



Edition 1 - 4th February 2015

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to the 2015 school year.

I hope that you all managed to find some time to relax and enjoy the vacation period. A very special welcome to the many new students and families who commenced their association with Greythorn last week. Along with ninety-three Prep students, we also welcomed twenty-eight students at other year levels.

It has been an excellent start to the year! Teaching, administrative and support staff officially commenced last Wednesday providing the opportunity for them to participate in Professional Learning and Planning sessions. Classes commenced on Friday, when we welcomed 583 students! The ease to which all students have slipped into school mode is indicative of the preparation carried out by our staff and parents. Many thanks for your support.

The playground area is proving to be a very popular spot as many students enjoy the fresh new surface and take the opportunity to meet our Preps. For the next few days we will restrict numbers in that area to ensure that it is not so overwhelming or too crowded that it spoils the enjoyment.

At our first assembly for the year on Monday we had the opportunity to re-introduce our School Captains for 2015 – Sofia and Jack. I am sure their leadership as School Captains will be a fine example for all other students. Sofia and Jack also gave a special welcome to all new students who have joined us at Greythorn this year.

We regard all Year Six students as leaders in the school and on Monday presented them with their 'Greythorn badge', signifying the important role they play. In the coming days all Year Six students will be focussing on aspects of leadership as they prepare to deliver their speeches to their peers and 'House members'. Further badge presentations and student leadership positions will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

Along with our new students, we also welcomed some new staff members. Welcome to Juliette Browne (Prep J), Matthew Baker (2B), Jade Cooper (1C), Melissa Darby (3MD), Aude Joyce (French) and Sana Ellerbeck (Integration). We are delighted to have these staff members join us at Greythorn.

Over the next few weeks I encourage you to take the opportunity to 'catch up' with your child's teacher. Formal parent/teacher 'getting to know you' interviews, where you can provide information to the teacher about your child will be conducted later in February. Specialist teachers will also be available at this time should you need to inform them of any specific concerns regarding your child. More information about these interviews will be provided shortly, including details of the online booking process. The class teacher is the first point of contact should you have any issues or anything you need to discuss relating to your child's schooling. Team Leaders are also available to assist where necessary. Team Leaders who have this responsibility for 2015 are as follows: Prep/Foundation – Vicky Poulton; Junior School (Year One and Two) – Kim Adam; Middle School (Year Three and Four) – Liz Miller; Senior School (Year Five and Six) – Ken Darby; Specialist Team Leader – Elizabeth Turley; Integration Team Leader – Denise Hartigan.

We are always trying to improve our ability to communicate with all sectors of our school community. Our website remains a major communication vehicle and is monitored daily to include current events, reports and documentation that is useful for parents. Our weekly Newsletter also provides a wealth of information and reports on school happenings. It is vital that parents read the Newsletter and regularly check the website.

Good luck to those students who will participate in our school swimming trials next Wednesday 11th February. These trials provide the opportunity to select our swimming squad to represent Greythorn at the District Swimming Carnival on Monday 16th February.



Admin Matters

Included with this newsletter is the list of documents that were sent home last week, including the Parent Education Account. If you have not received any of the forms listed, please contact the office.

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.

Education Maintenance Allowance: Please see attached notice within this newsletter.

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; 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 -

- Log into the school's website (see above address)
- Click on the "Newsletter" tab
- Click on the "subscribe here" tab
- 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.

Medical Matters

Dear Parents

This is to inform you that there are a number of students throughout the school with Anaphylaxis and food allergies, namely nuts, dairy, egg and fish.

Students who are allergic to nuts or nut products, dairy, egg and fish can have a **life threatening reaction (Anaphylaxis)** by ingesting or coming into contact with these products.

At Greythorn we try to reduce the risks by asking for your support in a number of ways. Firstly we ask that you do not provide your child with peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches or snacks with nut products in them. We also request that you contact your child's class teacher should you wish to bring in birthday treats or cakes for your child's class.

Parents of students with Anaphylaxis are asked to provide their students with their own special treats to have when celebrating a special occasion. All students are asked not to share food and to only eat food that their family has prepared for them.

Our school is 'allergy aware' and by reducing the risks and developing the strategies suggested by Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia as outlined in our school Anaphylaxis Policy, we aim to educate all students about caring for themselves and others.



SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Friday	6 February	Interschool Sport vs St Bedes (away)
Friday	6 February	School Banking today
Wednesday	11 February	GPS Swimming Carnival
Monday	16 February	District Swimming
Tuesday	17 February	Year 3 to Western Treatment Plant (Werribee) 9am-2.30pm
Tuesday	17 February	School Council Meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom
Friday	20 February	Interschool Sport vs Boroondara Park (home)
Friday	20 February	Year 4 to Western Treatment Plant (Werribee) 9am-2.30pm
Tuesday	24 February	Year 5 school visit - "The Drama Toolbox"
Wednesday	25 February	Year 5 Graffiti Education Program
Thursday	26 February	School Photos
Friday	27 February	Interschool Sport vs Balwyn North (away)
Monday	2 March	Year 3 swimming commences (concludes 13th March)
Monday	9 March	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - School closed
Tuesday	10 March	Year 6 Camp (students return Friday 13 March)
Saturday	14 March	Term One Working Bee
Wednesday	18 March	Year 3 to Carey Sports 8.50-9.40am
Thursday	19 March	Year 4 Carey Sports 10.40-11.50am
Friday	27 March	Term One finishes
Thursday	25 June	Curriculum Day - Reporting to Parents



Music News

Senior Choir

Auditions for our Senior Choir are almost complete and rehearsals will begin next week on Wednesday afternoons in school time. If you are in Years 5 and 6 and haven't yet had an audition and would like one, please come and see me to make a time.

Senior Choir Accompanist

The Senior Choir require an accompanist for some performances and rehearsals throughout the year. If you would like to help out in this role or would like to find out more about what it involves, please come and see me in the Hall or leave a message at the Office.

Junior Choir

The Year 4 Junior Choir for all students in Year 4, will rehearse in school time on Tuesday afternoons in Terms 1 and 3 beginning next week. Year 3 Junior Choir for all students in Year 3, will rehearse in Terms 2 and 4.

The Gypsies 2015

The Gypsies will have a new conductor this year. We are in the process of sorting out the details and will let you know when rehearsals will begin for 2015. The Gypsies is our school orchestra and is open to anyone who has some experience playing an orchestral instrument. Please see me if you have any queries. Thanks.

Joy Odou
Music Teacher

French News

FRENCH CLUB ELECTIONS - Years 3, 4 and 5

Next Tuesday, 10th February, we will be holding the Annual Elections for French Club Reps in Years 3, 4 and 5. Any Year 6's who can come and help me run this would be extremely welcome.

This is how it works: Any Year 3, 4 or 5 student who'd like to represent their year level and serve on the French Club Committee, simply comes along at 1.00pm to the French Room. You will stand in a row and say your name and, in one or two sentences, tell us what you think you could offer in the way of ideas /organisation etc to be the BEST Rep for your Year level. Simple as that! You can write it down and read it or do it off by heart, whatever works best for you.

See you next Tuesday, promptly at 1.00pm.

Mme. Holt

Sports News

Swimming Trials – Wednesday 11th February

The Greythorn Primary School Swimming Trials will be held at the Boroondara Sports Complex on Wednesday 11th February from 10:00am-12:30pm. Notices and permission forms for this event have been sent home to all students in Years 3-6 however participation in this event is an optional part of the 3-6 Physical Education program.

This event will serve as a selection trial for our District Sports Competition. Therefore, it is important that all participants can competently and continuously swim 50 metres. The freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events will all be 50 metres and participants can choose to go in one or more events if they prefer. If your child would like to take part in these trials, please ensure the permission form and payment (\$8) are returned to your child's classroom teacher ASAP.

I would greatly appreciate the assistance of parents on the day. If you are able to help, please indicate your availability on the bottom of the form.

Thank you,

Daniel Zito — PE/Sport Coordinator



Canteen Bites

Our Canteen operates everyday and provides students with a range of meals, drinks and snack food. Hot food is available all year round and a price list can be found at the office or on the website.

If ordering your child's lunch please use a paper bag labelled as follows:

Student's Name:
Grade:
Lunch Order: [List itemised prices]
Amount enclosed: \$

Volunteers are always required and your help is appreciated. Please complete the attached Canteen Volunteers form if you are interested or contact Lynne in the Canteen.

School Banking

Don't forget School Banking is this Friday. Welcome to all our Prep and new bankers! Please contact me if you have any queries.

Kirriily Turnbull
 School Banking Co-ordinator
 (johnkirriily@yahoo.co.uk)



Learn music

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar, here at Greythorn Primary School.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$17.90 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 1, 2015.

Interested parents should call Marika during office hours on 9818 2333

P.O. Box 2280, Wattlebee Road 3145
 T (03) 0465 232 644
 F (03) 9384 2205
 E lukebytes@kellysports.com.au

GREYTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUPER SUMMER SPORTS

CRICKET - SOCCER - BASKETBALL
 This program is a great way to challenge and improve your child's motor skills and coordination within a FUN environment. We aim to develop and enhance ball skills, catching, kicking, throwing, co-operative skills and teamwork while improving strength, flexibility, hand-eye co-ordination and spatial awareness.

WHEN	Tuesday
COMMENCING	10/2/15
CONCLUDING	24/3/15
TIME	3:35pm - 4:35pm
YEAR LEVELS	P - 4
COST	\$70

GET IN QUICK FOR TERM 1 AS PLACES FILLING FAST
 \$70 FOR 7 WEEK PROGRAM

NEW IMPROVED ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM!!!
 SIMPLY GO TO WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU ENTER YOUR POST CODE AND ENROL FROM THERE. OR
 FILL OUT THE BELOW ENROLMENT FORM & SEND WITH A CHEQUE OR CREDIT CARDS DETAILS TO:
 PO BOX 2280, WATTLEBEE ROAD, 3145
 PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

ENROLMENT FORM

Super Summer Sports

School: _____ Year Level: _____

Name: _____ Room No: _____

Address: _____ Post Code: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile/Work: _____

Email: _____ Medical Conditions: _____

At the completion of after school clinics, does your child? Go to after care Get collected

Parents' consent: I hereby authorise Kelly Sports to act on my behalf should my child require medical attention, and release Kelly Sports Camberwell from any liability for injury incurred by my child at Kelly Sports programs.

Parent/Carer name: _____ Signature: _____

Amount Paid \$ _____ Credit card payment: Visa Master card

Card Number: □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ Expiry Date: □□/□□ cvv □□□□

THINGS TO KNOW!
 Kelly Sports is a Registered Child Care provider.
 Don't leave forms at the School Office.
 Spaces are limited so please make sure you enrol online or return form to Kelly Sports.

NOTICES SENT HOME TODAY

All students will receive a number of forms in this pack. Please check the list below and if you did not receive one of these, additional copies are available from the office.

Parent Education Account [Mauve]

Please return to the office. Just a reminder, that if you choose to pay by Direct Deposit, please make sure you include your surname in the reference and return the completed form to school.

Student Contacts, Alerts, and Access Restrictions. [White]

Please check carefully and make any changes as necessary. ‘Siblings’ refers to children at Greythorn this year. If family living arrangements have changed please contact the office for an alternative family form.

Medical Conditions – If your child has any change to Medical Conditions please inform the office as a matter of urgency.

*Please make any changes as required and return to the office as soon as possible. **If there are no changes please sign the form and also return to the office.***

Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology Facilities [Green]

Please return to class teacher

Student Code of Conduct (Blue)

Please return to class teacher

Parents’ and Friends’ Association Class Representatives [Pink]

Please return to the office

House T – Shirt Order Form (White)

Orders must be returned to the office by Friday 13th February

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORMS

The following forms are available at the office.

OSH CLUB

Information Pack

NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is published online on our website every Wednesday. Detailed information on how to set up a reminder or subscription is available from the office.

2015	GREYTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL	2015
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STUDENT NAME _____ CLASS _____

Other Student's names, if paying for more than one with this form _____

		<i>PAYMENT</i>		
Parent Education Accounts		Child 1	Child 2	Child 3
* Classroom Supplies Paper, photocopying, educational aids and equipment.	\$130			
* Library Fund – Tax Deductible Library Resources	\$50			
* Information Communication Technology Computers, networks, Technicians and maintaining infrastructure	\$50			
Mathletics – All students will participate in this program This will further support our Maths Curriculum. The charge is to enable students to access this program both at school and home.	\$10			
Readabout - School Magazine	\$18			
* First Aid Officer This enables the school to employ a First Aid Officer to work every day and to provide medical supplies for students.	\$45			
* Parent Contribution This contribution supports Curriculum Programs across the whole school.	\$45			
* Donation to Greythorn Primary Building Fund Tax deductible for all donations over \$2	Amount			
* Fundraising Contribution [per family] This enables parents to make a one off payment in lieu of receiving fundraising material throughout the year. The focus for 2015 will be School Grounds Development and new Classroom Furniture.	\$100			
* Grounds [per family] Development and upkeep of grounds. If you are going to attend a working bee you are not required to pay this amount.	\$60			
Excursions This enables parents to make a one off payment to cover whole class school visits and excursions.	Y6 \$112 Y5 \$112 Y4, \$98 Y3, \$94 Y1,2 \$90 Prep \$109			
Paying by Cash, Cheque, Direct Deposit or Credit Card (circle one)	Total			

Items indicated by a * are deemed voluntary financial contributions

DIRECT DEPOSIT Make sure the child's surname is added in the description on-line when making payment and then forward this invoice complete with all details to the office.

BSB 063 210 Account No 10058916 Greythorn Primary Official Account.
OR

Credit Card Payment Please fill out the details required below and send to the office along with your invoice/s

Visa MasterCard \$ _____

Amount

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Card Number •Fill in all spaces – 16 numbers **CCV No** – 3 numbers

_____/_____
Expiry Date

Signature

Name on Credit Card

Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?

The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?

Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent's bank account; or
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?

The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?

In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?

Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional \$12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?

No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.





CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2015

Dear Parents

The Canteen needs your help to fill our roster commencing March 2015. 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.....

Please circle the appropriate day:

I am available: Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri

We especially need help on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

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

OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program



Program Update

Hello Everyone,

The OSH team hopes you all had a great first full week back! We certainly had a fun week here at OSH with lots of cooking and getting to know OSH routines. For our new families at OSH, my name is Rhona Godinet and I am the Coordinator for Greythorn along with Rashmi – our permanent assistant. Our staff ratio is 1:15, on busy days Jane Wallace is our casual assistant.

Our morning program consists of breakfast, inside activities and group meeting before going off to class. In the afternoon we serve yummy afternoon tea, cooking, arts and crafts, sports, nature and science activities along with structured free play. We also provide quiet time for homework and group games and discussions.

Next week our goal is to get to know each other, routines and rules at OSHClub so everyone feels safe and included. We take extra care with new preps starting this term, picking and dropping them off to class until they are confident on their own.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

As part of OSHClub's policy it is our procedure to follow up the location of your child if they have been booked in to the program and not cancelled and are not at the program within 15 minutes of the school finishing time. An SMS is all we need. Thank you for your understanding.

We are always trying to improve the OSH program, so if you have any suggestions please feel free to contact me or the staff 😊

Hope to see you at OSHClub soon!

Kind regards,
Rhona Godinet

Next Week's Activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before Care Activities	Posters	Felt elephants	Around the world bball	Origami jumping frogs	Catching Challenge
After Care Activities	Chinese New Year Paperchain dragon	Kolap-Indigenous game	Chinese lanterns	Balloon soccer	Hand-shaped valentines

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0411 392 707

Coordinator: Rhona Godinet

Assistants: Rashmi, Jane, Helen

OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program- enrolling is free! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

YEAR 7 2016 ENROLMENTS AT MARCELLIN COLLEGE

Applications for Year 7 2016 and beyond are now being accepted. Please note it is the responsibility of each family to submit an application form, including families who currently have sons enrolled at Marcellin. Applications will not be submitted by the primary school.

The closing date for Year 7 2016 applications is Friday 27 February 2015.

A Parent Information Evening for Year 7 in 2016
will be held on
Tuesday 17 February at 7.00pm

Please contact the College Registrar on 9851 1589 to obtain an Enrolment Application Form
or visit www.marcellin.vic.edu.au

Families from St Bridget's Church, whose children attend State schools are invited to enrol their children for the parish's religious education program that will commence in first term on Tuesday February 24, 2015

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 Fr Dennis Rochford will meet the parents on the enrolment date: Tuesday 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 dsouzaek@gmail.com or 0412 183 141 for further information.

Balwyn High School Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program 2016

Applications are now open for entry into the Balwyn High School Selected Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) program at Year 7 in 2016. Applications close Friday April 10, 2015.

Balwyn High School is proud to offer an accredited SEAL program, providing opportunities for gifted and talented students to be more deeply challenged in their education through curriculum acceleration in their year 7 year. Applications are open to all students who would benefit from joining such a program. Admission to the program requires successful completion of an entrance exam run through Edutest and interview process at the school.

For more information about the program, or to apply directly for the Balwyn High School SEAL program in 2016, please visit the school's website at www.balwynhs.vic.edu.au.