Our Convict Past

Our Year Three and Five Students have been learning about the First Fleet and what life was like for the first convicts sent to Australia. Pictured are the Year Three students with some of the reading material that they are using to discover just how harsh times were back in the late 1700’s.
Positive Behaviours

We will once again be using the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program throughout our school. The program is based around our school values of Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for the Environment. This program promotes positive student interactions and habits in a range of settings both within and outside the classroom.

When students demonstrate these behaviours they are rewarded with a coloured spot. Each colour represents an area of Respect. When students achieve a set amount of spots they can exchange them for a reward. Whole school rewards are also able to be earned - with last year’s students earning enough spots for an excursion to Jumps in Shepparton.

Prep Rest Days

A reminder to Ashton and Jasmine that this Friday is a Prep Rest Day. There are two more rest days after that, being Wednesday February 22nd and Wednesday March 1st. After that it is noses to the grindstone, with attendance of five days per week. We are sure you will handle it!

Leitchville Water Awareness/ Swimming Program

A reminder that the final session will take place tomorrow (Thursday). This year the program has been a short one, due to the Swimming Sports being held a week earlier than usual.

ABOVE: With last Friday’s heatwave, we decided to cool off in Welton style, using our Slip’n’Slide. Fun was had by all.
Murray Plains Cluster Swimming Sports

Our Annual Swimming Sports is just under a week away. They will take place on Tuesday February 21st. There is a cost of $1.50 per spectator for entrance into the pool. The cost per student will be met by our school as it has been incorporated into the total cost of our Swimming/Water Awareness Program. Families are asked to make their own transport arrangements to and from the pool; the bus will not be running on this day. Please contact Lisa if you are unable to transport your child/ren, so we can make alternative arrangements. The sports commence at 10.00am and we ask that students arrive by 9.45am. Students will need their lunch, drinks, snacks and hat. All students should have a sun smart top to wear whilst not competing.

Please fill in and return the attached permission slip by Monday.

If anyone is able to transport our shade shelter (you will need a ute) please contact Lisa or Sharon to arrange pick up.

Open Water

This Friday our Year 3-5 students will attend the Open Water Learning Experience. Thank you to those families who have returned the permission forms (bright green). If you have not done so please return them tomorrow at the latest. There is no cost for this excursion.

This program is designed to provide students with water safety knowledge and skills when in the open water—such as the Murray River.

Lunch order will still be available on the day, as we will be back in time for lunch.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

We would love it if all families could make a time to come along for a 10-15 minute ‘chat’ about their child/ren. At this meeting we will discuss your child’s learning needs, discuss learning goals for Individual Learning Plans as well as discuss any concerns that you or we may have. It is a great opportunity to ask questions about the classroom and/or school programs. A sheet is attached for families to fill in their preferences for a day and time. If neither of the days or times suit, please contact Lisa or Sharon to make an alternative date. We look forward to seeing each family at these meetings.

Camp... already!

We have been very fortunate to have been offered a three day/two night camp for our Year 5 students at the Doxa ran camp in Malmsbury (not to be confused with the other youth facility there)!. This camp is an adventure camp with a huge range of challenging outdoor activities. As Outdoor Education Specialists, the Welton kids are bound to excel. We will be joined by Year 5/6 students from Leitchville, Gunbower and Koondrook. Forms for this camp will be sent home with next week’s newsletter.

Lawns

A reminder to the Fowler/Fleming Family that they are the rostered family. Please contact Lisa to arrange for the key to be sent home.

Once the lawns have been mowed, we need to get our mower into Echuca for a service. If anyone has a trailer or ute that is heading in during ‘shop’ hours and is able to take the mower in, please contact Lisa.
Playgroup At Welton
A flyer is attached for Playgroup. Thank to our good friend and wonderful supporter, Bev, for distributing flyers advertising our sessions. If you know anyone in the area who would like to attend please feel free to invite them. The more the merrier.

School Council
Last night we held our February School Council Meeting. Traditionally, this would be the last meeting for members whose two year service period was up, however due to all members being new (or renominating) last year, we have no retiring members. This means they will all be ‘back in the thick of it’ for 2017.
Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting and it will take place on March 14th (Tuesday after the long weekend).

What’s happening, when?
Parents please find attached a copy of our Term 1 timetable. This timetable shows the curriculum areas studied at different times during the week. It also shows how the students are grouped and which teacher is taking which group. (Note: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons currently have swimming sessions, after next week the timetabled sessions will begin on these afternoons). Outdoor Education will occur on Tuesday afternoons during terms 2 and 3. Technology will then occur again in Term 4.
Sharon and I are eagerly planning Special STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Weeks in Terms 2 and 3 where students will have a special timetable that incorporates many exciting hands-on activities using the principle of STEM. So stay tuned.
A reminder that ICT (Informations and Communications Technology), AKA computers and iPads, is incorporated throughout our curriculum.

Leaders in our midst.
As the most senior members of our school, Brodey, Daria and James have been appointed School Leaders for 2017. They even have badges to wear! As leaders in our school they will be responsible for the organisation and running of activities throughout the year. They will also be required to make speeches and represent our school at various events. In next week’s newsletter you will find out more about each of our leaders.

COMING SOON
Water Awareness at Leitchville Pool..........................................................Thursday Feb. 16th
Open Water Year 3-6.............................................................................Friday Feb 17th
Murray Plains Swimming Sports @ Koondrook............................................Tuesday Feb. 21st
Pancake Tuesday (Shrove Tuesday)..........................................................Tuesday Feb. 28th
Parent - Teacher Chats...........................................................................Wed. March 1st, Friday March 3rd
Labour Day Public Holiday......................................................................Monday Mar 13th
School Council - Annual General Meeting.............................................Tuesday March 14th
Year 5 Camp.........................................................................................Monday March 20 – Wednesday March 22nd
End of Term 1 ......................................................................................Friday March 31st