Important Dates to Note—Term 1, 2017

Thursday 16th February

Welcome Picnic 6pm -7.30pm

Monday 20th February
First Aid for students

Tuesday 21st February
Information Night P-2
Prep 6pm—6.45pm
1/2 6.45pm—7.30pm

Wednesday 22nd February
Information Night 3-6
3/4 6pm—6.45pm
5/6 6.45pm—7.30pm

Wednesday 22nd February
School Council Nominations close 4pm

Monday 27th February—Wednesday 1st March
5/6 Camp Waratah Bay

Students of the Week

Lou Morrow Prep
Lauchlen D
Sarah Britton Prep
Maeve D
Vanessa Kelly 1/2A
Jimmy L
Chay Baker 1/2B
Tarsh P
Figen Mustafa 1/2C
Chirag P
Nicky Grujovski 3/4A
Olia P
Linda Salerno/Sue Gavin 3/4B
Bailey H
Tegan Veitch 5/6A
Aryan Y
Erika Hopcraft 5/6B
Angela M
Val Plastow - PE
Thomas S
Candice Vanzin - Italian
Sobhan F
Karen Rush - Principal
Elnaz M
Greetings ...

Students and staff have made a great start to the year! Our 41 preps have settled in magnificently and are now confidently exploring the playgrounds and making new friends. It is a significant and exciting time for these students. As families you will see so many changes as your child grows in age, size and maturity and develops their interests over the school years. We support them as they develop into emerging and independent thinkers with curious minds and keen and successful learners.

We are very proud of the way they have settled into school helped along by their experiences from Kinder, their participation in the school’s Transition Program, their dedicated older buddies from Grade 5 and 6, their very proud and supportive families, and our excellent Prep teachers, Ms Lou and Ms Sarah.

We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure they positively contribute to their own learning and fulfil their potential. I’m looking forward to learning all new students’ names!

Great Behaviour
This year we are continuing with our ‘catching kids doing great things’ in the break times. All teachers on duty have raffle tickets that they give out to students demonstrating our school values – respect, resilience, and love of learning. At Monday morning assembly we draw one of the week’s tickets out of the bucket and the winner gets to choose an item to keep from our Great Behaviour Box.

School Council - Notice of Election and call for nominations
There are 4 parent vacancies and one DET vacancy for the period March 2017 – March 2019.

There are five School Councillors whose term of office is expiring this year. I would like to thank these members for their contribution to Council:

Parent Category
- Jodie Williams – for her work with the fundraising sub-committee, and Secretary role
- Rachel Francis – for her work with the fundraising sub-committee, and Treasurer role
- Warwick Smith – for his work with the Finance and Buildings and Grounds sub-committees, and for his role as School Council President
- Justine Ellis – for her work with the Finance sub-committee

DET Employee Category
- Sue Gavin – for her work with Buildings and Grounds

Would you like to be a member of our school council?
* Nomination forms may be obtained from the Principal and must be lodged by 4pm on **Wednesday 22 February**
* The list of candidates will be posted in the school newsletter on Thursday 23 February
* Ballot papers, if required, will be distributed on Wednesday 1 March
* The ballot, if required, will close at 4pm on Wednesday 8 March
* The results of the ballot will be announced in the newsletter on Thursday 9 March

At Reservoir Views Primary School we value:

**Love of Learning ~ Resilience ~ Respect**
If the calling for nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at school.

First scheduled new School Council meeting to elect office bearers and discuss school matters will be Wednesday 15 March at 7pm

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Sue Gavin or myself.

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the School Council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

1. A mandated elected parent category
   More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be parent members at their child’s school.

2. A mandated elected DET employee category
   Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

3. An optional community member category
   Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual School Council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections which are held in February – March each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this you might consider:

* Standing for election as a member of School Council
* Encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on School Council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
If you decide to stand for election, you will need to nominate in either the parent or DET category. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

At Reservoir Views Primary School we value:

Love of Learning ~ Resilience ~ Respect
If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies, on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

**Parent Information Sessions**

**Tuesday 21 February**

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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>6.00 – 6.45</td>
<td>In Prep Learning Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1-2</td>
<td>6.45 – 7.30</td>
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<td>6.45 – 7.30</td>
<td>In 5-6 Learning Area</td>
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**Grounds Improvements**
During the summer break, parts of the school grounds have seen some repairs and new developments.

*Basketball Towers*
You may have noticed the new basketball towers and nets that have been installed on the basketball court. The courts area and St Vigeons Rd entrance are surfaced in asphalt which is now in a poor state so I am seeking quotations on repairing the area (cracks and dips) and resurfacing in a hard-wearing artificial surface. This will be a major cost to the school and therefore could be a focus for our fundraising efforts in 2017.

*Community Garden*
Paving of the garden area adjacent to Building B is due to be completed this week, and Bunnings will provide some support through supplying some building materials for the garden boxes. It’s looking absolutely lovely and I encourage you to head over and check it out.

During the holidays Building B was flooded after that severe rain on 29 December. Investigations into how the water entered the building are ongoing and it appears that it may be to do with the stormwater plumbing. I am hopeful that the reason is identified this Friday with a CCTV camera investigation occurring.

Warm Regards,
Karen

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Instrumental Music Classes**
Lessons have started with Angela and Cedric providing guitar, keyboard, and singing lessons.
If you are interested in your child learning an instrument, pick up a flyer from the display area in the office.
Supported Playgroup
Darebin City Council operates a supported playgroup here at Reservoir Views Primary School every Monday afternoon from 1.00pm – 3.00pm.

Supported playgroups are aimed at parents/carers and children aged from birth to four years. They are operated by a trained facilitator who presents ‘smalltalk’ content which covers some parenting essentials that includes:

- Tuning into children
- Listening and talking more
- Shared reading

The playgroups are an opportunity for children to play with other children and parents/carers can meet other local families, while learning strategies to help their child’s early learning.

If you are interested and would like more information and to find out if you would meet the eligibility criteria email early.years@darebin.vic.gov.au or call the Families, Diversity and Community team on 8470 8920.

Dear Parents,

Please do not forget to return the blue Family Contact Information form, and the yellow Medical Information form, we do require these forms to be filled out even if your information is the same, thank you to all the families that have already returned them.

Also if you hold a current Heath Care Card, please do not forget to apply for the CSEF. Forms can be collected from the office.

Financial statements were also posted home, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Jacqui and Helen
We are SunSmart - a note for families

Too much UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Overexposure to UV during childhood and adolescence is a major factor for future skin cancer risk.

You can’t see or feel the sun’s UV so don’t be fooled. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it’s important to Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide!

Our school aims to protect children and staff from too much UV to help minimise future skin cancer risk. We are a registered member of the Cancer Council Victoria’s SunSmart Program. Please help support our SunSmart membership by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures included in our policy.

During the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are three and above), use these 5 SunSmart steps – even if it’s cool and cloudy.

1. Slip on a shirt - for free dress days, ensure your child wears clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.

2. Slop on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen - apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and make sure children have sunscreen in their bag ready to be reapplied throughout the day. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours. Please ensure they get plenty of sunscreen application practice at home so they’ll be all set when they are at school.

3. Slap on a hat – one that protects the face, neck and ears such as a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat. Peak caps do not offer enough protection and are not recommended by SunSmart. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved hat.

4. Seek shade – choose shady spots for play whenever possible.

5. Slide on some sunglasses - if practical and approved by the school. Make sure they are labelled AS 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Sun protection times

Don’t just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available from the SunSmart widget on our school website, in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au and as a free SunSmart app. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.

Further information contact SunSmart
P: 03 9514 6419
E: sunsmart@cancervic.org.au
W: sunsmart.com.au
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