From the Principal

Grandparents/Special Person Day
Once again our Grandparents morning was HUGE. It was great to see so many Grandparents and Special Friends attend the morning. The children were very excited showing their special visitors around the school and the Grandparents really enjoyed watching the children perform. We received many positive comments about how wonderful the students were, how great the school looked and how much school has changed since they were in primary school.

Morning tea is always a highlight and our special visitors were spoilt for choice. A huge thank you to all the parents who baked for the morning tea. Thank you to PPA and parent volunteers for organising and running the morning tea. Thank you to Ms Meek and Mrs Jamison for arranging the performances for the morning.

Education Week
Education Week is the week beginning Monday 16th May. Open Day will be held on Monday 16th May from 9:30am to 11:30am and an Open Afternoon will be from 4:00pm-5:00pm. This is a chance for parents to see inside the classrooms and for us to showcase our school.

Absences and Absence Notes
If your child is absent from school for any reason we require a note. The note can be sent via Skoolbag, email or a written note. It is a legal and Department requirement to have school absences explained.

Mother’s Day Breakfast and Stall
The Mother’s Day Breakfast and Stall will be held on Friday 6th May. The breakfast includes an egg and bacon roll and drink. All orders for the breakfast must be made through QKRS Please download the App. We would like to trial the App as our only form of payment for the breakfast. The App makes it easier for the parent volunteers in terms of ordering and time spent counting money. Flyers were sent out last week with information about the Breakfast and the Stall notices will be sent home next week.

School Photos
School photos were taken on Wednesday. If you did not return the envelope your child would have brought home a slip explaining how families can order online.

Swimming
A reminder that the Prep to 2 Swimming starts on Monday 2nd May.
Parent Feedback
Thank you to all those families who returned the feedback form and/or attended the transition forums as part of our school review. There were certainly many positive comments on what we do well and also many constructive points were raised for consideration in planning for the future.
Areas which were highlighted strongly about things we do well were:
- Welcoming community and having a strong sense of community feel;
- Communication between teachers and parents, newsletter and the meet and greet sessions;
- Caring environment with great, dedicated and approachable teachers;
- Grounds, facilities and resources.

Re-instating the Canteen was mentioned in some surveys. School Council does discuss the Canteen regularly and we will keep you informed through the newsletter. PPA will continue to run a Special Morning Tea or Lunch once a term.

Due to the building works being undertaken this year the Canteen will not re-open in 2016. We will need to move classes out of the Prep building and the spaces in the Gym building may be used to accommodate classes.

Building Works
An update on the refurbishment of the Prep building and toilet area is being planned. The process is still being undertaken. Our next scheduled meeting will be to review the Schematic/ Design Development Report prior to our submission to DET and Indec for approval. There is no start date as yet.

Interschool Sport
Congratulations to the Volley stars, Rounders and the Girls and Boys Kanga Cricket teams who played in and won their Interschool Sports finals on Friday.

Aerobics Teams
Good luck to the Girl’s’ Aerobics Teams who are competing on Saturday in Geelong. The girls have been extremely dedicated, training before school and during lunchtimes. A big thank you to Ms Duff and Ms Ulrich for training the girls.

ANZAC Day Service
On Friday the Grade 6 Leaders held an ANZAC Day Service to commemorate those who have served, and are serving, our country. The Leaders did an outstanding presentation to the school and in turn the whole school was extremely respectful.

Leanne Bradney
Principal
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

PREP

Last Friday, as part of our ‘Healthy Eating’ topic, we planted seeds to grow our own vegetables. Thank you to all our parents who helped in the garden. It is very exciting because in a few weeks when our seeds have grown into vegetables we will be eating them!

The Preps had such a fun day today showing around their grandparents and special visitors! We think they did a fantastic job performing “Gumtree Family” on the stage too!

Don’t forget Swimming starts next week. We will go every day except Friday 6th May. Children need to wear their bathers under their uniform and have a separate bag to their school bag with a towel, goggles and underwear. A plastic bag for wet bathers is also a great idea!

GRADE 1

The children had a fantastic time sharing their school with their grandparents and special friends today. They enthusiastically performed their dance, ‘The Nut-bush’, which they have been practising tirelessly for their special guests!

This week we began looking at our new CAFÉ reading strategy, ‘Chunk letters and sounds together’. Using this focus we encourage the children to look for familiar letters, words and sounds inside difficult or unknown words. We do this by first chunking the sounds in a word and reminding them to use their finger to cover letters in the word to assist in focussing on only a few letters at a time. A great game to help with this strategy is ‘I-spy’ to help train them to find ‘chunks’ inside unfamiliar words.

We are very excited to begin Grade 1 Swimming next Monday! Please look out for a swimming reminder note that will come home this week. We recommend packing an emergency pair of undies!

Due to our Swimming program our weekly specialist lessons have had a slight reshuffle. Please check with your child’s teacher to see how this affects your class.

During Weeks 4 and 5 there will be no Grade 1 Sport, Literacy groups or Maths groups. We will continue to run our morning Traffic Light reading sessions and students will be completing a Maths unit within their class groups.

GRADE 2

Our CAFÉ focus this week is, ‘Comprehension: Retell the Story in Sequence’. This strategy helps readers recall what is happening in the story, develop a sense of story structure, and become more accurate in monitoring their understanding.

After listening to your child read a story or chapter at home, ask them to tell you about the setting, characters, beginning, middle, end, problem and solution.

In Maths this week, students focused on ‘Months and Seasons’. At home, you can support your child to use a calendar and work out how long until different things are happening in your family.

The children thoroughly enjoyed performing for our Grandparents and other Special Visitors this morning! It was lovely to see them proudly showing off their work and their school.

Swimming program starts next Monday, 2nd May. It is a great opportunity for students to develop independence and responsibility with dressing themselves and organising their belongings. We’re looking forward to a fun program!

GRADE 3

Welcome to Week 3!

Students looked fantastic in their school photos on Wednesday and are excited to see their 2016 class photo.

Grandparents'/Special Person Day was a hit and children thoroughly enjoyed performing and showing their grandparents and special friends around the school.

In class this week, children enthusiastically started to explore our inquiry topic for the term, ‘Our Earth’. Please bring in any (named) resources you have that relates to this topic.

Science rotations commenced this week. Students have been learning about catapults, testing their dominant side, walking water and air pressure.

Our focus for Maths continues to be ‘Chance and Data’. At home, please continue to assist them with their ‘Chance’ knowledge by discussing the likelihood of events happening. Please also continue to encourage your child to complete Mathletics tasks each week.

The ROAR reading program commenced this week. Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time. If there are any parents from 3T available to volunteer their time on a Wednesday morning please let Miss Tsoucalas know.
Grade 3 .... cont’d
Thank you to those who have returned their Camp notices. Please continue to bring these in over the next few weeks. If you require a new notice please see your class teacher.


GRADE 4
Over the next six weeks for Friday sport, Mr Anderson has arranged a Hockey Clinic for the Year 3 and 4 students. The children will come along in house colours as normal and this should be an enjoyable activity that adds to their sporting skills and experiences.

In Maths we are wrapping up our ‘Chance and Data’ topic and revising our Subtraction skills and knowledge.

All students in Years 3 and 4 have been given set Mathletics tasks to complete. Children can work through these at their own rate. The Mathletics tasks are to revise and extend in-class concepts. If your child has forgotten their Mathletics code, please ask them to see their class teacher.

All Grade 4 children are also expected to learn one ‘tables family’ every week and will occasionally be given a worksheet from their Math’s group teacher. Remember to work within the 2 1/2 hour recommendation each week.

Congratulations to the recipients of the AR Certificates this week: Sylvia W, Tilly F, Joel Mc, Molly S, Lucy W, Flynn H, Neve J and Annie W.

GRADE 5/6
Our students, once again this term, are showing what great leaders they all are.

Regarding Interschool Sport this week: all children will begin playing their preferred winter sports. The A Teams are playing a practise match away at Parktone PS. All B Teams will be playing at home against Mentone Park PS.

If any Interschool Sports payments and permission forms are outstanding, please forward as soon as possible.

We would be grateful if all transition forms for secondary school choices could be returned as soon as possible.

Grade 5/6 .... cont’d
Just a reminder that NAPLAN will be held in Week 5.

Our new applied Maths topic will be ‘Perimeter, Area, Capacity, Mass and Volume’. It would be useful for all students to access Mangahigh regarding this new concept.

VICTORIAN PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE
The Premiers’ Reading Challenge for 2016 is underway. All students at PPS are able to participate in the Challenge which runs until early September.

Students can collect a registration form during their ICT/Library sessions or from Mrs Rankin or Mrs Wilkins.

Books read in the holidays may be added to their lists.
What a fantastic day it was for Grandparents, Special Person’s day. Thank you to all our guests who came along I know you would have enjoyed it.

A big thank you also to everyone who baked and/or helped out with serving. You help is much appreciated by our visitors and by the school community.

Don't forget it's our Mother’s Day Breakfast on Friday 6th May. Yes, that's next week!!!

Please place your order via QKR! by Wednesday 4th May so that we can cater correctly. The App is very easy to download on your smartphone.

The next PPA meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th May at 7.30pm in the school Staffroom.

See you in the school yard.

Samm Hughes President, Julia Broadbent Vice President, Paula Fleming Treasurer and Kate Ashley Secretary.

---

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Entertainment Books are now available from the school office OR digital books/memberships are available at www.entbook.com.au/186b788.
Tennis Lessons
On campus here @ Parkdale PS
Term 2, 2016

The Fit For Kids Co team offer tennis coaching here at school, on campus.
We run the ANZ Tennis Hotshots Program which is the perfect
introductory classes for children to learn the sport & the skills to play great tennis.

Why do it at school?
Parents can simply Drop & Go! (We supervise from 8:00am until the yard teacher is on)
Convenient - at school no need to drive anywhere!
Fun - with school friends in a safe & professional environment!

Days: Tuesday & Friday (prep - G1 only) Mornings
Time: 8:00am - 8:40am
Location: Synthetic Grass Oval
Dates: 15th April - 24th June 2016
Prices: $150 (10-Week Term)

* in the case of bad weather, class will be held indoors in the school
gymnasium.

Enrol Online Today!
ph: 0421 172 369 e: info@fitforkidsco.com.au
GET FIT WITH MARTIAL ARTS!

- Karate
- Boxing
- Kickboxing
- Cardio Workouts
- Self Defence Course
- Personal Training
- Fun for all the family

Benefits are:
- Improved Self Esteem
- Improved Self Confidence
- Improved Self Discipline
- Improved overall health & fitness
- Increased energy, stamina & endurance
- Improved muscle strength & flexibility
- Improved co-ordination
- Reduced stress & anxiety
- Body fat loss / weight loss

First Class FREE!

Ask about our FREE uniform to new members

Tuesday
4-4.30pm Kids (4-6 years)
4.45 – 5.30pm (7-12 years)

Allstars Parkdale
Sonya Willetts: 0433 198 782
allstarsparkdale@gmail.com

All Stars Martial Arts Academy
Shirley Burke Theatre, 1st Floor Studio Room
64 Parkers Rd, Parkdale
Vic. 3195

OTHER LOCATIONS ALSO AVAILABLE

Mentone Childcare & Kindergarten
Open 7am to 6.30pm Monday-Friday

New Centre Just Opened
Taking Enrolments Now
You are welcome to come and look through and meet the Director and Teachers. Ring for an appointment or just come by.

Mentone Childcare & Kindergarten
21-23 Childers Street, Mentone
Phone 9584-2144
www.mentonechildcare.com.au
facebook.com/MentoneChildcare

Gourmet Grocery & Butchery
Now open on Main St

SPECIALTY GROCERIES
ORGANICS

FREE-RANGE & GRASS-FED MEAT
NITRATE-FREE BACON

THE MORDIALLOC GROCERY STORE
562 MAIN ST, MORDIALLOC
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Parkdale Preschool
A real community-run kindergarten

We know children learn best through play

Saturday, May 7
10am - Noon

Find out more about our programs and enrol for three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten for 2017

Face Painting Playball
Balloons Free Barista Coffee

Parkdale Preschool, 14 Alameda Place, Parkdale
Website: parkdalepreschool.com.au
Phone: 9580 1155