From the Principal

What a fantastic day last Friday for our school cross country. Thanks to all the parents and community members that braved the cold and were able to attend to cheer on the students (and some staff). The day would not have been nearly as successful without all the behind the scenes work Mr Bamford put it in – a big THANKS to all his efforts and CONGRATULATIONS to TUNART for winning their 2nd carnival for 2012.

It is NAPLAN week this week – all our grade 3, 5, 7 & 9 students will sit various tests centred around literacy and numeracy. These are important tests as we as a school look at the results to inform our teaching. Good luck to all our students (here and at Alpine) in their NAPLAN tests.

This time of the year there are flu bugs and other sicknesses that students and staff suffer from. It is important to remember that if you or your child is unwell that school is not the place to be BUT a minor cold, headache or pain that can be overcome with a dose of Panadol attendance at school is a must. We are finding AGAIN that our attendance levels are dropping and your children, our students, cannot afford the time off school. The only way to improve performance is by participation. Please keep in mind it is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. School attendance helps children develop social skills, such as friendship building, teamwork, communication skills and healthy self-esteem. Poor patterns of attendance place students at risk of not achieving their educational, social and psychological potential and are disadvantaged in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life situations. Students who regularly miss school are at risk of missing out on learning the basic building blocks of each subject and may experience long term difficulties with their learning.

Hopefully the long term forecast is correct as rain is on the way – please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather as there are some students arriving in shorts and wanting the heaters on.

We are almost half way through the term – if you wish to speak to any of your child’s teachers about anything please either ring or email to make an appointment.
PRIMARY UPDATE
HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY to all the mums! I hope your cards, gifts and flowers arrived home from school safely last week.

NAPLAN
Grade 3, 5, 7 & 9 students will complete National tests in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation and mathematics this week. Information leaflets were sent to the parents of participating students yesterday. Results will not be available until September 2012.

Good luck to all year 3, 5, 7 & 9 students!

GOAL SETTING
Parents are reminded to discuss current learning goals with their children. All P-6 students are currently working towards SMART goals in various learning areas.

For example, grade 4-6 students set a weekly reading goal/target. Students are expected to review their goal regularly and test their comprehension with a quiz or diary.

Student reading diaries at each level also contain reading targets and a space to monitor/comment on your child’s reading. Please ensure your child keeps their reading diary up to date.

WINTER SPORT
Following many phone conversations and emails we have finally set two dates for Winter Sport. As I have documented previously in the Pipeline we are teaming up with Sunnycliffs, St Joseph’s Red Cliffs and Nangiloc. The dates for 2012:

- Friday 25th May- Combined team V’s OLSH Merbein at Kenny Park.
- Friday 1st June- Combined team training at Red Cliffs (Quandong Park)
- Wednesday 20th June- Red Cliffs District Lightning Premiership at Red Cliffs (Quandong Park)

CURRENT THEME
The current theme in the Primary area is Healthy Living. Students have been learning about the importance of staying physically fit and enjoying a balanced diet.

A healthy lifestyle is important for everyone. When we look after our physical health, we feel better too – fitter, more relaxed and better able to cope with things. There are lots of ways of being healthy that feel good as well as doing you good.

What healthy living means
‘Healthy living’ means maintaining a healthy lifestyle and introducing habits that improve your health.
It’s about enjoying yourself without risking your health. It’s what you eat and drink; sleeping well and managing stress. It’s about being physically active and staying connected with others.
It’s about taking responsibility for your overall health including having regular check-ups for your eyes and teeth.
It’s about feeling fitter physically, mentally and emotionally.

KAITLIN GRADUATES READING RECOVERY!
Congratulations to Kaitlin Hards for reaching reading level 20! I would also like to extend my congratulations to the whole family on the arrival of their baby daughter Ivy.

JUMPERS/APPROPRIATE DRESS
Please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately. Although the weather has cooled down some primary students are still wearing polo shirts rather than jumpers.

All items of clothing MUST be labelled. This makes it easier to return the clothing to the correct student. The school will take no responsibility for lost property!
Hello again folks. Just a brief message this week and it’s really just an opportunity for you to get your diaries out and make some notes about pathways and wellbeing related events.

The students began their Christmas in June preparations last week. Each student has drawn another’s name out of a hat and has been tasked with creating a gift for their Kris Kringle partner. I stress here that it is not supposed to be a bought gift that only adds to family’s financial burdens, but something created by the student as a symbol of appreciation and celebration. Students are also gathering tickets signed by staff members in recognition of good deeds and work ethic. These tickets will then be redeemable at the end of year Christmas in June Blind Auction scheduled for the end of the day on Friday the 29th of June.

The VCE Tertiary Information Service Event is on again this year on Tuesday the 31st of July. This is a compulsory event for all VCE students to get more information on their futures. More detail will be given out closer to the event so watch this space.

And once again our friends from University of Ballarat will be visiting us in August of this year. They will be running workshops with students from Year 7-11 and will be having an afternoon tea for parents to attend afterwards. These workshops have been running for the last three years and the students have gained some valuable skills and insights into possible future pathways for themselves, so we are always glad to catch up with our UB friends.

And then we have Exams. VCE Mid Year Exams and the GAT will be held on the 13th and 14th of June with year 9-11 mid-year exams in the week of the 18th to the 22nd of June.

So make sure these dates go up on the wall or the fridge, or wherever and that students have the opportunity to study as per their needs.

And there you have it. A few dates to keep in mind as the weather turns a bit colder and the end of the Semester grows nearer.

Students are also reminded that the anonymous “Wellbeing Box” is set up in the library and that students can contact me through that should they require it. I can also be contacted on my email at morrison.kelly.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school if you would like any assistance or more information on this.

Be Well

Kelly Morrison

Wellbeing Coordinator
School Cross Country Report

Last Friday saw the second of the sporting carnivals for the year. Students had been practicing for the last few weeks in an effort to ensure they were in peak condition to dominate the cross country event. The weather was chilly with many people rugging up to try and stay warm. Despite the cool temperature it didn’t stop a wave of support from family and friends rolling into the school to cheer on the competitors. Willah had made a competitive effort in the swimming carnival earlier in the year but were looking to take that next step and overcome the might of Tunart.

Willah got off to the start they were hoping for as Monica Rowe and Nikki Fox completed a one two finish for the green machine to give them an early lead. Monica’s time was particularly impressive, completing the 3km course in 13mins:36secs. Mrs Blaby represented the staff fraternity with a neat time of 15 minutes.

Next up was the 15-21 Years boys. This race had the makings of being a classic. Ash Rowe has got even fitter this year while Mark Thomson was sure to be a threat. Tom Skinner was the dark horse having umpired the boundary in senior SFL matches this year and was sure to be around the mark. Mark Thomson dominated from the outset and was never headed as he took home the blue ribbon in a slick time of 16mins:32secs for the 5km event. Tom put in a gallant run to finish 2nd. Logan Symes rounded out the placings in 3rd. Mr McCormick put in a solid run with the finish between him and Mason being one of the highlights of the day. Mason sprinted hard in the last 100m but Mr McCormick just managed to hang on.

The 11-12 Years girls section saw the closest finish of the day. The only two competitors in the age group, Jocelyn Muriwai and Taylah Carter, went stride for stride with each other for the majority of the race. They re-entered the school oval with only a couple seconds between them. The crowd cheered loudly trying to motivate the girls to run faster. Taylah answered their calls and pushed away in the final dash to the line to claim the win in 20mins:40secs.

All of the students put in a fantastic effort on the day with a number of personal best times being run. Our age group champions were:

5-8 Years: Holly Harmer & Will Shorrock
9-10 Years: Zoe Shorrock & Alex Pickering
11-12 Years: Taylah Carter & Mitchell Roads
13-14 Years: Shay Lambert & Kieran Simmons
15-21 Years: Monica Rowe & Mark Thomson

The battle to see who would take home the trophy came right down to the final race. Willah finished on a total of 12.28 (Average points per student) while Tunart managed to scrape home with a score of 14.95.

I would like to thank all the students for their wonderful efforts on the day, the students that helped set up and pack up, the staff who assisted in various jobs, our salad roll makers and the parents and family members who came out to support the kids despite the weather and the how busy a lot of you are at this time of the year. The next round of cross country for our secondary students will be in Ouyen on May 23rd.

Paul Bamford

Sports Co-ordinator
Dates to Remember

May

- NAPLAN: 15th - 17th May
- ILP Meetings: 21st May
- Culture Trip: 22nd May
- SSSA Cross Country: 23rd May
- 4-6 Cluster Sport: 25th May

June

- Pupil free Day: 8th June
- Public Holiday: 11th June
- Keys Please: 13th June
- Student Lead Conferences: 15th June
- 9-12 Exams: 18th June
- School Council: 20th June
- Students return from Alpine School: 23rd June
- Flying Start: 25th - 28th June
- Xmas in June: 29th June

Happy Birthday

No birthdays this week

School Lunch orders are available this Wednesday from the Hotel

Just a reminder that Tasty Thursdays are going out a little bit earlier and need to be in by the Monday for our mums to do the shopping.

Sunraysia Community Health Services, Community Dental Program welcomes:

- All Children 0 – 17 covered by a current Healthcare Card or Pensioner Concession Card.
  - No Charge for services
- Children 0-12 not covered by Concession Card
  - $30.00 fee for a course of care
  - $25 for an emergency appointment
- No waiting list for under 18 year olds

For an appointment, please phone 50210944.

Location: Corner 13th Street and Deakin Avenue, Mildura

Eat well, drink well, brush well.
Australia’s BIGGEST MORNING TEA

IT’S MORNING TEA TIME!
MAY 2012

Host: Shaun Symes
Where: Werrimull P-12 School.
Date: 23.5.2012
Tel: 80281251

Morning Tea will be between 10:40 am & 11 am.

COME ALONG AND MAKE YOUR CUP COUNT
BIGGESTMORNINGTEA.COM.AU
What’s Happening

This Term we are looking at Families and Home, if you have a chance to visit the Pre-School you will notice that everything has been moved around to provide the children with a proper home area for imaginative play.

This week sees the P-3 class visiting us on Thursday afternoon for some Technology activities with Mr Donnelly.

I would like to offer our congratulations and best wishes to Jess, Nick, Kaitlin, Ella and Mia as they welcomed a new little girl to the family last Friday - Ivy Reese. We look forward to lots of photos and a visit in the near future.

In the past few weeks the children have discovered our building/construction area with a vengeance. If you have empty cardboard boxes or cardboard rolls (not toilet rolls) at home please send them along to Kinder to help us facilitate this interest.

As the weather gets colder please make sure that you send along a jacket or jumper to kindergarten as even when it is cold we still spend time outside.

I hope all you mothers had a wonderful Mother’s Day on Sunday.

Miss Caroline Smith

Dates to Remember

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