**Principal’s chat**

This morning we celebrated Father’s Day with a delicious breakfast. Kylie and her gang of helpers did a great job cooking sausages, bacon, toast and eggs for our dads and special visitors. A big thanks to everyone who helped out, the breakfast was a big hit!

Over the past six months, our Grade 5 and 6 students have been working with Kids Thrive which is Melbourne’s leading arts and community development organisation dedicated to nourishing children’s passion and capacity to lead positive social change. Students have been very busy putting their community philanthropy projects into action. This Friday 9th September, from 10:30am to 12:30pm, at the Maldon Community Centre we will be joining with Baringup and Tarnagulla Primary Schools to take part in an expo that will showcase all the student projects. Parents, community members and our community partners are invited to come along and share in the children’s stories about connecting, co-designing and leading change within their communities.

Our school concert is fast approaching with less than two weeks to go before the big event. Mary, students and staff are working hard to ensure that everything is in place and organised for the event on Thursday 15th September. A note has been sent home today in regards to what your child will need to wear for the concert. If you need any assistance with the costume then please let your child’s teacher know. Also if you are available to help out prior to and/or on the day then please let your child’s teacher know.

Last week our grade 1 and 2 students travelled to Boomerang Ranch. Our grade 1s spent the day and our grade 2s stayed overnight. They all had a great time and horse riding and minigolf were the highlights for most children. Here are some of their thoughts:

**Digby**– At the start of the day we went for a horse ride. We got to do it twice. I enjoyed mini golf because I got a hole in one.

**Maddy**– The horse riding was really fun because I got to ride the biggest horse. At minigolf I got the ball in the hole on the hardest level. It was really fun because I got to sleep on the top bunk.

**Phinny**– I liked sleeping over with my friends because we got to talk to each other for a bit. I enjoyed the night walk.
It was scary.
Ethan- We went horse riding. At the very end the man let go of my rope and the horse walked by itself. I liked playing table tennis.
Jack- I enjoyed horse riding. My horse was trotting more than the other horses. The food was amazing and delicious.
Zavier- My favourite part of Boomerang Ranch was staying in a camp and reading my book. I also liked the games room and playing table tennis. I liked playing mini golf.

This Wednesday all staff will be working with Lyn Watts to plan, prepare and to continue to build their knowledge, expertise and teaching skills. This is to ensure that we are continuing to work towards improving student outcomes and providing best practice education programs across the school that cater to the needs of all students. Staff will spend half a day each team planning with Lyn and Liz.

On Wednesday we are having an information and enrolment session for our after school care program that will be commencing on day one of term 4. Educators form Mt Alexander Family Day Care will be available from 3:00pm on Wednesday, out the front of the school, to answer any questions and to provide enrolment details. It is important to remember that we only have seven places available each day, so make sure that you come along to secure a place. Interest has been very high and some days are very popular!!

Finally, a very big congratulations to Himal and his family on the arrival of a baby son and brother, Jack.

Warm regards
Jodie

What’s happening this week?

- Alisa and John will be attending a Professional Development day on Tuesday and will be replaced by Kellie and Jennifer

Fundraising news

Market Day: Well it’s that time of year again where we start to hassle everyone to help with Market Day…sorry if you get sick of it, and me, but it is our biggest fundraising day and we really need to keep the extra dollars coming in.
This year, in an effort to try and cut the number of volunteers down and also the amount of time volunteers need to give, we propose the following for market day:

Food
School run:
*Sausage Sizzle including a bacon and egg sandwich for the morning
*Cake stall – goods donated by parents/school community
*Drinks – Bryan (Hugh’s Dad – grade 1) has kindly offered to sell drinks on behalf of the school on his juice stall

Food Vans:
*Every year we have a coffee and ice-cream van – they have both confirmed that they will be here again this year.
*We will ask three more food vans to attend – all different foods and they will pay extra for their sites

Raffle
We will again run our annual raffle with voucher prizes. First prize is a $300 Coles/Myer voucher, second prize is a $200 JB Hifi voucher and third prize is a $100 Village Cinema voucher.
Entertainment
The Folk Festival will again supply us with three lots of musical entertainment for the main stage plus a balloonologist. Our poetry students will also perform.

Kids entertainment
*The jumping castle is booked and confirmed along with fairy floss
*Face painting

We are currently researching more kids entertainment – giant slides, inflatable soccer, train rides, reptiles, native animals etc. Any ideas, things you have seen and loved or people you know please put your suggestion forward to myself or the office.

Currently our market day working group is made up solely of the School Council workshop group – Jodie, Deb, Anita and myself. If anyone else would like to help out organising Market Day it would be greatly appreciated and there are a variety of jobs on offer such as organising the food, running the raffle, organising the cake stall, booking things such as marquees, cleaners, electricians etc. Please remember that many hands make light work. If you have an idea or would like to run a stall or contribute please let Deb in the office know.

We are really looking forward to a fantastic Market Day this year to raise funds for new furniture for our freshly renovated rooms. Hope you can all join us in putting it together and helping out on the day.

Cheers Nicole - on behalf of School Council

School community

Stop Press: Health and Wellbeing Group

The Health and Wellbeing Group will be reconvening in Term 4. This committee was first formed as the Healthy Eating Committee, which worked primarily on policies and procedures to do with healthy eating and oral health. Through that committee the school was registered with the Achievement Program, under Healthy Together Victoria. **Liza Shaw (from Castlemaine District Health)** is happy to come to the meetings and support us with ideas and resources. We will work on the mental health and wellbeing aspect of the Achievement Program – looking at benchmarks and seeing what we can do to support our school community.

At this stage, the meetings will be on Wednesday or Thursday, but we have not decided on a time. Please email me on grainger.elizabeth.a@edumail.vic.gov.au with a time that would suit you. You are all welcome.

Mt Alexander Family Day Care

Enrolment and Information Visit
For families interested in **Outside Of school Hours Care** @ Maldon Primary school

**Wednesday 7th September**
3pm to 3.45pm

Fresh Fruit Friday:
**This week's volunteers:** Patricia Gilbert and Shelley Carmichael

**Next week's volunteers:** Anita Mason and Nicole Funston
School concert Thursday 15th September: A reminder that admission for this year’s concert will be $5 for adults with children under 18 admitted free of charge. All families are asked to bring a plate of food to share after the evening concert.

NAPLAN results for Grades 3 and 5: If you would like a copy of your child’s 2016 NAPLAN results then please make an appointment time with your child’s teacher.

What’s happening in the classroom?

Whole school behaviour this week: I make the most of every moment and keep a positive attitude

Young leaders:

Young Leaders Friday FUNdraiser
Please leave orders with your classroom teacher.

Available each Friday are: Homemade Sausage rolls $2.50, Juice Box $1.50, Popcorn $1.00

Office info

2017 enrolments: A reminder that if you have a child commencing in Prep in 2017 we would appreciate it if you could complete and return their enrolment papers as soon as possible.

Permission notes and payments to be returned:

- Payment for Grade 5 and 6 Preparation for Puberty and Grade 1 camp and Grade 2 experience day is overdue and payment must be made immediately.

Extra curricula catch up

5/6 Landcare excursion:

Boomerang camp photos (with lots more on the website):
Buda Harvest dinner: Well done to Reuben and Jacob on participating in the preparation, cooking and serving of the Buda Harvest dinner on Friday night. They utilised yummy veggies and herbs from our garden and served the meal to their parents and the many other guests in attendance. In return they received a $50 ASQ gift voucher which will be used to purchase goods for our developing garden area.

Thank you

- To Pearl from Cedar Cottage Nursery for her donation of trees for our garden.
- To Marvic and Jess for their continuing work in developing our vegetable garden and surrounds. The area is looking fantastic so please take the time to walk over and have a look.

Craft, Sewing and Stitching Fun for Children 6 to 14 years

September Holiday Classes

Arty Crafty Fun (6-9 years)
Sat 17/9 Sun Catchers, Mon 19/9 Branch Weaving, Wed 21/9 O & X Game 3.30-5pm

Learn to Hand Sew (6-9 years)
Wed 21/9 Basic Stitches Sampler 10-11.30am

Learn Machine Sewing (10-14 years)
Tues 20/9 Make a bag from a pair of jeans 4-6pm

Craft Fun (10-14 years) Wed 21/9
Weaving on a simple loom 1-3pm

Learn to Hand Sew (10-14 years)
Thurs 22/9 Stitched Felt Cushion 4-6pm

Weekly Classes Starting Term 4

Fun Crafty Afternoons 6 - 9 years Thursday 4 to 5.30pm

Learn to Sew 10-14 years Wednesdays 4 to 5.30pm

Learn to Sew Clothing 11 -15 years

Learn to Sew Beginners 14+ years Wednesday 7 to 9pm

Learn to Sew Basics 14+ years Thursday 7 to 9pm

Contact Kathryn on 0438 254 650 or kathryn@merakicottage for more details.

Adult classes also available. https://www.facebook.com/merakicottage/
Community continued

Castlemaine Children’s Literature Festival turns 6!

We are celebrating with a mini-festival, A Series of Fortunate Events.

Workshops, activities and performances for children aged 2-14 years.

First week of the September school holidays.

Please visit the website for event information and tickets - booking early is strongly encouraged!

www.literaturefestival.com.au