CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day Term 4 Dismissal 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Jan</td>
<td>Book pack collection day 10am – 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Jan</td>
<td>First day Term 1 9am start</td>
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FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

FAREWELLS
We say a fond farewell to Andrew Guthrie, Jo Cottell, Tori Trevorah and Daniel Rona. Thank you to each of them for their work at Killara.

We also wish families that are leaving us all the best with their future plans and wish any students that are leaving all the best with their future learning and development.

Finally, we bid a fond and proud farewell to our Year 6 students. They have been great contributors to our school and we wish them all the very best as they move into the next stage of their education.

GRADUATION
On Tuesday night we celebrated the end of primary school for our year 6 students. They were treated to a lovely dinner at the Pitruzello Estate, followed by a ceremony and student presentation – which was enjoyed and well received by all. Many thanks to the teachers and many helpers who ensured this night was a successful one for our (soon to leave us) students.

YEAR BOOK
The 2015 Year Book will be distributed tomorrow and we hope that you and your children enjoy looking at this piece of, what will be in the future, memorabilia. Many thanks to Karen Francis and her able group of student helpers for putting together our school year book for 2015 and to all of the classes and specialists for their contributions.

END OF YEAR AND LAST DAY
A reminder that dismissal on the last day is 1:30pm. Staff are involved in celebrations and farewells immediately after, so we ask that all students are picked up on time and that there is a rapid clearing of the grounds.

Parents are asked to not delay departure by staying at and around the play areas.

Gates are being locked as soon after the dismissal time as feasible.

On the last day of term, students get to visit their new teachers and you will receive a note indicating your child’s placement for 2016. Except in exceptional circumstances, staff will not be available after 1:30 to discuss issues with placements. Please remember a thorough and complex process has been undertaken to establish classes.

2016 START DATE
Please note that the first day for ALL students for 2016 is THURSDAY 28 JANUARY.

HOLIDAY SECURITY
I would like to encourage the school community to ‘keep an eye’ on the school over the coming holidays. Please report any unwanted or illegal behaviours to the police on ‘000’, even if you only have suspicions.

We unfortunately continue to experience occasional vandalism and damage to our school by people using the school grounds. The costs involved with repairing damage cannot be afforded by our school and mean that valuable funds that should be used to support our students may be used to make such repairs.

Also, as a result, I issue this statement:
“Except for certain limited purposes under the Summary Offences Act 1966, a school is not a ‘public place’. There is no general right of the public at large to be there, either within or outside school hours. A school ground is not ‘public land’. It is land held by the Minister for Education for educational purposes.”

(Portion of the Victorian Government Schools Reference Guide, Section 6.16 Legal Liability and Associated Matters)

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday January 27</td>
<td>Tuesday March 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday June 10</td>
<td>Thursday August 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday October 31</td>
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SCHOOL OFFICE
Please note the last day for payments and enquiries to the office is Thursday 17 December. We are unable to accept payments on Friday 18 December, the last day of term. We will open on January 27, 2015 for Materials & Requisite payments. The office will then be open for normal business from 28 January.

DISCO/FAMILY PICNIC
Last Thursday evening we held the annual community event as a Disco/Family Picnic.

The night was a great success, the students thoroughly enjoyed the disco including the games and prizes that the DJs organised.

Thank you to our DJs for their organisation of the night and all staff for their support and involvement.

Many thanks to the PFA for their fantastic effort with the sausage sizzle and organising the coffee van!

Thank you to Santa and those mysterious shoes!
A fun evening had by all, thank you for sharing this evening with us, looking forward to our 2016 event!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Wishing all families a wonderful festive season and a very Happy New Year.

Best wishes to all families who are leaving Killara (see below) – we wish you well for the future.

A special farewell to all of our year 6 students – we wish you a happy and successful future!

Best wishes,
Phil, Andrew and Pete

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**CURRENT NEWS**

**CANTEEN**
Closed tomorrow

**FUNDE FUNDRAISING BOOKS – Great Xmas Present**
Now available for half price at $10.00 a book as there is only 6 months left to use the vouchers. Available for purchase from the front office.

**LOST PROPERTY**
The tub near the art room is overflowing with lost property, please come along and have a look if your child is missing any clothing. All named items are returned to student classrooms – Any items that remain in lost property at 1.30 tomorrow will be donated to charity if no name is on it.

**PETS HAVEN FUNDRAISER**
Today we raised $564.50 for animals at Pets Haven Woodend, who don’t have a home.
Thank you for donating your money especially those children who generously donated their own pocket money. We really appreciate it and we know Pets Haven will too.

From 1/2 G

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**CHOIR AT GOONAWARRA**
Last Thursday the Killara Primary School Choir performed at Goonawarra Nursing Home. We sang lots of Christmas carols to the residents and they enjoyed hearing them.
We also performed at the Christmas on the Green on Saturday night. We all dressed in our best Christmas clothes and sang ‘Reindeer Boogie’ and ‘The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy’. It was a really fun night!

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**FAREWELL TO THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES WHO ARE LEAVING KILLARA AT THE END OF 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aquilina</th>
<th>Hartley</th>
<th>Mills</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clayton</td>
<td>Hobden</td>
<td>Mora</td>
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<td>Clifford</td>
<td>Italiano</td>
<td>Maher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conboy</td>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>Radas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cox</td>
<td>Kelly</td>
<td>Rudge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dang</td>
<td>Khoshbakht</td>
<td>Saint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan</td>
<td>Larter</td>
<td>Schipkie</td>
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<td>Earl</td>
<td>Le</td>
<td>Shannon-Hill</td>
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<td>Feist</td>
<td>Lowrie</td>
<td>Shaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fox</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td>Tirchett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestone</td>
<td>MacPherson</td>
<td>Vucica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuller</td>
<td>Maher</td>
<td>Waters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gills</td>
<td>Mancini</td>
<td>Wernham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goater</td>
<td>Mann</td>
<td>Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goudie</td>
<td>Matthews</td>
<td>Williamson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulle</td>
<td>McLauchlan</td>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hari</td>
<td>Mercer</td>
<td>Brown</td>
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**STUDENT MATERIAL AND REQUISITES FOR 2016**
Pay, collect or delivered straight to your child’s classroom Wednesday 27 January 2015 10am – 5pm
Pay prior to this date via QKR or direct deposit.
A payment receipt must be presented to collect bookpacks

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**PAYMENTS DUE**
*2016 Book Pack: 27 January*
*Term 1 2016 Netbook: 27 January*
PFA
Thank you to the PFA for their support and involvement in our school events and activities.
Thank you for volunteering your time to help ensure our ventures raised funds from our community for the new playgrounds that were built this year.
Thank you also to the Friends of the PFA who also helped out during the year.
We look forward to new members joining us in 2016, there will be information regarding how you can be involved early next year.

IT’S A (CHRISTMAS) WRAP!
By Michael Grose

It’s that time of year again!
The school year is almost over. The Christmas holidays are just around the corner.

“Where did the last twelve months go?” That’s the adult viewpoint.

Kids think, “What took so long?” Different ages, different perspectives.

Kids generally want to plunge into holidays, leaving schoolwork, timetables and teachers behind. That’s only natural.

But before they get too far into holiday mode, consider how you’ll round out the year, and bring it to a close.

If your child is finishing primary or secondary school then there will be a graduation ceremony that signals the end of one phase of their school lives.

The greater importance given to school graduation ceremonies over the last few decades is recognition of the human need to bring closure to one stage of life, and prepare for the next.

Kids of all ages benefit from parental recognition of their achievements and successes as it sets the stage for the coming school year.

Here are a few ideas to help you close off the old year to prepare for the year ahead:

1. Discuss the highlights and the lowlights of the year: Ask kids to name their highlights, favourite times or most memorable moments of the year just gone. Use age appropriate language and questions that will open them up, rather than shut them down. At the year’s end I would ask my school-aged kids to rate the year from 1 to 5, and to identify their best memory, their favourite subject and something new that they encountered. These questions worked for me, but each parent needs to find their own approach.

2. Celebrate improvement and success: Identify one or two areas where they excelled, improved or overcame some challenges. Broaden the focus away from just academic performance and recognise achievement in social, sport or arts areas. It’s important for kids who struggle academically to understand that you value success in a variety of areas.

3. Show appreciation: Consider how they can show appreciation to teachers, coaches or other people who may have assisted them during the year. Not only is it good manners to show gratitude, but some kids need reminding that other people contribute to their achievements.

4. Look forward: It may be beneficial to give your kids a chance to vent about some aspect of the year that they didn’t like, found difficult or challenging. Try to limit this type of discussion so that it doesn’t end in a whinge session and point them toward a better future next year.

5. Now relax: It’s time for them to set the previous school year aside, put their feet up and chill out over the school break. Remember, if the previous year wasn’t one of your child’s best, the five to six week break gives him or her a chance to make a fresh start next year.

So it’s a wrap! The slate has been wiped clean. Enjoy the break and see you next year!

COMMUNITY NEWS

CALISTHENICS
What is Calisthenics we hear you ask? Put simply, it’s the perfect mix of sport and performing arts, combining elements of gymnastics, modern dance, ballet, singing, mime and apparatus technique (clubs and rods). Calisthenics inspires people of all abilities from 3 ½ years to adults, be more confident and work as part of a team, while fostering community spirit and lifelong friendships.

First 2 classes are FREE!
Come along to our Open Day on Saturday 31st Jan 2016 10 am-noon at Sunbury Primary School, (Entry via Circular Way) and see what all the fun is about.
For further information and class times, contact us on 9539 4349 or www.sunburyschoolofcalisthenics.net.au

HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AND SEE YOU ALL AGAIN IN 2016

KILLARA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Phone: 9744 6432 Fax: 9744 4956
website www.killaraps.vic.edu.au
Good luck to all our graduating Year 6 students!!!! Wishing you all the best for Year 7.