DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 3
8th August – Working Bee
21st August – Daffodil Day and Jeans 4 Genes Day
1st & 2nd September – Production

“Together we make a Difference!”

PRINCIPAL’S BLOG

Dear Parents and Friends,

Report Cyberbullying in Australia
A new eSafety website went live on 1 July 2015, with resources and information on all forms of cyberbullying and online safety. Children are able to report when they are being bullied online, or have viewed something that may be illegal or offensive.

New laws provide the means for material to be removed through a notice to the social media service, and companies that do not cooperate will face hefty fines. For anyone seeking to make a report of cyberbullying or illegal material, or to investigate online safety information available through the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner, please see: www.esafety.gov.au

Are you the parent or carer of a child with a disability? As part of the Victorian Government commitment to make Victoria the Education State, the Department of Education and Training has begun a review into how schools can better support students with special needs – including those with autism and dyslexia.

The review into the Program for Students with disabilities includes the opportunity for parents to tell the Department what they think of the current program and how it can be improved.

You can get involved by taking an online survey which will be available from September via: www.education.vic.gov.au/specialneedsplan
PRINCIPAL’S BLOG CONTINUED...

Your responses will help shape the Education State and encourage creative solutions to providing outstanding special needs education in Victoria.

SchoolMate App
Following the release of, SchoolMate in May, the app has become an invaluable resource for parents, with almost 17,000 downloads across Victoria. Designed to help parents become more engaged in their child’s education, SchoolMate also provides parents and kids with amazing activities around Melbourne for times such as the school holidays just passed. SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year level and:

- Provides you with an overview of what your children are learning in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provides you with tips regarding activities and things you can do at home to help your kids in each subject and year level
- Suggests apps, books, events and activities related to each subject area and year level.

Our school, like all other government schools in Victoria, uses AusVELS as the basis for the learning programs we run at school every day. Our teachers adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our students and community, for example, designing learning programs around what your children are interested in, or around days or celebrations that are important to our community. I encourage you to download SchoolMate and to please talk with your teacher or myself if you are interested to find out more about how our school teaches the curriculum.

Pirates of the Curry Bean
Well we are now officially pushing water uphill! **We now have 6 weeks left to be ready.** Becky, and her team are well down the road in creating costumes for every single student in the school; our Parent Committee is working towards presenting some wonderful items for sale/display. Emma, Doug and Cheryl are putting together ideas for programs, sets and props, Melody will be teaching every grade their musical item and her team are also developing dances for each grade, and our senior students are rehearsing with Coby and Matthew almost daily! Ticket prices are being finalised with Burrinja this week and I will let you know details as soon as possible. Key dates are below:

**Dates:**
- Tickets on sale Tuesday 11th August
- Theatre Rehearsal Monday 31st August
- First Performance Tuesday 1st September
- Second Performance Wednesday 2nd September

Please stay tuned to TiqBiz for updates and help that may be needed.

Have a wonderful week everybody,
Matthew
A reminder to parents whose children are participating in the WiseOnes “Ancient Egypt” unit for term 3 to make sure they have enrolled and paid by Friday, 17th July. Also remember to bring a shoe box next Thursday. Thank you, Sandy Robertson.

**SHOE BOXES FULL OF FUN!!**

Late last term, all families received a notice about filling a 'shoe box full of fun' for kids at the Royal Children’s Hospital who are undergoing cancer treatment.

Our school is the first school to be involved in this special project and I received an email about how excited the foundations are to receive these boxes. I’ve heard kids asking each other about what they have bought to put in these boxes, and it’s great that the kids are getting involved!

It is important to remember that you don’t need to spend a fortune, just think of some fun things to put in it (I put a whoopee cushion in mine, hehe!). All items MUST be new in packaging or with tags (due to the children’s compromised immune system).

Some fun ideas of what to pack:
- something to love (teddy, doll etc)
- something to do (drawing book, pencils, craft etc)
- something to wear (jewellery, cap, beanie etc)
- something to play with (cards, car, torch, puppet etc)
- something to pamper (showergel, toothbrush etc. No strong smells or toothpaste please)
- something to nibble (saltanas, lollypop, biscuits etc. No nuts please)
- something personal (letter, or card or photo from you!)

Please label shoe box for a boy or girl with an age range (between 0-18!)

There are plenty of empty shoeboxes in 5/6CK if you need an empty one!
**“STARS OF THE WEEK”**

| Foundation R | Maya P: For practising her reading and words at home and making great progress in the classroom. Well done, Maya! Callum O: For working hard on his Writer’s Notebook and sounding out some tricky words! Keep it up, Callum. |
| Foundation/1 JN | Eliza B: For trying her hardest with her punctuation activities. Great Job! Casper G: For some fantastic writing during our Writer’s Notebook session. Well done! |
| 1/2 Kelly/Alison | Camille B: For your fantastic effort, especially during writing. Keep up the good work! Isaac McG: For a fantastic effort on your spelling words this week, a fantastic start to Term 3! |
| 1/2 Anna | Lincoln S: For consistently trying his best to complete all class work. Well done Lincoln, keep it up! Amelie S: For the quiet, efficient way she completes all of her work. Keep up the great work Amelie! |
| 3/4 Cheryl | Jackson E: For being a focussed student who completes all of his work to a very good standard. Luca S: For a wonderful start to Term 3 and trying hard in all areas of his work. |
| 3/4 Heather | Jackson E: For having a wonderful working week and remaining focused at all times. Donovan J: For taking on responsibilities and doing them so brilliantly. Well done Donny! |
| 4/5 Adam | Tilly H: For your kind, caring and patient nature. You work so well in group activities and always support the students you are working with. Well Done!! Nicholas W: For your positive start to the term. It is great to see you have come back more focused on your learning. Keep up the good work!! |
| 5/6 Allen | Charlie M: For being an enthusiastic and consistent participant in all class discussions and activities. Bridget H: For being an enthusiastic and consistent participant in all class discussions and activities. |
| 5/6 Coby/Kristy | Thomas P: For always showing enthusiasm in all areas of his school work! Jessica C: For her positive attitude towards her school work and completing her tasks without delay! |

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*Everyone is equal.*

*Gidi*
**Free Dental Care is not just for Children of Health Care Card Holders.**

Children and youth who attend public dental clinics will **NOT incur out of pocket expenses** with the Child Dental Benefit Schedule. **NO FEES ~ YOU WILL BE BULK BILLED!**

On January 1st 2014, the government introduced the new Child Dental Benefit Scheme. Families who receive Family Tax Benefit Part A or a relevant Australian Government payment will receive a letter outlining their eligibility.

It entitles all eligible children aged 2-17 years old to general dental care up to the value of $1000 over 2 years.

**Our normal dental care continues to operate for all 0-12 year old children and eligible 13-17 year old youth at no cost.** (Youth must be a holder or dependant of a health care or pensioner concessioner card holder, in out-of-home care provided by Department of Human Services or in Custodial Care).

Following their treatment, your child will be placed on our **patient recall system** and receive a reminder letter when their next appointment is due.

Please do not hesitate to phone the reception staff on 9757 6200 at Knox Social and Community Health if you require any further information about our dental services.

Thank you for your assistance.

The Oral Health Team, Knox Social and Community Health
1063 Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully, 3156,
Phone: 9757 6200

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**Performing Arts News**

Welcome back to Term 3! It is production term and all classes have been busy rehearsing in Performing Arts class. Each class (except for the Grade 5/6 students) will be performing a class number and they are already looking and sounding great. A few students and parents have asked for the lyrics and music for practicing at home. Over the next few days the lyrics and music will be sent out to each Grade level via TiqBiz. We are still finalising the instrumental tracks for 1/2A and the Grade 4 students so these may come home a little later. It is up to you whether you want to listen to your child sing the songs. You may like for it to be a surprise on the night. The option is there for your child to rehearse at home if they choose to.

Due to all of the production rehearsals at lunchtime and playtime Choir and Dance Club will be put on hold for Term 3. We will start up again after the production as the choir will need to rehearse for the regular end of year performance at the Ferny Creek Carols.

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**Thinking Outside The Box Programs**

www.thinkingoutsidethebox.com.au

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**Free Parent Information Evening**

*Is your child seeking more challenge?*

*Thinking Outside The Box and the Gifted Support Network* are delighted to invite parents to an evening of information and discussion about gifted and talented children. Parents are welcome from all schools and whether or not your child is attending a Thinking Outside The Box program. Teachers are also welcome.

The keynote speaker is Penny Willoughby, Founder and Teacher of Thinking Outside The Box Programs. The evening will include a presentation, hands-on session, as well as time for questions and discussion. A light supper will be available.

**What is Giftedness?**

- 45 mins

- What do the educational terms, ‘gifted’, ‘soldiers’, ‘highly able’, ‘gifted and talented’, mean?
- How are gifted children identified? How do I know if my child is gifted?
- What can I do to help my child’s educational needs be met?
- How do I approach our school to talk about my child’s education?
- What are the Thinking Outside the Box programs about and how will they benefit my child?

**Hands-on maths and logic problems**

- 45 mins

Are you keen to find great activities for children with lively young minds? Do you enjoy challenging yourself to solve tricky maths and logic problems? Have fun exploring a range of maths and logic problems that you can take home to share with your children. Levels to select from will include easy problems — for younger children (Kindy, Prep etc) or beginners — through to hard problems — for adolescents and adults keen for a challenge. Penny will commence this session with a short talk about the benefits of problem solving and some ideas for developing your children’s strategies and persistence. Penny will also be available to help parents solve tricky problems and chat throughout the session.

**Date:** Thursday, 23 July, 2015  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
**Venue:** Tecoma Primary School  
1536 Burwood Highway, Tecoma (opposite shopping strip)  
Principal: Rohan Thompson

Bookings are essential by Tuesday, 21 July 2015 and can be made by contacting Barbara Vogh at: admin@thinkingoutsidethebox.com.au or calling/texting on 0429 522 903.
The Week That Was
Welcome back! We hope everyone had a fantastic school holidays and are excited about the term ahead. We sure are!

This Week’s Program
This week (week 1) is Winter Wonderland! We have been braving the cold to celebrate the season that is! So far this week we have made jolly snow men, glittering snow flakes, and magical snow globes! We are looking forward to having a go at finger knitting and making penguins! We have had a great start to term three!

School Holidays!
OSHCare 4 KIDS are very excited to be running a Vacation Care program during the school holidays in Belgrave! These holidays were filled with mega arcade games, delicious chocolate sensations, and a winter wonderland! We are also went to Inflatable World and Circus Oz. It was great to see lots of Ferny Creek families at the program and having a great time.

Upcoming Week
Next week (week 2) is Sensory Madness week! Give your senses a workout as you have a go at a variety of arts, crafts, and games! We will be making squishy bags, finger painting and playing a taste testing game! Book in now to enjoy all of this and more!

Joke of the Week
Q: What did the 0 say to the 8?
A: Nice belt!

Staff Changes
I am sad to inform that I will be leaving the program, as I will be travelling overseas this year. I have had a great time at Ferny Creek OSHC and will dearly miss everyone. The program will be lead by Ruby and Bridget this term and they cannot wait to meet you all. My last day will be the 24th July. Wishing you all the best Karli

Enrolment and Bookings
We always welcome new faces to After Care! 2015 Enrolments can be completed online or by downloading a paper version, or you can pick one up at the OSHCare room. Should you need any assistance with the online process, feel free to come and see us and will be happy to help you out with the process.

Contacts
OSHC: 0428 258 940
Bookings and Cancellations: enrolment@oshcare4kids.com.au
OSHCare 4 KIDS Head Office: 97586744
admin@oshcare4kids.com.au

Cooking Club
Cooking Club is back in action! Tomorrow we are making delicious pancakes with a variety of toppings! Yum yum! Next week we will be enjoying a secret cooking club on Thursday! Shhhh!

Reminders
We remind of families and the members of our school community that everyone can visit our Facebook page so they can see photos of the activities we complete. You can also see some of the fun we enjoyed during the Vacation Care program. Simply find us on Facebook by looking for OSHCare 4 KIDS.