WELCOME BACK TO TERM 3

Welcome back to term 3 everyone. The weather is cold and wintry but we have lots of work to keep students busy and warm.

This term we welcome three new families and 5 new students to our school. Welcome to Isabel Gr 5 and Lilian Gr 3; Molly Gr 2 and John Gr 3; and Keera in Gr 3.

Mrs Vincent, Mr Calnin and Mrs Nawrocki are taking some leave and we have Mrs Bray in 2V, Mrs Serra & Mr Field in 3/4N and Miss Castelow arriving in 5/6C next week. Our thanks to Mrs McLean for taking 5/6C for the first 9 days.

STUDENT ABSENCE/LATENESS

Parents will have received an indication of their child's absence during the first semester on their child's report. What isn't shown is the number of late arrivals that may have occurred.

Arriving late has a negative affect for both students and teachers. Often lateness is not the fault of the student and this can heighten a student's level of stress. Information about lateness is included in this week's newsletter. Please make every effort to have students at school prior to 8.55am every day. We appreciate your continued support.

INTERNET CYBER SAFETY PARENT INFORMATION SESSION - Monday August 4th 6.30pm

Victoria Police cyber safety officer Robbie Noggler will present workshops for Gr 3-6 students during the day on Monday 4th August and then a parent session on cyber safety at 6.30pm. This is in response to many parent questions and concerns regarding cyber safety for their children. The session for parents is free and will address issues such as social media, monitoring computer usage, etc for students of primary and adolescent age.

If you and/or your partner would like to attend please please r.s.v.p. to the office to help with organisation. Don't miss this opportunity to become more eSmart aware.

NOTES HOME THIS WEEK

- Receipts
- Bank books
- Scholastic Book Club order forms
- All Childrens Theatre flyers
- Brumby's flyers
**National Tree Planting Day**  
Planet Ark’s National Tree Day and Schools Tree Day provide all Australians with an opportunity to do something positive for the environment and reconnect with nature. Planet Ark works with councils, schools and community groups to help hundreds of thousands of Australians plant over 1 million native trees, shrubs and grasses at more than 4000 Tree Day events. This year, our students will be planting one native grass each on the Camden Road bank. The event is planned for Friday, 25th July.

**Nationally Consistent Data Collection**  
As outlined in a previous newsletter, all Victorian schools are participating in a national collection of data on Students with Disabilities, Health and Learning Conditions. The aim of the collection of data is to provide more accurate and complete information about the number and distribution of Australian school students with a disability, health or learning condition, including the adjustments provided to enable them to participate on the same basis as other students. All Victorian schools will be undertaking this collection of data.

To opt out, parents/carers will need to sign and return the ‘Opt Out’ consent form if sent home. More information about the Data Collection will be sent home to relevant families. More information is available from the Department of Education website at:


Otherwise, you can contact Gavin Nelson on 5221 3772 if you have any further questions.

**Parents Association Update**

Term 2 done & into Term 3!! How quick has that gone?

The PA would like to thank Mat Carter for putting his hand up as organiser of Special Food Day. Thanks again to Cairene for all of her help & to all of the parent helpers that help out with the running of Special Food Day twice a term. Did you know that special food day raises around $400 each special food day, for the school?

At our monthly meeting last week we discussed Cadbury Chocolate Drive. This year we also gave the option of making a donation to the school & many families have pledged donations, and have taken chocolates home..... THANK YOU!

Annual Christmas fair which has been booked in for Friday 28th November. Stay tuned for more information.

Ground Force Support. Any green thumbs out there? Our beatiful LARGE grounds often need a little TLC one day a week. If you fancy a little bit of gardening and a chat with some other green thumbs, our Ground Force Team get their gloves on, Tuesday's from 9-10am.

Keep an eye out for more PA updates & our monthly meeting days. Yours support, big or small, is invaualable to our children and our school. THANK YOU!

Thursday 24th July - 9 am in Staffroom : Please come along for a Parents' Association half yearly catchup. Coffee and cake provided.
The importance of regular, on time, school attendance

**Being Late**

Students miss out on talking to their teacher before school. Teachers build working relationships with students and the morning time is an important connection to build rapport within the unstructured context. Research tells us that this working relationship is the most crucial when looking at positive learning outcomes and success at school.

**Students miss out on connecting with other children before school**

Before school is a critical time for students to connect, touch base, engage socially and debrief over weekend of nightly events. Building solid friendships influences positive shared learning in the classroom and teaches children how to maintain friendships over a length of time. Building good social capacity leads to learning the social skills necessary to live and work with others.

**Miss out on important organisational time**

The first several minutes in the classroom are spent planning for the remainder of the day. For example marking the roll, sending lunch orders, taking monies and notices and allocating leadership roles for the day (if your child is not there they can miss out on this important experience). This is important learning time to develop personal responsibilities of putting away belongings, handing in projects, homework, etc,. This development of skills and attitudes such as self-discipline, punctuality, and being organised will optimise life choices.

**Latecomers are often unsure what they need to do in the classroom**

Late students will miss out on important learning instructions and then feel detached from their class and activity. They tend to occupy themselves with ‘busy’ work or pretend to work because they have not had the opportunity to connect with the teacher and clearly understand their learning requirements for the morning’s activity. This negatively impacts on student motivation for engagement and learning and can place stress on the student and teacher.

**Latecomers miss classroom re-organisation**

Students can arrive at their classroom, find that their class has left and then waste time searching for them. Their class may have gone to a specialist lesson and they do not know where to go and miss out on an even greater learning period.

**Latecomers miss valuable literacy time**

The literacy block most often occupies the first session of school and latecomers miss out on feedback from teachers on work completed, literacy activity set up for the session and the introduction of the day’s requirements. They miss the ‘flow’ of learning. The term flow refers to a state of consciousness that individuals experience when their attention is intently focused on an enjoyable activity that is challenging but achievable.

**Chronic latecomers often don’t see it as a problem**

Students who arrive late often don’t understand the problems of being late. All the reasons given above are either ignored, misinterpreted or minimised as valuable and critical reasons for punctuality.

**Latecomers are often unapologetic to the teacher and the classroom**

This can disrupt other students when they arrive, especially if they are trying to gain the attention of their friends/peers.

**Teachers need to attend to their learning needs due to the delay**

Teachers need to repeat instructions, give those students extra attention to get them up to speed with the rest of the class, can be expected to be available to parents of latecomers even though the classroom teaching has begun. Teachers also then have to find extra time to communicate unexplained absences and late attendance by phone, a note, or an after school meeting.
Education Maintenance Allowance - Instalment Two

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

Parents and guardians may be eligible for the EMA if they have a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

The second instalment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment is due to be paid from mid-August onwards for parents/guardians who chose the ‘direct deposit’ or ‘pay direct to school’ payment option on their application form.

Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another EMA application to receive the second instalment EMA payment.

Parents/guardians whose children have transferred to this school since 28 February 2014 will need to submit a new EMA application form. Applications close on 1 August 2014.

Eligibility information can be obtained from: www.education.vic.gov.au/about-school/life-at-school/ema/default.htm

Contact: School Office for an application form and further information

Key Dates:

Eligibility day - 14 July 2014

Parent applications close - 1 August 2014

Direct Deposit payments - Mid August 2014 onwards

BRUMBY’S

As a thank you to Fyans Park families for participating in this year’s Hot Cross Bun Drive, Brumby’s have provided a voucher for a FREE Winter Loaf. Present your voucher by the 31st July at any of the following outlets:

* Garden Street, East Geelong
* Westfield, Geelong
* Minerva Road, Herne Hill
* High Street, Belmont

Bringing Up Great Kids

The Bringing Up Great Kids program is a six week program for parents of children aged 5-12 yrs which aims to equip parents with the skills to enhance their patterns of communication with their children, promote more respectful interactions and encourage the development of children’s positive self identity.

Commencing: Wednesday 6th August
Time: 7.00-9.00pm
Location: Ariston, 245-249 Pakington St, Newtown
Contact: Regional Parenting Service
Ph: 5272 4817
Cost: $20 or $6.50 conc.

JUNIOR TENNIS LESSONS – TERM 3, 2014

Tony Brushfield, a qualified Tennis Coaches Association of Victoria member, offers coaching sessions at school for groups of four children every Tuesday Lunchtime. This term’s lessons commence next Tuesday 22nd July and will be $70 for 7 weeks.

Please return the below application form to the school Office or contact Tony on 5244 0040 or 0408 524 898 for further information. The children will be advised of their lesson time at the tennis court at 1.45 pm on Tuesday 22nd July 2014. As numbers are strictly limited, acceptance will be based on order of replies received.

Please forward this section to school with a cheque for $70 payable to Tony Brushfield by Tuesday 29th April.

Name: ___________________________ Phone No.: ___________________ Grade: _______ Age: ______

Please enrol my child in Junior Tennis Coaching. The appropriate remittance is included with this application.
Hi Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you all had a lovely and relaxing term break and are ready and raring to go for a term filled with fun and excitement.

This term we will be focusing on The Smith Family Back 2 School activities again. The children have all been discussing what fundraisers we will be doing this term, as we finalize the details for the activities planned I will let you all know at both assembly and here in the newsletter what we plan to do.

Our Buddy Leaders have been fantastic as they each take on the roll of responsibility each OSHC session. We had Nikhil, Annabella, Erin D and Imogen join the Buddy Leader team in the last week of last term, which brings us to the grand total of 10 Buddy Leaders which is fantastic!!

There are available spots every day before and after school so don’t hesitate to book your children in to come and have some fun with us. Call me on 0452 247 130 if you have any enquiries, I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have or come on in and see me either before or after school to see what we get up to in OSHC.

Cheers & Keep Smiling,

Jodie & Chelsea