FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

MEET THE TEACHER
Thank you to all of you who attended and met with teachers at school to share information about your child/ren. It is important to develop a strong home/school partnership so we can work together to acknowledge your child’s achievements and assist with further development. Another strength of attending these discussions is that it is a further opportunity to show your child that you value education. It is important to let your child know the positive things that have been discussed to encourage them to be positive about learning. Thanks to teachers for their preparation and engagement at the interviews.

Should you have further information to share with us about your child that could affect the way they operate don’t hesitate to let us know. More formal interviews will again be conducted midyear when reports have been distributed.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
The School Council elections for 2016 were announced last week. School Councillors are elected for a 2 year term, with half of the Council retiring each year.

This year we have 3 (three) parent vacancies and 2 (two) DET (Department of Education and Training) vacancies.

As we have received more than 3 parent nominations, an election will be held. All eligible members of the community will be able to vote in such an election.

Ballots papers were sent home today to all parents.

Ballot closes at 25 February at 4.00pm.

SWIMMING
Congratulations to our swim team, who represented the school in an excellent way last night at the Sunbury District Swimming Carnival.

Thanks to Piza and the band of teachers who assisted, ensuring the students were ready and raring for their events. See Report below.

CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 23 February| Parent Helpers Course  
Session 1 – 9.15 – 10.15  
Session 2 – 6.00 – 7.00pm |
| 23 February| PFA AGM Meeting 2.00pm                  |
| 2 March    | Prep Special Person Day                  |
| 9-11 March | Year 5/6 Camp Rumbag                   |
| 14 March   | Labour Day Holiday                      |
| 15 March   | CURRICULUM DAY                          |
| 24 March   | Last Day Term 2.30pm Finish             |

GATES
A reminder that all school pedestrian gates are fitted with child safety latches to ensure good security and safety for our students.

To open, simply reach through the opening and lift the knob on top of the latch fitting. Please do not lift or release the metal drop pins.

Please also make sure gates are closed as you enter or exit. The large double gates at the corner of the school near the child care centre MUST NOT be used as pedestrian gates. The crossing set up between the school and the child care centre has been established for safe crossing between the two facilities and is for that purpose only.

CARPARKS
For student safety, NO PARENT/GUARDIAN CARS are to enter either staff carpark (Rees Rd or Phillip Drive). This includes parents dropping off and picking up students from before and after school care. Please use parking bays in Phillip Drive and Rees Road.

COMPASS IS COMING – Stay Tuned!
Best wishes,
Phil and Pete

CURRENT NEWS

CAMPS, EXCURSIONS AND SPORTS FUND
All eligible families are reminded to apply for this funding, as previously explained. If you have a Health Care Card or Pension Card, you may be eligible to receive government assistance.

By applying for this funding, if eligible, the school will receive $125 to be used for your child’s excursions, camps and sporting activities. This amount will be held against each eligible child’s name and utilised accordingly.

Applications MUST be finalised by 29 February 2016. Forms were can be picked up from the office if needed.

PFA AGM MEETING
The AGM for the Parents and Friends Association will be held on February 23 at 2pm in the staffroom.

We will be allocating roles for the coming year and reviewing the events and activities for 2016.

All new members are welcome including new families to our school! Thank you for your support!
PARENT HELPERS COURSE
All parents intending to assist in classrooms will need to attend a Parent Helper session before they begin working in classrooms. This program initially addresses issues of protocols and confidentiality and then looks at English and Mathematics assistance.
There will be two sessions offered on Tuesday 23 February. Session 1 will be from 9.15 – 10.15am and Session 2 from 6.00 – 7.00pm. You will need to attend one or the other and sign in so that your name can be added to the school register of Parent Helpers.
Can you please register your interest in either of these session times with our office staff so that we ensure that there are adequate handouts for participants.
The venue for these sessions at school will be determined by participant numbers and we will advise at a date closer to Wednesday 23 February.
Please note: All parents assisting with any school activities/programs are required to have a Working with children check. You can apply online at www.workingwithchildren.com.au. If you have recently renewed your WWCC please ensure you provide a copy of your new card to the office.

STUDENT UPDATES
Student personal information was sent home on Monday with each student. Please check all areas and confirm we have the correct details on file. Especially phone numbers, emergency contacts, medical details, student immunisation (if incomplete an immunisation certificate needs to be provided to the school as soon as possible), so that we have the most up to date information for your child. Please mark any alterations with a different coloured pen and return to front office as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUPIL OF THE WEEK</th>
<th>TERM 1, WEEK 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior School</strong></td>
<td>Following morning routines independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>Levi W/Aleisha S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>Ethan D/Blanca T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>Kayden M/Amelia M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>Adam S/Maeve A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 1/2</strong></td>
<td>Collecting and representing data on a graph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R16</td>
<td>Lilah R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R17</td>
<td>Clare D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R18</td>
<td>Luka J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R19</td>
<td>Sienna F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R23</td>
<td>Lincoln E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R24</td>
<td>Leah D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R25</td>
<td>Nathaniel R</td>
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<tr>
<td>R26</td>
<td>Joshua J</td>
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SUNBURY SWIMMING CARNIVAL SUCCESS
Last night was a very successful evening for Killara with a great effort by all students competing. Following the trials in December, we were quietly confident that we could increase the number of students advancing to the next stage, that being the Divisional Finals on 29 February. Not only did we blitz in this regard but we also found ourselves improving overall as a team to go from 4th in the big schools over the last 6 years to jump to 2nd overall as a team.
As with any team, we were faced with last minute changes which meant students were thrown into events or to an even greater extent, in Lily M’s case, she swam 2 x 50m legs in the relay team race. This was an outstanding achievement by her which meant the girls were still able to compete in this race.
At Monday’s assembly the entire team’s success will be celebrated and they will be presented to the whole school. Those students going on to the next stage are listed below.

**Advancing to Division Finals**
Scarlett E in Breastroke, Backstroke and Medley Relay
Felix O in Freestyle
Tyler T in Freestyle, Butterfly and Freestyle Relay
Lily M in Backstroke
Jayde H in Medley Relay
Audrey H in Medley Relay
Maddi M in Medley Relay
Ben C in Backstroke, Freestyle and Freestyle Relay
Ben W in Backstroke and Freestyle Relay
Patrick C in Freestyle Relay

Special thanks to the rest of the Killara teachers/coaching team who assisted with marshalling and support. Thanks also to parents who assist greatly in the way they support the team at this carnival and our swimming program.

PAYMENTS DUE
Term 1 2016 Netbook: due now
Year 6 Uniform: 25 February
Year 5/6 Camp: 2 March
YEAR 3/4 CULTURAL INFUSIONS INCURSION
On the 17 February, the Year 3/4s experienced an amazing Australian Culture incursion. We were very lucky because we had some Aboriginal men come to school to talk to us about their spectacular culture. The names of the men were Azza, Big Al and Pancakes! Azza was teaching us Aboriginal dances, Big Al was telling us interesting Dreamtime stories and Pancakes was teaching us about how to create Aboriginal Art. At about 3pm, we had an Aboriginal Dance Show. Some of the dances performed were called the ‘Kata’ and the ‘Burjal’. Azza came out with some Aboriginal body paint and he performed some dances. We cannot wait to continue our Inquiry unit on Aboriginal Culture. We have to say it was a great experience to be an Aboriginal for a day. A special thanks to all the Year 3/4 teachers for organising the day and to Azza, Big Al and Pancakes for sharing their culture with us.
By Alannah and Brad, 3/4C

DEVELOPING A LOVE OF READING
At Killara our staff are dedicated to building a love of reading within our students. The benefits of reading for pleasure are widespread. Research has found that developing a love of reading enhances text comprehension, improves writing and increases knowledge of grammar. It has also been found to increase an individual’s breadth of vocabulary, further general knowledge and understanding of the world around them.
Ways to help your child develop a love of reading:
1. Make it part of the daily routine
2. Read a book with your child, take turns to read pages
3. Regularly visit the local library
4. Provide a range of materials for your child to read e.g. books, newspapers, magazines
5. Be a model- let your child see that you enjoy reading
6. Encourage your child to read to younger siblings or other family members
7. Support your child to read print in their environment e.g. at the supermarket
8. Make books available that appeal to your child’s interest

As adults we also love to read. We asked some of our staff why they love to read. Here’s what they said…
‘For relaxation and enjoyment’- Miss Douglas
‘Because it’s a nice way to zone out on the holidays’- Miss Chettle
‘For relaxation-to get lost in a book’- Sam Burnett
‘To relax, unwind and find out new things’- Lauren McShanag
‘To gain knowledge’- John Boland

‘I like learning things about people through autobiographies’- Deb Wilson
‘To immerse myself in someone else’s story’- Mr Clinkaberry

Happy Reading!
English Curriculum Team

LIBRARY NEWS
BOOK SALE is now on in the library. Used books are 50cents each and students can pay their teachers during library sessions, or leave money at the office after school. Our library needs a smaller, more up-to-date collection, so families can benefit from these AMAZING BARGAINS! Money raised will be used to buy new copies of popular fiction so all classes can have better access to these books. At the end of 2015 we were able to stocktake the whole library. I will be sending some overdue notices home with suggested charges attached. Some students have lost so many books they will need to pay for them to continue having borrowing rights at the library. We would prefer to have the books returned, so we would appreciate if you could have a look around at home and return any that you may find.
Heather Huke Teacher/Librarian

QKR APP FOR SCHOOL PAYMENTS.
Our preferred method of payment for excursions, canteen lunch orders and fundraising activities is QKR. This easy to use free app by Mastercard gives you flexibility to make your school payments at a time and place that suits you. No need to find cash to send to school with your child, you will have a QKR receipt on your phone and receipt number for your records. A brochure on how to set up your account is available from the school office or just follow the simple instructions when you download the app.

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.
HEAD LICE
We would like to stress the importance of checking your child's hair more regularly and where necessary begin appropriate treatment if required. We rely on parental checks to help stop the spread of lice in classrooms. It is extremely difficult to break the cycle of lice in a classroom if all children in classrooms with reported cases are not checked by parents. Please ensure you carry out a check of your child's hair on a regular basis.

Children with head lice are excluded from school until appropriate treatment has commenced. It is recommended that a follow up treatment be given in seven days. The purpose of the first treatment is to kill all lice, the second treatment is to kill young lice hatched over the next six days.

If your child has head lice it is important that you notify the school.

LOST PROPERTY
The lost property shelf near the art room is overflowing with items, please come along and have a look if your child is missing any clothing. Please make sure that you put your child’s name on all articles of clothing as all named items are returned to student classrooms. If all other items are not collected by the end of term they will either go into our second hand uniform cupboard or be bagged up and sent to the Salvos.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LEGO ROBOTICS AT SUNBURY LIBRARY
Build robots using LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robotics kits. Work in groups and program robots that can walk and talk. Ages 10+. We are currently inviting interested students to benefit from this innovative program.

Phone 9356 6970 for more details.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC PARISH SUNBURY
Sacrament Program - 2016
Information meetings for Parents and Guardians of children from Year 3 or later, wishing to celebrate the Sacrament, please contact the Parish Office on 9744 1060 in early Term 1. Unfortunately, late enrolments to the programs will need to wait until the following year.

The meetings will provide you with details of the preparation arrangements for 2016 and the involvement required of candidates and parents. Enrolment forms will be distributed at this meeting.

BLUELIGHT DISCO
Friday 19 February, Sunbury Memorial Hall Cnr Barkly and Macedon St, Sunbury 6-8pm Primary age, cost $7.

HOOKING HOCKEY
Wednesday 2, 9, 16 and 23 March 6-7pm. Please arrive at 5.45 for the first session to register. 5-12 year old. Join us before we move to our new $11.3 million facility. Four specialised hockey clinics with accredited coaches, all with WWC. Plus an awesome hockey pack. Rear of Heathdale Christian College (formerly Mowbray College), Centenary Ave, Melton. Contact Kellie McLaren 0450643826 meltonhockeyclub@yahoo.com.au www.meltonhc.org.au

COMPLETE KIDS
Have you seen children laughing and playing before or after school hours?

Complete Kids Early Learning offers Before and After School Care right here at Killara Primary! Our program is child led meaning that we build our program around you child’s interests.

There are building areas for our future engineers, I-pads for those who love technology, art and craft for those who are artistically driven and sporting games for our future sporting stars. We have quiet corners with books and games and a home corner to role play and make believe as well as a comfy lounge for those who just want to relax.

Our highly qualified staff provide an environment that is both safe and stimulating and we understand that each child has their own individual flare and work with children to ensure they feel supported and empowered. Friendships are made amongst children of all ages which assists with children's confidence, identity & wellbeing.

To make a booking, please contact our main office on 9740 2111 or email your enquiry to oshc@completekids.net

PSW UNIFORM SHOP
Uniforms are available online and at the PSW store Shop 6, 106-126 Gap Rd, Sunbury Vic 97680384 www.psw.com.au