



# Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 Term 2 Issue 4

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## Dates to Remember

### JUNE

<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	<b>Wed 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Prep Dress Up Day
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup> – Wed 19<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Gr 3 & 4 Camp Kinder & Prep Morning Tea 9am	<b>Mon 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent/Teacher Interviews <b>**Students Not Required at School**</b>
<b>Thur 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Reports go Home	<b>Fri 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Last Day of Term 2

### JULY

<b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup></b>	First Day of Term 3		
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**Thought for the week:** *Holding conversations with others is a lifetime friendship skill.*

### Sustainability News & Entertainment USA® (SNAE) 'TRASH ON YOUR BACK 5 DAY CHALLENGE' © Australian pilot, in partnership with the School Broadcasting Network (SBN)"

This week we launched "Trash On Your Back" check out the website for further information on this great project. If you have time to drop by the office there is also a great movie made by the Year 3 & 4 children, Sarah, Finn, Mitch and Molly, who have interviewed Miles and Archie about "Trash On Your Back" – great work, and this movie is being sent to the USA pen pals of the Year 3 & 4 children to inspire them to join in as well. I have to admit it has been a bit of a challenge but like all worthwhile activities it's the effort that counts.

### Reports, Interviews, Pupil Free Day and OSHC

Children's reports will be coming home on Thursday 20th June, after the Year 3 & 4 students are back from camp. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June so please see our website for booking details. Due to interviews, the 24<sup>th</sup> June is a pupil free day and OSHC will be running a program and will be heading out for the day, dependant on enough numbers. If you need OSHC make sure you book with Sheila.

### Athletics and Cross Country

Congratulations to all who attended the Cross Country and the Athletics. Our children have once again performed well. Well done to everyone who participated.

Special congratulations to **Kayla, Emily, Sophie, Lyarnah, Emma, Willow, Jasper, Sarah** and **Aleysha** who are through to **Zone finals** in **Cross Country** and to **Caellan, Kayla, Sadie, Jasper, Lachie, Sarah, Faith, Lyarnah, Emma, Astrid, Joel, Tully, Faith, Jordy, Maya** and **Laura** who are through to **Zone finals** in **Athletics**.

**WHAT AN AMAZING RESULT!!**

*Deb*

Principal

[herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

# Conversations

**Conversations** require self-disclosure, which can be challenging for some children. Good conversationalists give of themselves, but also take an interest in the other person. Many children forget that good conversations are two way events, and tend to focus solely on themselves. Children within conversations need to learn to ask good or interesting questions; to take turns when speaking and to show you are listening by making eye contact and not interrupting.

## Tips:

1. Hold conversations with your children in a variety of situations, including mealtime so they experience the conventions of conversation. They will also learn how to start a conversation by talking with you.
2. Talk about conversation starters with your children. These often involve questions that are related to the situation or that both of you have an interest in.
3. Encourage children to stay in conversations, or even start up conversations with adults.

This will provide terrific experience in asking and responding to questions as well as making eye contact and showing interest.

## Kinder – Prep Morning Tea

To encourage the development of strong relationships between The Patch School and Kinder, we invite parents of our current Prep students to morning tea in the school Library on

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2013 from 9am – 10am**

The aim of this gathering is not only to enjoy a social occasion together but to provide the opportunity for parents of those newly involved in school life to share their experiences with those parents about to begin that journey. Our Prep teachers, Marita & Lesley, will also be there to chat with you.

We hope to see you there!



## Is your child a book worm and loves to read?"

A couple of mums and I are starting a book club which is open for any Grade 3 or 4's who are keen. We will meet once a month and the children will swap their favourite books and get an opportunity to talk about them if they wish, in an informal environment. This will be after school one evening say between 6pm -7.30pm, once a month." please contact [sally@tractorgroup.com](mailto:sally@tractorgroup.com) for more information or to join up.

Only open to a maximum of ten children and is free of charge!.. Hoping to hear from you...

Sally Whitford



## Absences – Good News!

**Forty-five of our students will be receiving a surprise letter in the mail this week congratulating them on having achieved 100 % attendance up until May 27<sup>th</sup> (when all the calculations were made).**

**Another forty-two students will also receive a personalised letter congratulating them on achieving 99% attendance during the same period of time.**

These eighty-seven children will also receive a special certificate with their reports stating that they have achieved 99% or 100% attendance and this is very well deserved.

Attendance is something we still need to continue to focus on at The Patch this year as it was identified in our School Review as an area needing improvement.

It is a fact that there is a strong correlation between poor performance at school and a high number of days absent so there is a need to be aware of how many days of absence have mounted up over Semester 1.

With reports this semester, each child in the school will receive an Attendance Record set out in 5 categories in terms of his/her attendance.

If he/she is in either of the top two sections (meaning they have had fairly regular attendances) there is reason to celebrate because academically and socially conditions are ideal for them to succeed to the best of their abilities.

If placed in any of the lower three sections of this Attendance Record however, learning and the ability to reach potential is at risk (as described on the sheet itself).

Of course we understand that children get ill (particularly in the Winter months) and need days off from school to recover. Please remember to keep your child home if he/she is really sick as they should not be at school if unwell. It is still important, however, to be aware of how these days can mount up and how they can affect your child's learning.

Our main concerns revolve around the children who have ongoing days absent from school that are not always related to illness. We encourage you to look at the percentage of time your child has been absent from school. If you know that your child has had one or more bouts of illness during the first two terms of this year then you can put this into proper perspective and know that their absences have been unavoidable.

All this information about number of days absent and percentage of time present at school will be included with reports. I hope you will find it useful.

*Lynne Pearce (Assistant Principal)*

## **\*\*Parent / Teacher Interview Bookings\*\***

Parent / Teacher Interviews are being held on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. Once again we will be using the PTO online booking system. Each parent will require a new PIN number to access their child's teacher's booking page.

Every family should now have received a note explaining the PTO booking process and a link to the PTO site is available on the school website.

Please note that if you do not have internet access, we can easily book an interview on your behalf.

Feedback last year was overwhelmingly positive as this system is quick and simple to use – no more waiting for a slip from your child's teacher to find out if you have been given your preferred timeslot. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Jody in the Office.

# Mountain District Athletics

Congratulations to all our students | Grades 3 to 6 who participated in this week's Mountain District Athletics against our neighbouring schools. The competition was held at Knox Sporting Complex in Ferntree Gully. Our athletes represented The Patch School with pride and outstanding sportsmanship.

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make this such a successful day!



## The Great Community Raffle

**Thank you to the families who have already returned their raffle ticket stubs and money!**

This is a very easy fundraiser for our school and we really appreciate your support.

Remember that all raffle stubs, unsold tickets and money need to be returned to school  
**no later than next Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012.**

As explained in the red note that accompanied your allocation of tickets, we are obliged to account for all tickets to the Rotary Club of Emerald and District, and families will be charged for any tickets or stubs & money not returned by the due date, unless alternative arrangements have been made.

**Thank you again for your ongoing fundraising support ☺**



# *Sports Angel*

One of the things I do each day is check the school email and pass on information to members of the school community. Every now and again I am priviledged to read some really special things. This is one of them...

*Hi All,*

*Yesterday I was the announcer at the athletics and I would like to thank one of your students who was a fantastic help. She came to thank me at the end of the day yesterday and I wanted to acknowledge her thoughtfulness during the day.*

*At various times during the day she was able to solve problems for her school team and did it with little fuss.*

*When it was noticed as we were about to run discus that the track manager had forgotten to unlock the Discus and Shot put box she knew that her school had a practice discus and went and got them so we could at least run the event.*

*Her sportsmanship during the day was impeccable and she stood out all day as a wonderful role model to others.*

*I think she was a Grade 5 or 6 - Grace perhaps??? She was a competitor in Discus as well as other events. Hopefully you can find out who she was and pass on my thanks and congratulations.*

*Thank You,*

*Stacey Goodger  
Sassafras Primary School*

After some investigating, I discovered that our "Sports Angel" was Grace Staindl-Dymond in Grade 5/6C.

Grace, on behalf of everyone at The Patch School I would like to congratulate you on your thoughtfulness, helpfulness and sportsmanship during this week's Athletics Day. You made the perfect ambassador for our school.

The thing is, that we all know that Grace was really just being... Grace 😊

Warm regards,  
Jody

## **School Start Time**

To enable teachers to begin their learning time at 9am, we ask that students are in their classroom **from 8.50am** wherever possible. This allows students to organise themselves and be ready for effective learning at 9am.

Without this settling- in period, valuable learning time is taken up and we can't take advantage of the full teaching block.

You may have noticed that we also minimise disruptions from phone calls and PA announcements during the two learning blocks prior to lunchtime to maximise the effectiveness of this time.

Students that arrive at school **after 9am** will be marked as 'late arrivals' and require a parent to sign them in at the Office and provide the class teacher with the white slip.

If you need to drop your child at school early, please remember that we offer a fantastic before school care program which costs \$12 (\$13 from Term 3) including breakfast or \$6 without (before deducting any Child Care Benefit).

Get ready for a **BIG** day of shopping!!

## The Patch School Fundraising Shopping Tour Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013



**Save The Date!**

More details  
soon!

## Your School... Your Community

As we updated earlier, there is a new sub-committee of the School Council. The new Community Sub-Committee is here to be a voice for community building in the school and we are already busy with a number of new projects!

We are collectively working to build stronger links across teachers, students, parents the Kinder and the broader community.

A key part of our work is to listen and hear from you. To do this we have initiated a Feedback Box in the school foyer and we have a new dedicated email address.

So, you can provide your feedback by either email or note form...

- ✓ By email: [community@thepatchps.vic.edu.au](mailto:community@thepatchps.vic.edu.au)
- ✓ In a note and pop it in the Feedback Box in foyer at school

Some of the projects we are actively working on are consistent communications across all stages from the Kinder through to all grades, issuing the parent survey, planning a whole of site (Kinder and School) Working Bee and Get Together, discussing another Business Directory and lots more!

As the Convenor of the Sub-Committee, I would welcome your input or suggestions at any time. Thank you to everyone involved and if you feel like you can get involved or have an idea, please get in touch.

Stay tuned and see you soon!

Matt Clear  
(Father of Maya, Niamh and Dash)  
0403 229 094  
[clear.matthew@gmail.com](mailto:clear.matthew@gmail.com)

# OSHC NEWS

Dear Families,

Due to rising costs within our program our After School Care fees will increase by \$2 per session per child to \$20, and our Before School Care fees will increase by \$1 per session per child to \$13 .There will be no increase to our \$6 morning fee.

This rise will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

## CURRICULUM DAY ACTIVITIES - BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 7:30am-6pm

Excursion to **The Big Slide – Indoor Play Centre**, Ferntree Gully

Cost \$60 –(less any Child Care Benefit) Please contact OSHC staff for details.

Bookings close Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June (this excursion will only take place with a minimum of 22 students)

If we don't meet this minimum number we will run an alternative program of activities in the Hall.

Thank you for your support and sharing your children with us,

Sheila

## Excursion & Camp Payments

Parents are reminded that we require all payments for school activities **by the due date** unless alternative arrangements have been made with Deb or the Office staff. Due to the large amount of planning and preparation required for excursions and camps, your co-operation is vital.

If, for any reason, you are finding it difficult to pay for any school charges please do not hesitate to discuss the matter confidentially with Deb as there are often options we can offer you to assist.

Unfortunately, if no payment is received by the due date, your child may not be able to participate in the activity. We really don't want anyone to miss out, so please speak to Deb if you have any concerns.

## School Uniform Price Rise

Due to increases in the wholesale cost of school uniforms, we have reluctantly had to increase most of the prices of school uniform items on our list.

**The new pricing structure applies from today, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013.**

Remember that if you can't get to the Uniform Shop on Wednesday afternoons, uniform orders and payments can be left in the silver box near the Office window for processing.

## Where In Our School Is This??



If you know where in our school grounds you would find this tree and bird's nest, come and tell Jody in the Office 😊

There *may* be a prize for the first person who answers correctly.

## Do You Own Something Precious?

Recently it has been sad to see some very disappointed faces at school. They belong to children who have brought precious possessions to school only to find they end up being lost or damaged.

Please remember that a busy school is not the best place for your special things and we ask that, although we understand that you would like to show others, you keep all special belongings at home where they are safe.

## Community Notices

### **\*\*POSITION AVAILABLE\*\***

Before and After School Care Assistant/Co-Ordinator and casual staff positions at The Patch Primary School OSHC. Working with Children Check essential.  
Minimum Qualification Cert 3 Child Care or enrolled in.  
Contact Sheila 97567463.

### **'Making it Possible' Parent Workshop in Upwey for Parents of Children with a Disability**

**Date:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013      **Time:** 9.30am – 2.45pm  
**Venue:** Upwey Community Hall 1443 Burwood Hwy, Upwey 3158  
**Cost:** \$20 per person – members\*      \$40 per person – non-members  
Morning tea & light lunch included

Check out the flyer here:

[http://www.acd.org.au/community\\_ed/Downloads/ACD\\_MIP\\_Poster\\_Eastern%20Region\\_25.03.13.pdf](http://www.acd.org.au/community_ed/Downloads/ACD_MIP_Poster_Eastern%20Region_25.03.13.pdf)

Places are limited so be quick to book at: Places are limited so be quick to book at:

<http://trybooking.com/45838> or phone the office on 9818 2000.

### **Intimo Lingerie – Book Your Own Intimo Styling Session**

Everyday bras, Sports bras to support bras, fashion must-haves to fashion main-stays in Sizes 30A to 46G, 6 to 24, the Intimo Collection offers beautiful lingerie, for every size, shape and lifestyle. Preview the latest Intimo Collections at [www.intimo.com.au](http://www.intimo.com.au) RECEIVE FABULOUS INTIMO REWARDS WHEN YOU HOLD YOUR OWN STYLING SESSION

BOOK TODAY – TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT SUE FLYNN M. 0419 324 070

E. [sue.flynn@intimo.com.au](mailto:sue.flynn@intimo.com.au)      F. [www.facebook.com/sue.flynn.399](http://www.facebook.com/sue.flynn.399)

(I am a Mum at the Patch School and work in the Uniform Shop Wednesdays at 2.30 pm – why not pop in for a chat).

### **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](mailto:ismusic@bigpond.com)

**Music Tuition with Chris Walker** Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after. Phone 9756 7515, 0407 049 012 or email [chrisjw@netspace.net.au](mailto:chrisjw@netspace.net.au).

### **Come and join The Voice Maker School of Singing!**

Students are now having Singing Lessons at School in school time by a Professional Vocal Coach!

For all children that love singing and want to develop confidence within themselves the fun way!

They will also perform in live shows!\*\*Semi private lessons \$15-2 students half hour.

\*\*Private lessons \$30 for half hour. Call Jennie on 0410 543 946 or email [joey24@optusnet.com.au](mailto:joey24@optusnet.com.au)

### **Spanish For all Ages**

A playful and creative introduction to a second Language this program offers lots of opportunities for developing an interest in Spanish and its Culture. Preps to Grade 6's are welcome, small groups only.

Mondays from 4:15 to 5pm in the Uniform Room. Forms at the office or contact Pilar on 0427881572

HASTA LUEGO !

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