**Principal’s Comments**

**School Council 2016**

Congratulations to the following persons who will serving on School Council for 2016-2017. We still have two parent vacancies so please contact me if you are interested.

**Staff**
- Irene Harding
- Leanne Vines
- Deborah Thompson
- Karen Corrales
- Kerry Legg

**Parents**
- Danielle Macleod
- Andrea Haley
- Rebecca Young
- Melanie Hedley
- Sarah Lawler
- Jo Hough
- Simon Cowan
- Andrew Jones

**Year 5 Camp Information Evening—Tonight**

We will be holding an information session about the Year 5 Camp: Melbourne City.

**Time:** Wednesday, 24th February 7 p.m.
**Where:** Year 5 and 6 Learning Common

This year’s Year 5 Camp Program will be held in Melbourne City staying at the top end of Collins Street at CYC in April. Any Year 5 parents wishing to assist on camp please contact Alex Watson or any Year 5 teacher.

**Twilight Sports Carnival**

Karoo will be holding a Twilight Sports Carnival on Wednesday 16th March from 5-7pm. All families are invited to attend—see note overleaf.

**Assembly**

Alan Tudge, the Federal member for Aston, will be at Assembly on Monday 7th March. It will be a whole school assembly and families and friends are welcome.

**Measles Outbreak**

Following the Victorian Chief Health Officer confirming an outbreak of measles in Brunswick and East Brunswick, including cases in a primary school, we have been advised by the Department of Education to alert the school community.

Measles is a contagious viral illness that causes a skin rash and fever. Serious and sometimes fatal complications include pneumonia and encephalitis (brain inflammation). Measles is also known as rubella, not to be confused with rubella (German measles). Worldwide, measles is the fifth highest cause of illness and death in children. Measles is rare in Australia because of the widespread use of the measles vaccine, but the recent outbreak means that it is important to continue immunising children in Australia, because there is a risk that the infection can be brought in by people arriving or returning from overseas. If you have concerns regarding the health of your children, please consult your medical practitioner.

The Department has requested all schools check student enrolment records for immunisation status certificates. Under the **Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008**, schools are required to request an immunisation status certificate for each child at the time of enrolment and to keep this on record.

In the event of a disease outbreak in the school community, immunisation status certificates are used to quickly identify the immunisation status of each child so that guidance issued by the Department of Health and Human Services can be quickly implemented. This may include sending unimmunised or immunocompromised children home until the risk of infection has passed.

We are currently reviewing enrolment records and will send letters home this week to parents/carers who have not provided a certificate. We request your cooperation with ensuring the school has the necessary immunisation status information. Even if a child has not received any immunisations, it is still expected that parents/carers/ guardians provide a certificate from their medical practitioner.

... continued overleaf
International Competition and Assessment for Schools (ICAS)
Karoo is again providing the opportunity for students to sit the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS is organised by the University of New South Wales and allows students in Year 2 to 6 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. The subjects for assessment are Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics.

Further details and permission notes are available from the office. If you wish for your child to participate in one or more of the assessments please note that payment and permission notes are due on **Tuesday 15th March**.

Fiona Marker
ICAS Co-ordinator

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS NEWS

**★ PARENT HELPERS NEEDED ★**

**FOR KAROO CROSS COUNTRY**

To conduct our Cross Country safely and effectively, we need a few parents to help out on the day. If you are able to help out around the course, between 11:30 and 1:30 on Friday March 11th, or the backup day, Friday March 18th, please complete the slip and return it to the office. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Sharon Lee
PE & Sports Co-Ordinator

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**Back to School Asthma Spike**

Every year there is a well documented rise in asthma flare-ups and hospitalisations when students return to school after the Christmas break.

Asthma Australia has information for parents of students with asthma to help them prepare for school. Asthma Australia’s website and social media provide the latest information, including a checklist of what to do to help your child and a survey to complete to determine the impacts for parents/carers.

Asthma Australia recommends that you talk to school staff about your child’s asthma and the school’s medication policy, provide an Asthma Plan from the doctor and supply a spare reliever puffer and spacer for your child’s use at school.

Asthma Kids

Looking for a way to help your child understand more about their asthma or about a friend with asthma? Asthma Kids is an online, interactive tool to help primary school aged children understand what it’s like to have asthma and what they can do to help. Watch one of the introductory videos then take Chester’s Asthma Trail. There are prizes to win too!

www.asthmakids.org.au

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Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2015/2016 School Crossing Supervisor of the Year award.

Pick up a nomination form online at schoolcrossingsvictoria@gmail.com

Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

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Karoo Cross Country

**Student’s form**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Child’s name**

- [ ] I am able to assist with the cross country at one of the checkpoints around the course on 11th March
- [ ] I am also free to assist on backup day of 18th March
LOST PROPERTY
— ROOM 7
Open at the following times:
Before School: Mon & Wed 8:45 - 9am
After School: Mon to Wed 3:30-3:45pm
During School: Mon to Wed 1:30-1:40pm only
(No Visitors during class time please!)

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS
FERNTREE GULLY FOOTBALL—AUSKICK: Held at Picketts Reserve, Cnr Burwood Hwy & Commercial Road, Ferntree Gully. We run two clinics - Friday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm and Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:30am. Auskick is a great way for children aged from 5yrs to develop not only AFL skills but to develop life-skills such as social/team participation, cooperation, independence, patience and respect for others. It is a great opportunity for children and their families to create friendships and be part of their wider local community. For more info contact Nicole Mills or Tess Woods on 0412 416 416.

DANDENONG BASEBALL CLUB—Looking for something different … why not Baseball? No experience required. T-Ball (5-8yrs), U11 (8-10yrs), U13 (11-12yrs), U15 (13-14yrs) and U17 (15-16yrs). Come and try at Dandenong Baseball Club, Robert Booth Reserve, Clow St, Dandenong on Saturday 5th, 12th and 19th March from 9-11am. Free BBQ. Contact Gillian Gavin on 0412 553 951.

WAVERLEY VICTORY FOOTBALL CLUB—Want to play soccer in 2016? Looking for players—U10/12yr girls (training Tue & Thurs 5:30-6:30pm), U14yr girls & U13yr boys (training Tue & Thurs 6:30-8pm). Games played Sunday mornings. Contact Darren on 0403 258 441, visit waverleyvictory.com.au or email secretary@waverleyvictory.com.au.

UNIFORM
Klad Sport, 8 Macro Court, Rowville Ph: 9763 0266
Open: Monday - Friday : 8:30am-4:30pm Saturday: 9:00am-1:00pm Uniform List available from office.

CANTEEN 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.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
To apply for the CSEF please come in 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 Concession 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.
Knox Festival 2016 Treasure Hunt

In a first of its kind for Knox Festival and complimenting this year’s Hidden Treasures theme, comes an idea for the very youngest in our community - a giant Treasure Hunt.

Every Pre-school, Primary School, Council Childcare Centres and Community House in Knox is invited to participate in the largest treasure hunt the municipality has ever seen.

The Treasure hunt will be hosted across the Festival site and will be open to participants to complete at their leisure throughout both days.

Treasure Hunt clue sheets/ entry forms can be collected at the festival site; at the gates or in the beach area and will need to be completed and returned to the treasure chest in the beach area before exiting the site.

Post festival all submissions will be assessed and eligible participants will go into the draw for a prize. Each entry will be asked to also nominate a school/ pre-school/ Council Childcare Centre or Community House, the most nominations for 1 of these groups will also be eligible for a prize.

Any questions please contact the Kareena Johnson, Knox City Council’s Festival & Events Administrations Officer on 03 9298 8310 or at Kareena.johnson@knox.vic.gov.au