Congratulations to all Grade 3, 4, 5, 6 children on their participation in the Cross Country last Friday, they represented our school very well. Congratulations to Ella and Rebecca who will go onto the next level of the cross country in Bendigo.

Our Annual meeting of School Council was held last night and election of office bearers as carried. The office bearers are as follows.
President: Jacq Cue
Vice President: Di Selwood
Treasurer: Lynda Wilson

Lynda Wilson was co-opted onto School Council for a further two years as the community member.

Planning for camps will get under way shortly as the first one is coming up in early May. Other camps are not till later in the year, but parents are welcome to set up their own payment plans and commence paying for them as soon as possible. It is my aim to put out the exact costing at the beginning of Term 3.

There are still some outstanding forms and payments due for the Netbook program. Could these be finalised as quick as possible so we can get this program going. If families are experiencing difficulties with this, please come and talk to us.

As a result of the fundraising from the Applefest, we have ordered our kitchen bench to be installed. This is a very exciting development and brings us another step closer to completing this project. We have some lino to fund and then get the necessary equipment.

At School Council last night, Matt Watkins presented the initial plans for our gardening program. Council has decided to set up a sub committee to administer this and we are looking for interested people and parents with expertise in this area. Full details are inside the newsletter.

I wish all families are a safe and happy holiday. Please enjoy the Easter break and return safe and sound on Tuesday 22nd April.

Diary Dates
School Banking every Tuesday

**APRIL**
4th Lunch Order:
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
24th School Nurse visit - Prep only
25th Public Holiday - ANZAC Day

**MAY**
1st Arts Performance—"Circus in a suitcase—Le Cirque Francais"

2nd Lunch Order:
Main: Veg Curry & Rice $3
Dessert: Apple Cake $1
Helpers: Jacq & Kendall

3rd Fundraising BBQ C/Maine Newsagent - Saturday
8th to 9th Grade 1/2 Camp - Bendigo

9th Lunch Order:
Main: Pumpkin Soup & bread $3
Dessert: Caramel Slice $1
Helpers: Danielle G & Gen
Students Of The Week:

Grade Prep/1: **Lainey**: Making great choices about her library books.

  **Nate**: Trying his best in all areas of his schoolwork.

Grade 1/2: **Ebony**: Exceptional work across the curriculum.

Grade 3/4: **Georgie**: Working well in Maths and developing her number sense.

Grade 5/6: **Janelle**: For her dedication to her school work all year. Well Done!

Reading Nights

Students that have achieved 25 nights of reading:

*Ruby, Olwyn, Lainey*

Students that have achieved 50 nights of reading:

*Soren, Shannon, Angus, Hamish, Nate, Eve, Beatrice, Piers, Riley, Heath, Murray, Ebony H, Mitchell.*

Well Done!

Expressions of interest wanted

Harcourt Valley Primary School is looking for expressions of interest to join the school council sub committee for grounds and gardens. We are seeking people who have plant knowledge, landscaping experience and a keen eye for developing the gardens for the future. If you think this is you then please submit your expression of interest to the school or via email at harcout.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Cross Country

The 2014 cross country was an amazing day this year. With the clear blue sky and the soft ground underfoot the children had a blast. The children were a great advertisement for our school. In all races all of the children tried their best, with all of them happy with their results. A personal highlight was the smiles on their faces when they had performed better than they expected. Harcourt shared in success with Rebecca, Bridie, Alister and Ella finishing in the top 20. We wish Ella and Rebecca all the best at the regional finals in Bendigo on the 28\(^{th}\) of May. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the parents who helped out on the day, allowing the event to run smoothly.

Matt Watkins

I would like to thank all Councillors for attending last nights AGM and for willingly stepping back into their previous roles. We are achieving great things together! Thank you to Jason for joining School Council, I hope you enjoy it as much as I do and I look forward to your contributions and sense of humour! Thank you to Matt Watkins for sharing with us the garden plan that he and Stacey Turner have worked on. Its good to have something that we can all work towards as a school community. If you would like to be involved, have skills or equipment that would be useful or want to come and give a hand, please contact the school.

The children seem to be enjoying the changes to the Friday Lunches and we have many yummy dishes planned for next term. The roster and menu will come home today. If you have ideas or would like to do any of the cooking please speak to me.

I hope everyone has a great holiday, don't forget to leave the carrots out for the Easter Bunny!

See you in Term 2!

Jacq Cue
Prep – 2 Goals for Independence

Term 1 is almost over and we are encouraging independence in all students both at school and at home. We have had some discussions with the Prep – 2 students and want to share their goals with you. The students want to be independent school kids. They want to carry their own bags, come into their classroom, change their own books and bring in notes by themselves. So they are asking you – their parents to help them achieve this goal. So let them say goodbye at the classroom door, or even better still at the school gates and give them the independence they need. The students in Prep-2 have been also given homework over the holidays – they are to learn and practise how to tie shoelaces. Those who are just learning will need some help from parents. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Mrs V-G and Mr Walter

Family Statements

Account statements and receipts will be posted home today, these include family accounts that are in credit. If you have any questions regarding your account please send an email to harcourt.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au. The school’s bank account details are: BSB: 063 509 Account No: 10042656

Use Family name as the reference

Road Safety Lessons

Be prepared and get organised over the holidays. Bike Ed and Scooter Ed is coming to HVPS At the beginning of term 2.
P-2 will need a scooter and a helmet.
Gr 3-4 will need a bike or scooter and a helmet.
Gr 5-6 will need a bike and a helmet.

Days for the lessons will be notified at a later date.
Stacey Turner

Junior school news

Recently Michelle Holmes, our school crossing supervisor came into the junior school to teach the students how to use the crossing properly when they are walking, riding or scooting to school. Michelle brought along of the equipment you would see at the crossing, resources for the teachers as well as teaching the students a little rap.

Some of the tips she provided were
Stop, look, listen & think
Hold the hand of an adult or older student
No bouncing of balls when crossing
Tie up your shoes before crossing and be friendly to the crossing supervisor

The junior school would like to thank Michelle for coming in and teaching them about the school crossing.

Ben Walter and Katrina VG
Ironbark Riding Centre’s

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

IRONBARK RIDING CENTRE’S SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN 5

DAY ACTIVITIES
Riding Lessons
Trail Rides
Horse Care
BBQ Lunch
Mounted and unmounted games
Activity Course
COST $55.00
Full Day Program
BBQ Lunch Included
9am till 3pm
Bookings Essential
Phone: 5436 1565
Mobile: 0427 084 437
Lot 2 Watson Street Bendigo

Healthy Mums in the Kitchen

With Lorna Reynolds - Dietician CDCH

- Learn a nutritious and easy to cook meal using everyday ingredients
- Tips on breakfast and packing healthy lunchboxes
- Focus on low cost options for mums on a budget
- Helpful advice from local Dietician
- Fun and friendly group for young mums

When: Wednesday 30th April, 2014
Time: 10:30am - 12:30pm, including lunch
Where: Castlemaine Continuing Education, 30 Templeton Street, Castlemaine
Cost: FREE
RSVP: Bookings essential, please call CDCH on 5479 1000
Need assistance: We can help with transport and respite. Just let us know.

Blue Light Disco
Friday the 4th April, 2014
Theatre Royal, Castlemaine
4 –6 pm (primary age)
entry $5
Contact Peter Lukaitis at the Police Station 54722099

Easter Egg Hunt in the Oak Forest
Sunday 20th April 10am - 1pm
This event is brought to you by the Harcourt Progress Association, Harcourt Valley Landcare and the Harcourt Lions.
Easter Egg Hunt - gold coin donation
Nature-based activities for kids
BBQ, tea / coffee/ hot cross buns - low cost
Live Music - free
Children’s Entertainment - free
For further details contact:
Jacqueline Brodie-Hans: 0425 323 005