Dear Parents

This coming Thursday is the first of our cluster days for this semester. All students will be at Concongella as we will be enjoying a concert with Shrewd Brass. Students have worked with their music during performing arts and should be well prepared for the session. All up we should have approximately 120 students at Concongella for the day. A taste of what it might be like to be a student in a large school! Students must bring a cut lunch as we do not have the resources and facilities to heat food on the day for this many students in one spot. All students are asked to be in school uniform. Jumpers are a must. Following the performance students will be working in year groups with teachers from across the cluster.

Yesterday senior students completed the University of NSW English assessment. Such assessments provide external input for teachers in relation to student progress and add to the information provided through NAPLAN and internal teacher assessments.

This Friday is our community breakfast. We would encourage all families to come along and please bring any community members you think might enjoy a breakfast at the school with students, teachers and parents. We do ask for a gold coin donation to help cover the costs; we are not raising money, just keen to provide an opportunity for everyone to meet and have a chat.

Next week we will welcome playgroup to the school for the first of their two visits for the term. Playgroup visits are an important part of our transition into school program and we look forward to making them feel welcome. Our P-2 students certainly enjoy the time they spend with the younger children of our community. It is their chance to demonstrate leadership and the many social and interaction skills we work towards developing each and every day. Their second visit is scheduled for the 23rd August.

The 27th - 31st August is Literacy and Numeracy Week. Teachers have begun planning several activities which include ‘Castle Building’ on the Tuesday and a ‘Mini Olympics’ on the Friday. For the castle building we are after an assortment of boxes. Big and small. We are asking all families to help us by sending along boxes as they become empty.

Olympics is all the go at the moment in both classrooms. A special subscription to the newspaper is providing daily information for students to read, analyse and utilise for research. On Monday students met with a cyclist (teacher in disguise) and one of the many volunteers who make such events possible (another teacher in disguise). Yesterday the students were treated to an improvised (without the water) synchronised swimming performance (more teachers in disguise). I’m sure there will be many more appearances throughout the course of the next few weeks!! On Monday our senior students along with Miss McNloon made donut Olympic rings and on Tuesday a group of students were busy in the sandpit putting together their own set or rings. If you are unsure what the rings mean make sure you ask a student. As part of our Olympic study we are inviting all students to dress up as their favourite Olympian on Friday 10th August. As part of the day we will have a sausage sizzle for lunch. Students will need to bring their own drink and morning tea snack.

Attached to the newsletter for your child/ren is a full set of student information. To help us update our records could you please check carefully, make any corrections and return the documents to the school. If all details are correct please sign and return to the school. We will endeavour to update details as soon as possible.

Have a wonderful week

Judy Hilbig

STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR

An extra special practise will be held on Monday the 6th of August from 3.15 to 5.30pm when we will be lucky enough to have a visit from the Associate Musical Director Trevor Jones.

This is the very first time that we have hosted a visit from any of the Spectacular conductors, so to have the Musical Director visit us, is extremely exciting. Pomonal will also be joining us for this session.

A reminder that orders and payment for Spectacular jackets are required by this Friday.
BOOK CLUB
Just a reminder to parents that all book club orders placed by students do provide points that go towards purchasing new books for our school. Books are reasonably priced and do not forget that books make wonderful gifts!

EARN AND LEARN
We are on a roll – please help us to keep collecting!

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.

State Schools Spectacular
Please note next week is the first rehearsal for the State Schools Spectacular team. Please see Frau Stoffel if you are concerned or unsure or any of the arrangements for the day. Students will be travelling with the Pomonal students along with a teacher from Pomonal.

Hot Lunches
Just a reminder to parents that noodles in styrofoam cups are not allowed as students do not have access to boiling water. If you would like your child to have noodles for lunch please prepare them in the morning and send them in a thermos.

Calendar
Please check for head lice, following our check last week with the Northern Grampians several infestations were found. We will not eradicate them from our school unless everyone pays particular attention to checking and treating appropriately. If you are unsure about how to do this please see a teacher.

Stawell Stingrays – Swimming Club
Training begins
Juniors and Seniors
Tuesday 4th Sept
6:30-7:30pm
New members welcome
(Min requirement 4 laps of outdoor pool of 2 recognised strokes)
Enquires – Megan Warren - 5358 3569
Sam Stoffel - 5356 4848

Net-Set-Go
The final Net-Set-Go session for 2012 will be this Friday the 3rd August. The session will go from 4 – approx 5:30 for ALL participants. A half hour session of games will be followed by the presentation of certificates and netball packs. The evening will finish with tea (pizza and chips).
Enquiries: Kerri 53586435 or Christine 0457564870