Dear Families,

As I mentioned in last week’s newsletter, teachers from the local small schools were meeting to discuss the future directions of Cluster Days. Our first Cluster Day of the year will be held on Friday the 22nd of March. Our Prep to Grade 2 students will be heading to Great Western Primary School and our Grade 3 to Grade 6 students will be going to Concongella Primary School for the day. There will be lots of ‘getting to know you’ activities and maybe even a mini running of the Stawell Gift. Something for us to look forward to.

In our classrooms Bellfield have been doing the integrated studies topic *Natural and Processed Materials*. Students look at the differences between the two and the best uses of them. Fyans have just finished their *Celebrations* unit. We all buddied up last Friday to make lanterns in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

Nominations for School Council opened yesterday (Monday) and will close next Monday (4th of March.) Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. You don’t need any special experience to be on School Council. 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. If you have any questions regarding nominations or you’d like to become a school council member please feel free to come and see me or have a chat with a current school council member.

School Council has approved a pupil free day on Thursday the 28th of March, which is officially the last day of Term 1. Halls Gap Primary School staff will be doing a first aid update on this day.

A roster has been sent home with students for our next Craft Market which is to be held on Sunday the 10th of March (over the Queen’s Birthday long weekend.) Any assistance, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated and if you have any questions please speak to any member of our Fundraising Committee: Kerry, Sue or Poll.

Participating students are enjoying the Active After School program. For accountability reasons we ask that, if your child is unable to participate in any of the sessions, please let a staff member know prior.

Acting Principal
Ja-San Trimble

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Please browse the following site and links for parents to find information about school closures in emergency situations:


Follow these links –
SCHOOL
For Parents
Child Health and Wellbeing
Emergencies and Natural Disasters
Closures – Schools, Services and Bus Routes
Stawell 13&U Football Assoc Inc

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 4th March 2013 at 7pm at the Stawell Football Clubrooms Central Park.

Parents of new and existing players are urged to attend. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Secretary: Toni Stewart Ph: 5358 5541 Mob: 0428869510

**Student Information details:** Please return your student/s details as soon as possible. Even if there is no changes please still return information to the office. Birth certificates & immunisation records are required with enrolment details by government schools, please return as soon as possible if requested. Thank you.

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Asafa Powell will create history when he lines up at Central Park this Easter. He is the fastest man ever to run at Australia’s richest and most famous footrace in pursuit of the $40,000 first prize!

**Come to Stawell on Easter Monday to cheer him on.**

For tickets please visit [www.stawellgift.com/event-guide/buy-tickets/](http://www.stawellgift.com/event-guide/buy-tickets/)

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**SCHOOL VALUES**

Please discuss these on a regular basis at home as a family

- **Honesty**
  - Being true to yourself, family, friends and teachers
- **Persistence**
  - Being confident, resilient and optimistic when striving to meet challenges
- **Humour**
  - To enjoy and celebrate with others
- **Initiative**
  - To contribute ideas, be flexible and demonstrate leadership
- **Commitment**
  - Being dedicated to do your very best
- **Teamwork**
  - Working with and sharing with others to enhance learning for everyone
- **Respect**
  - Treating self, others and your environment with care and respect.