Dear Parents,

It’s great to be back to school after my long service leave. I have visited all the classrooms this week and I am very impressed by the quiet working tone and on task students that I see. Congratulations to the children and teachers as there is lots of learning happening.

It is also pleasing to note the extra curricular activities that we are able to offer. As you know the gym program is underway and next week the students in the 3-6 department are going on an excursion to the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill. A junior excursion is in the planning stage.

Miss Dennis has placed a display of fantastic Art work in the multi-purpose room demonstrating some of the excellent work the children are doing in this area. Please pop in and have a look at it.

Mrs Davey has once again headed off to BUPA with a group of students to read to some of the elderly residents. A great example of our connection with the community!!

We are currently investigating the viability of offering after school care for our families. More and more we are being asked about whether we offer this service and we would be happy to work with the community on this if there is a need. Please read the note in the newsletter and send back the attached expression of interest.

Thank you to those parents who were able to come in for parent teacher interviews. If you were not able to come in or would like an appointment at any time our door is always welcome. We value our partnership with families and you are free to contact us at any time if you have concerns or would like to have a chat.

Thank you
Kerry McGuffie

SIGNING STUDENTS IN AND OUT
A reminder that if you are picking up your child early to sign them out at the Office before heading to the classroom. The “sign out” form can then be handed to the teacher. The same procedure is relevant when signing your child in to school if they are late etc.

GRADE 5/6 B and 5/6F
Both grades are out of tissues for the classroom. Could families who haven’t donated a box please send along a box to get us through winter and the rest of the year.

Thank you
Jan Brunswick and Kate Fitzgerald

CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER??
CHANGED YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACTS??
CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS??
Please let the Office know.

GRADES 3-6 SWAN HILL EXCURSION
WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST
Please send final payment of excursion to the Office before next Wednesday August 14th or use the schools banking details to finalise.

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to help with the excursion. The names that were pulled out of a hat to attend were Bree R, Jodie B and Lisa H.

You’ll have a great day.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN’S CHECK
A reminder that all volunteers are required to have a valid Working with Children’s Check to help on excursions or in the classrooms.

This week’s focus is getting along!
DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Mondays**
- Active After-School Communities Gr 3-6 start 3.30-4.45pm

**Tuesdays**
- Student Banking

**Wednesdays**
- Active After-School Communities Gr P-2 start 3.30-4.45pm

**Fridays**
- Subway lunch orders (Must be in before 9am on Friday)

**TERM 3**

15TH JULY—20TH SEPTEMBER

**WEEK 4**
- *August 5th—August 9th*
  - Wed 7th August: Open Mic session in MPR at lunchtime
  - Wed 7th August: Techtime for parents 3pm in MPR

**WEEK 5**
- *August 12th—August 16th*
  - Mon 12th August: Fundraising Meeting @ 9.30am
  - Wed 14th August: Senior Excursion to Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
  - Friday 16th August: Grade 5/6—Talk from Chiropractor @ 2.30
  - After School Care Expressions of Interest due back

**WEEK 6**
- *August 19th—August 23rd*
  - Mon 19th August: School Council Meeting
  - Wed 21st August: Techtime for parents 3pm in MPR
  - Thurs 22nd August: Last Gym Session
  - Friday 23rd August: Zone Golf
  - Friday 23rd August: Daffodil Day

**WEEK 7**
- *August 26th—August 30th*
  - Thurs 15th August: Soup Day (BYO cup and bread)
  - Friday 30th August: Fathers Day Stall

**WEEK 8**
- *September 2nd—September 6th*
  - Wed 4th September: Techtime for parents 3pm in MPR

**WEEK 9**
- *September 9th—September 13th*
  - Wed 11th September: Upper School Athletics (Grade 4-6)

**WEEK 10**
- *September 16th—September 20th*
  - Mon 16th September: School Council Meeting
  - Friday 20th September: Footy/Pie Day

**TERM 4**

7TH OCTOBER—20TH DECEMBER

**Tues 8th October**
- Hockey Victoria Clinic (free at school) Gr 2 and 3 Students

**Mon 21st October**
- School Council Meeting

**Wed 30th October**
- BENDIGO CUP

**Thurs 7th November**
- Prep Orientation Program 9.15am-12pm

**Friday 8th November**
- Junior Excursion to ScienceWorks, Melbourne ($25)

**Thurs 14th November**
- Prep Orientation Program 9.15am-12pm

**Mon 18th November**
- School Council Meeting

**November 11th-15th**
- Swimming program (5 sessions—4 grades)

**Mon 18th November**
- Prep Orientation Program 12pm-3pm

**November 18th—22nd**
- Swimming program (5 sessions—4 grades)

**Mon 25th November**
- Prep Orientation Program 12pm-3pm

**Tues 3rd December**
- Orientation Day

**Mon 16th December**
- School Council Meeting

**PAYMENT OF FEES**

Half the school year has already gone and we all know how expensive the end of the year can be! It is possible to make regular part payments in order to finalise your account...before the end of the year creeps up on us.

To deposit directly into school’s account
BSB: 633000   Account No: 107661738
Account Name: Epsom Primary School
ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE

COMMUNITIES

Our AASC program has begun. Children will participate in the sport of basketball for term 3. Monday sessions will be for the 3-6 students and Wednesday sessions for student in P-2. Sessions times for both nights are 3:30pm to 4:45pm. Permission forms are available from the office or Mr Saddlier. If your child is enrolled in the program and will not be in attendance on a particular day please let the school know.

GARDENING FAMILIES

Thank you to our families who tidy up the school grounds. This duty doesn’t have to be done on weekends, any day after school or even while you’re waiting to pick up your children is ok. There’s always something to pick up or sweep. It doesn’t take much. This week keys will be going home to the Hambleton, Harkin and Harrison families.

FUNDRAISING MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday August 12th straight after Assembly. The meeting is being held to discuss the Fathers Day stall, Soup day and the very popular Footy Day (held on the last day of term). There will be a raffle held for Fathers Day with some fantastic prizes to be won.

New faces are needed and very welcome! Please consider helping out with fundraising for your child’s school.

FINAL GYM SESSION - AUGUST 22ND

Parents are invited to attend our final gym session on Thursday 22nd August –
P/1S and 1/2F 10-11am,
1/2O and P/1H 11am-12 noon,
3/4D and 3/4S 12-1pm
5/6F and 5/6B 1-2pm
No pre-schoolers are allowed to attend this session.

WOOD FOR SALE

$80 FOR A 6X4 TRAILER LOAD.

PLEASE SEE DEANNE IN THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE SOME WOOD

JUNIOR EXCURSION TO SCIENCEWORKS

FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

The Junior school will be heading off to Scienceworks on Friday 8th November. The children will need to be at school before 8am (when the busses leave) and will return to school at 4pm. The cost will be $25 and can be paid at the Office or deposited into the schools bank account with your child’s name as a reference.

POSSIBLE AFTER SCHOOL CARE

As we are investigating the viability of offering after school care in the future we are seeking expressions of interest from parents who would utilise this service.

As you would understand, a service like this relies on a consistent enrolment and so we need an indication of what the need would be. If you are interested in enrolling your child/ren into After School Care please complete the form below and return it to the office by Friday 16th August.

After School Care Expression of Interest

Parents Name: ____________________________
Childs Name:______________________________
(Please circle and return by 16th August)
I would be interested in After School Care    Yes / No
Full time (5days a week)
Part time
Occasional
Not sure
No not interested
Comments

_________________________  ___________________________
_________________________  ___________________________
**Asthma tips for Parents and Carers this Winter**

Winter can be a hard time for people with asthma as could weather, coughs, colds and the flu can bring on more symptoms and attacks. The common cold is caused by a virus and it is important to try not to cough and sneeze near other people, and to wash hands properly to prevent passing on the infection. The flu is different to the common cold and can be a much more serious viral infection. People with asthma are recommended to have an annual influenza vaccination (the flu shot). Preventing the flu protects people with asthma, as those with asthma are often unwell for longer and have a much harder time recovering from the flu.

Make sure your child’s asthma is well-controlled; this will help them to bounce back quicker from a cough or cold and will help prevent asthma attacks when they are unwell. Some medications and herbal remedies that we use for colds and flu can make asthma worse. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist about any concerns you may have.

Antibiotics are not normally prescribed for the common cold, or influenza, as these medications will not help a cold get better. Effective medications may include paracetamol and decongestants; however seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist before purchasing them for your child.

Suggested remedies for the flu and the common cold are: rest, staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water, staying away from cigarette smoke, using steam inhalation, gargling with salty water for a sore throat and seeking medical advice if concerned at any time.

For more information on the common cold, medications and references used in this article please see the Better Health Channel (State Government of Victoria) - www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au and the NPS website - www.nps.org.au. Contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) or www.asthma.org.au.

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**BENDIGO UNITED CRICKET CLUB**

**Junior Registration Night**

Friday 16th August 2013

4.30pm to 6.30pm @ Harry Trott Oval Clubrooms, Neale St, Kennington

...Free B.B.Q. sausage sizzle at Harry Trott Oval...

**Fees for 2013 are:**

Under 9 to 17 - $70.00 or Family (2 or more juniors) $120.00

New and past players are most welcome; come and meet the coaches. www.bendigounited.com