Dear Parents and Families:

Here we are our last newsletter for 2016, I can remember writing the first newsletter for 2016 and thinking, “2016 ALREADY”. Its been a full year and a very productive one at that. Some of the big things that happened over the year:

- Change of Principal
- Change of Assistant Principal
- Student data showing consistent improvement
- School Review Year with very positive results
- Rob Vingerhoerts maths consultant working with teachers and students
- Sports clinics every term
- Wakakirri and Kids Thrive—building literacy skills, confidence, resilience, language development
- Excursions / Incursions
- Preps free swimming program—thankyou to Life Saving Victoria
- 5/6 Free beach program—thankyou to Life Saving Victoria
- FMD Hip Hop group
- Young Leaders Conference for our Student Leaders
- Camps / sleep overs and Picnics
- Parents and Friends activities
- Book writing with Hobsons Bay Library
- Garden finished and planted
- Family evenings—Maths Night and School Wide Positive Behaviours
- Harmony Day
- House Sports Day
- Parents as School Helpers Introduction
- Bike Ed

STAFFING:

At the end of each year we often bid farewell to staff. This year Ms Blease, Mr Davies, Mr Clark, Mandy Currie, Nicole Punton and Josh Salfate will be taking time off or relocating to different schools. We wish them all the very best for their careers and futures. We also thank them sincerely for their valuable contributions to ANPS in 2016. We welcome onto our staff for 2017 Mrs Chrisoula Anastasiou, Mrs Lora Roussos and Ms Angela Pezzano.

Best wishes to Bev from the office who will be on Leave for 2017, have a great time with your family going on holidays. Well deserved.

Congratulations and best wishes to Suzi our Speech Therapist who is going on Maternity Leave, we are all looking forward to hearing about the birth of her new baby. We have a new Speech Therapist starting in 2017 who is currently working with Suzi doing handover information so there will be as little disruption as possible. I would like to thank all our staff for a wonderful year and for their dedication to student learning and support.

A big thankyou also to Wendy and her office staff for the support of all our families, students and staff throughout the year. They always make people feel welcome and go out of their way to assist where they can.

A huge thankyou to Mrs. Blunt for her continued support and valued input into our curriculum and running of the school. THANKYOU !!!

Continued over page…….
LAST DAY OF TERM 4: The end of the school year is TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER! All students will be dismissed from school at 1pm. We will be holding our last assembly for the year on this day at 12:30pm and students will be dismissed from the school hall. Please make arrangements to have your child/ren picked up at this time. Also please note that the Office will be closing at 1:00pm on this day, it would be appreciated if ALL payments could be finalised by TOMORROW - Friday 16th December.

2017 CLASS PREPARATIONS: This week students had the opportunity to visit their 2017 unit and experience what it is like to be in the grade level they will be going into in 2017. It was a fun day and the students were most excited with the experience.

On Tuesday all students will be going to their new classrooms and meeting their new teachers. A lot of work and thought has gone into class placements. Teachers consider: academic abilities, friendships, parent requests and which students work best together. All students are provided with a friendship wish list and have the opportunity to name three people they would like to be in the same grade with next year. The students are well aware that every effort is made to ensure at least one of the people are in the same grade.

Although your child might not be happy at first with not having a particular friend in their grade next year, this may be for the reason that these children do not work well together and are much better apart without the distraction. Please keep this in mind. All children have the opportunity to meet up during the day and new friendships also form.

CLASS PARTIES: Friday is our special class parties day, it’s a celebration of the year and a time for our children to enjoy lunch together. Please send along a plate of food to share and as we do so well here. We encourage the sharing of our multicultural food for the parties. Please remember we are very limited in fridge space and have no heating abilities so if you have hot food or something that needs refrigeration please drop it off at school 12:30.

BREAKY CLUB: Please note that there will be NO Breaky Club tomorrow. I would like to thank Josh, Mrs. Georgiou and Helen Proud (volunteer) for their ongoing support and dedication providing our students with breakfast twice a week. This is a commitment to be here by 7:30am and have the hall set up and breaky cooking by 8:00am ready for some hungry tummies. THANKYOU

K-MART WISHING TREE: Thankyou to everyone for supporting the Wishing Tree and providing gifts to go under the tree at K-Mart to make someone’s Christmas a special one. Thankyou to Mrs. Morgan for her organisation.

BIG DAY OUT: Our Graduating Grade Six students will be celebrating the end of their Primary School years tomorrow Friday 16th December by attending their “Big Day Out”. We wish them all the best for a fun filled day that has lasting positive memories. Enjoy the breakfast and your waiters!!!!

CANTEEN: Canteen is now closed for the year. Please make sure that you supply your children with both morning tea and lunch for the remainder of the year.

Have a wonderful Weekend and I look forward to our last few days of the school year.

Regards,
Robyn Gregson - Principal
Wishing Tree
Many thanks to Students and staff for the wonderful gifts that have been bought for the Kmart Wishing Tree. I’m sure these gifts will put a smile on the faces of the many people who will receive these gifts for Christmas.

HOUSE POINTS NEWS:

HOUSE POINTS UPDATE
Wow! With now only a few days to go, the battle for House of the Year is going down to the wire. Congratulations to MILLERS who won last week in a low scoring week.

Last week’s scores were

MILLERS 15  MASON 14  CRESSER 12  BLACKSHAWS 11

Can MILLERS go back to back and win again this year?
Can CRESSER who haven’t won since 2012 claim the prize?
Can BLACKSHAWS who have led for most of the year be the Champions?
Can MASON storm home from last place and be the winners?
All these questions will be answered when the final scores for the year will be revealed on our last day assembly.
So remember to keep doing your best and maybe try to do something special in the last few days that could get your house extra points.
And may the best house win.

GO MILLERS  GO CRESSER  GO BLACKSHAWS  GO MASON
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:
Thank you to everyone who supported our school by either purchasing raffle tickets and/or making a donation to our prize pool. We were able to raise money towards our fundraising total for the year. We would like to congratulate the winners who shared the prizes.

All unsold raffle books need to be returned to school. It is a legal requirement that all raffle tickets be returned to school.

We would like to thank the following businesses who continue supporting our fundraising efforts by donating goods & services: Westgate Golf Club, Lantern Ghost Tours, Phillip Island Nature Parks, & Masterfood to name a few.

Also thank you to all families for the donated goods which made up many of our wonderful hampers!

Our year of fundraising has been a busy one. All our various events from sausage sizzles, disco, Mothers & Father's Day stalls, Easter & Christmas raffles and so much more have been very well supported by our school community and beyond - THANK YOU!

END OF TERM INFORMATION / START OF 2017:

TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER EARLY FINISH:
Please be aware we will be having an early dismissal on the last day of school for 2016. A whole school assembly will be held at 12:30pm and all students will be dismissed at 1:00pm. The children will not be required to bring lunch to school on this day.

Please have all payments to the office by Friday 16th December as the office will not be processing any payments until the new year.

Please contact Camp Australia on 1300 105 343 or visit www.campaustralia.com.au if you are unable to collect your child from school early on this last day for 2014.

OUT OF SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY:
The Social Service Committee has decided that the final day of school for 2016 will be an Out of Uniform Day. All students are allowed to come to school in casual, Sunsmart clothing, and bring a Gold Coin Donation. All proceeds of the day will go to the ANPS Murray 2 Moyne Bike Ride which raises funds solely for our school’s Student Welfare Program.

If you would like to know more about this program, please speak with Mrs Gregson.

CANTEEN CLOSED:
The school canteen will be closed for the rest of the school year. Please make sure that you send your child to school with Morning Tea and Lunch EVERYDAY as we are unable to supply it for them.

OFFICE AND UNIFORM SHOP OPENING:
The ANPS office and uniform shop will be open on TUESDAY 31ST JANURARY between 10am and 12pm for Essential Education Supplies payments and collection of uniforms.

START DATES:
All students in Grades 1 - 6 are required to start school on Wednesday 1st February at 8:45am.
All Prep students start school on THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY at 8:45am. Prep students do not attend school on WEDNESDAYS for the month of February.
ALL students are dismissed from school at 3:15pm everyday unless otherwise advised.