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Wednesday, 4 March 2009

Diary Dates

Term 1 Diary Dates 2009.

Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th March – Parent/Teacher Interviews

Monday 9th March – Labour Day Public Holiday

Wednesday 11th March – “Do You Want to Play”
Twilight Picnic 5.00pm

Tuesday 17th March – School Photos

Friday 15th May – Grandparents’ Day

Term Dates for 2009

Term 1: Monday 2nd February to 3rd April

Term 2: 20th April to 26th June

Term 3: 13th July to 18 September

Term 4: 5th October to 18th December

A Message from the Principal School Council elections

Today is the last opportunity to vote in the Glenferrie School Council election. I thank all candidates for nominating and for their interest. We will notify you of the successful candidates. The new School Council will meet on Tuesday 9th March at 7.30pm in the staff room. This year will be a productive and exciting year with new projects to be started.

We have an enrolment of 321 students at census day last Friday. School council will now look at the budget and ratify it. We have advertised for a Library Technician now that the Library is ready for use.

The games morning was very successful. Thanks to Mrs Van de Geer, Gina Mellos, Sarah Cumming and Julie Brown for organising the day. Thanks to Captains and Grade 6 buddies for making sure all students were safe and enjoyed the day.

Congratulations to the following students who were elected as to the Student Representative Council. SRC reps will be presented with their badges at assembly on Monday 16th March. Mrs Tansy Lewis-Lyons will be working with the reps in 2009.

PK - Lachie Phillips

PC- Molly Kane

PW-Alexander Jones

1V - Eugenie Rickard

1T –Ben Symons

1A –Oscar Robson

2B –Domi Niere

2L – Hannah Campbell

3N –Luke Jones

3M –Leo Weston

4T – Dom Teseiro

4P – Zephyr Howson

5/6T – Ally Leyden and Sunny Youngsmith

5/6C – Florence Cuming and Michael Xu

5/6 D –Declan Niere and Betsy Ruscoe

Parent Reps

Each year expressions of interest are called for form parents to become Class reps. I invite parents to consider becoming their child’s class representative.

Class reps provide a link between the class teacher and other parents. The duties of the Class Representative generally involve:

- Liaising with the class teacher
- Liaising with the parents from your class
- Making new families to the school welcome, including those who come to the school part way through the year
- Assisting with class activities and whole school events as required by the teacher
- Organising class social activities
- Assisting with class details list
- Entering dates of events on the calendar on the GPS website, via the office

Other duties may involve:

- Reminders home to [parents about school activities and returning forms and keeping the teacher notified
- Photocopying administration letters for staff
- Following up on class rosters for the teacher eg. PMP
- Making teaching aides
- Helping organise class parties / picnics

This year (the year of the Production) the class rep will play a valuable role in harnessing the talents, skills and time of parents to contribute to the success of the production. Class reps would need to be involved in the fundraising and social events organised by Parent’ and Friends.

We have purchased 3 electronic whiteboards. They will be installed tomorrow in 1A and 5/6D and the Library. All staff will be using them with their students.
Marlene Laurent

Our New Website

You will notice something different about our school’s website. In Term 4 of last year Denis Masseni from Sponsor Ed presented at School Council a different option for our school website. School Council discussed what was presented and decided to join a program called sponsor-ed that uses school web sites to generate fund raising dollars. Sponsor-ed provide us with a free web site, free hosting, training and on-going support. Web sites of comparable quality can cost in excess of \$7,000. On Friday 27th February 2009 our new school website went live.

A lot has changed in the digital world since setting up the original school’s website. Back then we hadn’t heard of Google, Wikipedia, eBay, blogs, wikkis, web 2.0 technologies and the iPod was still pure fantasy. One of the most significant changes has been the ability of websites to generate sponsorship funds if enough people visit a site. It’s a lot like the newspaper website. In Term 4 of last year Denis Masseni from Sponsor Ed presented at School Council a different option for our school website. School Council discussed what was presented and decided to join a program called

sponsor-ed that uses school web sites to generate fund raising dollars. Sponsor-ed provide us with a free web site, free hosting, training and on-going support. Web sites of comparable quality world. The more people that see the advertiser's message, the more money the publisher can earn. Today, almost by accident, we find ourselves as publishers. The fund raising dollars we can earn is tied directly to the number of page views our web site receives and the sponsors we have on our site. The school has the control over which sponsor is represented on our site. A page view is simply a way of measuring how many times our web site is viewed by our community.

One of the things you could do now to help get our web visits up is to turn your computer's home page to that of the school. You may never have thought much about your homepage or how to change it, but doing so is very easy. On our web site you'll notice a big orange button in the top right hand corner, 'Make this my home page' – just press it and your homepage will become that of the school's.

Our goal is to see if we can increase web visits to our site by providing information of a broader nature than what has been traditionally presented and make better use of new and emerging technology. We hope that you find value in the new information and will visit the site often. At this stage the website is in its infancy and more content will be continually added. If we can raise the number of visits, the school's website becomes an attractive communication vehicle for sponsors and we could see a steady stream of funds become available to the school for what will be very little effort on our part. One of the things you could do now to help get our web visits up is to turn your computer's internet browser's home page to that of the school. You will find instructions on how to do this on the top right hand corner of the new website.

Apart from the fundraising, the web site has many wonderful and useful features;

- Today's weather and forecast
- A dynamic calendar that will be able to update your own Outlook calendar on your own computer automatically (coming March)
- Search for key words on the site
- Google searching from the site
- Links to local sporting fixtures
- Save the environment, get your newsletters online. When the newsletter's been uploaded, we'll send you an email to let you know it's now available
- Many enhancements coming over the next few months
- And much more coming over the coming months

We hope you support this innovative initiative and if you have any ideas on the content that you would like to see on the site please let us know.

I hope you support this innovative initiative and if you have any ideas on the content that you would like to see on the site please let us know. And if you're not familiar with our web site address it is www.glenferrieps.vic.edu.au

We recognise that some parents may not have access to the internet but with a large percentage of families having access at home and most of the remaining having access to the internet through work we felt this

was a good time to 'Go Live' with The Glenferrie Gazette. Hard copies will still be printed for the time being and phased out during Term 1. A small number of hard copies will always be available from the office or upon request.

Here are a few facts and figures that have lead us to this decision.

- A commitment to the environment through a reduction in greenhouse gases.
- Close to \$4000.00 currently spent per year on paper and photocopying the Glenferrie Gazette.
- Wear and tear of photocopier as well as availability of the photocopier during printing times.
- Labour including printing, counting and sorting the Gazette.
- Minimise expenditure in the school so we are able to target areas of need e.g. reading materials, changeover of computer equipment
- Viewing online enables you to click directly on any links.
- Photos and any colour items can be viewed.

To access the Glenferrie Gazette please log on to the school's website and click on the links that will take you to the newsletter.

There are obvious benefits to this approach but it will take a little change in the way we go about communicating. There is an expectation that parents will actually log on to the website to read the Gazette. We have started putting the Gazette online already, so have a look and get used to the steps required to access the Gazette

Technology does have advantages and we are attempting to keep up with the times and move forward. Your feedback on this process is most welcome.

We thank you for your support of this initiative and the environment.

Parent Information Handbook

The Parent Information Handbook will be handed out this week. It will be handed to the eldest child in your family or you will receive a copy at the Parent/Teacher Interviews. Please be aware that there have been some changes since it was printed. An updated version will be available for download from our school website in the near future and you will be notified of its availability via the Glenferrie Gazette.

WORLDS GREATEST SHAVE

My name is Courtney. I am in grade 5/6T

I'm supporting the "World's Greatest Shave" on 12-14 March by colouring my hair either PINK or RED or GREEN or BLUE.

You can vote for a colour when you make a donation.

I would love if you could support me. Please see me before/after school or at lunchtime.

Welcome Drinks

What a great night everyone had on Friday!

Thanks to all those who helped out especially Karissa Marston, Jacqueline Crocaris and Pru McKay and a

very special mention to our two fine barmen Bob Mitchell and Ian Robson!
Juliette & Cherie

Education Tax Refund

Under the new Education Tax Refund, Parents and others who are eligible can now claim 50% of their eligible education expense up to \$750 for primary school students. This means you can receive a refund each year of up to \$375 for each primary school student.

You can claim the purchase, lease, hire or hire-purchase costs, repairs and running costs of: laptops, home computers and associated costs – for example, internet, paper, educational software, printers, disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs.

Stationery and art supplies

School textbooks and associated learning materials

Some of the expenses you are not able to claim are school fees, uniforms, school excursions.

For a more comprehensive list visit,

www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au.

You can claim your education expenses in your 2009 tax return. If you do not have to lodge a tax return, you will be able to lodge a separate claim with the Tax Office from 1 July 2009. If your education expenses in one year are more than the claim limit for your children, you can add the excess to your education expenses for the following year.

Remember, you need to keep all your receipts for expenses you claim.

For more information visit,

www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au or phone the Tax

Office on 13 28 61



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Games Morning such a success. Special thanks to our Parent Coordinators, Sarah Cumming, Julie Brown and Gina Mellos, and to our Sport Captains. The next part of our program involves learning about our Values for 2009: Friendliness, Kindness, Tolerance and Assertiveness.

Over the next few weeks, the Senior School Students will be asked to write a poem about Friendship, Kindness, Tolerance or Assertiveness (our values topics this year). One student from each class will be selected to read their poem out in the Celebratory Assembly on Monday 30 March 2009.

Prep Students will be making Posters to display for our Celebratory Assembly and Level 2 Students will be preparing to sing for you.

We will also reveal our Whole School Story which involves each class writing a paragraph – the story will

travel up the school from Prep and be read at the Celebratory Assembly.

Physical Education 2009

5/6 Summer Sport:

We have had 2 matches so far. We had mixed results against Deepdene and a challenging match against Camberwell.

This week we are away at Canterbury Primary School, Softball, Cricket and Kanga will be held at Highfield Park and Bat Tennis and Rounders at Camberwell Primary School 9.20am - 10.45am.

District Swimming:

Well done to Annika Ernest, Kate Tinsley, Maddy James, Natasha Fowler, Betsy Ruscoe & Will Selbie for representing Glenferrie at the Kooyong Swimming Event at Bialik.

Natasha Fowler successfully made it through to the next round in the Eastern Zone Event in Breaststroke this Friday. Good luck.

Dates to put in your diary: House Cross Country Friday 1st May in the morning. District Cross Country 16th May

Camp Medication

I still have some medications from school camp to return to parents. Please come to my desk before school or after school on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday to collect your child's medication.

Alex Johnson

\$\$\$ IGA DOCKETS \$\$\$

Thank you for the terrific response to this year's IGA dockets. Remember to save your dockets from IGA Hawthorn or Burwood and put them in the box above the Pigeon holes outside the Office. You can also ask family and friends to save dockets too. If you have the time to flatten your dockets and put in a staple, paper clip or even just fold them in half as a bundle that all helps to the speed of getting them totalled. Thank you to Libby McFarland who has offered to help total up dockets – as they say in the classics 'Many hands make light work'. *Cheers Libby Glover*

ICY POLE FRIDAY

Icy Pole Friday continues every Friday at lunchtime. Still only 50cents Helpers always welcome leave your name at the office if you are able to help.

Rhubarb Clearance Sale

50%– 75% off RRP!

Wed 4th March – Fri 6th March, 8am-7pm
283 Swan Street, Richmond