ASCOT NEWS
23rd February, 2011
Volume 1, Issue 3
Website: www.avps.vic.edu.au
Newsletters are available online
www.twitter.com/AscotValePS
Ph: 9370 6507    Fax: 9370 5150

Key Dates...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Unit Information night / Picnic (after school hours)</td>
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<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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<td>2 March</td>
<td>Student Interviews (after school hours up to 7.30pm)</td>
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<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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<td>14 March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>18 March</td>
<td>Parent Rep Meeting- Special Lunch Day</td>
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<td>21-25 March</td>
<td>School Camp Lorne (grade 5/6 Mon-Wed, grade 3/4 Wed-Fri)</td>
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<td>24 March</td>
<td>Finance Sub Committee</td>
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<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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<td>4 May</td>
<td>Prep 2012 Parent Information Evening</td>
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From The Principal

It was exciting to see the frame of the new building being erected this week. We can now see the full size and scope of the Music Pavilion and the Community Room. The braces for the outside shade sails have also been installed and we should see the sails go up shortly around our building project. I have been told the Learning Studio refurbishment is still on track timewise and a handover is expected around the long weekend in March. Classroom nooks were further delayed due to communication breakdowns in the Mildura area but staircases have been installed in the three classroom locations and that work is now underway. It is becoming increasingly difficult to keep the grounds tidy and clear but as soon as it is practicable we will announce an extra Working Bee to do some major sweeping and weeding. I’m hoping many families will be able to help us tidy our yard for 1-2 April celebrations.

The last meeting of the 2010 School Council was held on Monday evening. I sincerely thank all retiring Councillors for their past involvement and commitment to this work. Please note the School Council notice in this newsletter as it details the timeline for the election of the 2011 School Council. No prior experience is required to put forward or accept a nomination as a parent representative on School Council. Therefore, I am hoping that the first meeting to be held on Monday 28 March at 7 pm will be fully attended. I am able to support any new members with written information, helpful websites and even a workshop/induction program if necessary and requested.

Thank you everyone for your understanding and patience in the office over recent weeks. With Lola only able to work part-time and without Department computer access fully operational until recently, there have been delays with receipting etc... Emma and Christina have assisted us greatly so another thank you to them as well. Janet is reporting that her heel is improving slowly and that the swelling has reduced significantly lately. She is not experiencing any pain at the moment but she is not allowed to put any weight onto her foot as yet. A visit to the doctor tomorrow will give her more information about her recovery timeline.

Please return the booking sheets for the Parent Teacher interviews next Wednesday and I hope I get to chat to many families tonight at the picnic and Unit Information sessions.

Joanne Roberts - Principal
roberts.joanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

From The Assistant Principal

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=xcKXZgX9EAc%3d&amp;tabid=94 Please update these plans now. Thank you to the families who have done this already.

Celebrating Birthdays

Birthdays are special events for young children. At AVPS we have guidelines for parents about how we can celebrate student birthdays, including bringing items to celebrate your child’s birthday at school as well as considering student allergies when sharing food. Some students have serious nut allergies so we would prefer them left out of baked goods. Please also note our concerns about sticks on lollipops within our guidelines. These guidelines can be viewed at http://www.avps.vic.edu.au/documents/CELEBRATING_BIRTHDAYS.pdf

Happy Birthday this week to:

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

Education Maintenance Allowance

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.

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

Please note the no late submissions will be accepted.

2011 School Council Election

Each year half the School Councillors term of office ends and their positions are open for re-election or new membership. School Council positions are for two years and at AVPS we have a 12 member Council (8 parent reps and 4 staff reps). The Principal is the executive officer of School Council.
We currently are calling for parent nominations to fill vacancies. Two one year casual vacancies are also available as we have an ongoing School Councillor overseas for 2011 and another has resigned as the family has moved out of the area.

The closing date for 2011 School Council nominations is 7 March at 4 pm. I have included a parent nomination and a parent self nomination form with this newsletter for your use. Completed forms need to be handed in at the office. Please see me or Michael in the yard or give the school a call if you would like more information about taking on this role. Should we require an election, we will follow this timeline:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>21 February 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>7 March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>The date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be displayed</td>
<td>9 March 2011</td>
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<td>The date by which the ballot papers will be distributed</td>
<td>15 March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Close of ballot</td>
<td>23 March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote Count</td>
<td>24 March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Declaration of ballot</td>
<td>25 March 2011</td>
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<td>Tentative first Council meeting to appoint Community Members (the Principal will preside)</td>
<td>28 March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tentative second Council meeting to elect office bearers (the Principal will preside)</td>
<td>28 March 2011</td>
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Parent Teacher Interviews

The first parent teacher meetings for the year will take place on Wednesday 2 March. 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.

Writing @ AVPS

This week’s writing sample is composed by Lilly & Liam, from U2.

Both students have just started Gr.1, and both have demonstrated sound knowledge of writing conventions, although at different levels of development. Lilly & Liam are in control of the message they wish to convey, and the mechanics with which to do so. Lilly & Liam were able to read their stories to Lucy who in turn would choose an appropriate teaching point for each student. Marg

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

Fundraising update

Last year, with the help of the whole school community, our fundraising team raised over $13,000 for AVPS. Those funds make a major difference to our school – and to our kids. The money has been spent on a range of school needs, including:

- Maths resources
- Book awards
- Blinds for Units 4 and 5, and
- Air conditioning for Unit 2/6.

This year, we’re hoping to allocate some money toward improving the school’s outdoor areas and furnishing some of the new areas now under construction.

Thanks to everyone for supporting our fundraising efforts last year – and please let us know if you can help out this year. We always need parents to assist
with running specific fundraising drives or events over the course of the school year. It’s a great way to meet other parents, it only takes a little bit of your time, and it helps our wonderful school!

Some of the events planned for this year include:

**March** – Hot cross bun drive  
**April** – Olden day fair (in conjunction with our school’s 125th anniversary)  
**May** – Mothers Day stall / afternoon tea  
**June** – Fresh pasta drive  
**Sept** – Fathers Day stall / breakfast  
**Sept** – Girls night out  
**Nov** – Family movie night  
**Nov/Dec** – Icy poles (after school sales)

Please see any of the following fundraising committee members if you can help out, or come to our meeting this Fri, 25 Feb at 9:30am in the staffroom.

Danielle Paea (dpaea@optusnet.com.au)  
Linda Nunn (linda.nunn@sodexo.com)  
Jo Richardson (seanj@iinet.net.au)

**AVPS School Reunion 1 - 2 April**

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).

**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.

**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). We ask that 2 - 4 parents from each unit attend to help cut up and deliver fruit on the days listed below:

**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**

**G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S**

Programs for Gifted and Talented children are offered by GATEWAYS throughout the year. Sessions are organised around a variety of topics and interest areas for students from Years 1-6.

For Term 1 the following programs will run from Brunswick South West PS:

**Years 1,2,3** “SOS- Secrets of Science”

**Tricking the Light Fantastic! The Secrets of Standstill Science & Secrets of Our Pets.**

Wednesday 23 March 2011- 8.45 am – 3.10 pm

**Years 4,5,6** “SOS- Secrets of Science”

**Time Travel- The Time of Your Life! Radiocarbon Dating- a Clock into the Past. From Little Things Big Things Grow.**

Thursday 24 March 2011- 8.45 am – 3.10 pm
Information about participating in the G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S programs can be collected from the office. PLEASE NOTE THAT PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENROLLING AND TAKING AND COLLECTING THEIR OWN CHILD FROM THE PROGRAM. Please discuss and inform the class teacher if a registration is accepted.

For more information please go to: www.gateways.edu.au

OSH C NEWS THIS WEEK

'we make kids smile'

Hello everyone,

For us in OSHC, last week was a very busy one. It was also very exciting and loads of fun. It is absolutely wonderful to see our newcomers settling in extremely well. I am particularly impressed with all our older children who have made them feel very welcome, and helping out wherever they could. A big thank you from the staff to our children.

We also celebrated the birthdays of Rosie and Coco last week and everyone had fun. Active After School Care will commence this week and will continue until the term ends. There will be cricket on Tuesday afternoons and Hockey on Friday afternoons. I do hope the children will enjoy these outdoor activities while the weather is still good.

Monday- Indoor Cricket games
Tuesday- Cricket Lesson
Wednesday – Cooking Honey Joys
Thursday- Soccer Match
Friday- Hockey Lesson

Wishing everyone a pleasant week,

Dee and the OSHC Team

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.campaustralia.com.au

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

Musical Society Victoria Newsletter

This year we are holding 6 concerts. Our 4th concert on the afternoon of August 27 will be the MSV 150th Anniversary Gala Concert for the Northern Branch.

Our concerts will continue to be held at our new permanent venue, Essendon Masonic Hall, 840 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds on Saturday evenings at 7.30 pm. This has proven to be an excellent venue with ideal facilities and a very good piano on a raised stage.

Concerts at the Northern Centre are open to anybody who wishes to play, young or old, preliminary or advanced. Please contact the Northern Centre secretary, Juliana Frazer, on 9380 1457 or email, julfraz@ozemail.com.au, at least one week before the concert. We ask that you bring a plate for supper to share. Concert dates are as follows: April 2, May 28, June 25, August 27 (150th Anniversary Gala Concert 3pm TBC), October 22 and November 26.