15th February 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Tomorrow 31 students will represent our school at the Altona District School Sports Association Swimming Carnival at the Werribee Outdoor Pool. Most of these children were selected at trials conducted after our swimming program last year, and some in trials this year. Each year we seem to put in a stronger team. One wonders whether this is the result of us introducing whole school swimming some three years ago. We wish them all the very best, and know that they will try their best and do themselves, their school and their parents proud. Thank you to Mr. Maisey for his work on team selections and to the many parents who also helped out with selections, and to those attending tomorrow.

Thank you to the parents who have lodged their school council nomination form at the front office. Nominations are open until Wednesday of this week. If we receive more nominations than places, we will conduct a ballot to determine the successful candidates. Please stay tuned for further information.

In the coming weeks, we will again be hosting a contingent of university students from Nagoya Women’s University in Japan as they experience school life in Australia. A very big thank you to those families who are hosting these students over this time. Remember, Japanese Cultural Day is fast approaching. Students are welcome to come dressed in a costume that represents Japan, from as simple as a white t-shirt with a red circle, to more flamboyant costumes if parents so wish.

Last week, I placed a number of reminders in the newsletter for parents. Thank you for cooperating with us on those issues. One that can cause issue is our school uniform. Please remember that our uniform is compulsory, and no additions are to be made to it such as black tights, colourful stockings or jewellery. Although not compulsory, it is highly recommended that long hair be tied back and if your child is out of uniform please simply provide a note, or email the school. Please also remember to label your child’s uniform in multiple places, and when washing it please check the names to make sure your child has not brought home someone else’s clothing.

Parents please note that March 14 and 15 are student free days. The 14th is a public holiday and as has been the case for several years now, the day after a public holiday is a pupil free day for staff professional learning. On this day, we are very fortunate to have Lee Crockett presenting to our. For those unfamiliar with Lee, he is the founder of the Global Digital Citizen Foundation and our partner in developing our fluencies model of 21st century inquiry. Parents may remember inquiries such as those about endangered animals, litter-bugs and obesity fighters. For those unfamiliar, you may choose to follow this link to see case studies by our staff on Lee’s GDCF website https://globaldigitalcitizen.org/case-studies

Simon McGlade
Principal

www.newportgardenps.vic.edu.au : email: newport.gardens.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Ph: 93912168 : Fax: 9391 8979
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following students:

Troy Hotere-Moana, Oliver Deblank, Grace Tinham, Lillian Smith, Zachary Collyer, Seth Polson, Elyse Rider, Bonnie Robinson & Dakota Price.

We hope you all have a wonderful day.

JAPANESE CORNER

Jerabek 先生の日本のコーナー！

Valentine’s day is also celebrated in Japan on the 14th of February, but with one difference – the girls are the ones to give the gifts! Girls normally make home-made chocolates to give to their Valentines, but on March the 14th or ‘White Day’, boys make or buy gifts to give to the girls!
PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:
For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

CLOSING DATES:
PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO LODGE THE APPLICATION FORM BY 29TH FEBRUARY 2016.
FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE.
Sushi Lunch Day
Thursday 3rd March

Dear Parents,

As part of our **Japanese Cultural Day** our school is offering a special Sushi Lunch on **Thursday 3rd March**.

Cost **$3.00** per sushi roll.

Options available: Tuna, Chicken, Avocado and Plain rice in a nori roll.

**Sushi Lunch Order Form**

Student Name ..........................................................

Grade.........Teacher’s Name ...........................................

Quantity

☐  Tuna Roll @ 3.00 $

☐  Chicken Roll @ 3.00 $

☐  Avocado Roll @ 3.00 $

☐  Plain Rice in a nori Roll @ 3.00 $________

**Total** $________

Note: Cash only please (correct amount required)

Please return your order by
Thursday 25 February 3pm

**Sorry late orders not accepted**
NOTICES

MEDICATION

Reminder to all parents who’s children need Asthma Plans, Anaphylaxis Plans or Allergy Plans or any other medication to please bring them in ASAP. Please drop them off at the office or give them to the classroom teachers.

Thank You

Basketball Umpire Required

Dear Parents,

We are seeking an experienced basketball player with a valid working with children check to umpire our inter-school sport program each Friday for term 1. Sessions will begin Friday 12th February and will run from 9 am to 11 am.

All inquiries to the front office or contact us on 03 9391 2168.

Your help is much appreciated.

Thank You.
Newport Power Football Club would like to invite boys and girls from Newport and surrounds to
Junior Football Club Registration Day and Pre-Season Kick Off on Sunday February 21 from 10am to 12pm.

It will be an opportunity to meet the coaches, participate in some skills clinics and ask any questions you may have. Registration can be completed online ahead of this day. More information about this day and the registration link can be found on Newport Powers TeamAPP https://newportpowerfootballclub.teamapp.com.

For any further queries please contact:
David Grubits - administrator@newportpowerjfc.com.au OR 0411 659 140

Newport Power Junior Football Club will be accepting registrations for teams in the following age groups - Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13, Under 14, Under 15, Under 17, Girls Youth Team

We look forward to seeing you at the home of Newport Power
Bryan Martyn Oval 40-58 Market St, Newport VIC 3015

REMINDER - STUDENT BANKING

REMINDER

Student Banking is now available each Wednesday ..
Welcome to all the new families who have commenced at Newport Gardens Primary School in 2016 and welcome back to all the other families. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer holidays!! What a massive year 2015 was for Parents Club, I hope you and your children enjoyed being part of all the activities as much as the members enjoyed organizing them. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered last year. Last week the new executive members of the Parents club were appointed and if you missed it in last week’s newsletter here they are again.

President - Fiona Kay
Secretary - Nicole Polson
Treasurer - Penny Lewis

It is very exciting to have new members bringing new ideas to Parents Club!! This year Parents Club are trying out a new structure which involves individuals or small groups of parents organizing a specific event with the executive members there for support and guidance. Already we have had several parents volunteer to organize the 2 events we are running in term 1 which is fantastic!! With this new structure we hope to reduce the time and effort put in from the same groups of parents and endeavor to share the work load throughout the year. If you are interested in helping out with any event through the year whether it is organizing it or simply volunteering on the day please email me at: bfirvine@yahoo.com.

Term 1 Parent Club activities: Volunteers needed!!
- Sushi Lunch Thursday 3rd March (contact: Bec Bohnsack - becbohnsack@gmail.com)

- Easter Raffle drawn at Assembly 21st March (contact: Holly Melisi - hollymelisi@customerrevolution.net.au )

LIBRARY HELPERS
- Mondays from 2.30-3pm (just turn up to the Library)

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAYS:
- Contact Dale Fincke. email lindalefincke@yahoo.com
With so many families new to our school, and after a long summer break, it is probably a good time to remind our community of some of the processes of the school that help us all work together. Below is a list, and as you will see, most relate to student safety. Please read through the bullet points, and if you have any queries please ask your child’s classroom teacher.

♦ Our school car-park is for staff only. Parents are kindly requested not to enter the car-park or to use it as a thoroughfare. Students are not permitted in the car-park at anytime. Parents picking up or dropping off are asked to use the pedestrian gate next to the car park.

♦ School uniform is compulsory for all students. Please do not add items such as coloured tights to our very smart uniform. Everything from the waist up should have the school logo on it. This includes polo t-shirts, jumpers, windcheaters, jackets and hats. Students wearing headscarves are asked to wear the school colours of navy blue, turquoise, orange or white. Tights should be white or navy blue only. Students should not be wearing any form of make-up or have coloured or outlandish hairstyles and the only jewellery worn should be a watch and sleepers or stud ear-rings. If there is a cultural or religious significance to an item of jewellery, an exemption can be granted.

♦ Our bike enclosure is available for students bringing bikes or scooters to school. Students doing so must wear an approved helmet to and from school with the helmet clipped on before leaving the school grounds. Skate-boards, roller-blades, street shoes with wheels in them, or other wheeled devices are not to be brought to school. The bike enclosure is not locked after 3:00pm, so all bikes should be removed accordingly.

♦ At 8:45am a bell will sound alerting students in grades 4, 5 and 6 that they can bring their netbook into their classroom and place it away as per the expectations of their class. Students in grades Prep, 1, 2 and 3 are to remain outside until their teacher escorts them in at 8:50am. Parents are requested to remain outside of the main building and portables until the 8:50am bell in the mornings, and until the 3:00pm bell in the afternoons. We do aim to keep the hallways clear both in the mornings and the afternoon, and your cooperation is appreciated.

♦ This year, due to our increased enrolment, lunch orders will be available every day. However in an effort to avoid large numbers on any given day, we are requesting students in:
  - Grade 5 and 6 order their lunch on Monday;
  - Grade 3 and 4 order their lunch on Tuesday;
  - Grade 2 order their lunch on Wednesday;
  - Grade 1 order their lunch on Thursday; and
  - Preps order their lunch on Friday.
Of course if this doesn’t suit, you can always place an order on any day of the week and it will be filled. However if at all possible, and if it doesn’t make any difference to your home routine, please try and order on the days listed above to ensure your child’s lunch order is correct and delivered in a timely fashion.

♦ Homework goes out to students in the second week of each term. Homework is compulsory at Newport Gardens, and all students are expected to complete it. A homework matrix is devised by each team for every term reflecting the work being done in the classrooms. A letter explaining the general expectations for the school is also placed on the school’s website. Details regarding individual tasks should be directed to the classroom teacher.

♦ The yard is supervised from 8:40am each morning until school commences at 8:50am. The yard is also supervised from 3:00pm until 3:10pm each afternoon. Students should not be in the yard without an adult prior to, or after these times. Parents needing assistance outside of these times are encouraged to use OSH Club.

♦ From time to time, issues arise where parents seek clarification on certain issues or incidents. The first port of call in these circumstances is always the classroom teacher. If parents are not satisfied with the outcome, they can discuss the issue with the Team Leader for their child’s grade level. If they are still concerned they can meet with one of the two Assistant Principals—Mr. Buckingham for issues relating to grades Prep-2, or Mrs. Evans for issues relating to grades 3-6 and specialists. Failing all of this, parents are welcome to make an appointment with the principal to discuss the matter further.
Creating good study and work habits in secondary school

Here are seven healthy and strong study habits that will serve your young person well throughout their school years and their lives.

1. Establish a thorough homework process
   Doing the homework is one thing, but there are many steps in the process before handing an assignment in. Encourage your young person to:
   - Write down an assignment when it's given orally
   - Ask the teacher clarifying questions if he doesn’t understand anything
   - Use a planner or some other organiser to plan his or time
   - Place his homework in a designated place as soon as it is finished.

2. Establish a Study Zone at home
   Choose a consistent study or homework space that’s conducive to working. Encourage your young person to stick to this space. Some young people need absolute quiet when doing homework, while others work better with soft music. Contrary to the opinions of many teens, studies consistently show that loud music and/or TV are highly distracting to students. Don’t let your young person develop the habit of working in bed as this will make it difficult to go to sleep. Keep work and sleep spaces separate.

3. Establish a regular study time
   The establishment of a consistent and specific time to do homework has been linked to academic success. Help your young person work out the best time for him or her to crack the books – before or after dinner, or both. Encourage your young person to take regular breaks to keep their brain alert. Every hour – or whenever she feels frustrated or angry – she should get up and walk around, get a snack and let her brain recover.

4. Establish a way to stay organised
   Getting organised reduces stress levels and improves the chance of success. Consider a colour-coding system to keep assignments organised by selecting a single colour for each class (like science or history). Use that colour for that subject’s folder, highlighters, sticky notes, etc. The colours will not only keep your teen organised but will also enhance his or her recall of the subject.

5. Establish good time management skills
   The best way to help your young person organise their time is to use a large wall calendar so they can jot down study, leisure, family and other activities. The visual nature of the wall calendar will enable you as a parent to help them stay on track as well.

6. Eliminate time robbers
   Many teens work inefficiently wasting time on mobile devices and other activities. Help your teen recognise time robbers and eliminate them so they can finish homework quickly and have more time to do other things.

7. Conduct a regular extracurricular audit
   Take a hard look at your young person’s overall time commitments. Help them reprioritise their commitments if much of their time and energy is taken up with a part-time job, extracurricular activities, and their social lives. While it’s important that young people have interests outside school, it’s equally important that these commitments don’t overwhelm or impact negatively on their study.

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.