Due to a family illness Mrs Smith will be taking leave until the end of term. I will be replacing her in the role of Acting Principal for this time.

**Student Led Conferences**

Student Led Conferences have now been completed and students are to be congratulated on their presentations. It was a lovely opportunity for parents to share an insight into their child’s learning and participation at school.

**Hats ON!**

It’s HAT time again!!! As of Monday September 2nd (next week) all staff and students will be expected to wear their wide brimmed school hat when outside the classroom, in line with our SUNSMART policy. Remember...No Hat, No Play!

**Grade 5-6 camp**

Notices went out yesterday. We need these returned by 14th September so we can then plan the rest of the camp.

**Concert Notes**

Were sent out last week. Parents are asked to fill out and return them as soon as possible so that Mrs Hood can work out costume availability so that all grades will be dressed and ready to go on the night! The children are well into rehearsals and it is sure to be a memorable event for all.

**Thank you**

To all parents who helped with the Woolworths drive. Yesterday we were thrilled to order new Maths equipment including 64 new calculators and a large money kit. Shame the money isn’t real!

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**Father’s Day Breakfast!**

We have already received lots of replies for our Father’s Day Breakfast on Friday morning at 7.30am. Please join us to celebrate this special day.

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**Curriculum Days**

Over the next few weeks we are privileged to have staff attending School Council approved Curriculum Days. On Monday September 9th staff will be attending a Maths Professional Learning Day in Melbourne and on Tuesday September 17th (the day after the concert) we will be continuing to work on our Maths curriculum to bring it in line with AusVels. Staff will also receive training in the KidsMatter Program. These are significant professional learning opportunities for staff that will directly impact on student learning. Lucky children will also be able to have a sleep in after their efforts at the concert.

NO Students are to be at school on either of these days.

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**Diary Dates**

**AUGUST**

30th Grade Prep, 1 & 2 –Scooter Education

30th Lunch Orders - Cake: Custard Tarts Pasta: Chicken Helpers: Andrea & Lorella

30th Budafest-Harvest Dinner

30th Father’s Day Harvest Dinner 7.30am

**SEPTEMBER**

3rd Grade 5/6 Careers Expo Excursion Grade 1/2 Farm to Table Excursion

3rd Parent Gathering-see page 3

5th Assembly Grade Prep

5th -6th Prep, 1 & 2 –Scooter Education

6th Lunch Orders - Cake: Strawberry Jam Muffins Pasta: Bolognaise Helpers: Gussy & Danielle G

7th Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser-Election Day

9th Curriculum Day – NO STUDENTS

10th Parent Gathering– see page 3

11th School Council Meeting 7.30pm

12th Assembly Grade-School Captain

13th Lunch Orders - Cake: Chocolate Muffins Pasta: Chicken Helpers: Jacqui & Amy

16th School Concert

17th Curriculum Day NO STUDENTS

20th End of Term 3 2.30pm finish
**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:**
Grade Prep: **Lainey:** taking risks in her learning - Keep it up!
Grade 1/2: **Ebony:** for her bravery
Grade 3/4: **Hudson:** a great student led conference.
Grade 5/6: **Annabelle:** working hard in PE to develop her kicking skills.

**READING NIGHTS:**
**Congratulation to:**
- **Kane**
  For reading 125 nights
- **Kester**
  For reading 175 nights
- **Lochie**
  For reading 150 nights
- **Al B, Amelie**
  For reading 200 nights

**AFL 9’S**
Grade 5/6
See article on page 3

Today for the second last prep we have Beatrice. Beatrice is a quiet little girl but lots of fun once you get to know her. Beatrice loves playing games with fairies and pink especially, so if you like that too, go have a chat with Beatrice.

“Jade” - How do you like school so far?
“Beatrice” Good
“Jade” - What do you want to be when you grow up?
“Beatrice” a nurse
“Jade” - What is your favourite food and colour?
“Beatrice” pink and sushi
“Jade” - What is your favourite thing at school?
“Beatrice” maths
“Jade” - What do you do at playtime?
“Beatrice” - play fairies
“Jade” – Who is your Buddy
“Beatrice” - Rebecca
“Jade” - What house are you in?
“Beatrice” - Mitchell
“Jade” - Can you tell me, Beatrice, something you are good at?
“Beatrice” looking after babies
“Jade” Are you having fun doing scooter Ed?
“Beatrice” yes, my favourite thing to do is ride a scooter
MISSING
A canon digital video camcorder after Fairy Tale assembly on 22nd August.
The photos/video on camera are very special to family.
$100 reward
Please return to school office

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT
Its great to see the new book exchange being used! In case you have missed the info we now have a book exchange located just near the kitchen, you can choose to put your own books in there that you don’t mind people borrowing or simply just borrow a book that interests you. There are a wide range to choose from, including a few for smaller children and parenting resources. One thing we will ask is that you look after the books as if they were your own, remembering that someone has kindly lent it to the book exchange for your use. I would also ask that if you have small children that are playing in the area that you supervise them closely so our books stay in great condition!
Our next Parent Gathering will be at Skydancers, everyone is welcome! Its been great to see a few guys popping in for a coffee and a chat. I will see you there right after school drop off!
Jacqui Cue

PARENT’S GATHERINGS
Tuesday 3rd September: Skydancers: Coffee, chat, knitting, crochet and conversation
10th September: Whoop Whoop in Blackjack Rd $6 Devonshire tea
17th September: Curriculum day

Please join us on Thursday 5th September
Look over the newly planted teacher carpark garden after assembly, put in any finishing touches required. Thank you to all those who did such a terrific job. Jodi Z

AFL 9’s
Grade 5/6 students have been training for the upcoming AFL 9’s program which will be happening early next term in Castlemaine. On Monday Rick from the AFL program came to run a clinic and he will be here again to run another clinic next Monday with the students. AFL 9’s is similar to netball in a way where each player has a set position and is only allowed in a certain area. It is also a non contact game and can be modified to suit different ages and abilities. All students had a great time showing off their skills and are looking forward to the second clinic.

Grade 5/6 - Careers Expo Excursion
Tuesday the 3rd of September
COST: $2 (to cover the bus, the school will subsidize the majority of the cost for the bus)
VENUE: Castlemaine hospital and Castlemaine police station

Grade 1/2—Farm to Table Excursion
Tuesday the 3rd of September
COST: $2 (to cover the bus, the school will subsidize the majority of the cost for the bus)
VENUE: Castlemaine Supermarket, Bakery, Butcher and Fruit Shop

STUDENTS WILL NEED: School uniform, water bottle (filled with water), food for a snack, suitable walking shoes.

PERMISSION SLIP MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY Monday 2nd September
CHILDREN NOT RETURNING THE FORM WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE
As Father’s Day approaches it’s worth thinking how good fathering matters.
It matters to mothers as a supportive father makes a mother’s life easier.
It matters to girls.
Good fathering has been linked to higher confidence levels in girls, particularly during the tricky adolescent years. The notion of a father who is present, available and attentive affords a sense of security to a girl, which is necessary for healthy development.
Dads are also the first introduction to the world of men for girls so it’s important that fathers treat their daughters with gentleness and respect, but also encourage them to be assertive.
In a sense, fathers teach their daughters how they should expect to be treated by males as they get older.
Good fathering matters to boys.
They learn their first lessons of manhood from their dads. Early primary-aged boys usually want to spend a great deal of time with their dads. Steve Biddulph, author of *Raising Boys*, describes this phenomenon as ‘father-hunger’ and suggests that dads need to be around their sons in the primary school years so they can ‘download the software’ of how to be male.
The father-son relationship during adolescence can be problematic. While teen boys seem to be hard-wired to challenge their fathers, most desperately want their dads to be proud of them. Teen boys need a dad who can be firm when needed as they don’t always make great decisions.
They need a dad who remembers the awkwardness and insecurity of being a teenage boy themselves. And they relate best to dads who don’t take themselves too seriously. The judicious use of humour, particularly with boys, is a great fathering strategy.
And it matters to men.
And, of course, involved fathering matters to men.
Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men, as well as of life satisfaction levels. I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing for a man to get into a child’s space and time. There is a big kid in most men just busting to get out.
This Father’s Day give yourself a pat on the back for being present in your child’s life. You might even want to think how you can be a better dad over the next 12 months.
Here are five fathering tips (whether you live with the children’s mother or not) to help you in that process:
1. Go on dates with your daughters.
2. Have adventures with your sons.
4. Change as your child changes.
5. Discipline with firmness and compassion.