On Friday, we had a very successful Years 3-6 House Swimming Carnival with Hume House (Green) being the winners for the 11th time in 12 years! All students performed admirably, trying their best to tally as many points for their House as possible. The students were very competitive! It was a great team atmosphere.

We had students of all abilities having a go for their house! It was a great day and we congratulate all students for their performances.

The final order of the House Carnival was:

1st Hume House 249 points  
2nd Chisholm House 195 points  
3rd Melba House 176 points  
4th Bradman House 153 points

We have seen many students improve with their swimming over the last week or so and the carnival was a great way to support the training. It didn’t matter what places students came, many were delighted to just participate and give it their best. Skye Saunders and Mackai Harriden are proud captains of Hume as you can see below in the photo holding the winning House Swimming Trophy.

Thank you to all new House Captains who on that day performed their first lot of duties for 2015. They looked after their whole team and liaised with Mrs. McCarthy to organise their relay teams. Well done captains!

Thank you to all of the volunteer parents and teachers for their efforts to ensure a smooth event. Mrs. McCarthy was the organiser of the event and did a marvelous job. Thanks, Mrs. McCarthy.

The House Carnival was also a good opportunity to select our Years 3-6 District Swimming Team that will represent our school at today’s District Swimming Carnival. We will report how they went in next week’s newsletter. Good luck, District Swimmers!

***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 10-15 nights. Well done if you have kept up!

***Sunday Nights - a great night to check for Head Lice. ***
## Parent/Teacher Information Sharing Form

| FAMILY NAME: | .......................................................... |
| Child’s Name: | ............................................. Year: .......... |
| Room No: | ......................... |

| Child’s Name: | ............................................. Year: .......... |
| Room No: | ......................... |

| Child’s Name: | ............................................. Year: .......... |
| Room No: | ......................... |

| Child’s Name: | ............................................. Year: .......... |
| Room No: | ......................... |

**Preferred Interview Times**

(please tick preferred time box)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:50 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</td>
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### Parent Forums

As with other years, we will conduct **Parent Forums** each term. On Thursday 19th March, the school will have the first forum. The session will be held in the PC Centre between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There will be cuppas and cake as well. The idea is for parents to chat with the Principal, Kevin Warne, Assistant Principal, Allyson Dixon and the D.S.T.A., Sue Ranger, about the school and various issues. In the past, parents have brainstormed some ideas for sessions to cover throughout the year. Hopefully our parents will find them useful. Please come along to these sessions.

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### Labelling Clothing

Could parents please check children’s **school clothes** (especially windcheaters) at home for names on the labels. If your child has brought home the wrong windcheater, could you please return it to the school office. Thank you.

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### Labour Day

Please do not forget that Monday 9th March is **Labour Day** (public holiday) and therefore the school will be closed. No children are expected at school that day. We hope that all of our families enjoy the long weekend.

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### Foundation Students

On Wednesday 4th March our **foundation students will be full time!** They have all settled in well, and are close to being ready to join the 5 days a week of schooling. We wish them well!

**Happy Birthday** to Holly Hastie who is having her birthday today.

On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish Holly a very happy birthday!

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### School Council Annual General Meeting

Tuesday March 10th is our **School Council Annual General Meeting**. The meeting will take place at 5 p.m. in the school staff room. The A.G.M. is a public meeting and all parents are welcome to attend. Our new School Council will form for the first time after that meeting and twice per term afterwards.

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Congratulations to the 26 students who performed so well at the House Swimming Carnival last week, that they have been selected in the team to represent our school at the **Seymour District Swimming Carnival** today. The District Swimming Carnival will involve 4 schools and will take place today at the Seymour Outdoor Pool, Seymour.

Good luck, champs!

**2015 District Swimming Team**


Good luck, kids!
Deployment sessions and Fundraising: I trust that the start to school has been a relatively smooth one for all our students. Once the swimming program concludes (Friday 13th February) I will be resuming deployment sessions. This is a session for any student who has a parent deployed overseas, and provides support in many forms. Please let me know if your child is in this position. Also I would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in helping with some fundraising for the school. This can take the form of a ‘one-off’ activity or support throughout the year. Again let me know if this could be you…and we’ll get organised after the swimming program.

Have a terrific week. Sue Ranger, DSTA.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD UPDATE

Hume had a fantastic week last week, winning the swimming sports and leading the way in positive behaviour. It is still close however, and we are seeing great examples of positive behaviour throughout the school.

CURRENT SCORES
- Hume - 127 points
- Bradman - 105 points
- Melba - 111 points
- Chisholm - 99 points

If you are interested in participating regularly or occasionally to assist in raising funds for the school please let D.S.T.A., Sue Ranger know. Our current aim is to raise funds for a variety of resources outlined last year. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Our students, teachers and volunteer parents did well with the Years 3-6 Swimming Program. Well done! Thank you to all of the parents who gave their time to help our staff with the program. Thank you to Mrs. McCarthy for her continued organisation throughout the fortnight!

All Years 3-6 children who participated in the School Swimming Program will receive a certificate celebrating the levels that they have ‘completed’ or are still ‘developing’. A copy of the levels will be placed into all students’ school files. Well done all children who achieved the levels that they aimed for.

Our Parent Helpers who volunteered to help with the program will also be recognised and rewarded for their efforts. They will also be presented with a certificate at an Assembly soon. Again, thank you mums and dads!

Our Early Morning Swimming Program has also finished. Well done to the students who got out of bed early to participate.

School Council News

School Council Elections 2015
Please consider standing for election for School Council this year. Contact Kevin for further information.

The Puckapunyal School Council has vacancies for 5 Parent Representatives for 2015.

Wednesday 11th February: NOMINATIONS called for (Forms can be collected from the office).

Wednesday 18th February: Nominations CLOSE (If an election required ballot papers will be distributed).

Wednesday 25th February: OPEN BALLOT

Wednesday 4th March: CLOSED BALLOT (Votes counted).

School Council Annual General Meeting will be held at school at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday 10th March.

Fundraising

If you are interested in participating regularly or occasionally to assist in raising funds for the school please let D.S.T.A., Sue Ranger know. Our current aim is to raise funds for a variety of resources outlined last year. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Canteen Helpers Needed

The School Canteen is currently only open for healthy recess snacks that are sold by our students. Canteen lunches will be available on Fridays when a working group of volunteers can be organised. If you are a parent with some time and you can help in the school canteen please contact the school office. We would love to hear from you.

Shrove Tuesday
Thank you to all of our wonderful chaplains who organised a pancake breakfast on Shrove Tuesday. The pancakes were well gratefully appreciated by all!! And they were yummy too!

Good Luck, School Choir!

Our wonderful School Choir are performing at the DCO Family Day/Expo tomorrow (Thursday the 19th Feb) at the Area Theatre in Puckapunyal. They will be singing at 5:15pm if anyone would like to see them perform. Good luck, kids!
**Students of the Week**

Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Students of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Caleb Holloway, Emily Mallett, Jaye McFarlane, Abby Chetcuti, Natasha Lak, Reilly Adams, Jake Haywood and Leah Farr. These students were selected because they were modelling one of the school values.

**Authors of the Week**

Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Authors of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Skylar Leak, Tyla Hermann, Christiana McCabe, Hamish Kenny, Tiali Chivers, Sara Harbert, Stephanie Brown, Skye Saunders and Xtina Chalson-Riley. These students were selected because they showed great skills as an author.

**Yard Duty Trophy**

1/2 I in Room 9 won the Yard Duty Competition Trophy. Jy Mawer-Smith and Liesl Rayner were very excited to show off the winning trophy this week.

**Recycling Cans’ Award**

Congratulations to Olivia Scotman, Jason Pennycook and Hannah-Rose Simmonds who received ‘Recycling Cans’ Awards this week! Well done, kids! Every little bit counts!

**Positive Behaviour’ Awards**

Congratulations to Liam Percy, Paige Cooper, Sophie Van Der Waal and Hannah-Rose Simmonds who won raffle prizes for ‘Positive Behaviour’ this week! Well done, kids!

**Clean Up’ Awards**

Congratulations to Marissa Fredrickson, Renae Pennycook, Dani Corocher, Joel Simmonds, Teagan Nabbs and Hannah-Rose Simmonds who received ‘Clean Up’ Awards this week! Thanks, kids!
Parents as Helpers Course

Presenters: Jane Challis and Kevin Warne

All sessions will be held in the Staffroom

Session 1
Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} February
9.30-12.00pm

Literacy
- Welcome/Introduction to program
- Confidentiality
- Working with Children Check
- Being a Helper
- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Classroom Visits/ Sharing Observations

Session 2
Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} February
9.00-12.00pm

Numeracy
- Introduction
- Goodger Maths Program
- Linking maths to real life
- Numeracy at home
- Developmental continuum

Classroom visits/ Sharing Observations

‘I moved to Puckapunyal at the start of the year. I was a bit nervous on the first day of school, but it was great. I made lots of friends and I loved playing with my friend Matilda. We had a lot of fun together. On the second day of school I wasn't nervous.’

by Sophia Brooks 1/2 C

Classroom Visits:
Tour school
Goodger Maths in a classroom
Visit other classrooms and observe and interact with students.

Sharing Observations:
What did you see happening in the classroom? What ways do you think you could help in the school? Discuss.
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.

**Junior School – Preps/Foundation Rooms 3 & 6**

**Literacy:** We are starting to develop early writing skills with a focus on pencil grip. We will be focusing on the letter ‘Tt’ and the sound it makes.

**Numeracy:** We are looking at the number 3 and days of the week.

**Junior School – Year 1s Rooms 3, 8 & 9**

**Literacy:** We are concentrating on capital letters and full stops.

**Numeracy:** We are counting by tens and making groups of ten.

**Junior School – Year 2s Rooms 8 & 9**

**Literacy:** We are concentrating on capital letters and full stops. We are also doing recounts in our diaries.

**Numeracy:** We are sequencing numbers and counting by 10s.

**Middle School – Years 3/4 Rooms 10 & 11**

**Literacy:** During literacy sessions over the next few weeks, we will use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning.

**Numeracy:** We will learn about place value to 10 000/100 000, calendars, diaries and timetables. Tables facts have begun and will be practised throughout the week.

**Senior School Years – 5/6 Rooms 1A & 1B**

**Literacy:** During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will focus on compound sentences and conjunction words.

In reading we will be focusing on fluency and expression while also identifying key words and phrases during note taking.

**Numeracy:** We will continue with work on the four processes and their inverses. Another focus will be work relating to measurement conversions. Tables facts have begun and will be practised throughout the week.

**School Invoices**

**The school office sent home invoices to families recently. These invoices include ‘stationery fees’ that need to be paid to the school as soon as possible. The school has already paid for all stationery and need to be reimbursed to balance the school accounts. The invoices also include ‘voluntary contributions’ but they are not mandatory. If any family had any outstanding money from last year, that will also be included in the invoices. Thank you to families who have made those payments already. Please contact Mrs. Hall in the school office if you would like to organise a payment plan.**

‘Striving for Excellence’

*Open since 1887*
This year, our Prep-Year 2 students will be learning the **Indonesian language**. We have employed a specialised teacher, Christine Hooper, who will visit on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year. She will also be visiting the Years 3/4 classes and 5/6 classes fortnightly to do some cultural activities. Good luck, Christine.

**Languages – Indonesian**
- Indonesian is one of the languages taught in government schools.
- Indonesian is the language and culture taught at Puckapunyal Primary School.
- Indonesian is taught from Foundation - Grade 2. Foundation and Years 1/2 have two 30 minutes lessons each week.

**Points to consider:**
- Indonesian language is easy to learn because it uses our alphabet.
- Reading and writing are made easier because each letter has only one way of being pronounced.
- Many of the words come from the English language, so children can use their own language knowledge to grasp the meaning. For example: coffee/kopi, computer/computer, concentration/konsentrasi, and ice-cream/eskrim.
- Indonesia has a very interesting culture.

**How is Indonesian taught?**
- We use lots of games, songs, activities, books, etc., to aid learning. Often children will leave the lesson, not realising what they have learnt.
- Much of the language is taught incidentally and through classroom commands. Everyday language is thus 'picked up' without formally being taught.

**Why Indonesian?**
- Indonesia is Australia’s nearest neighbour. There are an ever increasing number of job opportunities with companies who require Indonesian speaking employees to deal with their Indonesian counterparts, either in Australia or Indonesia. Also, many of us have, or will, travel to Indonesia, even if only to Bali.
Dental Health Visits
- Seymour -

Adult's Dental Health Assessment Day
- Wednesday 25th February, 2015 -
(with all follow up dental procedures to happen on 4th March)
OR
Children’s Dental Health Assessment Day
- Thursday 16th April, 2015 -

WHERE: Goranwarrabul House
(Cnr Callen & Bretonneux Streets, Seymour)

TIME: 9:30am until 4:30pm
By appointment OR you can just turn up on the day
Please bring your Medicare Card / Health Care Card
To make an appointment time please contact
Rebecca Welsh on: Mob. 0459 802 873 | 03 5793 6341
Email: rebecca.welsh@seymourhealth.org.au

Surveys are available at the desk in front of the school office.

Communities Latching on to Breastfeeding

Your feedback is sought on our survey

Parent Nickos Survey
The survey can also be accessed online at: www.dvevemoney.com/i/FQ/pK775J

Please return hardcopy surveys to
Public Health Coordinator, Mitchell Shire Council,
113 High Street, Broadford, 3658
By Friday 27 March 2015 (in return to any Mitchell Shire Council Customer and Library Service Centre.

Mitchell Shire Council Maternal and Child Health Service in partnership with Mitchell Shire Council Community Development Department and Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership is seeking information on how to best support parents caring for babies and toddlers.

Your feedback is sought on how your parenting needs are being met now in Mitchell Shire community and how they can be met into the future. Parents of babies and toddlers are entitled to be able to participate in the life of the community e.g. shopping and accessing services and businesses.

***Surveys are available at the desk in front of the school office***
Striving for Excellence
Open since 1887