Dear Parents and Carers,
The 2014 school year has begun in a very settled and positive way. From their first day last Thursday the 2014 preps have taken school routines in their stride and look very comfortable and excited to be at school. Discovery 1 and Discovery 2 our revamped prep learning spaces are providing wonderfully spacious and inviting places for our preps to learn. Take a walk down the Paw Print path during our Open Classrooms at 12.30 tomorrow and view the developments.

CELEBRATION DAY & PICNIC - Tomorrow is a special event for the children and staff - we invite you all to see our classrooms, talk with your child about their Learning How to Learn and Lead work and areas of interest from 12.30-1pm, then join us for a School Assembly at 1.00pm and family picnic on the small oval from 1.30 - 2.30pm. BYO picnic and rug and relax and enjoy our grounds and meeting and chatting with our families and staff.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS - Parent Information Nights will be conducted next week - details below. I would encourage all families to attend the information sessions as they will include new information such as how to use Compass - our Student Management System, along with curriculum, technology and organisational information.

February 11th 6pm-7pm Years 3/4, February 11th 7-8pm Years 5/6, February 12th 6-7pm Prep, I and 2

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - School Council Elections are conducted annually and the process is to be completed by March 31st each year. The council consists of both parent and teacher representatives and is the governing body of the school. Details of this year’s elections will be in the Link next week.

SCHOOL BUSES - all bus travellers are to be congratulated for the way they have conducted themselves with the major changes to our school bus network from 2014. I have travelled on the bus with the children each evening since last Thursday and I feel confident they are all ready to ‘fly solo’. As mentioned in the Link last week, the new bus schedule does require an early dismissal for bus travellers, which does reduce their teaching and learning time. The School Council will work to address this situation at their next meeting.

COMPASS - if you haven’t already logged onto Compass, please do so and if you have lost your pass word etc., please see Lynn or Sue in the office. Compass is an amazing online School Home Communication system and we aim to use the system to enhance communication with families. If your child is going to be absent, please log on and register the absence or if they have an appointment and may be late or need an early pick up then please register these details on Compass too. Your child’s Timetable, The Link and other events are on Compass and School Reports will be stored there very soon. If you need assistance please do not hesitate to see a staff member or Lynn in the office.

I hope to see many of you at our Celebration Day tomorrow.

Lindy
Richmond Footballers visit WEDS

On the 4th of February three Richmond players came to our school. Dustin Martin, Clayton McCarthy and Alex Rance. Dustin was a forward flank, Clayton got drafted to the AFL this year and Alex plays back line. They came in to talk to the year 5/6’s about their weekly exercise. We really enjoyed it. Thankyou Mr Parrotte and the Richmond Football Club. By Owen and Zacc.

Chaplain Janet

Welcome back everyone. I am at school Monday, Wednesday and Friday to help if I can so come for a chat.

Wednesday Chess Club all welcome for years 3-6.

Friday all singers for years 3-6 at lunchtime all welcome. The more the merrier.

Year 5/6 singers will have a special group to prepare for performances.

Choir badges for sale at $2.00 each.
Active After School Communities (AASC)

Our AASC program commenced last Tuesday 4th February with a good attendance for all nights. Children attending will move to the stadium as soon as they are dismissed from class at the end of the day. Just a reminder that the AASC program concludes at 4.30pm each night. Activities for term 1 are Multi Skills on Tuesday nights for Years 1-3, Netball on Wednesday nights for Years 4-6 and aerobics on Thursday nights for Years 1-6. (Please note I made a mistake on last week’s flyer for aerobics with grade levels eligible to attend. It’s for Years 1-6) Aerobics is a yearly program where we hope children will attend for all terms. As you realise Emma Bellman (EKB Aerobics) is providing quality teaching and she plans her program around a student attending for 4 terms. A performance in term 4 is guaranteed. The program runs for 7 weeks. There are still plenty of spots available for anyone interested. Consent forms can be obtained from the office. Any queries don’t hesitate to ring or come and see me at school.

John Millard

EMA – Education Maintenance Allowance

If you hold a current Healthcare Card you are eligible to claim the Education Maintenance Allowance. This is a government subsidy for low income earners. Please bring your Healthcare card in to the school office and fill in the appropriate paperwork so you can claim. This must be done by 28th February.

COMPASS UPDATE

Congratulations to the 125 families that have logged on to their Compass Portals. We will be using Compass full time this year.

Compass information sessions will be included as part of your child’s Information night so if you have any questions this is a good time to bring them up. We will endeavour to answer them as best we can. We will also be running daytime information sessions for parents during term one.

We urge you to log on and have a look around. If you have misplaced your log on details simply give us a call and we can reprint them for you.

UNIFORMS

Most of the pre-ordered uniforms 00—Yr 5 have now been picked up. We thankyou for your promptness. We do still have a large number of year 6 jumpers to be picked up and paid for. We will hold the orders at the office for payment until the end of next week (7th Feb) After that they will be put back on the shelves for general purchase.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic book Club orders are due back to school next Monday February 10th.

Centrepay

If you hold a current Healthcare card and require assistance in paying off your School Fees you may start Centrepay through the school.

Centrepay can be used to pay off your school fees and any other school related expenses.

If you would like to find out more information please ring or call into the office.
Happy birthday

Clayton Burford  Bianca Huisman-Merrett  Hazel Ward
Charli Toone  Lee Read  Liam King
Charlotte Polkinghorne  Lily Anderson  Kyden Jones
Jordan Carter  Jesse McEwen  Chelsea O’Leary

Student Banking

Today was our first week back for our bankers.
Welcome to another fantastic year of new prizes and a whole lot of fun.

Today we banked a total of $136. There were 13 deposits and room 19 had the most with 3. Our parent packs went home on Friday.

If you did not receive one please see our bank helper Robyn on Tuesday.

The program teaches kids about money and smart saving- and the rewards they can bring. Its also a great fundraising activity, as CommBank offers your school commission for your child’s first School banking deposit as well as deposits made as a part of the program.

The financial benefits for participating schools include: $5 for every account activated through the school banking program (i.e. for each student who banks through the schools program for the first time). Five percent of every deposit made at school (up to a maximum of $10 commission per

Warrnambool Independent Traders Market
180 Timor Street (old De Grandi’s Sports Shop)
Drop in for some bargains
Please support the business' that support our school.

School Captains

Congratulations to our new 2014 School Captains.
Logan McLeod, Buster King, Grace Farrer and Brooke Sanderson.