PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We were delighted to welcome our new Prep students to their first assembly on Monday. It is just fantastic to see how quickly they have settled into school, learning new routines and getting to know their classmates.

The focus of our assembly on Monday was the announcement of student leadership positions for 2014. Leadership is an important aspect of the Year Six curriculum. As part of their study on Leadership, students prepare and deliver a speech to their House group and teachers. I was most impressed with the quality and content of the speeches that I heard. Following the speeches Year Five and Six students elect their House Captains and Vice-Captains. Congratulations to all students who have taken on leadership roles for 2014.

Our Social Service Leaders, Music Captains, French Club Leaders, House Captains and Vice Captains for 2014 are:

Social Service Leaders: Mia B, Donna S, Julia B & Paul L
Music Captains: Ingrida D & Angus C
French Club Leaders: Co-Presidents – Natalie G & Madi M
ALLEN
Captains: India G, Nick S
Vice-Captains: Sarah W, Ryan L
GARDINER
Captains: Ayana D, Will D
Vice-Captains: Jasmine M, Mitch B
WOODS
Captains: Caitlin I, Oliver S
Vice-Captains: Hanaka M, Kosta F
WRIGHT
Captains: Airian S, Jaydin A
Vice-Captains: Ashley J, James B

The school swimming trials were held yesterday at the Boroondara Sports Complex. These trials provide the opportunity to select our swimming squad to represent Greythorn at the District Swimming Carnival on Monday 19th February. Well done to all swimmers who competed so enthusiastically. Many thanks to the parents and teachers who assisted yesterday and especially to Amy Vine and Liam Santamaria (currently on medical leave) for their excellent organisation of the event.

An excited group of Year Five students (and staff) headed off to Sovereign Hill this morning for their journey back in time to the 1850’s. They will get to experience and role play being a student during this time and learn about the history, culture and hardships of life on the Victorian goldfields. Sincere thanks to staff and parents who will be attending this camp: Kathy Verbi, Alex Nitsos, Steve Pertz, Denise Hartigan, Steve Graham, Rob Exell and Rowan Tolley.
PFA Welcome BBQ – Friday 21st February, 5.00pm – 7.30pm
Please see the flyer in this Newsletter and be sure to put this date in your diary and make Friday 21st February a great school community event. This event is for all school families and an opportunity to welcome new parents at the beginning of a new school year.

Parent Teacher Meetings – online bookings
You will shortly receive information about parent/teacher meetings to be conducted on 25th, 26th & 27th February. These ‘getting to know you’ interviews are designed to provide the opportunity for you to meet your child’s teacher and share any relevant information about your child. Following the success of using an online program last year we will once again provide information to parents about how to complete the booking process online. Parents will have the ability to log on to a website with a specific ‘event code’ to book an interview time that best suits them. An easy to follow step by step guide will be sent home to each parent. Both classroom and specialist teachers will be available via this online booking system. If you do not have access to a computer at home or at work then please advise the class teacher who will have the ability to place a time on your behalf. Details of additional Information Sessions to be conducted for Prep, Year One and Year Two parents will also be sent home this week.

School Council Elections 2014 – Call for Nominations
An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council for Greythorn Primary School.

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines.

There are 3 possible categories of membership:
• A mandated elected parent category. Department employees can be parent members at their child’s school.
• A mandated elected Department employee category. The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members
• An optional community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills interests or experiences.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the membership must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual School Council elections. All you need is the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

Nomination forms for the vacancies on School Council are available from the Office. If you cannot come to school to collect forms, we would be pleased to receive a telephone call from you requesting that we send forms home with your eldest child.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on Council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Vacancies:
• 4 Parent members of Council
• 2 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development members

Nominations close at 4.00 pm. on Thursday 20th February 2014.
Please also see the attached ‘Notice of election and call for nominations’.

If you require further information about School Council or the process for filling vacancies, please contact me.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th March, after which the 2014 School Council will meet.
**Education Committee**

The Education Committee is a key co-ordinating group represented by both parents and teachers which monitors the effectiveness of current policy, develops new policies and makes recommendations on curriculum issues to School Council. It discusses curriculum initiatives across the school and assists in the monitoring of the Strategic Plan.

The Education Committee is a Sub Committee of School Council and meets twice a term. The first meeting for the year is scheduled for Wednesday 12th March from 5.00-6.00pm in the staffroom. We would love to see you there!

Please contact me if you are interested in joining this committee or would like further information.

Kim Bride  
Assistant Principal

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**Admin Matters**

**Education Maintenance Allowance**: Please see included within this newsletter information about the Education Maintenance Allowance and notices sent home last week.

**Newsletter: ‘Greythorn Reading’** The Greythorn Primary School Newsletter is published online on our website every Wednesday. The newsletter is accessible by opening the Greythorn Primary School website and clicking on the Newsletter tab.

Go to: [www.greythornps.vic.edu.au](http://www.greythornps.vic.edu.au); or Google the school name. We encourage families to access this online every Wednesday. There is also a link that you can set up to have weekly reminders sent to you via email to alert you that the newsletter has arrived. Here’s what you need to do -

1. Log into the school’s website (see above address)  
2. Click on the “Newsletter” tab  
3. Click on the “subscribe here” tab  
4. Enter your details.

Each week we will also print a hard copy of the newsletter which will be displayed on the noticeboard at the Office. Please Note: no hard copies of the newsletter are distributed to students unless requested in writing.

**Religious Education At Greythorn Primary School:**

On the school enrolment form parents indicate whether or not they wish their child to participate in Religious Instruction at school. If you wish to change your preference you will need to do so in writing. Please contact the office if you have any questions in relation to this matter.

**Student Contacts, Alerts & Restrictions:**

Parents/Guardians—please make any alterations needed to the printout sent home in your pack, return as soon as possible. Even if there are no changes please initial the sheet and return to the Office.

**Alternate Families**: A friendly reminder to alternate families (parents whose child does not live with them full time) to update your details at the office. We want to ensure that you continue to receive your child’s reports, and that your details are correct, should we need to contact you.

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**Working with Children**

Just a reminder that all Parent Helpers in the school as well as attending excursions and swimming, will need a current Volunteer Working with Children Check. Application forms are available from any post office. For any additional information please see the following website:


To apply:

1. Get an application form at an Australia Post outlet. [Limited number of forms available from the school office].
2. Fill out the application form using a black pen. Do not sign the form yet.
3. Take the form, 100 points of acceptable identification and a passport size photograph to an Australia Post outlet. A staff member will witness your signature.
4. Volunteer applications are free.
5. Keep the application receipt, which is an important document.
Chess Club

Any interested students are welcome to join the Greythorn Primary Chess Club in 2014. If you enjoy playing board games and want to learn new skills then you will love learning how to play and win at Chess.

The teachers from Chess Ideas are experts at introducing beginners as well as challenging more experienced students to develop their knowledge and improve their skills. Chess Club is held in the stadium during Wednesday lunch times – beginning on Wednesday 19th February. If your child is interested in becoming a part of the excitement and enjoyment of Chess Club then please complete the form that is attached to this newsletter and return it, along with the required payment, to the office.

French Club

FRENCH CLUB NEWS 2014
Congratulations to Natalie G and Madi M who were announced on Monday as the 2014 Co-Presidents of French Club. These 2 girls are creative and hard-working and will, I'm sure, help to give French Club a "huge" year.

ELECTIONS
Next Tuesday, 18th February, we will be holding elections for the positions of Year 3, 4, and 5 Reps. Please come along and put yourself forward for these positions. You just have to say in one or two sentences, why you think you would be a good Rep for your Year level. Elections will be in the French Room starting at 1.00pm.

Sally Holt
French Teacher

Music Notes

The Gypsies 2014
Rehearsal for our school orchestra, The Gypsies, will begin this Thursday morning 13th February from 7:45-8:45am. Come along if you play an orchestral instrument and join in the fun! If you have any questions, come along anyway and speak to our new Gypsies conductor Simone Santos.

Gypsies members in Year 5 who are on camp this week can join rehearsals next week.

Simone Santos
Violin Teacher
Gypsies Conductor

PFA News

PFA Class Reps
Thank you to everyone who has put their hand up to be a Class Rep for 2014. We have received lots of volunteers, however we still have vacancies for the following four classes:

Prep R, 1F, 2V and 5P

If you are able to help out as Class Rep for any of these classes, please email the PFA at greythorn-pfa@gmail.com.

Thank you.
Greythorn PFA
Canteen Bites

Please find below the Roster for Canteen duty for Thursday 13th February to Wednesday 26th February 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 13 February</td>
<td>Megan Hoffman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14 February</td>
<td>Kate Locke / Madeleine Nah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 17 February</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 18 February</td>
<td>Maren Holm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19 February</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 20 February</td>
<td>Lydia Winstanley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21 February</td>
<td>Kathy McGregor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 24 February</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 25 February</td>
<td>Kirrily Turnbull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 February</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are able to assist at all, please complete the attached Canteen Volunteer form or contact Lynne on 9898 3649 (After hours) or email lynnescraft@hotmail.com. Thank you.

School Banking

School Banking - every FRIDAY except the last day of term.

Congratulations! You helped raise $1,747 for Greythorn Primary School last year by just banking at school each Friday. Let's see how much we can raise in 2014.

Don't forget the class with the highest number of bankers on a Friday will be presented with the School banking trophy at assembly the following Monday. 3W won the first week and 2V were our lucky winners in week 2, which means they can proudly display the trophy in their classroom till Friday. So get banking!

✓ Become a deep sea saver and learn how to save regularly by bringing your book to school
✓ You can bank as much as you like every week, School Banking is about frequency not value.
✓ Every time a student makes a deposit at school they receive a silver Dollarmite token. Once they have individually collected 10 tokens they can be redeemed for an exclusive Dollarmite reward item shown below.

2014 Rewards

2014 reward items include:
- Handball
- Scented Pencils
- Penguin and Dolphin Keyrings
- Whole Shark Fossil Case
- Tin Moneybox
- Swimming Bag
- Projector Cup
- Sea Streamers

** Please visit any CBA branch to open a school banking account if you do not already have one, and start banking at school**

Thanks for all your current and future support of school banking each Friday.

Kirrily Turnbull
School Banking Co-ordinator (johnkirrily@yahoo.co.uk)
School Photos

School Photo day is Thursday 27th February 2014.

School Photo envelopes are being sent home today. Each student needs to have a separate envelope filled in and handed to the class teacher before photo day.

Also, Sibling Order envelopes (Family photo) are available from the office. Please return these to the office not to the class teacher.

NO CHANGE can be given by Advanced Photography so please organise your payment to be the correct money.

Please see the full page flyer in this newsletter.

Recycle Uniform Shop

Thank you for your donations. All proceeds raised go directly to the school. We are grateful for any uniform items. Items can be left at the office at any time.

New helpers wanted, only half and hour a month is needed of your time. Please call Minnie on 0420 325 736 if you can assist.

Shop hours are:
- Wednesday afternoons 3.00 - 3.30pm
- Friday mornings 9.00 - 9.30am

Thank you

To all Greythorn staff and families

Rory, Oliver, Felix and I were overwhelmed with the generosity and messages of support from the school community last year and we would like to say thank you so so much. We had a very tough last four months of 2013 and couldn't have made it to 2014 without the support of our friends, family and community. A huge thank you must also go to Liv and Sam and their beautiful boys Jack, Ollie and Remy for being such amazing friends.

Our lives are slowly getting back to “normal” this year. I have been able to take six months off work, our boys are settling back into school and kinder and Rory is doing amazingly well now he is home from hospital. Together we are just taking it a day at a time and surrounding ourselves with positive thoughts and people. Hopefully Rory will be getting a Guide Dog later this year and we will both look to return to work later in 2014.

Thank you all again so much, your generosity and support it means the world to all of us.

Regards
Sally, Rory, Oliver and Felix Douglas

Notices

Religious Education classes:

Families from St Bridget’s Church, are invited to enrol their children for the parish's religious education program that will commence in first term on Tuesday February 25, 2014.

The program provides general religious instruction and also prepares children for the sacraments.

Children will commence preparation for the sacraments in term one. Classes will be held at St Bridget’s on Tuesday afternoons between 4pm–4.45pm.

Parish priest Mgr Terry Curtin will meet the parents on the enrolment date: Monday February 17 at 7pm in the narthex of St Bridget’s Church, 48 Sweyn Street, North Balwyn

Enrolment forms are available on the parish website and in the church narthex.

Contact Edgar D’Souza on 0412 183 141 for further information.
Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of

GREYTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday 20th February 2014

The ballot (if required) will close at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 5th March 2014

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2014 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Geoff Cignaru

Principal
Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:
- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 21 February 2014.

12th February 2014

Dear Parents

The Chess Club will commence in its regular Wednesday lunchtime (1pm to 1.45pm) slot in Term 1, 2014.

PLEASE NOTE: Chess will commence on, Wednesday 19th February 2014.

The fee for the 6 sessions will be $42.00 per student.

If you wish your child to be involved, please complete the form and return to school with payment by:

Wednesday 19th February, 2014

New members welcome.

The Chess Club will operate in the Stadium.

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CHESS CLUB 2014

Term 1, 2014 – Fee $42.00 per child

Child’s Name: ...................................... Grade: ...........

Child’s Name: ...................................... Grade: ...........

Child’s Name: ...................................... Grade: ...........

Total amount enclosed: $ ..............
Greythorn PFA warmly welcomes you to the annual welcome back BBQ

BBQ

when: Friday 21st February, 5pm - 7:30pm under the Oak tree

All families old and new are invited to drop in any time, have a bite to eat, make new friends, catch up, with old friends and celebrate the new school year.

PFA are providing FREE cordial & sausages in bread for all please BYO anything else (snacks, salad, drinks etc.)

RSVP not required
Canteen Volunteers

Helping in our school canteen is a wonderful way to meet other parents, help your child’s school and of course give your child a thrill to see you in the canteen. Volunteers in the canteen are often mums, dads, aunts, uncles and grandparents ~ all working to make our School Canteen unique.

Volunteers are needed to help serve and pack lunches each day. Whilst we ask for a commitment of one day per month from 10.30am to 1.00pm approximately - any amount of time, no matter how limited or infrequent, would be helpful. If you can spare 2 ~ 3 hours a day, once a month and enjoy a great cup of coffee or tea and a chat, please fill out one of our 2014 Canteen volunteer notices to add your name to our Roster.

Please note that all Canteen helpers must have a current Working With Children Check. Volunteer Working With Children Checks are free of charge and forms are available from the Post Office.

Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Lynne Archdall— Canteen Manager

Canteen Volunteers Needed for 2014

Dear Parents: The Canteen needs your help to fill our roster commencing March 2014. If you would like to volunteer your time we have lots of vacancies available.

Please fill in the form below and return either to the office or the Canteen.

Name……………………………..Phone No…………………………….Email Address…………………………………………………..

Child’s Name……………………………..Grade……………………………..

Circle the appropriate Day:

I am available: Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri

If you have any queries I can be contacted via the following:
The Canteen (School Hours)
Telephone 9898 3649 (After Hours)
Email Address: lynnescraft@hotmail.com
Many Thanks—Lynne Archdall ~ Canteen Manager
ENVELOPE AND ORDER INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Parents & Students ... PHOTO DAY IS Thursday 27th February 2014

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

Important Information

- Every student ordering photos must return an order envelope before photo day.
- Every student ordering photos must return their own order envelope – even if their payment is in their sibling’s envelope.
- Sibling photo order envelopes can be collected from the school office and must be returned to the school office before photo day.
- Orders placed after photo day will be charged a late order fee.

Order instructions

1. Select a photo package option - each option is explained on the flyer attached to the order envelope.
2. Complete your order envelope - use a black or blue ball point pen and fill in your order and contact details.
3. Complete payment - using one of the following options.

CASH
- Put exact money in order envelope.
- No change will be given.
- You can pay for all siblings in one order envelope - you must write on each order envelope the name and class of the sibling that has payment.

CHEQUE
- Write your name, address and telephone number on the back of the cheque.
- Dishonour fees will be charged if payment is declined.
- Make cheques payable to ADVANCEDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY
- Allow up to 60 days for payment to be completed.

CREDIT CARD
- Payment can only be made online.
  1. Go to website: www.advancedlife.com.au
  2. Click on online payments and re-orders, then click on proceed
  3. Enter the three (3) letter online payment code found on your order envelope (example: SCH), then click on OK
  4. Follow the payment instructions
  5. Write your receipt number on your order envelope under payment method – online payment.
- You can pay for all siblings in one transaction – you must total the amount of all order envelopes and write the receipt number on each order envelope.
- Return order envelope to school before photo day.

From the team at AdvancedLife Photography.
After School Chinese Program

Learn Mandarin Chinese while having fun!
Chinese Painting, Crafts, Cooking, Games...
Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing basic Chinese

玩中学，学中玩
中文

- Qualified teachers with Working With Children Certificate;
- 20 years of experience teaching Chinese Mandarin;
  - Learning Chinese through fun activities.

When: 3:45 - 5:30pm, Every Thursday
Starting from 13 February 2014
Where: Greythorn Primary School – Year 6 cove area
Cost: For Term 1, 2014, it is only $20 for enrolment!
      (From Term 2, it is $100/term)

Food and drink are not provided. Please make sure you pack some food
and drink for your children. Students need to bring their pencil case to the
class.

If you are interested, please email Jeanine Ma the following information:
  - your name
  - your child/ren’s name(s) and grade
  - your email and mobile number

For any enquiries, please contact Jeanine Ma
Tel: 98881688
Email: jeanine.ma@xjs.vic.edu.au

For more information, please go to
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14 February</td>
<td>School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 14 February</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp returns 5.45-6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 February</td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 February</td>
<td>French Club Committee Elections Years 3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 February</td>
<td>Chess Club at 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 February</td>
<td>Prep Information Night at 7pm in the Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21 February</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Sport Greythorn v Balwyn North (home game)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24 February</td>
<td>Year 1 and 2 Information Evening at 7pm in the Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25 February</td>
<td>French Club Committee Meeting at 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25 February</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26 February</td>
<td>Chess Club at 1pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 26 February</td>
<td>French Club at 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26 February</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27 February</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27 February</td>
<td>Boroondara Division Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27 February</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28 February</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Sport Greythorn v Belle Vue (away game)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4 March</td>
<td>French Club at 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5 March</td>
<td>Chess Club at 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 7 March</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 4 - Professor Bunsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7 March</td>
<td>Eastern Metro Region Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10 March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - School closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 March</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp (students return on Friday 14\textsuperscript{th} March)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
<td>Prep to Year 4 - Richard Bradshaw and his Shadow Puppets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
<td>Chess Club at 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
<td>Education Committee Meeting at 5pm in the Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 March</td>
<td>Year 4 Carey Grammar Cross Age Program 10.45am - 12.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 March</td>
<td>Chess Club at 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24 March</td>
<td>Year 3 Carey Grammar Cross Age Program 11.00am - 12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4 April</td>
<td>Term 1 finishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26 June</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>