Dear Parents,

School Photos
School photos were distributed this week to students. In consultation with the PFA earlier in the year, a new format was trialled for this round of photos. I would be interested in your thoughts on the presentation of this year’s photos, so if you get a chance please drop me a quick line at cahill.jim.a@edumail.vic.gov.au. Parents will also have a chance to purchase additional photos if their children are members of the following groups:

- School Leaders
- House Captains
- Student Representative Council (SRC)
- Green Team
- Junior Choir
- Senior Choir

These can be viewed in the foyer of the office and orders can be placed in the envelopes provided.

Level Three Cocktail Party
I look forward to catching up with lots of parents at tomorrow night’s level 3 cocktail party. The evening will kick off from approximately 7:30pm at the Toorak Bowling Club. See you there!

Next Round of Sub Committee Meetings
The next round of 2012 School Council subcommittee meetings will be held next week. Whilst each of these committees has a core membership, the meetings are open to any school parents who would like to attend. The work undertaken by each subcommittee helps to shape the recommendations that are presented to our School Council for consideration.

If one of the agenda items below is of particular interest to you, then please feel very welcome to come along and join in this meeting.

Facilities Tuesday 5th June 5:15 pm in Jim’s Office
Main Agenda Items: Paving in front of the MPC, Landscaping Around the Double Storey Portable, Playground Bins & General Business

Curriculum Thursday 7th June 8:00am in the Library
Main Agenda Items: 2013 Camping Program & Excursion Policy

Finance Friday 8th June 8:00am in Jim’s Office
Main Agenda Items: OOSHC Program Reports, OOSHC Term 2 Holiday Program, Ratification of Accounts for May, Credit Card Expenditure, Sub Program Expenditure Audit & Whole School Asset Stock Take.

Paving Fundraiser
We will shortly take delivery of the personalised pavers that were ordered by families late last year as part of our PFA fundraising program. Quotes are currently being obtained by the facilities committee for the redevelopment of the mulched area under the plane tree where these pavers will be laid. We anticipate that it may still be several more weeks before this project is finalised and so I appreciate everyone’s patience on this matter. I’ll keep you posted as we confirm the details of this project.

Proposed Stop Work Action
As a result of a breakdown in talks between the Australian Education Union (AEU) and the state government, a stop work has been proposed for next Thursday 7th June. At this stage, I have not been informed by our school’s sub branch as to which grades/programs will be affected by this industrial action. As soon as this information becomes available I will send home a separate flyer to all families so that you may organise alternative arrangements. Please note that students who come to school on this day from affected classes, will be reallocated to other classrooms for the day and participate in a modified program. So please look out for this flyer early next week with all of the details.

Jim Cahill
Principal
YOU CAN DO IT! AWARDS

1C  Henry Steele  For his persistence and effort to improve his handwriting. Keep it up Henry!
1C  Grace O'Loughlin  For researching the number of teeth a giraffe has and reporting this to the class.
1J  Keira O'Hara  For putting a super effort into her drawings and making sure her work is the best
1P  Will Cullity  For working cooperatively and guiding his classmates with his enthusiasm. Well
2E  Clancy Hyde  For his increasing confidence when speaking to the class and for practising his
2J  Thomas Muscatello  For making a great effort to be resilient in all areas of his schooling. You have
2P  Harry Dixon  For showing persistence when working through his maths assessment sheets.
2P  Abbie Montague  For working through her maths assessments tasks with enthusiasm. A great
2S  Raghu Samartha  For his honesty and being a reliable and helpful member of the class. Well done Raghu!
2T  Holly Wright  For being a fantastic listener, great friend, learning her spelling words every
3C  Henry Hayman  For the enthusiasm demonstrated when writing his narrative. We love your humor and imagination. Well done Henry!
3D  Jacob Sayers Niemann  For providing the class with a creative writing initiative.
3F  Camilla Boyle  For her valuable insights and contributions about our serial novel "Rowan of Rin".
3W  Sammy Asaka  For demonstrating great confidence and persistence when completing
4N  Ally Golusin  For her kindness and competence in running the office so efficiently.
4S  Henry Goode  For the impressive effort and organisation you showed when producing your
4S  Emilie West  For her kindness and competence in running the office so efficiently.

LEVEL 1 BULLETIN
This week’s Level 1 bulletin is on the website for the Prep parents under your child’s class in the Students tab or follow this link.

HOUSE POINTS
Densham won this week’s house. Congratulations to all the children in Densham.

NATIONAL BUDDY DAY
On Friday, 1st June, the level 1 and 4 students will be celebrating National Buddy Day. Children, big buddies and small buddies alike, will enjoy a celebration altogether by bringing their favourite teddy to school and our purple Buddy Bear mascot and his friends will attend too.
Students will also learn the new buddy handshake. For more information visit: http://www.buddyday.org.au/cms-home/index.php
We look forward to hearing from our Buddy Reporters about this exciting event in the newsletter very soon.

Jennifer Drew
Buddy Coordinator
Hi everyone,

The APS Fun Run – Tuesday 26th June
In the last week of Term 2, we will be holding a Fun Run for all the boys and girls at Armadale Primary School. All students – and lots of the teachers we hope! – will participate in a Fun Run to be held at Orrong Romanis Oval on the morning of Tuesday 26th June. Afterwards, there will be a free sausage sizzle lunch at school for all the children and parents. In order to raise funds for the school, we will be 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.

More details will be sent home over the next couple of weeks, but in the meantime please diarise the date – Tuesday 26th June. We will need quite a few parent helpers for the day, so it would be great if you could put some time aside that morning to help out.

Level 3 cocktail party – Friday 1st June
If you haven’t already responded, it’s still not too late to attend the Level 3 cocktail party tomorrow night. And if you decide to turn up at the last minute, then it’s okay to pay at the door on the night. Any queries, please contact your Class Rep.

Classroom Cuisine - an important change to note
There’s been a slight change to the delivery days for Classroom Cuisine. From next week onwards, Classroom Cuisine will not be available on Tuesdays. It can still be ordered every other day of the week: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. You can go online at any time and place your orders, even up to 8.30am on the day the lunch is required. Just go to www.classroomcuisine.com.au and start ordering!

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

HEAD LICE
A number of cases of head lice have been reported to the school. If your child has head lice please let your child’s class teacher know. Children can return to school once treatment has commenced.

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

Visual Arts Notice

Visual Artist of the Week  Will Hutchins 4N
For his outstanding clay sculpture of the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland! Will is to be commended on the high degree of skill he displayed throughout the 3 hour Clay For Kids workshop. You produced an exceptional piece of art Will!

Visual Art Class of The Week  2P
For the enthusiasm they displayed when making their Alice in Wonderland tea cups and saucers. You have all developed confidence when making pinch pots with clay and attaching handles.

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.

Year 6 Art Club ‘Acrylic Painting on Canvas’
Art Club is on again next Tuesday Lunchtime 12:40 -1:30. The portraits are looking fantastic and are almost finished.

Clay For Kids Workshop
The Clay For Kids Workshop continues this week for 4S. Students will be involved in creating a sculpture around our Alice in Wonderland focus. 4Z will do their workshop next week. Each workshop runs for 3hours. Stay tuned to see some of the wonderful creations!

Thank you

Lucy Gorman
Visual Arts Co-ordinator
PERFORMING ARTS AWARD: 3C – For demonstrating fantastic machine shapes and sharp movements to the song, “I’m late”. Well done 3C!

MUSICAL FOR 2012: Disney’s – “ALICE IN WONDERLAND”

Who will be involved? The whole school!
When: “Alice in Wonderland” will be performed over 2 nights – Thursday 9th and Friday 10th August.
Where: The National Theatre in St Kilda
Time: 7-8pm

PARENT HELPERS MEETING:
On Friday 25th May, a group of fabulous parents started working on the props for Alice in Wonderland. We started on some painting and sewing. Thank you to those parents for donating their time.

- **Next Meeting:** Monday 4th June at 3.45pm in Performing Arts room

### PROP DONATIONS
If parents have any of the following items lying around the house/shed, that they could donate to our Performing Arts department, it would be greatly appreciated.

**MAD HATTER’S TEA PARTY**
- Colourful cake stands or trays suitable for a tea party!
- **MATERIAL**
  - green material (grasshoppers)

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**
- Old stockings
- Two cat scratching post for the Cheshire Cats to rest on!

*Items can be left in The Performing Arts room*

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO HAVE DONATED PROPS, IT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED**

### 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/tracksuit 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 or sneakers.

### 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

Amanda Wilson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator
Dear Parents,

The last couple of my sections in the school newsletter have focussed on some of my learning from the recent Professional Development sessions I have attended. Thank you again to the parents who have given feedback about these and I am happy to continue to share my thoughts and understanding with you if they are helpful in any way. I was delighted to hear on the news yesterday morning, the results of a longitudinal study undertaken by Professor Helen McGrath which showed that inflating the self-esteem of our children is breeding a generation of bullies. Last week I talked about well meaning parents who pave the way for their children and reward them for every single achievement, whether it is worthy or not. In our own lives we have to work hard to achieve success and there’s nothing wrong in telling our children, “Not yet, not yet, you are almost there, keep working hard!”

Please read on further to glean more from the article. Also contained in the article are tips on bullying and whilst it is still there, keep working hard!

Soft love is breeding a generation of bullies (Sun Herald 30/5/2012)

Lavishing children with praise and constantly pumping up self-esteem is breeding a generation of bullies, groundbreaking research reveals.

Boys are more likely than girls to engage in nasty backstabbing and exclusion, a world-first bullying study has discovered.

Prof Helen McGrath from RMIT, a key player in Australia’s anti-bullying policies, says mums, dads and educators have spent too much time telling kids that “darling, everything you do is wonderful”. Rather than giving children “trophies for coming seventh, eighth and ninth”, they instead need a good old-fashioned dose of reality - including in their school reports, she said.

"The silliest thing you can tell children is, 'If you set your mind to it, you can do anything you want'," Prof McGrath said.

Now the State Government has flagged a comprehensive discussion on teaching methods.

Education Minister Martin Dixon said last night: "What Prof McGrath’s research has shown makes good sense and is worthy of wider debate. "While parents and teachers want to encourage their children and students to be the best they can be, it is also important that we are genuine. A measure of self-esteem is good, but a large dose of self-respect and respect for others is even better."

It comes as a world-first study, released to the Herald Sun, revealed staggering rates of bullying in Victorian high schools, with nearly three quarters of Year 9 students admitting to inflicting some form of harassment.

The Australian Catholic University research into 800 year 9-11 students also found 29 per cent of boys and 36 per cent of girls were victims of traditional bullying like physical or verbal abuse.

The longitudinal study reveals those who cyber bully and are also cyber bully victims are more likely to binge drink, face suspension from school, engage in self harm and suffer from depression.

Prof McGrath said new international studies were showing kids with inflated self-esteem were more likely to be ringleaders in bullying, while those with high self-respect - which she believes can be taught in classrooms - are more likely to help tackle the problem of bullying.

Well-meaning parents and teachers had been unwittingly contributing to the problem for 30 years through the "failed self-esteem movement", she said.

"Parents love their children and are trying really hard to keep their self-esteem high, not realising ... they’ve made the mistake of assuming that means their child can never have any failures, disappointments, sadness,” she said.

"But if we’re getting kids who are increasing in their sense of narcissism, and the need to be entitled and always get positive feedback ... that is a fairly dangerous way for our community to go."

The university research and Prof McGrath’s findings will be presented at the National Centre Against Bullying conference next month. The conference is an initiative of the Alannah and Madeline Foundation.

What to do if your child is bullying others

1. Stay calm. Remember, the behaviour is at fault, rather than the child.
2. Make sure your child knows bullying behaviour is inappropriate and why.
3. Try to understand the reasons why your child has behaved in this way and look for ways to address problems.
4. Encourage your child to look at it from the others perspective, for example, "how would you feel if?"
5. Help your child think of alternative paths of action.
6. Provide appropriate boundaries for their behaviour.

Things you can do if your child is being bullied

1. Listen Try to listen to the whole story without interrupting. Be empathic, calm and validate what is being said. Ask what your child would like to happen, before you make suggestions.
2. Talk Have a conversation about what happened. Try not to make the conversation intense or you might deter your child from talking to you. Remind your child it’s normal to feel hurt, its never OK to be bullied, and it’s NOT their fault.
3. Find out what is happening Note what, when and where the bullying occurred, who was involved, how often and if anybody else witnessed it. Don’t offer to confront the person yourself.
4. Contact the school Check their bullying policy. Find out if the school is aware of the bullying and whether anything has been done to address the situation. Make an appointment to speak to your child’s teacher or co-ordinator. Try to make a follow-up appointment to ensure the situation is being addressed.
5. Give sensible advice Encourage your child not to fight back, but coach them to use neutral or, if appropriate, joking language in response. Help them explore other possible responses.
6. Tell them that the behaviour was intentional and it won’t just go away.
7. Explain it’s safer to avoid people, places or situations that could expose them to further bullying.
8. If your child asks to stay home from school, explain that it won’t help - and may make things worse.
9. If possible, help to make opportunities for them to join other groups of young people e.g. clubs at school or other groups outside of school time.

Source: The Alannah and Madeline Foundation

continued over page ...
Risk factors for becoming a bullying victim

1. Hanging out with anti-social children
2. Experiencing conflict at home.
3. Victims of traditional bullying in year 7 are more likely to be victims of cyber bullying

Factors that can protect children from bullying

1. A good attachment with family
2. A positive, supportive peer group
3. An ability to control emotions in stressful or difficult situations (Even more for cyber bullying)

Source: International Youth Development study, based on nearly 800 students, conducted by Australian Catholic University with Deakin University and the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute

Thank you so much to our wonderful local neighbours! Last weekend when we were all away from school and doing other activities, Ian, one of our neighbours who lives on the corner of Glassford St and Densham Rd spent a great deal of time cleaning up the leaves from the gutters and around our hedges. What a wonderful community minded action to undertake. On behalf of us all at APS, thank you Ian for making our school look great. Maybe some of our children could write Ian a thank-you card? Thank you also to Cherie Vickery (Luke 2T and Olivia 4S) another wonderful neighbour, for letting us know what Ian had done.

Warm regards

Rochelle

The importance of play

Playing with your child has many benefits. Play is the way in which children learn most effectively as they are relaxed and having fun.

Children’s learning becomes meaningful when they are free to learn at their own rate and in their own way.

Playing with your child helps parents foster a close relationship with their loved one. It is the adult’s role to guide, evoke and extend, but not to dominate or dictate.

Although play is for fun and enjoyment, children are continually improving their own personal development and self-esteem levels.

They develop problem solving and negotiation skills and learn about the world around them.

Playing with your child is a very special time for both you and your child. Parents are encouraged to take time everyday to observe their child, their interests, what they can do and what they like doing.

“The most important play for young children is play with parents — make sure you make some time for play every day [sic]” (Learning is Child’s Play).

When your child is challenged, try and assist them as much as possible. Follow your child’s lead as to when to join in and remember to provide space and resources.

Playing with other children is just as important, so providing opportunities for children to play together is an essential part of their growth and development.

Presentation by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

The importance of play will be discussed by psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg on Wednesday 13 June at 7.30pm.

To be held at Glen Eira Town Hall, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield, cost is $40 for Playgroup Victoria membership cardholders and $50 for non-members.

Book online at www.trybooking.com/BHUO
For further information, visit www.playgroup.org.au/events

Sources:

Raising Children Network — http://raisingchildren.net.au/

SPORTS NEWS

L4 TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY

Next Friday 8 June all Level 4 children will be involved in an exciting round robin Touch Football Gala Day with other schools in our district. This will be held at Fawkner Park. Parent assistance will be needed on the day. Further details are attached to today’s newsletter.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

MISSING PADLOCK

Two weeks ago the gold/silver padlock from the tennis nets was taken on a Tuesday between 3.30 and 5.30pm. Could parents please be aware that this has been removed from school and if found, could it be returned to the school office or OOSH as soon as possible.

Thank you.
Welcome to Armadale

Jim’s Cleaning Armadale has recently been established and its business partners would like to offer the Parents of Students at Armadale Primary School an introductory offer for the duration of Winter 2012. The specific treatments are for Bathrooms, Kitchens, Ovens and Windows.

Living locally enables us to support families and small business owners in the community and it will also enable us to provide our clients with a cost effective cleaning solution; quickly, reliably and efficiently.

Call Mark and Ali on 0439 634 384 for further information regarding our services or simply email us at ali.mark@jimscleaning.net.au and we will contact you directly. We value your local support and look forward to meeting with you shortly.

Kind regards,
Mark and Ali

Coles has launched their 2012 Sports for Schools program and we are excited to announce that Armadale Primary School will be participating and collecting vouchers for much needed sports equipment.

Vouchers are available in all Coles stores from 11 August to 19 October and we ask that you get involved to help collect vouchers for our school.

Our target is to collect lots of vouchers to provide our school with new Sports Equipment.

We are appealing to parents and guardians to collect as many vouchers as possible. By donating and encouraging friends and family to do the same, you are helping to provide a healthy and active education for our children.

Please visit coles.com.au/sportsforschools for more information about the program and you can also browse the site to see what sporting gear is available.

A collection box will be located in the Library so please feel free to drop the vouchers in the box or give them to your children to hand into your child’s class teacher.
31st May

Dear Parents,

All children from year 5 and 6 will be participating in an exciting Touch Football Gala Day to be held on Friday 8th June. Children will be involved in a series of fun round robin games with other schools in our district.

Date: Friday 8th June
Venue: Fawkner Park (park area near South Yarra PS)
Departure: 8:55 am Sharp
Travel: Bus
Return: approximately 3:00 pm
Cost & Permission: Included in the Term 2 excursion levy

Children require
* Trackpants, shorts, school sport polo, runners and windcheater/jacket. Raincoat should also be brought.
* Playlunch, lunch and drink/s in reusable containers. A plastic water bottle is also required.
* School bag or sports bag

Parent Assistance Needed
We also require at least 2 parents from each level 4 class to assist with the supervision of teams of children on the day. Parents can travel on the bus or meet us at the venue. Please indicate on the return slip below if you can help and forward to your child’s class teacher by Wednesday 6th June. Your help would be greatly appreciated by the level 4 children and teachers.

We look forward to a fun day.

Peter Cracknell (Sports Convenor)

______________________________

TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY PARENT ASSISTANCE – LEVEL 4

TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY PARENT ASSISTANCE

YES, I can assist on Friday 8th June with supervision at the gala day.
I will be travelling on the bus/meeting at the venue (please circle)

Name .......................................................... Phone No..............................................
Child’s Name ............................................. Grade..................................................