OFF TO A GREAT START!!
You can read all types of research that will tell you how to identify a successful school; however we believe the best ‘litmus test’ is the response of the children, teachers and parents. We have had an extremely smooth start to the school year. The ease with which all students have slipped back into the routine of school doesn’t just ‘happen’. It is indicative of the time, effort and excellent preparation carried out by our staff. Credit must also go to the children who have settled quickly and industriously back into ‘school mode’. We have been delighted by the many positive comments we have received about the school. We are also most appreciative of our supportive parents who have clearly prepared their children for a positive start to the school year. Thank you and well done!

HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATION
As we are in the “relationship business”, as a community we all have a vested interest in the well-being of the school, with our number one priority the happiness and safety of every child. Children who are feeling happy and safe are receptive learners. If you have a compliment for your child’s class teacher or a query regarding your child’s education, please contact us. The following methods are the most efficient.

Use our diary system regularly – it is a great communication tool between your child’s teacher and home. The teachers’ number one priority is instructing the children and therefore if you arrive unannounced, it may not be convenient or possible to release them from teaching duties to speak to you. It is always best to arrange a meeting time.

Email is an option and we appreciate that you use your child’s diary or email as a form of quick communication with us. Please give staff sufficient time to respond to emails or to take action as requested, as again, during school hours we concentrate our efforts on the children. It is very important that we devote our attentions and ‘duty of care’ to our school's students throughout each school day (also noting that some specialist staff are not full time, therefore there may be a longer response timeframe depending on working hours and days). Furthermore, please keep in mind that staff responses to emails will be brief as staff have a huge amount of emails to get through and respond to each day. Of course, the expectation is that students, parents and other members of the school community will observe common courtesy when addressing staff and other members of the community in communications.

Class teachers are available in their classroom between 8:50 – 9:00am each morning as your first port-of-call should you have any compliments, cares, or queries. Likewise, I remind everyone of an open invitation to approach Ms Brady or myself if you have a query about the school or an idea to discuss. We also like hearing the positive feedback!

Our most important form of communication is our weekly newsletter, with an electronic copy circulated via email. Important information is included in the newsletter including dates of upcoming events – please take the time to read it and any Tiqbiz communications to stay informed.
Our first School Council meeting for 2016 will be held on **Thursday, February 18**. This meeting will be the final meeting for the existing School Council and therefore the final meeting for some of our hard working School Council members.

I am now calling for nominations for our 2016 School Council. Attached to this Newsletter is information regarding nominations and a nomination form. Nomination forms are also available from the school office. Nominations must be returned to the school office by **4.00pm on Thursday 18 February**. If we have more nominations than positions, which is 4, we will hold an election. Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries regarding our School Council.

**FOUNDATION:**
Falling in line with the National Curriculum, we have integrated the term “Foundation” into our school vocabulary. Traditionally, the first year of schooling in Victorian Schools has been called “Prep” however all Australian schools are now teaching from “Foundation to Year 12” or F-12. Whilst the term “prep” or “preppies” always will be our most familiar term for the first year of school, when you see the term Foundation, don’t be puzzled! It’s a term, even after a year, I’m still trying to get my head around!

**SUBJECT CONTRIBUTIONS:**
My thanks to the many parents who have paid their subject contributions already. Your support enables us to continue to provide a high quality of resources that greatly enhances children’s learning and is the envy of other schools.

**TWILIGHT SPORTS: Tuesday 15 March 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start!**
Twilight Sports are a Parkhill tradition where all students from Foundation to Year 6 dress in their House colours and compete in a variety of tabloid sport type events. Events range from tyre relays to tunnel ball to fun sprinting races (including a parents’ race)!
All parents are invited to come along on the 15th March at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start. Bring along your picnic rug and chairs, along with your picnic dinner and sit on the grassy hill and watch your young chargers participate in a variety of events. All events are multi age and the emphasis is on low key fun activity!
Please note that our Athletics team is selected during a more formal Athletics Carnival held at Bill Stewarts Athletic track later in the year.
Twilight Sports are a great way to kick the year off with a fun community event that involves the whole family!

School Photo’s are next Thursday 18 February. Don’t forget to wear your black shoes & logoed Parkhill polo shirt. A reminder that our second-hand uniform shop sells quality uniform at very low prices. We have a sale when stock is available or alternately please send an email with your telephone number and we will contact you.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 15th!

Rod McKinlay
Principal
11 February 2016

Dear Parents,

There are many ways that we seek contribution and support from our parent body. One of which is the governing body of our school, School Council. School Council is made up of a group of interested people from within our community and the break up is such:

5 staff (including myself as the Executive Officer)
8 parent members
2 community members

Our School Council typically meets 8 times each year on a Thursday (from 7.30 until 9.00pm) and in addition, we request councillors to obtain a Working with Children’s Check and to be involved in sub-committees (other members of our community also contribute to these sub-committees as well) which are determined each year. In 2015 we had the following sub-committees:

*Education & School Policy  *Communication & Public Relations  *Healthy Kids  *Finance  *Buildings & Grounds

A typical term of membership to School Council is two years but on some occasions councillors may opt to only serve for one year.

We are now starting the process to elect members to the School Council for 2016. A nomination form is attached to this letter or can be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday 18 February 2016.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent and community member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DET employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is equivalent to the number of vacancies, no elections will be required. Please do not hesitate to speak with me should you require any additional information.

Yours Sincerely,

Rod McKinlay
**Clean Up Australia Day**

This year Clean Up Australia is on **Sunday 6 March**.

A Clean Up Site has been registered for the Ashwood reserves area. It would be great to have lots of helping hands to clean up the school grounds and surrounding reserves.

You can register at:  

Type in “Ashwood reserves” and join our group.

Rubbish collection will be from **9am-12pm**. On the day please **sign in** at the front of **Roger Beech Hall at Parkhill Primary School**.

A rubbish collection site will be allocated to you along with a collection bag. **Please BYO gloves**.

See you there!

Katrina Watson – Science & Garden Teacher – Parkhill Primary School

---

**Chinese New Year’s message from LOTE**

Happy Chinese Luna Year! I hope you have an enriching and pleasant New Year - the year of the Monkey. We will light the Lanterns in another great year with new hopes and aspirations!

The Chinese people gather with their extended family for a big feast on New Year’s eve. We set off fireworks and decorate everything in red to bring good luck in the coming New Year.

As the LOTE teacher at Parkhill, I would like to celebrate this special event with all the Parkhill staff, students and families. Traditionally, Chinese people celebrate the spring festival for 15 days. So join us and give it a go at saying **‘Xin Nian Hao’** (new year happy) to your family and friends.

In order to raise awareness of Asian cultures, I would like to host a friendly coloring in competition for the Year 5 and 6 students over the next two weeks.

There will be a total of 10 red packets with hidden prizes given out at the end of the competition. The top 10 colorings will be selected by student votes.

Many thanks to the after school Fun Chinese Club for donating the prizes.

Finally, **‘Xin Nian Hao’** everyone.

Shuoyin Tu  
LOTE teacher
Science and Garden News

Last week marked the beginning of Science and Garden sessions for the students. It also marked the arrival of some new Science Kitchen pets! 6 Tadpoles and 1 very hungry caterpillar. We have two species of tadpole, the Spotted Marsh Frog and the Brown Tree Frog. Hopefully we will be successful in raising them to be new pals for the originally Little Miss Froggy. The caterpillar is a Monarch Butterfly caterpillar. Hopefully it will form a chrysalis soon and maybe a beautiful butterfly. On Tuesday 23rd of February another very exciting pet will be joining us in the Science Kitchen for a brief but cuddly visit. Stay tuned for an introduction!

Katrina Watson – Science and Garden Teacher

Aboriginal for a Day

Last Wednesday the Year 3 and 4 students participated in the ‘Aboriginal for a Day’ incursion as part of our tuning in for our Inquiry learning. The students enjoyed face painting, music, dance, art and storytelling to develop their understandings of the Aboriginal culture.

Mrs Hunt
Chaplain’s Corner  The bucket sat there, clean enough but completely empty. It was a very nice bucket, a pinkish colour with a shiny wire handle, big enough to hold a mop, deep enough to take quite a lot of water. But it was empty. If I wanted to get any use out of it for the purpose I had in mind (cleaning) I was going to have to fill that bucket up with water.

Hello! My name is Suzanne Carmody and I’m the Chaplain at Parkhill and also the owner of a lovely bucket!

What on earth do buckets have to do with any of the goings on in a school? Well quite a bit when it comes to cleaning, just ask our cleaners, Louie and Werner, but I digress….

The bucket can be a handy metaphor for our children for their health and wellbeing, their emotional, psychological, physical, social state, how they come to school in the morning and how they progress through the day. If their buckets are full we would say they are ready for their task for the day, ready to learn. If their buckets are empty or become empty over time, learning can become more of a struggle. My job is to help them keep that bucket full. That is why my role can at times be very broad because different kids need different things to help them keep their buckets full.

One child might literally need breakfast to keep their physical bucket full and their brain energised and ready to learn. Another child might be struggling with reading, I can be another adult that helps out by listening to them read and developing a love for reading by reading to them. Still another might have been going through a tough time and a listening ear and emotional support can help them fill their bucket. Others might have come to school with a full bucket but the social struggles of the week may be draining them dry and they need some extra skills to handle people so they can go on to keep their own bucket full in future. I do all these things and many more as I go about my day at Parkhill.

I’m here to help students, parents, staff and members of our community to feel stronger and more equipped to go about their daily lives. Please feel free to pop in and see me, I’m at school Mondays and Thursdays.

Suzanne Carmody - Chaplain

THE SALVATION ARMY  Homework Club
A Kids Konnections Program  MPower my Learning

Fun, Creative, Strengthening—Free afternoon tea
Qualified volunteer Tutors - Bring your homework
Safety assured - Child safe and Working with Children
WHEN: 4pm – 5pm, Tuesdays  Weekly Sessions during School Term
WHERE: Power Neighbourhood House, Ashwood
54 Power Ave, Ashwood. 98073589
BOOKINGS: Phone Norman or Jennifer on 9889 2468
Mums & Dads Walking Group

Would you like to join a group of us mums ( & dads) for a walk on Friday mornings leaving the school grounds at 9:10am. Toddlers in prams welcome!

This is a nice way for the new parents to meet a few more faces and vice versa.

If you would like to join us please meet at the front of the Hall as soon as the bell goes on Friday morning.

April Minniece. (Parent of Cameron & Ella)
### 2015 Calendar of Curriculum events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11 February</td>
<td>PFA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 February</td>
<td>Three-Way Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 February</td>
<td>Three-Way Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17 February</td>
<td>Year 3 Science Incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>Greek RI commences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Birthdays

**January**
- Olivia G
- Giorgios A
- Naacer S
- Nyaduooth K
- Nyaboth K
- William R
- James R
- Sarah R
- Joel R
- Evelyn F
- Joel M
- Penelope R
- Isaac B
- Daniel P
- Madison G
- Aaron D
- Alexis H
- Sophie O
- Greer V
- Ella J
- Simran S
- Philippa H
- Lloyd V
- Kayla L
- Sarita V
- Zachariah C
- Georgia K
- James M
- Oliver B
- Alexander B

**February**
- Angus M
- Cormac M
- Thomas R
- Auson T
- Samuel L
- Hamish L
- Hayden M
- Fei G
- James W
- Max D
- Jesse S
- Ruby D
- Jamie A
- Lucas P
- Lily P
- Mitchell W
- Themis T
- Mozhda S
- Liam G
- Loni V
- Ashley W
- Rasiq H
- Spencer S
- Millie K
- Jamie K
- Victoria R
- Aurelia T
- Jack C
- Jonathon M
- Marcus D
- Chloe M

---

**PARENT INFORMATION SESSION**

**INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE — PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME**

As many of you are aware, we are at the beginning of a very exciting educational journey at Parkhill Primary School. We recently became an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme candidate school. But what does this mean for our school?

Come along to an information session to find out more, ask any questions you may have and chat about the programme.

Sessions will be held in conjunction with our Three-Way Conference next week.

**Tuesday 16 February**
- Session 1: 4:30pm—5:00pm
- Session 2: 5:00pm—5:30pm

**Wednesday 17 February**
- Session 1: 4:30pm—5:00pm
- Session 2: 5:00pm—5:30pm

Sessions will be held in the Library — I hope to see you there!

**Elaine Brady**
Assistant Principal

---

**Administration:**

**Please remember to update the following:**

- ‘Tick’ the correct Year on Tiqbiz for your child/ren’s 2016 classes.
- Change your child/ren’s Year on Flexi Schools & Classroom Cuisine.
- Essential Education Item payment option must be confirmed with the office by Friday 29 January.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
CAMP, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

Parent/legal guardian details
Surname
First name
Address
Town/suburb State Postcode
Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

OR

Foster parent OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

• DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.

• this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.

• I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.

• if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.

• information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date __________/________/________
OUR HEALTHIEST OPTIONS FOR YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

Did you know?

Cape Seed Rolls are:
- High in IRON
- High in GOOD FATS
- High in FIBRE
- Keeps you FULLER for longer

---

TRY 2 CAPE SEED ROLLS FOR FREE!

when you buy a Hi-Fibre Lo-Gi White Block Loaf

Offer valid until 19th February 2016. Subject to availability. Offer per person, per day. Not redeemable for cash or with any other offer. Must surrender voucher upon redemption.
LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAYS
ORDER ONLINE UP UNTIL 8.30am ON THE DAY
THE LUNCH IS REQUIRED!

**LUNCH ITEM ONE**
- Greek Style Salad with Feta and Olives (GF)
- Brown Rice & Mixed Bean Salad (GF)
- Pic(k)nic Box – Vegetarian (GF)
- Pic(k)nic Box with Ham (GF)
- Sushi - Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (2)
- Sushi - Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (2)
- Sushi - Avocado Hand Rolls (2)
- Sushi - Cucumber Hand Rolls (2)
- Sushi – Vegetarian Hand Rolls (2)
  - Cheese and Bacon Roll
  - Cheese and Vegemite Scroll
  - Supreme Pizza Roll
  - Topped with Only Cheese Roll
  - Margherita Pita Pizza
- Ham and Pineapple Pita Pizza
- Fresh Tomato and Italian Herb Pita Pizza
- Spinach & Feta Pita Pizza
- Ham, Cheese and Tomato Sandwich
- Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce and Cheese Sandwich
- Ham and Cheese Roll
- Gluten Free Ham & Cheese Sandwich
  - Simple Salad Roll
  - Vegemite Sandwich
  - Mild Salami and Salad Roll
  - Beetroot and Salad Roll
- Roast Beef, Fruit Chutney, Cheese and Lettuce Roll
- Cheese and Salad Roll
- Wholegrain Cheese and Tomato Sandwich
- Rice Paper Rolls - Teriyaki Chicken (2)
- Rice Paper Rolls - Vegetarian (2)

**LUNCH ITEM TWO**
- Fresh Fruit Combo
- Freshly chopped Orange Segments
- Freshly chopped Strawberries with Red Grapes
- Apple with Lemon Juice, Brown Sugar & Cinnamon
- Chopped Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum
- Lightly Steamed Corn Wheels & Broccoli pieces
- Cherry Tomatoes with Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers
- Cranberry Freedom Foods Bar (GF)
  - Choc Chip Cookie
  - Whole Banana with Chocolate Dipping Sauce
  - Iced Chocolate Cake
  - White Choc & Sultana Cookie
  - Hedgehog Slice
  - Fruit Bun
  - Cup Cake
  - Blueberry Muffin
  - Apple & Cinnamon Cake
  - Finger Bun with Sprinkles
- Evia Yoghurt with Raspberry Coulis
- Evia Yoghurt with Blueberry Coulis
- Evia Yoghurt with Mango Coulis
- Tzatziki dip with Rice Crackers
- Avocado dip with Rice Crackers
- Spring Onion dip with Rice Crackers
- Gluten Free – Munchy Apple & Cinnamon Clusters

**LUNCH ITEM THREE/ SNACK**
- Extra Juicy Apple Juice
- Extra Juicy Orange Juice
- Nippy’s Chocolate Milk
- Cobs Popcorn, Lightly Salted
- Cobs Popcorn, Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted
- Fresh Fruit Combo
- Whole Banana with Chocolate Dipping Sauce
- Apple with Lemon Juice, Brown Sugar & Cinnamon
- Chopped Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum
- Lightly Steamed Corn Wheels & Broccoli pieces
- Cherry Tomatoes with Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers
- Cranberry Freedom Foods Bar (GF)
  - Blueberry Muffin
  - Fruit Bun
  - Apple & Cinnamon Cake
  - Choc Chip Cookie
  - Cup Cake
  - Iced Chocolate Cake
  - White Choc & Sultana Cookie
  - Hedgehog Slice
  - Lamington
  - Whole Choc & Sultana Cookie
  - Finger Bun with Sprinkles
  - Evia Yoghurt with Raspberry Coulis
  - Evia Yoghurt with Blueberry Coulis
  - Evia Yoghurt with Mango Coulis
  - Evia Yoghurt with NO Coulis
  - Tzatziki dip with Rice Crackers
  - Avocado dip with Rice Crackers
  - Spring Onion dip with Rice Crackers
  - Gluten Free – Munchy Apple & Cinnamon Clusters

---

**Sample Menu**
EVERY SESSION INCLUDES:
• Dance Technique
• Fitness Games
• End of Session Performance
• Fun With Friends
• New Music Mixes
• Relay Races
• So Much More

Location: Parkhill Primary School Performing Arts Room
Date: Monday 8th February 2016 – Monday 21st March 2016
No Class Labor Day
Time: 4:00pm – 4:45pm
Grades: Prep – Grade 6 (Girls & Boys Welcome)
Price: 6 weeks for $60 (cash only)

For more information: Please call Fran Ditton 0417 323 273 or email fditton@icloud.com
SOCCER COACHING PROGRAM

COME & TRY FOR FREE!

Football Star Academy run soccer coaching clinics each Thursday at Parkhill Primary School during the school term at the following times:

7.30am – 8.30am: 7 – 12 year olds

4pm – 5pm: 5 – 8 year olds

5pm – 6pm: 9 – 12 year olds

Each student at Parkhill Primary School is able to try one session of the soccer coaching clinics for free to see if they enjoy it and would like to continue it for the term.

Spaces are limited so please contact Tim Rickman at Football Star Academy and provide the following information to secure a spot:

- Child’s Name & Surname
- Child’s Date Of Birth
- Parent’s Name
- Parent’s Email Address
- Parent’s Phone Number
- Parent’s Home Address

Tim can be reached via:

Email - vic20.football@sportstaracademy.com.au
Phone - 0417 953349.