Principal’s Report

Today we had a visit from a very special group of 3 Year Old Kinder Kids attending our first ‘School Discovery Morning’ They had lots of fun and made a great gift for Father’s day to take home.

Kim Sparrow and Bonita O’Brien did an amazing job with Father’s day stall today. Thank you to them both for working so hard to ensure that all students had the opportunity to purchase a gift for their dad for Father’s Day. Thank you to our parent helpers, Deb Hintum, Janelle Biggin and Kathy McGregor, who assisted Kim and Bonita at the stall. Pictured below students line up to purchase presents.

Tomorrow we are celebrating Book Week - with a fabulous Book Character assembly where students dress up as their favourite book character, it will be an entertaining end to the week. All students will be involved in a variety of engaging activities to celebrate the enjoyment we get from books during the morning.

Last Sunday our three teams participating in the Regional Tournament of Minds Competition at Geelong, did an outstanding job addressing the challenges posed. Again thanks to the parents and teachers that supported this enjoyable event and special thanks to Sandra Jacobson for making it all possible.

Congratulations to a new Dad at Gray St Mr Dean Koopman. Dean is the father of Sandy who earlier this term enrolled at Gray St and is in Prep. Dean recently received the Rural Press Club of Victoria’s top, ‘Photographer of the Year Award’ along side the ‘Best News Photography’ award. A fabulous effort.

We were excited to read in the Mulleraterong newsletter that Rosemary Trimnell who has been working at Gray St on a Tuesday afternoon as a volunteer over the past five years was awarded ‘Worker Of the Month’ Rosie helps with all sorts of tasks which recently included sorting the tickets and stamps from the Woolworths promotion. Congratulations, Rosie.

Again, I need to mention the importance for safety reasons to use the ‘Drop and Go’ Zones correctly. Firstly, there is no parking in the designated areas during the times specified on the signs. Secondly, if your child is not there ready to be picked up you must leave and then return to the drop off zone, hopefully to have your child/ren waiting there for you. The police are quite vigilant regarding enforcing all the rules because the safety of our children is of the utmost concern.

Finally, I would like to wish all our great dad’s at Gray St a very happy Father’s Day and I hope that on Sunday you are justly spoilt for the day.

Enjoy your week ahead
Helen
Grade 3 & 4 Tree Planting - CANCELLED

The grade 3 & 4 tree planting day has been cancelled.

Lemon Sorbet – Tuesday Recess Special

Lemon Sorbet in a cone will be sold at recess on Tuesday 3rd September. Cost $1 each.

Bookweek 2013

Students have been busy reading Bookweek books and participating in Bookweek activities in their classrooms and specialists classes this week. Tomorrow we will 'wrap up' Bookweek with our infamous book character fashion parade. All students and staff are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. Assembly tomorrow will be in the stadium to give us more room for the parade.

Emma Brown.

New iPads donated by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)

Three new iPads have been donated to our school to be used with students as part of a grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR). With the guidance of our teacher aides the students are using these iPads as a learning and recording tool. The wonderful things about iPads are that they are so engaging and are completely portable. They can be used inside and outside the classroom. The versatility and the educational appeal of the iPads make them an invaluable tool for our students. Thank you FRRR for making this possible.

School Photos - Thursday 5th September

All children have received an order form for school photos. If you would like to order a family photo please collect an envelope from the office.

All photo envelopes must be returned with the correct money enclosed by Monday 2nd September.

Family photo discounts - Parents who order and pay for two children's photo packages, will receive the third, fourth and so on FREE. Parents need only tick the “Family Discount” box on the back of the envelopes, to receive this discount.

All children will require their own envelopes, although payment may be submitted in one envelope.

School photos will be taken Thursday 5th September, starting at 9.00am.
New Library Books

The school library has lots of new books! There are new picture books, chapter books and novels for teenagers. Students are very excited to read the new books which is great to see! The books will be on display for two weeks on the “New Books” display shelf then they will be available for borrowing.

Emma Brown.

Drop-off and pick-up areas

Gray St Primary School has two Drop-off and pick-up areas, where you can quickly set down and pick up your children. They create a safe environment for children and keep traffic moving. The drop-off and pick-up areas are signed and monitored by the police.

How they work

There can often be queues at drop-off and pick-up areas outside schools. When using a drop-off and pick-up area you:

- can get out of your vehicle to quickly help your children get in and out safely (once in the signed area)—however you must not walk away from your vehicle
- are only allowed a couple of minutes in the signed area (if you take any longer you can be fined)—if your children are not ready to get straight into your vehicle at pick-up time, you will need to drive round the block and queue to enter the area again
- should teach your children to look out for your vehicle and to get in quickly when you pull up

Advantages of drop-off and pick-up areas

Drop-off and pick-up areas help to make school zones safe because:

- children are dropped off and picked up close to the school’s entrance (so they do not need to cross any roads)
- they reduce traffic jams around the school (as parents and carers come and go faster than if they were to park and walk into the school grounds)
- younger (non-school aged) children can stay in vehicles while their older siblings are dropped off and picked up—they do not need to walk, or be pushed or carried, to the school’s entrance.

Canteen

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<tr>
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<td>Wednesday 4th September</td>
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<td>Kim Sparrow</td>
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<td>Friday 6th September</td>
<td>10.45 – 1.00</td>
<td>Nicole Downs</td>
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Foster Care Week September 7-14 2013

September 7th to 14th is Foster Care Week. It is Victoria’s largest celebration of Foster Care. This year Brophy Family & Youth Services are asking local people to become involved in Celebrating Foster Care Week. Brophy will be celebrating by running a BBQ at Burrioombboi on Sunday September 15th 2013. A Barbecue will also be held at Lathangy Hamilton on Saturday 7th October 2013 and one will also be running a “fun day” event at the Gateway Plaza Warookba for Children & Young People. For more information on how you can get involved please come and support the Foster Care Program. For more information in any of these events please contact Robyn Mason or Nicky on the number below.

Thousands of children around Victoria need foster care every night. Out of home care provides a safe temporary home to children and young people in need. You can choose to provide respite, short-term and/or long-term care. You can also choose the age group of the children you would like to care for between 0 to 18 years.

Brophy hopes to increase public awareness of the need for out-of-home care and encourage people to find out more about becoming a foster carer.

To find out how you can get involved, or to enquire about becoming a foster carer with Brophy:

Phone (03) 556 18888 Adele Lewer, Marion Noye or Mustaf Colanin from Brophy Family & Youth Services

Brophy Family & Youth Services operates in 18 of the primary provides for youth services in the South West Victoria. We provide regional services to Portland, Hamilton, Colac and Warrnambool.
Scarecrow Dress Up Day
“Frog in Pond”
Friday 13th September

On FRIDAY 13th SEPTEMBER the Country Fair Committee will be launching a scarecrow competition. To help celebrate all students are welcome to come to school dressed as scarecrows on this day.

The Fair Committee will also be selling pre-ordered “Frogs in Ponds” (jelly with chocolate frog) at recess on this day. These will be $2 each.

These orders are due back to school by Friday 6th September. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED and payment must be CASH.

If you wish your child/ren to have a “Frog in Pond” or two on this day, please complete the form below and return to the office in an envelope clearly marked – FROGS IN PONDS by Friday 6th September.

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FROG IN PONDS

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<th>Student's Name</th>
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TOTAL

☐ I have enclosed $................... for ................ Frog in Ponds

Office Use Only
Amount Received: $          Date:    /    /    
Initialled: