Term 3 Edition 17 July 24th 2014

The Overport Times

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS AT SCHOOL EVERY DAY

...AND ON TIME!

'Family Forums': Our first '**Family Forums'** took place this week. These were designed to give students greater ownership of their own learning, as well as an opportunity to share and celebrate their learning journey with their parents. The parents with whom I spoke, genuinely enjoyed hearing their child discuss their learning and future goals. The teachers were very proud of the students and how they engaged in the meetings. However, as usual, should you have any specific questions for your child's teacher; please contact them through the office. At a future Education Sub-committee meeting discussions will be held and should you like to provide feedback that will assist us to refine these meetings for you and your child, you will be welcome to attend. Please watch the newsletter for details of the next meeting.

Prep 2015 Enrolments: Next Monday and Wednesday we hold the next of our 2015 Prep Tours. A further time has been arranged for 6th August. If your child has a sibling who will begin Prep next year, please contact the office for an enrolment package as it is critical for our planning and to ensure sufficient places are available that all students attending Prep at Overport in 2015, are enrolled by the end of **August**.

Harry Potter Corner – The Library. On returning from my trip I have been impressed with the number of our younger children who are Harry Potter enthusiasts. Miss Gleeson has developed a Harry Potter corner in the library and tells me it has become a favourite place.

****Fully Funded Training Program for Parents! Please see back page for information****

Diary Dates

Friday 25th July
Meal Deal

Monday 28th July
School Council

Wednesday 30th July
3/4 Excursion to Moonlit Sanctuary

Friday 1st August
Tree Planting Day

Tuesday 5th August
Pupil Free Day

Thursday
11th September
Whole School Production

Thought for the Week

"It's never the differences between people that surprise us. It's the things that, against all odds, we have in common."

.....Continued overleaf

My Trip: the children have been interested in hearing snippets from my trip to Spain, Portugal and Africa…naturally the most interesting elements are from my tours around Africa! The 12 days spent in Kenya and Tanzania was exciting. I was lucky enough to see the "big five" – Elephants, lions, leopards, rhinoceros and buffalos – an all very close to the road. We saw a plethora of zebras, wildebeests, giraffes and several species and deer. I told the grade ones today, that I kissed a giraffe…quite an unusual experience! Certainly Africa has an amazing amount of wonderful wild life to see in their natural environment. I was also lucky enough to visit a small Masi school in Kenya. Their principal, Simon Gkamau, was pleased and proud to show us around. The children all must be very respectful and attend their studies fully. It is a privilege for those who are able to attend, as not all Masi children can. The classroom floor is mostly dirt and the children sit at wooden desks made of rough-hewn wood. There are approximately 35 to 40 children in each grade of various ages. Children start as young as 4 years old and the day starts at 8.00 am until 4.00 pm. The teachers are volunteers with some teaching qualifications. The school is supported by a local Christian organisation. It was a privilege to be welcomed at the Masi school and speak to the children and the teachers; they made me feel very welcome. What I have learnt through my visit, is that we are very lucky in Australia. All our children have the opportunity to attend school and our schools offer high quality, well-trained teachers and excellent learning environments.

On behalf of the Overport community and with deep sadness, we wish to express our sympathies to Jill, Harry and Abbey Williams and their extended family, following the passing of Paul Williams last week.

Kind Regards,
Julie Gleeson
Principal

Second Hand Uniform

Did you know the school sells Second hand Uniform?
We would welcome your donation of any clean, useable, second hand uniforms.
Please deliver to the office for us to resell to our school community.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Happy Birthday to the children who have celebrated their birthdays during and this week.

Dylan 1A, Ryliegh PA,
Robert 2A, Grace 5B,
Janet Mary 4A, & Max 4A

Sports Report

5/6 Winter inter-School Sports Achievements
Well done to the year 5/6 Australian rules football team and the girls and boys soccer teams for their brilliant results this year. Recently these three teams won the district championships which is a great achievement which they should be very proud of.

Runners' Club
Runners' Club will start again next week. Here is a reminder about how the club works:

Students from years 1-6 may participate, no matter what their running ability is. Participants meet Mr Bryant on the oval between 8.30-8.50am on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Runners' Club is a great way to build cardiovascular endurance, experience associated health benefits and improve student's concentration for the academic day ahead. Runners' laps are recorded and once they have reached certain accumulated distances, they are awarded certificates at assembly and achievements are published in our newsletter.

Individual Success in Cross Country
Monte C of 5B has continued his fine cross country form of the last few years by representing our school at the state championships during the last week. Well done Monte on your amazing achievements.

Ben Bryant

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S ARTICLE

Next Monday a number of families will receive a DEECD Parent Opinion Survey. This survey should only take you 15 – 20 minutes to complete. We ask that they be filled in and returned to school by next Friday 1st August. All responses are confidential and should be returned in the sealed envelope provided. They are then sent back to the DEECD for collation. Information gained from this survey can then be used for future school planning and improvement, both curriculum and environment. The more surveys we have returned, the more useful the information will be to us, so, in order to maximise the response rate, there will be a small reward (historically this has been a chocolate frog!) for those students who bring their parents' surveys back.

As mentioned last week, our Calendar of Events will be regularly updated on our website. A recent alteration is to our Tree Planting Day. We were going to do our planting tomorrow, but due to the busyness of the week we have decided to postpone this until next week; Friday 1st August. We have also confirmed some dates in August for our headlice nurses Tracey and Deb to attend, and the DEECD school nurse, Kate, will begin her work here next week. Please remember to check this calendar regularly to keep up to date with all events at Overport.

It was most unfortunate that the zone sports finals have coincided with our Family Forum days this week, preventing our football, boys soccer and girls soccer teams from competing. However we are thrilled to announce that each of these teams are DISTRICT CHAMPIONS for 2014. We are all very proud of them, and what their team was able to achieve for Overport Primary School.

We currently have 3 senior students at snow camp, probably enjoying the cold conditions more than we are! I'm sure Seth, Meg and Ruby will have lots to tell us about when they return next week.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Deborah Madder
Assistant Principal

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Japanese News

Minasan Konnichiwa (Hello everyone)

In term three, Grade three to six students are learning Japanese. The theme for Grade three and four students is popular Anime (Animation) in Japan. In the first Japanese lesson, many students enjoyed watching the extremely popular Anime called "*Youkai* Watch (Ghost Watch)." I was very impressed by many students who were able to copy the "*Youkai* Watch" dance movements since I had difficulty in following each step. During this term, we will look up various popular Japanese Anime (and characters such as Hello Kitty). Students are encouraged to answer various Japanese questions by using simple Japanese words and phrases.

The topic for grade five and six students is popular culture and sports in Japan and Australia. The students will closely look at Japanese sentence structures and are encouraged to read parts of the Japanese sentences by using various reading strategies. They will also undertake a survey of the popular things in their class by asking and answering questions in Japanese. The students will be asked to artistically present their survey results by using the learned Japanese sentences. I am looking forward to seeing their final product.

Some of the excellent work will be sent to our sister school in Japan this year.

Arigatoo gozaimasu (Thank you very much)

Tomoko Yamashita (Japanese teacher)

Canteen News

Meal Deal Pie Day is
Friday July 25th (tomorrow)

No canteen lunch orders or counter sales on this day.

Please send lunch, drinks and snacks if you are not having the meal deal.

A new price list for lunch orders is supplied with this newsletter.

Extend OSHC at Overport Primary School

Wow, what a first week back. We welcomed a new child and some new families last week. Origami would have been the highlight for the week, the children absolutely loved creating different creatures from paper.
I spoke to the children about upcoming activities that will be offered during the term, they were all very keen to put their own spin on the activities mentioned. Can't wait to see what they create.
Just a reminder also about the pupil free day. We will be running the program from 8am – 6pm on Tuesday 5th August at the cost of $60, child care entitlements will be applied.
And don't for get about the Kids Club Art Competition. Please see me for entry details.

Kelly

Next week's activities starting: 28th July
Monday- Flip books
Tuesday- Rockets
Wednesday- Funny Faces
Thursday – Creative Drawing- animals
Friday- Wreaths

enrolment hotline

Phone our friendly customer service staff on: **1300 366 437**
www.extend.com.au

'OVERPORT CARES' AWARDS

These certificates are awarded at assembly each week for children who have excelled in an academic or social endeavour throughout the previous week.

Zack OPA, Jesse OPB,
Henry OPC, Tyler OPD,
Angus 1A, Sara 1B,
All of 1C,
Ethan 2A,
Bethany 2B, Mikayla 2C,
Molly 3A, Bodhi 3B,
Amelie 3/4C,
Donovan 4A, Jackson 4B,
Ella 5A, All of 5B, Jamie 5C,
Shae 6A, Georgia 6B
& Ben 6C.

Fully Funded Training Program for Parents

Parents, all students are bringing home a form and information brochure this week that explains a parent upskilling/business training opportunity that is happening in the Frankston/Mornington Peninsula area.
Parents who return the ***Expression of Interest*** form will be contacted by the Technology Institute to ascertain their eligibility to be fully funded for the course.
Please refer to the website **www.tiv.com.au/parents**

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