Principal’s Comments

School Crossing Supervisors - Sue and Paul
We are very fortunate to have two excellent Crossing Supervisors who take great care in providing a safe crossing for students and families. We value the role that both Sue and Paul take in being contributors to the wellbeing of our community and for taking an interest in our lives.

Annually an award is given for School Crossing Supervisor of the Year. Application forms are available on the website: www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au and is also attached to this newsletter. The application is simple and asks for 25 words about ‘why you believe the nominated supervisor should be awarded’. Some of the skills might include acting in a professional manner, welcoming and caring demeanour, being helpful and informative. Parents may be interested in writing an application or may like to join together to write the applications. Whatever the outcome we are very grateful for the superb service our two supervisors provide to Karoo.

School Council Elections
School Council is a body of parents and staff representatives who meet regularly during the school year. The council operates within a legal framework of regulations and constituting orders. Karoo School Council has ten parent representatives and five staff representatives, including the principal. A term of office is two years and each year half of the Council positions will be open for election. Karoo has five parent school council vacancies and three DET vacancies.

The process for Council elections commenced this week on Monday 8th February with nomination forms being available at the office. If nominations match vacancies then those people are duly elected. If nominations exceed positions then we go to a school election.

Please note – all nomination forms are for general positions as school councillors. The forms must be signed by the nominator and/or person nominated. School Council elects the office bearers.

Below is the School Council election time-line.

School Council Election Timeline

- Monday 8th February: School Council – Call for Nominations
- Monday 15th February: Nominations close at 4 pm & assessed to determine if a ballot is required
- Wednesday 17th February: List of candidates posted
- Monday 21st February: Ballot papers distributed
- Tuesday 1st March: Ballot closes at 4 p.m.
- Thursday 4th March: Vote count and declaration of poll
- School Council Meeting: Date to be determined and co-option of community members

School Councillors at 10th February


Getting to Know You Interviews—Years 1—6
Getting to Know You Interviews have been allocated for Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th February. Parents can book online and notices have been sent home with the relevant log in details. The purpose is for every family to meet with their child’s teacher and to establish understandings, awareness and a swapping of information to build home school relationships. This is not a teacher report relating to your child. It is a chance for you to give information about your child to the teacher. Prep parents will have the opportunity to speak to their teachers during SEA testing interviews.

… Continued overleaf

SCHOOL PHOTOS—TOMORROW
THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY
Correct school uniform must be worn (no sports tops for photos)
Please bring your order and payment to school.
Principal’s report continued:

Sports Equipment
To assist students to have access to sports equipment, Mrs Lee with the help of our School and House Captains have set up a borrowing system for lunchtimes. Below is the Sports Equipment Borrowing process:

**STUDENT SPORT EQUIPMENT BORROWING**

- Students can borrow 1 or 2 items;
- Students need to line up at the beginning of lunchtime as follows: Years 3-6 on the Multi-use stage and at the side door of the Multi-use for Year 1 and 2;
- Students are to wait sensibly in line until it is their turn;
- No borrowing after 1:45pm;
- An ‘air horn’ sound will remind students to return equipment to the Sport Captains at the Multi-use building;
- Students who borrow the equipment must return it;
- Students need to show the Karoo values of respect and tolerance and have great manners when waiting in line and speaking to the Sport Captains – who are there to help;
- The School Captains will follow up and ‘visit’ any students who have not returned equipment at the end of lunchtime.

Irene Harding  - Principal

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**FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

On Friday 12th all students will have the opportunity to participate in the St John Ambulance ‘First Aid in Schools Program’. Last year our Year 6 students attended this program and it was well received by students and staff.

All year levels are currently investigating topics related to their wellbeing, personal safety and developing their resilience; therefore we have booked the program for all year levels.

The knowledge and skills gained in our First Aid in Schools Program will develop First Aid awareness in school children and contribute to building a more resilient community. This learning is age-appropriate and integrates with the AusVELS curriculum. One key element of each program is the DRSABCD Action Plan.


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**SIGN UP NOW FOR MUSIC LESSONS 2016**

Dear Parents and students,

Lessons in Keyboard, Guitar, Drums, Strings Brass and Woodwind are once again available this year. Instruments are available for hire or purchase at discount rates. Families wishing to participate in any of these programs will need to get themselves an enrolment form from the school office, have a parent fill it in and either leave it at the office or post it directly to Online Music Solutions.

Information about the programs may be found on the reverse side of the enrolment forms (also visit www.musiclessonvideos.net).

All families will be directly contacted prior to the lesson commencement date to confirm the lesson time and details.

**Note:** Students from 2015 need to re-enrol to continue in 2016. All enquiries please phone 98746667 or email oms@bigpond.net.au

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**STUDENT BANKING**

Student banking day is **Monday**. Please ensure your deposit slip is completed & the money is secure in the folder. New folders & deposit books available if required.

**CAMP PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5 Camp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deposit ($95) due 17/2/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st instal ($100) due 2/3/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd instal/bal due 16/3/16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**UNIFORM**

Klad Sport, 2/8 Macro Court, Rowville
Ph: 9763 0266

**CANTEN NEWS …**

Canteen is open for lunch orders & recess counter sales every day. Please make sure you use the latest menu (Summer 2015-2016) when ordering. Canteen menus at the office.

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**CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

To apply for the SCEF please come to the school office and request an application form.

- Funding available for holders of a valid means-tested Centrelink Health Care Card, Veteran Affairs Gold Card, Pensioner Concessions Card or foster parents.
- Must provide a copy of your valid card with your completed application form to be eligible. Cards must be valid as at 27th January and/or 11th April 2016.
- Applications for payment in March close 29th February 2016. Applications made after this date will still be accepted up until 3rd June, however payment will not occur until the end of June.

For more information visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef or see Anna in the school office.
WELCOME BACK FOR 2016

from Rhonda Luttrell
Student Wellbeing Officer at Karoo Primary School

I hope you all had a chance to enjoy the Christmas break, and have a rest from the daily routines of work, school and other commitments. We are now into our third week of school, and we are looking forward to an exciting year of growth and learning. I will be organising a number of activities throughout the year. Commencing Thursday 11th February, I will be introducing lunch time activities for Years Prep to 3 called “Friendship Circles”. We will meet at around 1.45 to 2.15pm at various places that will be announced – we will enjoy some fun activities and learning about the importance of friendships. I am also developing a mentor program for girls in Years 5 and 6 which will commence later in the term. More information will follow. Each Thursday, from 9am to 9.30am I will be in the staff room and I invite parents to join me to share together over a cuppa. I would love to meet with you and explain my role here at Karoo PS as the Student Wellbeing Officer, and answer any questions you may have. I will also provide opportunity to share helpful parenting tips to enhance your child’s experiences at school. So come and join me each Thursday at 9am.

Did you know? How things go at home in the morning can set the tone for the day ahead. A predictable and positive morning routine for school can help children arrive at school feeling calm, fed and ready to make the most of the first few hours of the day. (From Raising Children Network) This Thursday I’ll share some helpful hints to get those morning routines flowing smoothly. I look forward to catching up with you all over the year. I work at the school on Monday and Thursday in the Community Centre, 8.30am to 4pm so please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards, Rhonda

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Regards, Rhonda

COMMUNITY NEWS

LYSTERFIELD NETBALL CLUB All Ages – U11’s to U17/ Children from 8 years of age are welcome to play – [modified rules] Registration Day Sunday 14th Feb at Lakesfield Reserve – Lakesfield Drive, Lysterfield from 9am to 11am. Enquiries Kerry Hutchinson 0419 155 343

KNOX LEISUREWORKS—Learn to swim with the best in the industry. Enrol your child today to receive $0 start up fee. Lessons commence 18th January 2016. (Offer ends 15th Feb). Located at Tormore Rd, Boronia. Phone 9762 3133 or email teacher.knox@ymca.org.au or visit www.knox.ymca.org.au for more info.

FERNTREE GULLY EAGLES JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB—Interested in playing football in season 2016? Come and join the Eagles U8s-U17s and girls U12s U15s & U18s. All abilities. For further info please contact Gail on 0400 055 368.

NETBALL VICTORIA—Rock Up Netball: Netball Victoria are running a FREE four week netball program for women at Knox Netball Centre, 9 Dempster St, Ferntree Gully on Mondays 15th, 22nd and 29th Feb and 7th March from 9:30-10:30am. Rock Up Netball (RUN) aims to provide females 15+ with a low cost ‘pay as you play,’ easy and informal opportunity to play netball in an enjoyable environment at the level they desire. To register: www.rockupnetball.com.au or contact 9321 222.

ROWVILLE FOOTBALL CLUB: Junior Registration Day on Sunday 14th February at Eldon Park Club Rooms from 10am-12pm. Registration fees apply. Offering to all new U8s a registration pack valued at $40. For enquiries & info email registrations@rowvillefc.org.au

ST SIMON’S COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB—Invitation to Register! All players welcome U8s-U17s boys and girls. Dedicated girls comp—U12 & U15. Registrations: www.stsimonsknights.org.au Enquiries: Natalie on 0417 346 863 or email admin@stsimonsknights.org.au Information Night: ‘The Knights’ dedicated Junior Girl’s Australian Rules Football on Thursday 18th February 7pm at Stud Park pavilion. Registrations now open—contact Brad at brad22slater@gmail.com or on 0416 325 016 or email stsimonsknights@gmail.com.

Neither Karoo Primary School nor the Department of Education endorses the product or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by Karoo Primary School or Department of Education for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Families who have requested to receive the newsletter by email may still receive a hard copy this week.

MATHLETICS AT KAROO

- For several years now, Karoo has subscribed to an on-line numeracy resource called MATHLETICS. This system of lessons and basic number fact practice sessions are available to all Karoo students both at school and at home.
- Each student has their own unique password which allows them to log in via the Mathletics website www.mathletics.com.au. Classroom teachers are able to individualise activities for student completion and monitor progress through a comprehensive assessment and reporting system.
- It is important that parents ensure that siblings do not access Mathletics through passwords of older or younger brothers or sisters as progress information is recorded and accessed by teachers regularly.
- Research tells us that the more proficient a student is at recalling basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division number facts, the more working memory they have to focus on complex problem solving. Teachers at Karoo have a strong focus in their mathematics lesson on building student capacity in this area.
- Parents wanting to help their children at home are encouraged to make quizzes and friendly competition a natural part of family interaction.
- Our youngest students will benefit from automatic recall of number partners to 10 (e.g. 6 plus what makes 10) whilst our senior students need to know all their tables as well as the reverse division fact (e.g. 3x3=9 and 9÷3=3).
- Learning number facts is developmental and hence why we learn addition facts, then subtraction facts, followed by multiplication facts (tables) and finally division facts.

Please feel welcome to discuss your child’s development in number fact recall with their classroom teacher who will also have some great ideas and resources for use at home.

Mathematics Leadership Team
To acknowledge the contribution and spirit of the work undertaken by school crossing supervisors throughout Victoria an award will be given to a selected school crossing supervisor for their commitment and dedication to the supervision of school crossings.

The recipient of the award should model enthusiasm and successful outcomes.

This award is open to all school crossing supervisors employed in this role stationed at a permanent crossing or a relief school crossing supervisor.

Nominations for the award must be employed as a school crossing supervisor at any Victorian Council who should demonstrate –

- Professional demeanour and presentation (uniform and equipment)
- Working knowledge of road rules relating to school crossings
- Welcoming, caring, supportive and encouraging to all users of the school crossing
- Helpful – Informative and clear on correct use of the crossing
- Involvement in the school community
- Attendance – no time off (other than illness)
- Punctuality

Municipalities and members of the community will be invited to forward nominations for the award. **Nominations will close on Friday May 6, 2016.**

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**School Crossing Supervisor of the Year - Nomination Form**

Name of Nominated person ..............................
Municipality they are employed by..........................................................
School ........................................................................

Person/Organisation nominating ......................................................
Contact email ..........................................................................
Contact phone number ..............................................................
Contact address ........................................................................

The following template must be used for nominations. In 25 words or more please tell us:

Why you believe the nominated person should be awarded the School Crossings Victoria “School Crossing Supervisor of the Year” award.

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Send completed forms via mail or email: info@schoolcrossings.com.au
School Crossings Victoria INC PO BOX 3032 Mornington 3931
For more information visit www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au