Conveyance Allowance:

Your family may be eligible for a conveyance allowance; which is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus. To be eligible your child must

- attend their nearest government appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
- be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

If you believe that your family is eligible please contact the office; as claims for term 1 close on Friday 6th March.
Continued ………..

With a busy start to the year, our first meeting will be on FRIDAY MORNING 27th FEBRUARY (tomorrow) at 9:15am in the staffroom. Our school welcomes all volunteers and hopes to meet new faces (and old ones) at our meeting.

School Council

Our school council meets regularly (twice per term) and has active sub-committees. If you are interested in being involved in our school council, please speak to Vin or myself for further information. Our nominations for the 2015-2016 council close at 4:00pm tomorrow (FRIDAY 27th FEBRUARY). School council meets tonight at 6:30pm in the Senior Learning Centre.

Working with Children Check

For the peace of mind of all concerned, we ask that you apply for and are successful in gaining a Working with Children (WWC) check prior to being a volunteer in the classroom (not required for community services helpers). The WWC check seeks to prevent those who pose a risk to the safety of children from working with them, in either paid or volunteer work. The WWC check involves submitting a form to the Department of Justice. The form asks you for personal information such as gender, date of birth, drivers license number or passport details to verify your identity and enables a check of the National Criminal History Record. Detailed information will not be returned to the school. You can apply for a WWC Check online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/. The check is free for volunteers and as long as your circumstances do not change, the WWC Check remains valid for five years. For information on the regulations concerning working with children in schools refer to www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren.

School Reviews

Each Victorian School undertakes a review (every four years) of their achievement, engagement and wellbeing programs. Our school will be undertaking our review this year. This is an exciting time where we reflect on what has worked/ not worked and build a plan for the next four years. Our school council will have input into this process in the coming months. It is my aim to keep our community informed about the review and seek feedback as we go.

Over the past two weeks, I was fortunate to be invited as a peer reviewer for Bass Coast Specialist School and Glengarry Primary School. This was a very privileged experience; to take part in the discussions to shape other schools future. It also gave me a chance to hear (and question) approaches to learning at each of these schools that I have discussed with our staff.

Principal
Leonie Anstey

WE WANT YOU !!!

We often have small jobs around the school that we need assistance with and we believe that there may be many parents, grandparents, guardians and friends of the school who have skills and who wouldn’t mind assisting us if necessary. We are currently putting together a register of our school community’s skills and would really like if you have a skill to offer, let us know.

Included with this newsletter is a flyer explaining this further and at the bottom of this form is an area for anyone who can help to fill out and return your child’s classroom teacher or the office so that we can compile a list of people and their skills.

Please note that if you see odd jobs like raking, spreading mulch etc. that you could help with at anytime please let us know and feel free to do so. Thank you so much for any help you can offer.

REMINDERS

Jumper Designs
Students have until tomorrow Friday 27th February 2015 to submit their indigenous football jumper designs for the forthcoming local footy game in June/July. If you have any queries please see Mr. Hally.

Reflection Room Notes
If your child receives a Reflection Room notice it must be returned the next day, signed by you the parent/guardian. A note went home a few weeks ago explaining the process.

Woorabinda Camp
Some Grade 4 students have returned an expression of interest form for the Woorabinda District Camp. The number of expressions of interest exceeded the number of students allocated for our school so unfortunately some students will miss out. Students going on this camp will be notified shortly.

ICAS/UNSW
ICAS—University of New South Wales Testing forms with payment need to be returned no later than Tomorrow Friday 27th February.

MUSIC NEWS
Finding and singing songs about a sense of place has been celebrated this week with an old favourite, The Wonthaggi Mine Whistle Song. Students have used percussion instruments, keyboards and wooden xylophones to explore the sounds that ‘match’ this song, withiffs played accurately. The actual mine whistle is a chord, so we have tried singing harmonies too. Student behavior has been mostly fantastic (and always enthusiastic), especially as we aim to fill each others’ buckets up and earn class points. It’s also been great this week with an impromptu performance to the office staff and when including some class teachers in class lessons. Well done to all!

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

FROM THE ART ROOM

This term the major focus is 3D-works that can be moved the full way around. Students are being challenged to think about the different views that their works can achieve. This term the major focus is 3D-works that can be moved the full way around.

-Grade 1/2’s are creating large beads to form a hanging.
-Grade 3/4’s are creating a ‘piggy’ bank based on the animal of their choice.
-Grade 5/6’s are creating a ‘trophy head’ of the animal of their choice.

These projects are looking great and are progressing really well.

Also a reminder that students can borrow a selection of art packs on a Thursday afternoon after school. These need to be signed out by the student, and signed back in on the Monday morning. These are very popular and they are loaned out on a first come first served basis.

I would like to thank everyone who has donated items to the artroom in the last couple of weeks—it’s always hugely appreciated.

Thank you
Ms Chapman
Art Teacher

IN SPORT

House Swimming

Wonthaggi Primary will be conducting its House Swimming Carnival next Friday 6th March. This will be held at the school pool. Grade 2’s will start at approximately 10.30am, followed by Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5 and then Grade 6. A short recess will take place at 10am – 10.15am with lunch to be held at the conclusion of the carnival. Parents and friends of the school are welcome to come and support the day.

Will Rankin
Sports Teacher

FROM THE SLC - GRADE 5/6

Grade 5 Wilsons Prom Camp – Tuesday 10th March to Friday 13th March
Notes went home recently including list of items to pack and a Medical Form.

Please return the Camp Medical Forms and pay the balance of camp no later than Tuesday 3rd March.

Grade 6 Tops
A final offer letter was sent home recently for orders of Grade 6 Tops, any last orders must be returned with payment by no later than Friday 27th February. No Late orders will be accepted.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

No Student of the due to no Assembly this week.