

Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 31st October 2014 Term 4 Issue 2

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

November

Mon 3rd **Teacher Planning Day**

> (alternative program) Melbourne Cup Day

Wed 5th Prep – Gr 2 Swimming Program

-Thur 13th

Tue 4th

Thur 13th Prep 2015 Transition 9.30-10.30am

Mon 17th Grade 3/4 Camp

-Wed 19th

Thur 20th Prep/Gr 6 Buddy Excursion

Thur 27th Prep 2015 Transition 9.00-11.00am

(Art, Enviro, Music & Phys Ed)

December

Wed 3rd Prep 2015 Parent Info Night 7pm

Thur 4th **Christmas Concert**

Tues 9th Step-Up Day

Tues 9th Prep 2015 Formal Orientation

Wed 17th Grade 6 Graduation Fri 19th Last Day of Term 4

Planning Day

Monday 3rd November is Teacher Planning Day. This is a regular school day and students will participate in an alternative program with relief teachers on that day.

Intensive Swimming Program STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY

(the day after Cup Day)

Details of times & what to bring can be found on our website. Simply <u>click here</u> to access the original notice.



From the Principal...

Thought for the week: If things are going untowardly one month, they are sure to mend the next.

— Jane Austen

Class Structure for 2015

For 2015 we will be returning to 12 classes. Below you will find details of this structure, showing the number of grades and number of students in each:

Year Level	No. Classes	No. Students per Class
Prep	2	19
One	2	17
Two	2	22
Three/Four	3	28
Five/Six	3	26

Class Teachers for 2015

There are several staffing changes next year including Marita's retirement at the end of 2014 and Cheryl, who will retire at the end of Term 1 in 2015. We hope to announce Cheryl's replacement by Step Up Day in December. We welcome back Yale from Family Leave and gladly advise that Jessica Holden will continue with us in 2015. Andrew Hanson has also become a permanent member of our staff after transferring from his previous school.

Prep	Lesley	Three /Four	Naomi
	Alesha	Three /Four	Jess H
One	Karen/Megan	Three /Four	Cheryl /Judy
	Pauleen		
Two	Angie /Yale	Five/Six	Kent
	Hayden	Five/Six	Andrew
		Five/Six	Jennie

Specialized Teachers and Rotations

We have multi-talented staff at The Patch and have created a rotation structure for 2015 that delivers the diverse learning programs that our staff, children and parents value. Rotations have proven both effective and valuable in Grade 1 & 2 this year and we are pleased to introduce this format to the rest of our school for the coming year.

You will notice we are also commencing *Sustainability* and *Information Communications Technologies* (*ICT*) classes for students in Grades 3 to 6 which expands on our current science curriculum.

Monday Gr 1 & 2	Music	Art	P.E.	Philosophy
	Pauleen	Karen	Hayden	Angie
Tuesday Gr 3 & 6	Music	Art	P.E.	Philosophy
	Andrew	Lissa	Kate	Judy
	Sustainability	ICT		
	Naomi	Kent		
Wednesday Prep	Music	Art	P.E.	Philosophy
	Leanne	Leanne	Deb	Lesley

Additional specialist areas are:

Japanese	Environment	Science
Jane	Michelle	Megan
	Tania	Tania

Education Support Staff

Our exceptional Education Support staff will maintain strong support in their areas of expertise including student & teaching support, administration and financial management.

Literacy - Quicksmart	Admin	OSHC	Integration	Integration
Deb Swadling	Jody	Sheila	Trish	Deb A
Numeracy- Quicksmart	Karen	Caitlyn	Cheryl F	Courtney
Josie	Lily	Edith	Nicola	Andrew

Grounds & Maintenance

Tyler Koelewyn, Bob Chanter and Leo Van Alphen will continue to attend to maintenance tasks around the school and, along with our mowing contractor, ensure our extensive grounds are kept to the high standard we have come to expect.

Have a great weekend,

Deb

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

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.

Students Perform at Maldon Folk Festival

Hannah and Cadhla Schmidli, along with Sadie and Charlie Mustoe, formed a band called "**The Patch Tags**" last year and their reputation and success as a talented band have been steadily growing. They started off busking in Maldon last year and brought it home to the locals where they were subsequently spotted and asked to perform at The Basin Folk Festival. They won first place at the Emerald Ukulele Festival and second place at the Belgrave Buskers Festival. They supported a touring American band "*Man & Minx*" at a House Concert hosted by Jennie Simpson and have supported "*Picasso Special*" at a couple of events now. To make this even more of a special achievement, 50% of their repertoire is original, predominantly written by Sadie and Hannah.

Below is a link to their bio on the Maldon Folk Festival line up for this weekend (you will find it about two thirds of the way down the page) and this also links to their website.

http://www.maldonfolkfestival.com/performer-bios.html

Congratulations to **Hannah**, **Cadhla**, **Sadie and Charlie** on their success and thank you for sharing your talent with the community!



Are You Interested In Trying a New Sport??? Active After School Communities is back for Term 4!

The very popular AASC program is on again this term with some great opportunities to try a new sport. This term we are offering:

Martial Arts
 Fridays beginning 21st November for 3 weeks.

• **Hockey** Thursdays beginning 13th November for 4 weeks.

As long as you are enrolled in OSHC, you are welcome to attend for the cost of a regular after school care session.

Why not give it a go?

Contact OSHC staff for more details.

NOVEMBER BOOK FAIR!

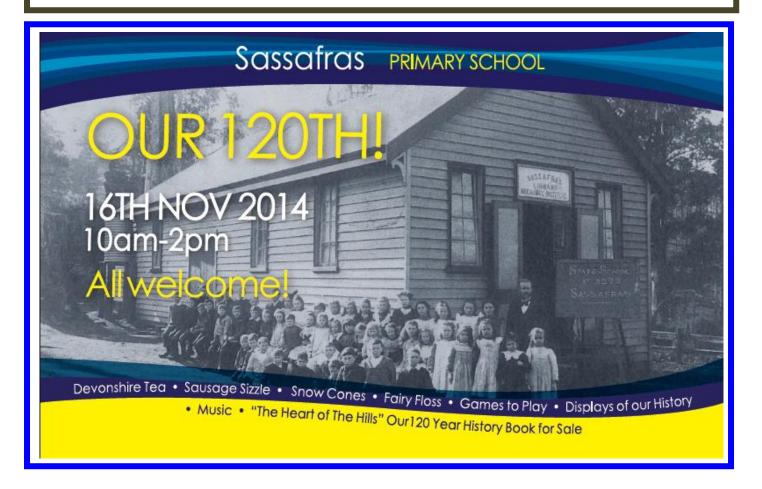
The Patch Primary School Book Fair is coming up again in November!

Christmas is around the corner, so it's the perfect opportunity to start early on your shopping and support the school at the same time.

The book fair that we had in May raised \$600 for our school library. This was a great result, so thank you to everyone who supported the fair.

The book fair starts at 3.30pm on Thursday 20th November and finishes at 9.00am Thursday the 27th.

See you at the Book Fair! Cheers, Josie



うきます か。 しずみます か。 Does it float? Does it sink?

The Education Department's Language Advisor for the North Eastern Region has been looking for a primary school with Polycom conferencing facilities and that also teaches Japanese, for a very exciting project. She has asked The Patch Primary School if we would be willing to participate.

The project consists of one junior grade learning some specific Japanese, and then participating in a 30 minute science lesson via the Polycom (Television) conferencing system – all in Japanese. (This is similar to Skype or Facetime.) This session would be recorded, and used for teacher training sessions. This is part of a new style of Japanese language learning called CLIL, where students learn the language through learning another subject, such as science, PE, Art, etc. It is also a valuable tool, as it allows teachers in different locations to teach second languages to students at schools without language teachers.

On Monday 17th November, a teacher at Huntingdale Primary School (a bilingual English-Japanese school) will teach our Grade 2B a science lesson in Japanese, over the Polycom conferencing system.

Students have been working hard to familiarize themselves with the key vocabulary and grammar required for this lesson. Students have also been discussing various communication techniques such as body language, and situational context to help understand instructions if they are having difficulty with any unfamiliar words. On Monday, we linked up with Huntingdale Primary School, so students could get used to the technology and meet their teacher for the session. At first, students were a bit quiet, however, that did not last long, and students were surprised at what they could understand! We look forward to the science class on the 17th November!



Thank You For Your feedback!

A big thank you to all those who completed our **Uniform Survey** earlier this year - we had a fantastic response rate!

A summary of feedback follows:

- 96% of respondents are **generally happy** with our school uniform;
- 84% of respondents would buy a winter pinafore for their daughter;
- 83% are familiar with the school's **Uniform Policy**;
- 75% would like **one new two-tone polo shirt**, to replace the two plain navy & sky polos;
- 60% would buy a Polar Fleece Vest;
- Most parents would <u>not</u> like a poly/cotton V-neck jumper to be added to the Uniform; and
- Most parents would not like a 100% cotton polo shirt to be added to the Uniform.

The most frequent general response comments were regarding:

- The need for a girl's winter uniform; and
- The need for the Uniform Policy to be universally & consistently enforced.

Your feedback has resulted in a number of exciting changes as follows:

- **1.** A new two-tone polo shirt will be available from Term 1 2015 (*NB*: the current plain Navy & plain Sky polos will remain recognised uniform items for a number of years until they are phased out, to ensure that the current shirts you own achieve maximum wear);
- 2. The new Polar Fleece Vest is already in stock at the Uniform Shop;
- **3.** New winter pinafores will be available for Winter 2015;
- **4.** A **new Sky blue skivvy** will be available for Winter 2015 (particularly for wearing underneath the pinafore);
- 5. The **fabric of the girls Summer Dresses** is now slightly thicker;
- **6.** A **new Uniform Policy**, with specific recognised uniform items, has been developed and will shortly be distributed for public consultation. (*Please utilise this opportunity to provide us with important feedback*).
- 7. We have done a **complete overhaul** of the way we order & store uniforms. Therefore you are most likely able to obtain the majority of items when you need them, without having to wait weeks for delivery.

We welcome your feedback on an ongoing basis. Please either speak to our Uniform Shop volunteers directly, or complete one of our generic feedback forms from the office.

Congratulations to Miranda in 5/6A for achieving terrific results in her 2nd grade flute exam with the Australian Music Examination Board.

A wonderful achievement!

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our fabulous Uniform Shop Volunteers are in need of some help.

If you are interested in contributing a small amount of time to assist with some clearly defined jobs ranging from half an hour per month to a couple of hours each week, please consider speaking with the Uniform Shop ladies about joining their team.

This is a great way to get to know other parents, utilize your skills or perhaps learn something new. Please give it some thought over the holiday break and, if you are at all interested, speak with one of the team on any Thursday morning (new opening time 9am – 9.30 Thursday) or leave your details with Jody at the office and we will arrange for someone to give you a call.

Thanks for your support ©







The Patch Landcare Group Stream Frontage/Edible Garden Tour

Learn and be inspired! See how others are doing it in The Patch! Meet other locals!

Join in a fun tour of 3 very diverse and interesting private gardens in The Patch, generously open just for us.

There may even be a chance of buying some herbs for your own garden along the way. Family-friendly, new faces welcome.

Sunday 16th November

Meet at the carpark in front of the school

at 9.30am

We'll finish with **lunch** and lots of laughs at the final garden around midday (gold coin donation for lamb spit and salad, BYO drinks) – this is our final activity for 2014.



We'd like an idea of how many are staying for lunch, so please RSVP by 13th Nov to info@thepatchlandcare.org.au or SMS Jenny: 0419 878 149



PARENTING SEMINARS

VENUE: Monbulk Community Hub,

Main Road, Monbulk

CONTACT: Helena Laverie Anglicare Parentzone

9735 6134 or 0488 501 204

COST: FREE (bookings essential)

Discipline vs Punishment

Monday October 20th 7pm - 9pm
What is discipline? Why doesn't punishment work?

Behaviour

Monday October 27th 7pm - 9pm
Why do kids behave the way they do?
What is normal behaviour? What is misbehaviour?

Rules and Consequences

Monday November 10th 7pm - 9pm
What are positive rules? How do you make them work?

Dealing with Feelings

Monday November 17th 7pm - 9pm
Are you wanting to build your child's emotional intelligence? What about their anger?

Resilience

Monday November 24th 7pm - 9pm What is resilience? Can we teach our children how to handle the tough stuff in life?



Parentzone Eastern Enquiries & Referrals 47 Castella Street, Lilydale VIC 3140

- anglicarevic.org.au
- 03 9735 4188
- 03 9735 5782
- youtube.com/anglicarevic
- twitter.com/anglicarevic
- f facebook.com/anglicarevic





















Weed Blitz

Free Environmental Weed Tipping Day

Skips will be available at

Kallista Community House, Kallista

Kalorama Memorial Reserve, Kalorama

Saturday 15th November 2014

9am - 3pm

- Agapanthus
- 4 Arum Lily
- Asparagus Fern
- Banana Passionfruit
- Cotoneaster
- ♣ English Holly
- English Ivy
- ♣ Japanese Honeysuckle
- ♣ Karamu
- Mirror bush
- Montbretia
- Red Cestrum
- Sweet Pittosporum
- Wandering Trad
- Wild Tobacco Tree

When removing weeds please be aware of the potential that native animals may be sheltering in them. Always check woody weeds for nests before removing and where possible replace a weed with an indigenous native plant. Nest boxes are easy to make, inexpensive to buy and a great way of providing homes for native animals.

WEED INFORMATION AND ADVICE AVAILABLE ON THE

DAY

For information on weed removal techniques call 9294 6822 or http://www.varraranges.vic.gov.au

We cannot accept **Noxious Weeds** due to legal limitations on transportation www.depi.vic.gov.au

Event sponsored by the Urban Fringe Weed Management Initiative and council's Weed Wipeout program













Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government

What is EMA?

The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to lowincome families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?

Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent's bank account,
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?

The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?

In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian

Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?

Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional \$12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools

Will my child be worse off?

No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.





Remember your weekly school banking is collected on a Wednesday.

a sticker for your certificate and with Every time you deposit you will receive receive a prize at the end of term. only 6 stickers per term you will

🔀 Bendigo Bank Community Bank® Branch

Monbulk & District

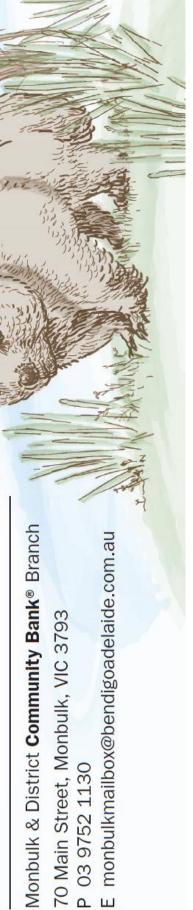
Support Bob the Wombat

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



Community Notices

BORONIA CALISTHENICS COLLEGE - 'COME AND TRY DAY'

Do you enjoy dancing, singing, performing, being fit, making friends and having lots of fun? Then come along and have a go!

Our 'Come and Try' day is on Saturday 8th November. Please phone for more information 97546413 Classes are run by Leanne Barton and Lesley Neely (both teachers at The Patch!)

ALDI COFFEE POD MACHNE FOR SALE

Almost new Aldi coffee machine for sale. Purchased during last school holidays. Includes full bottle of cleaning fluid. Nice coffee & simple to use. Price \$50 Please call Jody 0412 527 497

KIDS IN THE HILLS SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICES

Kids in the Hill is offering school readiness assessments (including pre literacy skills, receptive and expressive language, articulation), the cost is 80\$ with the report and recommendations. Offer is valid until Christmas only. We are also offering a school readiness group for children going to prep in 2015. The group is running for 6 days in January; please register your interest as the spaces are limited. Call Elena Benatar on 041 467 9648.

THOMAS & FRIENDS KIDS FUN RUN WITH THOMAS

Sunday 23rd November 2014 Children aged 3 – 12 years old get the chance to run with Thomas the Tank Engine and Puffing Billy! Clowns, Jumping Castles, Music, Show bags, Food, Lizzie's Lizards! Enter Online at www.kidsfunrunwiththomas.org.au. Info line 0408 769 491 or 03 9763 9166 Organised by the Rotary Club of Emerald and District Inc

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

FURNITURE FOR SALE

French Provincial style dining room suite. Timber top with antique white base. Seven matching chairs and one carver's chair. Matching buffet and TV cabinet. \$1000 ono. Phone Trish 0438 888 865

WELL-BEING FOR THE WHOLE BEING

Tai Chi: Beginners Classes starting early October: Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings, and Monday evenings. Qi Gong: Beginners Class: Monday mornings.

Both suitable for all levels of fitness . Both excellent in preventative & restorative "maintenance" Both recommended by GP's for recovery from illness. Classes in Belgrave, Upwey, Sassafras & Silvan For details: call Su at Chi Generation on 0437 949 919

CRAFT CLASSES FOR PATCH KIDS

Learn to sew, knit, crochet and felt! Classes are starting at The Patch Community Hall after school on Thursdays until 4.45. Cost is \$8 per session and a \$10 per term materials fee. Full term or casual options available. To sign up or for more information contact Jess Dunn 0408 102 542 or jessdunn.arts@gmail.com

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development & The Patch Primary School does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.

No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development & The Patch Primary School for accuracy of information contained in advertisement or claims made by them.

Community Notices

MONBULK COLLEGE ART & TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Monday November 10th 5pm – 7pm

David Hill Rd, Monbulk 9751 9000 Everyone welcome!

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: <u>janeliz.coleman@gmail.com</u>. 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 Nesvara 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

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development & The Patch Primary School does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.

No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development & The Patch Primary School for accuracy of information contained in advertisement or claims made by them.