What’s Coming Up
- **Book Fair** – 14th – 21st May
- **Education Week** – 18th – 22nd May
- **Open Morning** – Thursday 21st May 9.30 – 11.00am
- **Grade 6 Transition Forms:** due back 22nd May
- **Garden Working Bee** – Sunday 31st May
- **District Cross Country** - Friday 29th May
- **Parent Information Session** – Monday 1st of June
- **Last Day Term 2** – Friday June 26th of June, 2.30pm

Homework Expectations
- **Reading** for 20-30 minutes every day. Record your reading in your diary.
- **Reading Letters:** One per fortnight. Each student has a special day to hand this in. The reading letter timetables for each grade are posted on the Grade 56 section of the school website.
- **Spelling:** individual lists for testing on Thursdays or other task

Wet Weather Days
The weather at this time of the year can be unpredictable and wet day timetables become more common. At our school we are raising resilient young people and we believe that it is important for our students to be prepared for inclement weather and to spend time outside on these days.

Our community understands the benefits of being outside in the warmer weather and we provide our children with appropriate clothing for such weather (hats, t-shirts, shorts and sunscreen). Those same benefits can be obtained in winter, providing we wear suitable warm clothing and have access to rainwear if it is drizzling.

Some advantages to spending time outside at break times include:
- Staff and students getting some fresh air rather than spending the whole day inside
- it provides a chance for students to use their bodies (particularly the large muscles) rather than just their minds;
- it improves winter fitness and increases circulation

We are healthier and more resilient when we spend more time in a natural environment. In recognition of this we will be sending students outside on wet weather days during recess and lunch play times, provided it is safe to do so. They will need to have warm clothes and a raincoat and you may consider an extra pair of dry socks in their bags. Children without coats will be able to play in one of the many sheltered areas as they do when they do not have a hat in summer.

In the case of extreme or dangerous winter weather, students will of course be kept safely inside.
**Naplan**
We were extremely proud of how focused and relaxed our Grade 5 students have been this week. Thanks to parents for supporting your children and keeping stress levels down.

**Grade 6 Transition**
If you have not received the transition pack please notify us as soon as possible. Completed forms MUST be returned to your home group teacher no later than May 22nd.

**District Tennis**
On the Tuesday the 6th and Thursday the 8th of May Jack V., Callum, Niamh and Jasmine went to the metropolis district tennis!!!!
It was fun to vs other people. Jack got a score of 7, Callum got a score of 3, jasmine got a score of 6 and Niamh got a score of 3. Sadly none of us made it through to the championships but we still had heaps of fun!!!!
By Jack V, Niamh H-C, Jasmine A and Callum T
Congratulations from all of us in the Grade 56 Team!

**Open Morning**
During Education Week (May 18th – 22nd) we will have an Open Morning on Thursday 21st May from 9.30 – 11.00am for you to come and see your child at work here at school. We would love to see as many of you as possible on this day. Feel free to bring along Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and other special people. We are proud of what we do here at The Patch and cannot wait to share our work with you!

Many of our students will also be involved in leading tours around the school.

**BENDIGO BANK STUDENT BANKING - Wednesdays**
Please don’t forget your child’s student banking on Wednesdays. It is a great opportunity to set up good financial saving life skills for your child. Our banking monitors have had very few bank books to take to the office on Wednesdays this year! Please keep them busy!

**Stomp the Beat Sausage Sizzle**
A huge thanks to all the wonderful Grade 5 and Grade 6 parents who helped out with our Graduation fundraiser! THANKYOU!
What are we learning about at the moment?

EMPOWER PROGRAM
Grade 5s have had two sessions of Empower. In Empower there are two groups girls and boys. Boys have been learning about their roles in their friendship groups. Girls have been taking about Queen Bees and their groups, gossip and bullying.

NAPLAN
Grade 5 have now completed the Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Maths. I personally think that the grade 5’s will rock out very hard at the disco tonight because NAPLAN is finished.

PERSUASIVE WRITING
In persuasive writing we have been writing we have written about A.N.Z.A.C day, welfare, millionaire’s should buy parts of rainforests and “Try This Activity” (this one is from Naplan.)

THE NEW WEATHER MONITOR SYSTEM!
The weather monitors have been in action now for two weeks. Here is the layer policy:
Above 25 degrees Celsius:
One layer: tee shirt and shorts or for girls summer dress.
17-24 degrees Celsius:
Two layers: singlet, tee shirt, long-sleeved polo top, shorts/skirts/school pants; dress with jacket/long sleeved top.
10-16 degrees Celsius:
Three layers: singlet, long sleeve polo top, fleece/jacket and school pants.
4-10 degrees Celsius:
Four layers: Singlet, long sleeved polo top, fleece/jacket school pants and coat (waterproof.)
Below 4 degrees Celsius:
Five layers: singlet, long sleeved polo top, fleece/jacket school pants, coat (waterproof) gloves, beany and scarf.

STANDING TALL
The grades 6’s have also been involved in a amazing programs called Standing Tall. Standing Tall is a program in learning self-defence and how to stand tall against bullies and strangers. We just had our last session.  All of us had to set a goal of trying to break these two different boards. One red for easy, and one black for hard, and everyone completed breaking the boards. It is was really fun and it was really worthwhile programme.

BUDDIES
All year 6s have helped there buddy to make a Mother’s Day gift that was a love heart that was very colourful and pretty that was made in art and we help wrap and wright the card. I’m sure there’ll be some happy mums.

MATHS
For maths were planning around the world airfare ticket and have to pay for accommodation and food also fun on the holiday.

ATHLETICS
Not that long ago a lot of students went to the primary athletics day and anyone who came first got through in a sport go to the next round zone and will go to do their best. We all wish them good luck.

By Cooper Postlethwaite and Oriane Cleary 56B
JAPAN FESTIVAL

IN SUPPORT OF JAPAN TSUNAMI APPEAL

Sunday 17th May 2013, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Box Hill Town Hall & Box Hill TAFE
1000-1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill (MEL 47 D9)
Entry Fee: $5.00
Free Entry: Children up to Grade 6, Disabled Persons (+1 attendant); Pensioners & Seniors Card Holders; Persons in Kimono or Yukata

Special Concert Friday 15th May (7pm)
“Lingering Evocations: Music and Dance of Japan”
McKinnon Secondary College
http://www.jcv-au.org/

RAFFLE PRIZES
1st Prize - Air tickets for two to Japan, flying Japan Airlines with support from Rydges Hotel. Conditions apply.

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Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry Melbourne / Japanese Society of Melbourne / Australia-Japan Society of Victoria
The Japanese Studies Centre, Monash University / The Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria Inc

The Japanese Dragon designed by Sarah Elms