UPCOMING EVENTS:
CURRICULUM DAY
WEDNESDAY
5TH FEBRUARY
MEET TEACHER NIGHT
THURSDAY
27TH FEBRUARY

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
MONDAYS
2.45pm – 3.45pm

WORKING BEE
SATURDAY
8TH FEBRUARY

PARK POST
Next edition will be out in February

Principal’s Report

Exciting Year Ahead

What an amazingly smooth start to the New Year we have had. Thank you to all our wonderful staff for preparing so well for the children. A huge welcome to all our new teachers, families and of course our Preps who are absolutely gorgeous.

On Wednesday the Steiner Prep children from 2013 took part in a ‘Fly up Ceremony.’ As the whole stream and many parents watched on, one by one they walked hand in hand with their Prep teacher, up and over the carefully prepared rainbow bridge into the hands of their new teacher. Finally they were escorted back to their class to begin their class 1 journey. A beautiful ceremony!

The rooms, buildings and grounds look sensational and it’s great to see all the children settled and engaged with their learning. This doesn’t happen without the support and dedication of our staff and parents. The day after school finished last year, Jeanette, Val and I were back at school supporting the wonderful group of men and women from Rotary and Stephen Watt, who helped to rip up all of the carpet and vinyl in readiness for the carpet being laid. Jeff Budge (Jeanette’s husband) used a digger to dig up all the rotten wood and dead shrubs from the garden beds. All of this took a whole day.

The Steiner teachers and parents worked tirelessly to stack all the furniture from all rooms into the library or the breezeway, prior to school finishing and then came in again to sort, unpack and move everything back into its place. This is over and above the call of duty and for teachers, on top of the already mammoth task of preparing the educational programs for the children. I would sincerely like to thank Leanne Carr, Lizzy, Johanna, Jan, Jo, Amy, Joe and Deb for giving up your time to do this work and for coming into work for important ceremonies and events on your non work days. Your efforts and commitment has not gone unnoticed by parents and children. To the amazing families who are always there to support, I don't know what we would do without you. K, Maz, Leon and Indi; Julie, Milo, Jasper and Noah; Brett, Xavier and Nash; Amanda and Izumi; Ishka, Levi and India; Sheldon, Darcy and Ethan. From sewing covers for chairs to sanding back tables and cleaning blackboards, thank you.

continued
Jeanette has worked extremely hard over the holidays, coordinating tradespeople and preparing the administration area for the New Year. Together we shifted furniture and convinced our husbands and her son Jesse to come back and continue to help. They helped lift remaining vinyl, laid carpet tiles, filled the skip and cleared rubbish from paths. Thank you Gail for coming to assist Jeanette as well.

Jodie, Kath, Paula, Stacie, Anna and Michelle for your work in the BER building, setting up rooms, unpacking resources and laying carpet. Thank you also to Heather and George Christie for laying carpet too.

Thanks to Matt Tuck for his work frosting windows. We look forward to our other signs being installed soon.

Thank you to Val for helping me to weed gardens on Sunday and for the time spent helping our families over the holidays.

Without everybody’s support we could not have had the school looking so good. Thanks again everyone.

You may have noticed works going on between the black gates. We are having some bat tennis courts painted onto the asphalt. Soon we will be planting trees in the gardens in that area. It will be very welcoming when we are finished.

Very soon there will be a meet the teacher night, where your child will set personal goals for semester one. This night is for you to tell us a little bit about your child that may help us to be more able to cater for their needs. The date for this is Thursday 27th Feb and we would love to meet each and every one of our families.

Remember ‘it is not ok to be away’ and if you are late please make sure to sign your child/children in at the office and preferably walk them to their classroom. Again, this is a safety issue. Being late to school not only disrupts the rest of the class, it also can cause enormous stress for your child and has a negative impact on their learning because they often miss very vital instruction.

Can I remind everybody that for safety reasons we do not allow cans or bottles at school. It is preferable if students have water in drink bottles and leave cordial and fizzy drinks for special occasions at home.

It is great to see students in school uniform as this shows the increasing pride we have in our school. Thank you for helping us maintain a positive image by not allowing your child to wear ‘hoodies’ and leggings under dresses. Please no jewellery, apart from small sleeper type earrings, and no makeup.

**Working Bee**

**Saturday 8th Feb**  Many hands do make light work. Even if you can only manage an hour it would be very helpful. Thank you so much to all the families who regularly come along to work. The school is looking fabulous.

Looking forward to a busy, productive term.

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**TUESDAY HOT LUNCHES**

Hot lunches will commence in 3 weeks. Order forms will be sent home prior.
Sherpa Kids - Out of School Hours Care

With activities such as arts and craft, outdoor play, music, drama, cooking and technology you can feel at ease knowing your child is experiencing everything Sherpa Kids has to offer including a healthy afternoon snack. For further information or bookings please call: 1300 783 711 or complete an enrolment form at the school office.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):

Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.

Please bring your Health Care / Pension Card when returning the form.

For more information about the EMA, visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx

On campus Uniform Shop will be open:

MONDAYS 2.45PM—3.45PM

STUDENT SUPERVISION — Students are supervised in the school grounds 15 minutes before and after school. Any students not picked up by 3.35pm will be escorted to the Out of School Hours Care (art room) where they will be cared for until parents are able to collect them. Providing parents have registered for the childcare benefit, the cost for this service will be minimal and in some cases, free.
Chaplain’s Chat

Welcome back to all our students and parents for a bright and happy new year. I will be at school on Wednesdays & Thursdays so please feel free to drop in and see me for a chat.  Trish Creely

HATS
As we are a Sun Smart School hats are compulsory for this term. Students will be asked to play under cover during recess and lunch if they do not have a

PARKING
Please be aware of the disabled parking spaces and keep access clear at all times.

GRADE 6 POLO TOPS HAVE ARRIVED !!!!!!
Full payment to be made at the office on collection of tops.

Active After School Care
A.A.S.C. will commences on Monday 10th February, 2014 and runs on Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. Please note there will be no A.A.S.C. on TUESDAYS. Forms will be available from the office or Russell Ardley at the school.
PRIZE WINNERS FOR ATTENDANCE FOR 2013

Congratulation to the following students for your excellent attendance in 2013:

Nana, Tiah, Brandan, Andre, Alison, Emily, Rylee, Georgia, Olive, Zac, Lilly-Anne, Caleb & Alfie