

Dear Parents,

### ***Clean Up Australia Day***

Our school's Clean Up Australia Day will be held on the afternoon of Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February in and around our school. We are asking for parent helpers to join us and help to make a small difference in our community. We will be starting at 2pm and finishing before home time. If you are available to help out, please notify your child's teacher.

### ***School Council Positions Still Open***

A reminder to all parents that nominations for School Council positions close on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 4:00pm. Any parent who is interested can collect a nomination form from the front office. For existing school council members, our next meeting is on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm.

### ***Enter/Exit Doors For Students***

Students are reminded that they are to enter and exit the building through their classroom's external door or via the double doors near the eating area. The front door of the school should only be used when needing to access the office or in an emergency. I thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

### ***Parents & Friends Meeting***

A good number of parents attended the Parents and Friends meeting on Monday morning which was fantastic. It was great to hear about some of the new ideas the committee has to help raise funds for the school some of these are included in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing even more parents at the next meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, which will be the AGM.

### ***Conveyance Allowance***

You may be eligible to receive conveyance allowance for transporting your child to and from school.

To be eligible to receive conveyance allowance, a student must:

- Be school age
- Reside more than 4.8km by the shortest route from the nearest school attended or bus stop,
- Be enrolled at the nearest government primary or secondary school, or at the nearest appropriate registered non-government school.

If you believe you are eligible to receive conveyance allowance, please contact the school to complete an application.

### ***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.

### ***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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/financial/ema.htm).

**Joel Fraser – Principal**

### **PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS**

We had our first meeting for 2014 yesterday and it was terrific to see a few new faces there. There was lots of discussion and fresh ideas, some of which are below for your information.

- Announcement of AGM - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 9:15am (after assembly). All positions are considered vacant and members are called for: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Secretary, School Council Representative. Could all members

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- please remember to come along to this meeting for their contribution and nominations for voting rights.
- Washing basket to be left in front foyer for parents to leave small cleaned out jars with lids... Also if families have any donations of craft materials (tissue paper ribbons, stickers, cotton etc) that would assist in P&F craft nights, it would be greatly appreciated.
- P&F have ordered a school satchel for each student. These will have the school logo printed on them and the idea is that they will be used for take home books, notices, homework etc.
- P&F will be organising a Hot Cross Bun Drive. Families can purchase bags of ½ dozen traditional or no fruit buns for \$4 or ½ dozen Apple& Cinnamon or Choc Chip buns for \$5. These will be delivered to the school in time for the school holidays, whilst contributing to school fundraising. Order forms to be sent out at a later date.

~ Claire Prior – P&F Secretary ~

### MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Last week a permission notice was given to the students who will be performing in the Multicultural Festival. Thank you to those students who have returned their money and form already. Please note the return date for the form and money is 20<sup>th</sup> February, not 20<sup>th</sup> March as stated. I have also received notification that lunch will be provided – sandwiches and a drink of water. Your child is welcome to bring their own lunch instead if they wish.

~ Yvonne Game ~

| DATES TO REMEMBER |         |   |
|-------------------|---------|---|
| 24 Feb            | Mon     | School Council meeting – 7:00pm             |
| 26 Feb            | Wed     | Parent/Teacher Interviews – 2:00pm – 6:00pm |
| 28 Feb            | Fri     | Closing date for EMA applications.          |
|                   |         | Clean Up Australia Day – 2:00pm             |
| 5 – 7 Mar         | Wed-Fri | Years 3 & 4 – Camp Lakewood                 |
| 10 Mar            | Mon     | Labour Day Public Holiday                   |
| 17 Mar            | Mon     | Parents & Friends AGM – 9:15am              |
| 20 Mar            | Thu     | School House Sports in Traralgon            |
| 24 Mar            | Mon     | School Photos                               |
| 1 Apr             | Tue     | District Sports in Traralgon                |



## MINDSETS

I recently read an interesting article on mindsets, particularly the advantages of having a growth mindset as opposed to a fixed mindset. The research is quite compelling that a growth mindset leads to significant learning whereas a fixed mindset can act as a blocker. A growth mindset isn't necessarily associated with people who perform highly. Often someone who has learnt things easily and has been told how clever or smart they are, can have a fixed mindset, which hinders their progress once they are faced with a challenging task. Inversely, often someone who has a growth mindset is the person who has to work hard and put in great effort to achieve even the smallest tasks. A person with a growth mindset develops neural pathways as they consider different ways to solve a problem or issue they are faced with. Therefore, the emphasis for learning is to develop students to have a growth mindset where they will take on a challenge and not be bored by, or avoid, difficult tasks. The role parents and teachers face is to help develop the growth mindset in young people by the way we talk to them. Praising students is important, however, it is more important to praise them on the effort they have put into a task. Providing specific praise about how hard they have tried, rather than labelling kids smart or clever, helps develop a growth mindset and as a result, the student achieves better academic results. There are also many examples related to social situations as well. Carol Dweck has written a couple of books about mindset and believes that it is important for teachers and parents to give specific praise to students about the effort they exert in learning something new, as it has a greater impact than telling them they are smart.

### Solar Energy Generation

The reading this week is 27971kwh which means we have generated 290kwh since the last reading.

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<http://traralgonstps.vic.edu.au/>  
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[fraser.joel.b@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:fraser.joel.b@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**YOU CAN DO IT**  
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS**  
**For Week Ending 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014**



|           |                          |  |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| Prep/1    | Zara Tilley              | For showing great resilience and settling into school well.                              |
| 1/2       | Belle Gissara            | For always having a positive attitude towards her school work.                           |
| 2/3       | Kate Hagley              | For her excellent attitude and effort towards school and schoolwork.                     |
| 4/5       | Flynn Mackintosh         | For showing care and concern to others.  |
| 5/6       | Kaitlyn Algie            | For displaying a hard-working attitude at all times.                                     |
| Art       | Kyle Paton & Ryan Murphy | For their fantastic fish drawings using the element of line.                             |
| P.E.      | 5/6 Class                | For displaying excellent sportsmanship during P.E.                                       |
| Principal | Phoebe Rhodes            | For putting in great effort and showing good sportsmanship during our Golden Broom game. |



**IF YOU ONLY DO ONE  
 THING THIS FIRE SEASON**  
**Speak to CFA next  
 Thursday night in  
 Koornalla**

**What:** Free bushfire information evening

**Where:** The Monument Crn Taylor Rd / Traralgon Creek Rd

**When:** 7:00pm, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2014

**Find out:** Must-have information for this fire season

**For more information:** Gippsland CFA Community Education 03 51 49 1000

Don't understand English?  
 Require an AUSLAN interpreter?  
 Need assistance to access the venue?

Let us know and we'll do our best to help.

If you belong to a community group or club, talk to us about arranging a customised session.

Please note that CFA postpones all community meetings when the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe.

**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**  
**FireReady**

[cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings)

