**Family Fun Day**

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: Wednesday 12th November, 2014  
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 at the amphitheatre and on the bank near the oval and eat lunch together.  
* There will be a Sausage Sizzle available on the day as well. Below are the pre order forms.

* The SRC students will set up a variety of games and activities on the oval and the asphalt areas for families, teachers and students 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.

* As well, the school will present the wonderful Art Show (admission free). From 1:00 p.m. - 6:30pm the entire school corridor will be open for visitors to see the magnificent student art work on display. Families will have the opportunity to purchase their child’s art work for a gold coin donation per art work. Over many years, it has been a great success so please come along and join in the fun!

* We will also conduct the annual Fun Run. The Fun Run will start at 2.45pm. Fun Run sponsorship forms were sent home along with this newsletter. There are prizes to be won for students who collect sponsorship. 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.

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 which is Wednesday 12th 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 7th 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>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bottled Water</td>
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<td>Fruit Juice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flavoured Milk</td>
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**Total**

Student Name: ___________________________  Room Number: ________

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***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 – Olivia Scotman, Hamish Petty, Alex Potts, Jordan Haywood, Kayla Gardner, Raelen Lazaro, Emily Cox, Elaf Elsheikh 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 – Riley McCabe, Layla Chivers, Philippa Mallett, Teagan Nabbs, Lachlan Taylor, Elijah Zanthey, Shay Benson, Lachlan Taylor and Liam Irwin. 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. Ethan Bowerman is delighted that his classroom won the winning trophy this week!

3/4 A in Room 11 won the Middle School Times Tables Trophy. Erol Yildiz and Carter Grant are both delighted that their classroom won the winning trophy this week!

2/3 D in Room 10 won the Yard Duty Competition Trophy. Sara Harbert and Haikal Shukri were very happy to collect the winning trophy this week!

‘Recycling Cans’ Award

Congratulations to Matilda Turner who received a ‘Recycling Cans’ Award for the week. She brought in 13,000 cans! Every little bit counts!

‘Striving for Excellence’
Open since 1887
Happy Birthday to Matilda Fry, Ashby Murphy, Blake Neilson, Isaac Bennett, Harry Bourne and Will Hastie who are all having their birthdays this week. On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish them all a very Happy Birthday!

Tuesday 11th November is Remembrance Day. The school will be conducting a short Remembrance Day commemoration (30 min) in the PC Centre from 10:25 am. All families are welcome to attend. We will explain to the students that it is not just a great opportunity to reflect on the people, current and past, who have made sacrifices to ensure that we have a free and democratic country, but also a time to reflect on our loved ones.

There are Poppies and related products for sale in the school office to help commemorate Remembrance Day. Items from $1-$5 are available.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD
Melba continues to stretch its lead! Well done all students who have recently received a ticket for positive behaviour.

CURRENT SCORES
Melba- 192 points
Hume- 182 points
Bradman- 178 points
Chisholm- 165 points

School Canteen

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 in recent newsletters.

This week
Chicken Nuggets (4) & Wedges pack $3.00
Chocolate or Strawberry milk - $2.00
Apple & Orange Juice $1.50

Mystery bags: The Family Fun day is just one week away. Our Mystery bag stall is always popular - thank you to everyone who has already returned one or more filled bags. We still need more though…we do appreciate our community’s support! More bags are available at the office.

Used uniform: For all families, but particularly our families leaving us; we can always use second hand uniform, so when it’s no longer any use to you, it’s of use to us! Thank you!

Enjoy your week.
Sue Ranger, Defence School Transition Aide.

Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th November</td>
<td>Prep Excursion to Shepparton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 8th November</td>
<td>School Working Bee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11th November</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12th November</td>
<td>Family Fun Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28th November</td>
<td>Report Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Valedictory Dinner $25 p/h</td>
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Well done, Bike Riders!!

Congratulations to our 26 students for their achievements completing the Great Victorian Rail Trail last week. The 3 Day Bike Ride was a demanding 3 days and they all succeeded. The trip always does its best to test fitness levels and patience. To prevail, it is obvious that they had to train hard, and they certainly did for 12 gruelling weeks! We believe that only individuals with strength of character can participate in such an event. Well done to them all!

School Staff and parents are truly proud of their remarkable efforts. They should also be proud of themselves! Just think for a minute – they rode approximately 170 kilometres! That is a long way for anybody.

We hope that they all have fond memories of their 3 days and especially remember how they achieved a goal that many could not. It has been a significant life experience for all.

We would like to thank Mr. Humphrey, Ms. Atkinson and Mrs. Ranger for attending the 3 days and organising, supervising and supporting the students. They did a terrific job co-ordinating the 3 days. We also thank the many parents and other staff who spent many tireless hours cooking, riding with the students and driving support vehicles. A great overall team effort, Pucka!

Years 3/4 Bike Ride

Due to the success of the Years 5/6 Bike Ride, we have decided to give our Years 3/4 students an opportunity to participate in a 1 Day Bike Ride. The ride will take place on Wednesday 10th December, therefore will only involve the students who are still here. They will ride approximately 25-30 kms or so. From now on, we encourage all Years 3/4 students to begin some training a couple of times per week. They will need to discuss this with their mums and dads. Stay tuned for more information. We will also be looking for parents to participate too!

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, Jossy Boxall and Hamish Kenny.

- Puddles are for ducks, not children.
- Do not enter a classroom unless a teacher is there.
- Good manners cost nothing – they are free, use them all the time!
- Water tanks and garden areas are not for playing in.

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, Hakimi Shukri read out the meaning of Reliability.

‘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.’
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 will continue to develop writing skills with a focus on the ‘th’ blend. We are also writing sentences with finger spaces and using initial sounds. We are preparing for our excursion on Thursday.
**Numeracy:** We will be working on numbers to 20 and revision as well as length.

**Junior School – Year 1s Rooms 3, 8 & 9**
**Literacy:** We will continue to develop our writing skills by working on narratives and writing reports. We are looking at verbs and adjectives and their usage in sentences.
**Numeracy:** We are looking at fractions (halves and quarters), time and calendars.

**Junior School – Year 2s Rooms 8, 9 & 10**
**Literacy:** We will continue to develop our writing skills by working on narratives and writing reports. We are looking at verbs and adjectives and their usage in sentences.
**Numeracy:** We are looking at fractions (halves, quarters and eighths), time and calendars.

**Middle School - Years 3/4 Rooms 10, 11 & 13**
**Literacy:** During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will work on poetry. We will also be focusing on punctuation.
**Numeracy:** We will be revising the four processes and looking at mapping. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.

**Senior School - Years 5/6 Rooms 1A&1B**
**Literacy:** During writing sessions over the next few weeks, students will have a choice regarding genres. We will also focus on changing present to past tense.
In reading we will be focusing on fluency and expression while also identifying key words and phrases during note taking.
**Numeracy:** We will revise place value (including decimals), processes, fractions, decimals and percentages along with continued Numeracy Testing. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.

***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 185-190 nights.
Well done if you have kept up!***
On Thursday 11th December, our Year 6 students will attend their graduation night - the **Valedictory Dinner**.
All Year 6 students will need to arrive at the PC Centre by 6:00 p.m. to begin their night with a Dinner. All parents are asked to arrive at 7:30 p.m. for the Graduation Ceremony after dinner. We do not have the room for siblings and other family friends to come along as well. Please appreciate our request or it will be too crowded to proceed.

**TIMELINE:**
6.00pm Students are expected to arrive at Pitman-Coffey Centre
6.30pm meal
7.30pm Parents arrive - presentations followed by dancing

**Cost:** The cost for the dinner is $25. Payment is due by Thursday 4th December.

**Please Note:** All Year 6 students are to bring a 2 litre bottle of soft drink for serving at dinner on the night. The bottle needs to be at school leading up to the night.

**Awards to be presented at the Valedictory Dinner:**
- Year 6 Valedictorian
- 4 Student Bursaries
- Sporting Award
- Academic Excellence Awards
- Striving for Excellence Award
- Quiet Achiever Award
- Mitchell Shire Citizenship Award
- Lion’s Club Community Award

All students seem very excited about the big night. Good luck to all Year 6 students.
We hope they all enjoy the occasion.

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Our last Visiting Artist for 2014 - the **Shell Questacon Science Circus** - visited our school last week.

What did some of our students think?

‘The Questacon session was cool. We saw Mrs Splat get squished and then we saw air. When we had to do things we said “1,2,3, crash test!”’. They did tricks and made little things big and made bubbles rise. They showed oxygen and air. We saw a candle.’ **By Ronan Sullivan Room 10**

‘Today we met 2 women that work at a Sciencelab called Questacon. The first woman had a best friend called Mrs Splat. She taught us how to play a bubble trumpet. What a wonderful time!’ **By Renae Pennycook Room 10**

‘We saw Mrs. Splat go splat! We saw 3 bubbles inside an enormous bubble. A bubble blew out a candle. We had to say “3, 2, 1, crash test”, then she would do the experiment. There was a lot of energy. French perfume is whales’ vomit.’ **By Riley Berger Room 10**

‘When we were doing the experiments, we had to say “3, 2, 1, crash test”. We did all sorts of science. We heard sounds when Chloe dropped the ball. It made a splat! It was interesting. The oxygen from the bubble blew out the candle. Mrs. Splat was on the ball and when Jordan dropped it, Mrs. Splat bounced instead of the ball. It was crazy!’ **By Rhiannon Jagers Room 10**
On Saturday 8th 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 2014. 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
**Job No 10.** Front verandah deck to be re-oiled
**Job No 11.** Blinds to be put up.

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 8th November, 2014. |
| Name -__________________________________________________________|
| I would like to help with Job No __. |
| Tools I can bring ________________________________________________________________________ |
| ______________________________________________________________________________________ |

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‘Striving for Excellence’
Open since 1887
Lively questions and superb action photographs are combined in this colourful, practical science book designed for young readers. This book encourages children to investigate their world through simple experiments, enabling them to make their own scientific discoveries.

**Text:** Let’s Explore Science: Make It Change  
**Authors:** David Evans and Claudette Williams  
**Learning Intention:** To learn about experiments that can cause a change in matter.  
**Measure of Success:** I have recorded some experiments from the text. Other books in this series are Make it Balance, Make It Go and Me and My Body. Enjoy reading non-fiction texts about science and try some experiments of your own. Have fun!!

Mrs Challis  
Library teacher

At assembly on Monday, **Anna Buckeye** spoke about some of her favourite books that she likes to borrow from the school library. She also showed her library bag that she uses to look after her books. Thanks, Anna!

**Mitchell Shire Library Services**  
**Toddler Time/Story Time**  
**Wednesday 12th November 11:30am**  
Puckapunyal District Neighbourhood Centre  
Please come along
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