CONGRATULATIONS Ms KNIGHT!

Congratulations to Ms Knight and her partner Will on their wonderful announcement this week. Ms Knight will be taking maternity leave from the early part of Term 3. Please join with me in congratulating Ms Knight on this wonderful news!

Annual Report to the School Community:

The Annual Report to the School Community will occur on Thursday, 17 March at 7.00pm. This presentation will be completed as part of our regular School Council meeting. We encourage members of the Parkhill Primary School community to attend this presentation which will be held at 7.00pm in the staffroom.

An electronic version of the Annual Report will be placed on the website after it has been endorsed by School Council.

Working Bee: Sunday 20 March – 10.00am – 1.30pm

Thanks to the families who have already indicated they will attend our first working bee on Sunday, 20 March from 10.00am – 1.30pm.

We encourage families to bring brooms, shovels, wheelbarrows, secateurs, pruning devices ….. etc

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: MONDAY 14 MARCH

Just a reminder that Monday 14 March is the Labour Day public holiday and as a result students are not required at school on this day.

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

GETTING BETTER ORGANISED!

Organisation at school, means setting a goal to do your best in your school work, listening carefully to your teacher's instructions, planning your time so that you are not rushed, having all your school supplies ready at a neat table, recording your projects and their due dates and planning when you are going to do your homework so that you have enough time.

Two ‘Positive Habits of the Mind’ that help develop a young person’s organisation include:

Setting Goals - means thinking that setting a goal can help me to be more successful at a task.
Planning My Time - means thinking about how long it will take me to do my school work and planning enough time to get it done.

There are four categories of personal organization skills. By understanding each category you can work out your own ways of developing children’s organisational skills:

Chunking: Breaking complex tasks into small, manageable steps. For instance, week-long school projects can be broken down into a series of smaller tasks that can be completed daily.

Goal-setting: Helping children set small and large goals is one tangible way of increasing their effectiveness. Eg. “I want to learn to spell 20 new words from my list by Friday.” “I want to save $15 this month from my pocket-money.”

Making plans: Working out steps required to help achieve goals and objectives requires children to look ahead. “I will learn five words a night. I’ll get mum to hear me each night.” “I’ll put $4 aside each week. I’ve got to buy my brother a birthday present. Now that will be difficult but if I…”

Managing time: Time planning tools such as lists and diaries can help children keep schedules, hand work in on time and help prevent children overestimating what they can achieve.

Ideas for promoting better organisation:

Routines take the worry out of remembering. Homework routines, morning routines, even after-school unpacking routines help children to be organised. For instance, an after-school routine may include unpacking a schoolbag, handing school notices to a parent and eating a snack.

Have regular homework time. Establish a regular homework time and help your child to stick to it. If no formal homework has been set then use this time for reading.

Have morning round-up. Remind children of the day’s events each morning so they can plan accordingly.

Use routines and structure. There are times when so much is going on in young people’s lives that they need structure and routine to help them get organised. Gentle reminders to pack lunches, take notices to school and even to dress appropriately can assist children when they are busy.

Make use of a check list when it all seems too much. Place a list of routine morning activities by a child’s bed and insist that it be checked before he or she goes to school. Lists are one way to help boys become better organised.
Clear away the clutter. A regular clean-up of desks and work areas can help children regain control of their environment.

Less is better. Encourage children and young people to bring home only the books that they will work on each night. Some children become overwhelmed when they have a bagful of books and they have difficulty knowing where to start.

Use a diary to plan ahead. Encourage your child to place homework, social and school events in a diary.

Regards,
Rod McKinlay
Principal

Avila College recently held its annual High Achievers Assembly which was attended by students, staff, parents, friends and "Year 12 2015" graduates.

Students from the 2015 cohort were recognised for their excellent academic results.

At Avila College, we appreciate that education is a life long journey that begins in primary school. Learning patterns and work ethics are established in the early days of a child's schooling and good habits are the hallmark of a good student.

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of the staff of Parkhill Primary School. They assisted Lauren Ramsey in achieving her best in VCE last year. She was acknowledged during the Avila College High Achievers Assembly and can now look forward to a very exciting future.

Louise Gunther
Principal
Avila College
Sunday 6th March was Clean Up Australia Day.

Parkhill Primary School was the meeting point for the Ashwood reserves cleaning site. It was a lovely sunny day with a good turn out of both Parkhill families and local community minded people.

Huge thanks to the Edwards family (Benji FT and Joe 2C) for picking up rubbish along the wetlands trail.

Also a special mention to the SLEDAA (Sri Lankan Engineering Diplomates Association Australia) group for coming in a big group to clean up the Ashwood netball courts, oval and wetlands (and sharing their delicious Sri Lankan delicacies).

As always Roger and his family were great helpers on the day. Huge thanks to you Roger – your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Here’s hoping for lovely weather and helpers again next year.

Katrina Watson – Science and Garden Teacher

TWILIGHT SPORTS

Tuesday 15th March 2016

Information on this event is included in the Principal’s Report.
A big welcome to the new PFA committee!

**President:** Vanessa Cowley  
**Vice President:** Donna Edwards  
**Treasurer:** Sumi Sundram  
**Secretary:** Wendy Douglas  
**General Members:** Katrina Battle, Joanne Dodds, Lisa Jacobsen, April Minniece and Anny Murray.

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### Calendar of events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th March</td>
<td>Raffle tickets and money due back to school office</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wrapping bee for Easter Raffle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 21st March</td>
<td>Hot Cross Bun orders due back</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Easter Raffle - Drawn at Assembly @2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th April 2.30pm</td>
<td>PFA Committee Meeting – Any parent is welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6th May 9.00am</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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### Co-ordinators Wanted!

We are still seeking co-ordinators for the PFA events in Term 2 - the Mother's Day Stall & Student Disco. Purchasing for the Mother's Day Stall is nearly done - we just need someone to co-ordinate the day! Mothers' Day Stall will run on Friday 6th May from 9.00am to approx. 11.30am. VolunteerSpot will be used to assist in coordination.

A 'How to' book is available which should cover all your questions and tell you *exactly* what you need to do. Contact a member of the PFA committee if you are interested in one of these satisfying roles!

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The end of term is weeks away and with it the annual Easter Raffle! We are still seeking donations of Easter confectionary from our wonderful school community in order to make this raffle a success. Please place any donations in the tub in the school foyer.

Don't forget to order your hot cross buns in time for Easter. Order envelopes were sent out last week with the students. $2.50 from every 6-pack ordered will be donated back to the school.

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Raffle tickets for the Easter Raffle are due back to the office with monies on Friday 17th March.
Reminder that all months of the year with an “R” are the months that students must wear hats.

Sick Bay First Aid Information: Note: Sick bay visits are notified to parents in the case of serious injury or illness. If a first aid note is sent home please remember to check with your child/ren the reason of the visit.

We have had reports this week of cases of the following medical issues:
- Gastro
- High Fever
- Head Lice - with school holidays coming up, a timely reminder to check and treat these pesky things before returning to school for Term 2.

Thank you to those who continue to support us in keeping children at home during times of illness or when they are feeling unwell.

2016 Calendar of Curriculum events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14 March</td>
<td>Public holiday—student free day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15 March</td>
<td>Twilight Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17 March</td>
<td>Foundation Beach excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 21 March</td>
<td>Soiree 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>Last day of Term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11 April</td>
<td>Curriculum Day—student free day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12 April</td>
<td>Curriculum Day—student free day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administration:
Thank you to those who have made the necessary changes to their children’s details for Tiqbiz and Canteen Orders. To keep up to date with classroom & school activities you must have the correct Year levels chosen.
- ‘Tick’ the correct Year on Tiqbiz for your child/ren’s 2016 classes.
- Change your child/ren’s Year on Flexi Schools & Classroom Cuisine.
- Account Payments - Please call the office before making any payments on your account.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Student of the Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
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<tr>
<td>FT</td>
<td>Jayda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Hamish</td>
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<tr>
<td>1K</td>
<td>Penny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Stephanie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Millie</td>
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<tr>
<td>2S</td>
<td>Campbell &amp; Isaac</td>
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<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Ronia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Pria &amp; Emerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Evelyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5H</td>
<td>Tom &amp; Pandelis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6S</td>
<td>Auson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Birthdays March

Rehan D
Liam H
Joshua H
Bowen C
Hafsa B
Sean R
Daniel W
Orlando T
Luke C
Fiona Y
Alexis R
Nyagoa K
Juod K
Xavier E
Norma-Jean S
Aston K
Thibo P
Akira H
Finn C
Anjali R
Isabel M
Caleb T
Addison G
Reuben G
Illias S
Edward T
Julia R
Lazar A
Lauren B
James L
Chaplain’s Corner

Being a parent isn’t always easy, sure it can be delightful at times, challenging and absolutely worth it but it is probably also the hardest thing I’ve ever done.

Recently I have become aware of just how judgemental parents can be. I would see a quirky child, that doesn’t fit the cookie cutter mould that society would like, then I would notice the effect that could have on their parents. It would really start to get them down, the name calling, the judgy looks and comments from other parents, the difficulties that child has in always doing what’s expected of him or her at school. So how do you overcome that?

Articles that tell you everything you might have done wrong since before they were born don’t help because you know what? Whether we got it right or wrong in the past we can’t go back there and change it, we can’t have a “do over”, we’ve only got now. It’s like that old saying; the best time to plant an apple tree was 20 years ago, the second best time to plant it is today. So focus on what you can do something about and let go of worrying about the things in the past you can’t change and stop beating yourself up over it. No parent gets it 100% right, no matter how amazing or well intentioned.

Realise there is no magic wand, parenting is hard work and takes perseverance. Keep on guiding, shaping, correcting. But also be wise enough to know when something is just quirky or when it might need a bit more targeted help. School staff can be a great resource having professional knowledge of and experience working with children, it can be easier for a teacher than a parent to identify that a child is doing something that’s not developmentally appropriate and where they might benefit from some additional help. As a staff, we are also well placed to know where to refer you to. If in doubt ask!

Two final things. The first, surround yourself with positive uplifting people that can see the best in you and your kids, there’s nothing like encouragement and positive perspective to help you realise you are actually doing a good job. It’s always lovely when someone else sees the positives in our children and strive to be an encourager of other people’s children as well as your own!

Secondly accept your children for who they are not who you think they should be. When I really stop and think about it some of my most favourite people on the planet are the ones who are comfortable in their own skin, they are not afraid to be who they are no matter how quirky and unique they may be and they make an incredible contribution to the world around them because of it. What a privilege to raise someone like that!

Suzanne Carmody
We are now able to send out Family Statements on a monthly basis to keep you informed of where you are at with your account.

The 2016 total fee amount for each child and any amount you may have already paid, is shown at the top of the statement.

As the top part of the system generated statement can be a little confusing, please refer to the bottom part for the ‘Amount Owing on individual items’

**Any negative amount showing on your statement is in credit against your child as shown and this amount is used toward class excursions when your signed permission is handed in.**

CSEF (Camps, Sports, Excursion Fund) for those who have submitted a form and are eligible to receive a payment, these are due in from the department shortly!

A reminder for those who chose the payment plan option with fees, that due to Department of Education and Training regulations we are not to keep credit card numbers on file.

We had asked that you do make your payments on the 15th of February, March, April & May or until **all fees are paid in full**.

**If you are unsure and have any questions please do call before making any payments to your account.**

**Important Notice**

Reminder: students bringing monies to school can place them directly into the class tub which is brought to the office each morning or payments can be dropped directly into the office letter drop-box located at the front office.

Reminder: Parents with children who may have medical issues are asked to advise the office immediately of any updates required.

Action Plans Forms are available at:


Mazz Higlett
Administration
In a pot in my garden..
By the pond with the fishes..
Is a flower that seems to like..
Spreading lots of wishes ...

TERM 1 Working Bee

Sunday 20 March 2016
10.00am – 1.30pm
* BBQ lunch supplied

Focus:
Prep/Foundation area
... Meet new families - “working” play date!

Many garden tools supplied, bring the Kids!
BYO - garden gloves & secateurs, karchers & blowers., plant donations welcomed.
Kinder Open Day
Sat 19th March
10am – 12noon

Positions available 4yo Long Day Kinder
4yo Long Day Kinder & Sessional Kinder
3yo Long Day Care with Kinder program

Ashwood Children's Centre Inc.
8 Yooralla St, Ashwood
Not for profit Kinder and Long Day Care Service. Tel: 9807 9417
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
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name: ____________________________ School REF ID: ____________________________

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname: ___________________________________________

First name: ___________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________

Town/suburb: ____________________________ State: __________ Postcode: __________

Contact number: ____________________________ Centrelink pensioner

- - - - - 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>
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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: ____________________________