**Key Dates...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February</td>
<td>Parent Rep meeting- Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>School Council and Sub Committees (Finance @ 5.15pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>Grade 2,3,4 Swimming commences (21 Feb – 4 March – not Wednesdays)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Council – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Unit Information night / Picnic (after school hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>Swimming trials for district carnival (grade 4,5,6) 7.45am Queens Park Pool (notes home later this week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Student Interviews (after school hours up to 7.30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Young Leaders Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly- Oval (weather permitting)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival 9-1pm @ Queen’s Park Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Parent Rep Meeting- Special Lunch Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-25 March</td>
<td>School Camp Lorne (grade 5/6 Mon-Wed, grade 3/4 Wed-Fri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Finance Sub Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>School Council – 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>AVPS Open Day &amp; Olden Day Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>125th/ School Reunion Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1- Early dismissal 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 27 April</strong></td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 1 May</td>
<td>Working Bee- 10 – 12 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>Prep 2012 Parent Information Evening</td>
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From The Principal

Michael and I are feeling that the term has begun well with classes settling into their routines and new timetables. I'd like to thank all the staff for the work they have put into establishing their Units and discussing their expectations around behaviour and work in classes with the children. Art and PE lessons are also off and running- thankyou Lucy and Michael. LOTE began yesterday with Assunta. For the first time, Emma Latina will be working in some of these classes with Assunta. This year Emma is working as a Teacher Aide at the school and not as a classroom Integration Aide as she has done in previous years. We are planning to provide the older students particularly, with another person in the room who can speak Italian. This is in direct response to student feedback to us. They have requested more oral language opportunities in Italian classes and I am hoping this arrangement improves their LOTE achievement levels overall. Emma’s other tasks relate to removing some of the administrative jobs from the teacher’s day to allow them more time to focus on curriculum planning and assessment when they are not teaching. We are trialling this position in 2011 as a result of our involvement in the Department’s Workforce Reform project in 2010. As the term proceeds we will also advertise and fill a part-time Learning Partnerships Manager position to support outreach into the community and the Learning Studio operation.

The Units are currently selecting their Student Representative Council (SRC) members and that group will meet shortly with Joanna. Michael will be taking 11 Year 5 or 6 students to the Young Leaders Conference in the city on 4 March and this key group of students and the SRC will form the student governance group for 2011. I look forward to working with them all throughout the year.

Well done to our new Preps!
Joanne Roberts - Principal
roberts.joanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

From The Assistant Principal

Play for Life – Join a sporting club website We all know that physical activity is important for healthy growth and development of our children. Joining a club sport adds a new dimension—it helps develop valuable life skills such as co-operation, discipline, respect and tolerance.

Play for life...join a sporting club is all about the benefits of children and families participating in club sports.

You can use the club finder to help connect you with sporting clubs in your area. Simply select your state and the sport you are interested in and then click Search. Links to relevant websites will appear on your screen.
http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/find_a_sporting_club

Walking School Bus (WSB)
If you may be interested in using the WSB or require more information, please contact:
Wai Ying Tham
thampoter@bigpond.com
0412023688 or 93842448

Asthma Action Plans – reminder
A reminder to parents that all students with ASTHMA MUST present an updated action plan every school year. A blank copy of an action plan can also be found online at:
http://www.asthma.org.au/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=xCKX2g9EAc%3d&tabid=94 Please update these plans now. Thankyou to the families who have done this already.

Happy Birthday this week to:
Lennie U1, Rory U2, Kyra U4,
Will U2, Cosima U4, Joanna U3.

Happy Birthday last week to:
Maisie U4, Rosie U2, Llora U4, I Lorenzo U4, Coco U2.

Birthdays celebrated over the summer holidays:
Abbey U4, Tika U2, Immanuel U4, Sophie U3, Max U3, Zach U1, Emma U4, Philip U4, Aisha U1, Hannah U1, Johanna U3, Ella-Carmen U4, Holly U4, Isabella U3, Sophie U4, Monty U2, Steve U4, Michelle U1, Niah U2, Lochie U2, Hannah U1.

Enjoy your week.
Michael Downing – Assistant Principal
downing.michael.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Education Maintenance Allowance

Eligibility
The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to parents of eligible students under 16 years of age, and the student is enrolled a Government or non-Government School in Victoria on census day, 28 February 2011 for instalment 1 and 5 August 2011 for the second instalment.

The Education Maintenance Allowance will be paid in two instalments and to be eligible you must on the first day of 1st Term (1 February 2011) for the
first instalment and on the first day of 3rd Term (18 July 2011) for the second instalment:

(a) be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, OR
(b) be a Veteran Affairs Pensioner (TPI), OR
(c) be a foster parent.
(d) submit your application to the school by the date/s listed below.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance (formerly known as Child Disability Allowance), Mobility Allowance, Remote Area Allowance or any other benefit not income tested by Centrelink are not eligible for the EMA unless they also comply with one of (a) (b) or (c) above.

Submission dates
The application form must be lodged at the school by:
28 February 2011 for the first instalment or 5 August 2011 for the second instalment.

No late submissions will be accepted.

Should you be eligible, please collect your form from the school office and return on or before 28th February 2011.

School Motto
School Council is canvassing the school community around the development of a school motto. Please pin your suggestion(s) to the board in the main corridor for others to read and consider. It is not an easy task but please give it some thought and we’ll see where it takes us. Joanne

School Council (7 pm) and subcommittees (6 pm) meet this Monday 21 February. Visitors/observers always welcome, especially parents wishing to nominate as a member. Closing date for 2011 School Council nominations is 7 March. More information will be in next week’s newsletter.

Unit Parent Representatives 2011
At AVPS we strive to involve families as much as possible. You have an opportunity to join the Parent Rep group for 2011. It is most ideal to have at least 2 parent reps per unit. Our Parent Representatives play an important role in our school providing a link between the parent body, the teachers, Principal, Assistant Principal and the School Council.

The Parent Representatives assist teachers with their programs and classroom activities. It’s also a great opportunity to get to know other parents, new and old. We meet monthly on a Friday for approximately 1 hour. If you are interested in being a parent rep for your child’s unit please come to the 1st meeting on Friday 18/2/11 in the staffroom 9am.

If you are unable to attend but are interested please contact Danielle Paea. We look forward to seeing as many parents present as possible.

Danielle Paea dpaea@optusnet.com.au 0423271868

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Every Friday fresh fruit is available for the children and delivered to their unit. The fruit is provided free of charge through the generosity of the State Government Grant. This program is kindly coordinated by Linda Nunn – mother of Barnaby U4.

Linda kindly volunteers her time every Friday to ensure the children receive their fresh fruit. For this program to continue we need parental assistance cutting up the fruit and delivering it to the units.

More hands make less work so the more helpers available on Friday mornings the better. So feel free to head to the school canteen after drop off on Friday mornings (15mins is all it takes). To ensure we have helpers each week we ask that at 2 - 4 parents from each of the units below attend to help cut up and deliver fruit on the days listed.

UNIT 1 FEBRUARY 18th & 25th
UNIT 3 MARCH 4th & 11th
UNIT 4 MARCH 18th & 25th
UNIT 5 APRIL 1st & 8th
UNIT 2 APRIL 29th & MAY 6th

Thank you again for your assistance. We look forward to your help.

FUNDRAISING

With the new year begun, it is time to start planning and organising the fundraising events for 2011. The fundraising team are a fun, enthusiastic group but we need more helpers. With busy lifestyles we know time is precious so in more recent times we have had some parents choose 1 or 2 activities to be
involved in coordinating throughout the year, rather than taking on everything for the whole year. This has worked extremely well.

The more people we have more ideas we have and the more successful AVPS fundraising can be in 2011. So please come along with your interest and ideas to the staffroom on Thursday 17/2/11 3pm.

If you are unable to attend but are interested please contact Danielle Paea. We look forward to seeing some Fundraising Volunteers.

Danielle Paea  dpaea@optusnet.com.au
0423271868

**Family Picnic/ Info Night**
BYO own rugs and food to join other families in a relaxing meal. Throughout the evening each Unit will hold an information session for parents to hear about classroom organisation and programs. Please join us if you can.
Information sessions will run as follows:
Unit 1  5.00 – 5.25 pm
Unit 2 & Unit 4  5.30 – 5.55 pm
Unit 3  6.00 – 6.25 pm
Unit 5  6.30 – 7.00 pm

**Parent Teacher Interviews**
The first parent teacher meetings for the year will take place on Wednesday 2 March. Booking sheets will come home shortly for you to make an appointment with your child’s teacher. This meeting is the time to share information between home and school and to be involved in setting new learning goals for your child. If you have not returned the parent feedback sheet related to learning goals that went out with end of year reports, completing it now and bringing it with you to an interview may focus the discussion helpfully. All children are expected to attend these interviews with their parents and to be involved as much as possible.

**YOGA classes Tuesdays after school**
Would you like to join interested staff after school on Tuesdays (4-5pm) for yoga classes? Anna Emery teaches Hatha yoga in the space between Units 4 and 5 each week. Cost: $13.00/class (casual rate) or $100.00/ term (10 classes). BYO own mat or rug.

**Flemington Junior Football Club**
We are part of the Kensington Flemington Junior Sports Club and are based at Holland Park in Kensington. Our club conducts North Melbourne

Flemington Junior Football Club

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Flemington Junior Football Club

Auskick. Registration is open for the 2011 season for U9, U10, U12, U14 & U16 age groups. Come along to Holland Park on Sunday 27th February between 10am and 12 to register or phone for details. Jeremy Kruisheer Mob: 0488 594 574 or Rob Moore Mob: 0403 659 659  www.kenflemjuniors.com

**AVPS School Reunion 1 -2 April**
The planning committee met earlier this week and we are putting out requests for the following support:

1. Do you have an interest in photography and would you be prepared to operate our ‘Photography Booth’? 1 April will be a dress up day for the children and staff and, as a fundraiser, photos will be taken as requested. Visitors to the school might also like old photos scanned or group photos of friends etc... taken as part of the celebration.

2. Are you a street performer or balloon artist? We are hoping to have some roving entertainment and balloon sales throughout the Fair. Do you know any musicians, band, comedians etc... who might consider performing at the reunion dinner?

3. Are you in touch with any past parents, students or teachers? If so, please let them know about this event and let us know if one of them would be interested in being interviewed by the local paper to provide a story to accompany our advertisement for the reunion. Do you know any elderly, musical or famous past AVPS community members who might assist here?

Please let the office know if you can help out with any of these requests or catch Joanne or Michael in the yard before or after school. The next meeting of the committee is Monday 28 February, 3.45 pm (in the staffroom).

Contact the office next week to collect a registration form if you intend coming to the 2 April Reunion dinner. This will help us plan the catering. (This is an adult- only event.) A program of events and costs will be available shortly.
**OSHC News This Week**

'we make kids smile'

Hello everyone, it is absolutely wonderful to see everyone after a very long break. Everyone seems to have had a good holiday. We welcome all our OSHC children and families back and also a special welcome to our very many new OSHC children and their families. I’ve met most of them and they are a delightful bunch of kids and I am ever so excited to have them in our program.

In spite of the few sad things that happened during the holidays such as the floods in Queensland and cyclone Yasi and even loosing the Ashes and the Asia Cup soccer, I am sure the rest of the year will turn out fine.

Until such time all our young Preps are very sure of themselves as to the routine of the OSHC. My staff and I will be vigilant and we will make sure that they are happy and safe at all times.

This year too, the “Sun Smart Policy” will be very strictly adhered to so please help us by making sure your child’s hat is in their schoolbag every day.

As for the activities of OSHC, almost all the activities will continue this year too: Indoor and outdoor games, Incursions, regular cooking lessons, craft activities, guest speakers and celebrating birthdays and festivals etc...

We have approved After School Care funding and I will inform you in due course about these activities. Once again, it will be twice every week.

Welcome again to all our OSHC kids and parents.

Tom, Sean and I wish you all a fantastic 2011.

Dee and the OSHC Team.

Monday- Yard Games
Tuesday- Scratch Art
Wednesday- Cooking Scones
Thursday – A cricket match
Friday – Percussion Band/ Dress Ups.

Please make note of our OSHC telephone number, 0423 795 247. For all future bookings, account changes or to view your statement please go to www.campaaustralia.com.au

Please note: the Newsletter cannot be emailed to families until Janet returns from sick leave.

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**After School TENNIS**

**Program 2011.**

When: Wednesday 3.45pm till 4.30pm.

Dates: 16th Feb till 23rd March = 6 weeks

The programme is recommended for Grades 1 to 4.

If there are any questions you can call Martine Baillon on 0416 038 432 (parent of Phoebe in Unit 1).

Cost: $54.00

Registration: Name: ________________________________

Unit No:________Money Enclosed

$………………cash/cheque.

Parents name & Phone Number:_________________________

Lessons are conducted under the Instruction of Mr Peter Hubble (Buckley Park Tennis Club).

**Uniform Shop**

To order online, use the PSW website, www.psw.com.au and follow the prompts. The PSW shop in Deer Park is located at 58 Westwood Drive, Deer Park. Telephone: 9363 8458. Opening Hours are Monday-Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm, Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm.