Dear Parents

With the weather turning cold and damp students have had to be inside during recess and lunch sessions. They have certainly enjoyed the large open space between the learning studios – creating and making during these cold, damp breaks. If you haven't had a chance to observe their tall straw structures, you must ask your child to tell you all about it. Each day they get a little closer to the very tall ceiling in the centre space. One of our biggest challenges is remembering to close the large doors at the back as we go in and out. The cold air certainly flows in!

Throughout this term the students from the Junior Class have enjoyed reading to not only several parents but to Mrs McDonald. On hearing that the students were exploring farms and farm life, Mrs McDonald very kindly brought in her resident lamb to meet the class. Each student was able to feed the lamb and learn a little about how to care for a baby farm animal. Thank you Cathy.

In addition to parents and special reading helpers visiting our school, today we had a group of small school principals visiting and working at our school. Principals meet with regional staff several times a term to discuss school issues, plans and programs. The senior class spent the day with Ms Bailey completing work set by their classroom teachers.

It is expected the new playground work will finally begin on the 18th June. We are waiting final drawings and plans for the paths and asphalt areas which are also to be replaced. We have been informed that once this work is done (not quite sure how far the money will stretch), all monies will have been expended and we as a school will be responsible for any other tasks. This should see our play areas organised and or course our much awaited playground.

Please remember we have a market this weekend. The roster is attached with the remaining vacant spots. If you are able to help please add your name and return it to school tomorrow so all tasks etc can be allocated. Thank you to those who have already indicated times, this is our second last market for the year. Last week a school council nominated committee met to begin planning and set up the program for next year. Their first task is to review the markets held over the last couple of years and assess which ones were successful and why, and which ones may ultimately require changes.

As is always the case we have a number of students and families that are very committed to completing home reading and homework tasks each week. It can be tricky identifying times when your child is in the right space to complete homework tasks. Some children need to come home and get stuck straight into it and others need a break. One of our students gets up early in the morning, has breakfast, gets ready for school and then does her homework. If you are finding it a struggle to get homework done speak to other parents and the teachers to discuss successful strategies that you could try. Whilst homework should be challenging it shouldn’t be impossible. It is a great opportunity for students to build quick mental skills or reinforce concepts already taught at school. Help us to help your child by supporting them at homework time.

Have a wonderful week

Judy Hilbig

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### EARN AND LEARN

**Earn & Learn – we have lots and lots of stickers!!!!!**

Remember when shopping at Woolworths please collect the Earn and Learn stickers. If you go through the self check out, take you receipts to the service desk to collect your stickers. You can either place the stickers in the Halls Gap Primary School box at the Stawell Woolworths or drop them into school. All stickers count. The more stickers the more fantastic items we can get for the school!

Thanks heaps for your support!

Miss Mac
ALLERGIES – PLEASE AVOID SENDING NUTS TO SCHOOL

Just a reminder – we do have a child at school with a serious allergy to nuts (anaphylaxis). We do ask that you do not send any foods to school that contain nuts.

JUMPERS – ARE DRIVING US CRAZY – PLEASE NAME!

There are a number of school jumpers being left around the school without names. Please ensure that all jumpers are clearly named and remember that this may need to be done on a regular basis as texta names tend to fade with washing.

HEAD LICE

Please help us by checking heads weekly – we will only eradicate these pests if we are all vigilant!

If you are unsure about how to treat your child/ren please ask us at school.

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th June</td>
<td>Botanical Gardens Celebrations 2.30 – all families welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st – Friday 22nd</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Camp – City Camp Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th June</td>
<td>MARC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29th June</td>
<td>Semester 2 reports distributed to families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29th June</td>
<td>Last day term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY 2012