A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

What a pleasure this morning’s assembly was with our school captains as masters of ceremony. This will be the new format for assembly with a greater emphasis on students and staff contributions, which is fantastic. Our student leaders did a marvellous job and I have no doubt they will grow into fine young leaders with these sorts of experiences over the course of the year.

Tomorrow is our much anticipated Japanese Cultural Day and it looks to be a cracker! We will start the day with a parade in a slightly different format to previous years. This will be followed by 5 different activities including sumo wrestling in giant sumo suits for our older students. This is then followed by a sushi lunch thanks to our wonderful Parents’ Club, and to top it all off a karate demonstration to conclude the day. Parents are most welcome to come along and enjoy the day with their children.

Last week the 2014 school council met for the last time. Three positions on council became vacant for parents to nominate for. Council positions are for two years with nominations now being sought. Attached to this newsletter are two types of nomination forms, one is a self-nomination form and the other form is used to nominate a third person. The nomination process is open for two weeks, with all nominations due no later than close of business, Monday March 16th with the first meeting of the new council scheduled for the following night at 6:30pm.

If more nominations are received than there are places, an election will be held. If we receive the same number of candidates as places, the candidates are elected onto the council for a two year term and if there are insufficient nominations, we will extend the timeline and seek additional interested persons. Also in this newsletter is an explanation of what school council does at a school, and also importantly what it does not do. Please read through these prior to nominating or accepting a nomination so you are clear on the role itself.

Later this week, Richard Buckingham and I will be attending the Hobsons Bay Principals’ Network Conference in Lorne. The theme of this conference is ‘Developing Self & Others – Maximising the Potential of our Schools’. This conference is attended by most of the principals and assistant principals in the municipality of Hobsons Bay. It’s a great opportunity to network with colleagues in neighbouring schools and focus on continual improvement in our schools. If parents have any concerns during our absence in the second half of this week, they are free to contact the Team Leader for their child’s respective learning community. Preps—Amanda Morgan, Junior School—Tracey Thain, Middle School—Danielle Bobel, Senior School—Theodora McGlade and specialist programs—Marielle Caruana.

Thank you to those parents who have been making the effort to write notes or send emails explaining their child’s absence from school. Some of you may have received ‘Student Absence Letters’ last week asking for an explanation for an absence that has occurred, for which we have yet to receive notification. These can be returned to your child’s classroom teacher and thank you once again for your cooperation.

A reminder that next Monday is a public holiday and the Tuesday is a pupil free day. We look forward to seeing you all back from a four day break on Wednesday March 11th.

Simon McGlade
Principal
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

GROWTH: Oliver Saltau, Lachlan Prideaux, Taaj Assafiri, Iman Abdi, Izzah Barakat & Yashi Saxena.


HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to:
Kristian Morgan & Amelia Cahill.
We hope you both have a wonderful day.

STUDENT BANKING

Dear Parents,
Please Note that the Student Banking has resumed.
Please remember Student Banking is on Wednesdays only.
Thank You
What is the function of school council?

- Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school's community
- Participate in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- Develop, review and update school policies
- Develop, review and monitor the Student Engagement Policy and the School Dress Code
- Raise funds for school-related purposes
- Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
- Maintain the school’s grounds and facilities
- Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)
- Report annually to the school community and to DEECD
- Generally stimulate interest in the school in the wider community

School council does not...

- Manage the school
- Employ ongoing teaching staff with no fixed date for termination
- Represent sectional interests
- Renew the principal’s contract or hire and fire the school principal
- Determine class allocations
- Discuss individual issues between teachers and students and/or parents
- Purchase land or buildings
- Enter into hire purchase agreements or obtain credit or loan facilities, unless authorised by the Minister

Who is on school council?

- There are 3 categories of membership:
  - Parent members
  - DEECD employee members
  - Community (co-opted) members (optional)
- School councillors are elected for a two-year term
- Terms, rights and responsibilities of community members are the same as those of elected councillors

School council subcommittees

- School councillors would normally sit on at least one subcommittee
- Sub-committees might include:
  - Finance
  - Environment/grounds/facilities/buildings
  - Educational policy
  - Community liaison/community building/community relations
  - Other – e.g. outside school hours care, canteen

What is the role of school council members?

- All school councillors need to respect other members’ opinions AND support and uphold all council decisions
- Parent members bring expertise and views to council on behalf of the whole school community
- DEECD members bring educational expertise and views to council on behalf of the whole school community
- Community representatives tend to bring individual expertise to assist council in specific decisions

What is the workload?

- School council must meet at least 8 times in each year, and at least once per school term
- Meetings should be restricted to approximately 2.5 hours duration at most
- In many schools, all school councillors are expected to sit on at least one subcommittee
- Subcommittees generally meet at least twice each term
School Council Elections
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the

.......................................................................................................................... school council.

Name:

..........................................................................................................................

Residential address:

..........................................................................................................................

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

..........................................................................................................................

Email:

..........................................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of .........................................................., who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development but not engaged in work at and for the school

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

- an undischarged bankrupt
- of unsound mind
- currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
- a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate  .................................................................................. Date  ........... / ........... / ...........

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal Information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATION FORMS

School Council Elections
Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate ____________________________________________ for an elected position as a parent member on the
__________________________________________________________ school council.

CANDIDATE'S DETAILS
Name
Residential address

Contact phone (mobile or landline)
Email

I am the parent/guardian of ________________________________________, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of ________________________________________, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development but not engaged in work at and for the school.
Yes / No (please circle)
Name of Nominator ___________________________________________

Signature of Nominator __________________________________ Date ___________ / ___________ / ___________

CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE:
I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:
• an undischarged bankrupt
• of unsound mind
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence
• a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate __________________________________ Date ___________ / ___________ / ___________

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal Information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate and to nominate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

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You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on ___________.

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
University of New South Wales ICAS Tests

Application/permission forms for ICAS tests have been distributed today to all students from Years 2-6. Newport Gardens Primary School are pleased to be participating again in the Science, Mathematics and English assessments. We would love to see as many participants as possible, especially in our Middle and Senior Learning Communities. Last year our Year 2s led the way with their participation. Assessments are $8.80 each and money/notes should be returned to your child’s classroom teacher. All money and notes MUST be returned to school by Friday 20th March.

Tests will take place from 9.00am on each of the test days for those who have entered. Test days are as follows:

Science: Wednesday 3rd of June  
English: Tuesday 28th of July  
Mathematics: Tuesday 11th August

I encourage everyone to have a go and enter. Those who partake should brush up on their general Science, English and Mathematics skills. A useful place to begin is the ICAS website where practice tests are available.

www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Richard Buckingham  
Assistant Principal

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ICY POLE FRIDAYS ARE BACK

Every Friday there will be Icy Poles for sale for $1.00 for all students to purchase.

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NOTICES

PREP PARENTS

If you would like to be included on the Prep Parent Contact List, please forward the following details through to becbohnsack@gmail.com:

- Child’s Name
- Parent’s names
- Email Address
- Contact Number/s

Thank You  
Rebecca Bohnsack

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WYNcity Bowl Point Cook

FREE Birthday Party Offer

Book a Birthday Party for 12 or more children and the birthday child is FREE!

All Parties include: party food, invitations & lolly bag with either tenpin bowling or laser tag.

Party Price pp:
1 game $19.90; 2 games $26.90

Booking must be made by 31/3/15.

Present coupon when redeeming this offer.
LUNCH ORDER MENU AND PRICE LIST

PARENTS, Please find new Lunch Order Menu for 2015 below. Menu has also been emailed and hard copies distributed through your child’s grade. Menu is also available on the school’s website http://www.newportgardensps.vic.edu.au/42-for-parents/61-school-uniform-and-lunch-order-menu

When ordering lunches please use this menu and disregard any others you may have at home.

Thank you.

Routleys

* Please write your child name and class clearly on a paper bag with the items they have requested for lunch.
* Please enclose the correct money.
* Sauce portions are .20c each & will not be included unless they are listed on the bag.
* Sandwiches are made on white bread without margarine unless otherwise requested.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hot Food</th>
<th>Cakes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Party Pies</td>
<td>Baby Custard Tarts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gluten free Pie</td>
<td>Small Cup Cakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>Chocolate or Strawberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage Roll</td>
<td>Pink Yo-Yo’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach &amp; Ricotta Roll</td>
<td>Coffee/Apple Scrolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wise Plain Pie -complies with 'Go For Your Life' Vic. School Recommendation</td>
<td>Fruit Muffins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Vegetable Paste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Meat Paste</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizza Slice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches, Rolls &amp; Wraps</th>
<th>Drinks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Tender wrap with lettuce &amp; mayo (optional cheese extra 30 cents)</td>
<td>Big M Chocolate or Strawberry (250ml)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad wrap - grated cheese, lettuce, carrot &amp; tomato (optional mayo)</td>
<td>Pop-Top Berri Juices – Apple, Orange or Multi-V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>Bottled Water (300ml)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Vegemite</td>
<td>Bottled Water (600ml)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetemite</td>
<td>Vegemite &amp; cheese scrolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>Cheese &amp; bacon rolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn Beef</td>
<td>Pieces of fruit – apple or banana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roast Beef</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salami</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extras – 50 cents each</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato – Lettuce – Carrot – Cucumber – Onion – Beetroot – Cheese (Cheddar or Tasty) (4 or more only $1.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gluten Free Bread no extra – please specify</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JAPANESE CULTURAL DAY

Coming up on the 3rd March is our Japanese Cultural Day!
It will be a dress up day with many fun Japanese inspired activities for all students.
Parents will be welcome to watch the dress up parade and also partake in the activities.
Reminder...

Our Japanese Cultural Day is Tuesday the 3\textsuperscript{rd} of March

Students are encouraged to dress in something that represents the Japanese culture.

Some suggestions for costumes are: a kimono, a ninja or taekwondo/karate outfit (no swords or weapons please), Hello Kitty, Pikachu, or simply a white t-shirt with a red circle to represent the Japanese flag (or just red and white colors!).

Parents are welcome to come along to the costume parade at around 9am on Tuesday morning.

Be creative!
BOOKCLUB

**Scholastic Book Club Issue 2**

Order forms for Issue 2 have been distributed to your child's classroom. All Orders are due back to the Office via classroom teacher by **Monday 16th March**.

Additional brochures for other year levels (Wombat, Arrow, Lucky and Star) are available at the Office in the brochure holder (outside sick bay room).

Parent payments and orders can be made via Scholastic new system LOOP. Please refer last page of brochure and follow on line instructions.

All Orders help to create Scholastic Rewards which the School can utilise to purchase new books and additional classroom items.

Please ensure student Name and Grade are clearly marked on all forms.

Thank You.

FROM THE PARENTS’ CLUB

Newport Gardens Primary School Parent Club News
President – Fiona Kay, bfirvine@yahoo.com, 0418 572 807
Vice President – Justine Flaherty, justineflaherty@optusnet.com.au,
Secretary - Gretchen Szabat, gszabat@gmail.com, Treasurer –Melanie Coca, admel1@optusnet.com.au

A RED Parents Club Communication Box has been set up across from the main office; please feel free to use this as a way of communicating with us.

PLENTY TO BE INVOLVED IN!!!

**SUSHI LUNCH ORDERS AND PARENT HELPERS:**
Japanese Cultural day is this Tuesday the 3rd of March. Help has been requested for classroom activities after the parade from 9.45am-1.15pm ish (you must have a working with children’s check for this)
Help also required to pack the sushi lunch at 11.30 in the kitchen. (no WWCC required)

**LIBRARY HELPERS:**
This volunteer program runs every Monday from 2.30-3pm to reshelving books and complete any Teacher Task Tubs. If you would like to help out please email Lorraine Cahill - lorrine17@optusnet.com.au or just meet us in the Library

**FRESH FRUIT FRIDAYS:**
This year’s program is up and running and coordinated by Dale Finke. If you would like to help cutting fruit and arranging platters on a Friday please email lindalefincke@yahoo.com

**EASTER RAFFLE:**
The Easter Raffle will be drawn at assembly on the 23rd March. Donations can now be made and placed on the trestle table outside the conference room. Ideas include: CHOCOLATE (of course), Wine, Easter themed stuffed toys, Easter stickers, colouring books, pencils/stationary. Raffle ticket books will go out to families this Friday 6th March and are due back Friday 20th March. Help required this Thursday after drop off to collate ticket booklets.