PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Members of the Glen Waverley Primary School Community,

Welcome to the final newsletter for the 2012 school year! It really is amazing to think that this is the final newsletter for the year; that Term Four is coming to an end as is the 2012 school year! What a terrific year we have had with so many significant projects completed and, above all, our students receiving a high quality education and achieving outstanding results across the entire curriculum. Throughout the year the children at Glen Waverley have been recognised for their outstanding talents and skills, receiving not only school based awards but awards from local, community and state levels. Congratulations to all of our students for their contribution to the school year – I am so proud of all of you!

What have we achieved in 2012?

Facilities

- Car park and sports field redevelopment – a significant major project for our school community
- General school grounds – line marking, drainage works and landscaping
- Year 2 classroom refurbishment – another major project
- Multi - media room - development and refurbishment
- Commencement of new library - another significant project for our school community which should be completed in Term One 2013
- Continual work in the ELC – signage and additional pin boards
- External signage on High Street Road and
- Upgrade of staffroom kitchen

Important Dates For Your Diary

December 13th  Information Evening & Distribution of iPads 6.30pm Yrs 4 & 5
December 14th  Community Links Day  Year 6
December 14th  Junior School Assembly  Yrs. Prep – 2
December 17th  Strike Bowling  Yr. 6s
December 19th  2013 Day  Whole School
December 21st  LAST DAY OF TERM 4 DISMISSAL 1.30 prior to Lunch

2013

January 30th  FIRST DAY OF TERM 1  Years 1 – 6
January 31st  FIRST DAY OF TERM 1  Year Prep

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders are available from school five days a week
The service is provided by Gourmet Delish 9808 9838
Menus and ordering procedures can be obtained from the School Office.

UNIFORM SHOP

Situated in the West Wing on the School Grounds
Open Monday between 3.00 – 4.30 pm
Closed Public Holidays and School Holidays
Please bring your own bag for purchases as we are an environmentally friendly school
Orders may be left with the office – these must be in an envelope marked with the child’s name and grade together with payment, correct monies are appreciated.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Cont’d)

Curriculum
- Development of a new School Strategic Plan (SSP)
- Continual emphasis on a Global Education, Science and EAL – English as an Additional Language
- Development of a new Two- Year Integrated Curriculum planner
- Development of fabulous Maths resources such as "tuning in" (warm up) activities and classroom Maths kits
- Continual expansion of the schools literacy approach – using Springboards
- Multi - media room – establishment of a TV and Radio studio and
- Considerable investment in the ICT resources throughout the school – iPads, Notebooks and interactive whiteboards

All in all, it really has been a wonderful year at our outstanding school!

2013 Student Leaders
On Monday we held a special assembly to announce the 2013 Student Leaders. A sincere congratulations and a special well done to the following children and their families who were selected as it really is an honour to be a school leader and represent your peers, teachers and our school community:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Captains</td>
<td>Izza and Rajat</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Vice-Captains</td>
<td>Senisa and Lahiru</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitchell House Captains</td>
<td>Aisha and James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latrobe House Captains</td>
<td>Simran and Amr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fawkner House Captains</td>
<td>Pamali and Peter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hume House Captains</td>
<td>Hiruni and Kelvin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Captains</td>
<td>Senudi and Srijay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Captains</td>
<td>Steven and Heshan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Captains</td>
<td>Trevin and Binura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Captains</td>
<td>Minoli and Naveen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages Captains</td>
<td>Nicole and Maddy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Captains</td>
<td>Abby and Yohan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once again, congratulations to the above students and their families. I would also like to acknowledge the children who were not selected, thank you to all of you for your efforts and remember at our school, all Year 5 and 6 students are considered as leaders and you will also be provided with opportunities to lead various school events.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Cont’d)

Author Visit
It was a great pleasure to have children’s author Susan Halliday visit our school. Susan spent time with Grade 2 talking about all of the different places that story writing ideas can come from. She also shared some writer’s secrets about developing characters using the characters from the MARCY and TOOCOOL books as examples. Having answered the questions that students prepared for her visit, Susan read a MARCY story and a TOOCOOL story to our students. Given that the school has recently purchased the MARCY and TOOCOOL books this was a great learning opportunity for our children. Susan complimented the students on their enthusiasm about reading. She also informed me that the students’ willingness to engage directly with her as an author and their exemplary behaviour was a credit to the school and their parents.

School Account for 2013
I would like to thank the numerous families who have already settled their 2013 school account and remind those who are yet to do so that if they are settled by the final school day of the year you will receive a $10 discount. We would really like to have as many accounts as possible paid by this date so families will be able to collect their book bags and commence labelling and covering the contents. A reminder that accounts can also be paid on Tuesday 29th January which is when Book Bags can also be collected and the uniform shop will be open from 10 am to 3 pm.

Student Reports
As a learning community it is extremely important that we value the children’s reports as they are a means of celebrating how much the children have grown socially, emotionally and academically throughout the year. The teaching staff have been working extremely hard to ensure your child’s report accurately reflects their current level of achievement and also the growth throughout the year. The children’s report will be distributed on Friday 14th December in conjunction with a slip outlining your child’s classroom teacher and room for the 2013 school year. Please ensure you read the report carefully and if you have any queries see your child’s classroom teacher, Mr McDonald or myself.

As communicated previously, due to the Australian Education Union work bans, the children’s reports do not contain teacher comments.

Thank you to Racine
A sincere thank you to Racine (Year 4) and her family for donating some beautiful books for our school library. You generosity is really appreciated!
Robots Team and Tournament

Congratulations and well done to our Robotics Team who participated in the Lego Mindstorm tournament on Sunday 2nd December at The King David School. The children were amazing as they completed the various tasks which consisted of a board challenge, technical challenge and also a team work activity. Overall the day was a huge success with the children thoroughly enjoying themselves and also learning some new skills. A sincere thank you to Mr Chapman who supervised the children for the entire day and to the numerous parents who were there in support – your efforts are really appreciated. Well done everyone!
**Year 6 Graduation**

Congratulations to our Year 6 students for being wonderful role models throughout the year and best wishes as they celebrate their graduation this evening (Wednesday 12th December). I’m certain it will be a night they will remember for many years to come. This year we have had a committee who have been responsible for organising the evening and I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Manasa, Ani, Lucky, Jeffery, Caitlin and Piyumini and also the staff Mr Lewis, Ms Dale, Mr Hudson and Mrs Hallas.

**Christmas Hamper Donations**

Thank you to the families who have been able to provide donations for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. The amount of items collected was simply amazing and will go a long way to make Christmas a much better time of year for so many less fortunate families in our community. Thank you everyone, your understanding, kindness and willingness to contribute is simply amazing!

**2012 Excellence in Multiculturalism Awards**

I am extremely proud to report that our school was recently informed that we have won the 2012 Victorian Excellence in Multiculturalism Award. This really is a very proud moment for our school community, School Council and staff as we have worked so hard to acknowledge, promote and embrace the diversity of our wonderful school community. Next Tuesday evening Mrs Gough (Multiculturalism Leader), Mrs Tomecek (Curriculum Leader) and I have been invited to attend a special awards function at Government House. We look forward to sharing this award with the entire school community. Congratulations and well done everyone!

**Congratulations to Tara**

Earlier this term, Tara (Year 4) entered the Rotary Club of Waverley’s Story Writing competition and her story was selected as being the best from all of the local primary schools which is a wonderful achievement for Tara, her family and our school. Last week Tara, her family and I attended a Rotary Club meeting where Tara was presented her prizes which consisted of a lovely certificate and a $100 book voucher. Our school received a plaque and a $150 book voucher which is absolutely fabulous. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work of the Rotary Club of Waverley for conducting this fabulous competition and also Matilda’s Books (Mt Waverley) for their very kind donation. A copy of Tara’s story is located in the Kids’ Corner section of our newsletter and should also appear in this week’s Leader Newspaper. Well done and congratulations Tara!
2013 Day
Next Wednesday 19th December, we will hold a very special day for all of our current Year Prep to Five and new Year One to Six students as they are provided with the opportunity to spend the entire day with their 2013 class and their 2013 teacher. Having the opportunity to familiarise yourself with a new environment, meet your new teacher and class friends is an opportune time for the students (and families) to alleviate some of the issues experienced when children are required to move from one classroom or school to another. I am confident that the day will be an enormous success and I look forward to receiving some feedback from the teachers, students and parents.

End of Term Awards
In Term Four we have to break protocol and announce the recipients of our end of term awards because if we don’t the children will not be recognised in the school newsletter. Congratulations to the following children who have been selected to receive the Term Four Kiwanis Club Terrific Kids award:

Prep Area - Esther (Prep JE) - Esther is a courteous and thoughtful student who has made many friends over the year. She is a very intelligent and hardworking student. Esther is also very brave and has recently found her voice at school. Prep JE is very lucky to be able to hear Esther's daily laugh. Well done we are very proud of you Esther!

1/2 Area: Dulina (1KR) and Dulaj (1AJ) for consistently demonstrating the TRIBES agreements especially attentive listening, personal best and mutual respect. They are caring, friendly and helpful students and great role models for the school. (pictured)

Year 3/4 Area: Vidura (3DJ) for being a very diligent worker who is also a very kind and supportive class member.

Year 5/6 Area: Minoli (5DK) for displaying the qualities of persistence, generosity and self-belief in everything she does. She approaches her education with a willingness to act on feedback. She is consistently striving to achieve her personal best and extend her learning. Minoli is always available to assist others and respects the feelings of her peers. Her actions are an inspiration for the students around her. Congratulations Minoli! (pictured)

Once again, a special thank you to the Kiwanis Club of Glen Waverley for having the fortitude to implement this program and for supporting our school. Next Friday afternoon at our final assembly for the school year, the children will receive a certificate, trophy and also a $20 book voucher.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Cont’d)

Term 4 Principal Learning Awards:

Congratulations to the following students who will receive the Principal Learning Award for this term – once again, these will be announced next Friday afternoon at our final assembly for the school year.

0JE – Shrey - For all the hard work he has put into learning English. Shrey is able to name and identify all the sounds in the alphabet, write 2 sentences with punctuation and read at a red level 4. He is always making us laugh and we are very lucky to have him as part of OJE. Well done.

0LG: Shay - For persistently working to build his determination, resilience and adaptability during work times in class, but most importantly, during social times outside with his friends.

1AJ: Zaahid - for showing incredible determination and persistence over the whole year to develop his reading and writing skills. An amazing effort and a fantastic outcome.

1KR: Tanay - for his attentive listening skills, helping others, sharing his knowledge and for consistently applying himself to the best of his ability. Well done Tanay, keep up the excellent learning!

12B: Cao-Tri - for his efforts to achieve his goals this year. Cao-Tri has shown excellent improvement in his writing skills. Well done.

2CM: Rahal - is a cooperative student who displays kindness to others and makes everyone feel included. He has become such a motivated learner and has made an outstanding improvement in his reading and writing skills this year. Well Done Rahal!

2SY: Dulwan - for making a sincere effort to honour our classroom rules and for being a cooperative, friendly and cheerful member of our class.

3KC: Fahad - I have been able to rely on him all year to carry out his positions of responsibility with maturity and initiative. He is helpful to his classmates and shows enthusiasm towards all elements of classroom learning. His bright happy nature has been a joy to myself and his friends. Overall a fantastic student and well deserving of recognition.

3DJ: Sriprada - for always working to the best of her ability, listens attentively and willing attempts anything new. She is a considerate friend to her fellow class members.

4AC: Shu Yuan – For always giving his personal best in all areas of the curriculum and contributing to class discussions. Well done on an outstanding year!

4LC: Ellen – For being a student who always gives her personal best and showing mutual respect to everyone. Well done on a super year!

5JA: Arya - for demonstrating an outstanding capacity to work effectively in all classroom situations, and displaying all the qualities of being a responsible, respectful and reliable student.

5SB: Dinil - actively puts into place all our schools tribes agreements, always showing mutual respect to others and giving his personal best to everything he undertakes, no matter how large or small the task. Dinil is a friendly, helpful and motivated class member and I wish him the very best as he embarks on his final year at Primary School next year.

5DK: Heshan - is extremely well-respected by his peers for both his academic ability and his friendly personality. He is an absolute champion in the classroom and is extremely encouraging, organised and diligent when working with others. Heshan’s approach to his schooling and his general knowledge set a brilliant benchmark for his peers to aspire to. Congratulations Heshan!

6ND: Kelvin - for his brilliant attitude to his learning. He is always enthusiastic, shares his knowledge with his peers and is a pleasure to have in the class.

6PS: Kevin - Although Kevin has only been in Australia for four months, during his time at GWPS he has demonstrated a remarkable strength of will to master his English skills, which has very quickly improved in leaps and bounds. Despite his limited English, he is making new friendships every day as he never fails to demonstrate a willingness to throw himself into new and challenging situations. Kevin is a very worthy winner of the Principal Learning Award.

6RL: Ashwin – for his outstanding commitment to furthering his knowledge and understanding in all subject areas and his willingness to share this knowledge with his peers.
Goodbye
As the end of the school year draws closer, very shortly we will be saying goodbye to a number of students who are moving out of the area. We wish them all the best in their new schools and hope that they keep in close contact with their Glen Waverley Primary School friends for many years to come.
As reported in the previous newsletter, we are also saying goodbye to a number of our staff who will be working in other schools, travelling, studying or considering working in different fields to:
Mr Arness, Mr Chapman, Ms Barnett, Ms McCubbin, Mrs Zaki, Mrs Sia, Ms Evans and Ms Yerramilli – we thank you for the various years of service provided to the Glen Waverley PS community and sincerely wish you well with your future endeavours.

What’s planned for our school over the holidays?
Over the summer break we plan to refurbish the Year 6 classrooms (the 3 classrooms near the school hall) and also continue working on the new library. By the time we get back the classrooms should be completed and hopefully the library has progressed significantly.

In closing,
I would like to bid a fond farewell to our fabulous team of Year 6 students. This year the Year 6 students have set a fine example and have led the school with a true sense of commitment, sincerity and pride. I am absolutely thrilled with the leadership of all our Year 6 students particularly our 2012 School Captains Aaliya, Bradley, Stuti and Heshan who all must be congratulated for their outstanding leadership commitment, endeavour and qualities. I look forward to seeing and hearing all about the Year 6 students’ successes as they progress through their secondary education and beyond. I would also like to wish every Year 6 student the very best in the years ahead and remind them that “once you are a part of the Glen Waverley PS family, you are always a part of the Glen Waverley PS family”. I strongly encourage all of you to come back and visit us!

Also, a sincere thank you to our wonderful team of parents who have helped with many and varied events and programs throughout the year. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank every single parent for their support, assistance and encouragement as we have made our way through the year. Team spirit, trust, loyalty and integrity are part of what makes Glen Waverley such a fabulous school. It is really great, that our parents are willing to support their children, the staff and the professional judgements that are made to ensure that our school provides the very best learning environment for their children. As you know our team of staff certainly give their heart and soul to their job and their passion for education is evident. I would like to thank the numerous parents who provide us with support and feedback and for also realising that at times our job is not easy. We have a fabulous school community who are generous with the time and effort they give to nurturing, assisting and encouraging all that we do at Glen Waverley.

Naturally it would be rather remiss of me not to mention our extremely hard working staff. The teachers and support staff at Glen Waverley are relentless in their quest to make our school the best school possible. Thank you one and all!

Final Day of school arrangements Friday 21st December
A reminder that we will finish school at 1:30 on Friday 21st December; as a result the students will not need their lunch unless they will be attending After School Care which will commence at 1:30. Please ensure your child(ren) has a snack for the day. Due to the early finishing time, lunch orders will not be available on this day.
We will be holding our final assembly at 12.50 pm in the court yard (outside the Early Learning Centre) or in the school hall if the weather is not suitable. We strongly encourage as many parents as possible to attend in order to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our students throughout the year and also bid a fond farewell to those who are leaving our school.

2013 Return Dates
Grades 1-6 students will return to school on Wednesday 30th January and PREP students will begin on Thursday 31st January.

Happy holidays everyone. I sincerely wish all members of the Glen Waverley Primary School community the very best throughout the forthcoming summer break. To those members of our school community who celebrate Christmas, Merry Christmas to you all.
Please stay safe and enjoy your time with family and friends.
Take care and I look forward to seeing everybody in 2013!

Frank Catalano
Principal
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A PRINCIPAL’S AWARD RECENTLY:

0LG: The entire class for fantastic writing, Devesh and Kisandi for being great friends and Daham for making a huge improvement with his reading skills

12B: Sana for being a wonderful friend, Nethini for being very kind and generous and Abi for wonderful reading and writing

2SY: Angelina and Dilara for excellent writing (featured in the kids’ Corner section) and Uvindee and Aksaya for creating very creative toys as part of their Science unit (pictured)

3DJ and 3KC: The entire classes for creating amazing and wonderful homework pieces

5DK: Sneha for making a wonderful poster about an Indian God and Cassie for being a terrific friend.

5SB: Pimal and Seniru for being wonderful helpers and Lawrence for creating a terrific PowerPoint presentation

BIRTHDAYS
Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrate their special day in the second half of December:

0JE: Vedant
1KR: Suvan
2SY: Amnaaz and Dulvin
3DJ: Jana and Isum
3KC: Sahasni
4AC: Jacinta and Derek
4LC: Sanuthi
5JA: Jessica
5SB: Hayden
6ND: Dinara
6RL: Nadil
ANOTHER GREAT YEAR AT GLEN WAVERLEY PRIMARY

With just over a week to go until the school year ends it is amazing what has to occur between now and the last day of school. These busy times often add that extra bit of tension coming at a time when everyone is weary - students, teachers and parents alike. Looking out for and being supportive of one another ensures that the end of the year will finish on a very positive note. I would like to commend our wonderful students and sincerely thank our whole staff on another great year at Glen Waverley Primary School. We have a dedicated, professional and cohesive team that supports each other and continuously works very hard for the benefit of all children in so many different ways. The last day for students is always a little sad as the Year 6 students leave and commence their secondary education in the New Year. Some 2012 highlights include:

- The wonderful academic growth that our students continue to enjoy
- The commencement and redevelopment of our classrooms in our main corridor
- Continued success in student learning – including some notable excellent individual success.
- The successful camping program from Year 4 through to Year 6.
- The success of community activities through the excellent contribution from our parent body in supporting GWPS - a real feature of this great school.

All of the above would not be possible without the fantastic partnership that exists between parents, students and staff. Many thanks to our hard working School Council and a special thank you to our incredible Community Relations Committee who have completed a great year.

Looking ahead to 2013 –

- A wonderful new Prep group – our largest intake for many years
- The whole school production
- The completed refurbishment of our Library and Level 4 classrooms
- Some fantastic new classroom teachers to further build our great team.

I wish everyone a fantastic Christmas and New Year – one filled with much happiness and good health. I’m certainly looking forward to spending time with my family and friends during this festive and holiday period. The pace of life does not seem to be slowing so these special times are very important.

SEASONS GREETINGS AND HAVE A GREAT NEW YEAR!

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT – Darren McDonald
Trish Perry was the Principal at the original Glen Waverley Primary School from 1986-88. After her death in 1988, her brother donated $500.00 and Mrs. Kirner (the then Minister for Education) donated $200 towards a Trish Perry Memorial Scholarship for Endeavour. The Purpose of the Scholarship is to acknowledge a student who has shown endeavour in the academic, leadership and behavioural fields.

A Year 6 student is selected each year for the Scholarship by the Year 6 teachers and the Principal, with input by other staff members. The decision is confidential until the announcement at the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony.

The chosen student is given $100 towards their secondary school education together with a small engraved plaque and certificate. The student’s name is also engraved on the perpetual trophy which is hung near the office. This year we actually have two recipients:

The students chosen for 2012 are Yuhong and Isabella
Congratulations to the following students who received the Specialist Award for the month of December:

Chinese Language Achievement Award: Neev from 4LC

Sportsperson of the Month: Cheyenne from 4LC

Musician of the Month: Jesse from 6RL

Artist of the Month: Amy from 1/2B
The day after all grade 6 students went to their new secondary college for open day, grade 6AH reflected on what they will miss the most about GWPS, but also pondered on the future and what they are looking forward to the most. As a class, here are some of the results we came up with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What will we miss about GWPS?</th>
<th>What are we looking forward to?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>~ Mrs Paine, Ms Dale &amp; friends</td>
<td>~ Being a good captain at secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Friends &amp; Teachers</td>
<td>~ Camp in secondary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Tub at GWPS</td>
<td>~ Staying in the library for studying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Teachers, Friends &amp; memories</td>
<td>~ New teacher for secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Fun that we have in GWPS</td>
<td>~ Being able to study in recess &amp; lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Having only one teacher</td>
<td>~ Learning new things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Class teachers we used to have</td>
<td>~ Different types of education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Easy work</td>
<td>~ The canteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Freedom of your teacher</td>
<td>~ New facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Miss not having same school friends</td>
<td>~ Doing heaps of sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Little homework</td>
<td>~ early home time in secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Uniforms</td>
<td>~ Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ This school (GWPS)</td>
<td>~ New friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Being vice school captain</td>
<td>~ iPads to use for eBooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Friendly teachers</td>
<td>~ New subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Miss this classroom</td>
<td>~ Friendly teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Miss everything</td>
<td>~ Growing up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Leadership roles</td>
<td>~ More mature and responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ Mr Knott &amp; his jokes</td>
<td>~ Drama classes</td>
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</tbody>
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Reading, writing, ‘rithmetic...and running

Getting kids moving during school breaks doesn’t just burn off their excess energy – it actually helps them to learn better, writes Karen Fontaine

Article contributed by Karen Fontaine

With the children of Australia’s 2007 baby boom now gearing up to start Kindergarten, let’s take a look at the state of the schools at which they will spend six hours a day, five days a week and 40 weeks a year of the next 13 years.

Across Australia, many public schools are operating at maximum capacity, with hundreds of thousands of children learning their ‘three Rs’ inside yet more demountable classrooms that were introduced in the 1960s and 70s to accommodate another baby boom – the children of the first wave of post-war baby boomers.

The upshot is that as demountables continue their steady march across school grounds and ovals, an ever-decreasing amount of grassed area – even outdoor space – has meant that our school children have less opportunity to be physically active.

And indeed, new research shows children become less physically active during recess and lunch as they move through primary school, and become even more sedentary in secondary years.

Yet the games and sports they play in breaks contributes more to their total daily energy expenditure than anything they do outside of school, according to researchers at Deakin University.

These disturbing findings are the result of the world’s first long-term study into changes in students’ physical activity levels at recess and lunchtime.

Moreover, an increasingly crowded curriculum has led some schools to cut back on break times, further limiting play opportunities, the Deakin researchers, led by Dr Nicola Ridgers, point out.

In another study, researchers at the University of Western Australia explored the environmental characteristics of schools that helped boost children’s physical activities.

Dr Karen Martin offers her five top tips on how parents can keep kids moving and steer them away from other, more sedentary, options:

▸ “Set clear boundaries about screen use in discussion with kids, for example, the modem will be turned on for a total of two hours a day, and this will be during set times.”

▸ “Get kids outside into the garden. Research shows that time spent outside is linked to more physical activity.”

▸ “Encourage them to get out and about with friends in their neighbourhood – send them to the park!”

▸ “Be a good role model, exercise regularly and encourage the kids to come with you – walk the dog, ride a bike, play tennis.”

▸ “Ensure your home environment supports kids to play outside, which means uncluttering outside areas and checking equipment – do you have a basketball hoop, balls (not flat!), badminton racquets, a cricket bat?”
during recess and lunchtime. A key factor was the amount of space, including grassed area, available.

Associate Professor Karen Martin was the lead author of a paper on the research, published recently in The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health.

Which is not doing children any favours, as those who are involved in rigorous daily activities benefit from better physical and mental health than their less-active peers, agree the researchers at both Deakin and the University of WA.

“The large majority of university-based, internationally published research in this field has found a positive association between children’s physical activity participation and academic achievement,” Dr Martin said.

“Replacing academic learning sessions with physical activity does not have a detrimental impact on school grades; indeed, some intervention research indicates that increased participation in physical activity leads to enhanced learning and better grades.

“Evidence also suggests that achieving a threshold amount of physical activity may be necessary to acquire learning benefits, and that participation in vigorous physical activity may further enhance learning.”

Dr Karen Martin offers her five top tips on how teachers can keep kids moving while at school:

- “Plan and hold fitness sessions for kids – the beginning of each day is perfect time – and the benefits are evident on students’ behaviour, cognitive processing and mental wellbeing as well as enhancing their physical health.”
- “Hold outdoor classes. Just getting kids outside increases their physical activity levels.”
- “Give children some free play time each day – even 10 minutes each day can boost their activity levels.”
- “Creative strategies to overcome barriers – such as space issues – are needed. ‘Loose parts’ such as recycled materials (eg Pods with recycled paraphernalia such as air-conditioning pipes) reward with hours of fun plus they also support physical activity, social interaction, team building and creativity (see PODs on www.playforlife.org.au and www.playpods.co.uk).”
- “Work with the school community to ensure the school environment supports sport and physical education, such as the quality and quantity of sporting equipment, and varied equipment such as tennis nets and table tennis.”

Karen Fontaine is a Sydney-based journalist.
If you want to hear about pirate fairy godmothers, pixies and elves... Then you've come to the right place. I'm the narrator and I live in Glen Waverley. You might think Glen Waverley is a quiet place but I assure you, it's not. You have to look carefully into the depths of it and you will find a place that you've never dreamed of before. A world full of magic....

You might have a godmother but I bet you don't have a FAIRY godmother. Well, I do. She might look like an ordinary fairy godmother, all dressed all in blue with sparkly blue wings and blue high heels but... She's not. There's this cobra tattoo on her arm and later, when I searched in her wardrobe, I found an eye patch. My godmother waved at me and I snapped back to reality. Suddenly my godmother waved her wand in a semi-circle and suddenly appearing in her hand, a little white box with a red ribbon on it. I gawped. She extended her hand and gave me the box. I started removing the lid but my godmother stopped me. "Don't open it! It's a wish. Open it when you need it most." I stuck it in my pocket. "Now, go. I have some sword fi.... I mean meditation to do. Her parrot, Red beard, started squawking. "Sword fighting! Sword fighting!" My godmother threw an apple at Red Beard and he silenced.

I walked to the train station but I couldn’t see trains, I saw weird mechanical unicorns singing, “Mary had a Little lamb.” I looked on and saw pixies, elves and wizards shouting something. Nearby, a bird turned into a frog. A driver on the lead singer unicorn was wiping his brow with an old handkerchief. “Please stop chattering! This is the last time I will say this. This is the last unicorn transport, okay?!” A wizard protested. “I'm a computer wizard and my wife and children live in the 18th century.” The driver frowned. “Then go back to the 18th century!” “NO, NO! Then computers weren’t invented!” The wizard cried. A witch said, “Let’s turn him into a frog!” The driver looked troubled. I sighed and stuck my hands into my pocket. This quiet suburb of Glen Waverley... Our quiet place... Couldn't possibly be like this, could it? It was always so peaceful... Suddenly I felt something solid with sharp corners in my pocket. Then I remembered. It's... The wish! “Excuse me! I think I could... Could help you!” I yelled. The folk narrowed their eyes. They probably thought a mere human couldn’t do anything. Well, I would show them!

I took off the lid of the delicate little box and a wisp of dust and stars blew out of the box. It looked quite beautiful actually. I snapped out of my daydream. This was my only chance. I need to be fast. As the final star blew out, I wished. “I wish... The magical folk can go back to their families or whatever they have... And the unicorns can move again...” I opened my eyes and the unicorns stopped singing. Their wings started flapping and their eyes turned blue. The driver looked relieved and nodded at me. Then he turned to the crowd. “Come on. Do you want to go or not?” The driver smiled at me. “And give 3 cheers for this young girl...” “HIP, HIP, HOORAY!!!” Then the passengers mounted the unicorns and waved at me. “Thank you, Thank you!” I waved in return. Later, when I returned to my fairy godmother's house, I saw a sparkly blue cutlass by her side. And I'm not really sure that’s what fairy godmothers always have. But sometimes, you have to accept the reality.

And that is the end of my story. When you see people, with wispy long beards and sharp ears walking in Glen Waverley, you will know that they are elves and wizards that once took the unicorn transport. Oh, and also remember, everything is not as it seems. Glen Waverley always has magic, wherever you go.

Written by Tara (4AC)
**A Letter to Kay** (By Dilara 2SY)

Dear Kay,
Books are fantastic for all ages, but there is one book that I really want to have. You will really want this book in your library too, it is titled, “Farmer Fred, Get out of Bed!” It is a really good book for kids and I am sure you will like the book too!

**Pocket Money** (By Angelina 2SY)

I believe the yes, children should receive pocket money. My first reason is that their parents don’t need to hear, “Can I have this or can I have that?” My second reason is that it gives children responsibility. My third reason is that it allows children to save for something they want but can’t buy until they save up. My fourth reason is that it helps children learn about money!

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**GWPS HOUSE POINTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>WEEKLY</th>
<th>PROGRESSIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAWKNER</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUME</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>842</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Order Your Lunch**

The Fun & Easy Way!

**Online Lunch Ordering** Option is now available

- Replaces paper bag orders
- Pre-paid online. No cash required
- Faster and more accurate
- Order in the morning or a week in advance

A parent or guardian will need to register on the website to order from the online menu. Instructions below..

**Registration is easy and free!**


1) Click Register Now! and enter your email
2) You are emailed a link to the online form.
   Choose your own username and password and enter your contact details
3) For each child, click “Add a student” and follow the prompts to place an order
   You will be required to top-up your pre-paid account. VISA or Mastercard preferred.

If you need help, please contact

**Call 9808 9838**

Studentlunch.com.au is part of Gourmet Delish
This term, the students involved in the chess program have really excelled in learning new skills and strategies. It’s been fantastic observing the students enjoy the game whilst socialising with all ages. The coaches have been most impressed with students applying new skills to their games and trying their personal best in all situations. Congratulations to the following students, who received an award this term for their outstanding efforts in the program.

**Lunch Time Beginners:**
- **Gold** - Lauren 1/2B
- **Silver** - Sahansa 3DJ
- **Silver** - Sam 3DJ
- **Silver** - Tharindu 1KR
- **Bronze** - Travin 1AJ

**After School Beginners:**
- **Gold** - Dineth 1KR
- **Silver** - Sendiya 2CM
- **Bronze** - Enuki 2CM and Daniel 2CM

**Lunch Time Advanced:**
- **Gold** - Robin 5DK
- **Silver** - Keziah 2CM
- **Bronze** - Yash 5SB

**After School Advanced:**
- **Gold** - Leo 3KC
- **Silver** - Rehan 4LC
- **Bronze** - Tara 4AC
The Digital Excellence Program (DEA) is an online program to assist and extend students’ ICT skills. Our students monitor and drive their own learning through this program which is integrated into all aspect of their learning. Once they have completed tasks they receive a digital excellence badge to keep forever.

The program offers them the opportunity to further their skills from home by logging on to the DEA website. This can be accessed via Glen Waverley Primary School’s website. Achievements in ICT will be celebrated fortnightly through this newsletter. Here are some students who have achieved badges in the last fortnight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silver WWW</th>
<th>Gold Microsoft Word</th>
<th>Silver Graphic Artist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1KR</td>
<td>2CM</td>
<td>1/2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alysandra, Tharindu, Umar, Umaiza, Pranav, Dineth, Vinuka, Sanithu, Tanay, Ranuga</td>
<td>Keziah</td>
<td>Alexander, Akshaniya, Vincent, Ian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schoolkids Bonus

The Schoolkids Bonus is a payment to help families with education costs. It replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) you used to claim through your tax return.

Eligibility for the Schoolkids Bonus
Unlike the Education Tax Refund, you don’t need to claim the Schoolkids Bonus and you won’t need to keep receipts for education expenses. The Schoolkids Bonus will be paid in January and July each year from 2013 onwards.

To be eligible for the Schoolkids Bonus, you must either be a parent or carer who gets Family Tax Benefit Part A for a dependent child who is:
- under 16 years of age and in primary or secondary education
- 16 to 18 years of age and in full-time secondary study, or exempt from full-time study, or
- turning 19 years of age in the calendar year and in full-time secondary study, or exempt from full-time study.

Visit humanservices.gov.au.schookidsbonus for further information on this change.
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013 and added to the EMA. As a result, parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, schools will no longer receive EMA payments on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

The EMA application form must be submitted to the school by 28 February 2013.

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your EMA will be paid by direct deposit into your nominated bank account.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application.
The advertisements in this newsletter are in good faith but no responsibility as to the quality of the products or services offered is accepted by the school.

GIRL SOCCER PLAYERS WANTED

Ashburton Women’s Soccer Club is currently seeking GIRL players for their UNDER 8, UNDER 9, UNDER 11, UNDER 12 and UNDER 14 teams. Beginners welcome. Learn to bend it like Beckham!!!

Please ring Michael Gurfinkiel on 0409 235 641 for details, or email info@ashburtonwsc.org.au or register your interest on our website www.ashburtonwsc.org.au

FREE Tennis Hat for all participants!
FREE Sausage Sizzle!!

Steve Blundell Tennis
www.steveblundell.com.au

AUSTRALIAN OPEN CLINIC 2013
Legend Park Tennis Club, 85-95 Capital Ave, Glen Waverley

Join in a great day of tennis, with lots of fun games, prizes and a FREE BBQ lunch! To register for the Tennis Clinic contact Head Coach Steve Blundell to secure your spot! Register quickly, no walk-ins on the day!

Tennis Clinic Details:
Date: Monday January 21st
Time: 10am-12pm
Age: 4 – 16 yrs
Cost: $25.00
Registration Due Date: All Clinic registrations are due January 15th
Equipment: All equipment will be provided
Sausage Sizzle: enjoy your FREE BBQ lunch at 12:15pm on the day!
Contact: Head Coach Steve Blundell 0412 873 492 steveblundelltennis@gmail.com
The advertisements in this newsletter are in good faith but no responsibility as to the quality of the products or services offered is accepted by the school.

Tackers is a Yachting Australia program aimed at getting kids aged 7-12 into sailing.

Each program includes 20 hours tuition from qualified YA Instructors & Assistant Instructors, Fun on-water & off-water games and a Tackers Kit & Certificate.

**Where:** McCrae Yacht Club

**When:**
- 7-11 January 8:30am – 12:30pm or 14 -18 January 8:30am – 12:30pm or 14 -18 January 1pm – 5pm

**Contact us now!** Lisa on 0422 248 851 or find out more and book online www.mccraeyc.com.au