

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone to the beginning of another year. We have another very exciting year ahead and I look forward to seeing the progress our students make over the next twelve months. It was fantastic to officially welcome our new Prep students at the school assembly yesterday morning. They all look very cute and eager to enjoy school. Parents of Prep students are reminded that they aren't required to attend on Wednesdays during February, with the first Wednesday of attendance to be the 5th of March. Prep students have been allocated a time on a Wednesday to come in and complete some assessment tasks.

It was also a good opportunity to introduce Ms Jeneen Fowler and Miss Tayla Loprese to our school community. Ms Fowler has joined us from Commercial Road Primary in Morwell and is teaching the Grade 1/2 class this year, while Miss Loprese has joined the Grade 5/6 classroom as an intern teacher whilst completing her fourth year of university. Both teachers have settled into our school really easily and I look forward to working with them throughout the year.

Black Saturday Ceremony

Parents are reminded we will hold a short ceremony at school on Friday 7th February at 9:00am for the anniversary of the Black Saturday bushfires. Our focus for this ceremony is to reflect on the positive things that have affected our community since the tragic events of five years ago.

Hats

Students are reminded that they are required to wear school council approved hats whilst playing outside during term 1 and 4 as per our school policy. Students who are not wearing a hat will be required to play under the appropriate shaded areas of the school ground. Please remind your child to bring their hat to school each day.

Tissues

A reminder to parents that tissues are no longer included in the Materials Charges for 2014, as per the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's policy. However, we do ask that parents supply a box of tissues to their child's classroom please.

Class Letters

All teachers will be sending out a class letter by the end of this week, outlining the program for the term, and will also include information regarding rules, consequences and rewards. Teachers will also include their email address should you prefer to contact them in this way. As was the case last year, teachers will be available to meet with parents to discuss their child's

progress by appointment. Teachers are also available for a quick catch up from 8:40am – 8:50am and after school from 3:35pm.

Welcome To Parents BBQ

We are providing a BBQ on Monday 10th February from 5:30pm for a 6:00pm dinner to welcome all parents to our school this year. It is also a great opportunity for parents to meet our new staff members. Students will also be able to show their parents some of the work they have been doing so far this year. We look forward to seeing you here! Please remember to complete the slip attached to this newsletter and return to school by Friday to assist with catering.

Before School Supervision and Entry/Exit to Classrooms

Please note that before-school supervision is provided each day from 8:45am. The bag bell will ring at 8:50am when students are allowed to put their bags away, with classes beginning at 9:00am. Parents who drop their children at school after 8:30am should be aware that supervision is not provided until 8:45am. It is vital for your child's progress that they attend school as often as possible and are punctual each day. Students who are punctual and attend regularly generally perform better than those students who are regularly late or who have significant absenteeism.

In addition, at the beginning and end of the day, students are required to enter the school from the external classroom doors, or the doors near the undercover area. Students are not permitted in the front foyer unless putting money in the slot, putting in lunch orders, forms etc.

2014 Materials Charges

The 2014 Materials Charges have been set by School Council and will be \$110 per student. This payment goes towards student and class consumable materials. This payment is not voluntary and needs to be made before the end of February unless an appropriate payment plan has been organised with the Principal. Further information has been sent home today.

2014 Voluntary Contribution

The 2014 Voluntary Contribution has been set by the School Council and will be \$20 per student towards ICT related equipment, \$10 per student which goes towards grounds maintenance, in particular mowing plus the \$30 per family working bee payment.

Active After School Program (AASCP)

The Active After School Program will continue this year. The program co-ordinator is keen to try some new strategies to get more children involved in sporting clubs and organised sport, therefore a change has been made to the program this term. Soccer activities will be provided on both Wednesday and Thursday, with a **boys only** sessions to be held on Wednesday

afternoons and a **girls only** session to be held on Thursday afternoons. This strategy is being trialled in a number of schools around Traralgon in the hope of boosting participation, culminating in a combined event to conclude the program. Parents are reminded that this is a **free** program, with sessions starting straight after school and finishing at 4:45pm. The school will provide an afternoon snack for those children participating in the program. Children from Prep through to Grade 6 are welcome to attend, with the program beginning next Wednesday the 12th of February. Parents will need to complete a permission form if their child would like to participate in the program. These forms can be picked up from the school foyer. A student roll will be marked at the beginning of each session and we ask that a note be provided from parents if students **will not** be taking part in a particular session.

Joel Fraser – Principal

LOST AND FOUND

A mountain bike and helmet has been found in the school ground over the recent holiday period. If you or anyone you know is missing their bike, please contact the school office and provide details of the appearance of the bike.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES 2014

Each grade has selected Junior School Council representatives for 2014. The students are as follows:

Grade Prep/1:	Nate Murphy & Kate Edgar
Grade 1/2:	Esther Miljons & Evan Pass
Grade 2/3:	Jackson Skurrie & Julia Bates
Grade 4/5:	Ella Cheney & Flynn Mackintosh
Grade 5/6:	Molly Grist & Jack Carroll

Congratulations goes to all of these students who have a newly acquired leadership role as Junior School Representatives. I am looking forward to working with these Junior School Councillors as they represent their class peers in 2014. There will be a morning tea held for all our Junior School Councillors early next week where they will meet and socialise with each other for the first time as a leadership group. I am looking forward to my newly acquired role as a Junior School Council co-ordinator and excited about working with these students on this council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stacey Kloot who has co-ordinated the Junior School Council over the past few years. Her efforts were greatly appreciated by all staff and students.

Catherine Allen - Grade 2/3 Teacher/Junior School Co-ordinator 2014



2014 Prep Students Receiving Their Prep Bags



Solar Energy Generation

The reading this week is 27272kwh which means we have generated 2954kwh since 12th December last year.

PRINCIPAL: Joel Fraser
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PHONE: 5195 5244

<http://traralgonstps.vic.edu.au/>
www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/schoolsonline
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Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August. The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs. In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- \$200 for prep students
- \$150 for students in years 1 – 6.

Contact the school office to complete an application form for the EMA before 28 February 2013. No applications can be processed after this date. For more information about the EMA, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/financial/ema.htm.

Joel Fraser - Principal

2014 HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following students on being voted house captains and vice captains for 2014.

Cook House (Yellow)

Captains Tiannah Goodwin and Connor Lockett
Vice Captains Lachie Mayes and Emily Grist

Sturt House (Red)

Captains Hannah Cheetham and Calvin Landy
Vice Captains Kaycee Robinson and Josh Neilson

Hume House (Green)

Captains Elyse Gordon and Oliver Sturre
(There were no nominations for vice captains in green)

Flinders House (Blue)

Captains Chloe Downes and Andrew Dowling-Richards
Vice Captains Kaitlyn Algie and Flynn Mackintosh

Congratulations and we look forward to you all showing excellent leadership this year.

~ Kristine Travers ~

WELFARE AND SUPPORT

As part of my role within the school I support children who may be experiencing difficulties socially, emotionally or in their behaviour in and out of the classroom. Usually this involves informal meetings where we discuss strategies and management procedures to secure better outcomes for the child and the wider school community. I am also available to meet with

parents to discuss any concerns you may have. Obviously Mr Fraser and class teachers are also appropriate people to approach regarding your child/children's welfare at school. Please feel free to contact me via phone calls, emails or in person.

Regards - Kristine Travers

DATES TO REMEMBER		
7 Feb	Fri	Special assembly – Bushfire Remembrance – 9:00am
10 Feb	Mon	School BBQ – 6pm onwards
12 Feb	Wed	First AASCP Session - Boys
13 Feb	Thu	First AASCP Session - Girls
17 Feb	Mon	Parents & Friends Meeting – 9:15am
28 Feb	Tue	Closing date for EMA applications.
5 – 7 Mar	Wed-Fri	Years 3 & 4 – Camp Lakewood – details to come
10 Mar	Mon	Labor Day Public Holiday
20 Mar	Thu	School House Sports in Traralgon
24 Mar	Mon	School Photos
1 Apr	Tue	District Sports in Traralgon

PARENTS & FRIENDS

The first Parents & Friends meeting for 2014 will be on Monday 17th February after assembly. We are a welcoming group who are open to new faces and ideas and would love to see you there. If this time doesn't suit you and you are interested in joining in please let us know as this time is flexible. Parents with preschools are more than welcome. We would love to hear your ideas on fundraising and activity planning as we are all working towards the same cause for our children at the school. If you are unable to attend meetings and would like to share your ideas please contact Renee Gore, President or myself.

~ Claire Prior – Secretary ~

RETURN SLIP FOR WELCOME BBQ

To be held Monday 10th February. Please return asap but no later than 9:00am Friday 7th February

Family Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Hamburgers required: _____

Sausages required: _____

**YOU CAN DO IT
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
For Week Ending 31st January 2014**



Prep/1	Aiden Prior	For great efforts in his writing.
1/2	Leila Hare	For being cooperative and helpful and taking on extra roles.
2/3	Jackson Skurrie & Hunter Fahy	For being cooperative and well behaved in class and displaying great listening skills.
4/5	Emily Grist	For her great efforts and attitude at all times.
5/6	Josh Neilson	For displaying organisation and confidence with his Junior School Council speech.
Principal	Cooper Fraser	For being a friendly and welcoming student.

TRARALGON CITY SOCCER CLUB

Junior soccer season 2014 commences from Tuesday 11th February

Training details are:

U6 to U9: 4.30pm – 5.30pm Thurs only

U11 to U13: 4.30pm – 5.30pm Tues and Thurs

U14 to U16: 5.30pm – 6.30pm Tues and Thurs

New this season – girls only soccer teams!! Come along to our official open night on Thursday 13th February for training and registration packs. Special event - junior girls will get to meet and train with the senior women's team!!

Any enquiries call Amanda Whitmore on 0407 500 388