Patchwork News
Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 28th November 2014 Term 4 Issue 4
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Dates to Remember

December
Wed 3rd Prep 2015 Parent Info Night 7pm
Thur 4th Christmas Concert
Sun 7th Bioblitz
Tues 9th Step-Up Day
Tues 9th Prep 2015 Formal Orientation
Wed 17th Grade 6 Graduation
Fri 19th Last Day of Term 4

Final Uniform Shop Times for 2014
Please note that the final day the Uniform Shop will be open this year will be Thursday 11th December 9.00am til 9.30am.

From the Principal...

Thought for the week: If you have made mistakes... there is always another chance for you... you may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing we call ‘failure’ is not the falling down but he staying down. - Mary Pickford (1892 – 1979)

All parents, past and present, are invited to come along, enjoy and listen to our 2014 Christmas Concert. There will be sausages, drinks and mince pies for purchase on the night, with a barbeque starting at 5.10pm and finishing up at 5.50pm before the show commences. Sadly, we will also be farewelling two of our marvellous teachers, Marita and Cheryl, who have, between them both, contributed nearly 80 years of work to the Education Department. Students need to be at school and ready to perform at 6pm sharp. We hope to see you there!

On the last day of term, Friday the 19th December, we will farewell our graduating Year 6 class, as well as exiting families. Students and teachers will move from the basketball court to drop off at 1.25pm with an official finish at 1.30pm. Out of School Hours Care will be available from 1.30pm to 6pm, but please make sure to book your child/children in to secure them a place.

Unfortunately, the audio from our wonderful Showcase is of very poor quality in the DVD which was filmed for us. We are currently attempting to fix the sound quality, but if this proves futile we will not be selling a DVD of the show. Instead, we will upload the file onto a secure page on our website, which will be able to be viewed by parents, free of charge. Sorry for any inconvenience this has caused.

Have a great week,

Deb
herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
The Patch goes Live on ABC 774!

On Tuesday morning, November 25th, the ABC radio station, 774, rang The Patch School requesting an interview with Richard Stubbs to discuss the recent regional garden award for the Grades 4, 5 & 6 Garden.

Michelle Rayner and Megan from 5/6A were happy to chat with Richard that afternoon and the interview was heard live by many from our community.

Megan and Michelle discussed the learning opportunities that designing and creating the garden provided and the special spaces and plants that are important to our students.

Megan spoke confidently and authoritatively (a great reflection of the Taming of The Butterflies public speaking program she has participated in with her year level) and was a wonderful ambassador for our school.

Well Done Megan!

Congratulations Jensen in Prep!

On Sunday, November 23, Jensen won the 5 Year Old Thomas Fun Run!

He was featured on the Channel 9 News which showed him running and receiving his award.

Jensen gave a demonstration of his speed at assembly today – no wonder he was a winner!

Great job, Jensen!

Adventure in Nepal

Jasmine Andrews shared an interesting story at assembly today about her mother, Natalie Vrantjes, an art teacher at Monbulk Secondary College.

Last Monday, Natalie, another teacher and 18 students travelled to Nepal for a month as part of the World Challenge Team which is a program that helps developing countries in various ways. Some of the students in the team are ex-students from The Patch and they are trekking though the highest mountains in the world and helping a local school through fund-raising activities and hard work to provide electricity, water and a new playground. The students have raised $120,000 to enable this trip to take place and the Year 10 students involved will benefit enormously from the experience. What a wonderful opportunity!
I am sure we will all agree that speaking in front of people is no easy matter. However the Year 6 children have managed to not only come through an 8 week public speaking course unscathed but have acquired excellent lifelong skills as well.

They have learnt the skill of being an effective communicator by using their voice and body combined to deliver their message, balancing gestures, volume, pitch and pausing. They have learnt the role of listening in communicating; that is unless we understand what the speaker is saying we will not be effective communicators. Finally, they have learnt the skill of evaluating and giving constructive and helpful feedback.

Bill and Nola, our very accomplished Toastmasters, have skillfully guided the children through the ins and outs and does and don’ts of public speaking. To assist the students with their speech writing, Bill and Nola use the analogy of a hamburger which consists of an opening (the bun on top) the filling and the closing (the bun on the bottom). Using this structure the students created many interesting, engaging and entertaining speeches. This model also assists the students with planning and structuring their writing and analyzing what makes a good piece of writing.

Then on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th November the Year Six students celebrated the end of their Taming of the Butterflies, by putting all these skills into practice in front of their lucky parents. The evening was a tremendous success with some very polished speakers. I am sure the parents present will all agree, upon seeing the final outcome, what an amazing and beneficial course this is and how lucky we are to have two such polished and positive facilitators who give their time so willing to help us.

The Year 5/6 Team
Our Year 3 & 4 students went on camp recently and had a terrific time. For many children, this was their first camp and, to their credit, they showed wonderful independence and an enthusiasm for adventure!

“We went to camp on Monday to Oasis, and I thought that it was a great camp. We had so much luggage to carry and we had to carry it ourselves. We did lots of activities and my favourite one was candle-making. In my cabin I had Sarah, Emily, Amy, Jade and Grace. I found that we got to sleep well but Grace was a bit noisy.

The fun activities for me were: candle making, flying fox, ropes course, shoe and bottle game, and there was also a game with mild crates. And there was a games room as well. A good thing about camp is the yummy food.”

(Leah, Year 4)

“On Monday, we arrived at Oasis Camp. First we did a game in the hall, the game was octopus and Ship, Shark, Shore. After that we set up our cabins. Then we did some activities. At dinner we ate chicken parmigana, mash and veggies. We went to sleep at 10.00pm. On Tuesday, we had breakfast, then we went on the flying fox, ropes course, candle making and crate climbing. After we had lunch which was pizza and salad.

On Wednesday, we packed our bags and left them on the oval. Then we went for a 3 hour walk from the camp to Silvan dam park. When we were at Silvan our mum or dad’s came to pick us up and that was the end of camp.”

(Jack, Year 4)
“At camp we did a lot of activities and had a load of fun. We did the flying fox, a ropes course, archery, reptile house. My favourite activity was the flying fox because I did the “Death Drop”. The death drop is where you turn around and cross your arms and shut your eyes. At night time I laid still and listened to the animals. I almost forget candle making. On Wednesday, we walked from camp all the way to the picnic ground which was a two hour walk. We went past a chocolate factory. We walked over a bridge and went up and down hills. I was with my friends the whole way to the picnic ground to see my mum waiting.”

(Jake Mackay, Year 4)

“On Monday we went to camp in Mt Evelyn. When we first arrived at camp we put our luggage in the gym then we played a few games. I was in group 6 and I had Lily, Molly, Isabelle, Saige, Jasmine and Lilah. We first did archery and I couldn’t even hit the target until some people moved groups and first I hit a four and then a five and then I hit a BULLSEYE! We also did a flying fox which was terrifying especially at the end because you ram into tyres and go upside down almost. We also did an initiatives course where we had to climb a rope up a wall with help from everyone else standing everyone on a platform and a rope swing.”

(Jessica Vanderwerf, Year 4)
**PICK-UP ETIQUETTE**

We supervise nearly 300 children at the pick-up every afternoon but this is only possible when everyone works within the guidelines we have in place.

Please remember that **cars are not to park anywhere along the gutter at the pick-up** and you will notice that this is clearly marked (including just inside the entrance gate).

It does take patience on everyone’s part to manage this short window of time in a safe manner so we thank you very much for your understanding.

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**The Patch Christmas Angels**

At this time of the year, we are reminded of the important values of compassion and consideration of others.

On behalf of the Monbulk Care Network we will, once again, be collecting non-perishable goods and Christmas items to be packaged and distributed to members of the community who may appreciate some assistance.

If you would like to help, donations can be placed in the boxes in front of the Prep room.

Thank you for your support.

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**VPass System on Trial**

We have recently implemented a trial of VPass as our method of recording students arriving late and leaving early and monitoring visitors to our school.

VPass is an iPad app that guides users through fields recording information similar to that required by our manual paper-based system. The iPad is attached to the wall on the right hand side of the Office counter. The benefits include:

- Reduction in paper consumption
- Reduction in manual record-keeping for teachers
- Information required in case of emergency re-location is easily accessible online via smart phone or iPad
- Enables us to meet our OH&S responsibilities easily
- Colour-coded lanyards quickly identify the purpose of a visitor to our school
- More effective management of school keys and security

If the trial is successful, we will continue to use VPass next year.

Users can simply follow the prompts on the iPad, ensuring each field contains data (*if the field is not relevant please enter any character to allow you to move on – all fields must include data*) and if you are signing your child in or out during school hours, please **be sure to pick up a ‘Late Arrival’ or ‘Early Leaver’ pass** which are found on the counter to the left of the iPad.

As always, your feedback is welcome so please let the Office staff know how you find this new system.

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**CHRISTMAS TREES - delivered free**

ORDER NOW - SCOUTS DELIVER - NO MESS IN YOUR CAR - SAVE PETROL - NO FUSS

TOP QUALITY Christmas Trees (av. height 6ft) delivered to your home for $60 ea. ($110 for 2 trees to the same address). Stands available for $39. Deliveries on Saturday 6th and 13th Dec. from 9am to 3pm.

To order trees/stands and pay on delivery please ring 5968 4836 or e-mail: gl.selby1st@vic.scouts.asn.au

Picker & sales at Selby CFA depot Saturday 6th & 13th from 8am to 3:30pm.

1st SELBY SCOUT GROUP thank you for supporting our major fund-raiser and we wish you a happy Christmas.
Congratulations to the winners of certificates presented at Assembly today! It is always pleasing to celebrate our students’ achievements and to see them continually strive to improve in so many different areas. We are all proud of their efforts! Well done!
OSHC END OF YEAR FAMILY FUN

Monday 8th December
6:00 p.m. at the hall

Sausage Sizzle and Family Games
All OSHC families welcome
Our Year 4/5/6 Garden Wins the Regional Award and more!

Yesterday, eight students from Year 5 & 6, Debra Herrmann and Michelle attended the 2014 Victorian School Garden Awards ceremony at The Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne.

This event is attended by students, teachers and parents from all over Victoria and is a great celebration of all the achievements that have occurred in school grounds since the start of the year. Our Ngarrett building students (Year 4/5/6) submitted an entry for the garden they designed and constructed and this was deemed the best for the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Victoria. $350 in prize money and a lovely framed certificate were received by our students, Sage, Dylan G, Lachlan D, Angus H, Angus S, Jesse T, Cadhla Schmidli and Gabe McClelland.

Whilst we weren’t expecting any additional awards due to the fact that we have won all the significant awards already (and you can’t win them twice), we were delighted to be the recipients of a new award for the “Most Engaging Student Garden for Teaching and Play”. This award comes with $1,000 for garden developments and will eagerly utilized to implement some unfinished student projects.
On **7th December**, Patch School families are invited to come to an exciting FREE event, run with expert naturalists and scientists from Museum Victoria, The Entomological Society, Field Naturalists and Wildiaries - the purpose, to scavenge for wildlife at The Patch.

A "bioblitz" is a fantastic outdoor experience. Not only will you discover things about species you have never heard of, you'll be supporting the year 3/4 “Wetland Wonderland Investigation”. This opportunity grew from the children's inspirational ideas and enthusiasm.

**Activities you might be doing at the Bioblitz**
- Checking camera-trap images for native wildlife.
- Pond-dipping and learning about aquatic animals.
- Creating maps of bird sightings.
- Helping to set up insect light and moth traps.
- Photographing and documenting animals

*We encourage you to bring a phone or other camera to help us record as much as possible.

One of our Patch parents, Simon Mustoe of wildiaries.com, has invited these experts to attend & the school is fortunate to have this unique opportunity. So please consider coming along to make everyone welcome and support this important school initiative.

So we can keep a rough track on how many families are attending, could you please RSVP with your name and whether you will be attending afternoon, evening or both:

Email: TBA  SMS: TBA

**NOTE the BBQ is BYO Food and Drink**
SETTING OUR KIDS UP FOR SUCCESS

An introductory workshop for parents of Primary School children.
Information and strategies for:

- Building self-awareness and confidence
- Emotional regulation and anxiety management
- Encouraging resilience and ‘bounce back’ techniques
- Enhanced learning tools for learning differences

Three time slots available to choose from:
Thursday 11th Dec either 10am-12pm or 6-8pm or Saturday 13th Dec 9.30-11.30am

This is a FREE 2hr workshop held at Catalyst Kinect in TECOMA.
Bookings essential. Please call 0447 876 060 to secure your place.

This workshop is presented by Luella Cochrane - Kinesiologist, Integrative Health and Education Consultant and mother of two. Luella works with both adults and children to identify and dissolve blocks that may be preventing optimal wellbeing in physical, mental and emotional health, relationships and performance.

KINESIOLOGY, INTEGRATIVE HEALTH & EDUCATION
Shops 5 & 6, 1567 Burwood Hwy
TECOMA 3160
0447 876 060 | luella@catalystkinect.net | catalystkinect.net
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 😊

Monbulk & District Community Bank® Branch
70 Main Street, Monbulk, VIC 3793
P 03 9752 1130
E monbulkmailbox@bendigoadeelaide.com.au
REACH GYMNASTICS IN EMERALD
Enrolments are now open for Reach Gymnastics. Based at Emerald Secondary College, classes will be run from the beginning of Term 1, 2015 on Friday evenings. Our classes are based on the 4 F’s, fun, fitness, fundamentals and friends. Classes will be run by qualified and registered coaches and incorporate gymnastics for boys and girls. Enquire with Rebecca Tilley on 0402 723 320 or reachgymnastics@gmail.com for enrolment information. Limited places available so enquire quickly!

HIT ‘N’ GIGGLE - TABLE TENNIS ANYONE? GET OFF THE COUCH.
Every Friday 7.30pm - 9pm at 'the Hub' lower level, Monbulk Living and Learning Centre. Newly formed Not for Profit Club. $5 members, $5 visitors. $40 annual fee. All ages. Join anytime. Just show up or call Jenie 9752 1213 or mail@jeniestrohnaturopath.com. Sponsored by Shire Yarra Ranges and Integrity

MONBULK FUN RUN 2014
‘Run to the G’ 4km and 8km Run / Walk DATE: Sunday 7th December 2014
PLACE: Start / Finish – ‘MCG’ - Monbulk Cricket Ground
TIME: 8.00 – 8.30 registration for a 9.00am start (sharp)
ENTRY FEE $25 Adults $10 Secondary Students (inc. breaky) $40 Family Primary Kids Free
For more info on the event or to volunteer your time please contact Steve or Kelly Utting utting.steven.c@edumail.vic.gov.au / kellyembellish@hotmail.com

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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 290396 or email: janeliz.coleman@gmail.com. Be quick as there are currently only 2 places available for new pupils.

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! ONE FREE LESSON available on request so why not give it a try? Call Jennie on 0410 543 946 or email jennieanastass@gmail.com

Spanish For all Ages ¡Hola Amigos!
After School Spanish classes at The Patch P.S. will run on Wednesdays for Grade 1 to 6 children from 3:45 - 4:30pm and Mondays for our Semi-Private group from 4-5pm
STARTING..... WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12th in the Uniform Room!!!
Come and learn the Language through songs, storytelling, music and dance. For more information please contact Pilar Nesarva directly on 0435358802 or Pilar7@live.com.au LUNITA BLUE Creative Spaces ABN 80898480 ¡HASTA PRONTO!

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

Junior School Singers
The Junior Singers are regrouping for fourth term!
We have been invited to sing at 'Merry Monbulk'; the Monbulk Christmas Shopping event on Nov 28th. Students from Prep and Gr 1 & 2 are welcome to come along to the music room on Wednesday at lunchtime
We sing for the first half of lunch.

Orkestra
The Orkestra has been invited to play at 'Merry Monbulk', the Monbulk Christmas shopping event on Fri Nov 28th
We rehearse Mon mornings 8.15 in the music room
If you would like to join us, call Cath Russell on 97553013 or email mscathsemail@yahoo.com.au

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