MEET THE TEACHER

The “Meet the Teacher” discussions will be conducted on Tuesday 17th February. This is an opportunity to establish a strong home/school partnership. We will again be using an online booking system. Further details were sent home yesterday. Please inform the classroom teacher of any issues relevant to your child and take the time to complete the student information sheet and return prior to the day. Bookings will be made on: www.schoolinterviews.com.au and just follow the instructions. You will need to enter the school event code which is: S8QEZ

TRAFFIC COURTESY

As mentioned last week, our school is large and there is not sufficient parking for everyone to park in the immediate vicinity. It is of utmost importance that students are kept safe and that people adopt a patient, courteous and appropriate approach. Please observe and respond to signage. The front of the school in Phillip Drive is a two minute zone in the morning and fifteen minutes in the afternoon. Disputes about parking, road violations and inappropriate actions need to be dealt with by the relevant authorities. The personnel of the school do not have authority or jurisdiction over the roads and road rules and are not in a position to resolve disputes.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The School Council elections for 2015 are now formally announced. School Councillors are elected for a 2 year term, with half of the Council retiring each year.

This year we have 4 (four) parent vacancies and 1 (one) DET (Department of Education and Training) vacancies.

Nominations are now called for and forms can be picked up from the office. For more information, please refer to the “information for parents” sheet, attached to this newsletter.

Nominations must be made by the close of business on Thursday February 12.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents/guardians are reminded that they are responsible for paying the cost of any medical treatment for students injured at school or whilst on school activities, including any transport costs. Reasonably low cost student accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers.

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Last year the Anaphylaxis Policy went through a review process and was ratified by the School Council on the 25th November 2015.

Items 2.7 and 2.10 were the main areas to be changed. Item 2.7 Any fundraising undertaken by the school will be recommended by the principal and approved by school council, taking into consideration the allergies students have in the school at the time and other risk factors including safe packaging and product labelling.

2.10 As part of the curriculum, students will be involved in kitchen science lessons involving food products and/or chemicals. Teams will complete a request form which will be submitted to The Executive for approval. Parents will be well informed prior to the sessions. If you would like to read the complete policy, you can find a copy on our school website.

Thank you to parents who completed the policy survey last year and also to our Education Sub Committee and School Council members who worked diligently to create a policy that ensures students are safe and that meets government guidelines.

STUDENT ALLERGIES

Please be aware that within our school we have students with severe, and in some cases life threatening allergies to: NUTS, EGGS, SESAME SEEDS, WHEAT, and ANIMAL FUR / HAIR. Some children suffer life threatening reactions if near a child eating the trigger item or if they are touched by someone who has only handled that item! Birthday celebrations are always exciting, but for health reasons, if you intend to send along a class celebration item please do not send food. Perhaps you might consider sending ‘party favours’ such as balloons, whistle blowers etc.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

ME AS A LEARNER

“Me as a Learner” is a whole school focus for the first few weeks of the year which promotes the learner’s voice and develops students’ understanding of how they learn, the elements that affect their learning and how they learn best with others.

“Me as a Learner” provides important and effective opportunities for learning. Our students are focused on
answering the big questions of “Me as a Learner”, What is Learning?, How do I learn best? and How can we learn best together?
Throughout the unit, students will be:
• Building relationships
• Building a sense of community
• Getting to know each other
• Developing an awareness of school and classroom expectations
• Establishing routines, structures and procedures
• Developing protocols for learning behaviours
We establish these routines so children feel safe, cared for, respected, accepted & valued in an orderly co-operative, stimulating learning environment that challenges their curiosity to think, communicate, create, collaborate and learn.
At Killara, we support and encourage each child’s emotional, physical, social and cognitive/academic needs in a learning community that models life-long learning. We understand that successful learners develop their capacity to learn by playing an active role in their own learning, through working in teams and by communicating their ideas and understanding effectively.

HATS
A reminder that it is part of our uniform policy and Sunsmart policy that students wear sun protective (wide brimmed) hats during Term 1 and 4. Please make sure your child is equipped with a hat for times outside.

FIRST ASSEMBLY
Our first whole school Monday morning assembly for the year will be next Monday February 9. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Best wishes,
Phil, Andrew and Pete

CURRENT NEWS

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2015
Unfortunately due to a clash of dates with our inter school athletics carnival we have had to move our school photo day to 29 April 2015. Sibling photos (siblings who attend Killara) will be taken the week after on Wednesday 6 May. We apologise for any inconvenience. More information regarding ordering and cost will be distributed closer to the date.

SCHOOL CONCERT DVD
The DVD for the 21st Birthday Celebration has had a few problems. So at this stage we are unable to say when it will be available or even if it will be available. As soon as we have any more information we will let you know. Sorry for any inconvenience, but unfortunately it is out of our hands.
Kelli Brogan

PFA NEWS
The first PFA meeting for 2015 will be held on the 11th February at 2:30pm in the staffroom. A welcome morning tea will be arranged early in March for any new parents who would like to join or find out more about how the PFA operates as well as how you could be involved as a Friend of the PFA.
Looking forward to working with you all!
Pete Hansen
Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
Our newsletter is distributed every Thursday. For those families with internet access you can access the newsletter electronically via our school website www.killaraps.vic.edu.au
You can register on the website to receive an email advising when the latest newsletter is available for viewing. We encourage families to use this option where possible to reduce our paper usage at school. All other families will receive a paper copy which will be sent home with the eldest child.

COMMONWEALTH BANK SCHOOL BANKING DAY REMINDER:
✓ Remember School Banking is every Tuesday
✓ You can bank as much as you like every week

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
Children residing more than 4.8kms from their nearest government school may be eligible for a conveyance allowance. Those families who received conveyance allowance in 2014 and are still eligible will automatically qualify in 2015 and do not need to reapply.
Any other families seeking conveyance allowance support in 2015 will need to complete an application form, which is available from the office. The completed application form needs to be returned to school by Monday 2nd March 2015. If you have any enquiries, please contact the office.

TIQBIZ APP
Killara Primary School now has available an “app” to use for communicating with our families. The app is called “TIQBIZ” and can be downloaded onto your smartphone, tablet or computer.
Remember to select both “whole school” and your children’s year level when prompted. This will ensure you receive all notifications we send for the whole school, as well as those to specific year levels.
ANXIETY
Need help managing stress or anxiety? If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 - 17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8 - 12 years, one for teenagers aged 12 - 17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.

LOST PROPERTY
Please check lost property if you are missing an item, it is checked on a daily basis and named items are returned to the students classroom. Please ensure all clothing and lunchboxes/drink bottles etc are clearly named.

PAYMENT REMINDERS
Netbook due now
Camp Deposit due Friday 6th March

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS LOOP
Loop is the new Scholastic Book Clubs linked online ordering and payment platform for parents. If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, our new platform makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound. Log in to www.scholastic.com.au/loop or download our new iPhone and iPad app from the app store.

SALESIAN COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Friday 13 February 2015
9.30am – 11.30am
Enrolments for Year 7 2016 close on 27 February 2015
Contact Marylou Jones College Registrar for more information mjones@scr.vic.edu.au

KANGAROOS JUNIOR FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB
2015 Registration Day, Sunbury Kangaroos JFNC – Friday 6th February 6.30pm at Boardman Oval No 3, Mitchell’s Lane Sunbury. Wanted for 2015 season, players for: U10, U12, U14, U16 Football U11, U13, U17 Netball For more information contact: Jason Tichett (Football) 0405 656 311 Kate Tichett (Netball) 0400 066 943

RUPERTSWOOD FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB
Rupertswood Football Netball Club junior football 2015 registrations are now open. Old players should receive email communication with details, otherwise, visit the club's website. New players are also welcome, and are also invited to go to www.rupo.com.au for registration instructions.

HELP YOUR KIDS MANAGE THEIR ASTHMA
Does your child have an up to date Asthma Action Plan (Asthma Care Plan)?
The Asthma Care/Action Plan tells the school how to manage your child’s asthma and what to do if their asthma gets worse. This should be updated & signed by the doctor on an annual basis.

Does your child carry their reliever puffer and spacer with them at all times? Or is it readily available to their Carers?
Medication needs to be available wherever your child may be (school, child care, sporting field, home) Are you and your child aware of their asthma triggers?
Do you take steps to avoid these triggers? Are the Teachers aware of these triggers?
Do you listen to what your child says?
They will be aware of their asthma symptoms and should be able to tell you when they need their medication.

Does your child take their asthma medication correctly?
Good technique allows more medication to get into the lungs where it is needed. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like to check your device technique.

ASTHMA AND THUNDERSTORMS
Summer storms are becoming more frequent throughout Australia. Thunderstorms can combine heavy rain, high humidity and strong winds. A European study found there are observations in favour of the possibility that thunderstorms disturb ground-level pollen grains, bursting the pollen grains and making the allergens small enough to be inhaled into the lungs. There is also evidence that after rain and during wet conditions there are a larger amount of fungal spores in the air. These can act as a trigger for asthma symptoms.

What can you do?
Ensure preventer medication is taken as prescribed. Have an up to date Asthma Care Plan. If your asthma gets worse during thunderstorms try to stay indoors with the windows closed. Always carry your reliever medication with you. For more information on Thunderstorms and asthma please see www.asthmaaustralia.org.au

KILLARA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Phone: 9744 6432 Fax: 9744 4956
website www.killaraps.vic.edu.au
**Bully Stoppers: Being Cool Online**

**School and stakeholder newsletter/website content**

Students achieve their best at school in safe and supportive environments, where they are free from bullying and disruptive behaviour. We put a big emphasis on making sure we provide a great environment for our students – one that promotes tolerance and is inclusive, harmonious and free from bullying.

We can work towards this goal through education in the classroom, intervention in the playground and a focus on promoting positive behaviour.

However, with the rise of social media, bullying now occurs online, as well as in person. Cyberbullying is just as harmful as face-to-face bullying, and online actions can have real life consequences.

Cyberbullying is an increasing issue in the wider community – and the best way to tackle it is for schools, students and parents to work in partnership.

*Killara* is supporting the Victorian Government’s Bully Stoppers campaign – which has just launched a new series of tools and resources for parents and students to support students in preventing cyberbullying and how to practice *Netiquette*. Available from 10 February, students in years 3 – 12 are encouraged to participate in an online quiz hosted on the Bully Stoppers website, where they will learn more about how to be good net citizens and go into the draw to win an iPad as well as other prizes for our school.

These resources, called *Bully Stoppers: Being Cool Online*, are available on the Bully Stoppers website, at [www.education.vic.gov.au/bullystoppers](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/bullystoppers) - visit the site to find out more.