Dear Parents,

Heartfelt Thanks
I have been truly humbled by the response to my community letter last week and the news of my impending move to Williamstown North. I have received hundreds of emails congratulating me on my new appointment and thanking me for my endeavours at APS. There have also been some tears and hugs in the office area as other parents have expressed their surprise & sadness, but have ultimately wished me happiness in my future career. When I did some yard duty the morning after the letter was distributed, I was swamped by students who came up to hug me – hard to keep a dry eye under these circumstances!

These responses just sum up for me what APS is all about. That wonderful sense of community and everyone working together to do the best for our students. I am cherishing my last few days at present but I know that final assembly and ultimately good bye isn’t too far away!

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone for their good wishes over the last week.

In consultation with the Southern Metropolitan Regional Director, Peter Greenwell, I am pleased to announce that Judi Gurvich has been tentatively appointed as Acting Principal for term 3. Judi was Principal of Malvern Central School for many years before taking up a more senior role with responsibility for 27 schools in the Kingston Network. Judi is a highly experienced and respected educational leader and I am very confident that she will be a wonderful support for the school during this transition period.

During term 3, a selection process will be undertaken to appoint a substantive Principal for the start of term 4. This process is quite extensive and will take most of the term to follow through. School Council will be briefed on this process early next term which will involve the identification of selection criteria for APS, as well as a state wide posting program ticking along smoothly. Robin Nicolson will be taking leave for the whole term and we are delighted that Kate Pilgrim will be returning to APS to keep his Tommy Lahiff Cup (selected Year 6 children) open for this one!!

I would like to thank the many parents, uncles & aunts, grandparents, work colleagues etc – who have ‘willingly’ become sponsors in support of this event. We’re hoping to raise the money for a shade sail over the new junior playground. We hope many parents will come along to join in the Fun Run next Tuesday.

Oak Tree Donation
A very generous prep parent (who wishes to remain anonymous) kindly donated the large oak tree that was planted out the front of the multipurpose centre last week. We still have some final restoration work to be done in this area but it will look fantastic come spring; and in the long term it will provide some terrific shade for the seating in this area.

On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Jason and Cherie Vickery (parents) for coordinating the transport of the tree to APS and for assisting with the planting last Thursday. We lost several mature oak trees when the multipurpose centre was built, so it is very fitting that we have been able to reinstate a tree of the same variety.

Term 3 Long Service Leave
We have two staff members who will be taking extended periods of long service leave during term 3. Peter Cracknell will take leave for the whole term and we are delighted that Kate Pilgrim will be returning to APS to keep his program ticking along smoothly. Robin Nicolson will be taking leave for the first six weeks of the term and the very experienced Jennifer Hemingway will be teaching 4N during this period. We wish both Peter and Robin well as they travel with their respective families to explore Europe. (There’s a rumour going around that we’ll see Mr Cracknell competing in the Olympics – we’ll have to keep our eyes open for this one!!)

Last Week of Term 2
Please note that next week is the last week of term 2 and consequently there will be no assembly next Wednesday morning. The final assembly for term 2 will be held at approx. 1:45pm on Friday 29th June. Please note that all children will be dismissed at 2:30pm on that day to begin their mid year holiday.

….Principal’s report continued over page
YOU CAN DO IT! AWARDS

1C Chloe D’Cruz  For her efforts to create positive class morale. Go 1C!
1C Markis Angelatos  For taking caring of others when they are upset.
1J Indi Officer  For using lots of useful strategies to read tricky words. Super effort Indi!
1P Samantha Hill  For taking on a positive attitude and always trying to finish an activity, even when she is challenged. Well done, Sami.
2E Lily Stewart  For being such a positive and enthusiastic participant in all classroom activities.
2J Alessandro Maciel Pizzorno Bazzo  For working confidently and with persistence in all his reading rotation activities. Well done Alessandro.
2J Skye Park  For demonstrating all of her You Can Do It foundations every day. You are a great role model Skye. Well done!
2P Maisie Henshaw  For the amazing effort she has put in during Term 2 to complete all her work tasks with a smile.
2S Lily Ritson Morrison  For a super effort in creating worded problems involving multiplication. Well done Lily!
2T Alex Pogrund  For improving his reading and writing skills.
3C Elliana Martelli  For presenting such a fantastic PowerPoint on Day and Night. You spoke confidently, had some great ideas, pictures and information. Well done Elli!
3D Stephanie Murphy  For showing such a positive and enthusiastic attitude to everything we do at school. Well done Steph!
3F Olivia Nash  For clearing out the drinking troughs when they were blocked. Thanks Olivia. The water was going to overflow and cause a problem.
3W Blayke Sheean  For demonstrating great movements and expression during our Level 3 rehearsals of ‘Alice In Wonderland’. Well done Blayke!
4N Charlotte Sorger  For showing a positive, resilient attitude in the classroom and for being so very helpful at all times – keep it up!
4N Oscar Bolt  For working really positively to catch up on his paper aeroplane activity, after an absence. Keep it up Oscar!
4S Amber Wright  For taking on feedback and displaying empathy during your role play in a literacy session.

LIBRARY NEWS

A reminder that all library books, including overdue books, need to be returned to the library before 27 June the last Wednesday of term.

HELP!

The SRC needs donations of old blankets, gloves, scarves, beanies or coats for the homeless people in the Prahran Mission. The winter for the homeless people is very cold and for them all donations are very much appreciated. Please bring them to Mrs Caruso’s classroom.

By SRC Leaders  Sasha and Oscar

LEVEL 1 BULLETIN

This week’s Level 1 bulletin is on the website for the Prep parents under Level & Specialist Bulletins in the Parents tab or follow this link.
Hi everyone,

**Tuesday 26th June – APS Fun Run**
Next Tuesday we are holding the Armadale PS Fun Run. That morning, all students – and lots of the teachers & parents we hope! – will participate in the Fun Run to be held at Orrong Romanis Oval. Afterwards, back at school, there will be a **free hot dog lunch & icy poles** for all the children and parents. In order to raise funds for the school, we are asking children to seek sponsorship from parents, friends, relatives and neighbours. The focus of the day will be on participation and fun, and there will be a variety of prizes in different categories. If you are able to help on the day, please fill out the form below with your contact details so we can organise a team of helpers.

**Farewell afternoon tea for Jim**
In order for parents to be able to say their farewells to Jim, the PFA will be organising and funding an afternoon tea for Jim on **Thursday 28th June at 2.30pm in the school hall**. All parents & friends are welcome to attend this afternoon tea, and we look forward to seeing as many parents as possible that afternoon in order to acknowledge Jim’s wonderful contribution to APS over the last five years.

We do hope you will be able to join us to express our appreciation to Jim for the wonderful legacy he will leave at Armadale PS.

**Level 4 Cocktail Party – change of date**
The date for this year's Level 4 Cocktail Party has been changed to **Friday 26th October**. Could Level 4 parents please note this in your diaries and full details will be sent closer to the event.

Keep warm, and have a great week everyone.

**Abbey Nash**
0410 509 161
anash@nashmanagement.com.au

**Jill Davies**
0414 335 555
jill.davies@yahoo.com.au

PFA Co-Presidents

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**APS FUN RUN - TUESDAY 26 JUNE**
10.00am - 1.30pm

☑ Yes, I can help at the fun run

Name: _____________________________
Child’s Class: _______
Phone no: _________________________
Email: __________________________

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**Fun Run Practice**
Each morning from 8.45-9.00am we will be running some Fun Run practice on the basketball courts. All children are welcome. Please see your house captain when you arrive.

Harriet and Amelia *(Densham)*
Alexia and Lili *(Rose)*
Charlie and Ella *(Munro)*
Brooke and Molly *(Northcote)*

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**Visual Artist of the Week** Sasha Durnic 4Z
For the excellent skills she displayed when painting her robot. She used soft pastels to make a bright background and showed a very good understanding of how to paint highlights.

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**Visual Art Class of The Week** 4N
For the focus they displayed throughout the entire art lesson. You all showed confidence when working with soft pastels and have developed excellent painting techniques!

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**Art Smocks**
Some students still need to bring their Art smocks back to school. Smocks should be labelled clearly with your name. Smocks are stored in classroom tubs/baskets and brought to each art lesson. New smocks can be purchased from the uniform shop in Kew.

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**Year 6 Art Club ‘Acrylic Painting on Canvas’**
Congratulations to all the Art Club members for the excellent portraits they completed this semester. Students will present their finished paintings next term during assembly.

**Lucy Gorman**
Visual Arts Co-ordinator
PERFORMING ARTS AWARD: LEVEL 4 STUDENTS
– For persisting to learn the songs, movements and dialogue for “Alice in Wonderland”. Well done Level 4, you are all growing in confidence and your enthusiasm towards the musical has been very inspiring. Well done!!!

CHOIR NEWS
• SENIOR CHOIR (Level 3 & 4) – Friday 8.15am in the Performing Arts hall
• JUNIOR CHOIR (Level 2) – Friday 8.15am in the UPSTAIRS INFANT BUILDING
Both choirs will perform their Term 2 songs on Friday 29th June at 1.45pm at the final assembly for Term 2.

Amanda Wilson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

LEVEL COSTUMES
Unfortunately we are unable to provide costumes for 370 students so we’ll need some assistance from parents. In class we’ll be making accessories but we need some base clothing for each costume. We try to encourage parents to look for items either within their own home/family or at an op shops before buying new items.

"If you are looking at buying a t-shirt or legging/track-suit pants, K-mart, Target and Big W have clothing that is quite reasonable.

We will need the t-shirts for LEVEL 1 and 2 ASAP so we can start turning them into costumes. Please bring in your child’s t-shirt named and in a plastic bag. THANK YOU for your support.

Level 1- SMALL CARDSMEN
• Black bottoms: jeans, leggings or tracksuit pants
• PLAIN WHITE T-SHIRT that can have a material shape glued to it (heart, spade, club or diamond)

Level 2 – INSECTS
• All students to have black bottoms i.e. jeans, leggings or tracksuit pants
• 2P – lady bugs: PLAIN RED T-SHIRT – large black material circles will be glued to the t-shirt
• 2T – grasshoppers: PLAIN GREEN T-SHIRT – green material will be attached to the t-shirt for legs!
• 2S- dragonflies: PLAIN WHITE LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRT – glittery material will be attached to the sleeve and arms
• 2E – Bees: PLAIN YELLOW T-SHIRT – thick yellow lines will be glued to the t-shirt
• 2J – Christmas Beetles: PLAIN BLACK T-SHIRT – metallic material will be glued to the side of the t-shirt

Level 3- CLOCKS
• All students to be dressed in black; black bottoms (jeans, tracksuit pants, leggings) and a plain black t-shirt.
Students will be making clocks in ART to be attached to the t-shirts.

SHOES: students will need to wear black shoes and socks for the performance i.e. jiffies, school shoes

PROP DONATIONS
• Colourful cake stands for a tea party!
• green material (grasshoppers)
Items can be left in The Performing Arts room

PARENT HELPERS WORKING BEE: EVERY FRIDAY UNTIL THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS @ 9.00am - 3.00pm in The Performing Arts room
Thank you to Pina Martelli,, Sophie Lund, Andrea Gray and Michelle Moffat for donating their time last Friday.

WHERE: THE NATIONAL THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Tickets for Armadale Primary School’s production of Alice in Wonderland can be purchased on line at: http://www.nationaltheatre.org.au/

HOW MANY TICKETS CAN I PURCHASE: To ensure that all families have fair access to a reasonable number of tickets, we seek your support by asking you to limit your initial purchase of tickets to FOUR. We will run with this request for 4 weeks (29th June – 27th July). If you are interested in purchasing additional tickets, we seek your further support by asking you to hold off purchasing until Monday 30th July. The additional tickets will stay on sale until Friday 3rd August. TICKETS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR APS STUDENTS

PRICE: $25 Adult $20 Child < 15 years, Concession, FT student

MUSICAL FOR 2012: Disney’s ‘Alice in Wonderland’ TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE ON FRIDAY 29th JUNE

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Amanda Wilson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator
LEVEL 2&3 BUDDY REPORT

Last Friday all the Level Threes got together with the Level Twos and were put together as buddies. As our YCDI topic has been “Getting Along” for such a long time, the teachers thought it was a great idea. Our first “Getting to Know You” activity was for our buddies to make a paper cube about ourselves so that we could get to know each other better. We enjoyed meeting our buddies and the activity. We are looking forward on seeing our buddies again next term.

On behalf of all the Level Threes, thank you teachers for our buddies.

Yasmin 3F

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

FOR LEVEL 3 AND 4 STUDENTS

ENTRIES CLOSE THURSDAY 28TH JUNE

This year, only interested Armadale Primary students in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be able to participate in the International Competitions and Assessment (ICAS) in Mathematics & English during term 3. Information and costs will be issued to each Level 3 & 4 student with this newsletter. If you have any queries, please contact the school.

Peter Cracknell
ICAS Co-ordinator

NETBALL SUCCESS

Armadale Primary’s Twisters netball team won their preliminary final at the weekend and are now in the Grand Final for under 13 Reserves.

The Twisters blitzed the preliminary final 28 to 7, and were barracked on by several of their classmates from Armadale Primary as well as Robin Nicolson. Thanks for the support!

Congratulations to the following team members for making the grand final:
Ella Bennetts, Emma Bickerdike, Millie Darby, Molly De Hennin, Ally Golusin, Molly Nash, Rose Power, Lexi Tsaconas and Emilie West.

Good luck for the grand final on Saturday!

REPLANTING THE RAIN GARDEN

Over the last two weeks the gardening group have been planting lots of native trees and shrubs in the old Rain garden area. This area was demolished when the new buildings came. The soil was very hard and we had to really work hard to dig the holes big enough to put the plants in. Next step is to spread the mulch around to protect them. Here is a photo to show how we’ve been going.

Harvey, Jacob and the rest of the Gardening Group

SPORTS NEWS

Tommy Lahiff Cup
Next Thursday, 28th June a selected group of Year 6 students will be participating in the Tommy Lahiff Cup Aussie rules round robin day at Port Melbourne Football Ground. Information has been distributed to those children selected. A reminder that departure will be at 9:00am sharp. Good luck to all involved.

Lost Balls
A request has been made to the school from our neighbour near the Basketball Courts. Please do not come directly to the neighbour’s house requesting balls to be returned. Please come to the office and let the school know you have lost an item. At the end of each term, named balls will be distributed to individual students by the sports shed monitors. We appreciate your co-operation with this request. Also, please do not deliberately kick any balls over the fence!

L3&4 Swimming Reports
These will be distributed with the Semester 1 reports next week.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator
Dear Parents,

As we move into the end of the term you will notice your children being more tired and emotional and we are all holding out for those holidays. Please be mindful of keeping the children to a routine of early nights, keeping them well nourished and away from others with colds and flu. One thing not going into holiday mode is our musical – Alice in Wonderland. There will be scheduled rehearsals over the holidays and the main characters are certainly practicing at every opportunity.

Please look carefully at the sections in the newsletter from Amanda about how to buy your tickets online, there is an initial allocation of only 4 tickets per family and after that we may open up ticket sales for further tickets if there are some seats still available. We need to ensure that all of our Armadale families have equal access to purchasing tickets. It is certainly gearing up to be a wonderful musical event.

Kids and Tech: Parenting Tips for the Digital Age: Part One

This article caught my attention about changing behaviours as a family to cope with the fast-paced changes in technology and it is always interesting to listen to what the research suggests. This recent article came from Generation Next and was written by Sarah Kessler. Please enjoy and I’ll bring you part two next week.

Parents had enough to worry about before their children could bully each other online, meet dangerous strangers without leaving the house, and switch between tasks at a rapid-fire pace. Some parents have even questioned whether their children will ever be able to concentrate.

In a world where, according to one survey, 81% of toddlers have an online presence by the time they are two, most parents are still confused about how to best manage their children’s relationship with technology. Author Scott Steinberg attempts to answer their questions in a new series of high-tech parenting books called The Modern Parent’s Guide. The first volume, Kids and Video Games, went online as a free download this week. Internet, Web and Online Safety; Facebook and Social Networks; Smartphones and Apps; and Digital Music, Movies and Entertainment will follow within the next year.

In a recent article the author was asked how parents should shape their children’s experiences with the digital world, and about the technology rules he uses in his home.

How has technology changed parenting?

In virtually every way imaginable, given that technology has permeated nearly every facet of kids’ and adults’ everyday lives, from the personal to professional and social. Consider that kids aged two to five are better able to play video games and downloaded apps than tie their shoelaces or ride a bike. The iPhone, iPod touch and iPad now top holiday wish lists of children aged six to 12. Tots as young as two are being given faux plastic cellphones and tablets. (Even Mattel and Hasbro’s toy lines are increasingly giving way to app-enabled action figures and Barbie dolls with built-in digital cameras.) This introduces a fundamental paradigm shift, as modern kids are growing up in an age where technology and connected devices are both readily available second nature, and yet standardized norms and rules of behavior governing usage – as well as experienced, positive role models – are hard to come by.

Keeping kids safe online requires that we re-evaluate old approaches and re-equip parents and kids with an entirely new set of skills to meet the challenges of the 21st century, which changes the very fabric of family culture. Plus, of course, demands that everyone – parents, kids, teachers, government, law enforcement, etc. – do their part to shoulder the weight of this responsibility, which must be shared by all parties involved.

A recent study from Nielsen found seven out of 12 children ages 12 and under who live in tablet-owning households use the devices, and it suggests parents give their children tablets to occupy them while traveling and waiting in restaurants. Is there anything wrong with using the iPad as a babysitter?

Let’s be realistic up-front: Like many modern parents, my wife and I probably wouldn’t have survived the early years if the iPad and iPhone weren’t there to buy the occasional moment’s peace and chance to enjoy dinner out once in a while, without having to juggle screaming sprouts. But using hardware and software as a substitute for actively paying attention to or spending time with kids is a bad habit that’s all too easy to get into, and one that sells children short.

Screen time should always be limited, and use of high-tech devices balanced with other healthy everyday activities. And parents should always make a point of keeping an eye on and spending time their children — a rewarding and healthy experience for all.

As a rule of thumb, high-tech devices should unequivocally not be used as babysitters, but practicality being what it is, sometimes you have to bow to reality. Once in a while, after a long day, when you desperately need to decompress or five minutes to reconnect with your spouse, your toddler’s turned into something straight out of The Exorcist, firing up Monkey Toddler Lunchbox or screening an episode of Dora the Explorer isn’t something you should feel guilty about.

...continued over page
A wide range of products monitor children on their mobile phones and the Internet. Where is the line between appropriate supervision and spying? Is there one? The line is all too fine, and the decision to implement such solutions is often a point of much contention between parents and tots. Realistically, only you can decide what’s appropriate here, though it’s often advised to openly discuss with children the presence of — and your decision to implement — such solutions. Know this, though: A truly determined tot will always find a way to circumvent such restrictions, whether through software workarounds or visiting a friend’s house.

The best defence here is a good offence: Teach kids positive computing habits, encourage them to come forward with questions surrounding negative situations or questionable content encountered online, and set a good example with your online behaviors. Build trust, foster parent-child communication and teach your kids how to make good decisions, and you’ll empower them to safely connect and interact. And know that — like any normal individual — they’ll sometimes mess up, and that, once breached, trust can take time to reestablish. Everyone makes mistakes sometimes, despite safeguards and the best of intentions.

Hoping some of this helps.

Rochelle
MARCO POLO
The famous explorer, brings Asia to the West, once again with:
MANDARIN CHINESE FOR KIDS
(Age 6-9 years)
A Fun, Activity-Based Introduction to Mandarin Chinese

Tuesday 3rd July to Thursday 5th July 2012
9:30am - 3:00pm
AUS$180*
*discount for ICC members and siblings

The Italian Institute of Culture, Melbourne, 223 Domain Road, South Yarra, VIC 3141

For more information contact: www.Marcopo4Kids.com Kendall@Marcopo4Kids Mobile: 0407 039703

In three days you will learn how to:
• Introduce yourself to a new Chinese friend
• Count and write the Chinese characters from 1-100
• Buy food at a market and order your favourite dish at a restaurant
• Tell a doctor that you feel sick

Come and enjoy:
• Noisy dragon dancing
• Giant scroll making
• Chinese dumpling making
• Storytelling and painting
• Active running games
• End-of-course performance

Is your child complaining of Back or Neck pain?
Low back pain is commonly considered to only be an adult issue; however studies show that the cumulative prevalence of low back pain in children by the age of 15 years is over 70%
School can be a challenging time for children. Ensuring they are functioning to their full potential is important to their physical and mental development.

Chiropractic care is a proven and effective method to restore correct function and relieve pain associated with the stresses at school such as carrying heavy backpacks. Chiropractic possesses an excellent safety record, and through their five year university training, chiropractors are the spinal health experts.

Dr. Megan Azer specialises in Family Wellness Care and uses a range of gentle Chiropractic techniques to help achieve correct function of the spine and nervous system.

Childhood is the best time to have the spine checked as this ensures a solid, lifelong foundation.

To discover if Chiropractic can help your child and family contact Dr. Megan Azer at Amber Healing Centre:
Ph.9576 2559
599 Dandenong Rd, Armadale
www.amberhealingcentre.com

Special for members of Armadale Primary School:
Mention this ad to receive your Initial Consultation at 50% off!

Art’scool for Kids
Glen Iris Ph: 9885 1195 / 0400272335
Art Classes for Children with Ms Terry Taylor
Specialising in Fine Art & Creative Learning

Term 2 HOLIDAY Program 2012: (multi-age)
July 2 10.00 – 12.00 Observational Drawing: A close-up study of Seashells $35.00
July 2 3.00 – 5.00pm Pastel Drawing: Magicians and Wizards
July 3 10.00 – 12.00 Clay Modelling: A Self Portrait
July 3 3.00 – 5.00 pm Acrylic Painting: Free Choice
Fruit snack included

Term 3 ART PROGRAM 2012:
1 July 16,17,18,21 Observational Drawing: Yummy Cookies
2 July 23,24,25,28 Acrylic Painting: My Special Dog Mona
3 July 30,31 Aug 1,4 3D Object: Design your own Bamboo Vase
4 Aug 7, 8, 11 Pastel Drawing: Your Favorite Fairy-Tale Character
5 Aug 13, 14, 15, 18 Acrylic Painting: Carrots, Carrots, Carrots
6 Aug 20, 21, 22, 25 Clay Modelling: Free Choice
7 Aug 27, 28, 29, Sept 1 Art History Drawing: Alfred Roth’s Dragons
8 Sept 4, 5, 6 Acrylic Painting: The Squidgy Fruited Melon Leaf
9 Sept 10, 11, 12, 15 3D Fun: Surfboard
10 Sept 17, 18, 19, 22 Detailed Drawing: The Lines in Your Hand

Time & Cost
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday classes – Term Program 4.00 – 5.30 pm $30.00
Saturday - Observational Drawing (ages 8 to 18) 2.30 – 4.30 pm $35.00

ENROL NOW FOR TERM 3, 2012
Seneca Textiles - Winter Clearance Sale
FINAL 3 DAYS!!

Seneca Textiles are wholesalers of best quality textiles and homewares. This is your opportunity to buy top of the range homewares at dramatically reduced, less than wholesale, prices. Manchester, Bedlinen, Towels, Napery, Cushions, Throws and Remnants.

When: Thurs 21st June, Fri 22nd June & Sat 23rd June, 2012
Where: 531 High Street, Prahran, VIC, 3181
Times: Thursday/Friday: 10.00 am - 4.30pm
Saturday: 10.00 am - 4.00pm
Contact: Tel: 03 9529 2788 or www.senecatextiles.com

Attachments: ICAS notice Levels 3 & 4 only
(Advertised material is distributed with this newsletter. Whilst all care is taken to ensure validity we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement)