

Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 10th March Term 1 Issue 3

Telephone: 9756 7463 Fax: 9752 0211 OSHC: 9756 7463 / 0419 515 494

Email: the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Website: www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au

Dates to Remember

March

**Mon 13th
13th – 17th**

No School Labor Day Public Holiday
Worrabinda Camp – selected students

Mon 20th

School Council

Wed 22nd

Japanese Visit

Sat 25th

Plastic Bag Free – flash mob filming

Mon 27th

Yr 6 Reach Rookies

Mon 27th

Community Morning Coffee 9am

Tues 28th

Prep responsible pet ownership

Wed 29th

School Athletics Day

Wed 29th

Monbulk College open evening

Fri 31st

Moonlight Cinema (Flyer below)

Fri 31st

End of term, pick up 2:30pm

April

Mon 17th

No School – Easter Monday P.H

Tues 18th

First day of Term 2, 8.50am start

Mon 24th

No School - Curriculum Day

Tues 25th

No School - ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Thurs 27th

Parent Education Session by Jody

Thurs 27th

District Athletics

***HAVE YOU
THOUGHT OF
BEFORE
SCHOOL CARE?***
**If you need to drop
your children off
before 8:30am this
might be an option
for you!**

From the Principal...

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

We wish Lesley a wonderful wedding next week and send our congratulations for her special day.

We have 3 weeks until the term finishes. Next week will be Planning Week for all staff, and children will participate in their specialist lessons. This day enables staff to prepare, plan and analyse data they have been collecting, and develop the students learning focuses for Term 2.

Preps will continue with Wednesdays off after the long weekend until the end of this term. We look forward to seeing them every day from the start of Term 2. They have made a terrific start to their schooling, and are enjoying the support from their Year 6 buddies to transition into the playground. As parents, we are often concerned for our children. If you are worried they are not coping with school, please contact your child's teacher for an appointment so we can spend time talking with you. .

I would also like to remind parents of the code of conduct for parents on the school's website. I am in the unfortunate position of wondering, do we show respect for each other and care for what happens to our staff and children. I refer to the issue of the way staff are spoken to at pick up by parents who refuse to move on to allow others through. Obviously much patience is needed from everyone for the system to work. The system usually does work, but only if people do what they are asked. We are always happy to assist you, and understand your frustrations at times, but we are here to help not hinder and I would ask that you treat staff with the respect they deserve. It is not pleasant to be abused by parents.

Where does this leave us?

I understand this is a small minority of parents and I ask that

- We remain patient and considerate of staff and each other during pick up time
- The signs around the school are observed. Where we ask for Staff only parking I ask you to observe this, unless there has been permission granted and you have a leave in sign giving permission for you to park
- The loading zone is to be free for couriers and emergency situations

Where can you park?

- In the top section of the gravel car park - not in the lower section, this is a staff zone only
- Along the exit side to the school driveway in marked parking bays – not on the grass area to the right
- At the top of the school outside the boundaries
- At the Patch Hall

Time of pick up

Staggered Preps and siblings leave class to be at pick up by 3.20
Remainder of the school 3.30

Thank you for your understanding.

I wish you a happy long weekend with your family

Deb

Deb

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

From the Assistant Principal...

Thanks for a great working bee

Our first working bee for the year was a huge success and our school gardens are looking spectacular thanks to some wonderful families who came along last Saturday morning. With wonderful weather and great optimism, over 80 adults and children enjoyed the opportunity to catch up and chat as they worked to clear some of the summer growth, prune branches, clean up paths and pavers, overhaul the pizza garden, sand and oil outdoor furniture, repair gates and fencing, remove willow, weed the various garden beds, and of course make and cook pizzas.

With such a positive atmosphere and beautiful surroundings, everyone felt a deep sense of achievement and connection and there was much discussion about having another working bee sooner rather than later. Here are some images of some of the activities of the morning. Thank you to those who gave up their time to come along and help us keep our school looking beautiful and functioning well. Our next working bee is scheduled for Sunday, August 13 although we may have a smaller workshop before then.

Michelle



A visit from Chisholm Institute of TAFE

On Thursday, Feb 23, 50 students from Chisholm Institute of TAFE, Berwick campus, studying a range of subjects including early childhood development, nature-based education and developing sustainable landscapes visited our school's "Learning Landscape".

The students were divided up into groups and our Year 5A students toured them around our gardens and eco-centre explaining how we designed the garden, what we learn from the gardens, how we maintain and develop them and where their favourite areas are and why.

The students were also given a presentation that described the benefits that interacting with green space provides such as academic, social and emotional, well-being and physical. How we designed, planned and constructed the gardens with our students as collaborators was discussed and explained and images of this process shared.

The feedback from our visitors was, as usual, overwhelmingly positive. They reported that their guides were confident, courteous, knowledgeable, considerate and well spoken. They also saw great pride in and ownership of the gardens and recognised that the students embodied all that was desired from the landscape.

Our students reported that whilst they were nervous to begin with, as they had never been guides before, they quickly realised that they were very capable of undertaking the role and believed they did a good job.

Our Learning Landscapes provide many opportunities throughout the year for our students to develop their leadership skills, embed their understandings of the school ecosystem and extend their speaking and listening skills.

I was extremely proud of our year 5A students and look forward to giving our Year 5B an opportunity to tour our next scheduled visitors. The "Learning Landscape" Program enables funds to be generated for developing new areas of the grounds and to subsidise the cost of the STEM program as all visitors pay an excursion fee of \$7 - \$10 head.

Here are some images from the morning.

Michelle



We are using our Japanese!

Through Monbulk College, we have been put in touch with a primary school in Japan. It is called Sagamigaoka Elementary School, in Zama, Kanagawa Prefecture, which is about 25 miles southwest of Tokyo.

http://schit.net/zama/essagamigaoka/index.php?page_id=0

Our Grade 6 students had the opportunity to participate in a Skype session with a 6th Grade class from this school. These are some reflections from our students:

"Today in Japanese we sSkyped Sagamigaoka Elementary School class 6-3. How it worked was we said our hellos and then took turns doing a presentation." Cameron.

"Five groups from each school came up and showed us a game or something about their country. There was singing, bingo, introductions and piano playing.... they showed us their biggest mountain. My favourite was bingo." Sam.

"Tameem and I talked with them in Japanese about how we are learning to do our self-introductions. As I talked, I had so many nerves, but as I talked, I got all of my nerves out." Tim.

"Different people from our grade talked about different things, and people from their school talked as well. Those students will be graduating in (March) because the Japanese school year goes from April through to March." Josh.

"Me and Liam talked about footy. None of them knew what it was!" Jonah.

"I was very nervous and tried to talk slowly. They spoke amazing English. Japanese has kinda become scary because I am talking to real Japanese people. They were a lot more polite than us" Liam.

"Lilium and I asked questions in Australian. I asked if they liked school and music.... I noticed that they use black boards (and) they have their own desks" Pearl.

"Me and my friend got up and spoke about cricket. We showed them a cricket ball and a cricket bat as well. Some things that were different was they had the same shoes and they were a lot more respectful than us" Noah W.

"Tameem, Honey and I went and sang a song for them... The differences were that they had their own desks to themselves..." Charlie, 6A

"I noticed that they did not wear a school uniform.... I thought it was fun and am excited for when we do it again" Natasha.

"I can't wait to meet (their) new grade 6s next month!" Anton.

"The first thing they showed us was how to play rock, paper, scissors, then they showed us how to juggle. That was cool. They also showed us bingo, kendama, and they sang for us. They also did a presentation on Mount Fuji." Honey.

"I really liked it because we put our 6 years of Japanese learning to good use. It was great fun!" Isaac.

"I enjoyed it and most other people did as well!" Nick, 6A.

Japanese Continued...



Tameem, Charlie and Honey singing, while students in Japan watched.



Our students presenting to the Japanese students



The Japanese students and The Patch students playing an international game of bingo



Watching the students of Sagamigaoka presenting to The Patch primary school

DIVISION SWIMMING LAST THURSDAY 23/2/17 AWESOME JOB!



Swimmers in the photos: Hamish, Todd, Bryn, Logan, Troy, Tameem, Nathan, Tim, Wes, Amy, Sebastian, Nihayla, Eloise, Elise, & Finn

DISTRICT SWIMMING WEDNESDAY 8/3/17 CONGRATULATIONS SWIMMERS!



Congratulations to the following swimmers:

- Tim, Hamish, Tameem, Logan (12/13yrs) 1st Freestyle Relay
- Logan (12/13yrs) 1st in Freestyle and 2nd in Backstroke
- Finn (9/10yrs) 2nd Backstroke Freestyle
- Tim (12/13yrs) 2nd Breaststroke and 3rd in Backstroke
- Hamish (12/13yrs) 2nd Butterfly and 3rd Breaststroke
- Tim, Troy, Logan, Finn (Open age) 1st Medley Relay
- Elise (9/10yrs) 3rd Freestyle,
- Troy (11yrs) 3rd Breaststroke
- Finn, Troy, Oliver, Bryn (11yrs) Freestyle Relay (fantastic team effort)
- Troy (11yrs) Butterfly (Personal Best)
- Elise (11yrs) Backstroke (Personal Best)



Grade 6 Need Your Help!

Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,

In art, Grade 6 students have been designing, building and painting lots of art pieces to go around the school. Some people are painting signs while others are making sculptures.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for donations of the following materials:

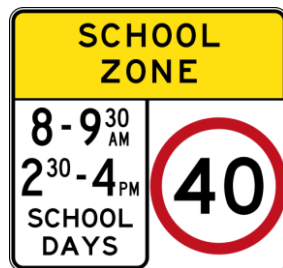
- Metal rods/poles
- Sheets of metal
- Rope
- Wood planks
- Exterior paint
- Onion and orange bags

If you have any of these materials around the house it would be a great if you could drop them off at the Grade 6 room or the Art room. It would be much appreciated!

40Km/h Speed Zone

A reminder for everyone to please slow down and be extremely observant in and around school zones, school parking zones and in particular school crossings.

The school zones of 40km per hour speed limits are enforced from 8am to 9.30am in the morning and 2.30pm to 4pm in the afternoon but even outside of those time motorists should slow down and take extra care around schools.



School banking reminder

Please remember your school banking for Thursday

Monbulk & District **Community Bank®** Branch



The Patch School

Moonlight Cinema

presents

The LORAX

FRIDAY 31ST MARCH

BYO Dinner 6:00pm

Movie Time 7:30pm

Tickets \$10

Family (4) \$30

(extra adults & kids will need their own ticket)



Delicious dinner menu available from The Patch Store, ordered via QKR (orders close 12pm, 30th March – You must ring ahead on the night with a pick-up time).

BYO rugs, cushions and torches for getting back to your car safely.

Popcorn, homemade lemonade, hot drinks & tasty treats available on the night with proceeds going to the grade 6 graduation!

All ticket sale proceeds go directly to upgrading literacy resources to assist our patch kids

In the event of bad weather, a back up date of the 7th April is set.

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA TRYBOOKING

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=266601>

FOOD DRIVE

March 15th to March 29th



Supporting people seeking asylum

Non-perishable Food

Cooking oil, rice (Long grain or basmati), dried chickpeas and lentils, oats, vermicelli noodles.

Make a difference in the lives of struggling families

Up to 90% of Asylum Seekers in Australia are living below the poverty line.

Toiletries

Soap, shampoo, shaving cream, razors, toothpaste and toothbrushes, nappies, toilet paper

Collection points

KALLISTA COMMUNITY HOUSE
BELGRAVE LIBRARY
EMERALD COMMUNITY HOUSE
MONBULK HUB

Material Aid

Mobile phones, phone cards,

*** PLEASE NOTE WE CAN NOT TAKE CLOTHING OR SECOND HAND GOODS**



KINDRED

Welcoming Asylum Seekers with Kindness and Compassion

www.kindredkindness.org

Preparing for the Risk of Bushfire

I'm sure you are all very aware of the increased risk of bushfire we face by living in such a beautiful, forested environment. Whilst there will always be a risk here, there are many things we can do to make us as safe as possible.

At school, our Emergency Management Plan provides a detailed procedure to deal with fire in our immediate area and we also have processes that ensure we are ready to respond on days when the fire danger is significant.

On days of Total Fire Ban, we:

- Limit the area students can play in the school grounds to enable us to gather them quickly if necessary
- Prepare the Hall, roll down the metal shutters
- Ask students to keep shoes on inside in case we need to re-locate
- Use a 'book mark' system when students leave the classroom and they must go in pairs
- Monitor the VicEmergency website and CFA radio traffic
- Ensure all students are collected by an adult after school (unless written parental consent is provided)

In the event of bushfire in the immediate area, we want to reassure you that your children will be cared for and kept as safe as possible and, although it will be difficult, we ask that you resist driving straight to school to collect your child. In emergency conditions, you are likely to be anxious and possibly panicked, which can increase your own risk of having an accident on the way to school. This will only add to the distress on the day. Secondly, if the air is smokey, opening the Hall's roller shutters for you to enter will compromise the air quality inside and make conditions even more uncomfortable for students and staff.

We will keep you informed as the situation unfolds and advise you as soon as it is safe to come to school and pick up your children. Please be sure to check in with your child's teacher and sign your child out before taking them as it is vital that we know that every student has been released into the care of an adult.

Emergencies such as bushfire are made more difficult by being unprepared. Staff at The Patch School spend a great deal of time preparing for fire and other situations so please know that our students' safety is paramount and we will do all we can to preserve that, regardless of what comes our way.

Note that Deb has mentioned in this newsletter that the Department of Education & Training has recently announced that schools on the *Bushfire At Risk Register* in the 'upper cohort' **will close on days of Extreme fire danger as well as Code Red days**. This includes The Patch School.

It is also important for **your** family to have a bushfire survival plan and that you:

- Understand and practice your plan
- Know what the trigger is to enact your plan
- Let your extended family and friends know what you plan to do

If your plan involves leaving the area on days of significant fire danger, remember that absence from school under these circumstances is acceptable and approved by the Principal.

If you have any questions about how we manage bushfire risk or any other emergency, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Emerald Secondary College Open Evening Wednesday 15th March 6pm



Open classrooms from
Wednesday 15th – 17th March
To book a tour, please contact the
school on 59685388



80th Anniversary Open Day



All current and past Upwey High School Students and Staff are invited to our anniversary to be held on Saturday 25 March from 11am to 4pm

Featuring-
Music Concert
Art Show
Market stalls, food and coffee
Volleyball games
80th Anniversary Displays

Anniversary Schedule

1930s-40s-	Midday
1950s-	12.15pm
1960s-	12.30pm
1970s-	12.45pm
1980s-	1.00pm
1990s-	1.15pm
2000s-	1.30pm

(Announcements made on the day for alumni and staff to meet in B Block)

Upwey High School 80th Anniversary Concert



When- Friday 24 March 7pm

Where- Burrinja

Tickets from www.burrinja.org.au



MOUNTAIN BUSH DANCE

INDOORS @ FERNY CREEK REC RESERVE

TICKETS ONLINE \$5 KIDS • \$15 ADULT • \$40 FAMILY 2 ADULTS + 4 KIDS

www.mountainbushdance.com.au

SATURDAY
18th MARCH 6PM TILL 10PM

• DINNER & DRINKS FOR SALE • NO BYO •

LIVE BAND 'EAT YA GREENS' WITH CALLER
FAMILY FUN FUNDRAISER

• PROCEEDS TO MT DANDENONG & FERNY CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOLS •

Streeton Art Awards 2017

Showcasing student art in the
Dandenong Ranges and Outer
East



Entries now open for the 2017
Streeton Art Awards.

Details and entry at
www.upweyartsfestival.com

ATELIER
ART SUPPLIES





twilight













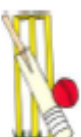




Open Night

Wednesday 29th March 2017 6-8pm

An information session will be held in the College Theatre at 7:30pm



Monbulk College, David Hill Road, Monbulk, VIC 3793. P: 03 9751 9000 F: 03 9751 9001
W: www.monbulkcol.vic.edu.au E: monbulk.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

 MAROONDAH VACATION CARE PROGRAM Maroondah City Council offers two fantastic school holiday programs for children in Prep to Grade 6 that are jam packed full of FUN! The programs are located at Belmont Park in Croydon South and Springfield Pavilion in Croydon. For further information please contact the Vacation Care team on 9294 5739.				
INCURSION TODAY! Monday 3rd April ENCHANTED GARDEN  As autumn leaves fall to the ground, the gnomes and goblins sneak around. Come along to Vacation Care today to explore all the magical things you might find in the garden.  The team from Lotsascents will be visiting today to help us create our very own plant terrariums.	DRESS UP DAY! Tuesday 4th April HEROES AND VILLAINS  <i>In brightest day, in darkest night No evil shall escape my sight! Let those who worship evil's might Beware my power - Green Lantern's light!</i>  Calling all heroes, do you think you have what it takes? Come along dressed as your favourite hero or villain – or design your own! Discover your super-powers in training, cook up some kryptonite, and learn how to make your own psycho-reactive slime.	EXCURSION TODAY! Wednesday 5th April FUNFIELDS Join us for an action packed day at Funfields for unlimited rides! Some of the fun and excitement includes, Waterslides, Go Carts, Bumper Boats, Mini Golf, Toboggans and much more! Don't forget to bring your bathers, towel, and a plastic bag! Please note that height restrictions do apply to some rides.  Depart: 8.20am Return: 5.30pm	EXCURSION TODAY! Thursday 6th April  RYE FORESHORE  Come along on an awesome adventure to Rye Foreshore. Have lots of fun participating in beach sports such as cricket, Frisbee, volleyball, and tennis. Enjoy a walk along the white sandy beach, see who can build the most creative sand castle and enjoy exploring the sea themed playground. <small>Whilst today is a swimming excursion, we do encourage all children to wear board shorts (quick drying shorts) just in case they do get wet.</small>  Depart: 9.00am Return: 5.00pm	INCURSION TODAY! Friday 7th April  COUNTRY FAIR Cluck, Quack, Baa, Cock-a-doodle-doo, These animals (and more) are coming to Vacation Care too! Come along to the Belmont Country Fair. Participate in the annual bake sale, create a work of art for the art exhibit, show your skill in the ring toss and sack races, and come meet the animals in the petting zoo. 
INCURSION TODAY! Monday 10th April BASKETBALL & CRICKET CLINIC  The team from RDK sports will be out today for an awesome basketball and cricket clinic where you will learn lots of new skills and tricks. Every child participating today will be presented with a show bag.  We will also be having a very special visit from a Professional Athlete – how cool is that!	EXCURSION TODAY! Tuesday 11th April HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY Come face to face with a platypus, get up close with some of Australia's favourite birds in the walk through aviary, visit the Australian Wildlife Centre, have fun at the brand new interactive play space for kids and more all on a fun excursion with Vacation Care!  Depart: 9am Return: 5pm	Wednesday 12th April EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA We're going on an egg hunt! Join the fun and games as we participate in lots of Easter fun! There will be craft, cooking, games, sport, an Easter Egg hunt and most of all lots of FUN!  EXCURSION TODAY! BIG DAY OUT Please see the attached flyer for information on the Big Day Out Excursion for our 2017 Grade 5 and 6 children!	EXCURSION TODAY! Thursday 13th April LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES Today we are off to see the latest kid's movie at Village Cinemas Knox. Please note that the movie may be rated PG. If the weather permits we will also stop to explore the Tim Neville Arboretum in Ferntree Gully.  Depart: 10am Return: 5pm	Friday 14th April PUBLIC HOLIDAY GOOD FRIDAY PROGRAM CLOSED 

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 system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or red 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.

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 are 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. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 5 years experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and loves teaching at The Patch. The cost is \$18 for a 20 minute individual lesson or \$12 for a 20 minute group lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email.
0408 102 542 jessdunn.arts@gmail.com