**IMPORTANT DATES**

**MARCH**

Mon 18th - 22nd

Sat 23rd

Mon 25th

Weds 27th

Thurs 28th

Fri 29th

Sat 30th

Sun 31st

**APRIL**

Mon 15th

Mon 15th - Fri 3rd May

Weds 24th

Thurs 25th

Fri 26th

**MAY**

Weds 8th

Weds 15th

Mon 14th - Weds 16th

Fri 17th

Mon 20th - Fri 24th

Weds 22nd

**Book Fair in the Library**

**Mano Market 9am-1pm! Remember to book your stall!!**

Adolescent Education—Grade 6

Adolescent Education—Grade 6

SSV Swimming Champs

Last Day of Term 1 - 2:30pm finish

Good Friday

Easter Saturday

Easter Sunday

Start of Term 2!

Bike Ed

Geelong West District Cross Country

ANZAC Day - No School

Curriculum Day - No School

Regional Rehearsal for Victorian State Schools Spectacular

History Dress Up Day

Preps to IMAX - Melbourne

NAPLAN

Victorian State Schools Spectacular Rehearsal

Education Week!!

Open Day

Please remember to telephone the office and speak to one of our 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 into our system.
It’s Mano Market time!

I am really looking forward to our Mano Market this year and am very excited about the number and types of stalls we have organised for the day. Come along and support our wonderful team of parents who have put in such a lot of work to get our market up and running. We are still looking for a few volunteers who can donate a little time to help us set up or pack up at the end. Please come and see us in the office if you can help.

Following on from my column last week where I spoke about the unique, special needs of our students, I wanted to touch on another area which perhaps not everyone is aware of – our students with allergies and anaphylaxis.

An allergy is a dysfunction of the immune system, whereby the immune system responds to a substance and induces a reaction harmful to the body. An allergic reaction occurs when a person is exposed to a substance that they are allergic to. These changes can affect the skin, the intestines, the respiratory (breathing) system and the cardiovascular (heart) system. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction. It is life threatening, involving the breathing and/or heart systems. Reactions can occur from agents being eaten, injected, inhaled and sometimes, just touched.

Foods are the most common causes of anaphylaxis with peanut, tree nuts, and seafood making up 90% of food reactions in Australia. Even though we might not be able to control all reactions in our students, there are practical things we can do to help prevent these attacks and keep our students safe at school. We have students with allergies right across our school and you would have noticed posters encouraging us all to be nut free. Please be mindful about what you place into your child’s lunchbox, just as we will continue to be very strict about our “no sharing of food” policy here at school. To avoid disappointment, please remember not to send cakes or lollies to school for your child’s birthday. We will certainly continue to celebrate birthdays - just in different way.

Don’t forget our final assembly for the term will be next Thursday 28th March at 2pm. We will be awarding our Reach for the Stars Awards for Term 1, announcing our School Captains for Term 2, and drawing our School Captain’s Easter Egg Raffle – Exciting!!!!

Only one week left until the holidays. Please check lost property as we have lots of jumpers that need to go home for a wash.

Appreciations: to…

- To our parents who come in to give us great, positive feedback about our school. It’s great to have such wonderful people around our school who pass on their positive emotions to their children. It certainly makes a difference in a child’s day.
- Congratulations to Andrea and Graeme Castle who over the past two years have both completed their Masters degree. They are an inspiration to us all and testament that you never stop learning. Talk about living our school motto “Unleashing Potential”. Well done!!

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
Excursion Permission Notes/Payments: Just a reminder to ensure that when returning signed permission notes (for excursions etc) that your payment is also enclosed in the payment envelope. It can be very confusing for teachers and office staff if the payment and the permission note are returned separately.

Entertainment Books—The 2013/14 books are coming soon and have some fabulous new offers in them! We will be taking pre-orders for the Entertainment Books on the schools stall. If you pre order yours on Saturday you can go in the chance to win a nights accommodation in Melbourne!!

Junior School Council

On the last day of Term 1, Thursday the 28th of March we will be holding a fundraising event. The event is helping raise money for the the Good Friday Appeal which raises money for the Royal Children’s Hospital.

The hospital uses this money to buy new equipment to help sick kids and save lives. It will be a casual dress day with a gold coin donation. Please donate to help us raise money for such a great cause.

Thank you Lucille and Parmida.

Pancake Stall

Do you have a lemon tree with an abundance of fruit? If you do, we would be most grateful if you could donate a bag of lemons to the office this week for our pancake stall.

We will also accept any other home grown fruit and vegetables donations to sell at the market. Please drop off to the office by tomorrow - Friday 22 March.
The preps are progressing really well with their Indonesian. They know a greeting song and a colour song in Indonesian. They can answer the question:

Siapa nama kamu?  
Nama saya Mia.

They know the following colours:

merah  red  
kuning yellow
jingga  orange
biru    blue
hijau   green

They are also starting to count to five.

Terima Kasih dari Ibu Walker

Thanks from Mrs Walker

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**Medical Alert**

We have recently been notified that a case of Slapped Cheek has been detected in the school. Slapped Cheek disease is a viral infection that is recognised by bright red cheeks as though they have been slapped.

The signs of Slapped Cheek include a bright rash mainly on the face, arm and legs, vaguely feeling unwell, mild fever, aches and pains and enlarged glands.

Exclusion from school or elsewhere is not necessary. Children can keep going to school. Once you see the rash on the face, the infection cannot spread to others.

We have also been notified recently that a case of head lice has been detected in your child’s year level.

We ask that you regularly (at least once a week) check your child for any evidence of head lice. If you do find any eggs or adult lice, please treat immediately and then notify the school office. By doing this you will help us to keep our school “a nit free zone”.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Marina Keegan
Principal

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**Indonesian**

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