Patchwork News
Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 22nd May 2015  Term 2  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

May
Sat 23rd  Yarra Ranges Cross Country
Fri 29th  3-6 Cross Country
Sun 31st  Garden Working Bee

June
Mon 1st  Parent Info Session - Reports
Mon 8th  Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Mon 15th  Rugby Session
Mon 22nd  Rugby Gala Day
Fri 26th  Last Day of Term 2 Students dismissed at 2.30pm

July
Thurs 30th  Australian Mathematics Competition

Crack the Code

There is something strange happening in The Patch! An old man, looking like a wizard from a Harry Potter movie, left a box by the side of the road near The Patch Store.

Attached to the box was a letter containing instructions to crack a secret code. The code unlocks the box and reveals its secrets to whoever opens it.

Beginning on Monday 25th May, students across the school will be given the chance to crack the code each morning. The code will be revealed at assembly on Friday 29th, and the secrets of the box revealed to all!

Colouring Competition

We’re having a colouring completion in the library.
At the end of this term, a winner will be chosen from each year level. There will be prizes!
So come along, and join in the fun.

WHERE: Library
WHEN: Wednesday lunchtimes
From the Principal…

Thought for the week: ‘Bloom where you are planted’

Open morning was a great success with parents, grandparents and friends visiting. I am so proud of our tour guides from Year 5 and 6 who toured our prospective parents for 2016. There were over 30 groups toured and the feedback from these parents was nothing but praise for our wonderful students. Congratulations to all of these children.

We have launched our ‘Crack the Code’ challenge at Assembly today so make sure you have a chat with your children about this fun and exciting activity.

Twenty-seven of our 3-6 students have been selected to participate in District Cross Country next Friday. We wish them all the best and know that they will represent our school admirably.

Our parent information night will be held on Monday 1st June. This is to speak to parents from all year levels about the new reporting process we are implementing for this year and developing over the next two years. As a school we are required to provide progression points on general progress. We encourage as many parents as possible to come to this night as your input is valued. Please book via the office so we can cater for numbers. Reports will come home with your child in the first week of Term 3 followed by parent, child and teacher interviews in Week 4. More information about this to follow.

Please take time to enjoy the weekend with your wonderful children.

Deb

herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Garden Working Bee!

Sunday, May 31, 10 - 1pm
Come along and lend a hand to help improve the school and meet some other lovely members of our community. A sausage sizzle will be available from 11.30am.

All welcome!

The focus for our first whole school working bee for some time shall be in improving the front of the school by:

- Refreshing the main building with a new coat of paint. This will include the fence around the staff courtyard which will later be painted with a design that fits with the kinder theme (artistic kinder parents have been consulted to consider how this may look and to execute the design).
- Extending the kinder garden to include additional plantings along the paths and beneath the windows, mulching around the “pole art” space and planting strategically nearby.
- Constructing a steel reinforcing frame/trellis around the hopper to support a living screen to hide the waste area.
- Removing plant material in the bed near the staff courtyard to extend the outdoor spaces for staff and to refresh the planting beds.
- Remove the outdoor seating in the staff courtyard to allow for additional outdoor furniture to better cater for staff of school, kinder and parents.
- Planting ferns in the fern gully behind the school garden.
- Replacing the fascia above the main entrance to the school.
- Addressing the seating area beneath the birch trees to better contain the Lilydale toppings and prevent them entering the storm water drain or providing a hazard on the path.
- Spreading mulch beneath the gum trees at drop off to protect the trees and prepare for Indigenous plantings by year 3/4 students.
- Remove damaged seating in the quiet area.
- Remove rubbish from behind the music room to the hopper.
- Removing some dead lower limbs of the eagle tree (between uniform shop and Japanese room).
- High-pressure hosing the deck of the 1/2 building.

Hope to see you there! 😊
The Australian Mathematics Competition will be held on Thursday the 30\textsuperscript{th} of July. The competition is open to all students from years 3 to 6. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun for the student. The test time is 60 minutes.

Over 1,000 students share the prizes and around 50\% of participants qualify to receive a Certificate of High Distinction, Distinction or Credit. All other entrants in the competition receive a Certificate of Participation or Proficiency Certificate. All students are also provided with a detailed report showing how they performed on each problem with wider statistical rankings.

The cost is $6 per child to participate and will be held at school under exam conditions. Payments are to be made on QkR, and all expressions of interest need to be returned to school by Wednesday the 25\textsuperscript{th} of June.

If you have any questions please speak to Jennie Simpson.
Do you have any Spare Wool at home?

If so we would love to use it to make Wool Bombing Art around the school grounds, as a part of Grade 5/6 Art Club.

Please drop your wool off in the bucket marked ‘Wool Donations Art Club’ in the school foyer.

Big thanks from Simone and the Wool Bombers!
We have had overwhelmingly positive feedback about our new payment app Qkr (pronounced 'Quicker'). For any of you who do not have access to a tablet or smartphone and cannot access the app, head to the school website (www.thepatchpsvic.edu.au → School Life → Qkr) where there is information about how to access the web based version.

Making life easier for school staff and volunteers with Qkr!

Qkr™ by MasterCard takes the hard work out of processing school payments, leaving staff and volunteers free to concentrate on more important tasks.

1. Reduces the time school staff and volunteers spend on administrative tasks e.g.
   - Processing school payments
   - Cash Handling
   - Paperwork
   - Sorting bags for food orders

2. Increases efficiency of school operations:
   - Speeds up kitchen logistics so staff and volunteers can spend more time preparing and serving nutritious food

3. Reduces the need for cash on school premises and the associated cost and security issues

Qkr™ also saves you (busy parents) time by letting you place all your school orders directly from your mobile device, at a time convenient for you.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2015 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs.

Our international exchange students from France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Visit us at www.sccce.com.au, email scccaust@sccce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501. Request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
Assembly stars!

Congratulations to all the students awarded certificates at assembly!
Well done everyone!

Have you been to Assembly recently? We hold our whole-school Assembly on Friday mornings at 9am either in the Hall or on the basketball court, depending on the weather.
Hope to see you there soon!

Grade 5 and 6 Tour Guides!
Pictured below are some of our fantastic year 5 & 6 monitors.
I. T

PHOTOGRAPHY

INSIDE ANIMALS

JAPANESE
GRUB CLUB

MUSIC

OUTSIDE ANIMALS

RECYCLING
**CROSS COUNTRY OPEN DAY**

**Where:** WANDIN PARK, 305 Victoria Rd, Gruyere. 10min from Mt Evelyn.

**When:** Saturday 23rd May, 2015, First event 10am.

**Event details:**
- 500m / 1000m / 1500m / 2000m / 3000m Under Age races
- 3000m and 5000m Open Age races
- Marked and Marshalled courses
- Excellent viewing of all races from the elevated position of Race Central.

**Entry info and Online Entry:**
www.yarrarangesathletics.org.au

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**Entry Process:**
- Go to www.yarrarangesathletics.org.au follow the link in the Events tab
- All pre-registered entrants will be entered in the draw for prize vouchers from our sponsors
- Online entry via Register Now, $8 for Juniors, $12 for Seniors (16 and over)
- Online entry available until 10pm on Friday 22nd May
- On the day entry is $10 for Juniors and $15 for Seniors

**Race Bibs:**
- All entrants will receive a customised event race bib.
- Entrants that register online before 6pm Tuesday May 19th will get their name printed on the bib.

**Course Details:**
- All courses can be easily seen from Race Central to watch runners during each race.
- Courses will be marked and marshalled, and can be walked or inspected prior to 10am.
- Run on the open paddocks and across the rolling hills of Wandin Park.

**Facilities:**
- Exclusive use of Wandin Park with plenty of parking within the grounds.
- Open spaces for club tents.
- Full canteen / BBQ will be offered.

**Spot Prizes:**
- There will be a range of prizes given at random throughout the day, thanks to the generous support of YRA sponsors.

**More Info:**
- E-mail events@yarrarangesathletics.org.au
- Call Michael on 0403 819 390 (registrations/courses) or Graeme on 0411 559 192 (event day info)
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Please head to the website below for more information
DANDENONG RANGES UKULELE FESTIVAL

Burrinja Cultural Centre
29–31 May 2015

FEATURING
Tomoki Sato (Japan)
Paul Jonson (NZ)
Lucy Wise (Aus)
Sarah Carroll (Queen of Bellarine)
Alex Burns (Aus–UK)
Amie Brûlée (France... almost)
Matthew Fagan (Aus)

WITH
Massed Ukulele Groups, Competitions, Workshops, ‘Women in Uke’, Stalls and more.
Introducing Qkr! (pronounced ‘quicker’) by MasterCard: the easy-to-use phone app that gives you the flexibility to place orders at a time and place that suits you. Qkr!:

- Saves you time by letting you order and pay for school items directly from your phone;
- Reduces the need for your child to bring cash to school;
- Reduces the time school staff spend on administrative tasks.

Watch the Qkr! introduction video:
http://vimeo.com/100952137

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr!
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
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 VPass system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or yellow 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.

Thank you.

Community Notices

CARDIO TENNIS
Cardio tennis for adults starting at The Patch Tennis Court! FUN, FITNESS, MUSIC, & TENNIS. Tuesdays 9:30-10:30am, or 6:30-7:30pm. First session is FREE! If you play, or haven't played in ages....it doesn't matter! ALL WELCOME!
Contact Renae for more details, or just turn up. 0403 498 085

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.coyleman@gmail.com. Be quick as there is 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, 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

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