FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PARENT INVOLVEMENT
At Chatham we certainly value the partnership that exists between the school and home. I have said it many times- ‘This partnership can be strengthened by parents’.

- Supervising homework
- Monitoring absenteeism
- Monitoring television viewing and playing of video and computer games
- Having high but realistic expectations of achievement
- Encouraging participation in extracurricular activities
- Reading with and to your child

On another level parents can:

- Be involved in the classroom
- Be an active participant in parent-teacher relations
- Keep in touch with the school

Generally, parents can help their child’s attitude to school by showing that the school is an important part of their lives as well. If children see that parents value education and the school community so will they. They can display this by:

- Spending time at school in a voluntary capacity
- Being involved in parent associations
- Setting limits and exercising discipline at home and out in the community
- Encouraging an attitude of respect to teachers and to others in general
- Talking! Studies show that frequent family discussions are associated with higher student achievement.

A study in the early 1990s by the National Assessment of Education Progress in the USA found that 90% of differences in achievement could be attributed to home practices and parent input.

What families do to help their children is more important to a child’s success than how well off the family is. Importantly, parents benefit as well. Involvement at a school level can increase social networks and can bring about a sense of self-worth.

Teachers and schools also benefit from the positive involvement of parents. They are encouraged to raise their expectations for both children and parents. Once teachers are comfortable working with parents, the benefits, particularly at primary levels, are substantial. Teachers rated strengthening the parent role in their children’s learning as the issue that should receive the highest priority in education.

Children who are connected with their school have much happier and more successful experiences of school life. Parents are vital in making that connection and the partnership that exists between home and school.

Working Bee
The next working bee is scheduled for families of Year 4 and will be held on Saturday 18th May. We have a number of major projects to complete as well as cleaning up the school in readiness for the open day tours during Education Week. Please mark this date in your diary and find some time to come along and help out for the morning. A letter will be sent home to Year 4 families before this date.

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EDUCATION WEEK & SCHOOL TOURS
We have already had a number of enquiries for enrolments at our school next year. While we appreciate that finding the right school is a very important decision to make and we are always encouraging of the community interest in our school, we prefer to give everyone the same opportunities and access to information about the school.
We will be holding three separate school tours on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd of May from 9:30am. We will also be holding another tour time on Saturday 25th May from 9:30am. Usually we have a large number of families collect an information package but we will be endeavouring to keep our Prep enrolment to around 60+ students across 3 grades. If you know of any new families who live nearby, or if you have relatives, friends or neighbours who would like information about the school, please encourage them to visit the school on one of these days for a tour. Individual tours can also be arranged by contacting the school office.

GRANDPARENTS/ SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY
During Education Week we will also be holding a special morning for Grandparents and special friends to visit our school. Invitations will be sent home soon but Grandparents and special friends are invited to join us on the morning of Monday 20th May when they can visit the school to see the school in operation, work in our classrooms and specialist programs, and get a feel for what is happening right across the school. Grandparents and friends are invited to visit our school from 9:30am with morning tea starting at 10:45am. Because of the large numbers that turn up on this day we would appreciate it if parents did not accompany these visitors. We understand that some people may need assistance to get around, but where ever possible, we would prefer parents not to be at school during this time. Parking is also an issue on these mornings. Each year we have complaints from neighbours and last year we had a visit from the local bylaws officer. Please inform grandparents and friends to obey all parking signs and consider our neighbours and surrounding streets when choosing where to park their cars.

ABSENCES and LATE ARRIVALS
It is extremely important that students arrive at school on time or they will be marked as being late to school. At Chatham, each day begins at 8:50 when the music plays. Students are expected to be at school by this time so that they can enter their room and get ready for the day. At 9 o’clock the teacher will often outline the daily timetable and communicate to students what the expectations are for the day. They may also spend this time explaining the first lesson. Many students are consistently wandering into class at 9:05 or later which means that they are really already at least 15 minutes late for school. Everyone should be making a concerted effort to get to school on time each day. The stress levels for everyone will be lower as students start their day organised, calm and ready to work. Whenever a child is away it is a legal requirement for teachers to receive and keep a written note for the explanation of this absence. All absences need to be followed up with a written note (letter or email) from a parent. Even if you are leaving a voice message through the school’s phone system it is important that this is also followed up with a written note provided to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

ANZAC DAY
ANZAC Day badges are currently on sale around the school from members of our Junior School Council. They range in price from $1—$5. They will be on sale from the school office until Monday.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
From Monday 8th April to Sunday 9th June when you shop at Woolworths, you can collect docket for every $10 that you spend at the supermarket. Once collected, Woolworths Earn & learn points need to be stuck onto a points sheet and deposited into the collection box placed outside the school office. If you run out of tally sheets you can collect some more from the school office or simply deposit your tokens into the box and we will stick them onto our own tally sheets. The response from our school for this program over the last few years has been fantastic and has enabled us to exchange these tokens for fantastic classroom equipment for our junior grades. Please remember to collect these tokens each time you shop at a Woolworths supermarket.

MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST—Don’t forget this fantastic event, next Friday the 3rd of May, 9:00—10am in the hall. Remember to get your orders in by tomorrow.

STEPHEN ROTHWELL - PRINCIPAL
**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Friday 26th May**
Year 6 Interschool Sport—Auburn South PS

**Friday 3rd May**
Year 6 Interschool Sport—Camberwell PS
Mothers Day Pancake Breakfast—9am school hall

**Monday 6th May**
Mothers Day Wrapping Session—9am meet at the office

**Friday 10th May**
Year 6 Interschool Sport—Glenferrie PS
Mothers Day Stall

**Monday 13th May**
District Cross Country—Anderson Park
School Council—7pm

**Tuesday 14th May**
NAPLAN tests—Years 3 and 5

**Wednesday 15th May**
Year 4 Camp—Arrabri Lodge Warburton
NAPLAN tests—Years 3 and 5

**Thursday 16th May**
NAPLAN test—Years 3 and 5

**Friday 17th May**
Year 6 Interschool Sport—Balwyn PS
Year 4 Campers return at 3.30pm

**Saturday 18th May**
Year 4 Working Bee—9:00 to 12:00

**Monday 20th May**
Education Week Commences
Grandparents Day—9.30am to 11.30am

**Tuesday 21st May**
Year 5 and 6 Excursion to Botanic Gardens and Ian Potter Gallery

**Wednesday 22nd May**
Open Morning tour—9.30am

**Thursday 23rd May**
Open Morning tour—9.30am

**Friday 24th May**
Year 6 Interschool Sport—Canterbury PS
Jump Rope for Heart launch day—assembly 2.30pm

**Saturday 25th May**
Japanese Garden Fundraising Sausage Sizzle at Masters Hardware Box Hill South
Open Morning tour—9.30am

**Friday 28th June**
Last Day of Term—School finishes 2.30pm
WANTED OLD BLANKETS, DOONAS, SLEEPING BAGS AND GLOVES/MITTENS

Over the last few years, Chatham has supported a Soup Kitchen in St Kilda that is desperately in need of warm blankets, doonas or sleeping bags as well as gloves, mittens and beanies to give to the poor and homeless. They are given out directly to families/people who come to the Soup Van to get their evening meal of soup and sandwiches. If you have any that you no longer use, we would love to collect them. Please leave at the office.

DIANNE BEARDALL

MOTHER’S DAY STALL

Parents’ Club will be holding a Mother’s Day Stall for the students on Friday 10th May. If you can help with the wrapping please come along to the school on Monday, 6th May after drop off - more hands, light work.

All students will have the opportunity to buy something special for their mother and/or grandmother. Gifts range in price from $1.00 to $5.00. Each class will be given a set time to view and purchase items. Students will need to bring some pocket money on the day (or to ask Dad for some money) so they can buy something special that mum will love. All gifts have been carefully selected and beautifully packaged.

SUSAN WILDING AND AMY STEVENTON
MOTHER’S DAY STALL COORDINATORS

IMPORTANT NOTICES SENT HOME THIS WEEK

Please check the Newsletter each week for a list of notices that have gone home in your child’s school bag.

General notices will also be posted on the website.

FROM THE ENVIRONMENT LEADERS....

Last term the environment leaders took over the old portable classroom next to the chook shed and turned it into “Enviro HQ”.

Later this term we are going to run classes in there to teach you about the sustainable things we are doing at school.

One of the things we are going to teach the students about in “Enviro HQ” is about rubbish.

Remember that we should be having ‘nude food’ lunches and trying to have as little plastic and wrappers as possible. If you do have rubbish it is very important that you put it in the right bin so that we recycle as much as possible.

If you are not sure what bin to put your rubbish in ask your teacher or the teacher on yard duty.

Please do not drop your rubbish in the yard.

If you see rubbish in the yard please pick it up and put it in the bin.

Please help us to “Keep Chatham Beautiful”.

Thank you

CANTEEN ROSTER

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL
MORNING:  KAREN WINCH
            LINA LAD
            CATHY MAGOUTIS

SANDWICH HAND: ANNIE TAYLOR  10:30 START

WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY
ALL DAY:  LISA STEWART
            KYLA MARSTON

THANKS TO BREADSTREET FOR ALL THE LOVELY BREAD.

IF YOU CAN’T DO YOUR SHIFT PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO DO IT FOR YOU.

THANK YOU
STEPH REID
Canteen Manager
Chatham Primary School

Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast

Friday, 3rd May at 9am - 10am in school hall

Cost: $13 per person

An event not to be missed - come and join us for a delicious breakfast with friends and a chance to win some fabulous raffle prizes.

1st prize – Hamper from The Works (Bed Bath & Table) valued $120

2nd prize – Gift Voucher from The Works (Bed Bath & Table) to the value of $50

3rd prize – Bottle of Piper-Heidsieck Brut Champagne value of $35

(Coffee cart available to purchase hot drinks)

2013 Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast
(Toddlers and Babies most welcome)

Name/s: ________________________________________________

Please tick one of the following;

☐ Short Stack (Light and Easy)

Two buttermilk pancakes topped with your choice of ice cream, whipped butter, maple syrup, strawberry jam, lemon sugar or all of the above.

or

☐ Bavarian Apple (A Winter Warm Up)

Stewed, sliced apple, lightly spiced with nutmeg, laid over two pancakes, garnished with cinnamon sugar and maple syrup, served with cream or ice-cream.

Total payment enclosed: $ ___________ @ $13 per person

Please return this slip with payment in an envelope clearly marked ‘Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast’ by Friday, 26th April.

Make cheques payable to CPSC Parents Club Fundraising