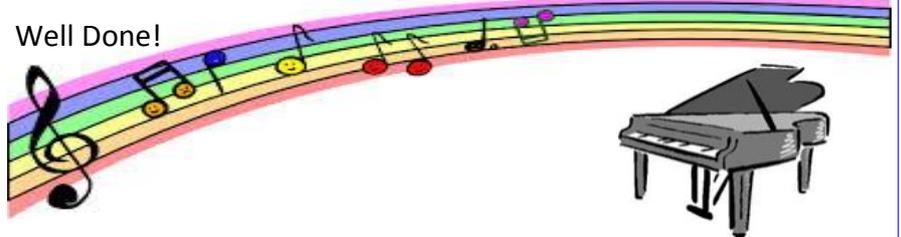


Simply Music with Unmani . . .

At our Mid Term Assembly on Wednesday, 18th May, three Simply Music piano students played pieces in front of the whole school.

Erin Peter, Marcus Jerram and Summer Merrick played 'blues' and personal compositions. All students played by memory after only eight lessons.

Well Done!



May 21st

Jude Herbert-King
Connor Johnston
Bailey Pennycad

24th

Malik Ghazal
Zafirah Davies-Harrison
Joel McNaughton

26th

Tatum Schirmer

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	<p>School Banking processed on Tuesdays</p>		<p>26th</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>"Bounce Program" Year 6</p> <p>Production rehearsal - Scene 8 & 9 3:30pm to 5pm</p>	<p>27th LUNCH ORDERS</p> <p>Sporting Schools Volleyball</p>
<p>30th</p> <p>STUDENT FREE DAY Report Writing Day</p>	<p>31st</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>Circus Showcase 3-4C and 1-2TB 9:30am 5-6K and 1-2V 12:00 noon</p> <p><u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u></p>	<p>June 1st</p> <p>Circus Showcase 5-6C and 1-2FJ 9:30am Prep S and 3-4H 12:00 noon</p> <p><u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u></p> <p>Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm</p> <p>Community Conversation at 3:00pm</p>	<p>2nd</p> <p>Community Conversation at 8:30am</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>Circus Showcase Prep D and 3-4B 9:30am</p> <p><u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u></p> <p>Production rehearsal - Scene 1, 2 & 3 3:30pm to 5pm</p>	<p>3rd LUNCH ORDERS</p> <p>Sporting Schools Volleyball</p>
<p>6th Assembly</p> <p>Regional Cross Country at Warrnambool</p>	<p>7th</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p>	<p>8th</p> <p>No Bamboozle practice</p>	<p>9th</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>Production rehearsal - Scene 4 & 5 3:30pm to 5pm</p>	<p>10th LUNCH ORDERS</p> <p>Sporting Schools Volleyball</p>
<p>13th</p> <p>Queen's Birthday Holiday</p>	<p>14th</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>5-6 Showcase</p>	<p>15th</p> <p>Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm</p>	<p>16th</p> <p>Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am</p> <p>Production rehearsal - Scene 6 & 7 3:30pm to 5pm</p>	<p>17th LUNCH ORDERS</p> <p>Disco in the Learning Centre—6:30-8:00pm</p>

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