Welcome back to the new school year!

I hope everyone had a great break over the Christmas and New Year's period and enjoyed the freedom of the holidays!

Lots of things happened at school over the holidays ready for a fresh new year- we have had new carpet put in the office to replace the old carpet that had worn out, had the honour boards put up in the BER building, replaced all of the cisterns in the girls and boys toilets and (thanks to Glen Guest and family), have now finished placing all the rocks out the front of the school yard. This all marks a fresh start for our schools and hopefully you are looking forward to the opportunities ahead as much as I am in my role as acting principal for term one.

There is no rest though- we have lots of work still to be done this term! We need to redevelop the old portable area (more about this later), start our school evaluation process (more about that too) and continue our great work in improving student learning!

This term the staff will be focussing heavily on improving student writing. We started this focus with a professional development day last week run by Anne Smith, a talented Literacy consultant. Staff will meet regularly to discuss ways in which we can improve all aspects of our students’ writing- hopefully you will see the results of this effort in your child’s work soon!

While our teachers are working on their students’ writing skills, I would like to focus on building stronger ties within our school community. One of the reasons I love working at Campbells Creek and Guildford is because of the great community feel of our schools and I would like to develop this even further. I would love your feedback on what you would like to see in our newsletters and would appreciate you filling out the attached survey to help us improve this area of our communication. You may note a couple of new additions, (including a community member profile area) to our weekly newsletters from now on and hopefully the new layout will make it easier for parents at both schools to become aware of important dates and information relevant to your children.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their support in my first week. I am looking forward to the next 8 in the role!

Regards,

Narissa Leung
(Acting Principal)

New Breaky Program

Last week I submitted an application to be part of the Bendigo Foodshare program to enable us to set up a new breakfast program. We got the good news today that our application was successful and we can start our Breaky Program THIS Friday. Starting this Friday we will have free breakfast (cereal, toast and yoghurt) for any students at school between 8:20 and 8:55am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The breakfast will be served in the kitchen area of the BER building.
New Preps

Our new preps have settled in well. They are a very happy bunch and already enjoy listening to stories and playing in the yard.

A few parents have already commented how their child loved their first 3 days of prep but have now said they are tired and don’t really want to come again! The big school life is not quite the same as kinder. I think they will all be looking forward to their rest day on Wednesday.

Portable removal

On the holidays we finally lost our portable building from the back of the school. Unfortunately the clearance wasn’t completed before school started so we are still left with a fence surrounding the area.

Much to the delight of the hot and tired students, the workmen returned at lunchtime on the first day of school to spread some soil over the area. Seats were pulled up by the students as more than 15 “mini site supervisors” watched the workers’ every move! Despite pleas by the students to “please put in a swimming pool while you have the digger there” no pool will be placed in that area. We will work out what we will do in the area over the next few weeks and would welcome any ideas the community may have. At this stage, staff are thinking a few vegie patches with a bbq area and some shady trees would be good.

‘Mini Site Supervisors’ at work

Here and Happy Award

This week we started a new weekly award called the Here and Happy Award. This award will be given out at assembly on Friday to the class with the highest attendance for the week. At the end of the term, the class with the highest attendance data will receive a special class prize (yet to be revealed).

The attendance data for our school is currently below the state average which means that lots of other students in the state are getting more learning time than our students!

Last year the average Campbells Creek student was absent for 13.2 days.

Continuing on this pattern would mean they would miss out on 92 days of learning by the time they finish year 6—almost half of a whole school year of learning they have missed out on by the time they start high school!

There are obviously times when students will need to stay home including illness and bereavement but we need to reduce the number of ‘student choice’ absences.

Please speak to your child’s teacher about any absences you know are coming up. Please call the office on 54722180 to notify the school your child will be absent for the day.

Alternatively, you can visit http://goo.gl/vNQaUV to fill in an online form.

Got a QR reader on your phone? Use this to go straight to the online form:
Holiday Thanks
Thankyou to the following people for their work and help over the holidays:

- **Glynis Cox** - for helping to clean everything in sight!
- **James Zapelli** - for mowing the oval and helping us to see the ground again!
- **Melissa Usher** - for helping to clean the shed.
- **Glen Guest + family** - for delivering the rocks to the front of the school and setting them up.
- **Glen Cox** - for his handyman work.
- **All the teachers** - for making the rooms look fabulous for our students.

Welcome Zoe
We would like to formally welcome our new art teacher Zoe Volpato. Zoe has been busy with all the students already and will be busy constructing our new values tree in the BER building (What is that for you ask? Next week’s newsletter will have all the answers.) Zoe will be taking the all students for art on Mondays and Wednesdays. (There’s a good reason to get out of bed on a Monday!)

New Assembly Format for Fridays
Friday afternoon assemblies will now be run by 2 students from the senior classes. This term students from Mr Mac’s 5/6 class will take turns to run the assembly. This will give our senior students an opportunity to practise their public speaking skills as well as their organisational skills. This week the assembly will be run by Dylan and Zoe. Goodluck with the first one!

Monday assemblies will remain short and sweet- anthem, birthdays and announcements. Friday assemblies will include awards, celebrations and everyone’s favourite segment- special achievements...Will anyone lose a tooth this year? Is that even a special achievement?... All will be revealed on Friday afternoons from about 3:15pm.

School Captain Elections
Students who would like to run for one of the school captain positions will be giving their election speeches at assembly this Friday. To ensure we have time for all the speeches we will commence this Friday’s assembly at 3:10pm. As always, all parents and families are welcome to attend.

School Newsletter- Have Your Say
We are always trying to improve our communication with the school community and this term we would like to improve our newsletter. We would appreciate it if you could fill out the short survey attached to the back of the newsletter to let us know your thoughts on what you would like to see more/less of, where things should be placed etc. Would you like 2 separate newsletters for Campbells Creek and Guildford? Do you want more student work? More photos? More funny stories? Let us know!

Know your community

Narissa ‘Riss’ Leung- Acting Principal

Favourite food?
I eat gluten free (and usually dairy free as well). I love to cook and particularly enjoy Chinese and Indian food.

Family?
I live with my husband Laurie and daughter Boof (Ash). Ash does Chinese Lion and Dragon dancing and I think this is appropriate as (being 17) she currently lives in a dark den of a bedroom and breathes fire at anyone who speaks to her before midday (or asks her to do something around the house!) I have a loyal dog called Bevan and a sooky cat, Rosy.

Any collections?
I used to collect soaps and stamps when I was a child. Who would ever collect soaps?? Now I love to travel and I collect a magnet from every place I go to. I put these on the fridge and am crazy about them being in the order that I travelled in!

Currently Reading?
I have a strict rule that I am not allowed to watch a movie until I have read the book so am currently listening to Game of Thrones in the car on the way to work so I can watch the series on DVD. I am loving it!

Favourite Sayings?
“If you do what you’ve always done you’ll get what you’ve always got”
“Have you tried turning it off and on again?”

Teams?
Much to my husband’s annoyance, I support the Sydney Sixers in the Big Bash Cricket and in AFL I support the Cats (I’m not very passionate though). Goooooo 6ers!!

Sports?
I am slowly getting ready to participate in ‘Tough Mudder’ in March! Eeeeek!
School Council Meeting
There will be a school council meeting (for the 2013 school council members) on Monday February 17th at 6pm. At this meeting we will have Regional Senior Advisor Marg Bainbridge come and explain the principal selection process for our new substantive principal position. There will be more information about this in a later newsletter. The new 2014 School council elections will take place later in the term. If you are interested in joining please speak to Narissa.

New Building Name
We need a new name for our BER building/New Building/Multi-Purpose Room. At the moment everyone is calling the space something different! We don’t think ‘the new building’ is a good name for it anymore as all our new people don’t know which building the ‘new’ one is! Some suggestions so far include: the Glasshouse, Meadowview and Sheepview. Do you have a suggestion? Drop your idea in to the office and we will select one in the upcoming weeks.

Wanted: Softfill Spreaders
This Thursday morning Narissa will be putting on her ugliest Blundstones in order to spread the new load of soft fill being delivered to go under the ‘Spider’ play equipment out the front. All help would be appreciated- even by those considered too young to be at school! Spreading will commence just after 9am. Ugly shoes not compulsory.

Camps/Excursion Costs
A list of expected costs for camps and excursions throughout the year will come home next week. This will hopefully help families to budget for the year’s expenses.

Castlemaine YMCA After School Care
The Castlemaine YMCA After School Care program is held at Winters Flat Primary School. The program is run every night from 3:30-6pm?!? Students are picked up by the YMCA mini bus from the front of Campbells Creek PS between 3:30pm and 4pm. To enrol your child in the YMCA After School Care Program you need to call 0499 983 828 before they day you would like your child to attend the program.

Miss Harry
Miss Harry has settled in at her new school, Hillsmeade Primary School in Melbourne. She wrote to us this week telling us she has 117 new preps this year. (That’s almost our whole school!) Interestingly, the students love giving away lollies to everyone on their birthday- I think that might change soon 😊

Facebook Group for Uniforms
One of our clever Mums has set up a Facebook page for swapping school uniforms. If you search on Facebook for “Castlemaine and District School Uniforms and Books For Sale” you will be able to join and hopefully find yourself a bargain!

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Please note that the school does not automatically receive any payments of EMA. Parents who are eligible for EMA are able to NOMINATE on the EMA form for all of the EMA payment to be paid directly to the school. The money can then be used towards their Stationery & Materials & other educational expenses.

This allowance is paid to Parents/Guardians of students under 16 years of age and the student is enrolled in a Government/Non-Government school in Victoria on census day, 28th February, 2014 for instalment 1 and 1st August, 2014 for the second instalment. YOU MUST HOLD A CURRENT CENTRELINK (Health Care, Pension, Vet Affairs or Foster Parent) CARD THAT IS VALID AS AT 29TH JANUARY, 2013. ALL FORMS MUST BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY. Please note EMA forms were sent home with last week’s flyer.

Campbells Creek & Guildford PS Stationery & Materials 2014

Stationery and Materials cover materials for student use, this supplements the grant provided by the Department of Education and Training. The fee pays for:-
- Class Consumables (eg pens, pencils)
- Photocopying/Printing
- Library materials
- LOTE materials
- Visual Art materials

We bulk buy these stationery and materials at a substantial saving that we pass on to you. All children have the same items to use at school and are not disadvantaged in any way. The Stationery and Material for 2014 is $90 per student for the whole year. Payment (CASH or CHEQUE - Also Eftpos is now available) would be appreciated before the end of term 1 as the school has purchased these materials for your children.

If the payment of the Stationery and Materials presents any problems, please contact Narissa.

STATIONERY AND MATERIALS 2014

Family Name

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Child’s

Name..................................GRADE............

Child’s

Name..................................GRADE............

Child’s

Name..................................GRADE............

Child’s

Name..................................GRADE............

$90.00 per child  x ........=  

$........................................

TOTAL

$........................................
ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

At Campbells Creek PS we offer an after school fun and games program that is free to our students. (We receive Federal funding to cover the costs.)

The program runs from 3:45-4:45pm Tuesday and Thursday.

Students go to the new building at 3:30pm for a fruit snack and then participate in a variety of games. The children will be learning new skills, having a go at new sports and having a lot of fun.

If you would like your child involved, please collect an enrolment form from the information table near the office. Completed forms need to be returned to the office. There are limited places so don’t miss out!!

Term 1 program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday - Dance</th>
<th>Thursday - AFL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 11th, 18th, 25th</td>
<td>February 13th, 20th, 27th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th</td>
<td>March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Newsletter Survey

Name:______________________________

Which parts of the newsletter do you value the most? (Please circle)

Dates  Principal’s News  Student work

Community notices  Photos

Interviews  Other:______________________________

What would you like to see more of?

Funny Stories  Photos  Student work

Classroom news  Other:______________________________

Would you prefer 2 separate newsletters for Guildford and Campbells Creek, or 2 sections, 1 newsletter?

Let us know your thoughts here:

What would you like to see more of?

Funny Stories  Photos  Student work

Classroom news  Other:______________________________

Would you prefer 2 separate newsletters for Guildford and Campbells Creek, or 2 sections, 1 newsletter?

Let us know your thoughts here:

Any other thoughts?

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Any other thoughts?

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A word from Wendy

Grüezi mitenand,
Welcome back everyone to 2014. It was a long hot summer during the January break and while some of us relished the heat, I was over it by mid-January!! While doing my rounds over the holidays, I came across a visitor on Sunday 5th January. I usually welcome all visitors, but not this 4ft one!! This one was had a burrow in the chook yard, close to food and water. Luckily I was able to round up a snake catcher who appeared 10 mins after my phone call. Now, the unexpected reptile is safely slithering in the local bush, far from the chook house.

These two brave lads were calmly removing the snake from the chook yard, ready to be relocated. I was behind the wire, taking the photo through the safety of the fence!

Thanks to the Davenport family for donating a solar reptile device to our school, which will deter any future snakes. This donation will certainly be extremely useful.

2014 program
I’m certainly looking forward to another exciting year full of new and different experiences. We currently have 16 students joining us this year; 8 boys and 8 girls, and 10 families. If you haven’t already noticed, this year we are operating a little differently. All students start each day in the one class and are then grouped according to need or interest. This allows for small teacher/ student ratios (1:8), individualized programs and small, friendly, yet focussed classes. Combined with 1:1 computers, this makes an ideal situation really!

All students will participate in a variety of specialist areas, namely:

Library - Mrs Mac from the MARC Van
Art - Ange
Cooking - Ange and parent helpers
Indonesian - Wendy
PE - Wendy
ICT - Ange
Music - Ange
RE - teacher to be appointed

All helpers welcome!!!!
Each year we give the call out to all families, requesting help. Whether it is reading to children, covering books, working in the garden, helping with cooking or baking goods for various sausage sizzles, we would love you to be involved. The students really enjoy seeing their Mum, Dad or even Grandparent joining in at school and involved in their school journey. Attached is a quick form, outlining some areas that families can be involved in. Please complete the form and return to school by next Monday 10th February.
Cooking
On Monday the students participated in their first cooking session with Ange. They made Mango Icecream. Yum!!! Here are some photos and writing by the students.

Mrs Walsh said “Guess what, the power’s gone out”. Joe.
We made pineapple icypoles. Harry.
Mango Icecream.
  1. We cut the mango.
  2. We put it in a bowl.
  3. Then we got out pineapple juice.
    Jackson.

Chooks
A huge thank you to all families who pitched in and came to school in those terrible, hot days to look after the chooks. They are looking well, despite the long stretch of hot days. Not only did we have the rostered families doing their duty, but we also had people doing additional days just to make sure they were coping. Thanks Tanisha for your care and concern!!

Welcome BBQ
As a way of welcoming all families, both old and new, we are having a family BBQ on Tuesday 11th February at 6pm. The school will be providing sausages and hamburgers (vegetarian as well). If you can attend, please bring a small salad to share. If you could also indicate on the attached form whether or not you can make it, this will assist us with the catering.

Music
Music this term will be on Wednesdays between 2:30 and 3:30. Ange is inviting parents or grandparents and preschoolers to join us for music this term. The group will play some musical games to warm up, develop a repertoire of songs and add some instruments. The children love family members being involved with their learning and music is a wonderful opportunity to have some fun together.

150th plaque
Thanks to Mr Mac, we now have a plaque to indicate where the time capsule is buried in the school grounds. The original capsule was dug up during the 150th celebrations. The new time capsule was created in 2011 and buried near the flagpole. It will be opened in 2036. The plaque looks fantastic on the rock!!
Here and Happy Award

As of this week, Guildford students will be joining in the Here and Happy Award with Campbells Creek classes. For the purpose of the competition, Guildford will be grouped as 1 class, competing against the other 5 classes at Campbells Creek.

This award will be given out at assembly on Fridays to the class with the highest attendance for the week. At the end of the term, the class with the highest attendance data will receive a special class prize (yet to be revealed).

The attendance data for our school is currently below the state average which means that lots of other students in the state are getting more learning time than our students!

Last year the average Guildford student was absent for an alarming 25.6 days!!

Continuing on this pattern would mean they would miss out on 179 days of learning by the time they finish year 6- that’s almost an entire school year of learning they have missed out on by the time they start high school!

There are obviously times when students will need to stay home including illness and bereavement but we need to reduce the number of ‘student choice’ absences.

Please speak to Wendy or Ange about any absences you know are coming up.

Alternatively, you can visit http://goo.gl/vNQaUV to fill in an online form.

Star of the Week: Alex for listening and speaking respectfully in discussions and conversations in the classroom.

Artist of the week: Jackson for a detailed self portrait.

Newsletter Survey

Name:...........................................
Which parts of the newsletter do you value the most? (Please circle)
Dates Principal’s News Student work
Community notices Photos
Interviews Other:...........................................

What would you like to see more of?
Funny Stories Photos Student work
Classroom news Other:.........................
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Would you prefer 2 separate newsletters for Guildford and Campbells Creek, or 2 sections, 1 newsletter?
Let us know your thoughts here:
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Any other thoughts?
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