Wednesday Notes

3 Day Bike Ride

24 of our Year 5/6 students began their 3 Day Bike Ride today. Joining them were students from Avenel Primary School and Seymour College. The riders began in Mansfield following the Great Victorian Bike Trail. The riders will end their journey at Tallarook on Friday. The students will cover about 150 km over the 3 days. Good luck all!

At the last bike training session, our students met a friendly echidna!

Our star athlete, Claudia Carrick, competed at the State Athletics Championships on Monday in the Under 10 Discus event. She came 11th in the state. That means she is the 11th best in Victoria! Wow!! What a great effort, Claudia! We are all proud of you!

Please Note: Tuesday 3rd November is the Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday. Students are not expected at school that day.
(Monday 2nd November is a normal school day – no school buses on this day)

***Have you heard your child read today? We encourage all students to practise their reading at home about 5 nights per week. Therefore, by now, most students should have read at least between 165-170 nights. Well done if you have kept up! ***
Happy Birthday to Riley Gilmour, Kayla Gardner and Zahra Kelly who are having their birthdays this week. On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish them a very Happy Birthday!

Walk to School in October: Keep up the active travel everyone! This is the last official week for the program, but that doesn’t mean you have to stop being active! It’s beneficial to your health and the environment too.

Mystery Bags for the Family Fun Day: Last week a plastic bag with instructions accompanied the newsletter. If you are able to fill the bag with some goodies and return it to the school, we would be most grateful. We always appreciate your support!

Have a terrific week.

Sue Ranger, Defence School Transition Aide

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD UPDATE
Well done Bradman for 118 tickets last week! Keep up the positive behaviour everyone!

CURRENT SCORES
Bradman: 262 points
Melba: 230 points
Hume: 222 points
Chisholm: 214 points

The School Canteen is open for Lunch Orders again this term. Each and every Friday students can order lunches from the school canteen. The menu will be different each week. Please see the term’s menu from a recent newsletter.

This week the menu is -

- Pizza Supreme or Ham and Pineapple $2.50
- Chocolate or Strawberry milk $2.00
- Orange or Apple Juice $1.50

Like all state schools we have a four year ‘Strategic Plan’, which sets out our goals and priorities for the next four years. In the final year of that plan (2015 for Puckapunyal PS) schools carry out a ‘School Review’, including a ‘Self Evaluation’ and ‘Review Day’. By the following year a new four year ‘Strategic Plan’ is written. We have just finished our ‘Self Evaluation’ phase.

School Council has recently ratified our Self-Evaluation document that took into consideration school performance data and feedback from staff, students and families. Our School Review Day is Friday 6th November. Parent representatives from School Council, staff, principals from other schools and an independent reviewer will participate in School Review.

Mystery Bags

At the Family Fun Day this year (Tuesday 10th November) we are having our mystery bag stall. These will be sold to raise money for our school. If you are able to fill a bag with something that children would enjoy receiving (lollies, soap, cookies, pencils, small toys etc. but no nut products please) we would be most grateful. We have additional bags, so if you would like to fill more than one, that would be great too!! Empty bags are available at the office, and full bags can be returned to the office. Please make sure the bags are securely fastened closed. Thanks so much for your support.

General Reminders

**Changed contact / enrolment details:** Please notify the office of your new contact / enrolment details.

**Visitors to the school:** Please remember to report to the General Office and sign in/out when visiting the school.

**Student Absences:** The school requires notification of all student absences a.s.a.p. Please contact the school by phone, email, in person or fill in student absence form and return to school.
Individual Triathlon

On Thursday 3rd December the Puckapunyal Primary School will be conducting the Individual Triathlon. It will be held at the Puckapunyal Area Pool.

The triathlon will involve students from Years 3-6 and will be a mixture of boys and girls. Only Years 3-6 students will attend if they have entered the event or volunteered as a helper for one of the participants.

Distances
Swim Leg – 5 laps of indoor pool = 165 m
Ride Leg – 2km lap X 2 = 4km
Run Leg – 1.2km lap X 1 = 1.2 km

The event will begin at 2:00 p.m. and finish at approximately 3:30 p.m. All students attending the event will be dismissed from the pool at 3:30 p.m. There is no cost for the day. All parents are welcome to attend and cheer.

Pupil Free Day

Friday 27th November is our next Pupil Free Day. Therefore, students are not expected at school that day.

It is Report Writing Day for staff. It gives teachers an opportunity to ensure that all students’ reports are accurate.

Rule Reminders

Each week at assembly, SRC representatives remind our students of a few important school rules. This week, SRC representatives Lachlan Thompson and Hailey Altas reminded our students of the following rules:

- Show some respect – give way to adults.
- Use your manners at all times.
- Walk carefully around corners – you don’t know who is on the other side.
- Eat on the asphalt - put your litter in the bin.

Please discuss these rules with your children to help ensure that they understand.

Value of the Week

At assembly this week Reliability was announced as our School Value of the week. That means teachers are looking for students who are demonstrating ‘Reliability’ to be eligible for the Student of the Week award. We encourage parents to talk to their students about our values throughout the year.

What is Reliability? Year 5 student, Trinity Boyd read out the meaning of Reliability. Assembly MC, Aiden Mackay, Jarrah Noel-Macpherson and Dominic Plessey performed a short play to model ‘Reliability’. Well done, boys.

‘Reliability means that others can depend on you and count on you to do your best to keep commitments. If your family relies on you to feed the family pets then they are always fed without anyone having to remind you to do it. Reliability means that you really care about doing what you said you would do.’
Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Students of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Casey Cousins, Blake Cooper, Skylar Leak, Hugh Skipper, Isaac Johnstone, Reilly Adams, Bryce Williams and Taylah Studte. These students were selected because they were modelling ‘Compassion’. This week teachers are looking for students who are modelling ‘Reliability.’

Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Authors of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Evie Bennett, Ruby Courtney, Paige Cooper, Adam Harbert, Blake Neilson, Renae Pennycook, Trinity Boyd and Serena Chivers. These students were selected because they showed great skills as an author.

5/6 P in Room 1B won the Senior School Times Tables Trophy. Cayleigh Cousins and Shae Robertson are delighted to win the winning trophy this week!

3/4 A in Room 11 won the Middle School Times Tables Trophy. Kayla Gardner and Hailey Altas were very happy that their classroom won the winning trophy again this week!

3/4 D in Room 10 won the Yard Duty Competition. Ashby Murphy and Ronan Sullivan will look after the winning trophy this week.

Congratulations to Tiali Chivers, Abigail Major, Zakk Chaison and Dani Corocher who each received a ‘Positive Behaviour’ Raffle Prize at assembly this week. Great effort, kids!

Congratulations to Harvey Cay, Jason Pennycook and Marissa Fredrickson who received ‘Recycling Cans’ Awards this week. Every little bit counts!
On **Saturday 7th November**, we have organised a **School Working Bee**. We have many outside jobs that need doing around the school and we need help from our school community. The Working Bee will begin from 8:30 a.m. and continue throughout the day (hopefully finished by lunchtime). The Working Bee is an opportunity for families to help. Without your help these improvements will not be able to go ahead in 2015. Over the last few years we have had fantastic support during our working bees. Jobs are listed below.

Please mark the day on your calendar!

- **Job No 1.** Amphitheatre needs sweeping and tidying up
- **Job No 2.** Old play equipment needs checking and fixing
- **Job No 3.** Garden Beds weeding
- **Job No 4.** Mowing and whipper snipping
- **Job No 5.** Roof gutters need cleaning
- **Job No 6.** Asphalt and gutters swept and cleared
- **Job No 7.** Veggie garden work
- **Job No 8.** Chainsawing dangerous tree branches
- **Job No 9.** Clean sand pits

Please return the attendance slip below to indicate that you can come and what job you would like to help with.

The more people there, the better the chance to be completely finished by lunchtime. Even if you can only attend for an hour or so please do. Do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

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**Working Bee Attendance Slip**

Yes, I/we can attend the Working Bee on **Saturday 7th November, 2015**.

Name - ____________________________

I would like to help with Job No ___.

Tools I can bring _____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

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**Testing and Tagging**

This week, we had an electrician spend 2 days ‘testing and tagging’ all school electrical equipment to ensure the safety of all staff, students, families and visitors.

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**Asbestos Audit for Schools**

As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Health and Safety Management Plan, all schools have regular Asbestos audits. We are having our next audit next week. As part of the audit, new labelling will be installed at all schools.

The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure they have up-to-date information from the school’s asbestos register.

**Asbestos** - which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned - is considered safe unless damaged or in poor condition.

The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure Victorian government schools remain safe. Children’s safety is our number one priority. That is why the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is taking this extra step as a precaution.

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**O H & S**

Our school regularly meets with **Occupational, Health and Safety** consultants to ensure that our school is safe for all staff, students, families and visitors to go about their daily activities.

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**Woolworths’ Ancient Animal Cards**

Do you need any **Woolworths Cards** to complete your collection? Send a list of the numbers in to Ms. O’Connor and she’ll try to find them for you!

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*‘Striving for Excellence’*  
*Open since 1887*
An invitation is extended to all parents of Pre School and Primary School children and members of the community to attend our Family Fun Day.

**When:** Tuesday 10th November, 2015  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Puckapunyal Primary School

Since 1998 we have been holding a Family Picnic Day at the school with parents bringing lunch to share with their children in a family atmosphere.

* At 1.00 pm parents, students and teachers will meet on the bank near the oval and eat lunch together.*  
* There will be a Sausage Sizzle available on the day as well. Look out for pre order forms in the Wednesday Notes. Drinks can also be purchased.

* A variety of games and activities will be set up on the oval and the asphalt areas by each classroom for students, families and staff to enjoy. They will go ahead after lunch at about 1:30 p.m. Examples of the activities are - egg & spoon races, sack races, 3 legged races, horse shoe throwing, vortex throwing, cricket, skipping, bubbles and lots of others.

* We will also conduct the annual Fun Run. The Fun Run will start at 2.45pm. Parents are encouraged to join their children for the Fun Run. We will also provide a free icy pole to all students, parents and visitors who join in the Fun Run.

* And of course, there will be our famous mystery bags to purchase!

*Please come along and spend your afternoon enjoying time with your children.*

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**FAMILY FUN DAY BBQ LUNCH**

To celebrate our Family Fun Day on Tuesday 10th of November we are holding a BBQ lunch. Anyone interested in participating please pre order by returning your completed form (with money) by Friday the 6th of November.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausage</td>
<td>_____</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fruit Juice</td>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td></td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flavoured Milk</td>
<td>Chocolate</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Student Name:** ____________________________  
**Room Number:** ____________
Each week in the newsletter, we will give families a summary of the **Teaching/Learning Focus** for the week. **That can help families by:** being aware of what classrooms are covering; with discussion topics at the dinner table when discussing school (eg. ‘How are you going with addition in Numeracy this week?’); helping their children study at home, etc. Parents have indicated that this information would be very useful. We also ask families to be aware that schools are very busy places and events can be unpredictable at times. We therefore must remain flexible. That means, we can plan to cover certain topics at particular times and have to change them according to arising needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior School – Preps/Foundation Rooms 3 &amp; 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are continuing to develop our writing skills with a focus on sounding out, using the golden and red words in our writing and learning the ‘sh’ blend. We are practising Kung Fu punctuation and talking about WOW words.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are continuing to learn about subtraction as well as measurement and location words. We are using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Junior School – Year 1s Rooms 3, 8 &amp; 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are focusing on verbs and adjectives and continuing punctuation skills (Kung Fu punctuation). We are looking at the difference between facts and opinions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are looking at doubles and near doubles as well as counting patterns. We are using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Junior School – Year 2s Rooms 8 &amp; 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> We are looking at the difference between facts and opinions and learning about contractions, verbs and adjectives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We are learning about addition and subtraction with one and two digit numbers and ordering and sequencing numbers. We are looking at doubles and near doubles and using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning. We are comparing and ordering containers by capacity.</td>
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<th>Middle School – Years 3/4 Rooms 10 &amp; 11</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will work on Poetry. We will continue to focus on punctuation.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We will continue to focus on measurement. Another continued focus will be place value. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Senior School – Years 5/6 Rooms 1A &amp; 1B</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy:</strong> During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will continue to focus on Poetry. We will also continue to focus on past and present tense. In reading we will be focusing on strategies, fluency and expression.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy:</strong> We will continue with work on the four processes, the order of operations, place value, number patterns, decimal fractions, common fractions and percentages. We will continue to complete work relating to Symmetry (line and rotational). Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.</td>
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**Foundation-Year 2**
The children are consolidating and extending their focus on **bagian kepala** (head parts) this week.

- kepala = head
- muka = face
- mata = eye
- hidung = nose
- pipi = cheek
- mulut = mouth
- lidah = tongue
- gigi = tooth
- dagu = chin
- telinga = ear
- rambut = hair

Salam (Regards)
Bu Hooper (Mrs Hooper)
Guru Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian teacher)
On Thursday the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of October, we had a healthy breakfast at the school. Some of the foods included fruit, cereal, yoghurt and Mr Warne’s famous pancakes. All of our families were welcome to join us. We had younger brothers and sisters, mums and dads and some grandparents come along. There was lots of food to go around and everyone had so much fun.

It was organized by Vic Health and the Mitchell Shire as part of our Walk to School month for October. All of the money for the breakfast was funded by the Mitchell Shire Council. The aim of Walk to School and Healthy Breakfasts was to promote a healthy living and lifestyle.
Look at what is happening around our school

Photographs and writing by Year 5/6 students Trinity, Lochlon and Jake

V.C.O.P

In class we are learning about V.C.O.P. V.C.O.P is made up of four different groups and those groups are Ambitious Vocabulary, Cool Connectives, Sentence Openers and last of all, we have Punctuation Pyramid. They have 4 to 6 different levels in each. We have been using the V.C.O.P method in our literacy groups and our homework. We have also played games with the Sentence Openers and we have learned Kung Fu Punctuation.

5/6 Batik Designs

We have been learning about batik designs and how to make them so that we can make our own bags. The bags are made out of calico and we have had to draw a design on them. We then put PVA glue on the design. When the glue is dry, we are going to put paint over the bags and let it dry. Then we will peel some of the glue off and paint another area. Now we are going to give you some facts on batik designs: Batik is a method of decorating different fabrics. Batik designs are well known and are made in Indonesia. The materials that are needed to make a batik design on different pieces of fabric, are materials like: PVA glue, a grey led, a calico bag and a blackboard.
Some Cyber Safety Tips

We have recently had some concerned parents call into the school to chat about their children’s use of social media - particularly our grade 5/6 students. No matter the age of your children, as a parent, you should always be in sight of the computer or device that your children are using when accessing the internet.

Here are some additional tips that might help:

1. Put computers in a communal area of the house and don’t allow portable internet devices (laptops, phones, tablets etc) in the bedroom.

2. Find out what your child is doing online. Talk to them regularly about what websites they visit and take the time to sit with them as they use the internet. Make sure you’re familiar with how the sites that they visit work.

3. Encourage your child to tell you if they ever have a problem on the internet or if they’re ever unsure about anything. Reassure them that you won’t take away their connection to the internet if issues occur.

4. Remind your child to keep personal information private. YAPPY is a useful acronym to remind children of the personal information they should not share on public online spaces (blogs, forums etc.) – Your full name, address, phone number, passwords, your plans.

5. Remind your child that not everything on the internet is true and not all internet users tell the truth.

6. Don’t support your child to sign up for sites that are 13+ if they are under age (Facebook, YouTube, Instagram etc). Make sure your child sets their online accounts to private to limit access to people they know well (when they are old enough to sign up).

7. Encourage your child to balance their leisure time so they’re not spending all of their time online.

8. Create your own internet rules for your household and have your child agree to adhere to them.

9. Explore government resources so you can educate yourself and protect your children by Googling ‘Cybersafety’.

10. Always talk with your child about what they are doing on the internet or internet based Apps like Facebook, Instagram etc. This is not being a ‘sticky beak’, its good parenting!

PDNC is holding a **Halloween Party** on the 31st October from 3pm-5pm. This will be followed by ‘Trick or Treating’ around the base. Information flyers and colouring competition entries can be found outside the school office or by visiting Deb at the PDNC.