Welcome back to another very busy term. Term 2 seems to have crept up on us extremely quickly, but the children are more than ready for it, which is terrific!

**SOVEREIGN HILL CAMP**

Thank you once again to all our very generous parents who offered to come to camp. We were inundated with offers but only had 6 places to fill. The children are very excited about our action packed 3 days that will support our inquiry unit ‘Why Australia?’ Please ensure that you fill in the medical forms and return them by the due date along with camp payments so that preparation for camp can move forward as smoothly as possible.

**UNIT OF INQUIRY**

The children did a fantastic job last term making short advertisements which demonstrated their understanding of the importance of ‘Cyber Safety’. We viewed all of the videos in the last week of term, all of their hard work paying off as the messages they learnt during our inquiry were well communicated in their videos.

This term our inquiry understandings are:

- There are many reasons why people have chosen to migrate to Australia
- A number of significant historical events have helped shape Australia’s culture
- Our life styles have changed over time

The children have begun the ‘Tuning In’ stage and are articulating what they think they know and creating questions for our ‘Wonder Walls’ which they will continue to investigate throughout the term. The children will be creating their own version of ‘Horrible Histories’
using the ‘iMovie’ app on the iPads to further illustrate their understandings of Australian history. They will complete their movie making in small groups and the movies will be shown towards the end of the term to the students in the 3/4 area.

YEAR 6-7 TRANSITION

Thank you to all the families that have been returning their Year 6 Transition forms. Please make sure your forms are returned to your child’s teacher by May 17th 2013 in order for the enrolment process to run as smoothly as possible. Please keep a watch out for announcements in the school newsletter, of the open nights/days that government secondary schools will be running throughout this term.

HOMEWORK

A very big thank you must go to all the families who supported us last term with an introductory homework grid. The children produced some outstanding work which was celebrated in class by their teachers and peers. This term we are trialling a new format which you will notice coming home in your child’s diary. Please continue to support our purpose of developing the organisational skills of your child, by checking that they are doing their reading and Mathletics, signing their diary and checking that they are completing the new weekly task.

MATHS OLYMPIAD

On Monday April 22nd, the children completed the Maths Olympiad tests which will determine which children qualify for this year’s Math Olympiad Enrichment Program. Your son or daughter will be notified shortly if they have been successful. This year Peter Wright and Ash
Van Hattum will be conducting the sessions which will be held during our numeracy block.

**NAPLAN**

The NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy) will be conducted on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (14th, 15th & 16th of May) for children in Years 3 & 5 around Australia. The results of the tests are distributed to schools near the end of Term 3. Leading up to this week, all classes from 3-6 will be practising the skills and strategies required to prepare children for these tests. NAPLAN is just one of the many assessments that your child will be undertaking throughout the year. Your child will be fully supported throughout the process, as with all other assessments undertaken in the 5/6 area.

**A BELATED WELCOME**

Lena Zappia, one of our former Junior School teachers, is back from family leave and is supporting the 5/6 area this year in literacy and numeracy. Lena works with small groups of students in the role of support and extension on both Monday’s and Tuesday’s. We are very grateful to have her in our team this year.

**SPORT**

A big congratulation must go to all the students who competed in last terms Sports Round Robin. They all represented the school and themselves with distinction and made Roberts McCubbin very proud. There were some fantastic results on the day and to the teams who made it through to the next round.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

We would like to remind all families that the school website is a very important communication tool where important information can be
found, including the weekly school newsletter. Please log on regularly to keep up to date with the latest information.

**PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended last terms partnership meetings. It was a great opportunity to share important information and also to meet your child's teacher. If you have any relevant information to share or any questions for your child’s teacher please feel free to drop in to have a chat.

**DRINK BOTTLES**

Could you please remind your children to make sure that they have a fresh bottle of water every day at school? Even though the weather is now cooling down, we would like everyone to have a drink bottle handy so that they can keep hydrated and avoid those interruptions to learning time that occur if they need to keep ducking out to the drink taps.

**BRAIN FOOD**

Children are growing so quickly that they need to eat small meals regularly in order to keep their brains alert and their bodies full of energy. Please ensure that your children have brain food in their lunch boxes such as fruit, nuts and muesli bars so that they can continue munching while they are working.

**YEAR 6 JUMPERS**

We have had a few Year 6 jumpers left out in the school grounds lately and some of them have not been named. This makes it difficult to us to get the windcheaters back to your children. Please ensure that all jumpers are clearly named so that we can return them to your child as soon as they are found.
We are all looking forward to another very busy and productive term which will include camp, NAPLAN, Winter Round Robin, school reports and Partnership Meetings.

Kind regards,

Raelene Aleandro (Co-Ordinator), Ash Van Hattum, Kirsty Davies, Grace Wilson, Steve Roche and Lena Zappia