This week, we welcomed Jaidyn Scott into Grade 2. We hope he and his family enjoy their time at Harcourt Valley.

Thank you to everyone, we have lots of small clean jars. If anyone is able to make preserves, please collect some jars from the office. We need lots of preserves and jam made for our Applefest stall.

The next transition session is for everyone and it is on Statewide transition day, which is Tuesday December 9th. On this day, the Grade 6 children will go to their secondary school for the day. The pre schoolers will come here and all other grades will step up into their next year level for approximately two hours.

There are still quite a few outstanding family accounts, unpaid from the beginning of the year. The school runs an extremely tight budget and due to these outstanding accounts the school is struggling financially at present. (We receive approximately $75000 from DEECD to run the school for a year). Any outstanding accounts at the end of the school year are rolled over into the following year and it is an expectation that they will be paid.

Yard Clean Up

We have used up all the maintenance levy paid by parents, but our school grounds are in need of a tidy up, before we disappear in the weeds! If some families are able to spare the time to do some whipper snipping to make the school look more presentable and less of a snake risk it would be really appreciated.

- We need the following areas tidied up.
- The entire area outside all our fence lines
- The area between the staff car park and the fence
- Along the hardcourt
- Inside Ulumbarra
- In front of the stadium
- The pinies area (taking care of the small trees)
- To the right of the front gate inside the school grounds.

Also if someone has time to weed, the rose garden, the front gardens and the garden behind Grade 3-4 need a clean up.

Student Leadership 2015

Congratulations to the follow students

School Captains
Alister Brasher and Ella Harrington

Vice Captains
Tayla Courtney and Zarah Cain Oliver

House Captains—Barker
Aidan Wintershoven & Charlotte Reaburn Jenkin

House Captains—Mitchell
Deanna Vearing & Alistair Arnold

House Captains—Lang
Kester Connor Gantinas & Kane McCallum
**Schools Bank Account Details**

BSB: 063 509
Account No: 10042656
Use Family name as the reference payment reference

**READING NIGHTS:**

Students that have achieved:

- **Mason**
  125 nights of reading:

- **Lochlin**
  200 nights of reading:

- **Owen**
  225 nights of reading:

*Great Reading!*

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**Term 4 Lunches**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Menu</th>
<th>Duty Roster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Sushi (egg or tuna)/ Icy Pole</td>
<td>Andrea &amp; Jacq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Sausage in bread/ Chocolate crackles (Lorella)</td>
<td>Amy A &amp; Jacq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>No Main/ Ice cream cone Jacq &amp; anyone who would like to come &amp; help!</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Payment information!**

- Pay weekly by 9am Wednesday, filling in form each week.
- Form not accepted without money and to be placed in lunch bag and left in classroom box.

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**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Number of days that students have been away this week:

- Grade P/1: 3 days
- Grade 1/2: 4 days
- Grade 3/4: 9.5 days
- Grade 5/6: 5 days

Cool to be at school winner is

- **Grade P/1**

Early Bird winner is

- **Grade 5/6**

**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

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**What’s happening in Term 4**

(events, dates & times can change)

- **Christmas Carol’s Night:**
  Thursday 18th December

- **Grades P-2 Pirate Day:**
  Friday 5th December

- **Grade 6 Graduation:**
  Monday 15th December

- **Prep 2015 Transition Days:**
  Tuesday 9th December,

- **School Council Meeting:**
  Wednesdays, 10th December

- **Swimming Program:**
  5 days - between 2nd-12th December

- **The Meeting Place:**
  Fridays, 5th December

- **Term Dates:**
  Term 4: Monday 6th October to
  Friday 19th December
CHRISTMAS MUSIC AFTERNOON

Dear Parents,
You are invited to a musical afternoon of dancing and singing with each class entertaining you with a Christmas song and a bush dance. We would love anyone who could possibly make it to come along to the stadium at 2:30 on Friday the 12th of December. Look forward to seeing as many parents, grandparents and friends as can make it.
Many thanks,
Katrina Hood

Decision making, like anything, requires practice. Some children want to have a say about everything that involves them. They have no problem letting parents know what they want and how life should be. Other children, often the last born, will avoid making decisions and will happily sit back and follow the lead of others in anything from fashion to food. It is smart management to get children’s input as they are more likely to stick to decisions when they have had a say. It is challenging for parents to know when to make decisions for children and when to stand back and allow them to decide. Decision making is broken into three areas:
1. Parents rule: these are decisions where there is no negotiation, e.g. going to school, bedtime.
2. Parents and kids work things out together: these are areas where you and your child negotiate outcome, e.g. when to come home from an outing, TV programs.
3. Kids decide: give your children full authority in some areas, e.g. choose the sport they play, or their school activities.

Each of these areas will vary according to parental values, the age of children and even individual temperament. As children grow and show more ability to make sensible decisions, allow them more authority over their lives. A child can use the following three questions to help him or herself assess the consequences of a decision they may make:
• Is this behaviour safe for me?
• Is this behaviour fair to others?
• Is this behaviour smart and in my long-term best interests?

Also, some children leap before they look. They need to be reminded to slow down and consider some of the possible consequences of their actions.

For more ideas, expert advice and useful tools for dealing with how decisions are made in your family, check out the Family Matters section of the Parentingideas Club website.

Michael Grose

Year 7 2015 Orientation Day – Tuesday 9 December

On Tuesday 9 December, Castlemaine Secondary College will be holding its Orientation Day for Grade 6 students due to begin in the College in Year 7 in 2015. This will be a great day with students attending with their classmates for the entire day and meeting some of their teachers for next year. Students should arrive in time to start school at 9.00am. They will need to bring their school bags, pencil cases and lunch (or money to purchase lunch from the canteen) and wear their primary school uniforms, hats and shoes suitable for sporting activities. The day will finish at 3:15pm.
There will be a Parent Information Evening running from 7-9pm on this same day, Tuesday 9 December, in the Wellbeing Centre at the Blakeley Road Campus. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to ask any questions ranging from Student Learning and Wellbeing to any of the basics to prepare their children for next year. If you have any queries about either the Orientation Day or the Parent Information Evening, please ring the Castlemaine Secondary College on 5479 1111.
Mark Johansson
Transition Coordinator
CASTLEMAINE SWIMMING CLUB

To be registered as a swimmer with the Castlemaine Swimming Club, the fees need to be paid in full upon submitting your registration forms.

Swimmers are encouraged to register as a competitor, so as to become involved in district and other state swimming competitions.

Swimming Victoria Fees:
Competitor $102
Recreational Swimmer $73

Castlemaine Swimming Club Fees:
1st family member $68.10 $57.10
Other family members $58.10 $57.10
Special New Member $18.10 $17.10

Totals:
Competitor $170
Recreational Swimmer $140
Summer New Competitor $120
Summer New Recreational $90

Registration forms will only be received with full payment of fees.

Registration forms need to be completed promptly so that swimmers are covered by Swimming Victoria.

Return forms and payments to be handed to a Committee Member at training.

We recommend purchasing a pool entry season pass for summer training.

CLOSE OF PROGRAM

Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?
GET IN BY 31ST DECEMBER

Join Saver Plus by 31st December and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Cathy Goss, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(03) 5444 9081 / 0459 131 175
or cathy.goss@nhs.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in Greater Bendigo and surrounding districts by Rivercote Group. Saver Plus is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.