Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY</th>
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<th>JUNE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 16th</td>
<td>Stomp the Beat Disco</td>
<td>Tue 4th</td>
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<td>Mon 20th</td>
<td>Community Sub-Committee 6pm</td>
<td>Athletics Day for Gr 3-6</td>
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<td>School Council 7.15pm Prep Info Night 7pm</td>
<td>Mon 17th</td>
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<td>Tue 21st</td>
<td><em>School Photo Day ☺</em></td>
<td>Mon 10th</td>
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<td>Thur 16th – Thur 23</td>
<td>Mon 24th</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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Thought for the week:

What teachers, parents and caregivers do impacts on children’s learning and belief in themselves and their abilities for a lifetime.

Where does the time go? We are already in week four, preparing for NAPLAN, report writing and Parent/Teacher Interviews. Next week we will have our first Stomp the Beat Disco. In your grade newsletter there is information about the disco and a note will also come home next week with final details. Last year we had difficulties with noise and overcrowding from parents staying in the Hall so we ask for safety’s sake that you move outside – the shutters will be left open during the junior school disco for you to observe if you feel the need or you can come to the Library for a coffee or tea and a chat.

On Monday we celebrated our Prep – Year Two champions in athletics with certificates – see results in this newsletter. On Tuesday we had a special assembly acknowledging the children now in Year 6 and Year 7 who had completed the EarthKeepers keys and are now official Level One Protectors of the Earth. Simon Woodland from the Shire of Yarra Ranges came and presented the certificates followed by Grace and Miles handing over the responsibility to the new Year 5 EarthKeepers. On Wednesday the new EarthKeepers went on camp accompanied by Michelle, Judy and Josie - a big thankyou to you all.

Fast approaching is Education Week and we look forward to meeting our new parents for 2014 on Monday May 20th for the Prep Information Night and providing tours on Wednesday morning with our Year 5 & 6 students, who undertake this role with much professionalism and knowledge. On Friday May 24th we look forward to your visit from 11.30am to 1.30pm to see what your children and grandchildren have been up to at school so far this year.

On a sadder note, I understand that I am speaking to a minority and that most of our parents continue to follow our car-parking and drop-off procedures, however I am disappointed about recent events in our school pick-up zone. There have been a number of incidents in the past few weeks that have left me wondering, if our community shows respect for each other and cares about our staff, parents, children and environment.

Cont. overleaf...
Incident: The lack of respect at pick-up for our teaching staff, who freely give their time (this is a courtesy task) to help parents and students remain as safe as possible only to be abused and yelled at by parents and grandparents is very disappointing. If you have someone else picking up your children please make sure they understand our drive through and moving on process.

Where does this leave us?
I ask that:

- We remain patient and considerate of staff and each other during pick up time – it is not all that pleasant standing in the pouring rain, to then be verbally abused
- We observe the signs around the school. When we ask for ‘Staff Parking’ only, I ask you to observe this.

Where can you park?
- In the top section of the gravel car park. Not in the lower section - this is a staff only zone.
- Along the left of the exiting side the ring road – not on the grass area to the right.
- At the top of the school outside the fence in the concrete bay

If we work together and help each other we will be able to keep our community safe.

Regards,

Deb

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

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**Winter Reminders**

As the weather becomes increasingly colder and wetter, we ask that you remember to pack some spare clothes for your child in case they accidentally get muddy during the day, as occasionally happens, or just for extra warmth.

This applies particularly to the younger children.

With the inevitable sniffles that come with winter, we also ask that you provide a box of tissues for your child’s class if possible.

Finally, if your child is feeling unwell or showing signs of a cold, please keep them at home where they can rest. Children with a cold or virus don’t learn easily and don’t have the energy to keep up with their classmates.

By keeping your unwell child home you will also minimize the spread of germs and viruses. Thanks for your understanding.

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**Doggy Deposits**

Although we do allow families to bring their dogs to school, it is important to remember that dogs must be on a lead and controlled at all times.

We also require owners to clean up after their dogs, as no-one likes to find dog droppings around the school grounds.

Thank you for your co-operation in maintaining our beautiful school.
Level 1 EarthKeepers receive certificates from Shire of Yarra Ranges

Twenty students from Years 6 and 7 received certificates on Tuesday, May 7, in recognition of their completed training to become Level 1 EarthKeepers. The students have attended a three day forest camp run by Sustainability Education officers from the Yarra Ranges Council and have completed a number of activities as they enriched their knowledge of the world around them and shared this new knowledge with peers and family.

We are very proud of our EarthKeepers and value the contribution they make to educating others about the importance of protecting and valuing our environment. They have created, produced and performed in activities to educate students at our school, participated in events such as Kids Teaching Kids Day where they ran activities learned from EarthKeepers Camp and acted as tour guides to visiting adults and students during school excursions to The Patch.

On Wednesday, a new group of Year 5 students headed off to EarthKeepers camp and will take over the role the outgoing Year 6s have created. We look forward to their return and some new initiatives in our school.

Stay tuned for a full report on the camp in the next newsletter.
Is your child a book worm and loves to read?"

A couple of mums and I are starting a book club which is open for any Grade 3 or 4's who are keen. We will meet once a month and the children will swap their favourite books and get an opportunity to talk about them if they wish, in an informal environment. This will be after school one evening say between 6pm -7.30pm, once a month." please contact sally@tractorgroup.com for more information or to join up.

Only open to a maximum of ten children and is free of charge!.. Hoping to hear from you...Sally Whitford

School Photo Day – Tuesday 21st May 2013

Please remember to return your order forms **ON PHOTO DAY ONLY** as the school does not collect payments or orders – this is handled completely by SchoolPix.

**Photo Day Tips**

- **Dress:** Clean & tidy as per school uniform guidelines  
  (no old red items please)
- **Hair:** Neat and swept off face
- **Orders:** Complete your order form and return to school on Photo Day
- **Pre-Orders:** To pre-order by credit card, take your personal Order and ID Number found on your child’s order form and go to [www.schoolpix.com.au](http://www.schoolpix.com.au)

**DON’T FORGET!!**

Family order forms for group photos & 25% discount vouchers for families with 3 or more sibligns are available from the document stand at the Office.

We live in an exquisitely beautiful place and autumn is a time when The Patch and the whole Dandenong Ranges look magnificent.

On your way to and from school, take the time to soak up this beauty and think about how fortunate we are to be surrounded by nature at its most spectacular.

Look at the many colours you can see and how they both compliment and contrast in the landscape.

More than anything else, enjoy your time outdoors while we are experiencing this unseasonal warm weather.
Prep – Grade 2 Athletics Day

Congratulations to the following winners of this year’s Junior School Athletics Day – well done!!

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Best Overall</th>
<th>Best Girl</th>
<th>Best Boy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Lachlan Elford</td>
<td>Hayley Donald &amp; Nikayla Seamer</td>
<td>Felix Smethurst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade One</td>
<td>Todd Mackay</td>
<td>Caitlyn De Ryk, Chloe Campbell &amp; Indi Denman Gurney</td>
<td>Bailey Komiazyk &amp; Ted Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Two</td>
<td>Sam Niclasen</td>
<td>Grace O’Shea</td>
<td>Riley Hawthorne</td>
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Hope City Mission

Hope City Mission Food Bank provides those in need with both temporary and on-going support through food hampers, hygiene products, bread, fresh fruit & vegetables. Assistance is given to those who hold a current concession card or are in financial hardship and are residents of the City of Maroondah, Knox or the Shire of Yarra Ranges. If you are in need of this service please contact us to arrange an appointment where we will assess your needs and discuss how we are best able to assist. Food Bank appointments are available Wednesdays 9.30am – 3pm and evenings from 7pm – 9.30pm and also Thursdays 9.30am – 2pm. Please call 9761 6778 during business hours to make an appointment. Hope City Mission, 51 Lusher Road Croydon 3136 www.hopecitymission.net.au
Let us turn YOUR rubbish into creative & exciting ART works!

Our Art Room needs:

- washed 2 litre milk bottles (with or without lids)
- plastic soft drink bottles (any size)
- old scratched DVDs and compact discs
- washed food cans any size
- aluminium drink cans (rinsed out please 😊)
- plastic lids, any size & colour! (We have quite the collection of lids thanks to many enthusiastic contributors, but we still need more!)
- old mirrors (small or large for garden installations)
- old wooden picture frames (any size)
- old pieces of plywood

Thank you for your support everyone! We look forward to receiving your donations and using them to create some terrific work.

Karen Robinson - Art Teacher

**Anglicare Victoria** provides support to 70,000 children, young people and families every year. Through a range of services, we work towards strengthening families and communities so they can protect and nurture the children within them. We alleviate immediate hardship through services like emergency food and crisis accommodation, and build capacity for sustainable living through programs like foster care, financial counselling, parent education and group work.

**We change lives.**

Anglicare provides many valuable free parenting resources for families and also offers courses on many interesting subjects. The latest ‘**Parent Zone**’ newsletter containing all of this information can be viewed by following the link above.

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**What’s On In Education Week 20th – 24th May 2013**

**Monday 20th May**
- **Prep Information Night**  7pm – 8pm Find out what you need to know for your child to start Preps in 2014

**Tuesday 21st May**
- **School Photo Day**  Everyone to bring their biggest smile to school! Forms & payments due back on this day only

**Wednesday 22nd May**
- **Prep Tours**  Our senior students will be providing tours of our school from 9.30am – 11am starting at the school foyer
- **Kinder Tours**  The Patch Early Learning Centre will be open for families to be shown through from 10am – 11am

**Friday 24th May**
- **Parents & Grantparents Visit**  From 11.30am – 1.30pm families are welcome to visit our school and see what students do during their school day
March and April in Environmental Education at The Patch:

A Visit from Rangeview Primary School:
Students from years 5 and 6 played host to over 80 year 3 students from Rangeview Primary School when they attended our school for an excursion on March 25th. The students were interested in gaining a knowledge of sustainable garden practices, getting up close with some interesting Australian wildlife, taking a tour of our garden “Learning Landscape” and learning to do some plant propagation for their own school garden.

Our 5/6 students were responsible for leading all the workshops, tours and activities. They explained, described, demonstrated, assisted and encouraged the young visitors to enable them to gain as much as possible from the day and the visitors were not disappointed. Some of our students taught 8 groups an activity and they were still enthusiastic! Our observing teachers, both visiting and resident, remarked on how capable the 5/6s were; their knowledge, understanding and ease with which they carried out their tasks were clearly exemplary.

It is wonderful to be able to give our students these opportunities to consolidate their knowledge, demonstrate their skills, interact with others, take leadership and show initiative. They treated our visitors with courtesy, patience and respect and were excellent ambassadors.

There were financial gains also, as each year 3 student paid $5 to attend the excursion. This money has gone towards purchasing some items for the student designed 5/6 landscape that is soon to be built around the new 5/6 building.

It was a great morning and we were very proud of our lovely students. Well done 5/6C and Year 6 EarthKeepers!

The Patch Students present at the Eastern Metro Sustainability Fair:
3/4 students presented a workshop called “Keeping Wildlife at School” for the Eastern Metro Sustainability Fair last week at Croydon Hills Primary School. The students, Anastasia Armitage, Ashley Britton, Braeden Lynch-Clay, James Morrison and Yasmin Page delivered two ten minute workshops to some of the 200 students from the Eastern Region who attended the fair. They demonstrated a sound knowledge of their subject matter and responsible handling of the Blue Tongue Lizards and Bearded Dragons they brought along to create an interactive and very educational workshop.

Our students spoke clearly, knowledgeably, enthusiastically and with passion and were a credit to our school. They prepared their workshop thoroughly and included information on how wildlife allows for an interactive learning experience, the licensing requirements for schools, animal facts and behaviours and the requirements of keeping animals responsibly. Their listeners were very keen to explore the possibility of keeping wildlife in their own schools. Well done, an excellent effort.

(our students interacting with some of the fair showcase stallholders to learn how they can help our school)
New Gardens for 1/2 and 5/6 Learning Areas:

For some time now, students in years 1/2 and 5/6 have been designing and discussing a suitable landscape for around their new buildings. Whilst the 1/2 process has been largely based around drawings, simple research and discussions, the 5/6 design has taken over two terms and is now officially being drawn up by a team of draughtsmen from year 6. All students have undertaken site surveys such as soil tests, soil pH, site measurements, aspect and drainage, which they have recorded and analysed. They produced preliminary individual drawings using research, texts and discussions to inspire them and then formed small groups to produce more collaborative designs which were then modelled using loose materials such as gravel, sand, clay, flowers, bark, etc to create a 3-D depiction of their ideas. All models were keyed out and photographed and then examined to identify the main elements that kept recurring throughout the designs.

Not surprisingly, the top garden elements included edible plants, outdoor seating and shade, water, themed gardens, flower gardens, a giant chessboard, sculpture and active areas, living sculptures, animals, a world garden, construction opportunities and murals. Already our students have begun designing the artwork, researching the edible plants, sourcing materials and communicating to the community. At this stage, we are still trying to obtain chicken wire, outdoor tables and chairs, old market umbrellas, outdoor paint and animal cages. If you can help with any of these please see me or the students of 5/6.

Meanwhile, the 1/2 garden is beginning to take shape with two beautiful tepees created by the students with the help of Ted’s (1B) mum Simone. The children learnt how to tie knots, weave the willow through the bamboo, use secateurs safely and work as a team. Soon there will be willow domes to accompany the tepees, edible plants above the retaining walls, fruit trees between the gravel carpark and classroom fence (and sweeping around the slope), colourful pots of plants on the decks, an outdoor animal enclosure for greater exercise for class pets, and lots and lots of artwork. If you would like to join in the fun, feel free to come along and have some fun.
Vision 2020 Creating Sustainable Communities:
On 22nd March, 10 students from years 5/6 attended Swinburne University Wantirna Campus to participate in a Youth Symposium called Vision 2020 – Creating Sustainable Communities. The day aimed to bring together dynamic mentors and world visionaries in sustainability to engage young people to take positive action to help create an equitable and sustainable future. Our students – Willow Cleary, Miles Farrell, Emma Horne, Jhenardt Mischon, Archer Radford, Maddie Ross, Darcy Ryan, Hannah Schmidli and Grace Staindyl-Dymond – participated in a number of interactive workshops and listened to international guest speakers sharing their knowledge and expertise to provide students with a deeper understanding of the issues facing our next generation. Now that our students have become inspired and aware, they are intending to initiate some actions that the whole school can participate in. Stay tuned for an idea for World Environment Day on June 5! (some of our students attending the Endangered Species workshop)

Terrific Tennis Stars!!
Our congratulations to Elly Royle and Grace Staindl-Dymond for their outstanding achievement in School Sport Victoria’s Dandenong Ranges Division 2013 Tennis Championships. Well done girls!

Excursion & Camp Payments
Parents are reminded that we require all payments for school activities by the due date unless alternative arrangements have been made with Deb or the Office staff. Due to the large amount of planning and preparation required for excursions and camps, your co-operation is vital. If, for any reason, you are finding it difficult to pay for any school charges please do not hesitate to discuss the matter confidentially with Deb as there are often options we can offer you to assist. Unfortunately, if no payment is received by the due date, your child may not be able to participate in the activity. We really don’t want anyone to miss out, so please speak to Deb if you have any concerns.
Parents Victoria Online Conference

Parents and other interested participants are warmly invited to take part in the seventh annual online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet during Education Week, commencing at 6.00 a.m. on Sunday 19 May, with discussion topics including:

Reporting
School Canteens
Teachers
Inclusive Education
Education Funding
The Impact of Technology
Bus Safety
The Role of the School

There is also the opportunity to comment on other Education issues.

Participation is free. No special software is needed just an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions are very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate are provided. Each day there will be a PV host and/or special guests who will be able to respond to comments and stimulate discussion.

To register go to http://www.straighttothepoint.co/pv/default.php

For further information, email: office@parentsvictoria.asn.au

Telephone (03) 9380 2158 or visit: www.parentsvictoria.asn.au

The conference is proudly supported by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
Apple tree pruning

Sunday May 19

Following on from our popular apple tree grafting workshop last year, we have our very generous local horticulturist Siobhan joining us again. This time she’ll be demonstrating how to prune apple trees. We’ll learn how to care for apple trees at different stages of life: a young tree having its first prune; an older tree needing a better prune so it will produce more fruit; a mature tree in need of some TLC; and how to apply these skills to other fruit trees.

9.30am start, finishing with morning tea

So we have an idea of numbers, please rsvp by May 17, and you’ll be given the venue details

RSVP via info@thepatchlandcare.org.au or call Jenny on 9752 0219.

New faces welcome, family friendly!

The Patch Landcare Group
PO Box 96 The Patch Victoria 3792
Email: info@thepatchlandcare.org.au
**Position Available**
Casual Childcare work at The Patch School OSHC Program
Interested persons with some qualification/experience please contact Sheila on 9752 0164.

**Do You Have a 3, 4 OR 5 Year Old?**
A local mum and qualified primary teacher is seeking 52 children aged 3 years, 0 months to 5 years, 6 months for her Honours in Psychology research project through the University of New England. The study aims to compare the effectiveness of iPads with hands-on learning materials for pre-schoolers. Participation in the project involves 1-2 hours of time, spread over five days, in your own home. Each child is randomly allocated to either the iPad condition or the concrete materials condition and plays a specific game once a day for five days. Each participant receives a picture book after the fifth session as a thankyou gift. For more information or to register your child, please contact Kirsty Pitman at kpitman5@myune.edu.au This project has received ethics approval from the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of New England, approval number HE13-066. Please note the research is not affiliated with nor being conducted through The Patch Primary School; this item is just included as a community notice.

**Intimo Lingerie – Book Your Own Intimo Styling Session**
Everyday bras, Sports bras to support bras, fashion must-haves to fashion main-stays in Sizes 30A to 46G, 6 to 24, the Intimo Collection offers beautiful lingerie, for every size, shape and lifestyle. Preview the latest Intimo Collections at www.intimo.com.au RECEIVE FABULOUS INTIMO REWARDS WHEN YOU HOLD YOUR OWN STYLING SESSION
BOOK TODAY – TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT SUE FLYNN M. 0419 324 070 E. sue.flynn@intimo.com.au F. www.facebook.com/sue.flynn.399
(i am a Mum at the Patch School and work in the Uniform Shop Wednesdays at 2.30 pm – why not pop in for a chat).

**The CourtYard Sassafras**
The CourtYard is now open! Please come in and browse through our six rooms of beautiful handcrafted furniture.
We also stock a fab range of eclectic gifts and homewares sourced from Australia and abroad.
263 Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, Ferny Creek Tel: 9755 2630 Parking available
Open six days 10.30am to 5pm (Closed Tuesday) FACEBOOK: thecourtyardsassafras

**The Cottage Child Care Centre**
208 Main Road Monbulk has vacancies available for Childcare -5 years of age. Highly qualified & caring staff. All first aid, asthma & anaphylaxis trained. Fantastic indoor/outdoor facilities. Nutritional meals daily, CCB & CCR rebates, open from 7-6 daily. Call Karen or John on 9752 1442

**KALEIDOSCOPE Creative Arts**
Term 2 Enrol Now- first 4 weeks kids classes free @ The Dreaming Space, Olinda Primary School week starting 23rd April - Magic Jam, Drama, Circus, Face Painting Classes Primary, Secondary and open age available
Contact Sci on kaleidoscopecreativearts@gmail.com or 9755 2050 bookings essential

**RANGES BASKETBALL CLUB** will be running Mini Ranges on the following dates: (all Tuesday’s)
23rd, 30th April from 4pm – 4.30pm and 7, 14, 21st May 4pm – 5pm
Where: Monbulk College sports stadium.
This is a full court session with the aim of teaching basic ball handling skills to 6 – 10 year old children. Bring a ball if you have one (not compulsory)
For further information or to book a place ring Carey on 0417 398 834 or Information can be sought from Gill Wilson (Ferny Creek PS) or Rachel Scott (Sassy PS), Megan Ford(The Patch PS), Danny Leonard (Mt D PS), Simone Hall (Kallista)
If you are 7 – 22 and would like to play the Winter season starting in June ring or email Carey ct3103@bigpond.com
Community Notices cont.

BUSH DANCE
Monbulk Christian Fellowship are holding a Bush Dance featuring The Bones & Boghran Bush Band
Saturday 15th June 2013 from 7.15 – 10.30pm @ MCF Concert Hall, 84a Old Emerald Rd Monbulk
Admission $15, Concession $10, Families of 2 adults & 2 children $40    SUPPER PROVIDED
Phone 9756 7866    Email monbuilkcf@westnet.org.au    Post PO Box 327 Monbulk 3793

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 9756 7515, 0407 049 012 or email chrisjw@netspace.net.au.

Come and join The Voice Maker School of Singing!
Students are now having Singing Lessons at School in school time by a Professional Vocal Coach!
For all children that love singing and want to develop confidence within themselves the fun way!
They will also perform in live shows!**Semi private lessons $15-2 students half hour.
**Private lessons $30 for half hour. Call Jennie on 0410 543 946 or email joey24@optusnet.com.au

Spanish For all Ages
A playful and creative introduction to a second Language this program offers lots of opportunities for
developing an interest in Spanish and its Culture. Preps to Grade 6’s are welcome, small groups only.
Mondays from 4:15 to 5pm in the Uniform Room. Forms at the office or contact Pilar on 0427881572
HASTA LUEGO !