FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I was away with the Year 6 students on their camp last week so once again I would like to support Bronwyn’s opening article from last week and also say welcome back to everyone, with a special big welcome to all our new families across the school. It has certainly been a very smooth start to the new school year with all grades being really settled into their daily routines and already commencing their work requirements. This is especially so for our new Preps who, even though it has been a warm and muggy beginning, have started off the year so well.

The weekly school newsletter is a very important avenue of communication between the school and home. Each week there is significant information that is passed on to families via this publication as well as reports of upcoming events and activities that have been happening around the school. It is essential that parents make sure that they read the newsletter every Thursday and note the upcoming events and essential information.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

The class information sessions will be conducted next week. Each year level will have a focus on some part of the curriculum followed by time in each classroom to hear from the class teacher regarding expectations for the year. Bronwyn Orr and I will supervise the yard after school during these sessions so that all children will be monitored and cared for.

- Prep & Yr 3 Information Session – Monday 15th Feb – 3:45 to 4:30
- Yr 1 & 5 Information Session – Tuesday 16th Feb – 3:45 to 4:30
- Yr 2 Information Session – Wednesday 17th Feb – 8:50 to 9:30
- Yr 5 & 6 Information Session – Thursday 18th Feb – 3:45 to 4:30

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These Information Sessions will be followed by Parent/Teacher interviews which are scheduled to take place during the week beginning Monday 29th Feb. These initial interviews last for 10 minutes and are primarily for parents to discuss their child with the class teacher – their children’s strengths and weaknesses, their likes and dislikes, interests and hobbies, etc. Please keep to the 10 minute allocated times so that the timetable across the school can be maintained.

We are once again using an online booking system for the booking of interview times with each teacher. More information will be sent to you shortly.

PARENTS’ CLUB

The Parents’ Club is another very important group in our school. This association is certainly an integral part of our school community – co-ordinating our fundraising and social activities across the year. All activities for 2016 are already organised with most having their coordinators already in place. In a couple of months we will have finished the Cooperative loan that has been a part of our fundraising efforts over the last 10 years. When the school borrowed $200,000 this was put towards putting in the sprung wooden floor in the hall, the building of the front foyer and toilets, the back storerooms and the extensive landscaping at the front of the school. Parents’ Club is working with the school and School Council to develop a prioritised list of items and projects to further enhance our school and our students’ education. This group also coordinates the Class Reps and looks after many events including Grandparent’s Morning Tea, School Disco, welcoming new families into the school, hiring equipment, first aid room linen roster, etc. I would ask that you consider supporting and joining this very important group.

Some of the planned activities for this year are:
- Progressive Dinner
- Mother’s Day breakfast & stall
- Trivia night
- School Disco
- Ginger Bread House making

and many, many more social & fundraising activities for the school.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2…
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 2016

Each year we need to hold elections for half of our School Council membership. More detailed information will follow in next week’s newsletter calling for nominations and the timeline for our School Council elections.

What is a School Council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the School Council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of School Council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual School Council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on School Councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a School Council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the School Council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on School Council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All School Council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the School Council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote if an election is necessary.

Parents are most welcome to attend any School Council meeting as observers with the next meeting for the current School Council members to be held on Monday 22nd February.

Contact the principal for further information.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

YEAR 6 CAMP
A very tired but happy group of Year 6 students returned from their camp on the Gippsland Lakes last Friday. Although it was drizzling rain on our lake’s cruise day, the weather for the remaining days was very kind to us enabling everyone to enjoy all of our planned activities which included canoeing, donutting, hut building, ropes and initiatives courses, raft making, stand up paddle boarding, archery and sailing. A big thank you to the teachers who accompanied these children and helped ensure that our Year 6 students all had a positive and rewarding camping experience.

2016 STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITIONS
Our Year 6 students have certainly had a busy start to their school year. This week they have started the process for selecting all of the leadership positions for 2016. They will be nominating, delivering speeches and voting for the school leadership positions. We are proud of the leadership program that we offer all our Year 6 students. Each Thursday afternoon we hold leadership sessions where each of our student leadership teams work with various staff on different projects.

All of our 74 Year 6 students will play a very important role as school leaders at Chatham Primary School. This year we will have the positions of School Captains, Vice Captains, House Captains, Peer Support Leaders, Junior School Councillors, Art, Music, Japanese, Science, ICT and Environment Leaders. We hope to be able to announce these positions at our school assembly next week on Friday February 19th.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES
Our first assembly for the year will take place tomorrow, Friday 12th February. I would encourage parents, if time permits, to come along to our assemblies on a Friday afternoon commencing at 2:40.

STEPHEN ROTHWELL - PRINCIPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates for the Diary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th February</td>
<td>Canteen opens—New menu on website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15th February</td>
<td>Year 3 and Prep information sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th February</td>
<td>Year 1 and Year 4 information sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17th February</td>
<td>Year 2 information session (morning)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Book club due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th February</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 information sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19th February</td>
<td>Year 6 interschool sport @ home</td>
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<td>Prep first assembly and presentation of leadership badges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd February</td>
<td>School Council 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26th February</td>
<td>Year 5 camp forms due back</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 6 interschool sport @ home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29th February</td>
<td>Parent/teacher interviews this week</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Division swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd March</td>
<td>School photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th March</td>
<td>Year 6 interschool sport @ Bialik PS</td>
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<td>Sunday 6th March</td>
<td>Prep/year 5 buddy picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th March</td>
<td>Public holiday—No school today</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15th March</td>
<td>Year 5 camp to Maldon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th March</td>
<td>Campers return at 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Last day of term 1—2.30pm finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11th April</td>
<td>School resumes for term 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Walking School Bus

Did you know......

“Today in Victoria, nearly one-third of all children spend less than 5 minutes walking per day. Inactive children are more likely to be overweight – and the proportion of Australian children who are overweight is now reaching 25%. Walking to and from school gives children an opportunity to engage in regular physical activity; yet 70% of children are driven to school even though 80% live within 3km of their school”. (www.vichealth.com.au)

We are currently looking for a volunteer/s to coordinate the Walking School Bus (WSB) program at CPS and to get the bus routes up and running again for 2016.

Here is a bit about the bus.........

What is a Walking School Bus?
A WSB is a school bus powered not by an engine, but by legs. Children walk in a group to school, with an adult ‘driver’ in the front and an adult ‘conductor’ at the rear. The bus travels along a set route to school, picking up or dropping off children along the way at designated ‘bus stops’. The service is free. Every child is welcome to join the bus, even if the parents aren’t able to be drivers / conductors. The bus does however rely on parent volunteers to run, so parents are encouraged to get involved where possible.

What are the benefits of the Walking School Bus?
WSB’s can assist children to arrive at school safely, conveniently and on time while encouraging children to get regular physical activity and exercise. It also allows children to gain a sense of independence, build friendships, and have fun getting to school. A WSB program doesn’t just benefit children, parents and schools. It has benefits to the wider community and environment as well.

What is the size of the bus and how often does it run?
The size of the bus depends on the number of accompanying adults: 8-12 children with two adults is common. The bus can go as seldom or as often as volunteers want to drive it and parents and children want to use it. Volunteers agree on a schedule / timetable.

What about safety?
Safety on the bus is of high importance. The route therefore is thoroughly checked for traffic hazards, and children and adults wear bright, distinctive arm bands to be easily seen. The volunteer drivers and conductors are registered under the Boroondara Council’s Volunteer policy, are subject to police checks and are required to undergo training in road safety and duty of care.

Who can I contact to find out more about becoming involved in the WSB program at CPS?
If you have any further questions or are interested in helping coordinate the WSB program, please contact Andrea Briffa on 0411770669 or andreariffa@bigpond.com.
CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is $125 for primary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

Surrey Clothing Your Uniform Shop

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL
SAVE TIME AND BUY YOUR UNIFORM ONLINE
www.surreyclothing.com.au
Using your new school login. (See your Uniform List and School’s Website)
Call 9763 1101 for any assistance

Don’t forget you can always phone or email us your orders. We do free delivery to your school. Remember purchasing from Surrey Clothing is directly supporting your school.

A: 161 Union Road, Surrey Hills 3127
P: (03) 9890 3487
E: info@surreyclothing.com.au
Trading Hours: MON-FRI 9am-5pm
Open 1st Sat each month 10am-1pm
BOOK CLUB
The first issue was given out on Monday and orders are due next Wednesday, 17 Feb. This year the book clubs for different ages have been consolidated into one big catalogue, giving students much more choice. Online ordering is easy, go to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

CANTEEN
Welcome Back to another fabulous year of Chat-ham Canteen fun.

Canteen opens this Friday and the Roster is:

Friday 12th February
AM: Katrina, Ruth, Sarah and Leanne
PM: Becky, Lorin and Tina

Wednesday 17th February
AM: HELP PLEASE
PM: Amanda and HELP HERE TOO PLEASE.

Please ring Steph if you can help 0401 865 440

NEED SOME SEWING DONE?
We have a Parent at school looking for work—if you have any small or large sewing jobs that you need done please call or email me in the office and I will put you in touch with her.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM
We have quite a bit of second hand uniform at present including lots of Polar Fleeces in good condition—they are only $5.00. All money goes towards school projects (and occasionally chicken food!). You are welcome to look at it at any-time—come to the office for the key.

THROWING OUT YOUR OLD TOASTER?
Year 1 would love any old electrical appliances for ‘tinkering’. Please leave at office or deliver to Madeline Burgess in 1MB.
Every piece of second hand uniform we sell raises funds for the school but it is also a great way of recycling cotton and saving water.

To produce a t-shirt takes 1514 litres of water so if we have recycled 250 t-shirts so far this year that is 378,000 litres of water that we have saved.

That’s enough water to:

Have a 315 hour shower (or 4,725 four minute showers)

Do 1,260 loads of washing

Flush the toilet 31,500 times

Brush your teeth 75,600 times
Dance Fitness at Chatham Primary School in 2016

**Wednesday Lunchtime Jazz/Funk Class: Grade 2 & Grade 3**
Enrolments are open now! You can enrol online via our website:
www.dancefitnessvictoria.com.au

Make sure you register your interest with us, if there is demand we may be able to add another lunchtime class!

We also conduct exciting and fun ballet, jazz and hip hop classes at Chatham Primary School on Saturday mornings for children from starting from 3 years of age! Students can experience everything dance has to offer in a fun and friendly environment.

**Saturday Mornings: Ballet, Jazz & Hip Hop!**
Enrolments are open now! You can enrol online via our website:
www.dancefitnessvictoria.com.au

**2016 Timetable:**
- 9.30-10.00am  Kinder Ballet - 3 &4 Year olds
- 10.15-11.00am  Jnr Ballet – Prep to Grade 2
- 11.00-11.45am  Jnr Jazz – Prep to Grade 2
- 11.45am – 12.30pm  Int Jazz/Funk/Hip Hop

Please contact Ash on 0403 135 850 if you have any questions.
Registration Day

Riversdale Soccer Club would like to welcome ALL PLAYERS – new and old, to hop aboard the Frog Express in 2016. Establishing All Girl Teams in Under 8, under 10 and Under 12 age groups.
Committee, Coaches and Junior Technical Directors will be on hand to answer questions. Come and be part of this growing club in 2016.

Sunday 14 February 12:00PM to 3:00PM
Frog Hollow Reserve, Northern Avenue Camberwell

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<tr>
<th>Age</th>
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<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tr>
<td>Miniroos Under 9</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$270</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miniroos Under 10</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>Miniroos Under 11</td>
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<td>Under 9</td>
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<td>Under 10</td>
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<td>Under 16</td>
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*Includes playing fees

New in 2016 – Teen Yoga

Creative dance & yoga

- Suitable for 9yo – early teen
- Mondays 5 – 5.45pm, $84/6 weeks
- starting 8 February

Details and bookings:
9890 2467 or email inquiries@surreyhillsnc.org.au
Come and Enjoy the game of a Lifetime!

@  
Canterbury Tennis Club- Croydon Rd Surrey Hills

**Junior Hot Shot Classes** - 4pm to 5pm Mon –Thurs  
Beginners Most Welcome 5 Years +

**Squad Training** - 4.30pm to 7.00pm Mon-Thurs  
8 Years + who are developing juniors

**Ladies Classes** - Mon & Thurs during the day

**Social Competition** - Fri from 9.15am

**Kindy Tennis** - Wed-Thurs at 3.30pm 4+years

**Personal Classes** - By appointment

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Mums and Dads! Do you want to volunteer in your community but are time poor? Casserole Club may just be perfect for you!

Casserole Club allows its volunteers to assist in their community using as minimal time possible whilst still creating a big impact from the work they do.

We match people in the Boroondara area who would like to share an extra portion of their home cooked meal with an older person in their neighbourhood who may not be able to cook for themselves regularly.

This is a great opportunity to assist in your community, meet new and interesting people and to show your children the value of volunteering.

To find out more information please go to [www.casseroleclub.com.au](http://www.casseroleclub.com.au) or call Lana Barnett at the City of Boroondara on 03 92784777
Volunteer Expo

Wednesday
16 March 2016
1pm to 6pm

The 11th Boroondara
VOLUNTEER EXPO

Discover how YOU can make a difference.
Talk to community organisations about the volunteer opportunities available to you.

Main Hall, Hawthorn Arts Centre
360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn
(Mewanay 45 D10)

FREE ENTRY
No RSVP necessary - just come along on the day.

Boroondara
City of Harmony

Italian Festa

145 Highfield Road, Camberwell

5 March 2016

www.stdomsfesta.com

Food & Wine – Rides – Stalls – Entertainment

Kingswood College
Open Day

Saturday 27 February 2016
LEARN NEW SKILLS AND IMPROVE YOUR GAME! 3 DAY SPORTS CAMPS 6 TO 16 YEAR-OLD GIRLS AND BOYS

Learn and develop sporting skills with a quality three-day coaching experience for players of all standards. Our structured skill development programs are delivered by a panel of experienced and talented coaches at first class facilities. Providing that extra WOW factor for the kids, our coaches are supported by guest appearances from top level state and national sports’ men and women. Also, we always ensure that children are placed in age, friendship and skill appropriate groups.

For more details regarding our camps and coaching panels, please visit our website australiansportscamps.com.au or call 1300 914 368 or email admin@australiansportscamps.com.au

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

AFL FOOTBALL
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Brighton Grammar, Brighton
6, 7 & 8 APRIL
Macleay Park, North Balwyn

BASKETBALL
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Boroondara Sports Complex, North Balwyn
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Brighton Grammar, Brighton
5, 6 & 7 APRIL
Auburn High School, Hawthorn East

HOCKEY
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Hawthorn Hockey Centre, Hawthorn
4, 5 & 6 APRIL
Essendon Hockey Club, Essendon

NETBALL
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Methodist Ladies’ College, Kew
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Sandringham Youth Club, Hampton
5, 6 & 7 APRIL
State Netball & Hockey Centre, Parkville
6, 7 & 8 APRIL
Boroondara Sports Complex, North Balwyn

RUGBY UNION
4, 5 & 6 APRIL
Auburn Quarry Reserve, Hawthorn East

SOCCER
30, 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL
Sandringham Youth Club, Hampton
6, 7 & 8 APRIL
H.A. Smith Reserve, Hawthorn