Our Chalcot family back together again at last!

Huge thanks to the wonderful Cathy Bracegirdle, Mary Logan-Brown and community friends for making our vegetable garden look wizz-bang!
Welcome Back!!!!!!!!!!!

Welcome back everyone and a very special and warm welcome to all of our new prep students and other new students across the school. We are pleased that you are now part of our Chalcot family!

I’m very pleased to welcome new staff members Mr Rohan Suttie, who is teaching 3/4 RS and to Mrs Denise Conway, who joins our Integration Aide team. It’s great to be back with my Chalcot Family! The staff made very valuable use of our first three curriculum days, which were held last week. Tuesday 29th was allocated for organisation and management, induction, establishing committee membership & job roles and classroom preparation.

Assistant Principal, Paul Poliviou led the second curriculum day on Wednesday 30th, during which teachers analysed student achievement data in Mathematics and English in order to set up work groups for term 1.

Our other Assistant Principal, Monica Ghirxi, facilitated the third curriculum day, during which teachers delved into the new Australian Curriculum for English. By the time we arrived at Friday 1st of February, teachers were very happy to welcome their students and get back to the job they love.

Student Leaders Badge Assembly

Our student leaders for 2013 are:

**School Captains:** Angela Pavlovic & Christopher Hann

**School Vice Captains:** Hada Taufik Saleh & Caleb Pellowe

**Banksia Captains:** Brianna Ryan & Timothy Kranjec

**Banksia Vice Captains:** Christina Dournova & Peter Millaras

**Blue Gum Captains:** Natalie Nolder & Joshua Featherston

**Blue Gum Vice Captains:** Ishara Jayawardenena & Jacob Latrobe

**Eucalypt Captains:** Kodie Myszka & A.J. Samson-Kite

**Eucalypt Vice Captains:** Halema Ali & Michael Morgan

**Acacia Captains:** Natalie Fares & Jaysen Del Socorro

**Acacia Vice Captains:** Katelyn De Savery & Luke Bird

**Junior School Councillors:**

2 / 3AT: Cherie Hann & Connor Avery
3/4RS: Jacinta Vassilion & Tyler Studd
3/4DN: Olivia Phillips & Kaelen MacKinnon
5/6GP & AA (known as the ‘5/6 Launch Pad’): Stacey Chan, Skye Hargreaves, Serjey Mayrow, Timothy Kranjec & Zach Jounana-Helman

**ICT Leaders**

Thomas Myszka
Tommy Zhang
Christina Dournova
Stephanie Fares
Michael Morgan
Katelyn De Savery
Emily Van
Sebastian Stanciu

Badges will be presented to these student leaders during a special assembly to be held on Tuesday 19th February commencing at 2.30pm. A special afternoon tea will be held for these student leaders and their parents following the assembly.

Mr David Evans will again be coordinating the Peer Mediation Program and Peer Mediators for 2013 will be selected and trained over the coming weeks. A separate badge presentation assembly and afternoon tea will be held for them and their parents on Tuesday 19th March at 2.45. I will publish their names when they come to hand.

**Mobile Phones**

Students who bring mobile phones to school are obliged to hand them into the office prior to the 9am bell and they can collect them after the 3.30 dismissal bell. This policy avoids issues such as loss of or damage to expensive phones, interruptions and distractions during class time.

Parent Cookery Helpers Information Session

On Tuesday 12th February, Mrs Nicole Felton will hold an information session for parents who will be kindly volunteering to help with our Cookery Program. The session will be held in the Cookery & Etiquette Room from 9am until 10am. Please return the slip included in this newsletter if you will be attending.

**Uniform**

Wearing the school uniform, as approved by School Council, is mandatory for all students and nurtures a sense of belonging to the Chalcot family. Our uniform is comfortable, is very wash and wear, avoids any ‘trendy fashion competitions’ between students and works out much more economical over the year than if parents needed to purchase a range of other clothing items.

Just a reminder that, during terms 1 and 4, students must wear the approved Chalcot Lodge hat, which has the school’s logo printed on the front. Socks can be bottle green, white or grey and headbands, ribbons, scrunchies etc must be green and / or white.

In line with our Student Dress Code Policy, students are not allowed to wear jewellery to school with the following exceptions: a necklace of a religious nature which must be worn under clothing; a watch; stud or sleeper earrings; and medical bracelet. **NO other jewellery is allowed.**

Similarly, students are not allowed to wear any makeup, including nail polish, and hair must be of a natural colour: NO green or purple PLEASE!

Possible Stop Work Action

The Department is currently involved in enterprise bargaining with the Australian Education Union, the Community and Public Sector Union and United Voice in relation to their respective logs of claim covering employees in the executive class, the principal class, the teacher class, the paraprofessional class and the education support class. As part of their industrial campaigns, the unions have called on their members to stop work for 24 hours on 14 February, 2013. I will send a notice to all parents early next week to advise whether any classes or programs will be affected.

Kay Davies

Principal

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**Meet the Teacher Interviews**

Today, all families were sent a notice about the Meet the Teacher interviews being held Thursday 21st February, between 2.30pm and 8.00pm.

This is an opportunity for parents to touch base with the class teacher, to let them know more about their children and to receive an information handout about class rules, themes homework expectations etc. Confirmation of appointment times will be sent home on Tuesday 19th February.

Please contact your child’s class teacher on Monday if you did not receive the notice.

**Chalcot Achiever & Chalcot Legend Awards**

The names of the first recipients for 2013, of the Chalcot Achiever and Chalcot Legend awards, will be published in the Weekly on Friday 15th February and they will be presented with their certificates during the assembly on Tuesday 19th February, commencing at 3.30pm in the hall.

Those awarded a Chalcot Achiever Award during assemblies throughout the year, demonstrate excellent effort and personal improvement in an academic subject. Chalcot Legend Award recipients demonstrate one or more of our values such as cooperation, loyalty, getting along, respect, integrity and excellence.

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Monday 11th Feb PFA Meeting 7.30pm – Staffroom

Wednesday 13th Feb Finance Committee 3.45pm - Staffroom

Tuesday 19th Feb Assembly – Badge Presentation 2.30pm – Hall

Wednesday 20th Feb School Council Meeting 7.30pm – Staffroom

Thursday 21st Feb Meet the Teacher interviews 2.30pm – 8.00pm Classrooms

Thursday 28th Feb Chalcot Family Fun Night BBQ 6.00pm – 7.00pm Music & Family sport activities 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Monday 4th March PFA Meeting 7.30pm – Staffroom

Tuesday 5th March Assembly 2.45pm – Hall

Monday 11th March Labour Day Public Holiday No School

Tuesday 19th March Assembly – Peer Mediation Badge Presentation 2.45pm – Hall

Wednesday 20th March Assembly – Harmony Day 2.30pm – Hall

Friday 22nd March Working Bee 3.30pm – 5.00pm

UPCOMING INVISITS AND EXCURSIONS

Tuesday 13th Feb Swimming Trials – North Lodge

Monday 18th Feb Cookery & Etiquette lessons begin Permission form & $34 due by 14th Feb

Friday 22nd Feb District Swimming Selected students

Thursday 7th March Divisional Swimming Selected students

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS · CONTINUED

Emergency Closures on DEECD Website
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) website has recently been modified so that parents and carers can more readily access information about emergency closures of schools, early childhood facilities and bus services.

As of 1 January 2013, all information about closures and cancellations can now be viewed from the Department’s external website by clicking on the ‘Emergency Closures’ button at the bottom of the Department’s website home page: http://education.vic.gov.au

Be aware of Fire Conditions
People need to be aware of fire conditions including Fire Danger Ratings and Total Fire Bans and use common sense when travelling. There is a wealth of information available for people travelling for work or pleasure. This includes:
- visiting www.cfa.vic.gov.au
- phoning the Victorian Bushfire Information Line (1800 240 667)
- listening to ABC local radio
- watching SKY News television
- following the CFA on Twitter (@cfa_updates) and Facebook (/cfavic)
- downloading the FireReady app.

People are encouraged to check at least two sources of information before travelling and decide what to do in the event of an emergency before setting out

Join Us
The Parents’ and Friends’ Association, fondly known as the PFA, are holding their first meeting for the year on Monday, 11th February at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

The PFA is made up of a group of wonderful people from our school community who organise activities to raise funds to purchase items for our students and school that we otherwise could not afford.

Over the years, thanks to the PFA, many thousands of dollars of items have been purchased, such as the Cheer Squad skirts, sand pit toys, playground seats, class board games, House banners, sport equipment, Art resources, graduation bears, the school BBQ, junior playground game markings, marquee, chess board marking and giant chess pieces, sun awnings, the refrigerator for the cookery room and the list could go on and on!

Also, joining the PFA provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know more people and make new friends. The PFA usually enjoys a luncheon or dinner together at a local venue just for fun.

We would love to welcome new people to our happy PFA crew! We hope to see you there on Monday 11th February.

Monica Ghirxi & Paul Poliviou
Assistant Principals
**LISTERIA ALERT**

Victoria’s Chief Health Officer has warned against eating a number of Jindi and Wattle Valley brand soft cheeses sold at delis and independent supermarkets throughout Australia. The government reports eight cases of listeria infection and three other cases are possibly linked to the brie and camembert cheeses – all with a best before date of 21 December 2012.

Consumers are advised to avoid eating these cheeses: 1kg Jindi brie, 1kg Jindi camembert, 1kg Wattle Valley double brie, and 1kg Wattle Valley camembert.

Listeria infection is particularly dangerous for pregnant women, their unborn babies, elderly people and those with low immunity. Healthy people may only show mild symptoms of infection. However, people at risk may show early symptoms including fever, headache, tiredness, and aches and pains. Symptoms usually appear after about three weeks but can occur from three to 70 days.

Check the best before date of any Jindi or Wattle Valley soft cheese and discard or return it to the place of purchase for a full refund.

If you have purchased a cut portion of camembert or brie from a supermarket or deli and don’t know the brand, throw it out. For further advice, contact your local doctor, specialist, community health centre or maternal and child health nurse.

**CHALCOT VEGETABLE GARDEN**

Many thanks to the families and friends who helped care for our vegetable garden over the summer break. Mary Logan-Brown (AWESOME on the rotary hoe), Sherryn Jarrett, Dann Stamping, Bastian Bartholomew, Brock, Natasha Hicks, Maddison, Montana, Luke & Mason Darmanin and Ashleigh Boustead.

Particular thanks go to our lovely Chalcot neighbours, Ian & Marg Barker, who tirelessly weeded, trimmed, watered and nurtured our garden all throughout the summer. THANK YOU BOTH SO MUCH! We look forward to a happy and productive year in our Chalcot Lodge Vegetable Garden.

**FARMERS MARKET:** we have zucchini, cucumber & silver beet to share for a gold coin donation.

Cathy Bracegirdle

Vegetable Garden Co-ordinator

**UNIFORM SALES**

School uniform items can be purchased directly from the Beleza School Uniform Store at shop 7, 151 – 159 Princess Hwy, Hallam, phone 9702 3181. Mastercard, Bankcard and Visa are all accepted.

Beleza order forms are also available at the school office. When placing your order you will need to make payment to the school either by cash or by completing your credit card details on the order form. Beleza staff will then deliver your order to the school.

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**COOKERY & ETIQUETTE PROGRAM – Parent Helpers Information Session Reply**

- I am able to assist with the Cookery Program for the following class / classes: _____________________
- I will / will not be able to attend the Parent Helpers Information session on Tuesday 12th February at 9am in the Cookery & Etiquette Centre.

Parent’s Name: _______________________________ Date: __________________________

Parent’s Signature: __________________________