**Dates to Remember**

**August**
- Wed 12th
- Thurs 13th
- Mon 17th
- Mon 17th–Fri 21st
- Tues 18th
- Sat 29th

  - Robogals Incursion 5/6
  - Hoop Time
  - School Council Meeting
  - Science Week
  - Calendar orders due
  - Staff Fundraising Shopping Tour

**September**
- Mon 14th
- Thurs 17th
- Thurs 17th
- Fri 18th

  - Parent Seminar – Dan Petro
  - Last Day of Term 3
  - Students Dismissed at 3:20pm
  - Bushdance (Discovery Church)
  - & KidsMatter Launch
  - Curriculum Day

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**Curriculum Day - Friday 18th September**

A student-free day is planned for the last day of term 3. On this day, teachers will be working on numeracy assessment and planning for term 4. If there is sufficient demand, our OSHC team will be running a full Curriculum Day program. *If you are interested in using this service, please advise Sheila or the school office staff on your intention no later than Friday 28th August.*

Please note that we require a minimum of 15 attendees for this program to go ahead. We look forward to a great day!
From the Principal…

Thought for the week:

“Once we believe in ourselves we can risk curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight, or any experience that reveals the human spirit.”

E.E. Cummings

What a big week we have had!

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our students, staff and parents for their involvement in our first ever 3way Conferences. I am extremely proud of you all. It is really heartening to see that students have been able to set their own learning goals and clearly tell their parents about their learning and what they need to work on. It is expected that with our new reporting system and our 3way Conferences that they will provide a much clearer picture of children’s capabilities as we head in 2016. This is still a work in progress as we continue to implement feedback from parents, teachers and students. The excitement generated by the conferences can be summed up in the words of Braden Lynch-Clay.

“I really liked the 3way conferences for the following reasons. You got to show work you were proud of instead of teacher’s showing work you had done. The teachers make the work for you but you’re the one that actually does it so I think you know more about the work and can explain it better to your parents.”

Please make sure you read about the Preps 100 Days of School - such an exciting event depicting what it would be like to be 100, and even more exciting for the Prep teaching team. The highlight was thinking someone’s Great Grandmother had popped in for a visit when it was really someone in disguise!

Thank you to all our teachers and parents that made this year’s Grade 3/4 camp so successful. A lot of time, effort and energy was invested for a wonderful payoff and tantastic experience for our students. Well done.

Welcome back to Indigo Sangster, returning home from Japan. I know your experience there will last a lifetime and I know that your family is particularly happy to have you back on home soil. Thankyou for representing our school and community so beautifully. I am a very proud Principal.

There is such excitement on Wednesday mornings when our four year old kinder group travel down the corridor to see Jane in LOTE. The children are very excited about learning Japanese and love their songs. They travel down the corridor on Fridays and get to visit their Grade 5 buddies in the library. What a buzz! Just a timely reminder too, that 3 and 4 year old kinder enrolments are now due.

Also, if you are intending to have your Prep enrolled for 2016 please make sure that you completed enrolment forms and handed them in at the office. If you are moving away from The Patch, please advise us in writing by the end of this term.

Enjoy the weekend with your family.

Deb
herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Grade 3/4 Camp

Our grade 3/4 classes have been away to the YMCA Mt Evelyn Recreation camp. All the children challenged themselves to try new things, sleep away from home and eat together in a huge dining room. They participated in fun camp activities like a GIANT swing, rode the flying fox, scaled the high ropes course, built outdoor huts, they mapped the camp grounds and found treasure and learnt more about being a steward for the environment. There even was a Pyjama party and a trivia night! Check out the photos from our lucky campers. A BIG and special thankyou to our parent volunteers, Matt Ryan and Keir MacDonald.

Photos from camp:
100 Days of school!

On Tuesday the 28th of July the Preps dressed up and celebrated being at school for 100 days! During the morning session the Preps all brought a special person along to share in the celebrations and activities! Students and special friends made crowns, created towers with 100 cups, made special bookmarks, jumped 100 times on the trampoline, did 100 skips of a skipping rope and many other ‘100 themed’ activities. It was a fabulous day complete with a party and many delicious ‘100 themed’ party foods! Hmmm Lesley, Alesha and Deb A have certainly aged in the past 100 days!
Get ready for a **BIG** day of shopping!!

**The Patch School**
**Staff Fundraising Shopping Tour**

**Saturday 29th August 2015**
7.30am – 6.30pm

😊 Parents & Friends Very Welcome 😊

Just $60 for a full day of shopping,
morning tea, a 2 course lunch and plenty of laughs along the way.

**Full payment required by Thursday 13th August 2015**
Indigo Sangster in Japan

After waiting for many months, I finally got to go to Japan! I left on the 8th of July for a two week adventure in the hot and humid Fukuoka. I went with 5 other kids from Australia who I had become good friends with and two chaperones. We arrived in Singapore after a sleepless flight, we then hoped on our next plane and went straight to Fukuoka. When we arrived there were lots of people from the Bridge Club (part of the Asian Pacific Children’s Convention, not Bridge as in the game) waving and cheering us as we walked into the airport. From there we went to Marine House camp. There we met up with all the other Junior Ambassadors from around the world. I shared a room with the girls from Thailand and we all became great friends. While at the camp we did loads of activities to get to know each other, such as sports, dances, scavenger hunts, skipping and charades. We found out that while we were all from different countries with different traditions and cultures we are all the same and I made many friends from all over the world. My closest new friends were from Papa New Guinea and I hope to keep in contact with them for a long time. We ate many Japanese foods while at the camp and had lots of fun!

After a week at the camp, we continued on and met out host families. I felt very excited to finally meet the people I had been emailing for months. I went to the home stay on my own. My host family were possibly the nicest people on Earth and made me feel very much at home. My host mum was Mina and she spoke English almost fluently, my host dad Hiroki was lovely and spoke no English at all, Rio was my host sister who was my age and spoke some English and of course I couldn’t escape having a little brother, his name was Keito, he spoke no English at all either.

While there I had so many amazing experiences. I tried many different foods and ways of eating. Eating in Japan is a real event and was really interactive and never boring. I went to some amazing landmarks and attended school for two days. It was going to be 3 days, but due to a typhoon heading in the direction of Fukuoka, all the schools were closed!! I was FREAKING OUT (and so was my mother back in Australia). School there was really different. The kids pretty much ran the class and they didn’t take lunch, they had a hot lunch provided BUT they also had to clean the entire school every day including the toilets! YUK!

All the Japanese people I met were so very generous to me in many ways. If I looked in a shop window, the item I looked at would be in my hands within seconds. My most prized possession I brought back from Japan was my Yukata (like a kimono). There were matching traditional Japanese thongs and a beautiful hair clip to go with it. In Japan girls my age wear this on special occasions as casual wear. If it was formal it would be a kimono. My host family lived in an apartment, it was small but modern and lovely. The bathroom was amazing with talking baths and very unusual toilets!

We also had to do a performance at the APCC festival. Each country did an act from their country of origin. Many were very serious and traditional but ours from Australia involved a
lot of free dancing and was entirely random and a tiny bit cheeky! The finale involved throwing blown up kangaroo pool toys into the crowd.

I feel so grateful for the opportunity I was given to go to Japan. It was a once in a lifetime chance to meet and get to know children from around the world and to immerse myself in Japanese culture. I will definitely be applying to become a Peace ambassador when I am older and chaperone kids like me. I hope someone from our school gets to go again next year!

Indigo

Congratulations and Welcome back Indigo
2016 Calendars & Greeting Cards featuring your child’s artwork

PLEASE NOTE; All orders need to be completed by Tuesday, 18th August.
If paying by cash or cheque please fill out attached order form and send back to school.
*No order form is required if paying by Qkr!

August, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians

We will once again provide your children with the opportunity to have their amazing artwork professionally reproduced in a set of quality greeting cards (purchased as a packet of 8 cards with envelopes), and/or a colourful 2016 calendar.

Over the years, parents and students have loved the calendars and more recently the greeting cards. They have found them to be a wonderful gift idea for relatives and friends, especially those living overseas.

The calendars and/or sets of greeting cards (cards are blank inside) can be purchased for $15.00 each. Multiple copies/packets can be ordered, however the same artwork will be used for each calendar or greeting card pack. Funds from each purchase go directly to our beautiful school.

Placing an Order & Payment 😊

If you wish to order one or more calendars or pack of greeting cards (you can order both), you can order and pay directly through Qkr! (Preferred payment method)
No forms required!

If you choose to pay by cash or cheque- you must fill in the attached order form and send back to school with payment. (one form per child please).

Please understand that no orders will be taken after Tuesday, August 18th.

Extra order forms can be printed from our school website.

Samples of both the greeting cards and calendars will be displayed outside the school office where some spare order forms will be available too.

Thank you for your support.

Karen, Leanne & Lissa
Visual Arts Teachers.

If paying by Qkr!
No order form is required 😊

Preferred Payment Method

Qkr!
by MasterCard

The Patch School Kallista-Emerald Road, The Patch 3792 Telephone 9756 7463 Fax 9752 0211
Here is Ashley 5/6B and Nyssa 5/6C speaking at this morning’s Assembly about the success of our 3way Conferences held just this week. Megan and Tania are reminding us Science Week is coming up soon.
Congratulations to all the students awarded certificates at assembly!
Well done everyone!

Have you been to Assembly recently? We hold our whole-school Assembly on Friday mornings at 9am either in the Hall or on the basketball court, depending on the weather.
Hope to see you there soon!
The Art Room Is Moving!
The Art Room is making the move from Mirren down to Babbaji (previously the instrumental music room). During this exciting time we advise that we currently cannot take any donations of materials, but will let you know what we require as soon as the new space is organised.
Thank you!

Did you apply for the Camps, Excursions & Sports Fund (CESF)?
Payments have now arrived for those parents who were eligible and applied for the CESF. If you have not already done so, please contact the school Office and advise them of your allocation preferences.
Thank you.

Look at our environmental scientists busy at work mapping the Garden! Why not ask your child what they do in Environmental Science?
A Way To Happier Children

Behaviour Analyst, Dan Petro, presents an information session outlining:

- The function of behaviour
- Suggestions to help your children
- The rights and independence of individuals
- Family and school needs and behaviour
- Education and family support
- Your questions answered

Monday 14th September
7pm—9pm

Supper provided
Limited places available!
Book now through trybooking!

Venue:
The Patch School Library
53 Kallista—Emerald Road
The Patch
9756 7463
Bookings Essential through trybooking. Click here.

Sponsored and supported by
Anglicare Parentzone
Making Waves!

National Science Week 2015 15-23rd August

It’s that time of the year again! Now entering its fourteenth year, National Science Week has well and truly cemented itself as Australia’s largest festival, with last year’s calendar offering over 1000 events throughout Australia, reaching an audience of over a million people.

This year’s theme is ‘making waves: the science of light.’ We will be celebrating science week at The Patch by organising science lessons on light, holding light activities in the library during lunchtime, facilitating a free incursion on engineering and robotics for grade 5&6 students and running a GEOfIX toy model-building competition!

National Science Week 2015 will run from 15-23 August. Event details can be found at www.scienceweek.net.au.

Photos from last year’s Science Week
Tanya Cook is an Occupational Therapist based in Upwey with over 17 years of experience working with children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders, sensory processing differences, ADHD, learning difficulties and mental health issues.

Due to local demand she is offering small group programs to assist children experiencing difficulties regulating their behaviour within the classroom, playground and / or at home.

The “Zones of Regulation” (Leah Kuypers) and the “Alert Program” (Sherry Shellenberger and Mary Sue Williams) will be used as a framework for the groups, and individual needs will be catered for in small group sizes.

The program runs for 6 weeks and requires communication with parents and teachers to assist in transferring skills learned in the course to their everyday environments.

Please contact Tanya Cook phone: 0423 058 766 or email tanyacook01@gmail.com if you would like to register or to discuss the program in more detail. Places are limited.

**Group 1:** Grade 1 – 2 students  
**Group 2:** Grade 3 – 4 students  
**Group 3:** Grade 5 – 6 students  
**COST:** $360 for the 6 weeks

**WHEN:** Commencing Thursday 30th July 2015  
WHERE: 8 Creekbank Street Upwey. Bookings essential.

Families may be eligible to claim some Medicare rebate from the sessions with a GP referral and Mental Health Care plan. If your child is eligible, you may use FaHCSIA funding to cover the cost of these sessions.
CONTACTING OSHC

To contact OSHC staff during program hours please call the main school telephone number 9756 7463 and select Option 1 to be directed to the OSHC landline.

If this line is unavailable, please call the mobile 0419 515 494 and, if there is no answer, feel free to leave a message.

Also call this number during school hours and you will be re-directed to the OSHC Voicemail.

Staff will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you 😊

**KidsMatter** - A grant for The Reach Program!

As you have read in previous newsletters, our school is committed to implementing the KidsMatter Primary Framework. This is a wellbeing framework for primary schools and provides the methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents, carers and the wider community to nurture happy, balanced kids.

With a lot of time and effort, Jane our KidsMatter team member, has received a grant to offer Reach Rookys - a program from the Reach Foundation - to our Grade 5/6 students at no charge. The aim of the Reach Foundation is to recognise the challenges of young people today and aims to improve their wellbeing so they can be healthy and resilient to meet life's challenges. Grades 5 & 6 would be part of 2 workshops this year, then, as Grade 6 students, there would be a further 2 workshops (current Grade 5s would do the 3rd and 4th workshops next year). The workshops are run by the Reach crew and the aims of the workshops are to improve resilience and self-belief, enhance emotional and social skills, improve connections with peers and incorporate the use of positive coping strategies which can be applied in their lives.

More information can be found at [www.reach.org.au](http://www.reach.org.au)
We have had overwhelmingly positive feedback about our new payment app Qkr (pronounced ‘Quicker’). For any of you who do not have access to a tablet or smart phone and cannot access the app, head to the school website (School Life tab) where there is information about how to access the web based version.

Paying Cash at School

As we are fast becoming a cashless school, we do not hold any change on the premises. If you are needing to pay cash at school you will need to ensure you have the correct amount as we are unable to give change. Thank you for your cooperation.

Garden Team

We are always looking for new members for our Garden Team. If you would like to come along to our monthly Tuesday night meeting, please see Michelle Rayner 😊
**The Patch Store is on Qkr!**

School lunch orders are now available for order on Qkr! This will be a great time saver, no longer will you have to scrounge for loose change in the morning rush! Lunch order days are still Monday, Wednesday and Friday. When you log on to Qkr simply click on The Patch Store then select the day you are ordering lunch for, then scroll through the products and select what you’d like. You will need to order individually for each child.

Remember that if you have ordered lunch on QkR, there is no need to place a written order in your child’s lunch order basket. As with any new process, there may be a few hiccups to begin with but the system is constantly being refined and your feedback is valued.

Thank you for your enthusiasm and understanding.

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**Parking Restrictions Behind the Hall**

Please note that there is no parking behind the Hall. This is a staff only area and we ask parents and visitors to use the gravel car park behind the shelter shed or parallel parking spaces along the ring road.

Thank you for your co-operation 😊
What is SchoolMate? SchoolMate is an app for Victorian parents to help them understand what their kids are learning and get more involved in their child’s education.

Who is SchoolMate for? Parents of students from prep to Year 10 in Victorian government schools.

Can parents of children in Catholic and independent schools use SchoolMate? Parents with children at Catholic schools can also use SchoolMate as their schools also follow the AusVELS Victorian school curriculum. Parents with children at Independent schools should check with their principal or teacher about how closely their school follows the AusVELS curriculum.

Where can I get SchoolMate? You can download it now for free in the App store and in Google Play. Just search for ‘SchoolMate’.

Does SchoolMate work on all phones and tablets? SchoolMate works on all iPhone 4s, 5s and 6s and all recent iPads. It also works on all current Android phones and tablets.

What will I find in SchoolMate?

SchoolMate will:

- Show parents a snapshot of what their children are learning in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provide tips as to what they can do at home to help their kids in the best way possible
- Suggested related apps, books, events and activities relevant to each subject area.

Will SchoolMate tell me everything about what my children are learning at school? No. SchoolMate is a snapshot of the school curriculum (AusVELS) which our school uses as the basis for the learning programs we deliver every day. Parents should always talk to their child’s teacher with any questions about what their child is learning.

Who created SchoolMate? The Department of Education and Training’s Digital Comms team, with lots of help from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and dozens of educators from the Victorian teaching subject associations.
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Please head to the website below for more information
Remember your weekly school banking is collected on a **Wednesday**.

Every time you deposit you will receive a sticker for your certificate and with only 6 stickers per term you will receive a prize at the end of term.

Application forms and certificates are available at the school office.

By banking with Bendigo Bank you also support all the animals at the Monbulk Wildlife Shelter.

Have fun saving and don’t forget you can contact us at the Bank with any questions at all 😊

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Monbulk & District **Community Bank**® Branch
70 Main Street, Monbulk, VIC 3793
P 03 9752 1130
E monbulkmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au
The Importance of Attendance

Please remember that all students are expected to be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons by 8.50am.

We understand that now and again things don’t go to plan but all families should aim for their children to be at school by this time.

Parents should also remember that late arrivals or early leavers must be signed in or out by their parent or guardian using the VPass system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or yellow tag must also be given to the classroom teacher when collecting your child.

The Department of Education & Training has very specific expectations about school attendance and we ask that all parents be mindful of the importance of prompt and regular attendance at school.

Thank you.

Community Notices

“Therapeutic Creative Counselling for kids, teens and parents”...

CREATIVE KIDS THERAPY

✓ Building resilience, self-esteem and confidence
✓ Empowering your child
✓ Learning life skills, problem solving and coping strategies

Mention this ad for 20% off initial parent session

Melinda Zammit
Professional Counsellor & Group Facilitator
minnie@creativekidstherapy.com.au
www.creativekidstherapy.com.au
Mob: 0421 477 781

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Community Notices

In Schools Music
Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, Tuba, Drums, Percussion, and Bass Guitar. New students. Enrolments to Andrew McAlister on 0408467147 or email ismusic@bigpond.com

Music Tuition with Chris Walker
Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after. Phone 0407 049 012 or email chrisw7@ymail.com

Violin, Viola & Cello Lessons
Lessons are available at school on Fridays with experienced strings teacher Jane Coleman. For further information call: 0431 290 396 or email: janeliz.coleman@gmail.com. Be quick as there is currently only a small number of places available for new pupils.

Private Ukulele Lessons
The Patch School students now have the opportunity to take private ukulele lessons, starting next term on Mondays, from week 2 onwards. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 5 years’ experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and is looking forward to teaching at The Patch. The cost is $14 for a 20 minute individual lesson or $10 for a paired lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email. 0408 102 542  jessdunn.arts@gmail.com.au

Drawing lessons
Are your kids crazy about drawing?
If the answer is yes, sign them up for this 4 week course. They will learn simple techniques to boost their drawing confidence and help them to go from aspiring to awesome!

4 week course beginning term 3  Time: Wednesdays 3:45 - 4:30 pm
$15 per 45 min lesson  Max 5 per class  Ages 11+
Venue: Eco centre at the Patch Primary
For more details contact Steve on 97566961