FROM THE PRINCIPAL CLASS TEAM

Welcome to the 2013 school year. Welcome back to those families returning to us and to those who are new to the school. We hope that you and your family managed to have a restful and enjoyable break over the festive season and that this year will prove to be a very happy and rewarding one for everyone.

Last week all staff participated in three pupil free days. We went off-site and participated in three highly productive days. Following team meetings, Tuesday was spent re-visiting our commitment to the school’s philosophy of developmental learning and our multiage structure. Staff discussed in-depth what a multiage age classroom at Roberts McCubbin PS should and should not look and sound like while also focussing on the importance of differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of individuals in all teaching programs. Wednesday was spent with a consultant focussing on effective implementation of assessment and the use of data throughout the school. Staff also discussed what the school needs to work towards and achieve in 2013. Thursday was spent looking at a curriculum delivery framework the school will be using and all teams participated in a workshop designed to support the building of highly effective professional learning teams.

The next pupil free day is scheduled for the last day of Term 2, June 28th which is when our Partnership Meetings will be held.

The leadership team of the school for 2013 is as follows:

**Principal:** Marg Pickburn

**Assistant Principal:** Amanda Wigg (Manager, Student Learning)

Sue McNamara (Manager Student Engagement and Well-Being)

Maria Pase, co-ordinator Junior team (Manager Student Transitions and Pathways)

Raelene Aleandro, co-ordinator Year 5/6 team

Cheryl Ryan, co-ordinator Year 3/4 team

We have some staff to welcome to our team. Vicki Shorthouse, Jessica Lipscombe, Jasmine Giles and Anne Robins have all joined the Junior Team, and Stephen Roche and Grace Wilson have joined the 5/6 team. Kirsty Davies and Lena Zappia have both returned from Family Leave and will work within the 5/6 area.

Last Friday we welcomed all our students in Years 1-6 for their first day back for 2013 and I was delighted to have seen them all during visits that Amanda and I made to each of the classrooms during the morning session.

Our students who have begun school for the very first time have had a very positive start to the year this week. They eagerly arrived on Monday morning and their buddies in each class were very keen to get to know them and help them settle in to the classrooms. I would like to express a big thank you to the PFA for providing a fantastic morning tea for the prep parents and for making them so welcome to the school.

We are now calling for nominations for the 2013 School Council. The School Council is an important body in our school and the role of a councillor can be very rewarding and interesting. Our school continues to flourish under the support provided by our school councillors. Council meets twice a term on Wednesdays at 7.00pm. Please refer to the information contained within the newsletter about nominating for Council.

There are two parent programs that we will be offering this term. The ‘Classroom Helpers’ sessions will be run on February 15th and 22nd (refer to notices in newsletter) and the ‘Helping Your Child Learn To Read’ will be held on March 15th and 22nd with both being run by Linda Abbott and Maria Pase. This is a great opportunity for parents of children in the Junior School to support the work that is happening within the classroom. Some other dates to keep in mind are for the School Picnic which will be held on Thursday February 28th and Parent Teacher Meetings which will be held on Tuesday March 5th and 12th.

As the year begins I want to remind parents that staff are committed to meetings both Mondays and Tuesdays after school beginning at 3.45pm. It is an expectation that staff are punctual to these meetings so unless you have something urgent to discuss with a teacher, please do not make a time for a meeting on these days. The Leadership Team will be meeting on Wednesday afternoons from 2.00 – 4.15pm so team leaders are not available on these days after school.

Marg Pickburn, Principal
DATES TO REMEMBER
Friday, 8 February
- J6J Morning Tea @ The Foodrinkery, 22 Banksia Street, Burwood after school drop off

Wednesday, 13 February
- School Finance Meeting in staffroom - 6:00pm
- School Council Meeting in staffroom - 7:00pm

Friday, 15 February
- Classroom Helper’s Session 1 – 9:10 – 10:40am
  Helping your Child Learn to Read in LOTE Room

Wednesday, 20 February
- J7G Morning Tea @ Chocolate Couture, 1069 Riversdale Road, Surrey Hills (Opposite Wattle Park) after school drop off

Thursday, 21 February
- Grades 3-6 District Swimming Carnival (select children)

Friday, 22 February
- Classroom Helper’s Session 2 – 9:10 – 10:40am
  Helping your Child Learn to Read in LOTE Room

Monday, 25 February
- Prep children attend school fulltime

Thursday, 28 February
- Grades 3-6 Division Swimming Carnival (select children)
- EMA Parent Applications due by no later than 4:00pm
- Whole School Picnic - 5:30 – 7:30pm – refer to advert

Monday, 8 March
- School Tour - 9:30am

Wednesday, 24 April 2013
- Whole School Photo Day – School Pix

NEW SCHOOL TIMETABLE
As I mentioned a few months ago, the school is reverting back to a one hour timetable from the beginning of the 2013 school year. School times will be:

8.50 - Organisation bell
9.00 - 11.00 Teaching sessions
11.00 - 11.30 Recess
11.30 - 1.30 Teaching sessions
1.30 - 1.40 Eating lunches
1.40 - 2.30 Lunch Playtime
2.30 - 3.30 Teaching session

Due to the slightly later eating time for the children, some recommendations are that:

• The children have two smaller ‘lunches’ each day. That is they could have their sandwiches halved and wrapped up so they can have some at recess and some at lunch
• Their recess snack be bigger
• Have healthy options (fruit, dried fruits, etc.) in their lunch boxes for them to eat during class time
• Children’s food can be kept fresh during the warmer weather with a cold pack in their lunch box

The Canteen will not be opening in Term 1, more details to follow

DATES FOR YOUR 2013 DIARY
Friday, 15th & 22nd February – Classroom Helpers Session 1 & 2
Thursday, 28th February – Whole School Picnic
Friday, 15th & 22nd March – Helping Your Child Learn to Read – Session 1 & 2
Friday, 28th June – Pupil Free Day for Partnership Meeting

Visual Arts 2013
Mrs Pauline Wilson–Junior classes
Mrs Cora Brownjohn– Year 3-6 classes

Monday Mrs Brownjohn: 10.00am-3.30pm
Tuesday Mrs Wilson: 11.00am-3.30pm
Wednesday Mrs Brownjohn: 9.00am-12.30pm & Mrs Wilson 9.00am-3.30pm
Thursday Mrs Wilson: 10.00am-3.30pm
Friday Mrs Brownjohn: 9.00am-3.30pm

Welcome back everyone! It’s going to be another terrific year in Visual Arts. There are a few small changes to our teaching days, as you can see above.

Please ensure that you have a long sleeve named Art smock here at school for your lessons. The smock tubs live in the Art room and each class has their own one. We will need these smocks as we begin to use paint and oil pastels and for clay further into the year.

We look forward to meeting the beginning children who have missed their Art lessons due to the early finish, and hope you have been practicing writing your name and class and drawing some pictures at home!

Cora Brownjohn and Pauline Wilson
Visual Arts Teachers
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.
School Council Elections – Information for Parents
School Council Elections 2013

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted 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?
For most school councils, 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 Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD 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 – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is about two years. The term of office of half the members expires 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

• 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.
Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of:

Roberts McCubbin Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by:

4.00pm on Friday, 22 February 2013

The ballot will close at:

4.00pm on Friday, 1 March 2013

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014</td>
<td>.....4......</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014</td>
<td>.....2......</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Margaret Pickburn

Uniform Shop News
Shop Open Times
Tuesday: 3:00pm - 4:00pm
Thursday: 8:30am - 9:30am

Use of Outdoor Basketball Courts

PLEASE NOTE: If you want to use the outdoor basketball and netball courts, please put your request in writing to Marg Pickburn as its needs to be approval by School Council. A current Working with Children Check is also required.
Dear Parents/Carers,

You are invited to attend a series of workshops which we will be presenting in February/March:

**Friday 15th February:** ‘Parent Helpers in the Classroom 1’

**Friday 22nd February:** ‘Parent Helpers in the Classroom 2’

**Friday 15th March:** ‘Helping Your Child Learn to Read 1’

**Friday 22nd March:** ‘Helping Your Child Learn to Read 2’

The workshops will start at 9.10am and finish by 10.40am. All workshops will be presented in the LOTE room. Coffee and tea will be provided.

*We encourage all parents to attend these worthwhile and informative workshops.*

The ‘Parent Helpers Program’ will assist you to help in the classroom during the Literacy and Numeracy blocks.

The ‘Helping Your Child Learn to Read at Home’ workshop will support and assist with your child’s reading and will give you some great ideas and strategies to help make reading an enjoyable and fun experience at home.

*Childminding is available but places are limited.*

*Please see newsletters over the next few weeks for further updates.*

We look forward to the upcoming workshops

Many thanks
Linda Abbott & Maria Pase
Roberts McCubbin Primary School
Dear Parents/Carers,
You are invited to attend a series of workshops on:

**Friday 15th February:** ‘Parent Helpers in the Classroom - Session 1’

**Friday 22nd February:** ‘Parent Helpers in the Classroom - Session 2’

*These workshops are two different workshops, parents are encouraged to attend both.

These sessions will be held 9.10am in the LOTE room.

Please note that these sessions will finish at 10.40am
Coffee and tea will be provided.

‘Parents Helpers in the Classroom’ will provide some helpful information about how you can assist in the classroom.
We encourage all parents/carers to attend these worthwhile and informative workshops
Childminding is available.

We look forward to you participating in these sessions

Many thanks
Linda Abbott & Maria Pase

I am able/unable to attend both ‘Parent Helpers in the Classroom’ sessions on Friday 15th February & Friday 22nd February from 9.10am to 10.40am.

Name: _______________________

School Child’s Name: ________________

Class________________________

Childcare required:  Yes____  No____

Name_________ Age_________ Name_________ Age_________

*Please return to your classroom teacher by Monday 11th February. If you have replied and are unable to attend these sessions, please notify the school as soon as possible.
G.A.T.E.WAYS

G.A.T.E.WAYS is an independent organization offering challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children. Now in its 19th year, G.A.T.E.WAYS runs a range of stimulating school programs as well as the Saturday Brainwaves Club.

The following G.A.T.E.WAYS programs are being offered in Term 1, 2013.

Grade 1/2s

- ‘Poetry Pandemonium’, Donvale Primary School, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 9:30am—12pm

Grade 3/4s

- ‘Rangers on Probation’, Werribee Open Range Zoo, March 8th & 15th, 10:30am—4pm
- ‘News Hound’, Firbank Learning and Innovation Centre, March 8th OR 15th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘What’s Cooking? Chemistry in the Kitchen’, Donvale Primary School, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 9:30am—12pm

Grade 5/6s

- ‘Autumn Magic’ (art/science), Duneira Estate Mount Macedon, March 18th & 19th, 10am-4pm
- ‘Beam Me Up’ (science focus), The Synchrotron Clayton, March 18th & 25th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘Go For Gold... Robolympics!’ (robotics), Firbank Learning and Innovation Centre, March 18th & 25th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘Hot Hits’ (music/film), Arts Centre Melbourne’s Digital Learning Hub, March 5th & 12th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘Take Five’ (film), Australian Centre for the Moving Image, March 8th & 15th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘The Shock of the New... Explorations in Contemporary Art’, National Gallery of Victoria, March 8th & 15th, 9:30am-3:30pm
- ‘Predator’ (science/animal investigations), Donvale Primary School, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 9:30am—12pm

Please be aware that there is a cost associated with each program and transportation must be organised by parents/carer.

Please see Ms Chalmers (J4C) or your class teacher if you are interested in attending any of these programs.

Be quick—places fill fast!
The 2013 G.A.T.E.WAYS Brainwaves Club

Enrolments are now open

The Brainwaves Club is based on the philosophy that highly able and gifted children have particular needs for stimulation and challenge that match their high level of curiosity and desire to learn. In addition, children with specialized skills and talents in advance of their age peers need both affirmation of these abilities and opportunities for talent development.

These children also need opportunities to mix with like-minded peers and to form rewarding friendships that further foster their interests, social skills and self-esteem. The need for a high level of mental challenge and stimulation is sometimes not fully appreciated by young children. They may not show advancement in all areas. G.A.T.E.WAYS clubs also seek to provide a setting that promotes positive social interactions, self-confidence and pleasure in learning. All curriculum areas-science, maths, language, technology, philosophy, creative arts and more are offered. Clubs are designed to be challenging, but most of all, fun.


Club Meeting Dates: Semester 1: 23/2 9/3 23/3 26/4 4/5 18/5 1/6 15/6 Semester 2: 27/7 10/8 24/8 7/9 12/10 26/10 9/11 (except at Overnewton) 16/11 (Overnewton) 23/11

Club Meeting Times: Club times 1.20 – 4.30pm

Fees: A non-refundable deposit of $100.00 within 7 days of registration to secure a place and the balance to be paid by 24th January 2013.

Semester Fee: $455.00 (includes GST) payable on application and confirmation of place.

A 5% discount is available for each sibling member – $432.25

Annual Fee: A 5% discount is available for annual fee payments in advance - non-refundable - $564.50

Nomination: G.A.T.E.WAYS requests that parents arrange for an appropriate person to fill in the nomination section. This is to verify that the applicant is highly able. That way, parents and club leaders can be confident that the children will not only enjoy being members of the club but will benefit from the experience. In the past we have felt that some children were not able to cope with the program content which has impacted on their club experience. Further to this, DinoMites club members will require a teacher to nominate them and complete a skills and readiness checklist.

2013 CLUBS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Club Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DinoMites</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cross curricular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprentices</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Books/writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SciSpies</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Maths/science/technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tokienns</td>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>Books/writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Einsteins</td>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>Maths/science/technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CyberKids</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Computer technology – Overnewton branch only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ABOUT THE CLUBS

DINOmites

Albert Einstein believed that imagination was more important than knowledge. At DinoMites, developing our imagination and creativity is at the heart of all we do. As we open up issues and explore a broad range of concepts and ideas, the DinoMites will develop practical thinking skills that are fun and easy to learn. DinoMites will be immersed in a rich learning experience that spans across all curriculum areas-science, maths, language, technology, philosophy, creative arts and more. The program will allow for flexible learning styles and will encourage the development of language and communication skills in various forms.

MATHS / SCIENCE

Children enrolling in these Clubs will participate in a range of different and engaging topics over the semester. Our groups are the SciSpies (Years 2/3), and the Einsteins (Years 4/5/6).

Over two semesters members may (depending on selection):
- hypothesize and experiment
- use abstract thinking and open-ended questions
- practise logical thinking and problem solving
- be involved in 'hands-on' activities
- build on their knowledge of science and technology and discover wide ranging forms of mathematical thinking

BOOKS and WRITING / PERFORMING ARTS

Children who demonstrate advanced language skills with a passion for reading and writing, as well as a love of drama and creative pursuits, can enrol in Apprentices (Years 2/3) or Tokienns (Years 4/5/6)

Over the year, children may:
- read, write and talk about books and learn more about literature
- explore different genres of writing
- develop their vocabularies
- communicate and debate
- be exposed to philosophical discussion and enhance their performance skills

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Members of the CyberKids club will learn how to build computer games through the Game Maker platform. Game Maker offers unlimited development possibilities and members will be supported in pursuing their own games development projects. Throughout the semester members will also be given an introduction to drawing and animation in Adobe Flash and taught how to import their own graphics into their own Game Maker games.

Detailed program outlines and application forms available at www.gateways.edu.au. Enrolments for new members are open.

For any inquiries contact Meg at meg@gateways.edu.au
Welcome to another year of Student Banking at RMPS!

Student Banking at Roberts McCubbin has commenced for 2013 and for those of you who are new to our school, **our banking day is every Tuesday.**

A pack of information will be coming home to all prep students very soon. This will give you all the information you need to get you started or if you already have a Commonwealth Bank or Dollarmite account you may start depositing next week! Just bring your deposit book in and hand it to your Teacher.

If you are new to RMPS or just not yet a part of the Student Banking program, a new pack of information will also be sent home for you to learn more about this program.

The Student Banking program is aimed at helping students understand core financial values and money management skills. The emphasis on this program is on regular savings and not the value of each deposit so there is no minimum deposit amount, it is more of a fun and engaging activity for the students to enjoy!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on 0432329128 or alternatively you may speak to Sarah Kelly at the School Office.

Regards

Robynne Smith
RMPS Student Banking Officer

LAST CHANCE... If you missed out on purchasing the School Magazine we still have a few left, they are $22 and can be purchased at the office.
Welcome and Welcome Back to all!

All members of our school community offer a warm welcome to our new families joining us at Roberts McCubbin Primary School. We are sure that you will enjoy the wonderful environment and community spirit here at Robbie Mac. It is an exciting time for us all, as new friendships are being made and current ones re-affirmed as the students settle in their classrooms for the year.

The PFA and the school itself offer many opportunities to be involved and be part of the school community. The PFA itself hosts and organises various events throughout the year, class reps organise class morning teas or dinners and the school has many opportunities for parent involvement and participation. We hope you are able to take part when they present themselves. On this note, we hope that many families will be able to attend the Whole School Picnic on Thursday 28th February with a 5.30pm start. Book the date in your diary and stay tuned for more details to come.

Beginners 1st Day and New Families Morning Tea

Monday was such a special day for all our 2013 beginners and families. First day at school is the beginning of a fantastic journey and it can be an emotional one whether it’s excitement or anxiety or a bit of both. The PFA hosted a morning tea to welcome all, there were many parents chatting away and getting to know each other and offering support. We even had parents who joined us simply so they can get to know the new beginners families and help with the introductions and mingling. How wonderful!

Thank you Alison Mc for organising the morning this year, and to all your enthusiastic helpers; Kerryn D, Kay W, Julie A, Sue S, Narelle McG, Ann R, Martine W, Rebecca W, Jo T, and Kathryn A. And thank you to all our wonderful bakers out there who brought in a plate of food for the table – what a delicious display. Your support is truly appreciated and thank you all for making all our beginners families feel so welcome.

Monday Morning Tea after Assembly in the Hall – 11th February

The PFA would like to invite all our Robbie Mac families to our first Monday Morning Tea for the year in the hall after assembly on the 11th February, next week. All parents, carers, grandparents and of course toddlers/pre - schoolers are welcome to join us after assembly for a cuppa and a chat. The little ones love the space to run around and play with other children, not to mention the box of toys that keep them occupied. The morning tea usually goes until about 10.30. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet or catch up with other parents/carers in our school community.

PFA Meeting

The PFA holds monthly meetings to plan and organise our events for the year. If you would see what we get up to or be a part of the planning of our events, discuss other matters or bring something new to the table, just come along. There is no need to put your hand up for a task, your ideas and suggestions are welcome and all levels of participation are wanted!

Our next meeting date has changed to Monday 11th February 2013 after assembly. We will hold the meeting after morning tea in the hall. Agenda items will be the Whole School Picnic and we will begin to discuss the Welcome Social Night as well.

We would love to have more support and need more attendees at our meetings, so if you are considering coming to a meeting, please do so. You may like to...

1. help organise an event
2. be part of a team
3. perform a small task or
4. simply contribute with ideas and feedback at our meetings

Any parent or carer with a child attending Roberts McCubbin Primary School can attend the PFA meetings. With more parents attending our meetings we can properly represent our school community. Further dates will be advertised in the newsletter, including our AGM held in March.
Helping Hands

The Helping Hands is a service that provides help in the form of lunches and dinners to families who are experiencing difficult circumstances. Often family and friends help out but sometimes that is not always possible. What many may not realise is that these difficult circumstances may be that; a family member is in hospital, the family may be coping with a major illness, there may be a major change in family circumstances, death in the family or bedbound family member, there may be no support from extended family, the arrival of a new baby, or even moving house - you do not have justify your need. If you need or know of a family that needs assistance please contact Kate or Allison who are the helping hands coordinators. They will organise someone on their list of helpers to provide a helping hand, these helpers do not know who it is they are giving a helping hand to. Please do not hesitate to ask - as there is no need for you or other families at our school to struggle when we have a supportive community of parents willing to lend a hand. Please understand, all requests are treated with the strictest confidentiality.

If you need a helping hand please contact;
Kate L: Mob 0434 860 905 or katie.lane@mac.com; or
Alison Mc: Mob 0434 132 224 or alimci@optusnet.com.au

Thought for the Week
“i can’t believe I am finally going to my favourite place in the whole wide world.” – 2013 Prep at Robbie Mac.
Matoula Romeo – President
Program Update

Welcome to 2013!!
We hope that you and your families enjoyed a safe and peaceful holiday season.
It is back to play as usual here at the OSHClub room. We have been welcoming our new prep buddy into the program and having lots of get to know you time. We are also the proud owners of two spider leaf insects, Nemo and Tybalt so please do say hello when you drop by!
Please remember term one outside play policy – No hat=no outside play. OSHClub does provide sunscreen however please let us know if your child has specific sunscreen allergies and you would like to supply your own.
A reminder that the program concludes at 6pm each evening with a $2 per minute charge thereafter and that all children enrolled in OSHClub must have fully updated anaphylaxis/asthma/risk management plans and any medications required are to be held at the facility. No pen, no plan, no play.
Thankyou

Next Week’s Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Toast and</td>
<td>Cereal and</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Cereal and</td>
<td>Jaffles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>spreads</td>
<td>juice</td>
<td>smoothies</td>
<td>juice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>snack</td>
<td>Pita chips</td>
<td>Rice crackers</td>
<td>Banana bread</td>
<td>Saladas and</td>
<td>Natural popcorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and dip</td>
<td></td>
<td>and fruit</td>
<td>cheese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>AASC: Floorball</td>
<td>Summerdayze</td>
<td>AASC: Cricket</td>
<td>Valentines</td>
<td>Cooking club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Party</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0407 634 842 (Available Mon - Fri 7am - 9am, 3pm - 6pm)
Coordinator: Danae
Assistant: Lola, Priscilla, Jamie, Dan and Andy
OSHC Club Head Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

If anyone has an old Nintendo 64 we are searching for a compatible power cord please!

www.oshclub.com.au
Mrs Foleys Drama Company

Mrs Foleys Drama Company resumes on Tuesday, 12th February, 2013

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Always wanted to work in:

• Aged Care
• Home and Community Care?

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Call Kelly on 9761 2156 for more information, or visit:
www.employease.com.au

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The beginning of the year is a great time to review oral care and ensure your family is up-to-date with their dental examinations.

Landale Dental is dedicated to providing optimal care in a gentle nurturing environment.

‘Early’ childhood experiences, equals ‘lifelong’ learning habits.

Dr Elizabeth Stenning ● Dr Florence Ting
Debra Harper (Dental Therapist)

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Email enquiry@landaledental.com.au

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Be active AND have fun with classes in...

CIRCUS CHEERLEADING
FUNK N GROOVY BALLS, BALLS, BALLS
BOOTCAMP & more!

Kinder Classes (3-5yrs) School Age Classes (5-14 yrs)

t | 1300 668 338 e | info@fitnessworx.com.au
www.fitnessworx.com.au

TERM 1 2013 CLASS TIMETABLE (Mitcham)

Fitnessworx for Kinder Kids (classes for 3-5yr olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Fitnessworx for Kinder Kids</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Full-dimension</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
<td>3yr+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fitnessworx for Schoolies (classes for 5-14yr olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Bootcamp</td>
<td>Full-dimension</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Bootcamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>Funk/NGroovy Body Biz</td>
<td>Bootcamp</td>
<td>Hurricane</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Circus</td>
<td>Circus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For descriptions of these activities refer to www.fitnessworx.com.au/fitnessworx-activity-program-description/
Is English your second language?

Improve your confidence!
English as a Second Language courses for Permanent Residents
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For more information contact: Hazel or Laurie on 9286 9653
1300 269 4455  vae@boxhill.edu.au  www.boxhill.edu.au/vae

Oxfam (Knackered Knees) Fundraising Movie Night
Palace Cinema Balwyn
Tuesday 19th February – 8pm

Take the night off and come and join us for an enjoyable evening. Start with a glass of champagne and delicious finger food, followed by the movie at 9.00pm – Anna Karenina.

Tickets are $25 per person with all profit going towards the “Knackered Knees” Oxfam fundraising tally.

A limited amount of tickets are available directly from: Michelle Blake dj.blake@bigpond.com.au, Ruth Smithson rasmithson@bigpond.com, Jane Thomas philthomas@optusnet.com.au, Julie Toomey julietoomey11@optusnet.com.au, or from Martine Woodmason martine.woodmason@bigpond.com.au or 0419 425 475.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ashburton Women’s Soccer Club is currently seeking GIRL players for their UNDER 8, UNDER 9, UNDER 11, UNDER 12 and UNDER 14 teams.

Beginners welcome. Learn to bend it like Beckham!!!

Please ring Michael Gurfinkel on 0409 235 641 for details, or email info@ashburtonwsc.org.au or register your interest on our website.

www.ashburtonwsc.org.au

REGISTRATION & GRADING DAY
*** New players wanted ***
Where: Koonung Secondary College
When: Sunday 17th February 2013
Time: 10:30 am to 4.30 pm

All players undertaking Grading are requested to:
• wear a Koonung singlet (new players wear a red t-shirt)
• bring a basketball and
• a drink bottle.

GRADING & REGISTRATION TIMES (Under 9 to Under 13)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 9 10.30 am - 11.30 am</td>
<td>11.30 am - 12.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 11 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm</td>
<td>1.30 pm - 2.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 13 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm</td>
<td>3.30 pm - 4.30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGISTRATION TIMES (Under 15 to Under 19)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 15 Please register on the day, any time between 11.00am to 4.00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all age groups the cut-off date is 1st January 2013.
So if your child was 8 at that date they will play Under 9s.

See www.kbc.asn.au for more details or email koonung@hotmail.com

Grade 3 Girls Basketball

We invite girls in Grade 3 that are interested in playing basketball to join the ‘Blue Stars’ Robbie Mac team.

The team plays in the league run by Playball (http://www.playballbasketball.com).

Training is held at school on Wednesday afternoons and games are held at various local venues on Friday afternoons. The game start times vary from 4pm to 6.15pm and games run for approximately 45 mins.

Our teams focus on learning new skills, promoting teamwork and most of all, having fun!

For further information, please contact Meredith Kidd on 0417 373 013 or Simone Taylor on 0419 104 636.

Comet5

Learn to Play Basketball

Shooting Stars - TERM 1

• Learn the basics of basketball
• 7 one hour sessions
• Make new friends
• This program is to prepare young children for playing basketball
• For children aged 5 - 9

Where: Koonung Secondary College
613 Elgin Road
MOORABbin NORTH 1129 VIC

Cost: $45

All you need to bring is a basketball and a drink bottle.

Please register at the time.

GIRLS PROGRAM - MONDAY 4.30 PM TO 5.30 PM (11th February until 11th March)
ENQUIRIES: TARA WALLACE (0432 631 733)

BOYS PROGRAM - TUESDAY 4.30 PM TO 5.40 PM (11th February until 11th March)
ENQUIRIES: MATTHEW CLEMENTS 0490 155 157

This program runs every school term. See www.kbc.asn.au for more details.

Oxenford Sports Centre

280 Oxenford Street
Southport 4215

www.oxfam.org.au