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 ………….

On Tuesday night our staff were involved in the launch of our Linking Learning Project. The Linking Learning project aims to improve learning outcomes in children from birth to 12 years through establishing partnerships between our school, children’s services, local councils and not-for-profit organizations initially in eight pilot locations across Victoria. Our focus will be on developing children’s literacy outcomes, especially oral language. Involving children in verbal communication is a key skill to ensure all children meet their learning potential. We will be a pilot school over the next three years and we will be offering a number of opportunities for children, families and the wider community to be involved in learning for all children. During 2015, a number of staff will be involved in targeted professional learning to enable us to gather knowledge and skills to build our project in our school community today. I have been involved in the first stage of Principal’s as Literacy Leaders program. This program will build my skills to implement current research based practices across the school. The main thing that I have learnt over the past few days is how fortunate we are as a community to have such committed staff that all want one main thing. That is “to make sure that every child is learning their next step!” This mindset will ensure that our students will have the best learning opportunities.

Principal
Leanie Anstey

MUSIC NEWS

Students are getting into the routine of class music sessions, with skill emphasis on looking and listening. Keyboard and wooden xylophone parts to the song ‘My Island Home’ have sounded great, with timely feedback around improving the sound of each grade. Playing music together provides students with an ideal environment in which to practice and refine team work and co-operation skills, as well as leading to feelings of inclusion. Once again, thanks to class teachers for coming to part of their class sessions, joining in and learning songs and instrumental parts.

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

IN SPORT

Premier’s Active Families Challenge

The Premier’s Active Families Challenge is again running in 2015. It aims to promote the importance of physical activity for all Victorians. The Challenge will run for the month of April and is a family focussed program that encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days.

For more information and to join visit www.activeapril.vic.gov.au/schools

IT’S FREE

and registered participants receive 10 YMCA entry passes (which can be used at Wonthaggi), 15% off at Sportsmart and a 2 for 1 ticket offer to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium. The swimming passes are particularly handy for our students as they can apply the skills that they have learnt in our Term 1 Water Safety Program.

Division Swimming

Last Friday 27th February we had 5 WPS students representing the South Coast District at Division Swimming. This event was held at Korumburra’s 50m pool. Congratulations and well done to Zara (1st in butterfly & 1st in breaststroke), Brodie (1st in freestyle), Alicia (freestyle and breaststroke participant) Jarvis (2nd in backstroke) and Zac (1st in butterfly & 1st in freestyle). Zara, Brodie, Jarvis and Zac all qualified for the Gippsland Regional Swimming Carnival which will take place on March 12th in Sale. Good luck!

Boogie boards, wetsuits and flippers

Our school is always appreciative of any boogie boards, wetsuits and flippers that families are willing to donate to the school. They are used in our pool swimming program, various beach days and in water activities on school camps to further enhance our Water Safety Program. It is this sort of community generosity that greatly reduces the Water Safety Program costs.

House Swimming

Due to the forecast of bad weather our House Swimming Sports have been postponed until the last week of Term 1. A new date and further details will be announced as soon as possible.

Will Rankin
Sports Teacher

BOOK CLUB

Included with this week’s newsletter is the first issue of bookclub. Not only is it a great opportunity to buy books at great prices, but a percentage of your purchases enable the school to buy books/resources for both the library and classrooms.

If at anytime you are purchasing books for special occasions such as Birthdays/Christmas and do not wish your children to see them, could you please leave a note with your order requesting the books be picked up at the office.

Orders for this issue of book club with payment is due back at school on Thursday 12th March.

JUNIOR SCHOOL BEACH DAY

What a wonderful day we had exploring the beautiful beaches and parks of Inverloch. Thank you so very much to all the people who helped on the day and it was lovely seeing many families join us for our picnic lunch. Staff and students seemed to have little difficulty falling asleep on Friday night! Not only was the day a success but a great platform for all the Literacy and Maths activities following in it’s wake.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

On behalf of parents and friends, I would like to welcome you all back to the new school year and to thank you for all your help and support last year. Thank you!

I would like to remind everyone, including any new members wanting to join in and help raise funds for our school, that our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th March at 9.15am in staff room. Hope to see you there. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 20th March at 9:15am in the staff room.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

12A Madison K. Excellent effort with her reading.
12B Hayden M. For always having lovely manners.
12C Logan S. Helping his friends clean up the classroom.
12D Phoebe L. Being a great listener.
56A Jett L. His fantastic attitude towards his homework and at school. Well done Jett.
56B Katani S. For making everyone in our team feel included.
56D Julia N. The exceptional quality of her persuasive writing.

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