



# Wednesday Weekly

29 April  
2015

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## From the Principal

### **CURRICULUM DAY – PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION**

We have an upcoming curriculum day this term following the Queen's Birthday Public holiday. **Tuesday 9 June is a proposed curriculum day with students not required to attend school on this day.** As the day adjoins the public holiday, families will have an opportunity to have an extra long weekend. Staff will engage in professional development relating to Spelling programs, looking at current research and relating it to current practices. **Parents and caregivers will need to make alternative arrangements for the care and supervision of students on this day.**

### **ANZAC DAY CEREMONY**

A special ceremony, in acknowledgement of all the men and women who have sacrificed so much to serve our country, was held at school last Friday morning. Students in Years 3 to 6 were in attendance together with parents and two special guests, **Mr John Sullivan** and **Andrew Giles MP** (Federal Member for Scullin). Andrew presented the school with a new Australian Flag and John addressed the crowd, sharing his father's experiences whilst serving on the Western Front in France for three and a half years. I congratulate all students who led the ceremony and thank all for the respect and reverence demonstrated throughout the service.

There were two presentations at the service from our Year 6 students. The first was a reading on the meaning of the ANZAC spirit and the factors leading to the landing at Gallipoli. The second was a piece narrative detailed what it was like for a young man enlisting in order to serve his country. Both presentations were truly emotive and encapsulated the anguish, fear and commitment experienced by our soldiers. They have been published in this newsletter for your reference.

### **SUNSMART POLICY – HATS & SUNSCREEN**

A reminder that as per our SunSmart Policy, hats will no longer need to be worn or sunscreen applied for the rest of this term. This begins from **Monday 4 May** and is effective until September.

### **NAPLAN TESTING**

The purpose of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is to assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. In a few weeks, the NAPLAN will be carried out across Australia in the same week for all four year groups.

Testing will take place over three days:

- Tuesday 12 May – Language Conventions & Writing
- Wednesday 13 May – Reading
- Thursday 14 May – Numeracy

The results of the test will provide diagnostic information for parents and teachers about a child's performance in Literacy and Numeracy. This information can be used to support teaching and learning programs and improve student achievement. All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

Students may be withdrawn from the NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with your child's classroom teacher. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year parents will receive information on their child's performance through individual reports on each student who has participated. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to other students across Australia. The results from the NAPLAN assessment program will be used for:

- individual student reports to parents
- school reporting to our community
- aggregated reporting against national standards

Parents and guardians of students in Years 3 and 5 have already received information relating to the upcoming NAPLAN testing. In the meantime if you would like to discuss any aspect of the NAPLAN please contact either your child's classroom teacher or Ms Sarah Pollnitz (Assessment & Reporting Coordinator).

*Tina King* (Principal)

email: [watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)



Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Hi everyone

With the cooler weather on its way, we are currently brainstorming some new afternoon tea snacks. Apart from the snacks provided on arrival, the children are also offered several pieces of fresh fruit around 5.00 o'clock, usually following their outdoor play time.

Several suggestions included Tacos, Chicken Noodle Soup, Cheese and Bacon Rolls, Cheesy mite Scrolls, Hot Dogs, Fish Fingers and Hot Potatoes. They all sound good to me and fit nicely into our Nutrition Policy. As we endeavour to offer the children savoury food types, being imaginative at times can be difficult considering the time frame and staffing available. We will give these a go and see how popular they are. Sweet items are definitely 'sometimes' foods serving them occasionally.

Some of the girls provided the children with a Movie afternoon yesterday. The girls had the children vote from several choices with The Lorax being chosen as the favourite. Well done girls – your consideration was appreciated by all. You have worked hard, shown fairness and given every child equal opportunity to vote for their choice. Thank you for providing us with a fun afternoon.

Another group of students have their drawing challenge currently under way. The children are required to create and decorate a Cake. This theme has created lots of conversation surrounding the children's favourite birthday cakes and many ideas. It is wonderful to see the Prep children so excited to enter too.

With Mothers' Day on the radar we have commenced our Mothers' Day crafts. The Art and Craft area is buzzing with excitement. The children keen to make something for their mums.

As the Cool Care children show interest in reading, we are hoping there may be families that have small chapter books they may not need any more. Books suitable for Grade 3 – 6 children would be perfect. In the past, we have had a library of Goosebumps books. Over the years, these have been very popular however, we are really requesting books with more recent popularity.

Have a great week everyone!

Stay Cool, Jenny

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## PE & Sport News

### SPORTS RESULTS – ROUND 1

SPORT	WNPS	Streeton
Football	96	17
Soccer	4	0
Softball	21	2
Netball A	38	5
Netball B	26	3

### THIS WEEK – ROUND 2

FRIDAY, 1 MAY – 9.30am start: WNPS v Greensborough (home).

### YEARS 3-6 HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

NEXT TUESDAY, 5 MAY is our House Cross Country which will be held at Binnak Park from 9.30am to 11.30am.

REMEMBER TO WEAR HOUSE COLOURS!

Bateson: *Blue*, Edgley: *Yellow*,

Gray: *Green*, McConnell: *Red*

The events will be run in the following order:

1. 8/9/10 year Boys
2. 8/9/10 year Girls
3. 11 year Boys
4. 11 year Girls
5. 12/13 year Boys
6. 12/13 year Girls

**Trent O'Sullivan (PE & Sports Coordinator)**

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## Canteen News

We hope you have all settled in to Term 2. To help you get through the next two "cold" terms, we are selling HOT MILO – still only \$1.50! It can be purchased from the canteen at morning recess and lunchtimes.

TASTY TUESDAY is a great choice in winter – and you can choose a HOT MILO OR A SLURPEE to have with your Sausage Roll, Muffin and Fruit Stick - \$5.00 for the lot!

Cheers, Di and Karen



### Neighbourhood Watch Grimshaw

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During Book Fair week, the Year 5/6 students are running competitions and here are some of them:


- **S1:** Find the secret message (can you find the words hidden in the library castle?)
- **S2:** Pin the tail on the donkey (can you pin the tail on the donkey when you're blindfolded?)
- **S3:** Movie trailer (it will be at assembly next Monday .... stay tuned).
- **S4:** Colouring/drawing competitions (Prep – Year 2 create a family flag which should include pets, footy team or holidays etc .... Year 3/4 draw a castle that which should include animals, knights, cannons etc ... Year 5/6s write a narrative that should include kings, queens, dragons, villains).
- **S6:** Guess how many jelly beans are in the jar competitions – (there will be two different jars: One for Prep-2 and one for Year 3-6, but you only get 2 guesses!).

Come along, read books and have fun, and we hope to see you enter these competitions.

## THE BOOK PARADE

**BOOK FAIR PARADE ON MONDAY 4 MAY**  
Come as your favourite book character.  
The parade will be held on the Netball Court at 12.30pm, bring your lunch!

**A reminder that the Book Fair is open before school and after school every day from Wednesday 29 April until Tuesday 5 May.**



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## **Performing Arts News**

### CHORAL @ MONTSALVAT

We have been invited back to perform at one of the loveliest venues in our part of Melbourne – Montsalvat in Eltham. This performance is on **Sunday 3 May** and promises to be a great day. Permission notes for this excursion are now **overdue** – please collect a form from the Music Office if you did not receive one. **Senior AND Intermediate Choirs** will be performing. This is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased at the door.

### BOROONDARA EISTEDDFOD

The Senior Choir and Year 4 members of the Intermediate Choir will be joining forces to make the Competition Choir. Our first competition will be on **Monday 18 May** at Hawthorn Performing Arts Centre – more details to come soon.

### MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA EXCURSION

ALL students in Years 1 and 2 will be travelling to the city to see the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra on **Wednesday 3 June**. This is always a great excursion and one that the students will always remember. More details will be sent home in **May**.

### YEAR 1 AND 2 CONCERT

In Term 3 we will be holding our biennial Year 1 and 2 concert. The format has changed slightly but it still promises to be an exciting occasion! I am putting out the call for families who are interested in participating in the “Costume Crew” – want to make costumes, props or scenery? Or help out in the backing band? Please contact Mr Perry via the school.

**David Perry, Performing Arts Coordinator**



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# ANZAC DAY



## YEAR 5/6 CEREMONY

I was wrong. I was wrong when I thought that joining up would be fun and signing up with my mates. We encouraged each other to join after an army officer gave a lecture about the threat to the British Empire and he needed recruits. I am underage, I was fourteen and I needed to be twenty one, but of course I lied. I lied about me having a wife and child. I lied about everything. As the army was desperate, they accepted me and I became part of the infantry. I remember feeling excited, especially because my friends were coming too.

We travelled far to a place called Cairo in Egypt. We trained in the sands of the desert and learned to shoot, but most of us just mucked around. We pretended one side was the enemy and one side the ally. But when we ran towards each other, we kept crashing into pals and laughed as we found it difficult to fight our friends. We talked and were told off by the general. We all fell, pretending to be wounded and unharmed carried the wounded. It was great fun despite the fact that this is what we would be actually doing for real.

We eventually set sail in our ships, crossing the sea to get to the beach at Turkey, a place called Gallipoli, where the Turks were lying in wait. We were shelled and bits of metal scattered everywhere. Soldiers were hurt or injured and some killed amongst the explosions. Despite this, some of the lads did not take it seriously. In the morning we swam in the beach but we were shelled again. I waited anxiously in the trenches while my mates went over the top. Unfortunately, many did not come back and I struggled to cope with the loss of my friends. People made graves hastily as any time a bomb might explode and rip us apart.

The following morning, after having what little rations we got in terms of food, it was my time to go over the top. We walked over to the trenches and prepared ourselves. We were to charge over the battlefield in the hope of taking the Turks by surprise. Only a few survived the charge, myself included, and many of my mates were among the fallen. It was as though heaven had opened its arms to embrace the best of our fallen youth. Any hopes of winning began to subside.

I was still here. I was still alive. But shattered and changed forever. Almost all of my friends are dead. And that is when I realised I am just a young boy, in a place I should not have been in.

Good morning everyone. My name is Richard Zhang. Today I would like to talk to you about what ANZAC day means and the historical factors that lead to the landing at Gallipoli. ANZAC Day originally came about to honour the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who fought at Gallipoli. They fought against the Ottoman Empire that is Turkey, and the other countries of the axis powers during World War I. The ANZACs landed on the shores of Gallipoli in 1915. They rowed ashore in boats. The ANZACs were hit by a barrage of gunfire which made it difficult to land. The Turks had managed to take the higher ground and were lying in wait for our forces to arrive. Our military strategy had been to land on the northern shore and then capture the enemy's artillery batteries and forts. The next part of the plan was to open a gateway for our naval forces so that they could advance through the Narrows of the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara and get to Constantinople which was the capital city of the Roman, Byzantine, Latin and Turkish empires. It was a brilliant plan. However, our armed forces ended up landing on the wrong side of the beach, resulting in a need for improvisation.

As many of our troops tried to storm the beaches, the Turks mowed them down mercilessly with machine guns. Many tried to return fire, but generally without success. Many died in that short period of time, but the ANZACs managed to retreat and create a refuge on the beach where they dug trenches to escape from enemy fire. In the passing days of war, it became a stalemate, neither side making ground and neither army winning. Both sides suffered many casualties. At one point in this horrific conflict, a cease fire was called so both sides could dress their wounded and have respite from all the blood and gore. During this constant battle for survival, food was traded and thrown from both sides' trenches. However, it was never very long before the conflict began once again. As many fell and families at home grieved painfully, a British general named Kitchener, came on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Some hours after surveying the Turkish lines, he decided that the ANZACs would need to evacuate. They devised a clever plan to escape without the enemy knowing. This would be a mark of military brilliance for years to come and be remembered as the most successful aspect of the whole campaign. The plan was to make the Turks believe that they were planning and preparing for winter. The ANZACs would only send irregular gunfire that the Turks would expect. Gradually, the number of soldiers in the trenches were reduced and as this occurred, they left their rifles with empty buckets hooked up to the triggers. Water would drip into the buckets and when the bucket was too full, the string from the buckets would pull the trigger. This would make the Turks think that the ANZACs were still there. Eventually, the Turks realised that the ANZACs weren't there. Even though the battle was lost for the ANZACs, it was considered a victory for them as they managed to escape without the enemy knowing.

The landing of Gallipoli is part of the legend that has helped shape the character and mate-ship of a young nation.

## S6: GUESS HOW MANY JELLYBEANS ARE IN THE JAR?



We are having a "guess how many jellybeans are in the jar?" competition! Anyone can join in! Two competitions – Prep to Year 2s & Year 3 to 6.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE BOOK FAIR FULL OF KINGS, QUEENS, PRINCESSES AND PRINCES!**



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