Dear Members of the Glen Waverley Primary School Community,

Welcome to another very exciting and information packed newsletter! As usual so many marvellous things have occurred at our wonderful school over the past fortnight such as:

Norwegian Principals’ Visit
On Tuesday afternoon our school had the pleasure of hosting 32 Principals and Assistant Principals from Oslo, Norway. The group are part of a study tour where they are visiting a few schools in Melbourne who have been specifically chosen by the Department of Education. Naturally we are very proud and honoured to be one of the selected schools. The delegation are visiting as they wanted to develop their understanding of how Literacy, Numeracy and technology are integrated into our teaching and learning programs.

It was really wonderful to see how the children interacted with our visitors as they went about explaining the various tasks they were completing. In preparation for their visit we also learnt to say a few words in Norwegian such as hello (hallo), Yes (Ya), No (Nei), Thank you (Tukk), Thank you very much (Tusen Tukk), welcome (velkommen) and Goodbye (Ha Det).

Overall it was a very successful visit with the Delegation praising the manner in which the children behave, interact with one another and also how our teachers plan, prepare and specifically target the learning needs of the children. I would also like to congratulate our fabulous School Captains (Izza, Rajat, Senisa and Lahiru) who did an excellent job in escorting the visitors and also Mahek, Saksham and Rachael who were outstanding as the photographers.
Congratulations Mahek

Congratulations and well done to Mahek who has been selected as the 2013 female Hume House Captain. Mahek is replacing Hiruni whose family have moved to Queensland. As a result, this year we will acknowledge the girls by ensuring both of their names are engraved on the House Captains plaques. Congratulations Mahek and we wish you the very best with your leadership journey and responsibilities.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Cont’d)

Junior School Council

One of the most exciting aspects of being a school Principal is that I have the privilege of witnessing and sharing the amazing accomplishments of the children – in every facet of their schooling. They simply never cease to amaze me with their ideas, lateral thinking, willingness to give things a go, attitude towards learning and one another.

On Monday morning we announced the names of the 18 children who have been bestowed with the honour and privilege of being selected as their class representative for the 2013 school year and will subsequently form the Junior School Council (JSC). The JSC is responsible for many things throughout the school but most importantly it is a vehicle which will enable the children to develop their leadership skills - skills which they will be able to use for many, many years to come. Congratulations to the following students for being selected, I look forward to working closely with you and also wish you well with your leadership journey in 2013!

1KG Anuk
1MB Ramike
1SR Geena
2CB Millie
2CW Umaiza
2RL Dulina
3DJ Simar
3KC Deni
3TA Darren
4AJ Amrita
4KB Sam
4SW Kyrylo
5/6K Thisari
5JT Jacinta
5SR Rish
6LT Martin
6ND Sithumya and
6SY Srinath
After School Extra-Curricular Programs
In last week’s newsletter we included an overview of our extra-curricular programs for this year. Unfortunately we were unable to include the information pertaining to tennis. I am very pleased to report that we have negotiated an after school tennis program which will commence on Friday March 1st at a cost of $52 for a 4 week program. If you are interested in your child joining the tennis program please see or contact Mr Knott (PE teacher) or Steve Blundell on 0412 873 492 or email steveblundelltennis@gmail.com. If sufficient children want to continue with the program then it will be extended.

Vacation Care Program
I am extremely pleased to report that our school has been granted permission to implement our very own Vacation Care (Holiday Care) program which will commence during the forthcoming April holidays. In a few weeks’ time we will provide everyone with a copy of the program and the associated costs. This is wonderful news for our school community which means our families do not have to travel elsewhere during the school holidays!

Library and Year 6 Classroom Refurbishment Program
I am very pleased to report that the Year 6 classrooms refurbishment program is now complete with the new blinds being installed this week. Once again it is just wonderful to be able to see the teachers and children learn in modern, bright, colourful and inviting learning spaces. Work with the library has also continued this week. The new blinds were also installed and the shelving completed. At this stage we expect all of the building works to be completed by the end of this term – how exciting!!

Getting to Know You Interviews
Thank you to those families who have returned their notices for the ‘Getting To Know You’ interviews which are being held this and next Wednesday. The interviews are a pivotal component of establishing appropriate relationships between home and school and the sharing of information relating to your child’s development and academic growth.

A reminder that communication between home and school is not just held during the formal interview sessions, at our school we have an “open door” policy which parents are most welcome to meet with teachers, Darren or I when the need arises. If you do have a pressing issue please do not let in fester make an appointment to see someone so we can assist you.

School Council Elections
A sincere thank you to the members of our school community who have nominated for School Council, unfortunately at the time of writing this piece I am unable to share with you the names of the nominees (due to printing timelines) however this will be communicated in the next newsletter or via a letter to all families.

School Fees
Once again, a sincere thank you to all of the families who have settled their school fees. It really is wonderful to see all of the children have the necessary supplies for a smooth start to the school year. As a result of the overwhelming response we have recently installed an interactive whiteboard in the Mandarin classroom and ordered 12 laptop computers and 12 iPads for the Year 2 classrooms – this would not have been possible if families did not settle their school fees – thank you everyone!

It is also wonderful to see the children bring along their Brain Food on a daily basis. To date I have seen children replenish their vitamins by eating bananas, carrots, peaches, nectarines, celery sticks, sultanas, apples, pears and grapes – well done everyone!
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A PRINCIPAL’S AWARD:
1SR: Bilaal for great writing and Shay for fabulous Maths work
School Captains: Izza, Rajat, Senisa and Lahiru for the fabulous leadership demonstrated during the Oslo Principals’ visit
Mahek (56K), Saksham (5JT) and Rachael (6LT) – for the fabulous photography work during the Oslo Principals’ visit
Kelvin (6LT), Srijay (6LT) and Steven (6LT) – for creating an outstanding documentary about our school for the Oslo Principal’s visit

BIRTHDAYS
Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their special day during the second half of February:
0LT: Senula
1KG: Anujana
1MB: Vishal
2CB: Ivan and Anthony
2CW: Vincent
3DJ: Mohammad and Jai Rui
3KC: Sethini
3TA: Radinsa
4AJ: Riya and Chathuni
4KB: Venitha
5SR: Dhivyan
6ND: Tannaz and Seniru
6SY: Prathibha and Juan

Wishing everyone a safe and happy fortnight,

Frank Catalano - Principal
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Over the first 3 weeks of school this year I have had the pleasure of visiting your children in their classrooms and specialist programs. I could not be more pleased with the atmosphere of calm and productive endeavour evident throughout the school. Teachers have also been building strong relationships and establishing a positive environment in each classroom and I have certainly seen that in operation. In the playground it is also wonderful to see students who are new to GWPS being welcomed into the school and to see all children playing safely and cooperatively. This great start certainly points to a positive and exciting year ahead for all in the Glen Waverley community.

Early Arrival
I was worried last week to see a considerable number of children arriving at school very early. This is a reminder to parents that teacher supervision of students in the school grounds begins at 8.45am, and ceases at 3.45pm. Whilst teachers are most definitely in the school beyond these times, the focus is on preparing an engaging program for students. Therefore I ask that parents plan to have children arrive from 8.40 onwards. In this way we can have greater control over the safety and wellbeing of all of the children at Glen Waverley Primary School.

Getting To Know You Interviews
Over the coming 2 weeks staff have provided the opportunity for parents to find out more information about their child’s year ahead. These events are always a great opportunity to discuss procedures, curriculum content, special events etc. Many parents have taken the opportunity to pass on information concerning their child to help make 2013 a successful year academically, socially and emotionally. If you have not yet returned the brief questionnaire about your child please return to school as soon as possible. All information is treated in confidence and helps inform the teacher of any special talents or needs your child may have.

School Hats
Please remember that as we are a Sunsmart School all children are required to wear school hats during recesses, lunchtimes and other outdoor activities. Broad brimmed hats and legionnaire hats are available from the school Uniform Shop.

Preps
The Preps have settled in to school life beautifully. They are fast becoming accustomed to the rules and routines of school. It is an exciting time for both students and their families. In order to make this move to school a successful one the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) has provided additional resources for interested families. Parents of Prep students can subscribe to the Department’s free weekly email alert that delivers tips, insights and news for parents of children in Prep, see: Prep for Parents - http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/primary/Pages/p4p.aspx

Darren McDonald
Assistant Principal
At Glen Waverley Primary, we believe that the more information parents have about the school curriculum, the better able they are to support their children with learning at home. Through the past two years we have established a great partnership with Global Education as shown through our Victorian Multicultural Award. When our Level teams plan for each term’s Units of Work, we are fortunate to have the support of Marilyn Snider from Global Education to ensure the Global perspective is embedded within each Unit. She also provides for the staff a wide range of resources that can be used for Term 1 that have a global perspective within them.

The Units in Term 1 build on the Global Education perspective of “Identity” from the Preps learning about “My Family to that deeper understanding of Australia’s growing identity within the Year 5 and 6 unit on “Why Australia”.

The Unit of Work for our new Preps is commencing with something familiar, the family and developing their understanding of the different families within our school. Children learn about their own history and that of their family. This unit develops children’s personal understanding of who the people in their family are and how they are related. As the children’s knowledge of family develops the focus moves to the differences and commonalities of families and to the changes to families over time.

In Level 1 and 2 the Unit of Work this term is “I’m a Big Kid now”. The students are investigating their contribution to their family and exploring their responsibilities as a student. This includes developing and understanding school expectations/rules and being prepared for their studies. The students begin to become accountable for their hygiene, their healthy lunches and acting in a safe way. It builds a strong understanding of Glen Waverley’s school values of: Mutual Respect, Personal Respect, Attentive Listening, Right to Pass and Appreciation.

The Level 3 focus for Term 1 of 2013 is a Humanities and History based unit of “Who are We?”. This unit is about the many communities that we are part of, such as our family, grade, school, state and our contribution to them. The students also investigate how these communities can change over time.

Through the weeks, the students will find out about Glen Waverley Primary School’s identity. The students will interview the different people that make up our unique community and the different ways they contribute to it. The students will work as a group to analyse the data they have collected and present a report of their findings through different media. The different decades of GWPS will be investigated for the changes that have occurred. We hope to invite past students and teachers to share their time at our school and for the students to compare and contrast between GWPS then and now. The students will be encouraged to find out about the other communities that exist within the City of Monash and beyond.

In Level 4, the Unit of Work is “Why Australia”. The students will be investigating immigration in Australia and its effects over time. They will explore the reasons behind immigration to this continent and the immigrations trends through Australia’s history. An excursion to the Immigration Museum and the stories of our own families’ journeys to Australia will deepen this understanding. The students will explore the influences that different cultures have had on Australia’s development and its identity. An investigation of the impact of world politics on immigration and immigrants who have had an important effect in Australia will also be part of this unit.

The Units of Work for each Level are based on the new Australian Curriculum Australian Victorian Essential Learning Standards (AusVELS) which is guiding the approach to curriculum in all Victorian primary schools. The Standards outline what is important for students to learn and develop during their time at school. Students will develop knowledge, skills and behaviours that will equip them to be life-long learners. At Glen Waverley Primary, we use these Standards to plan programs for learning, assess student progress and report to parents. Further information about the AusVELS is available at http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Overview/AusVELS-Structure

If you have any questions pertaining to your child’s learning or items as mentioned above please do not hesitate to see your child’s classroom teacher or myself. Also, the Term One Level Newsletters will be posted on our school website over the next few days. Please keep an eye out for this as they also contain a great deal of curriculum information.

Helen Tomecek
Curriculum and Multiculturalism Leader
2CB, 2RL and 2CW have a wonderful space to share. We have a variety of learning spaces and work together as a team to create an environment that encourages personal choices and fosters doing our personal best.

‘It’s good in Year Two because we get to learn how to share everything we have to.’ Millie

‘I like it when we share because we can get to be friends.’ Enuri

‘Sharing with everyone is very important in Year Two as there isn’t a place for everyone to have their own things.’ Deshitha

‘We share our stationery, all of the classrooms, the crayons and you have three teachers!’ Umar
The Kids Corner section of this fortnight’s newsletter has been written by Sithumya, one of the children participating in the:-

John Monash Science School - "Little Scientist, Big Science" Program

On the 13th of February Mr Catalano, Nisuli, Kimal, Pimaal and Sithumya went out of school grounds to visit the John Monash Science School. We were not there to check out the triple story school, we were there to learn about science in the "Little Scientist, Big Science" program.

At approximately 1:20 pm one of the year elevens, who was running the program collected us and took us up to the science lab. As you may imagine at JMSS the science lab was the size of two of our GWPS classrooms, in other words it was huge! Firstly we watched a little PowerPoint about nanotechnology, created by two of the students at JMSS. Just to give you an idea about what nanotechnology is, it is a manipulation of an atomic scale, so just imagine a billionth of a metre, that is what you call a nano!

Our first experiment on nanotechnology was with an aspirin tablet, we had different groups for example Nisuli and I were a 1/4 group so we had a 1/4 of an aspirin tablet, with the quarter of an aspirin tablet we had to fill a beaker with water until it reached the 100 ml point and then time the aspirin tablet until it dissolved. Then we had to compare it with a whole aspirin tablet, 1/2 an aspirin tablet, 1/8 of an aspirin tablet and a crushed aspirin tablet. We found out that the crushed aspirin tablet took less time as it had more surface area and less volume, whereas the whole aspirin tablet took more time had less surface area and more volume.

Our second experiment was to study different types of sugars like caster sugar, raw sugar, icing sugar and white sugar. We had to look at the different sizes, colours, opaqueness and surfaces. We found that the raw sugar had a coarse surface whereas the icing sugar had a soft and sticky surface.

Our final experiment for the day was, "Is there such a thing called magic sand?” In this experiment we had to study the differences in normal sand and magic sand, our final discoveries showed that there is no such thing as magic sand. It is just like normal sand but is covered with an outer coat of a type of liquid which makes it hydrophobic, (scared of water). The experiments we did at JMSS were exciting and a very new thing to us, primary school students. It is such a pleasure to be a part of the JMSS Little Scientist, Big Science" program! I cannot wait until our next session at JMSS!

Written by: Sithumya 6ND

Writers’ Club

The Writer’s Club is a place where students who enjoy writing can come to share ideas, spend some extra time writing stories, poems, rhymes or anything else they fancy. Throughout the year there will also be a variety of competitions and visits from authors and other members of the community.

Writer’s Club takes place weekly on Wednesday lunchtimes. If any family members would like to come in and help out; either through sharing stories or ideas on writing, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Arezou Javidi, Jennifer Tzimas or Kay Platt.
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:

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<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
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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.
Dear Parents

This year the school photos will be taken on **Friday, March 8th**.

Please complete the named order envelope given to your child today. Please read the ordering instructions carefully; the following points especially should be noted:

- Make sure the details on the envelope are correct for your child.
- **One order form** to be completed **for each child**.
- If ordering for more than one child, do not put envelopes inside one another.
- Each child must bring their own envelope on the day for their photo to be taken.
- Please note the **family discount offer**. If there are more than 2 children from the same family having their photo taken, only the first two children need to pay when Premium, Value or Basic Packs are chosen.

**Family group photos**

Family group photos can also be taken. If you would like to have a photo taken of siblings **at the school**, please ask for a Family Photo envelope at the office.

*Please remember that children should be neatly dressed in correct school uniform.*

Marion Barnes
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.

**MENTAL ARITHMETIC WITH ABACUS**

A program available to interested parents with children from Prep to Year 6 where students can learn mental and manual arithmetic with abacus. A proven concept that can improve arithmetic skills and also enhances the mental abilities like concentration, observation, visualization, imagination and memory. Please contact Choon Lim with any enquiries.

Mobile: 0431 616 364   After hours: 03-97580731
Email: choonbaelim@yahoo.com

**Participants needed: FREE study for overweight teens looking for help!**

Murdoch Childrens Research Institute at The Royal Children’s Hospital is doing a study to find a better way to support overweight young people aged 12 to 17 years to make healthier choices about weight management. Participation involves completing online questionnaires and having height, weight, blood pressure and waist circumference measured at the beginning and then at 3, 6 and 12 month follow-ups. Parents are also invited to take part. Every 3 months there will be a draw for a $100 gift voucher for those who have kept their appointments. The results will help us to find out a helpful way to teach young people about weight-related behaviours during adolescence. We need overweight young people aged 12-17 living in metropolitan Melbourne to join in!

Enquiries: Karly Cini 03 9345 6954 or stayingfit@meri.edu.au

For more info: www.rch.org.au/ Cah/research/The_Staying_Fit_Project/

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**CHANDLER MACLEOD**

**UNLEASHING POTENTIAL**

**Would you like to be a School Crossing Supervisor?**

The role of a “Lollipop” person is important to our community and we need dedicated, reliable people to join our team. If you are interested and can commit to Monday to Friday, 8am – 9am and 3pm – 4pm in an ongoing role, then please call us now.

Crossings are available within the Boroondara districts.

Thankyou

Chandler Macleod Workforce
Ashleigh Rea – 1300 40 40 49
745 Springvale Road, Mulgrave
03 8561 8833
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.

BOYS & GIRLS - WANT TO PLAY BASKETBALL?

WAVERLEY RAIDERS BASKETBALL CLUB
REGISTRATION FOR THE WINTER SEASON (Terms 2 & 3) IS NOW OPEN!

CLICK THE LINK AND COMPLETE OUR ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM.

CALL Sam Papadapoulos on 0430 095557 for all enquiries.
Or see www.waverleyraidersonline.org for more details.

Proudly sponsored by the Bendigo Bank - Glen Waverley

Class Timetables

**Monday:** Burwood East P.S cnr Blackburn & Highbury Rds (enter Blackburn Rd)
6.15pm (Sophenie) - Great for beginners
7.30pm (Toni) - If you want to really get it on

**Wednesday:** Glen Waverley P.S cnr Springvale & High St Rds (enter High St Rd)
6.15pm (Eddie & Kerry) - Great for beginners
7.30pm (Toni) - If you really want to get it on

Class Fees: $15 casual
$50 Loyalty Card (pay for 5 get 6th class FREE)
Senior & Student Concessions

Available for Group Sessions/
Fundraising Events/Hens Days/
Anytime you want to spice up
your normal routine

1300 116 525
WWW.EASTERNINDOOR.COM.AU
Where do you go to make the most of your child’s first years?

GymbaROO encourages critical skills for early learning and literacy.
At GymbaROO learning is a continuing experience which parents and children can share and enjoy together.

- Research based programs
- Movement, music and specially designed equipment
- Encourage critical skills for early learning & literacy
- Professionally qualified instructors
- Parent information and home activities

You go to GymbaROO

GymbaROO

BabyROO from 6 weeks of age

For further information and timetable of all our classes, please visit our website at:

www.gymbarooglenwaverley.com

WAVERLEY WANDERERS S.C.
is offering FREE registration to the first 20 players who register for

GOAL KICK PROGRAM (U/5 & U/6s)
OR
LITTLE LEAGUE PROGRAM (U/7 & U/8s)

We are also looking for players for teams: Under 9’s to Under 18’s. Each player is guaranteed game time every week.

Home Ground: Carlson Reserve, Clayton Road, Clayton
For more information please contact:
Junior Coordinator: Lisa – 0431 616 253
Email: koundanisfamily@yahoo.com.au
Club Secretary: Maria – 0414 942 270

FREE Soccer Clinic in Vermont

The training session will run for 45 minutes with activities that will develop skills in dribbling, passing, controlling the ball and working in a team. The session will also end with a game.

The Free clinic will be held on Saturday 23rd Feb and boys and girls between the ages of 5 – 12 are welcome to participate.

For information on location and session time, or to register your child, please call Greg on 0413 919 727 or email us at supersoccerclinic@gmail.com.au.

Whitehorse United Soccer Club

Play Soccer in 2013

Players of all ages welcome, register today!

Ages 5 to 7 years old: Boys and girls learn skills, play games and have fun.
Under 9 to 17: Join our boys and girls teams.
Enquiries: Contact Soraya 0407 514 150 - Club Secretary.

Whitehorse United Soccer Club - www.whitehorseunited.com.au
Terrara Park, Terrara Road, Vermont South