NEWSLETTER NO: 16 – 21 OCTOBER 2016

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 25 October</td>
<td>RSPCA Cupcake Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRUST Parent/Carer information session 11.00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 26 October</td>
<td>Cooba Camp</td>
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<td>Thursday, 27 October</td>
<td>Cooba Camp</td>
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<td>Principal’s Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Friday, 28 October</td>
<td>Cooba Camp</td>
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<td>Monday 31 October</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>Kenny Koala visit</td>
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<td>Inspire Leadership Program</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 1 November</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 2 November</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>Year 6 Enrichment Day</td>
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<td>Thursday, 3 November</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>Friday, 4 November</td>
<td>Assembly 12/F and 1/2P</td>
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<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>Year 5 Band practice</td>
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Notes Going Home This Week

End of Year Concert – ticket purchase information
Term 4 Overviews
1/2F and 1/2P End of Year Concert – costume information
RSPCA Cupcake Day
Music Group Lessons
P & C Tea Towel and Cookie Dough Fundraiser
Preschool Incursion - David the Music Man
Bandstravaganza Ticket Purchase – Year 6 Band
Year 6 Graduation Bears
Year 5 Band practice at Wanniassa Hills

Dear Families

MULTICULTURAL DINNER
I have been eagerly anticipating this event! We were extremely sure was super impressed with the food, traditional dress and of course the stunning performances! Thank you to Jess DuRieu and Virginia Martin for their leadership and coordination of what was, a brilliant event.
I am so proud to be part of this stunning school and the way we celebrate diversity!

CAMPS
Staff and students are eagerly anticipating the upcoming 5/6 and 3/4 camps. I wanted to acknowledge the monumental behind the scenes effort that goes into the organisation and preparation for camp before students even set foot on the bus. I would like to thank the teaching staff and front office staff for their excellent organisation leading up to camp. Wishing the 5/6 students and their teachers a wonderful camping experience as they head off to Cooba next Wednesday morning!
PIPS
Kindergarten students will commence their end of year PIPS (Performance Indicators in Primary Schools) assessments next week. PIPS reports will be sent home to families later this term. You can find further information about PIPS by clicking on this link; http://www.education.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/assessment_and_reporting/early_years_assessment

POKEMON CARDS
The latest craze to hit the Monash Playground is Pokemon Cards. It’s wonderful to see so many children sitting together reading their cards and discussing the similarities and differences of their characters. Now that’s reading for a purpose! We certainly don’t want to discourage reading but there have been some issues arising from trading cards. We don’t intend to ban Pokemon cards but we have decided to implement a ‘no trading’ at school rule to assist with disputes and allegations of an ‘unfair’ or ‘trick trade’. I have discussed this new school rule and the students responded well and understood why it needed to be implemented.

BOOK FLOOD
Thank you to those families who have paid their voluntary contributions! As funds come in, we are able to purchase more and more Hot Reads for your children to engage with. With your support so many children have caught the ‘reading bug’ at Monash! Payments are still being accepted at the front office if you are interested.

SRC CUPCAKE DAY
Our wonderful SRC will be holding a cupcake stall next Tuesday to raise money for vulnerable animals. I’m really impressed with the high level of engagement of the Monash SRC and the way the members make thoughtful contributions during their meetings. I would like to acknowledge the effort, commitment and leadership Rhiannon Freckleton invests each week into our Monash Representatives. I am sure you will agree, the leadership opportunities SRC involvement presents are developing the future leaders of our community!

TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL
Transitions can often be an exciting time for children who are entering that next stage of schooling. It can often be a time of uncertainty and stress for both children and their families. The Education Directorate have put together a short clip for families to provide some helpful tips to assist your child’s transition to high school. You can watch the clip via this link; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tuE0qOkEotE

Enjoy your weekend!

Lili Jankovic,
Deputy Principal

Guitar and Keyboard Group Tuition
Guitar and Keyboard Group Tuition
I would like to advise parents/carers that following an approach to the School Board, the school is now exploring the option of providing guitar and keyboard group tuition to be conducted on school premises in 2017. Details of this proposed program including costs and program outlines has been sent home with students. The lessons are open to children who will be Year 1 to Year 6 in 2017.
At this point the school is seeking an expression of interest in an effort to ascertain the viability of the proposed group classes moving into 2017. We request that if you are interested in your child potentially participating in 2017 and beyond that you please complete the expression of interest form and return to the front office by Friday, 28 October.

Preschool
Possums and Echidnas
Children in the Possum and Echidna classes arrived back at preschool so excited to see all the friends they have made over the year! We have begun to explore our new Inquiry learning focus ‘Why do we need to keep the fauna and flora in our world healthy? How can we keep the fauna and flora in our world healthy?’
Three rescued baby magpies have arrived via Wildcare N.S.W to help us in our inquiry. Much time is spent observing the birds quietly and many wonderings have ensued. Wonderings about the food they eat, the whereabouts of their parents, why we don’t pat them and cuddle them (wild vs pet) etc. We have begun to notice all of the wild birds in our preschool yard and we have made a tally chart to record sightings of each species. The children have been asked to notice the birds around their home and in their neighbourhood so we can identify and discuss them.

Following on from our Pirate Pete incursion, the Possums and Echidnas are discussing ‘floating and sinking’. The children have been asked to bring small item from home to test in our water trolly. They guess first, test their item and we record the results on our chart. Many surprises have occurred - some things float at times but not at other times…. We are hypothesising about the reasons for this.

After the Firefighter visit we have been learning to ‘stop, drop and roll’ and ‘get down low and go, go, go’. We are also attempting to learn our address and phone number. Could parents please write the number they wish their pre-schooler to learn on the back of the slip that arrives home. Reinforcement of address and phone number from home would be great also. Kenny Koala suggested this was a good idea as did the firefighters.

Questions you might like to discuss with your pre-schooler:

What animals live in, on, under and around trees? Why do we need trees? What would the world be like without trees?

Birthdays this month in the Possums and Echidna classes:
Emily, Beau, Gillian, Johnathon, Lucy, Mia, Nixon and Lilly.

Joeys

Our inquiry unit this term is for the children to understand how people help us in the community and how they themselves can be active citizens in the community. We have been singing many songs and drawing amazing pictures that have consolidated our learning.

Last week we had a visit from Chisholm Fire Station to explore and learn about how they help us in our community. The fire fighters spoke to the children about fire awareness in the home and how to contact them in an emergency. The children’s ‘homework’ was to learn their address and check if they had working fire alarms at home. The children were able to sit in the truck and we were shown ‘the jaws of life’. It was an incredible experience enjoyed by all.

Following on from our learning about Fire Fighters the children have been able to act out the song ‘Hurry Hurry’ as a dramatic play experience. Two children act as fire fighters and one calls 000. When each child ‘rings the fire fighters’ they had to provide them with their real address.

This term our home corner is ‘The Beach.’ At the end of last term a number of children were about to embark on holidays to the coast or up north and were very interested in ocean life and warmer weather. Our ‘Special Table’ where the children have to look and not touch has been respected by all this week. They have been particularly amazed by the shark eggs and sponges. This fortnight has seen us sailing the high seas as pirates donning our sashes and swords. Pirate Pete came to visit and we sang songs and explored his treasure! We discussed how Pirate Pete helps us in our community as he is an entertainer. “He helps us in the community by singing songs and making me happy” Cooper.
**Bimbi Unit News (Kinder)**

What a way to start Term 4! We have settled back into term with positive attitudes and ready to continue our learning.

In Literacy, we have been looking at the text type narratives. All classes read the book ‘Barty’s Scarf’, we used this text to identify the features of a narrative such as the orientation, the problem and the solution. We began with sequencing the story to help us identify the important features. Later we looked at how we could transform the character of Barty into another story. We created picture plans and a new written retell for our new story ‘Barty’s Hat’. We saw some fantastic responses from the children using the character Barty. At home, you could read different narratives and discuss the orientation, problem and solution with them.

Last week, the children received a copy of the news topics for Term 4. Please check this each week to support your child in our speaking and listening program.

Last week in Maths, we looked at patterns. We used concrete materials to create and continue patterns. We extended the children by creating growing patterns and connecting these to numbers. This week in Maths, we have been looking at time. To support our understanding of time each class created posters for what they do on particular days of the week. You can support your child at home by discussing each day of the week and a significant event that your family might do on these days. We extended our knowledge by looking at o’clock and half-past on the clock. Next week in Maths we will continue to revise the counting on and doubling strategy when adding collections together.

Yesterday we went on our excursion to the National Gallery of Australia. The teachers were SO impressed with how well behaved all the children were. Well off into small groups. Each group was taken with a guide around the gallery to look at different artworks that demonstrate shape, line and colour. We looked at these paintings in preparation for our next inquiry unit about Visual Arts. Children had opportunities to draw some of the artworks and create artworks with different coloured shapes. Encourage your child to talk about the different artworks they saw at the gallery and which was their favourite.

Please remember that we begin our swimming program in week 4. Please ensure that if your child is attending the swimming program they are enrolled and have returned the permission note to school. If you have any concerns please see your child’s classroom teacher. We appreciate your continued support.

**Yerra Unit News (1 / 2)**

We have had a busy first two weeks back in the 1/2 unit.

We have begun our ‘Fractured Fairytales’ writing unit! So far we have compared traditional fairy tales, such as The Three Little Pigs, with fractured ones such as, The
Three Little Wolves. We have been finding the fractured fairy tales very humorous! We are looking closely at characters and settings and are eager to write our own fairy tale in the weeks to come.

In Maths, both Year 1 and 2 have been looking at data, graphs and chance. Students have practised collecting data using tally marks. We have collected data about authentic situations such as the different fruits eaten at fruit break and put it into a picture graph. We have explored the chance of real life situations happening using the language certain, possible, likely, unlikely and impossible.

Some discussion topics to focus on at home are:

- Play several games of noughts and crosses, together tally mark to keep a record of who wins each game.
- Ask your child to collect data and turn it into a graph.
- Play heads or tails and discuss the possible outcomes and if the two chances are equal.
- Listen to or view weather reports on the radio or television. Discuss the vocabulary the reports use to describe and predict the weather.

In Inquiry we have started our new unit ‘I connect, You connect’. So far we have unpacked our essential question ‘What factors affect my connections to places?’ and completed our pre-assessment. We read the story ‘Are we there yet?’ and responded to the places the characters visited around Australia making our own connections. Some discussion points at home are:

- What are my connections to places?
- Where was I born?
- What states have I travelled to?
- Which towns do my family/friends live?
- Where are places in Canberra that I am connected to?

**Dulma Unit News (Year 3 / 4)**

What a fantastic start the students have made to Term 4. We have many exciting things to look forward to these last eight weeks of the school year. We have camp rapidly approaching in week five, ongoing practise for the end of year concert, along with the completion of our Inquiry Unit “Material World,” just to name a few. This week our term overviews went home and again it will be another busy and exciting time of learning in Dulma unit.

This fortnight in English we have been continuing our work in Poetry. Students have been working on figurative language and limerick poems. Students have also enjoyed listening to their teachers read to them. The books that are being read in our unit include “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” and “The Twits”. In GPS, the Twits is about to come to an end so if there are any favourite books that could possibly be our next book to share we are open to children’s suggestions. The students have been highly engaged in the new “Hot Reads” that have been a recent addition to all classes. If students have a much-loved book at home that they would like to bring into school and share with a friend, there will opportunities this term to share their favourite books.
In Maths the students have been working on Location and Transformation. Students have been enlarging shapes, locating and identifying coordinates, drawing pictures to scale and learning about the language including flip, slide, turn and reflections. We have played interactive activities on the chromebooks where the students have had to identify different coordinates to locate different objects, not dissimilar to the games like battleships we played when we were young. Whilst at home students may like to practise showing what a slide, flip, turn and reflections are in Mathematics.

In Inquiry Learning, the children have been involved in a Primary Connections unit of work called Material World. Students have enjoyed various activities including identifying what different items are made out of and their purpose, along with learning how to conduct a fair test. This is a fantastic opportunity at home to discuss what different items are made from, the importance of recycling materials and how many of our everyday items are made up of these.

It was nice to see lots of students sign up for the Monash Talent Quest this week. A reminder that next Tuesday is the last chance for signing up should you feel you would like to highlight a particular talent. So far some students have expressed sharing talents such as singing a song, performing a comedy act, dancing and playing a musical instrument. We can look forward to the talent show later in the term.

**Bural Unit News (Year 5 / 6)**

Bural unit has had a very positive start to what will be a busy term. There are many events on our calendar, including camp, graduation, Market Day and the end of year concert, not to mention all the other learning that always goes on. This is the busiest time for teachers of year 5 and 6 students, so if you see some tired eyes at meet and greet, you’ll know why.

Camp preparations are on track, with students getting more and more excited as we get closer to departure. The activity list looks exciting, designed to challenge your child to ‘step out’ of their comfort zone, while developing their team skills. We encourage you to discuss the term, ‘challenge by choice’ with your child. This term will be used throughout the camp when activities become difficult, and possibly a little scary. We know that hanging by ropes off the ground may test some students, and students will only be asked to complete each task as far (or high) as they are comfortable. ‘Challenge by choice’ encourages students to go ‘one step’ beyond their comfort zone.

‘Taking Care of Business’ is the title of our Inquiry unit this term, linked to Economics and Business in the Australian Curriculum. Students across Bural Unit have started to create businesses that will operate a stall during Market Day, Wednesday, 16 November 2016. Each business is working on a business plan, have applied for an ABN and registered with ASIC (both fictitious of course). Businesses will manage a limited budget, making decisions on where to best allocate funds toward rent, marketing/advertising and the purchasing of supplies. Students are already engaged and excited about their business ideas.

Literacy learning has focused on writing a narrative to entertain. Students have been given ‘artistic licence’ to create stories that appeal to them. Currently students are planning and drafting their pieces, with stories ranging from science fiction, to fantasy, to fictional recounts...When drafting is complete, students will confer with their peers and teachers in order to ‘bump up’ their work before publishing. We look forward to the end results.
During numeracy students are deciphering data and exploring different ways to present the information for different purposes. Some of the focus has included why political groups, businesses and others present information in certain ways to persuade their audience. The recent ACT Election was very handy to refer to.

P.E. learning has included touch football skills and modified activities related to passing and catching. With the weather getting warmer, it is great to see all students out having fun during P.E. Chat with them about the modified games we play, and how well the classes are ‘Getting Along’…one of our school values.

**Winyu Unit News**

We hope that all the Winyu students and their families enjoyed a restful holiday because we are going to need lots of energy to keep up with all the activities planned for term 4.

Twice a week until the of the year Winyu students will gather to rehearse their dance routine for the End of Year Concert. Already this term we have completed a 2 week netball workshop and we are looking forward to an excursion to the AIS for a sports day. Our younger students will also be participating in the upcoming learn to swim program while our older students are anticipating going on camp.

Towards the end of last term students Winyu P were introduced to a new literacy routine and since the start of term they have been busy putting this into practice. On any morning you will see them working independently on literacy tasks that will help them consolidate all the learning the have done this year; handwriting, spelling, and reading to name just a few.

The older students in Winyu have been writing letters; will Santa get to read some of them? Families can support this learning at home by continuing to read with the children and find opportunities to do some writing.

All Winyu students have started a new maths unit this term; shape. In Winyu P the students have been learning to recognise regular 2D shapes and learning how to count the number of edges and corners. The older Winyu students have been learning to recognise the names and features of 2D and 3D shapes. Families could support this learning at home by helping children to become shape detectives; recognise regular shapes in the real world and talk about their features.

Term 4 is a time of consolidation so Winyu students will be given lots of opportunities to practise maths concepts already covered this year like telling the time, counting and making number quantities and recognising and using money.

**Reminders:**

- AIS sports day permission note
- Hats on all term please.
Please find listed below important dates for the 2016 End of Year Concert.

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<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Important dates</th>
<th>Note/payment due back</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ticketing information sent home to all families - 2 tickets available per family</td>
<td>Monday, 17 October 2016</td>
<td>Friday, 18 November 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information for the purchase of additional tickets sent home to families</td>
<td>Monday, 21 November 2016</td>
<td>Thursday, 1 December 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus permission notes</td>
<td>Monday, 21 November 2016 – Thursday, 1 December 2016</td>
<td>Thursday, 1 December 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert tickets can be picked up from the front office</td>
<td>Thursday, 1 December 2016</td>
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| Concert date | Concert date  
Matinee 12.30 – 1.30 pm  
Evening 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm | Tuesday, 6 December 2016 | |
| End of Year Concert DVD Order form | 7 December 2016 – | Pick up DVD on Friday, 16 December 2016 |

NB: the initial ticket sales are for 2 tickets per family ie for split families one ticket per parent, to ensure all families have a chance to attend. Additional tickets can then be purchased from 21 November.

**TIME FOR VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS TO RENEW THEIR WWVP REGISTRATION**

Parents and other adults who volunteer, or work in some paid capacity, at school are required under the Working With Vulnerable People Act to be registered with Access Canberra. There are however some exemptions.

Those who registered in 2013 will need to apply to renew their registration during 2016.

If your card is over three years old it has probably expired and you cannot lawfully have contact with children as a volunteer or visitor in a school-related activity.

If you are uncertain, you should contact Access Canberra on 13 2281 or accesscanberra.act.gov.au, or in person at an ACT Government shopfront.

If you think you may be exempt under the Act, you should contact the school. Registration for (unpaid) volunteers is free. Registration for employees and paid visitors is $76 for three years.

**Nut Allergies**

As you may be aware Monash School has a number of students who are allergic to nut products and if they were to come in to contact with these products, they could have a life threatening reaction. We are asking our school community to avoid sending in products that contain nuts.