## IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weds 13</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Sat 2</strong>&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep Parents Night Out @ 7:30pm The Kennel at the Barking Dog</td>
<td>Mano Food Swap in the Food forest, access from Manifold Street - 9:30-11am</td>
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<td>Swimming Trials—Geelong College 9-11:30am</td>
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<td>Sun 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Mon 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Bee (more information to come)</td>
<td>Juniors - Young Australia Incursion</td>
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<td>Fri 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Tues 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Indigenous Garden Opening Ceremony at the Whole school assembly 3pm</td>
<td>Divisional Swimming Championships at the Kardinia Pool</td>
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<td>Mon 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Weds 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geelong West District Tennis Championships</td>
<td>Drumbeat Performance @ 9am in the Multipurpose Room</td>
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<td><strong>Fri 15</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Fri 15</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Red Cross Day - Wear Red—gold coin donation <strong>Assembly at 9.00am</strong></td>
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<td>Mon 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Mon 18</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Fair in the Library</td>
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<td>Tues 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Region Swimming Championships</td>
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Please remember to telephone the office and speak to one of your lovely office ladies when your child is absent from school. Our procedure is to write it up in the Absence book so this can then be reconciled with the teachers’ Roll and entered onto our system.

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### Prep Parents Night out!

**Wednesday Feb 13 at 7:30pm**

The Kennel @ the Barking Dog (the outside room, look for the table with the Mano hat), Pakington St, Geelong West.

Come for a wine, beer, mineral water, coffee or hot chocolate and a chance to meet some other Prep Parents.
Welcome back to 2013 everyone. A big welcome to all our brand new Preps and their families, and new students and families across our other classrooms. It’s always nice to have new friends to make. We know that sometimes always lots of little questions. Please do not hesitate to ask your child’s teacher or come and talk to our office staff. A very Mano welcome to our new staff this year—Ms. Bassi JB, Mrs. McPhee JMB & Ms Barr SB and to Mrs Tucker who has returned from leave to share the reception/administration role in the office with Anna.

During the first two days of the year, our staff participated in professional development activities around Team Work, Planning, as well as, working on school procedures for the year. We have had many changes to our program but we are up for the challenge and look forward to an exciting year. There have also been many changes to our Regional Office with a new acting Regional Director addressing Principals yesterday. The department has gone from 9 Regions to 4 Super regions. This has meant that some services are now coming out of Footscray. We are yet to see what this means for us at the school level.

Assembly will continue to be on Fridays at 3.00pm. During terms 1 & 4 assembly we will aim to be on the middle terrace in front of our flag poles. In terms 2 & 3 when it is a bit colder we will swap to the multi purpose room. We will need to be a little bit flexible and watch the weather forecasts. Parents are always welcome to assembly so we hope to see you there.

The warm weather also means that more people are walking to school in the mornings which is a great thing, both for our health and to ease traffic congestion. If you are also walking your dog to school, please remember that not all students are comfortable being around dogs and must not have their building access hindered by a dog tied up near a door. We have the "Puppy Pit Spot" at the front of the school near the Gunyah which is a great place to sit and wait with your dog or to tie your dog up. On the middle terrace, we have some poles near "Ben’s Seat" which would also make a good spot to tie up your dog whilst you come inside. Of course, dogs are not allowed inside the buildings. We trust that you will respect our request and make our school safe for everyone.

Just a reminder to bring back your expression of interest form for our Active After School Communities programs starting next week. They are FREE to our students and includes some afternoon tea. We have Frisbee on Tuesday and Badminton on Wednesday. Both sessions start at 3.45 in the Multi Purpose Room. Finish time is 4.45pm.

**Appreciations:**
- Peter Driscoll from “Complete Care – Home & Garden” for keeping the grass cut on our play space. Thanks Peter!
- Lynne Foot, Gwyn Morrison and their helpers for organising a wonderful Welcome Morning Tea for our new Prep parents.
- Matt Hanrahan who has quietly been keeping our oval in a useable state for our students. Thanks Matt.

Communication is vital – Keep reading the newsletter!
**Be on time, Be at school, that’s the rule!**

Let’s keep **Unleashing Potential**!

Marina Keegan
Principal

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**Notes home:** We have sent home several notes with your child last week and this week which need to be addressed ASAP. The Cases 21 Student Information document will need to be read thoroughly and checked for any changes that may be required (i.e. new contact numbers, change of address etc). Please ensure that all notes/documents are signed (where applicable) and returned to your child’s classroom teacher ASAP.

**Just a few reminders:** please ensure that if your child is late to school, you sign them in at the office and collect a “pass in” card to give to the teacher. If you need to pick your child up early, you will need to come to the office to sign them out and take a ‘pass out’ card down to their classroom. We understand that if you have a child down in the Middles/Seniors area, this can be frustrating but we need to ensure that we keep our kids safe.

**EMA:** The closing date for EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) applications is **28th February**. Late applications cannot be accepted.

**Payment Envelopes:** We have attached payment envelopes to this week’s newsletter. If you have anything that you need to pay for please fill these out and hand them to the classroom teacher or the office staff.

2013 Victorian State Schools Spectacular - Massed Dance - Students in grades 3-6 wishing to participate in the massed dance section at the 2013 Victorian State Schools Spectacular need to attend an information session on Friday 8th February at 1:40pm in Room 5. Thank you, Mrs Orford.
Congratulations to students who have been rewarded for their efforts towards “RESPECT” and making ‘Mano’ a better place.

PB Lillian Currie - For making a sensational start to her Prep year! Congratulations, Lillian!
PH Ashlee Humphries - For settling into Prep H quickly and for being a wonderful friend and helper!
PS Erin Castle - For her beautiful manners! Please and Thank-you’s go a long way! Brilliant start to Prep, Erin!
JB Katelyn Mulholland - For being an enthusiastic member of JB and willing to always help others!
JF Luke Fraser - For assisting others by helping the younger class members to settle into their new room!
JMB Edie Graham - For always trying very hard in all her classroom!
JO Isaac Morgan - For demonstrating wonderful manners and respect for other children’s property!
MB Marcus Ivey - For being a magnificent helper for the class and showing us how to use the sound system in the classroom!
MC Tom Howell - For showing respect in the classroom in so many ways - sharing ideas, including others and always being polite and considerate!
MH Willem Gibson - For making a confident start in the Middles! Great work, Willem!
MS Jemma Howie - For making a great transition into the Middle department and confidently sharing her musical prowess! You’re a star, Jemma!
SB Oscar Langridge & Alysha Eskridge - Welcome to Mano! What a fabulous start to the year!
SN Parmida Safa - Welcome to Mano Parmida! You’ve settled in fantastically and made some great friends already!
SS Kade McKenzie - For displaying respect at ALL times! Thank you!
SW Joanna Burrows - For being an enthusiastic member of our class and for consistently showing respect

CAN YOU HELP? Many students have enjoyed learning and sharing gardening skills during lunchtime breaks. Some enjoy working in the edible gardens, others enjoy maintaining our compost bays and worm farm while others enjoy maintaining gardens with ornamental plants. Although all students from Prep to Year 6 are welcome, we require additional adult assistance to keep group numbers small – perhaps a couple of lunchtime sessions can be organised.

Thank you, Liz Hines
Band Auditions
Thanks to everyone who expressed interest in becoming a member of the 2013 PurrumBeatles. Mr Seeckts and I are keen to get things underway and will be holding Auditions over two lunchtimes next week. If you feel you have what it takes to be a PurrumBeatle in 2013, please meet in the Music Room Foyer @ 1:40pm on either:
- Tuesday February 12th for Musicians, or
- Friday February 15th for Singers
As we have many students keen to take part, auditions will be strictly no longer than 2 minutes, so make sure you are ready to go when you are called! Auditions will take place in the Music Room with Mr Seeckts and myself.

DRUMBEAT... The Art of Hitting Things
Next month I am excited to be introducing Mark Stewart and Tony Azzopardi from Young Australia. In an energetic demonstration of drum techniques and style, Mark and Tony will present a history of percussion through the ages, using a large range of drums and hand percussion. The program features rhythms and patterns used in all types of music and includes a student participation segment... for which there is no shortage of volunteers! Permission notes / Payment advice will be sent home shortly.

When: Wednesday March 13th @ 9:00am
Who: Juniors, Middles & Seniors

Look forward to seeing you in the Music Room!

Mr Gibson

Unfortunately Headlice is a common problem in school aged children.

Last year our school sent out consent forms to be signed as part of our Parent Managed Head Lice Program and only 6 were returned. We were also seeking volunteers to undertake these checks but did not receive any names.

We have had a few reported cases of headlice already throughout the school so would like to offer the following tips for parents:

- Check your child’s hair regularly and comb dry hair with conditioner and wipe clean on a tissue. This “stuns” the lice and makes it easier to remove them and see the eggs;
- Talk to your child about avoiding head to head contact (little children like to get up nice and close to their friends) with others;
- Talk to your child about not sharing hats, brushes, combs, hair ties/clips with others. Lice cannot survive more than 24hrs off the head but this is still time for lice to be transferred via a shared hat etc.

Further information can be found at:

LOST - MP3 Player belonging to Kate Savage (JMB). If found please return to Rm 3 or to the office.

Essential Education Items charges are now past due. We have had great success this year in receiving almost 100% payment for these items.

Families that have still not paid for and collected their book packs have received a Statement and need to complete payment as soon as possible. Please come up to the office and have a chat with myself or Mrs Keegan if you are experiencing financial difficulty and would like to set up a payment plan.

School Council Voluntary Contributions— Statements will be sent home shortly (in accordance with DEECD Financial Management procedures) and will still show this charge as outstanding if you haven’t made a contribution. If you do not wish to pay the School Council Voluntary Contribution, please advise the office. This year’s School Council Voluntary Contribution will go towards our ICT program in an attempt to counteract the government’s decision not to provide funding for ICT.

Just out of interest, I took our grade 5/6 list to Officeworks and priced the items so as to get another comparison. The end result was considerably higher than what our suppliers (Schoolbiz) have charged. This was a great example of, by buying in bulk, we as a school are able to pass on great savings to our families.

Kylie Roskosch—Business Manager

“Patience, Persistence and Perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success”

Napoleon Hill