Dates to Remember

April
- Mon 25th: ANZAC Day
- Thurs 28th: District Athletics
- Fri 29th: Prep to Two Athletics Day

May
- Tues 3rd: Yr 1 & 2 National Gallery Excursion
- Thurs 5th: School Photos
- Tues 10th & Weds 11th: NAPLAN
- Thurs 12th – Thurs 19th: Book Fair
- Mon 16th – Fri 20th: Education Week
- Weds 18th – Fri 20th: 1st EarthKeeper’s Camp
- Mon 23rd – Weds 25th: 2nd EarthKeeper’s Camp
- Mon 30th: Curriculum Day (student free day)

June
- Mon 13th: Queen’s Birthday
- Tues 14th: Yr 1 – 3 Sustainability Incursion
- Thurs 23rd: Gr 3 Scienceworks Excursion
- Fri 24th: Last Day of Term 2

Prep - Two Athletics Day!
Please wear house colours for our Junior Athletics Day on Friday the 29th of April. Children’s houses are displayed on the P.E noticeboard in the main building.

School Photos
School Photos are on Thursday the 5th of May! Your order form will come home with your child next week. Remember that orders can be placed online as soon as you get your order number, but cash payments can be taken on the day ONLY.
We wish to again thank all those who helped and assisted with our Autumn Festival. We raised an amazing total of $6,820! Thanks to this fundraiser, we have been able to purchase:

- 15 new Microscopes
- A keyboard with stand for Music
- A cantilever umbrella for the staff area
- Extra marquees for future events and student activities
- $800 going towards our Community Fund

Thankyou everyone for your support, time and energy spent in making this year’s Autumn Festival such a fantastic day.

We are trialling a new Circus Program in Term 3 with Little Devil’s Circus, which you should have received some information about this week. Many schools have reported this program to be entertaining, enjoyable and fun. Some of the skills our students will be learning include:

- Juggling scarves and balls
- Diabolos
- Poi
- Spinning plates
- Devils sticks
- Hoops & Mini hoops
- Ribbons
- Twirling staves
- Pedal goes
- Stilts
- A range of physical circus skills, including partner and group balances, and “human pyramid”-type skills.

We are looking forward to seeing the skills our students develop at the Circus Show - Thursday 15th September at The Discovery Church.

I would like to give a big thank you to Jess Holden for organising our wonderful Anzac Day ceremony. It was such a privilege to have Bill from Monbulk RSL spend some time with us today. Our assembly was held around the Gallipoli Oak, a tree planted last year to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Australian soldiers landing on the shores of Gallipoli.

Over the next three Terms we will be completing our Strategic Review. We will be calling on the community to assist us in many ways. Some of the areas we may ask for your input include reviewing the way we:

- establish valuable links between teachers and parents
- communicate information via school newsletters, handbooks and calendars
- organise events for new students and parents at the school
- channel parent views to school leadership and school council about school policies
- surveys and parent/student forums which provide feedback on our successes and areas in need of improvement
Staff will be reviewing curriculum, process and policies, looking at our successes and areas for improvement. School Council and the education sub committee will be reviewing our policies and we will be asking for your input to help define our next four years.

The purpose of our review will be to benefit students and to enrich and contribute to the wellbeing of the school community through positive interaction and support.

We are partners in the children’s education and we hope that our review will help forge firmer links with the school and our community.

Have a great weekend with your loved ones,

Deb
herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

MAY BOOK FAIR!

The Patch Primary School Book Fair starts Thursday the 12th of May at 3.30pm.
The book fair that we held in November, raised over $600 for our school library. Thank you to everyone for their support.
Our library has some beautiful books and without the support of the school community and the wonderful people who do the scholastic book club, we would not have such a comprehensive and delightful selection of books.
The book fair starts at 3.30pm on Thursday the 12th of May and finishes 9.00am Thursday the 19th.
See you at the book fair!

Walking to the Patch Store

Due to some parental concerns around the behaviour of the children walking to the Patch Store we have agreed as a school for Pauleen to walk students to the gates at top of the path. From the gates to the Patch Store, children are the responsibility of their parents. You are able to meet your child/children at the top of the pathway if you have any further concerns. Thank you.
The Patch at Lunchtime

Cubby making, nest building, flower collecting, it's all happening at The Patch!
Big thank you to Willem, who has donated his Thorny Leaf Insects to our Eco-Centre!
Anastasia and Jade build a nest of leaves! Natasha, Tameem and Kiana feed our new chickens at lunch. Grade 5 & 6 students play basketball.
EXPAND YOUR WORLD

Capture the spirit of fun and friendship in your own backyard! Department of Education-approved Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is pleased to provide a different educational and cultural experience for you and your family. Don't miss the invaluable opportunity to learn about your favourite foreign culture, and even improve your languages' score.

Our volunteer families come in different sizes but all have big hearts in choosing to share their daily life and culture with an international exchange student. Volunteer families are more than wonderful hosts. They are a crucial part of S.C.C.E.'s tireless award-winning efforts to embrace our world through international cultural understanding and help put Australian culture on the map. Their voluntary accommodating of a 15-17 year old sporty, adaptable and nature-loving young individual brings with it unexpected rewards as the opportunity offers everyone a unique experience to learn, gain and adjust.

Exchange students will be arriving soon in mid-July. Select your choice of a French, German, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, Finnish, Danish or Norwegian student and according to your family's availability. S.C.C.E. takes care of all the arrangements including school.

Call 1800 500 501 (toll-free) email: scceast@scce.com.au web: www.scce.com.au

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Broaden your horizons. Expand your mind. Make friends for life.

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LILLYDALE LAKE FUN RUN

Join the Yarra Ranges Athletics club for a great morning of running around the Lillydale Lake parklands. This is running at the lake, but not as you know it!!

Sunday MAY 15th 2016 from 9am

2km - Family Event, run/walk
From $12.00 online entry. Or $20.00 on the day.

5km - Bakers Delight Dash
From $30.00 online entry. Or $45.00 on the day.

10km - Active Feet Lake Challenge
From $35.00 online entry. Or $50.00 on the day.

Fully marked and marshalled courses, over gravel, grass and hills.

ENTER NOW at www.yarrarangesathletics.org.au

MORE INFORMATION on the website or e-mail events@yarrarangesathletics.org.au

NEW in 2016
- $20 in race value for 5km & 10km entrants
- Medals for all finishers
- School entry fees for early online entries for early bird entrants receive a personalised race bib

BBQ CANTEEN
Open during the event. EFTPOS accepted

ALL 5km and 10km entrants will receive:
- $20 voucher to spend at Bakers Delight Lillydale
- $40 discount redeemable at Active Feet
- ALL FINISHERS receive a custom YRA medal

Foundations
Family Day Care
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.

Players Wanted!

Mountain Tigers Basketball Club is seeking junior players for the winter season. Join your local club! Learn new skills and make new friends!

No experience required. Saturday games are played locally!

Please contact Anne Heron for further details: registrar@mountaintigers.com.au
24 The Patch Road, The Patch

Perfect to live in as is, or retrofit and create your new family home with flexible living extended over two levels. Suitable for large family, multi-sharing, home-based business, tourism, boutique conference reception centre, (STCA).

Engage your ecopreneurship and develop your vision on nine acres of land on a NE aspect with great soils and high rainfall (1200mm). Excellent potential to develop intensive organic agriculture, horticulture (eg. grapes), egg production, orchards, etc. for healthy, sustainable living. Become part of a wonderful community with friendly, innovative people, walking access to an award-winning primary school, and excellent public transport to Melbourne CBD.

A great opportunity to develop your new home and property as an outstanding example of sustainable living in a small, peaceful valley of the Dandenong Ranges.

ecoproperty® rating

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Contact
Catriona MacDiarmid
M + SMS 0409 528 692
E office@ecorealestate.com.au

Inspections
By Appointment Only
Open Day Schedule
Is Your Family Entitled to the CSEF?

The Victorian Government has put in place the **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** for eligible beneficiaries. This program provides $125 per child to be used to pay any of the above activities.


If you have any questions about CSEF, please contact the school.

Important QkR Lunch Order Tips

To ensure your child’s receives their lunch order, could you please:

- Order via QkR **no later than 9.30am** on the day of the order or personally at The Patch Store/Sushi Express
- Be sure your child’s class is correct in QkR (and update each year)
- Check your receipt to ensure the order & payment have processed correctly

The Patch Store and Sushi Express thank you for all your support with the school lunch program.

Thank you,
The Staff at The Patch Store and Sushi Express

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 😊

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 😊**
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

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

Cardio Tennis
Run during the school terms, this fun and energetic cardio workout to music, allows you to get great exercise whilst hitting the ball! Run by me, you will be instructed through a warm-up, tennis drills, and fun tennis games. 9:30-10:30am Tuesdays at The Patch Tennis Club (not on if it’s raining). All standards welcome. You don’t even have to have played before!
Contact Renae on 0403 498085.