CHALCOT FAMILY FUN

Last Thursday there were games, dancing and all around fun under the oaks. Many thanks to the PFA for organising the BBQ and for paying for the Simpson Three band and to all of my Chalcot Family for making this another fabulous time together.

GO CHALCOT!

Congratulations to Christina Dournova, Campbell Newton & Jaysen Del Socorro who competed in the Divisional Swimming competition this week. I’m very proud of each of these students who proudly represented Chalcot Lodge. I’m very pleased to announce that Jaysen placed third in the butterfly event. Many thanks to our fabulous PE teacher Melissa Skewes for supporting these students in their endeavours.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2013 School Council
I wish to announce that the number of nominations for School Council were equal to the number of vacancies. Consequently the elected members of School Council include parent members: Noeline Ryan; Gabby McIntyre; Amy Mraz; Erick Del Socorro; Paul Newton; & Paul Coad and DEECD members: Monica Ghirxi, Paul Poliviu, Dean Napier & me. During the first meeting of this Council on Wednesday 20th March, a decision will be made in relation to the two co-opted positions.

Peer Mediators Badge Presentation
Peer Mediation is a social skills program which requires the training of selected senior students for the role which involves listening carefully to other students’ issues and assisting them with problem solving. Congratulations to the twelve Year 5 students who have trained as Peer Mediators for 2013. The students include Kodie Myszka, Brianna Ryan, Kaylee McPhail, Sharlize Moorhouse, Celina El Rayes, Elisha De Beyer, Emily Van, Katelyn De Savery, Kaitlyn Moore, Ishara Jayawardena, Jaysen Del Socorro and Luke Bird.
They will receive their badges at the School assembly on Tuesday March 19th at 2.45 in the hall and are invited to attend a special afternoon tea with their families in the cookery dining room. The Peer Mediators will be rostered during Terms 2 and 3 to be available to junior school students. They wear a fluoro coloured top so that they are highly visible within the school grounds. Our Peer Mediators are to be commended for their commitment to and care & compassion for their fellow Chalcot Family members.
Teacher David Evans has been co-ordinating this important program for many years and I sincerely thank him for the many lunch times during which he has worked with the peer mediators to ensure that the program runs smoothly.

2013 PFA Executive
On behalf of the Chalcot Family, I offer my thanks to the 2012 PFA Executive members, including President Noeline Ryan, Vice President Justine Bailey, Treasurer Gabby McIntyre and Secretary Lynne Coad. Without people like these who are willing to fill these important positions, we would not be able to have a PFA, and as you know, our school depends on the ongoing fundraising efforts of this committee to provide items for our students which we would otherwise be struggling to purchase; for example, PFA are generously contributing $8000 towards the cost of the junior hard court refurbishment. This week during the PFA Annual General Meeting, the Executive for 2013 was put in place. I am pleased to announce that Noeline Ryan has been re-elected as PFA President, Angie Boustead is the Vice President, Gabby McIntyre will continue as Treasurer and Sherryn Jarrett as Secretary.
Congratulations and best wishes to the office holders and to all the committee members and official helpers of the wonderful Chalcot PFA!

2013 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge
The new look 2013 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open. In 2012 over 118,000 students reached their reading targets with an amazing 4 million books being read by students participating in the Challenge. The Challenge promotes the importance of reading among students in Victorian schools and early childhood centres. The Challenge is also open to those who register as home-based readers and families, and parents are encouraged to be involved with their children’s reading both in and beyond school. The 2013 Challenge booklists have been expanded and cater for all types of interest, with fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, short stories and graphic novels included. Students may also read books in other languages. Students can be registered at: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc
The Challenge ends on 12 September, 2013. A copy of the Premier’s letter is attached.

Excursion & Invisits for 2013
A summary of proposed excursions and visits for 2013 and their approximate costs have been included in this newsletter. Whilst there may be some variations during the year, this information is provided to assist families with budgeting.

Please Support Our Vegie Garden
I hope our Chalcot family will be able to visit Cathy Bracegirdle, our Vegetable Garden coordinator and her team of helpers, at our Chalcot BBQ this Saturday at Dandenong Bunnings, Gladstone Road. All funds raised will be used to support our vegetable garden, which is a vital part of our Health and Cookery programs.

Your Opinion Please
Currently our PFA policy is under review. Your input is invited by using the return slip.

Kay Davies
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Mobile Phones at School
Just a reminder that students who bring mobile phones to school must leave their mobile phones at the front office and collect them after school. No mobile phones are permitted to be left in students’ bags, taken outside or left in classrooms. This is a School Council decision made to protect the interest of all students.

Absence Letters
It is a requirement of the Department of Education that when a student is absent, a letter explaining the absence is to be sent when the student returns to school. When a letter is received, it is noted on the department’s computerised attendance record and the letter is retained in school records. On occasions, parents phone the school to advise us that their child will not be attending school. While the phone call informs us, a letter when the child returns is still required to explain the absence.

Our Beautiful Grounds
The Department of Education provides some funds towards the cost of lawn mowing. We are extremely fortunate that we have excellent support of our families in contributing $20 to the grounds maintenance. This contribution fills the gap between the actual cost of the lawn mowing and the money provided by the government.
We have a maintenance man that works one day a fortnight and does a variety of general maintenance jobs around the school including gardening. As you can appreciate, maintaining the buildings and grounds of our school is very costly and an ongoing job. Although our grounds are kept looking neat and tidy most of the time, some of our garden beds do need attention again.
We would greatly appreciate anyone who would be able to come and assist with the general weeding of our garden. You know what they say ‘Many Hands Make Light Work’. If you have an hour to spare time during the day please bring along your gardening gloves and help out with some gardening.

Working Bee Friday 22nd March
We are holding a working bee on Friday 22nd March from 3.30pm – 5.00pm. The aim of this working bee is to tidy up the garden beds around the school. We do have some gardening tools, but it may be advisable for you to bring along your own, such as gloves, small shovel & forks, spade and secateurs etc. Light refreshments will be available in the staffroom at 5.00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Labour Day Holiday – Monday 11th March
We hope everyone has a great long weekend. See you all back at school on Tuesday.

Monica Ghirxi & Paul Poliviu
Assistant Principals
## DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Bunnings BBQ fund raiser (Vegetable Garden)</td>
<td>8.00am – 4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Assembly – Peer Mediation Badge Presentation</td>
<td>2.45pm – Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Assembly – Harmony Day</td>
<td>2.30pm – Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Co op AGM</td>
<td>7.00pm – Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>School Council AGM</td>
<td>7.10pm – Staffroom</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Council</td>
<td>7.30pm – Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
<td>3.30pm – 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1 – Assembly – Froggy Awards Early Dismiss</td>
<td>2.00pm – Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>2.30pm dismissal from classrooms</td>
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### UPCOMING VISITS AND EXCURSIONS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Kay’s farewell BBQ</td>
<td>4.00 – 5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>PFA Day Disco</td>
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### CHALCOT LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL – 5231

**KAY’S RETIREMENT BBQ – Tuesday 26th March, 2013**

Child’s Name: ____________________________  Class: ____________

The __________________________________ family will be attending Kay’s retirement BBQ

Number of people attending: _____________  Halal Sausages: Yes / No

Signed: ___________________________________  Date: ______________

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**Chalcot Lodge Primary School**

**‘PFA’ Policy – Comment Slip**

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

**SIGNED:** ___________________________  **Date:** ____________

**Name:** ____________________________  **Phone Number:** __________
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.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE
Morning: 7.30am – 8.45am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian Public Holidays. Permanent: $15.00 Casual: $15.00. Breakfast is provided until 8.00am.
Afternoon: 3.30pm – 6.00pm Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian Public Holidays. Afternoon snack and drink provided. Permanent: $19.00 Casual: $19.00
Homework and outside play is part of the daily schedule.
We provide cereal for breakfast and fresh fruit for afternoon tea. The program plan is flexible and weather dependent! We would welcome you to come in and join the fun!
For enquiries or further information please call: Cherie (morning), George (afternoon) please contact during sessions times on 0400 194 859.

COMMUNITY NEWS
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT – PRODUCT RECALL
A product recall has been issued for Koala Popcorn Chicken by Food Standards Australia New Zealand. Koala Popcorn Chicken Flavour with a best before date up to and including 07/07/13 should be returned to the place of purchase. If you require further information, contact Food Recalls at Food Standards Australia New Zealand on 02 6271 2222.

AUTUMN 2013 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Extend Before & After School Care is available from Tuesday 2nd April – Monday 15th April. For timetables, activity descriptions and to enrol visit: extend.com.au or phone 1300 366 437. Bookings close Friday 15th March.

MOONLIT SANCTUARY EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Young Ranger Program – Environmental activities, native animal care, fun and games during Autumn 2013. Wednesday 3rd, Friday 5th, Monday 8th, Wednesday 10th, Friday 12th, April from 10.00am – 3.00pm.
Cost: $39.00 per day, or $105 for 3 days. Bookings are essential, suitable 7-14 years.
Moonlit Sanctuary, 550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale Ph. 5978-7935 Web: www.moonlit-sanctuary.com
Open daily between 10am and 5pm

ALWAYS UNIQUE
The goal of this consultation is to discuss issues and ideas focused on initiating our potential support group ‘Always Unique’, in supporting parent/carers of adolescent children with an ASD.
Date: Wednesday, 13 March 2013
Time: 5pm to 6.30pm
Where: Merri Community Health Services, 21 Victoria St Coburg 3023 RSVP: 6/3/2013
Ph: Alice Gainger, Team Leader Disability Program 03 9495 2519 or AliceG@mchs.org.au
Guest speakers and light refreshments provided.

STEPS
Making Stepfamilies Work is a program specifically for couples either in a step or blended family, or considering forming one.
Aims
• To explore challenges unique to stepfamilies
• To explore step-family issues like child discipline, past histories, divided loyalties
• To share and acknowledge experiences with other couples in a stepfamily
• Emphasis is place on strengthening the couple relationship

Dates Saturdays (fortnightly) 20 April, 4 & 18 May 2013
Time 10.00am - 3.00pm Lunch, morning and afternoon tea is provided
Venue Windermere Child and Family Services, 48 Webb Street, Narre Warren
Cost $90.00 per couple total cost (if paid in advance) Or $35.00 per session per couple (payable at each session)

BERWICK YOUTH CHOIR
Why join the Berwick Youth Choir?
• It provides a fun and educational environment for kids aged 5 to 20
• It has a strong musical training program
• Affordability and great value for money
• Concerts, Workshops, Camps and Tours.
The Berwick Youth Choir rehearses at St Andrew’s Uniting Church, Berwick.
www.berwickyouthchoir.com.au Phone 0408 515 699

Primrose Hill Close, Endeavour Hills 3802. Telephone 9700 4455
chalcot.lodge.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website Address: www.chalcotps.vic.edu.au