Hi Everyone,

Welcome back to Term Two: I trust everyone had a relaxing and stress free break and limited their chocholate intake over the Easter holiday. This term is go, go, go. The Annual Cross Country is set down for next Wednesday the 20th at 1.30pm with the younger classes starting off first. Every year the cross country event is very well attended as it is such a great spectator sport. The best vantage point is anywhere on the main oval as you will see the kids run the fence line at some stage and finish on the oval as they enter the side gate from Phasant Street. Mr McDowell is always asking for any parents that can be another set of eyes around the course on the day so please let him know if you can assist so he roster you a position. Training is every morning 8am and I encourage the children to wear a training shirt and change into their uniform shirt after training. Students please remember to put your sweaty shirts in a plastic bag and then in the laundry basket when you get home each day to eliminate any nasty smells for mum opening your school bag. The older children run 2km and 3km distances whilst our younger kids do a round 600m.

Welcome new students: It has kept me very busy this week welcoming 7 new students and their families into our school community. I am sure they will have made many friends already.

P&C Mother’s day stall and fundraising raffle: Sadly over the next few weeks we will farewell the hardworking Madden family due to a change in circumstances. Marjory, husband Steve, children Chloe and James will be returning back to Victoria. Your departure will leave a huge hole in our fundraising and events planning. Thank you for your super efforts whilst being on the P&C Committee and for your support of my teaching staff. I wish you success and happiness in your new adventure. On a more cheery note, a huge thank you must go to the Rodrigues family for chasing up sponsors for our wonderful mother’s day raffle and putting together gifts for the mother’s day stall. All this work was volunteered over their Easter vacation and is very much appreciated.

School writing focus for 2016: Prior to the vacation the children were encouraged to enter an on-line writing competition that closed in the holiday break. Many thanks to Ms. A for helping co-ordinate the competition and helping children enter their stories or poems. Best of luck as the prizes were valued in the thousands. Presently we have started a communal story book going from class to class which I trust will be interesting and worth putting in the library at the end of the writing journey.

Apple for the Teacher competition: Zinc 101.9 radio station visited the school today to promote the search for our Regions favourite primary school teacher. There are great Apple prizes to be won for the class, teacher and school. You have until next Monday 4pm to nominate your favourite teacher. Voting commences from Tuesday April 19th through to Thursday 5th May. To vote go to the Zinc website markayradiozinc.com.au.

NAPLAN for year 3 and 5 this term: In week 5 this term the year 3 and 5 students will undergo the National Literacy and Numeracy tests. These tests are compulsory for all schools in Australia to be performed at the same time though parents have the right to withdraw their child if they are concerned the test may cause anxiety or for religious grounds. If you have any concerns about your child being able to effectively participate in the three days of testing then please discuss this with Mrs Findlay or Mr McDowell. The National tests provide us with a snapshot and comparative information on your child’s learning at that point in time.

Games Extravaganza 25 token reward day next week: We will have our Emerald Reward day for those who have achieved 25 tokens on Friday the 22nd April due to choir and instrumental practice on the Thursday. The afternoon has been chosen to avoid quality learning time in the morning and escape the heat. Congratulations to all our Emerald awardees and congratulations to those who will receive theirs on parade next week.

ANEAC Day ceremony Friday Week 2: I invite all parents and community members to join in our School Annual Anzac Day ceremony to be held at 2pm on Friday the 22nd of April in the school hall. Please also remember to plan for week three’s Anzac day march in town. We have a very proud history of most of our students and staff marching on April 25th as a sign of respect. I urge you to march with us on Monday April 25th at the Sydney Street car park in town at 8.15am. Each year many of our parents march with us at the rear of the school line with the year 6 students. All student’s names will be recorded and certificates awarded for representing the school in this important ceremony. Please ensure your child has a maroon (preferably) hat and full school uniform.

Happy learning Rod Finney
Principal
**EASTER RAFFLE**
1st Prize: Thomas Randall
2nd Prize: Fynn Geraghty
3rd Prize: Dante Brown
4th Prize: Sebastian Uriate’s Aunty
5th Prize: Zac Dorante
6th Prize: Madden Family
7th Prize: Archy Townsend

**TOKENS/MOVIE DRAW**
Jay-D, Isaiah Smith, Matthew Brown, Lara Choppys, Lilli Irelandes, Abygail McLlroy

**COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 2**
- **Monday Munchies** — Monday 18th April. Hawaiian only this day and notes home this week.
- **Cross Country** — Wednesday 20th April.
- **ANZAC DAY March** — Monday 25th April (no school)
- **Labour Day** — Monday 2nd May (no school)
- **School Photos** — Thursday 5th May
- **NAPLAN** — 10th, 11th, 12th May—Year 3 & 5 students only

**P&C NEWS**
The P&C will be selling Fruit Juice Icy Poles at the finish line of the Cross Country— 50c ea. Buying an Icy Pole will help you cool down and support a P&C fundraiser.

**RELAY FOR LIFE—TRIVIA NIGHT**
CANCER COUNCIL
Is on **Saturday 30th April** 6:30pm in the hall. If you would like to book a table please contact the school office. RSVP Friday 22nd April.

**ANZAC DAY**
Participation notes have been sent home. Please fill out the cream coloured sheet indicating if your child/ren are going to participate in the ANZAC Day March on **Monday 25th April** with the school. Please return the notes to the office by **Wednesday 20th April**.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
School Photo’s will be on **Thursday 5th May**. Envelopes will be sent home when we receive them. Please make sure your child/ren are in correct school uniform. NO SPORTS UNIFORM!

**SWIMMING LESSONS—2016**
Swimming Lessons for Prep—year 4 will start in Term 3 on Tuesday 23rd Aug for 8 weeks until Tuesday 25th October.

**Payment $78:** If you wish to start making payments, weekly/fortnightly please put money inside an envelope with your child’s name/class/swimming into the box in the office. A letter has been handed out to those students with all the details.

**BIKE EDUCATION — YEAR 4 STUDENTS ONLY**
Permission/medical forms will have gone home. Bike Ed is on **Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th June. Cost is $13.50 per student.** The P&C will cover half of the cost per student. If you wish to hand in the medical forms and money, please put money inside an envelope with your child’s name/class/bike Ed into the box in the office.

**CHAPLAIN NEWS**
This term Prep/1 and Year 1/2 classes will be participating in the Fun Friends Program. It is a nationally and internationally acclaimed program for promoting social and emotional skills that stay with children for life. They will learn valuable coping life skills in a FUN way. Research has shown that these skills assist children to succeed in their early schooling and supports them in becoming emotionally and socially competent in their interactions with peers, teachers and family.

Each week a sheet will be sent home with the children’s homework book. It will give you ideas to do as a family that will reinforce at home what they have learned at Fun Friends that week.

Any questions I am always happy to talk. Chappy Lyn

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**P&C NEWS**
**MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE**
Tickets are now available from the tuck shop for .50c a ticket.

Special thanks to Ms Rodriguez children for taking the time to organise this beautiful prize.

Thanks to Slade Point Meats for donating $20 voucher, Methira Thai Restaurant $30 voucher and Healthpoint Chemist $25 voucher.

**ANZAC DAY CEREMONY**
All welcome to attend our ANZAC Day ceremony at our school in the hall on **Friday 22nd April at 2pm**.

**SPORTS DAY — TBC**
Sports Day field events: 800m, Discus, Long Jump, High Jump.

Sports Day: Families welcome! Beginning 8:30am - Sprints, 200m, Shot Put, Relays, Ballgames.

Please wear your house shirt or the colour of your house on the day. Food stall on grounds.

Lindeman: Blue, Hayman: Yellow and Hook: Red

**TWILIGHT CONCERT**
Will be in the hall on **Thursday 2nd June at 5:30pm**.