Mrs Smith is absent until Monday 31st March there will be no Principal’s news this week.
Mrs Victor-Gordon will be Acting Principal

GRANDPARENTS DAY
9.00am Start to 11.30am Finish
Old Fashion Games - 9.00am to 10.30am
Morning Tea - 10.30am to 11.30am
Invitation have been sent out.

Arts Performance
“Going Green with Dr Deane”
Forms to be sent home today, only to families that have not paid their fees.
Thursday 27th March
Starts at 2pm
Performance at school
Cost $9 per student, only for families that have not paid their fees in full.
Parents and toddlers are welcome

Grade 3-6 Interschool Cross Country
Permission forms to be sent out.
Friday 28th March
Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
9am to 1pm
Cost $6 per student, only for families that have not paid their fees in full.
PARENT HELPERS needed. Please indicate on the permission form if you are able to help.
Students will need:
- Play lunch
- Drink Bottle filled with water
- School Uniform
- COAT (optional)
- SHOES suitable for running

Attendance—See page 2

Diary Dates
School Banking every Tuesday

MARCH
24th Grandparents Day
9.00 - 11.30am
24th Book Club Issue 2 order forms due back
25th Parent Gathering 9am
Skydancers
26th School Council - Postponed
27th Assembly Grade — Grade 1
27th Arts Performance—Going Green with Dr Deane
28th Lunch Orders:
- Main: 2 - Muffin size Quiches
  $3 for 2
- Dessert: Carrot Cake $1 each
28th Netbook lease payment due
28th Interschool Cross Country
Grades 3-6

APRIL
1st Parent Gathering 9am
Skydancers
2nd School Council Meeting & AGM - 7.30pm
3rd School Assembly—Principal
4th Lunch Orders:
- Main: Baked Potato with coleslaw & cheese $3 each
- Dessert: Chocolate Chip Biscuit $1 each
- Helpers: Jacq & Jason
4th Last day of Term 1 - 2.30pm finish
22nd Start of Term 2 - Tuesday
25th Public Holiday - ANZAC Day
Harcourt Valley Primary School Footy Tipping Competition 2014

Well, if you haven't already signed up for the FREE HVPS footy tipping, make sure you do so and get your tips on for the second half of ROUND 1!! There's still time - and according to the very bad tipping of some, you're still in with a chance to win!!! Looks like the McAinch family are in with a pretty good show though - honestly, who would've picked Gold Coast???

Anyway, share the invitation with your family and friends, there's a hot beverage or milkshake in it thanks to ASQ Skydancers Cafe - every week!


Netbooks - Grade 3-6

Netbook lease contracts have been sent out to Grade 3-6 students. The cost for this year is $180 payable by 28th March 2014. Please note a $100 excess is payable by parents for the lease period if the netbook needs to be repaired. Please be careful with the netbook at all times. Return contracts and payment to the school office.

PUNCTUALITY

There are many important social skills we need to think about in the Blooming Great Kids program, but perhaps there are none more relevant that PUNCTUALITY. Being punctual simply means being on time. Unfortunately there are too many times when we are not as punctual as necessary. At school it is important to be on time, ready and organised to begin learning whether it be at the beginning of the day or after recess or lunch. Being on time shows that you are courteous and aware of the needs of those around you by not making them wait for you to arrive.

Children who are late for school or late for classes during school often miss out on important information and this can leave them feeling left out for the whole of the lesson as well as disrupting classmates and teachers. If you are late for class it is hard to settle down and concentrate. It is everyone’s responsibility to be on time – mums, dads, kids and teachers. Parents you are responsible for ensuring your children arrive at school on time so if your children are continually late for school make the extra effort to get them up 10 minutes earlier so their learning is not disrupted. The emphasis on Punctuality is closely aligned to the following item related to student attendance.

CHANGES TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND REFORM ACT OF 2006

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

The changes in relation to Attendance are as follows:

Where a student has been absent from school on a least five full days in the previous 12 months, and the parent has not provided a reasonable excuse for these absences and measures to improve student attendance have been undertaken by the school and have been unsuccessful, Principals can exercise their discretion to refer the matter to the School Attendance Officer for further action. School Attendance Officers can then issue a School Attendance Notice to the Parent giving the parent the opportunity to provide reasonable excuses for these absences. Failure to comply with this Notice may result in the issue of an Infringement Notice, which carries with it a penalty of approximately $70. As such it is critical that if and when your child is absent, he/she is absent for a valid reason and the school is notified in writing or through a phone call to the school office. If a child has significant absences, the school will review these absences and work with parents to improve attendance so that the School Attendance Officer and subsequent fines are avoided and more importantly the child has the opportunity to maximise his/her learning.
Students Of The Week:
Grade Prep/1: **Olwyn**: for focussing on her writing this week.
Grade 1/2: **Rachael**: working hard to develop strategies to solve subtraction equations.
Grade 3/4: **Hayley**: working through her nerves to read large numbers.
Grade 5/6: **Rebecca**: for a consistent effort in all her school work.

Reading Nights
Students that have achieved 25 nights of reading:
*Hudson, Xavier, Isabelle, Izak*

Well Done!

Attendance or is it absence?
Absence data this week:
Grade Prep/1: 4 days  
Grade 1/2: 7 days  
Grade 3/4: 10 days  
Grade 5/6: 1.5 days

Cool to be at school winner is **Grade 5/6**
Early Bird winner is **Grade Prep/1**

Every day counts – school attendance
From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason. For more information regarding School Attendance Guidelines 2014 see DEECD website via the following link:
www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/participation/Pages/attendance

Absences notes are available at the school office or online at:

Parenting pearls from Bruce Sullivan
1. If It's Not Fun… Make It Fun! Humour is a great way to help everyone in your family decrease their stress, increase their mental and physical health and make your "home" a desirable place to live.
2. Practice Gratefulness… NOT Cynicism! Gratefulness opens up our hearts, minds and possibilities whilst cynicism shuts down our minds and closes doors for us and our children. Practicing gratefulness can be awesome fun too!
3. Good Intentions Are NOT Enough! Children learn what they live by the example we set everyday. Be not afraid that our children won't always listen to our attempts at teaching… be more afraid that they are watching and listening to EVERYTHING we say and do!
4. Be Willing To Change YOU and not them! If we are not getting the outcome we want then it's up to us to change the way we are parenting. Demonstrating behavioural flexibility takes effort on our part but we know that are children are worth it!
5. Teach Resilience NOT Helplessness! Great families have useful language and frameworks to explain the ups and downs of life so everything can eventually be viewed as a positive! "With all this manure…there has to be a pony in there somewhere!"

Parenting ideas Club
Becoming Better Parents
MILO CRICKET
Harcourt Cricket Club Presentation for Milo Cricket participants
Sunday 6th April 2014
1pm
Jumping Castle

Mount Alexander CWA
Wednesday 26th March 2014
10am
ANA Hall
High Street
Harcourt
Facebook: Mount Alexander CWA
Email: mountalexandercwa@gmail.com
Phone: Samantha 0413 932 904

CALLING JUNIOR MEMBERS
AGED BETWEEN 14 – 16 YEARS
WORKSHOP WEEKEND
Friday 4th April
to Sunday 6th April

Umina
3 LANSELL ROAD Toorak
Come and have a weekend
of fun and fellowship.
$150 covers accommodation, food and
entertainment
Activities will include, music, drama,
cooking and craft
Book with Adrian at Reception
03 9827 8971
or email reception@cwaofvic.org.au

HARCOURT AUTO WRECKERS
03 5474 2432
Wrecking most makes and models
Used Car Sales, $500–$10 000
Towing & car body repairs