We’ve Got Your Stuff!

Our lost property basket is overflowing. We don’t want to send in the “ heavies” but we will if necessary.

CLUSTER CAMP
Our Year 5 and 6 students are invited to take part in a three day camp in Melbourne. They will be joined by students from Gunbower, Koondrook and Leitchville. This camp takes place from Monday March 17th until Wednesday March 19th. Stacey Michell will be the teacher accompanying our students. They will travel by train from the Echuca station (along with the Gunbower students) and return by train as well. Details about the camp cost, itinerary and forms have been attached to newsletters of families with students in Years 5 or 6.

WELCOME BARBECUE
This has been rescheduled for Monday February 17th commencing at 6pm. Our information session will run from 7pm and should not take more than 20-30 minutes. School Councillors are reminded that our first meeting for 2014 will commence at 7:30pm. Please fill in the slip attached to the newsletter and return to school ASAP for catering purposes. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

OPEN WATER
Today our Year 4/5/6 students travelled to Moama to take part in Life Saving Victoria’s Open Water Session. They participated in a range of activities designed to increase their knowledge, safety awareness and skills when swimming and taking part in activities on open waters.

ROAD CLOSURE
A reminder to the Seiben, Baldwin (B&R), Smartt and Woodgate Families that due to the closure of Weir Road, the bus will be approximately 15 minutes later than normal for pick up and drop off.
P-3 NEWS

All students have been working hard. This week we begin studying the theme of Australia and its Icons. In Literacy we have been talking about narratives and what makes a good story. Our Mathematics focus has been Number and Two-Dimensional shapes.

Spelling lists for children in Years 1, 2, and 3 will be sent home later this week. Words will be tested at school every Friday. Each student has a spelling booklet which is kept in their blue reader cover, this is so they can work on learning their words both at school and at home.

Preps will continue to bring their alphabet book home so they can show everyone the letters they have been working on and practise reading the sentences that go with each letter/sound.

All students are expected to read daily at school and at home. A reminder for parents, grandparents and siblings to sign the sheet in the reader folder so that your child can tick their reading chart and work towards gaining rewards for home reading.

YEARS 4,5/6 NEWS

We have had a fantastic and very busy start to the year. Students have been interviewing one another and creating posters to display around the room; they look great.

At the moment in Humanities we are looking at Famous Australians. One of the class favourites so far has been Banjo Paterson and the students have been so interested that they are creating their own poems for a local poetry contest where they have the chance to win prizes and have their names displayed in the paper. All entries must be in by the beginning of March. Good luck!

MELBOURNE BOUND

This Friday both Lisa and Stacey will head to Melbourne to attend the School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support Workshop. We are participating in this program alongside other schools in our Small Schools Network. Bruce and Rachelle will teach the students on this day.
MARC AND MACC NEWS

Glenda says:
“Welcome back children & parents! Hope that 2014 will be an excellent year for all.
For our newcomers, we start our library session with the children going out to the library van to borrow a book. The prep children will start with borrowing just the one book to start with. Once I get them into the routine of returning their book ready to choose another one; then they will be able to borrow more. The older children are able to borrow a maximum of three books weekly.
All new children will be given a new Library workbook that children keep all their work in. Other children continue on in their old workbook until they have it filled. Workbooks go home at the end of terms 2 & 4 so that you can view what the children have been covering in Library.
During term 1 the children will be introduced to the library & the borrowing system that we use. Care & respect for our library & books will be covered. The infants will be covering a theme on “Toys” while the older children will be learning about our capital city Melbourne. This theme will fit in with our cluster urban camp to Melbourne later in March. It would be a fantastic help if you could encourage your child to read or browse at the books that they bring home weekly. Statistics do show us that children who read frequently & widely do well in their school academic work.”

Many thanks, Glenda Charlton-White (MARC Librarian)

Sally says:
“Hello everyone, my name is Sally Bentley and I am the new Art teacher for the MACC Van. I am very excited to be able to work with such lovely schools and continue to provide a great Art program for the children. This term we will be focusing on developing art skills through activities and artworks generally related to the themes being studied in the classroom. This week we have been getting to know each other by decorating our names using different sorts of lines (P-2). The older children have had the tricky task of making paper cut out names which they also decorated with lines. Just a reminder to make sure that your child has their art smock and new students need to provide one – an old shirt will be fine. Thank you. I look forward to meeting you at some stage.”

SCHOOL COUNCIL
A reminder to all school councilors that our first meeting for the year is scheduled for Monday February 17th at 7.30 pm. The meeting is to be held at the school immediately after the parent information session following the welcome BBQ.

NAME THAT THING!
We already have a significant number of un-named articles that appear to belong to “Nobody”. If you are missing a lunchbox, plastic container, drink bottle, towel, school pants/shorts, school polo, underpants, socks… they are probably here just waiting to be returned to their owners. And we know that once you collect them you will promptly name them!

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
EMA is a payment that assists families on a low-income with the cost of essential educational items such as uniforms, books, fees and excursions. To be eligible for this payment parents/caregivers need to hold a current Centrelink or Vetrans Affairs Card. An EMA application form must be completed annually by parents/caregivers and returned to the school. This needs to be done annually. If you think you are eligible please contact Lisa or Joy for a form.
Please be aware that in the past schools received a direct allocation of a proportion of the EMA payment, this is no longer the case. If you would like your EMA payment to cover the school fees or other activities (camps, excursions etc) you will need to sign your payment over to the school. For any questions or queries please contact the school.
SWIMMING
There was no swimming program at Leitchville today due to the Year 4-6 Open Water event. We will however be back in action at Leitchville on Thursday; don't forget your gear.

IMPORTANT ADVICE FROM DEECD
The following advice has been provided to us for inclusion in our weekly newsletter:
“As part of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Health and Safety Management Plan, new labeling has been installed at our school. The labels remind people to contact school reception prior to undertaking any works at the school, to ensure that they have up to date information from the school’s asbestos register. Asbestos, which was used extensively in building materials in the past but is now banned, is considered safe unless it is damaged or in poor condition. The new labels form part of a comprehensive program to ensure that Victorian government schools remain safe. Children’s safety is our number one priority. That is why we are taking this extra precautionary step.”

ECHUCA & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC A0000568P

REPRESENTATIVE TEAM SQUAD SELECTIONS 2014

Players are invited to tryout for the EDNA representative teams

ALL PLAYERS MUST WEAR WHITE TOP

11 & 13/U    Sunday 16/2, 23/2
             9.00 - 11.00am

15 & 17/U    Wednesday 19/2, 26/2
             6.00 - 8.00pm

Registration & information on website edna.org.au
or telephone Netball Office 54801725.

SATURDAY NETBALL REGISTRATIONS

Net Set Go, Primary and Senior registration information can be downloaded at edna.org.au
Enquiries can be made to the Netball office on 54801725

No guarantees of late entry so ensure that you register and pay your dues by WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH

Betty McComb
President