Ready, Set, Go!....Team Challenges

Last Friday we celebrated teamwork and persistence during our Team Challenges morning. As part of our Ready, Set, Go! start up program, students learnt about effective teams and their role within them, along with the benefits of having a growth mindset, especially when completing challenging tasks. As 1R discovered during the week, our brains are muscles and with the right mindset we can help them grow and become strong. Friday was time to put our learning to the test!

Teams of students ranging in age from Foundation to Grade 6 completed three different challenges. From puzzles to parachutes, rafts to running and everything in between, there was certainly something to challenge everyone.

Left: Students working together to keep the ball in the air using a parachute.

Top right: Ready to work together to guide a blindfolded student through an obstacle course.
Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday in the coming week. We hope you have a lovely day.

February

9th Luke 3H
10th Guurveer Fj Cooper 1V
11th Immy Fj Lachie 5M
12th Ella 1P
13th Maximus 4J Ashton 6D
14th Jack 3B Jack 6G
16th Caden 2G Jovie 3H CJ 6G
17th Ashleigh 5P
18th Noah 1R Diesel 1V
19th Dakota 1V
20th Jai 3B Sharnie 5P

Calendar

2017

February

Thursday 16th February
Welcome Picnic BYO 5.30pm — 7.30pm

Friday 17th February
Classroom helpers session 9.00 – 9.30am
Year 6 tops final payment due today

Tuesday 21st February
First homework club for 2017 3.10pm-4.00pm

Wednesday 23rd February
Parent Information Night 7pm

Friday 24th February
Foundation Parents Morning Tea 9.00am
Assembly 2.15pm all welcome

Tuesday 28th February
Student leaders badge presentation & special assembly 9.30am all welcome

March

Wednesday 8th March
Foundation Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 10th March
Assembly 2.30pm all welcome

Conveyance Allowance applications close

Monday 13th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Thursday 16th March
Bully No Way Day

Friday 24th March
School Photo Day

Tuesday 28th March
School Council AGM & Meeting
Assembly 2.30pm all welcome

June

Friday 23rd June
CSEF applications close

SICK BAY LINEN
ROSTER TERM 2

17th February Natalie Campbell
24th February Stefanie Kilner
3rd March Melanie Hooke
10th March Jessica Martin
17th March Sally Porter
24th March Ainsley Sporle
31st March Samantha Paton

THANK YOU
From the Principal’s Desk……………….
Welcome to Week 3 Term 1

So far this week I have trained eleven parents up to be Classroom Helpers. This is wonderful and will make a huge difference to the learning opportunities of all children in the grades these helpers work in. It is our aim to have an additional helper in the literacy block every session every day. The role of the helper is crucial in allowing the teacher to spend uninterrupted time with the teacher focus group ensuring that their learning is specific and targeted. With the assistance of the classroom helper, the other children are practicing the skills and concepts which were introduced when they participated in their teacher focus group. If you would like to be part of this valuable program please attend the training session next Friday February 17th at 9.00am.

I would like to congratulate all of the children who participated in the swimming trials last Friday. Mrs Sloane said that all of our students behaved well, tried hard and encouraged each other. We have a number of children going to Lancefield on Friday to compete in the district swimming carnival and I wish them all well.

It has been wonderful to wonder around the classes this week and see the way children are working now that our regular program is up and running. I have been impressed by the calmness of the rooms, the focus of the students and quality of the work being produced. This is a great indication that we are in for a wonderful year.

As many of you are aware, Mrs Vilinskis has been away. She is recovering from surgery to remove her gallbladder. The surgery went well but she was very uncomfortable to start with. The good news is that she is picking up now and we wish her all the best for a speedy recovery!

Parent Forums

This year I would like to start up a Parent Forum Program. Basically that means that I would like to meet informally with parents to talk about any issues, areas of interest or questions that you may have. The agenda will be driven by your interests. At times they will be about me providing information or explaining what the school is doing and why. At other times they will be about brainstorming together to come up with possible improvements for an issue. I have already had a conversation with one parent about dealing with friendship issues for girls as they get into the higher grade. So that will be our first parent forum topic. If you have something that you would like discussed at a forum please email me and I will put it on the agenda.

(laffan.kim.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Parent Forum One:

Topic - Girls and friendship issues.

Wednesday February 22nd at 9am in the Library.

Have a great week

Kim Laffan
Principal

Kilmore Primary School
School Council Election 2017 – Notice of Election and Call for nominations

Information for Parents

February 15th 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a result of the completion of tenure or resignation, we have five parent category School Council vacancies for 2017. I would like to sincerely thank Kylie Rodgers, Lisa Whitfield, Russell Edwards, Tracey Crane and Kristy Brooks for their work on council. The time, commitment and dedication these councillors have shown our school is exemplary and on behalf of the community, I extend my greatest thanks and appreciation.

As a result of the vacancies, an election will be held. The timeline for the election is as follows:

- Notice of election and call for nominations: Wednesday, 15th February
- Closing date for nominations: Monday, 27th February 4pm
- List of candidates be posted: Wednesday, 1st March
- Ballot papers prepared and distributed: Monday, 6th March
- Close of ballot: Monday, 13th March 4pm
- Vote Count: Tuesday 14th March
- Declaration of Poll: Wednesday 15th March (newsletter)
- First council meeting: Tuesday March 28th

Nomination forms will be available from the office from Friday 10th February. The voting process will only occur if the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies.

Following is some information about the role of school council.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its
Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

1. A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

2. A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

3. An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. This way you have input into who will be representing you.

The other way is to nominate yourself or nominate someone you would like to see on council.

Yours sincerely

K. Laffan
Principal
SWIMMING TRIALS

On the 9th of February, grades 3 to 6 students tried out for the Swimming Trials, at the Kilmore Leisure Centre. We left school at 10:50am. We walked from the school to the leisure centre. At 11:10am, we arrived at the Kilmore Leisure Centre. When we got there, the girls and boys split up to go and get changed. As soon as all the kids were out, the trials BEGAN! The 9 to 10 girls went first in Freestyle then 9 to 10 boys, 11 girls, 11 boys, 12 to 13 girls and 12 to 13 boys. It went in the same order for all the other strokes, which were, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly. Most kids competed in all strokes. We had delightful icy-poles thanks to Ben’s Mum in 3B. Thank you to the other parent helpers who timed us. We could not have done it without you. Everyone tried their best. Well done to everyone who made it in.

By Emily & Scarlet – Grade 6

Swimming Trials

On Thursday 9th February students from grades 3 to 6 went to the Kilmore Leisure Centre to try out for the District Swimming event, which will be held on the 17th February at Lancefield Swimming Pool. The students competed in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly. The students who attended this were amazing. They displayed our school values of being Kind, Proud and Safe throughout the entire event. I was very proud of our student's ability to give new things ago! I found it very hard this year to select the teams as our student’s times were so close to each other, so well done! Congratulations to everyone who attended, you should be proud of yourselves. It was lovely to see so many parents who came to watch and a huge thank you must go out to the parents who helped with the running of the day. Without you amazing parents we would not be able to run these events!

Ms Sloane

Swimming team for District 2017

Kate, Emerson, Bethany , Zali, Mitchell, Blake , Harry , Hunter, Isobel, Erin, Jemma, Sienna, Jack, Ethan, Markus, Jack, Milly, Caitlyn, Scarlet, Charlotte, Hayden, Emmett, William ,Ben
Kilmore Primary School
Welcome to 2017 - School Picnic

WHEN: Thursday 16\textsuperscript{th} February
TIME: 5.30 – 7.30pm
WHERE: Kilmore Primary School – astro turf area

Kilmore PS is holding a Family Community Picnic Night to welcome in the 2017 school year. This will be an informal get together for parents, students and staff to meet with each other and for students to meet and play with their friends.

It’s also a great opportunity to welcome new families to our wonderful school community. Bring along your deck chairs, picnic rugs and picnic tea and join the KPS Community for our first community event for 2017.

* Second hand uniforms will be sold at the picnic all items $2.00 *

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday 22nd February
Kilmore PS Parent Information Evening, meet & greet classroom teachers.
Hello everyone!

What a pawsome week, with everything from pats, parachutes and popcorn coming this little pup’s way.
I’ve had great fun in the yard talking to everyone and sniffing shoes – a new favourite hobby of mine. I’ve helped Kylie and Kim in the office, supervised team challenges and been to staff meetings.
Monday night’s staff meeting was all about ‘Quick Writes’. I found out Quick Writes are written by students before they learn more about writing a pawticular text type. This one was a recount.
Teachers then read the Quick Writes and decide what students already know and what they need to learn next. Students get ‘I can...’ statements so they also know what they will be focusing on.
Whilst all the Quick Write conversations were going on, I took the opportunity to have a ‘Quick Sleep’.

For those playing at home, my ‘Trick’ in last week’s newsletter was number 1. I didn’t get stuck in the cat flap. As if! Yes, I did sleep through a thunderstorm that rattled the windows. Apawrently my snoring was almost louder than the thunder.

I’m a very good listener and I heard some comments this week which made me smile. Here are some that I’ve remembered:

“Asha, I think you’re pawcellent! Do you get it? It’s like excellent but you’ve got paws, so it’s pawcellent!” – Grade 2 student

Remember that Term One is a ‘Wear your hat term’. I’ll be staying at school a little later on Thursday afternoon for the KPS BYO Picnic. It starts at 5:30pm. I’m also looking forward to the Pawrent Information Night next week and meeting more new friends. Mrs Laffan is doing a presentation and class teachers are too. There will also be time to visit classrooms and see what we’ve all been doing so far this term.
Asha’s Adventures continued

Left: Teams who visited Ms White’s room had to work together to figure out the celebrity in what can only be described as my favourite version of ‘Celebrity Heads’ ever. Pawtographs available by request.

Right: And they said I couldn’t be a guide dog! I tried my hardest to guide people wearing a blindfold through Miss McKenzie’s obstacle course. I lost concentration and decided to move one of the cone markers...with my mouth. Might not give up my day job just yet.

Left: On our way to the oval to meet Mrs McCarthy. You might have heard me cheering on the oval and in the stadium. I couldn’t contain myself when the ball bounced up high on the parachute. I volunteered to collect it when it fell off, but for some reason my offer wasn’t taken up. Fortunately, there was a ball waiting for me in the hall with Mrs Trawn and not only was I allowed to play with it, I got to keep it. #dismoment

Below: Can you see me sitting quietly waiting for my turn?
**Student Banking**

Children have the opportunity to bank through the Commonwealth Bank. Banking is conducted every Tuesday, please put your bank book to the box provide at the office in the morning before school begins.

The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

Taking part in School Banking is easy.

- If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

- If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.

Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address to start banking at school.

**Conveyance Allowance - Term 1**

Conveyance Allowance is paid to parents/guardians to assist with the transport cost of driving their child/ren to and from school.

For student to be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance they must;
- Be aged over 5 years by 30th April
- Live more than 4.8 km by the shortest practicable route from the nearest bus stop, and
- Be enrolled at the nearest government school.

Applications close 10/03/2017

Late applications can not be accepted

Forms are available from the office. If you are unsure whether you are eligible or not, please see Kim Parker in the school office.

---

**CSEF - Camps Sports and Excursions Fund**

Application forms for 2017 are now available. If you are the holder of a valid means-tested concession card, please request a form from the Office.

Parent applications close 23rd June 2017

Late applications can not be accepted

The office needs to sight and take a copy of your concession card as per the CSEF policy.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible or not, please see Kim Parker in the school office.

---

**2017 School Term Dates**

Term 1: 31st January to 31st March
Term 2: 18th April to 30th June
Term 3: 17th July to 22nd September
Term 4: 9th October to 22nd December
Overheard from students....

“We can try to figure it out together!”

“Yeah! That could work!”
“Would you like to be my partner?”

“It was really hard the first time, but then it got easier.”

Overheard from teachers....

“You all showed so much persistence! Well done!”

“What wonderful manners!”

“It was great seeing different year levels working together.”

Overheard from students....

“That was the best morning but I’m so tired now!”

“I liked helping my Foundation buddy!”

Congratulations to all students for having a go at the challenges. We hope our parents and special guests also enjoyed them!

Thank you to our teachers for organising a wide variety of tasks that were not only fun but also allowed students to practise using growth mindsets. Stay tuned for our whole school Growth Mindset challenge!
Icy Pole Fridays Are Back
Every Friday in Term 1
$1.00 each - Limit of one per student

Please put your child’s name and grade on an envelope with the money. Orders are collected from each classroom and icy poles are distributed at lunch time.
Koolstix Naturally Coloured and Flavoured Water Ice Confection Split supplied by Home Ice Cream.

Ingredients:
Water, Cane Sugar, Maize Glucose, Citric Acid, Natural Vegetable Gums (412, 410), Natural Flavours, Natural Colours [Pineapple (101, 120), Apple (120), Orange (Mixed Carotenes, 120)], Natural Plant Extract.

Sick Bay Linen Roster - Help Needed
Each year we ask if parents are able to assist in the washing and changing of the linen in our sick bay. In most cases this means 2 or 3 times a year. If you are able to help out please return this form to the office by Friday 14th February.

A roster will be distributed shortly after

Name: __________________________ Contact Phone Number: ________________
Child’s Name: __________________________ Child’s Class: __________

Foundation Parents Meet & Greet Morning Tea
WHERE: Stadium Foyer
WHEN: Friday 24th February
TIME: 9.00AM

Toddlers welcome.

New & existing families to Kilmore PS with students in Foundation classes this year are invited to attend a morning tea on Friday 24th February in the stadium foyer at 9.00am

This is a great opportunity to meet with other families and to share the highs and lows of children starting school for the first time and to have any questions you may have answered.

We hope to see you there.
**2017 Student Leaders Badge Presentation**

WHEN: Tuesday 28\textsuperscript{th} February 2017  
WHERE: KPS Stadium  
TIME: 9.30am  

Badges will be presented to our school leaders by the Member for Euroa Steph Ryan.  

*Badges to be presented: School Captains, Deputy Captains, House Captains, Peer Mediators and SRC representatives.*

Parent, grandparents and friends of Kilmore Primary School are welcome to attend. Please be seated by 9.20am.

---

**Homework Club at KPS**

Homework club is held on Tuesday afternoons in the school library from 3.10-4.00pm. This is a great opportunity for students to work with fellow classmates, help each other with their homework and meet students from a different year levels. A teacher supervises the group and is able to provide assistance and tutoring.

Homework Club is open for students in grades 3-6. Parents must sign their child/children out at 4pm.

*The first Homework Club for 2017 will be on Tuesday 21\textsuperscript{st} February. Permission forms are available from the office.*

---

**Help Wanted**

We have three tables and some swivel chairs that are flat packed and need to be assembled. If you have any time to help with the assembling of these tomorrow or Friday could you please come to the office. It would be a great help!!
13th February, 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sacrament of Reconciliation

A Faith Formation Forum on the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance, Confession) will be held on Thursday 2nd March. Children need to be baptized Catholic and currently in Year 3 or above to participate in the program. To accommodate family commitments, there will be two sessions commencing at 3.30pm and 6.30pm in St. Patrick’s School Stadium. You will only need to attend ONE session of your choice, however we have a limit on numbers.

Only one Parent/Carer is expected to attend the Faith Formation Forum. Each session will be 90 minutes. All children wishing to receive the sacrament are expected to attend. The structure of the gathering will include a prayer, followed by information about Reconciliation. The presentation will be delivered by Tracey Brincat (Deputy Principal & RE Leader St Patrick’s Primary School).

Please note that attendance at all catechism classes and a Commitment Mass is needed for children to receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. All bookings for Faith Formation forum, Commitment mass and First Reconciliation ceremony will need to be completed online www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the code: dgxxk

The cost for the program is $45 per child, and this will need to be paid on the first session. Please contact the school if you have any queries regarding this sacrament.

Some dates:

- Thursday 2nd March 3.30pm 6.30pm - Parent and child Faith Formation Session. Details of times, dates and procedures for Reconciliation will be given at this meeting.

- Friday 28th April 8.50am – 3.15pm – Children are invited to spend the day reflecting on the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Children are to wear casual clothes and will be involved in activities that allows them to reflect deeper about the sacrament. Children will need to present at St Patrick’s school reception.

- Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th April - All children will attend one Commitment Mass, to announce themselves to the St. Patrick’s Parish community as candidates for reception of First Reconciliation.

- Tuesday 2nd May (9.30am and 6.30pm) & Wednesday 3rd May (6.30pm) First Reconciliation ceremonies will take place. Families to attend one date & time and a parent or family representative is invited to present child for Reconciliation on the day.

Catechist Classes will be Tuesday afternoons from 4pm - 5pm and they will be held in the St. Patrick’s Parish Centre (the building to the left of the church). The first class will be on Tuesday 28th Feb. These classes will be conducted by Mrs Sandra McCaughey

Catechist Classes will be:

28th Feb, 7th March, 14th March, 21st March, 28th March, 4th April, 11th April & 19th April.

Yours Sincerely,

Parish Priest – Grant O’Neill
St Patrick’s Primary School RE Leader – Mrs. Tracey Brincat
St Patrick’s Primary School RE Assistant Leader – Ms. Laura Gannon
Parish Catechist Leader Reconciliation – Sandra McCaughey