

# The Overport Times

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

**School Attendance – Every Day Counts:** The Victorian Government has introduced new measures to ensure students attend school every day and get the most out of their schooling. Children and young people who attend school regularly and complete Year 12 or equivalent have better health and employment outcomes and higher incomes throughout their lives. From 1 January 2014, amendments to the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* will come into effect in relation to the enforcement of compulsory school enrolment and attendance. New procedures to implement the legislation have taken effect from 1 March, 2014. This new legislation means that parents could receive an **'Infringement Notice'** if their child misses five full days of school in a year without a reasonable excuse. Principals are able to use their discretion when deciding whether or not to escalate issues of non-attendance. Guidance provided will assist principals with this decision making process. Regular attendance is vital for students wellbeing and academic and social development. This includes arriving at school on time. I have had discussions with parents when children arrive late to school to ensure that this can be addressed. In most instances, there is a reasonable excuse, however, continuous lateness is disruptive to both your child's learning as well as the class. Continuous absences make a significant difference to each child's outcomes at school. Please refer to the table below.

### How many days has your child missed this semester?

Days absent (also consider number of days late, as this also has an impact). This refers to regular annual attendance, not a year where a child might have a significant illness.	
0 - 6	This is within normal range. A child with this attendance rate is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning opportunities available to them.
7 - 10	This attendance rate is below average. A child with this attendance could miss over one year of schooling between Prep and year 10.
11 - 20	This is a poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance could miss up to two years of schooling between Prep and year 10.
20+	This is a very poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance could miss two and a half years of schooling or more.

As you can see the absences rate is directly connected to children's education outcomes. If they are not at school we can't teach them! Help us to help your child to achieve their very best. ***It's Not OK to Be Away!***

### Diary Dates



**Thursday 13th March**  
School Photos

**Friday 14th March**  
House Cross Country

**Tuesday 18th March**  
Ed. Sub Committee

**Wednesday 19th March**  
Buildings and Grounds

**Friday 21st March**  
Twilight Fair  
3.30pm–9pm.

**Friday 4th April**  
Last day of Term 1  
School finishes at 2.30pm.

**Tuesday 22nd April**  
Term 2 resumes.

### Thought for the Week

*Progress is not possible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything - George Bernard Shaw*

.....Continued overleaf



**Level 4 Stand-up Paddle Boarding excursion:**

Last Friday the level fours attended water safety at Mornington beach and had a great time.

Bailey of 6A said "Everyone enjoyed it. There were about 7 activities. My favourite was the stand-up paddle-boarding. I fell off three times but it was a memorable day".

**Cyber Safety- Stay Smart Online website.****What to do if somebody is being mean to you online:**

The internet lets us watch videos, play all kinds of games and find out interesting stuff.

But sometimes people can be mean on the internet, just like some people are mean in real life.

**If someone is being mean to you while you are on the internet or on a mobile phone:**

Tell one of these people: your mum or dad, your teacher, an aunty, an uncle, a grandparent, your brother, your sister or a friend. Keep telling them until they help.

Don't answer any of their mean comments. Save them and show them to a parent or teacher

Get a parent or teacher to help you block them so they can't contact you any more

Report them to the game/video host so they get blocked

Remember it isn't your fault if someone is mean online. Nobody should be bullied.  
[www.cybersmart.gov.au](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au)

*Kind Regards,  
Julie Gleeson, Principal.*

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.

**~ PLEASE NOTE ~**

***From term 1 2014, the newsletter will no longer be printed.***

***It will be available to download from  
Tiqbiz or  
accessed via our website: [www.overport-ps.vic.edu.au](http://www.overport-ps.vic.edu.au)***

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

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

Eve OPA, Brady OPD, Emma 2c,  
Jontee 4A, Emma 3/4C,  
Abbey 3A, Caleb 5A, Jake 3A,  
Marcel 4B,  
Eva-Marie OPC, Ethan 1A,  
Oliver 5B, & Hayden 6C.

**Student  
Banking**

**Student banking is every  
Wednesday.**

**Students bring their bank  
books to their classroom where  
it then comes to the  
office via the smart boxes.**

**Application forms are  
available from the office for  
new bank accounts.**

**Student banking is with the  
Commonwealth Bank.**

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S ARTICLE

Today was school photo day. I'm sure those who have ordered photographs will be very pleased with the results. It generally takes a few weeks for photos to be processed and delivered back to the school. Once received, they will be sent directly home with your child. Any enquiries regarding photos can be made directly to Master School Portraits Photography on 5222 6747.

Our **Education subcommittee meets next Tuesday at 3.45pm in the staffroom**. Items on our agenda will include a Teaching & Learning report, a Professional Development report, and a discussion about the possible inclusion of an alternative uniform garment to our current windcheater and bomber jacket. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings to listen, offer opinion and help formulate recommendations to school council – all with no obligation. Children are welcome to come along too.

The **Twilight Fair**; not long to go now! **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March from 3.30pm**. If you have any time to spare, it's not too late to help out. I know many hands will make set up on the day just that much easier, and some stalls may still be looking for assistance on the night. Please contact your child's teacher, or leave your contact details at the office and we will happily pass them on to our organisers.

Don't forget our **Real School Parent Information evening on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm**. We want to build a strong partnership with parents for the benefit of your children; our students. You will hear about managing behaviours, encouraging responsibility and improving the chances of success for our young people. Please come along and just listen, contribute your thoughts, or ask lots of questions. You'll leave the night with not only strategies you can use at home, but also with an understanding of the strategies being used at school. Child minding will be available for school-aged children on the night. Please return the reply slip which has been sent home, so we can make appropriate arrangements.

This year we again give students from Yr 3 – 6 the opportunity to enter the University of NSW competitions. Competition tests are held during term 2 and term 3 in Computer skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and Mathematics. There is a cost associated with each test, as outlined in the notice being sent home today. This needs to be returned to school by the end of this term. Entry for any of these tests is optional; the cost has NOT been included in any school-based levies. **Please note that this year there needs to be at least 3 entries per year level for that test to be conducted at our school.**

House Cross country will take place tomorrow. Students met as their house teams yesterday, and are all revved up and ready to go! Thanks to Mr Broecker who, in Mr Bryant's absence, has organised this event for our students. Any parents who have the time are more than welcome to come along and cheer the children on.

Have a great weekend everyone,

**Deborah Madder**  
Assistant Principal



## PARENT HELPERS REQUIRED

Please see your teacher if you are able to help at the fair on a stall even for just one hour on the night of the fair. Some teachers are struggling for numbers so let them know if you are available for longer too. This is a huge community event and it can only be a success if we all put in a bit. The kids love the night and the funds raised go to support important parts of the children's learning such as the computer program.

**Did you know?** We are going to have a stage at the fair with all night entertainment, stalls (including the dunking machine, mystery jars, cake stall, silent auction, plant stall, showbags, guess the jellybean competition, funky hair, face painting and tattoos, fairy tent), cow poo lotto, food area (including roast beef rolls), minigolf, sports area including a Tennis Australia speed server, craft area, games area, rides (including entry to the animal farm) and fire works at the end of the night. We hope to see you there.

## Extend OSHC at Overport Primary School



### Our weekly recap

Last week the children had a cool calm and collected week. They played with the lego, marble run and plenty of games of Uno were played. Wednesday was a great afternoon as it wasn't too hot or cold. We did some running races and fun games on the oval.

The week ended with a giant mess. It was decided by the children we needed to get messy, so we made 'Super Starch'. The children had so much fun, it was a hands on experience that they all enjoyed. Also we had 2 Superstars Darcy C and Dakota M who received Star Awards for helping with the clean up after the messy activity

As it is term 1 the children are required to have a hat at Before and After School Care. We would like the children to either have a spare hat in their bag or leave one at the program

We are also introducing more drama play into the program, so we would like to ask if you have any unwanted clothes dolls or material that you would like to donate it would be greatly appreciate Myself and all the staff are looking forward to an enjoyable fun and exciting year ahead.

**Kelly**

### Next Week's activities

**Monday 17 March:** Jellyfish Mobile

**Tuesday 18 March:** 3D Coral

**Wednesday 19 March:** Submarines

**Thursday 20 March:**

Stain Glass Fish

**Friday 21 March:**

Mermaids and other sea creatures

### Autumn School Holiday Program bookings NOW OPEN at a School near you!

Friday 4 April to Thursday 24 April 2014\*

We have heaps of jam-packed activities and incursions ranging from Arts & Crafts, Cooking, plenty of games and sports and lots of Easter activities! We are also now offering Excursions! Visit the Extend website at [extend.com.au](http://extend.com.au) for program timetables, booking forms, and activity descriptions.

Bookings close Friday 21 March – book now to avoid disappointment.

## enrolment hotline

Phone our **friendly** customer

**service staff** on: **1300 366 437**

[www.extend.com.au](http://www.extend.com.au)

**AUTUMN  
SCHOOL  
HOLIDAY  
PROGRAM**

Friday 4 April to Thursday 24 April\*

\*Dates vary according to program  
Limited places

**BOOKINGS  
CLOSE  
FRIDAY  
21 MARCH**

**VIC LOCATIONS**

- Bangholme
- Brunswick East
- Caulfield
- Endeavour Hills
- Essendon
- Kew
- Ormond
- Sandringham East
- Sunbury
- Upwey
- Wodonga West

**NEW** NOW OFFERING  
EXCURSIONS!  
LIMITED PLACES.

**GET 50% OFF!  
ASK HOW**

For timetables, activity descriptions, and to book, visit:

[extend.com.au](http://extend.com.au)  
1300 366 437

**extend**  
BEFORE & AFTER  
SCHOOL CARE

## Our school has an app

We are now using an app  
to send instant messages,  
newsletters and notices.

The tiqbiz app will help our school keep you fully informed and up-to-date with newsletters, notices, news and events. It's easy to use and also has the benefit of helping reduce our paper consumption by printing less.



Downloading is easy...



iPhone and iPad.  
Go to the Apple App Store and search tiqbiz.



Android smartphone and tablet.  
Go to Google play and search tiqbiz.



Windows & Mac computers.  
Go to [www.tiqbiz.com](http://www.tiqbiz.com) and click on the download button.