Last Sunday, our **School Choir** performed at the Seymour **Carols by Candlelight** at Goulburn **Park**. They sang beautifully! We congratulate the choir on all of their performances this year. We also thank Sally O’Connor for her tireless efforts with the choir in 2014. Well done, Sally.

On the last day of the year, our choir will give one more encore performance at the final assembly starting at 1:10 p.m. Please come along and support them one more time.

**Awards Assembly**

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December our Monday Morning Assembly is our **Awards Assembly**. That means that there will be several special and traditional awards handed out to deserving students to recognise their efforts over the whole year. We encourage all families to come along to help congratulate the award winners.

**Student Reports** will come home with students this Friday. We encourage families to make contact with their children’s teachers if they would like to discuss the report. We have also asked students not to open the reports until the reports arrive home to mum or dad.

***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 210-215 nights.

**Well done if you have kept up!**

***Sunday Nights - a great night to check for Head Lice.***
Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Students of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Charlotte Major, Lake Robertson, Zahra Kelly, Will Hastie, Renae Pennycook, Bryce Williams, Samuel O’Connor-Hudson, Holly Hastie and Nic Franks. These students were selected because they were modelling ‘Responsibility’. This week teachers are looking for students who are modelling ‘Kindness’.

Congratulations to the following students who were ‘Authors of the Week’ for last week. Winners – Alisha Shukri, Elizabeth Gardner, Harry Bourne, Anna Buckeye, Blake Neilson, Dimitee Taylor, Nannah Taylor, Connor Claassen 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. Mackai Harriden was delighted to collect the winning trophy on behalf of his class.

3/4 A in Room 11 won the Middle School Times Tables Trophy. Lachlan Thompson is also delighted that his classroom won the winning trophy this week!

2/3 D in Room 10 won the Yard Duty Competition Trophy. Tobias Rayner Jagers are very happy to collect the winning trophy this week!

Lachlan O’Connor-Hudson, Lochlon Nabbs and Aaron Bennett each won a ‘Positive Behaviour’ Raffle prize this week. Well done, kids!
Happy Birthday

to Riley McCabe who is having his birthday this week. On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish Riley a very Happy Birthday!

The School Spelling Bee Final is on again this year. It will take place at school on Tuesday 16th December from 11:30 a.m. in the PC Centre. It has become a great tradition during the last week of the year for the past few years. Even though several families have left by then, it has become an event that keeps the school ticking along right up until the end of the year. All families are welcome to come along. The names of the children who have earned the right to represent their grades are listed below.

Spelling Bee 2014 Finalists

Prep - Joel Simmonds POC, Amelia Cree POC, Jackson Bartle P/1OM
Year 1 - James Thwaites 1/2R, Henry Billen 1/2I, Jett Miller P/1OM
Year 2 - Emily Watson 1/2R, Anna Buckeye 1/2I, 2/3D Abigail Major
Year 3 - Hamish Kenny 2/3D, Nathan Hopkins 3/4A, Ollie Kenny 3/4B
Year 5 - Mitchell Carrick 5/6 P, Jake Haywood 5/6 P, Isam Elsheikh 5/6 H, Dylan Sallis 5/6 H
Year 6 – Marisa Zantey 5/6 P, Nic Franks 5/6 P, Ben Postill 5/6 H, Mel Waszczuk 5/6 H

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD UPDATE

The lead has changed again, with Hume slipping into first, with a handy lead. This is the last week when tickets will be awarded and results will be announced on Monday. Keep up the great work!!

CURRENT SCORES
Hume- 475 points
Melba- 464 points
Bradman- 381 points
Chisholm- 329 points

We raised a total of $280.58 and won a $100 sports voucher! 3/4B had a class party for raising the highest amount out of all classrooms! They had a surprise party on Monday to celebrate! The highest fundraiser will be announced at next Monday’s awards assembly so stay tuned! Thanks to everyone who donated!

Happy Birthday

Did you hear Erol Yildiz read his letter at assembly this week? We did! He did a wonderful job! Come along and see who reads next week. Well done, Erol!

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Thank you!

This year we have had a small band of dedicated parents who have continuously strived to ensure that our students have canteen lunches each Friday. Our students would not have had the wonderful canteen lunches without volunteers. We thank those mums for terrific service to our school.

Thank you, Bree!

For the last 2 years, Bree Turner has voluntarily managed the canteen lunches. That means, she has organised parent rosters, ordered food, organised menus, liaised with school staff, etc! We thank Bree for her wonderful dedication and leadership!

That means we will be looking for somebody else to manage canteen lunches next year. We will also be looking for more volunteers to help each Friday. If you can help, please see Simone in the office.

Rule Reminders

At each Monday Morning Assembly the students are reminded about some of the school rules. We like to print them in each week’s newsletter so that parents can discuss these rules with their children to ensure full understanding. These rules were read out by SRC representatives, Saskia Truter and Bryce Williams.

- Move quietly through the corridor
- Play equipment is not a place to play chasey.
- Play safely on the equipment.
- Shelter sheds and amphitheatre seats are for sitting on not jumping on.

Value of the Week

At assembly this week Kindness was announced as our School Value of the week. That means teachers are looking for students who are demonstrating ‘Kindness’ 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 Kindness? Year 5 student, Liam Irwin read out the meaning of Kindness.

‘Kindness is showing care and concern for other people, animals and the environment. Kindness need not be on a grand scale – it can be in a small gesture. It can brighten up somebody’s life, help animals feel more cared for and make the planet a better place to live.’
To celebrate the hard work that our students and teachers have done during the year we traditionally celebrate with a **class party** at the end of each year. On Tuesday 16th December, each grade will be conducting their classroom party. Each child will be required to bring something from home to contribute. Please see the timetable for each grade below. Please note that we do not have any fridge space for the party food.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room/Grade</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Menu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep OC</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>Boys to bring sweets Girls to bring savoury food (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1/2 I</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>On Front Verandah</td>
<td>Girls to bring savoury food Boys to bring sweets (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3 D</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>Room 10</td>
<td>Girls to bring savoury Boys to bring sweet food (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 A</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>Girls to bring savoury Boys to bring sweet food (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 P</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>PC Centre</td>
<td>All students to bring a plate of party food (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 H</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th December</td>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>PC Centre</td>
<td>All students to bring a plate of party food (small plate, no food requiring heating please)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
End of Year School Concert

Where: Puckapunyal Area Theatre
When: Wednesday 17th December, 2014
Time: 2pm Start
All Families are Welcome!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep O’C</td>
<td>Song – ‘Santa Claus Is Coming to Town’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Prep/1 O’M | Chant – ‘Rules Rap’.  
|           | Song – ‘Hey Yo’                             |
| 1/2 R    | Song and Movement – ‘Newspaper Mama’        
|           | ‘Happy as Larry’                           |
| 1/2 I    | ‘Threw It Out the Window’                   |
| 2/3 D    | Song - ‘Over the River and Through The Woods’ |
| 3/4 A    | Song and Dance – ‘Que Sera’                 |
| 3/4 B    | Dance – ‘The Evolution of Dance’            |
| 5/6 H    | Song – ‘Aussie Jingle Bells’                |
| 5/6 P    | Song – ‘Rocking Around the Christmas Tree’  |
| School Choir | Songs – ‘Advance Australia Fair’  
|           | ‘We Are Done’                               |

It is that time of the year when many families are leaving our school as they are posted to other states and territories. We have been absolutely delighted that many have donated some beautiful new books to our school library. We are very grateful that we have been lucky enough to receive such gifts. It has been an amazing tradition for such a long time. Thank you to those families.

Thank You Families!

Look Safe, Play Safe, Stay Safe
Enjoy your break and please respect our environment
Stay safe on and around the water.

‘Striving for Excellence’
Open since 1887
Dear Parents,

As you are aware our School Concert will take place next week on Wednesday the 17th of December, 2014. All children have been practising their items and cannot wait to show their families what they can do.

The children will be walking down to the Area Theatre at 1:30pm and the School Concert will start soon after their arrival (approximately 2pm start). Everyone is most welcome to attend and support the students.

A full Practice Session will take place on Monday the 15th of December, 2014. The children again will be walking down to the Area Theatre at staggered times (different times for different classrooms) and the practice session will start soon after their arrival. All children will finish their practice session and will walk back to school. They will be dismissed from school.

For the School Concert on the Wednesday, the children will be dismissed at the Area Theatre so families may have to make alternative arrangements with the picking up of their children. The students who normally catch a bus home or attend the ‘After School Care’ Program will be walked back to school with school staff after the school concert. Please let us know on the return slip below if your children normally catch a bus home or attend the ‘After School Care’ Program.

For the children to participate in both the Practice Session and the School Concert, they need to complete the following permission slip below. Please return the permission slip to school a.s.a.p.

--------------------
PUCKAPUNYAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL CONCERT and PRACTICE SESSION AUTHORISATION SLIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th>Given Names</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I give permission for my child to attend the School Concert Practice Session on Monday the 15th of December (all children to walk back to school to be dismissed) and the School Concert on Wednesday the 17th of December, 2014 (children to be dismissed at the Area Theatre at 3.30pm).

In case of accident, or illness, I authorise the teacher in charge of the excursion to consent, where it is impractical to communicate with me on __________________ or __________________, to my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary.

Specific medical information that teachers should be aware of:
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: ________________________________

NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS: ________________________________

YES/NO My children normally catch a bus home or attend the ‘After School Care’ Program (please circle)
Now that Summer is here, we need to remind our families that our school has a Bushfire plan. Below are the basic understandings that we ask our families to be aware of.

START OF THE YEAR
- Via the newsletter and assemblies, parents to be advised at the beginning of the year to have a Bushfire Plan in place which includes actions on school and non-school days.

FIRE MANAGEMENT
- In the event of a fire which threatens Puckapunyal Base on a normal school day, the Emergency Plan for Puckapunyal Primary School will be activated.
- All staff and students of the Puckapunyal Primary School and Multi-Function Centre will be evacuated to the PC Centre.
- A Liaison Officer from the Department of Defence will be deployed to Puckapunyal PS to assist.
- On-going liaison will occur between DEECD, Base Management, and the CFA and this will determine the next phase of action.

CODE RED DAY
- A Code Red Day will be communicated to all communities via the media prior to a Code Red Day occurring. Via school notes, facebook, assemblies and the school sign, families will be notified by the school of a Code Red Day.
- Only the Seymour Town Bus will operate as per normal. Rural buses will be cancelled.
- Puckapunyal Primary School remains open on a Code Red Day.
- Families will be encouraged to keep children at home on a Code Red Day as part of their individual family Bushfire Plans.

FIRE MANAGEMENT ON A CODE RED DAY
- In the event of a fire which threatens Puckapunyal Base on a Code Red Day, the Emergency Plan for Puckapunyal Primary School will be activated.
- All staff and students of the Puckapunyal Primary School and Multi-Function Centre will be evacuated to the PC Centre.
- A Liaison Officer from the Department of Defence will be deployed to Puckapunyal PS to assist.
- On-going liaison will occur between DEECD, Base Management, and the CFA and this will determine the next phase of action.
- Families will be notified via radio, facebook, phone calls and school webpage. (As of 2015, families will be notified by phone text message).
The end of 2014 is almost upon us and no doubt there is excitement about school for next year. For Kinder families we hope that our school has been helpful over the past few months with transition days so that the move into Foundation (Preps) will be easier for your child. The year 2015 is going to be special for your family. Obviously it will be your child's first year of schooling. We understand that families will be excited and nervous.

The starting date for **Years 1-6** students is Thursday 29th January. The first day for **Foundation (Prep)** students is Friday 30th January.

The Foundation (Prep) students will then attend school for normal hours from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in February. The students will **not** attend school on Wednesdays during Term 1 until 4th March. This again will help the students get used to school life and a break mid-week will keep them refreshed for school. In our experience, Foundation students do get very tired in their first few weeks of school and a break mid-week has shown to be beneficial. Again, the Wednesday will also be used for Foundation student testing and an appointment date will be given to each family for one of those Wednesdays.

School **Open Day** is Thursday 22nd January, which is for families who haven’t yet **enrolled** their children or had a chance to **tour** the school. **School Uniforms** will also be available for any families to purchase on that day. At the end of Open Day, when we have a much more accurate idea of how many students will be attending our school, we will send each family a letter. The letter will let families know who their child’s teacher will be and what classroom they will be in for 2015.

On Thursday 29th January at 9:00 a.m. all Years 1-6 students will begin their school year with a morning assembly in the school amphitheatre. Families and students can find a seat together in the amphitheatre. Immediately after the assembly, all new families and especially Foundation (Prep) families are invited to a **New Parent Information Session**. That meeting will give parents a chance to be introduced to their child’s teacher and find out important information for 2015. We recommend that all new families attend that session, as this session won’t be repeated on Friday.

### Public Holidays for 2015
- Monday 26th January Australia Day Holiday
- Monday 9th March Labour Day
- Friday 3rd April Good Friday
- Monday 6th April Easter Monday
- Saturday 25th April Anzac Day
- Monday June 8th Queen’s Birthday
- Tuesday November 3rd Melbourne Cup Day

### Significant School Dates for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 22nd January</td>
<td><strong>Open Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28th January</td>
<td><strong>Staff Resume</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Thursday 29th January | **Years 1-6 Commence**
|                    | **New Parent Information Session 9:00 a.m.** |
| Friday 30th January  | **Foundation (Preps) Commence**            |
| Wednesday 4th March  | **Parent/Teacher Interviews**              |
| Friday 27th March   | **End of Term 1**                          |
Last Friday, we had 22 students in Years 3-6 participate in the Individual Triathlon events. They had to swim 165 metres, ride 4 kilometres and run 1.2 kilometres. Students entered the races for different reasons. Some wanted to win while others wanted to see if they could complete the gruelling event successfully! They each did a terrific job!! Well done kids!

3/4 Girls

1st – Somaiya Harriden  
2nd – Hannah-Rose Simmonds  
3rd – Emma Harbert

3/4 Boys

1st – Samuel O’Connor-Hudson  
2nd – Lachlan Thompson  
3rd – Erol Yildiz

5/6 Girls

1st – Giselle Andrew  
2nd – Isra Elsheikh  
3rd – Casey Grant

5/6 Boys

1st – Mackai Harriden  
2nd – Nic Franks  
3rd – Patrick Broughton