Principal’s Report

Well, a very pleasant week weather wise, and the school has continued to be a buzz with activity.

Last Friday our Kanga 8 sides successfully moved through to the district finals which were held on Tuesday and put in a great effort to finish well up in the competition.

This week has also been the start of the Bike Education Program for students in Grade 4. It is great to see so many of the grade 4 children participating. Anthony Hill is coordinating the program assisted by Robyn Donovan. The skills they learn are very helpful in keeping the children safe on and around our roads when riding their bikes. Importantly also it teaches them to ride defensively as you can never predict what someone else may do. The program culminates in a road ride which all the children are looking forward to. The police involvement in the program is also greatly appreciated especially when explaining road rules as it places greater emphasis on riding our bikes in the correct fashion. We know how busy the police are so we thank them for the time and commitment they provide to the Bike Ed program.

Yesterday we had a very special visit from the kinder children from Church Hill Kindergarten. The children joined with our wonderful Preps and enjoyed lots of fun activities centred around the theme ‘Teddy Bears Picnic’.

The school is once again a buzz with excitement, as we prepare for the official opening of our ‘Self Portrait’ Art Show on Monday 5th December at 7 p.m. As previously mentioned all students have been working hard to produce their own self portrait which has now been framed and is ready for exhibiting. The portraits will be on display in the Open Learning Area from Tuesday 6th December until Friday 9th December from 8.15 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Thank you to Glen Murray for lending us his temporary fencing to display the portraits on, I am sure you will agree it looks really effective. On the last page of the newsletter you will find more information regarding purchasing these wonderful masterpieces.

Parents are reminded that four car parks in Kennedy Street near the school stadium have been resigned a ‘drop and go’ zone.

Enjoy your week ahead.
Helen
**Lake Pertobe Buddies Trip**

Last Thursday, the very excited Preps and Grade 6 children headed off to Lake Pertobe in Warrnambool. It was a fun filled day of playing and spending some very special time with the buddies before the Grade 6s head off to their secondary schools next year. Thanks to the Grade 6s for their efforts in helping the Preps settle into school this year. Here is what the Preps wrote about their special day!

We went to Lake Pertobe in Warrnambool and the buddies came and played with us.

By Sophie Cooper

“TOOT, TOOT. The buses are here.” We are so excited as we are going to Lake Pertobe in Warrnambool. We watched one movie and the other bus had our buddies in it. We went on the maze.

By Brianna Livingstone

I had a good time. I liked the wonky slide. The slide was fun and the slide was bumpy.

By Lachlan Barber

**Kanga 8s Cricket**

**Local Carnival:**

Last Friday Gray St entered two teams in the local Carnival at Pedrina Park. Thirty-four teams from the surrounding area were participating, with each team playing three preliminary matches. It was a great sight to see seventeen matches of cricket occurring at one time, even though the playing conditions of 34 degrees were trying.

Our teams (one of boys and one of girls) were primed and ready after several lunchtime trials and practice sessions. Kanga 8s is a modified form of cricket, with all players bowling one over and each pair of batsmen facing two overs. Wickets count as a 5-run deduction to the score and bonus runs can be scored in the “double zone”. Our girls’ team were ably coached by Mrs Van Kalken and they won all three preliminary matches against Tarrington (147 to 65), North Hamilton (141 to 94) and St. Josephs/Macarthur (179 to 99). Some highlights included Emily Goodman and Danielle Van Kalken scoring 64 off two overs, whilst Jacqui Bunting continued to provide strong hitting, accurate bowling and secure catching.

The boys’ team also produced powerful displays of batting and some excellent catching to also win their three preliminary games against Good Shepherd (203 to 73), Mortlake (242 to 81) and Tarrington (286 to 10). Some key players included Drew Guegan-Brown with towering 6s, Lukas Egger scoring 57 from one over and Billy Zebra-Hutchins taking a hat-trick.

Both teams progressed to the finals. The boys played North in the final and had a win 237 to 73, while the girls played Coleraine/St. Josephs and won by one run in a nail-biter. These wins meant they progressed through to the regional finals.

**Regional Carnival**

The Regional Carnival was held on Tuesday of this week in dull, overcast weather for cricket. It featured the best teams from the Hamilton, Warrnambool, Portland and Wimmera areas. During the three matches the boys played some very strong opponents and found out what talented cricketers there are in our region. They lost their first match by forty runs to Nullawarre. They then followed-up with fifty run loss to Portland North and a strong win to conclude the carnival against Birchip (154 to 70). All the players managed personal highlights during the carnival, with big hits, accurate bowling and athletic fielding.

The girls lost their first game against Donald by a mere 8 runs and followed up with strong wins against Mortlake and St. Josephs/Macarthur. They continued to develop their cricket skills throughout the day, only narrowly missing the final.

Thank you to the parents who came to Pedrina Park during the two days of the carnivals and offered their encouragement and support to the teams. A special “thank you” to Mrs Van Kalken for her sterling work as coach of the girls’ team. She has been the volunteer Kanga 8s coach for several years and is an excellent coach and umpire during the carnival. Well done to all 19 Kanga 8s cricketers - you played well, acted sportingly towards all opponents and represented Gray St well.

Anthony Hill

**Library News**

Next week will be the last week for borrowing books. Over the next couple of weeks I will be returning books to the shelves in preparation for our stocktaking. Please return all library books by FRIDAY 9th DECEMBER.

Any books not returned by 9th December will be deemed as lost and a replacement fee of $20 is to be paid.

Alex Anderson
Library Technician
You Can Do It!  Term 4: Confidence

This is Confidence

Confident Thinking:
- Accepting Myself
- Taking Risks
- I Can Do It
- Being independent

Confident Actions:
- Try something new
- Do hard things without asking for help
- Share new ideas with your teacher
- Talk to someone new

Staff Profile

Mrs McFadden is currently teaching Grade Two. She has taught at Gray St for the past four years, previously teaching Grade Three.

What is your favourite childhood memory of school?

When I was in Prep we lived with my Gran for a little while, so I started at my Dad’s old school in Westgarth, Melbourne. My first canteen order was a honey and cheese sandwich. I couldn’t work out how the canteen lady knew who my Dad was from my order. It had been 20 years since she had last made up a honey and cheese sandwich!

What would your last meal be?

Crayfish, oysters and lemon tart.

Name five people in history or current date that you would most like to meet?

- Charles Darwin
- Helen Keller
- Sister Vivian Bullwinkel
- Truganini
- Johnny Depp

What do you do when you are not working?

Gardening, reading, keeping up with my family, cooking-keeping the yo yo jar full for my friends!

What is the most interesting trip you have ever taken?

When our four children were small we took a term off to wander around Australia- no TV, DVDs or hand held games! We met lots of interesting people in all sorts of unexpected places.

First day at school for Mrs McFadden
Fundraising News
Frozen tubes will be for sale for $1 from the canteen. Please bring your dollar every Friday.

Hot Lunch
Hot Lunch Day will be held on Friday 2nd December. Forms were sent home with all students last week.
Forms and money are due back tomorrow Friday 25th November.
Anyone willing to donate an hour of their time to help out on this day would be appreciated immensely.

St Mary’s Christmas Expo And Parade
SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER
EXPO 9.30AM – 3.30PM
PARADE 10.30AM
Affordable fun day for the whole family
Pre purchase ride bands from St Mary’s at a discount rate
Fantastic raffle prizes including accommodation packages
Goods and Services Auction
Lots of new & exciting traders
For further details contact 55519000

IMPORTANT DATES
November 28th
RE Break Up
December 1st
Combined Carols Festival 1pm
Gr 1, Gr 3 and 5/6 Choir
December 2nd
Hot Lunch
December 5th
Art Exhibition Opening
December 13th
Transition Day
December 15th
Grade 6 Graduation Dinner
December 19th
School Concert
December 20th
School Concert
December 21st
Special Assembly
December 22nd
Last Day Term 4 - 1.30pm dismissal

2012
February 1st
Staff return
Book Boxes to be collected
February 2nd
Students Return

‘SELF PORTRAIT’ ART EXHIBITION
GRAND OPENING MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER
7PM – 8PM
All students across the school have been busily creating ‘self portraits’ to display and sell at the Art Exhibition.
The grand opening will take place on Monday 5th December at 7pm. All parents and students are welcome. Art work will be available for sale.
Portraits are available for purchase at a cost of $20 each or families with 3 or more children $50.
If you wish to purchase your child’s self portrait, please complete and return the form below with the money in an enclosed envelope clearly marked “SELF PORTRAITS”

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OFFICE USE ONLY
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