It is already week two and we have a lot on this term. The dates and events are included below for your diaries.

**Year 5 & 6 Urban Camp.**
I would like to acknowledge the work of the teachers and parents who attended this camp, in particular for the time and energy they put in to make a successful experience for the students. Over the 3 days I received many reports of well mannered, considerate and well behaved children. Congratulations - your children should be proud of the example they have set in representing our school.

Thank you to the teachers and support staff - Tania, Cheryl, Angie, Kate, Courtney and Trish - who organized and went above and beyond in caring for your children. Thanks to Lynne P and Michelle who juggled time to attend, and to the following parents who also gave of their support - Nicola, Jill, Peter, Stuart, Erica, Andrea, Edith and Sue. A heartfelt thank you to you all!

**Athletics Day Prep - 2**
Next week we have the Prep – 2 Athletics Day and, weather permitting, we will be competing from 9.00 to 11.00 and then, after recess, announcing the winning house. Your children have all been allocated to houses and will be notified early next week.

**Stomp the Beat Disco** will be on Thursday 16th May and we will also be having a makeup session on Friday May 3rd in lieu of Anzac Day.
**UNIFORM SHOP CHANGE OF DAY**

Please note that the Uniform Shop is now open on **WEDNESDAYS at 2.30pm – 3pm**
Athletics Champs!!

Josh from Prep A is one of three brothers who have had some fantastic achievements in the 2012 / 2013 athletics season. Josh was recently presented with the trophy for the Best Under 6 Achievement at Sherbrooke Little Athletics. He enjoys participating in the 200m race and long jump but his favourite event is hurdles. Josh hopes to continue being part of Little Athletics for a long time so if someone runs past you in the playground really fast, it just might be Josh! Congratulations on a terrific effort!

Lachie from 2 A is also an accomplished athlete. He was awarded two trophies for the 2012 / 2013 season – Best Under 7 Most Improved and Best Under 7 2nd Place.
Lachie plans on staying involved with Little Athletics until he reaches the Under 15 age group, which is the final year of the program. After that, who knows? Maybe senior athletics!
Lachie enjoys running, long jump and discus and, although this is only his second year of competition, is striving to beat his personal best distance of 12.2m in the discus throw.
Great job Lachie and best of luck with your goals!

Lachie and Josh’s brother, Ben, is also a very accomplished athlete. Make sure you look for at item about Ben in the next ‘Patchwork News’! It’s great to see our students doing so well at something they love.
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

Can You Help Us?
When returning forms, payments , lunch orders etc to the school we would really appreciate your child’s full class name being written on the document or order in the correct format.

Classes are now divided into A, B, and C (for no reason other that it was a simple format) and straight or composite year levels ie 1A, 3/4C etc. Anything different to this format can make it difficult to locate what grade your child is in for inputting data on the DEECD data base and can delay lunch orders & sushi orders getting to your child promptly.

Many thanks for your understanding 😊
Behaviour Management at The Patch
‘Step Up For Success’

Many of you will remember me outlining the approach we are trialling at the moment in relation to a whole school approach to behaviour management. This is called ‘Step Up For Success’ and after a term of following this approach across every grade in the school we are thrilled with the positive outcomes and comments re this. Feedback from the children has been overwhelmingly positive, as it has also been from staff. We have discussed different aspects of Step Up For Success at staff meetings and have been monitoring it and I am pleased to report that we now have a whole school approach to behaviour management that is not only consistent across every grade in the school – but also an approach that is working very well and that all children are very clear about in terms of understanding how it works.

Step Up For Success was introduced this year for the first time because despite there being few issues with behaviour at The Patch, staff decided that a whole school approach to behaviour management was needed. Step Up For Success is a 3 step approach that can be easily implemented at any level in the school because it is simple for students to understand and for teachers to implement.

It is an approach that focuses on positive outcomes, is clear visually for students and teachers to track and allows individual teachers ownership in terms of using their own preferred reward system.

Step Up For Success has another very important dimension in its application that many other approaches to behaviour management overlook. It can act as a catalyst for teachers to focus on those children who often just ‘fit in’ – but who can easily be overlooked due to others demanding or needing more attention. Because of the clear visual aspect of where children are placed on the Step Up For Success chart, teachers can be more pro-active with those who always do the right thing but sometimes go unnoticed.

Many of you will be interested in how this approach works – what the steps actually are so I have outlined them here for you. It needs to be reinforced that this approach is based mainly on positivity

The approach is as follows:

- Each classroom uses a chart divided into 7 sections titled ‘Step Up For Success’.

- Each student begins the day with their name in the middle section of the chart, the aim being to move up 3 steps to the top of the chart by the end of the school day.

- Once a student reaches the top of the chart there will be a reward according to the system in place in each particular grade.

- If a student does something positive (eg working well, giving a good answer, listening well, helping someone etc) the teacher can tell them that they can ‘step up’ and their name is then moved up to the next step on the chart. Children can move their own names up or the teacher can do it for them.

- If a student does something inappropriate (eg arriving late for class, disrupting the class, being rude etc) the teacher can tell them that they have to ‘step down’ and their name is then moved down a step.

- The first step down is a warning to the child.

- At the second step down into the second last section of the chart, the child needs to be removed from his/her peers for 15 minutes as a more serious warning. This could be in the middle room, at the side of the classroom on a chair, in a corner of the room etc.

- If a student has ‘stepped down’ into the second last section after a second warning and is obviously nearing the bottom of the chart, the teacher can unobtrusively focus on helping this child move up again by ‘catching them doing something positive’ or speaking to them in such a way as to avoid any further incidences of inappropriateness hopefully.
Clear guidelines and consequences are in place and communicated clearly at the very start of introducing this 3 step approach because everyone needs to be clear about what the final consequence is if a student reaches the bottom of the chart – as well as the reward available to them if they ‘step up’ 3 steps to the top of the chart.

The consequences are consistent across all grades for any student who is given two warnings to step down and then ends up off the chart after a final misdemeanour.

The consequences in this case are to take work and go to a designated teacher for the rest of the day. Parents are to be informed via a note home or a phone call if their child has had to be sent to another grade due to inappropriate behaviour causing them to be ‘step down’ 3 steps and off the chart.

If a child has ‘stepped down’, been sent to a designated teacher for the rest of the day and then still misbehaves, he/she will be sent to the Assistant Principal or Principal for further action.

All staff have a ‘designated teacher’ who children are sent to if they step off the chart and this was communicated to the children very clearly when setting the Step Up For Success approach up with the students at the start of the year.

If it is found that a child is being removed from his/her class too often, the teacher and Principal or Assistant Principal will meet to discuss what further intervention is needed to break this pattern and move forward more positively again. This will involve parents being informed and involved in the process.

Specialist teachers support the Step Up For Success approach by referring to it in their classes and verbalizing it with the children when they are working well - or not. Specialist teachers will not have the classroom chart brought to them but do, if appropriate, send a note back to class listing the names of any students who have shown positive behaviour/responses or otherwise. For the moment, because of the importance of consistency, specialist teachers will not ‘step up’ or ‘step down’ children.

The rewards that children receive when moving off the top of the chart after the 3rd and final step are at the discretion of each classroom teacher. It may consist of a pick out of a Rewards Box, a special sticker, an addition in their ‘bank book’ – whatever works for each teacher. It is important, however, that the children are rewarded if they are successful in reaching the top of the chart and that they value it enough to want to work towards this end result.

It needs to be reinforced that this approach to behaviour management across the school focuses on positive outcomes, is easy for replacement teachers to follow and contains a visual representation of where each child is at throughout the day.
Each day is a new day as children all begin again in the middle section of the chart.

I hope this explanation of our very successful Step Up For Success approach is clearer to you all after this explanation.
I would like to thank those of you who have taken the time to email or contact us personally and given us such positive feedback on how your children are finding Step Up For Success as it tells us we are on the right track!

Lynne Pearce (Assistant Principal)
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

Grade 1 & 2 Garden

Creating our new Grade 1/2 garden has begun with the construction of two beautiful tepees on the grass on the western side of the 1/2 building. A big thank you to Ted’s mum, Simone, for helping with this fun activity. Here are two pieces of writing from Grade Two regarding our new structures:

“The tepee was made by Grade 1 and 2. Its shadow is nature’s way of saying thank you for your beautiful new mini landscape. The shadows are a lovely sight and they are one of the best places to rest in the beautiful world of nature!”

by Sebastian 2A

“Today I have learnt how to do knots and plaits and I loved it because we learnt new things”

by Aden 2A

Calling all parents!

Our next garden working bee shall be on Sunday, May 5th from 10 – 1pm. We shall be preparing our fern gully for planting in June/July, preparing some beds for winter vegetables, weeding, continuing our tool shed extension, pruning our willow tunnels and much, much more! Come along and join in the fun; bring along something to share for morning tea and discover the joy of working alongside your friends, new and old.
**POSITION AVAILABLE**
Casual Childcare work at The Patch School OSHC Program
Interested persons with some qualification/experience please contact Sheila on 9752 0164.

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).

Belgrave Junior Football Club wants under 10 and 12 players for SEASON 2013 and…
Other age groups are more than welcome as well boys and girls of all other ages are also very welcome…. So get off the Xbox, ps3, Wii, iPod or DS and join the real life heroes at BJFC!
(No remote, Wi-Fi or chrome-plated-fan-cooled controller required) Call Michelle Booth – President - on 0477 807627 or email belgravejfc@yahoo.com.au for registration date details.
Belgrave Junior Football Club enjoys a strict anti-bullying policy & a fully inclusive, family friendly environment

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

BUSH DANCE
Monbulk Christian Fellowship are holding s 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 monbulkcf@westnet.org.au Post PO Box 327 Monbulk 3793
Community Notices cont.

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!

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