

Patchwork News

Friday 10th February Term 1 Issue 1

Telephone: 9756 7463 Fax: 9752 0211 OSHC: 9756 7463 / 0419 515 494

Email: the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Website: www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Dates to Remember

February

Mon 13th	School Council – Nominations close 4pm
Mon 13th	Yr 1-6 Parent information night
Grade 1	4:00 – 5:00pm
Grade 2 and 3	5:00 – 6:00pm
Grade 4	6:00 - 7:00pm
Grade 5 and 6	7:00 – 8:00pm
Wed 15th	Prep Picnic after school
Wed 15th	School Council candidates posted
Mon 20th	School Council meeting
21st & 22nd	Yr1-6 Get to know you interviews (Afternoon/Evening) booking information TBA Tuesday 14th
Mon 27th	Community Morning Coffee 9am

March

Sat 4th	Working Bee 10am -1pm
Mon 13th	No School - Public Holiday (Labor Day)
13th – 17th	Worrabinda Camp – selected students
Mon 20th	School Council
Wed 22nd	Japanese Visit
Sat 25th	Plastic Bag Free – flash mob filming
Mon 27th	Yr 6 Reach Rookies
Fri 31st	End of term, pick up 2:30pm

Welcome back
everyone!

REMINDER:

The permission forms sent out via email last week are due back, this included:

- *Image Permission*
- *Extreme FDR days*
- *Local excursion*
- *Internet & email code of practice*
- *SMS contact update (if required)*

Thank you to those who have already returned them.

From the Principal...

Thought for the week: The only limit to our realisation of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Franklin D Roosevelt

Principal's email: herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

We have settled in well to our second week of learning, and are looking forward to seeing you at the Information Night and Getting to Know You Interviews. The Years 1, 4, 5 & 6 information sessions will be held in the library and Year 2/3 in the 2/3 classrooms. If you have little ones coming there will be books to read in the library and games available to keep them occupied. The information book for each year level will be available online and also emailed out on Tuesday 14th February. The Prep Picnic will be held this coming Wednesday afternoon, after school.

Included in this newsletter is the Yarra Ranges Australia Day newspaper article featuring Sarah, our School Council President, receiving her citation award which was read as she received her certificate of Recognition Award for Community Leadership. It was an honor and a pleasure to be present at these awards this year to see Sarah receive her award and hear the variety of achievements from across the Yarra Valley. Of particular interest was one of our ex-students, Alex Maisey, now doing his PhD, receiving his award for Environmental Achiever of the Year and the grandmother of Natasha in Year 6 receiving her certificate of Recognition Award for Community Leadership and her tireless work with the CFA.

As indicated in the message emails last week we have been included in the "upper cohort" of schools in regard to bushfire risk and will close on days where the Fire Danger Rating is declared Extreme or Code Red. Please note this change in our emergency management procedures.

We sent out a reminder to families yesterday about Total Fire Ban days. If your child usually walks to the store or home, they need to be picked up from school on these days unless you have provided signed consent to walk home. If this consent was provided in Term 4 last year, it covers your children for the whole fire session till the end of Term 1 2017.

Thank you to the parents who phoned through for clarification - it has highlighted the need to identify the type of message we send and the importance of using URGENT to identify when immediate action is required. We are now going to have the precursor TPPS: and then the type of message – URGENT, REMINDER or INFORMATION - prefacing our SMS. This will give clear indication of what is needed from you.

URGENT we need your immediate action and attention e.g. emergency situation, power outage at school, CODE RED or EXTREME fire danger day

REMINDER please note and act accordingly

INFORMATION letting you know of a situation e.g. accident on the road, tree down

Please ensure that you have provided and signed all information that needs to be updated and if you didn't receive these emails please let us know. This information will also be available in hard copy at the information evenings.

We will be having an emergency practice of re-locating to the Hall with children from Year 1 – 6 in the next 2 weeks. Our purpose will be to identify that our procedure works in the event of an incident. I am confident we will continue to meet our current record of 9 minutes. In the next month we will also be undertaking a drill as a whole school - Kinder to Year 6. Please familiarise yourself with the classroom emergency management process that we have displayed in every room and also in this newsletter.

Deb

CLASSROOM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

In the event of an **EMERGENCY** the following plan will be used:

- 1/** An announcement will be made explaining Lockdown/Lockout/Evacuation details.
- 2/** Message will be repeated
- 3/** P.A Siren will sound

One Continual Siren:

Evacuate to Hall

Siren with Two-Second Intervals:

Evacuate to Oval

Procedure:

On hearing siren:

- a) Teacher will collect attendance roll and Emergency Management Plan folder
- b) Check adjoining withdrawal areas
- c) Close windows and turn lights off as you leave
- d) Assemble children in an orderly fashion for evacuation to Hall or Oval using route depicted on evacuation map (on wall inside door)
- e) Evacuate by external door to Hall or Oval

**Please familiarise yourself with the current approved
Emergency Management Plan (2016)**

EVACUATION CODES

Code	Colour	Reason	Action
Code Red		Fire/smoke	Evacuate on Siren
Code Blue		Medical Emergency	First Aid team to respond as requested
Code Black		Personal Threat	Lock Down. Do not wait for announcement
Code Yellow		Internal Emergency	Possible Lock Down. Listen for Announcement
Code Purple		Bomb Threat	Evacuate on Siren
Code Pink		Anaphylaxis Alert	All staff required on duty

Preparing for the Risk of Bushfire

I'm sure you are all very aware of the increased risk of bushfire we face by living in such a beautiful, forested environment. Whilst there will always be a risk here, there are many things we can do to make us as safe as possible.

At school, our Emergency Management Plan provides a detailed procedure to deal with fire in our immediate area and we also have processes that ensure we are ready to respond on days when the fire danger is significant.

On days of Total Fire Ban, we:

- Limit the area students can play in the school grounds to enable us to gather them quickly if necessary
- Prepare the Hall, roll down the metal shutters
- Ask students to keep shoes on inside in case we need to re-locate
- Use a 'book mark' system when students leave the classroom and they must go in pairs
- Monitor the VicEmergency website and CFA radio traffic
- Ensure all students are collected by an adult after school (unless written parental consent is provided)

In the event of bushfire in the immediate area, we want to reassure you that your children will be cared for and kept as safe as possible and, although it will be difficult, we ask that you resist driving straight to school to collect your child. In emergency conditions, you are likely to be anxious and possibly panicked, which can increase your own risk of having an accident on the way to school. This will only add to the distress on the day. Secondly, if the air is smokey, opening the Hall's roller shutters for you to enter will compromise the air quality inside and make conditions even more uncomfortable for students and staff.

We will keep you informed as the situation unfolds and advise you as soon as it is safe to come to school and pick up your children. Please be sure to check in with your child's teacher and sign your child out before taking them as it is vital that we know that every student has been released into the care of an adult.

Emergencies such as bushfire are made more difficult by being unprepared. Staff at The Patch School spend a great deal of time preparing for fire and other situations so please know that our students' safety is paramount and we will do all we can to preserve that, regardless of what comes our way.

Note that Deb has mentioned in this newsletter that the Department of Education & Training has recently announced that schools on the *Bushfire At Risk Register* in the 'upper cohort' **will close on days of Extreme fire danger as well as Code Red days**. This includes The Patch School.

It is also important for **your** family to have a bushfire survival plan and that you:

- Understand and practice your plan
- Know what the trigger is to enact your plan
- Let your extended family and friends know what you plan to do

If your plan involves leaving the area on days of significant fire danger, remember that absence from school under these circumstances is acceptable and approved by the Principal.

If you have any questions about how we manage bushfire risk or any other emergency, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

STEM at The Patch Primary School

So much has been written and spoken about STEM education in recent years; how it can improve our maths and science results, our job prospects for the future, develop innovation and problem-solving skills, stimulate learning and improve academic knowledge and skills in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering (design and technologies) and Maths.

So what is STEM education?

STEM education is a term used to refer collectively to the teaching of the disciplines within its teaching umbrella, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, and also to a cross-disciplinary approach to teaching that increases student interest in STEM-related fields and improves students' problem solving and critical analysis skills (Education Council, Australia, 2015).

In the Victorian Curriculum, the Learning Area "Technologies" comprises two strands, "Design and Technologies" and "Digital Technologies". The Engineering component of STEM is taught through the Design and Technologies strand and the Technology component of STEM is taught through the Digital Technologies strand.

To read more:

<http://www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au/student-programmes/stem/>

Our Garden Team is being re-launched!

If you are interested in gardening, the arts, being constructive, problem solving, socialising, or just about anything else and wish to be more involved in our school, come along to our staff room on **Thursday, February 16, at 7.30 pm** (feel free to bring children if you need to), for an hour or two to launch our **new garden team**. This group will be planning works that need to be undertaken around our grounds, developing art projects, creating links with the community, helping to maintain our beautiful outdoor spaces and assisting with garden events.

I would love to see you there 😊

Michelle

Student Wellbeing

It's great to be back at school, catching up with everyone after the holidays and getting to know our new students! I am at The Patch on Thursdays now, working from the office in the Year 2/3 building, and have lots of plans for 2017!

This year will be filled with some great activities to support students' mental health and wellbeing and to make our school an awesome place to be. Some of our plans include a whole-school KidsMatter activity day; parent education seminars; free dress days fundraising for charity; involving students in our KidsMatter Action Team; developing a resource point for wellbeing information; offering support for families & referrals where necessary and providing social & emotional learning sessions in each classroom.

It's going to be a wonderful year!

Warm regards,

Jody ☺

Jody Yandle

Student Wellbeing Officer

yandle.jody.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Qkr!

Thank you to all our parents who have updated their children's class details on QkR!

If you have not yet done so, please do ASAP ☺



A big, big thank you to the lovely families who took such wonderful care of our animals over the summer holidays.

Semester 1 Monitors

Congratulations to the following selected monitors who have been chosen to uphold our school values of respect, responsibility, and integrity:

- Outside Animal Monitors: Ford, Gracie and Emily
- Inside Animal Monitors: Nathan, Oscar, Liam and Darcy
- Sport Monitors: Leo, Zac, Ruby and Minka
- I.T Monitors: Hamish, Mitchell, Xy and Anton
- Art Monitors: Finn, Matilda and Trixie
- Fire Safety Monitors: Noah, Coen, Bailey and Yoni
- Assembly Monitors: Isaac, Isack, Luke, Kurt and Ted
- Recycling Monitors: Logan, Bryn, Tim and Gus
- Weather Monitors: Emily, Caitlyn and Amelia
- Flag Monitors: Charlie, Elida and Jonah
- Music Monitors: James and Lainey

Photo's below...



Weather Monitors



Music Monitors



Inside Animal Monitors



I.T Monitors



Outside Animal Monitors



Fire Safety Monitors



Flag Monitors



Sport Monitors



Recycling Monitors



ART Monitors



Assembly Monitors

School Council President makes front page of local paper...

“Sarah Tebbutt - The Patch

Sarah was instrumental in the development of the Glenfern Bushland project along with her partner Sergio and a team of enthusiastic volunteers. They converted a large area of bushland and weed infested disused pasture into a dynamic ecosystem supporting and enhancing local biodiversity.

The Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands worked tirelessly to clear the land of Boneseed and Sweet Pittosporum, plant thousands of indigenous trees, shrub and grasses, remove years of accumulated rubbish and introduced woody weeds such as large pines, and fence the bushland to control vehicle access. The Yarra Ranges Council Community Cultural grant was awarded in recognition of the significance of the Reserve to indigenous people.

Working at The Patch Primary School in the kinder, Sarah became known for finding solutions to problems. She facilitated fundraising to improve the facilities. When Sarah's eldest son began school at the school, Sarah volunteered to help wherever help was needed. She spent hours making lemonade, walked kilometres to deliver flyers promoting a fair, liaised with numerous individuals and groups and still found time to explore ways of improving existing practices.

She demonstrated outstanding diplomacy skills when dealing with difficult situations and in her role as School Council President.”

Ranges Trader Mail
Covering the Dandenongs in the Yarra Ranges & Cardinia Shires

5 Courageous battle ends | 4 Back to school message | 25-26 Best in local sport

Tuesday, 31 January 2017 | A Mail News Group publication | Phone: 5957 3700 Trades and Classifieds: 1300 686 808

Fergie stands out

By Peter Douglas

Respected Elder and active community member Dr. Doreena Fergie has been awarded the Yarra Ranges Citizen of the Year.

At Yarra Ranges Council's awards ceremony at Burntja Cultural Centre on Australia Day, Dr Fergie was officially recognised for her dedication to her community.

Dr Fergie has been a leader within the local Indigenous community and a driving force behind the ongoing success of the Healesville Indigenous Community Services Association (HICSA).

When honouring Dr Fergie, Cr Cliff said her efforts to create positive change needed to be recognised.

"Her role in assisting council to develop its reconciliation direction of 'Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Cultural Strengthening' has created a lasting legacy," he said.

"Doreena's focus on placing culture at the centre of health and wellbeing for Aboriginal people and ability to view situations through an Aboriginal lens has transformed the way council works."

Meanwhile, many citizens in the Dandenong Ranges were also awarded at the ceremony.

The major award winners included Uppery's Neil McLeod (Mayor's Lifetime Achievement), Kallista's Alan Maloney (Environmental Achiever of the Year) and the Uppery Primary School (co-winner of Ken McIntosh Memorial Award Young Environmental Achiever of the Year).

In addition, certificate recipients included Gairth Hart (Uppery), Sarah Tebbutt (The Patch) and Sally Rutzo (Methook).

Mr Maloney was awarded for his dedication to understanding and preserving the Dandenong Ranges and its forests.

He grew up on the edge of the Sherbrooke Forest, and works closely with the Friends of Sherbrooke Forest and the Sherbrooke Lynbird Study Group.

Mr Maloney has studied conservation and land management at Swinburne University.

He is presently studying for a PhD with La Trobe University, though investigating ecological functions provided by lyrebird scratching.

Upon announcing the award, Cr Mike Clarke was full of praise for Mr Maloney, saying the region needs to nurture and develop his knowledge.

Mr Maloney said it was a great honour and that being a present-day environmentalist had its challenges.

"It's difficult being an environmentalist and hard to stay optimistic," he said.

"Australia is one of the worst in the world for mammal extinction.

"We have coral bleaching in the Great Barrier Reef, bushfires, and Australia wants to build one of the biggest coal mines in the Southern Hemisphere."

Picture: KATH GANNAWAY

Incredible citizens: From left are Sally Rutzo, Neil McLeod, Mayor Noel Cliff and Sarah Tebbutt. 10000

Continued page 3

Instrumental Music Lessons in Tecoma.

I teach electric bass, drums, beginner piano and beginner guitar from my home studio in Tecoma. I have full teaching qualifications, full VIT registration and nearly 20 years experience teaching primary and secondary aged students. Lessons are \$25 for half an hour. Please contact me on 0418 329 149 or email ceprattico@gmail.com
Christine Prattico



GIRLS WANTED! NEW UNDER 14 GIRLS BASKETBALL COMPETITION

Hey Girls, why not get a bunch of your friends together and start playing basketball in the new Under 14 girls competition.

Any number of players can register. It can be just you, a couple of friends or a whole team. Whoever wants to play - we'll fit you in. And it doesn't matter whether you are new to basketball or an experienced player because;

**IT'S ALL ABOUT FUN,
MAKING NEW FRIENDS,
& GETTING FIT!**

Register now: **On-line, Call or Email.** It's great fun and you'll make a heap of new friends.

> **Player & Team Requirements**

- Open to Girls Only
- Cannot turn 14 yrs prior to July 31st 2017
- Ideally 6-7 players per team

> **Competition Details**

- 8 week 'mini' season
- Starts Saturday 11th Feb. to 1st April 2017
- Games at Monbulk & Cockatoo Stadiums

> **Team Entry & Enquiries** - Pam Ball

- m: 0401 996 046
- w: www.sherbrookebasketball.asn.au
- e: admin@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au



extreme tennis

**TERM 1 SUMMER
"GET INTO TENNIS"
JUNIOR COACHING SPECIAL OFFER**



ENROL FOR TERM 1 &
CHOOSE EITHER OF THE
OFFERS LISTED BELOW:

OPTION A:

Receive a 20% discount on normal junior group coaching fees
- therefore the 9 week coaching course will cost you \$100.00 -
(Normally \$126.00)

OR

OPTION B:

Receive a FREE junior racquet upon enrolment - (RRP \$30.00)

NB: This is a once a year Summer special. Offers are only valid for NEW customers not currently enrolled in lessons at an EXTREME TENNIS venue.



2017 COACHING VENUES & DAYS:

FERNY CREEK TENNIS CLUB - MONDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS
SELBY TENNIS CLUB - TUESDAYS
UPWEY SOUTH TENNIS CLUB - WEDNESDAYS

For further enquiries or enrolments, please phone

Stuart & Diana Sutterby @ **extreme tennis.**

☎ 9759 6475 / 0412 106 416 / 0403 525 111

Tennis Australia Club Professionals, T.C.A.V Reg. Advanced Coach,
A.T.P.C.A Reg. Level 2 & Bachelor of Teaching

www.extremetennis.com.au

The Importance of Attendance

Please remember that all students are expected to be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons by 8.50am.

We understand that now and again things don't go to plan but all families should aim for their children to be at school by this time.

Parents should also remember that late arrivals or early leavers must be signed in or out by their parent or guardian using the system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or red tag must also be given to the classroom teacher when collecting your child.

The Department of Education & Training has very specific expectations about school attendance and we ask that all parents be mindful of the importance of prompt and regular attendance at school.

Thank you.

Community Notices

In Schools Music

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, Tuba, Drums, Percussion, and Bass Guitar. **New students.** Enrolments to Andrew McAlister on 0408467147 or email ismusic@bigpond.com

Music Tuition with Chris Walker

Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after.
Phone 0407 049 012 or email chrisw7@ymail.com

Violin, Viola & Cello Lessons

Lessons are available at school on Fridays with experienced strings teacher Jane Coleman.
For further information call: 0431 290 396 or email: janeliz.coleman@gmail.com. Be quick as there are currently only a small number of places available for new pupils.

Private Ukulele Lessons

The Patch School students now have the opportunity to take private ukulele lessons. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 5 years experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and loves teaching at The Patch. The cost is \$18 for a 20 minute individual lesson or \$12 for a 20 minute group lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email.
0408 102 542 jessdunn.arts@gmail.com.au

The Department of Education and Training & The Patch Primary School does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education and Training & The Patch Primary School for accuracy of information contained in advertisement or claims made by them.