Thought for the week: I have learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not on our circumstances. – Martha Washington.

It is with great sadness that we have to farewell our much-loved art teacher Sophia at the end of this term. Sophia is heading to Tasmania for an exciting new adventure with her family, which is fantastic for her, but very sad for all of us who have to say goodbye. Sophia’s last day at The Patch will be on Thursday 28th March. The contribution that Sophia has made to our Art program and community is enormous and she will be missed by all. Sophia has been an amazing colleague and friend and words cannot express how much we will miss her.

Nicole will also be away for Term 2 as she taking some well-earned Long Service Leave. As indicated last year, Music will continue in Term 2 for the Year 1 & 2 children and will be taught by Leanne Neely who has been assisting the Year 1 & 2 students this term and is familiar with the children. When Nicole returns in Term 3 all children will be having music again.

In further staffing news, we congratulate Yale who is expecting her second child around mid-year. Yale will work for Term 2 and then take Maternity Leave from Term 3.

Education Week is approaching (Sunday 19th until Saturday 25th May) and we will be providing an information evening on Monday 20th May for parents of students enrolling in Prep 2014. This will be followed by a morning tour on Tuesday 21st May. If you know of any parents who have children attending school in 2014 please pass this information along. There will be an Open Day for parent’s information to follow shortly.

Our Annual Report to the community will be presented in June at a short meeting prior to the regular scheduled School Council meeting. We are waiting final approval before this report is released and uploaded to our website on June 30th. Parents are welcome to attend this meeting.
Please enter Monday June 24th as Parent Teacher Interview day, noting that this will be a pupil free day for the community. Our proposed second pupil free day is scheduled for Friday November 1st and planning day on Monday November 4th. On Wednesday November 6th, Prep – Gr 2 swimming is scheduled.

A reminder that Stomp the Beat is commencing in week one on Thursday 18th April. Prep children will work with Sarah from 9.30am until 10.15am followed by Year 1 & 2 from 10.15am until recess. After recess the Year 3 & 4 children will work with Sarah from 11.30am until 12.30pm and the Year 5 & 6 students from 12.30pm until 1.30pm. Unfortunately the final payment date has now passed so if you have not paid for your child to participate alternate arrangements will be made for them during the session times by class teachers.

Next week on Monday 25th we have 80 students from Rangeview PS visiting with some of our Year 5 & 6 students leading this excursion day. We will also have visiting Japanese students that day who will perform for us at Assembly. Welcome to our visitors. The end of term concert is on Wednesday 27th after recess and we also have Nursery Rhyme Dress Up Day for the Preps.

For your information, on the last day of term - Thursday 28th March - we will follow the schedule below:

2.00pm Assembly on the Basketball Court
2.20 pm Move to drop off
2.30 pm School finishes for Term 1

We will resume school in Term 2 on Monday April 15th – there will be no Assembly that morning.

As there is no newsletter next week I wish you a wonderful Easter and term break.

Deb

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

**UNIFORM SHOP CHANGE OF DAY**

Please note that the Uniform Shop is now open on

WEDNESDAYS at 2.30pm – 3pm

**Dogs at School**

Recently we have noticed several dogs off leash within the school grounds. Although we acknowledge that our pets are seen by many as valued members of their family, it is important that we take the appropriate steps to ensure our school is a safe place for everyone. Not all people are comfortable with dogs and, as such, can feel frightened or uneasy, particularly when dogs are off leash.

We ask that ALL DOGS brought into the school grounds remain on a strong lead and under the control of their owners at all times.

Please also note that it is an offence to have dogs off leash on the Council oval adjacent to the school. Shire of Yarra Ranges By-Laws Officers will be patrolling this area and issuing infringement notices to offenders.
National Close the Gap Day 2013
Campaigning for Indigenous health equality – Working for Change

Tuesday’s ‘Close the Gap’ Day was another fantastic day for the school. This year students worked in their own classes incorporating the ‘Close the Gap’ theme into their literacy activities and spending time with Murrundindi looking at the plants in the Wetlands from an Indigenous perspective. Murrundindi also spoke to each grade about the meaning behind the beautiful mural he generously donated to our school, which now hangs in the Library.

For more news on ‘Close the Gap’ 2013 you can follow the links to:

- read an article published by Oxfam or
- listen to a recent ABC News report.

There will soon be a video of the day posted on our website!
Make sure you look out for it!

SCHOOL INJURIES AND INSURANCE

Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for students injured at school, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold accident insurance for school students.

Is other insurance cover available?
Yes. DEECD is aware of two insurers, JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd and EBM Insurance Brokers, which provide accident insurance policies for students. These policies provide specific benefits for students who are injured in accidents for a reasonably low cost. Other insurers may also do so.

For further information visit EBM Insurance Brokers at www.studentcover.com.au or JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd at www.studenthealth.com.au
Niamh’s Greatest Shave

Congratulations to Niamh for her participation in the World’s Greatest Shave and bravely having her head shaved by Chris at Monday’s assembly! Niamh raised an amazing $1,592 for the Leukaemia Foundation which will be used for research and support services.

World's Greatest Shave raises about half the money the Leukaemia Foundation needs to fund its important work – providing practical and emotional support to people with blood cancer, as well as investing millions in research.

In the last 14 years over a million people have shaved or coloured their hair, raising in more than $138 million.

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 than it was a simple format) and straight or composite year levels i.e. 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 😊

Is your child a book worm and loves to read?”

We are starting a book club which is open to any Grade 3 or 4 students 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.
Try before you buy.
Give your kids the opportunity to try new sports and activities after school at The Patch OSHC. You have NO added expense and you don’t have to do a thing.

**NEW PROGRAMS- February-March**
- **Dance** – Thursdays for 4 weeks from the 21st February
- **Triathlon/Scooters** - Mondays for 4 weeks from the 25th February
- **Netball** - Wednesdays for 3 weeks from the 13th March
- **Fencing** – 2 Weeks- already completed!
- **Awesome activities & Fun** – Every day of the week

What’s stopping you?
- Casual spots are usually available. Go shopping; you don’t need to drag the kids along. 😊
- Your kids have the advantage of socialising with other kids of varied ages. They make strong friendships which benefits them in the playground at school and at home.
- To make a booking for OSHC during program hours or for more information phone Sheila on 9752 0164 or 0419 515 494. If there is no answer keep trying, they are probably outside playing with the kids.

ALL CHILDREN WELCOME
Community Notices

POSITION AVAILABLE
Casual Childcare work at The Patch School OSHC Program
Interested persons with some qualification/experience please contact Sheila on 9752 0164.

Yoga Sessions For Kids in the School Holidays
Yoga is a great activity for kids of all ages - it promotes strength, stability, confidence, and inner calm. And it is fun!
Sessions are running at Yarra Ranges Yoga these school holidays on Wednesday 10th April.
3/4 year olds : 9.15am - 9.45am
5-8 year olds : 10am - 10.45am
9-12 year olds : 11am - 12.15pm
For more details or bookings please contact Clare on 0415 789 266 or yarrarangesyoga@gmail.com
You can also find information at www.yarrarangesyoga.com.au

Belgrave Auskick
Begins on Fri March 22 5.30 – 7pm at Belgrave Recreation Reserve for its 2013 season. We are inviting all children aged 5 and above who are interested in learning the basic skills of AFL to come and join us for a kick. Enquiries to Maxine 0417 391 283.

Do You Love Footy?? Try Monbulk & Surrounding Area AUSKICK!
Saturdays Monbulk Football Ground 8.30am – 10.00am
Season Kicks Off Saturday April 20th. Register Online at www aflauskick.com.au
(Registered And Pay Online Before March 30th, To Receive 4 Tickets To A Match)
Come Along To Registration Evening Wednesday March 27th 5.30pm Onwards Monbulk Football Ground.
Enquiries: Mark Mannens 9794 8316 Or Radicalrecordsonline@Gmail.Com
Coaches Still Needed If Interested Pls Contact Mark - Auskick Is Run By Volunteers Any Help Is Appreciate

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).

Qualified Massage Therapist
Therapeutic & Relaxation, Local to The Patch, mobile service available $60 per hour or $50 concession
Ph: Kelly 0437 505 494
Community Notices cont.

**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.

**Emerald Veterans Football & Netball Club**
Are you 35 or over? Would you like to get fit? And meet new people?
Come and play Veterans Football or just train to keep fit with the Emerald Football-Netball Club Vets.
There is an Info night at the Emerald RSL on Thursday 14th March commencing 7pm so come along and hear what Vets footy is all about. For any further info please contact: Geoff McKimmie 0404 061250 or Michael Sterne 0409 486123

**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

**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!