NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

The celebration of 2012 as the National Year of Reading (NYR) was officially launched on 14th February at the National Library of Australia in Canberra. Speaking about the goals of the NYR at the launch, Prime Minister Julia Gillard told guests, “I want Australia to be many things: a prosperous nation, an innovative nation, but I certainly want us to be a reading nation... I want every Australian to know the joy and pleasure that comes from books and reading.”

Throughout that week, there were events all around Australia to welcome the start of the NYR. The organisers reported receiving enormous support from the media, VIPs, celebrities and all three levels of government, with the Prime Minister, Australian Government Arts Minister and School Education Minister, Premiers, state and territory Arts and Education Ministers, federal and state/territory MPs, Lord Mayors, Mayors and Councillors all attending campaign launch events. As Patron of the NYR, Actor William McInnes expressed not only his excitement, but an attitude of gratitude for all that this opportunity presents:

Being asked to be Patron...is as great a pleasure as it is an honour. It’s easy to be blase about reading and books - easy to take them for granted. Yet when I think about it, reading to me is the key to so much: the key to a wider reach of information, a path to learning, the joy of entertainment and the exciting of the imagination. It’s just so much fun. Helping to encourage people to remember that and maybe to discover that, is something I look forward to very much.

CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL AND The Big Read 2012 SUNDAY 25TH MARCH

This year’s Festival, a free public event, will take place on Sunday 25th March on the lawns of the State Library from 10.00am – 4.00pm. The event features writers and illustrators and promises to deliver great entertainment for families. The Big Read 2012 (organised by The Children’s Book Council of Australia’s (CBCA) Victorian Branch ) will take place in the Cowen Gallery from 11.00-11.30 am.

The Big Read 2012, now being held for the second year, invites families to join the celebration of reading together, as the CBCA attempts to better its record for the most children reading together in a given location and with an adult. The current record is an impressive 3234. The Big Read aims to provide families with an opportunity to share reading and to show their support for the importance of reading in their children’s development.

The Big Read will be happening in these locations simultaneously across Victoria:
The State Library of Victoria (328 Swanston St, Melbourne)
Ballarat - Ballarat Library (Doveton St, Ballarat)
Geelong - Deakin University Geelong Waterfront campus (outer Costa foyer)

For details of the final program for the Children’s Book Festival, go to: www.slv.vic.gov.au

More information about The Big Read 2012 can be found at: http://bigread.cbca.org.au/

THE READING HOUR – SATURDAY 25TH AUGUST 2012

Modelled on the concept of Earth Hour, this event will be a focal point of the NYR celebrations for readers of all ages and something of a call to action for families – “share a book with your child for 10 minutes a day, an hour a week”. As Margaret Allen, chair of the NYR founders and State Librarian of WA, explained, “The Reading Hour itself is for everyone and there will be activities for all age groups, but there will be a special message for families. The phrase “10 minutes a day, an hour a week” is our “slip, slop, slap.” It’s the take away message that we hope will become the accepted norm. We know it’s not always possible for parents to share a book at bedtime with their children, but if they can manage 10 minutes most nights, their child will have the best chance of becoming a good reader, with all the social and educational benefits that brings.”

The Reading Hour is nominally 6pm to 7pm on 25th August, but events will be happening all day in libraries, bookstores and other public places.

Further information about The Reading Hour may be found at: http://www.love2read.org.au/nyr-programs.cfm
As part of the “Conditions of Entry” to Overnewton Anglican Community College, signed by all families upon confirmation of enrolment: “One full term’s written notice is required to withdraw a student from the College. If one full term’s notice is not given to the College, one full term’s fees will be charged.”

If you have a child who will not be returning to Overnewton in 2012 please ensure that you notify the Registrar, Mrs Diane King in writing. Email: diane.king@overnewton.vic.edu.au

ASSOCIATION OF CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS SWIMMING CARNIVAL
This event takes place on Thursday 15th February and we trust that the team reaps the reward of a lengthy training period led by Coach Brett Stone and Team Managers, Edward Schellander and Veronica Johnston.

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE
I am only too well aware of the impact of the weather on Victorian residents since the hail storm over Christmas. House and car damage has been extraordinary and some members of our own community continue to experience difficulty with ongoing leaks. In some cases, this has led to relocation due to major works and other families have provided support to those in need.

In northern Victoria, many towns are affected by flooding and their communities, like ours, have banded together to support each other by sandbagging and providing accommodation. Nathalia was one such town and television footage showed locals sandbagging purpose built metal levy banks to hold back the swollen Broken Creek. Given that Nathalia recorded the lowest rainfall of any township in Victoria during the 2008 calendar year, when the drought was at its worst, the purchase of the levy banks was an act of great foresight by local authorities and has helped save hundreds of homes.

When people experience hardship, the foresight and kindness of others is generally a hallmark of communities.

I would like to hope that this is true around the Campus, particularly at drop off and pick up times in the carpark. It saddens many of us to see thoughtlessness by drivers who park in unsuitable areas that cause inconvenience to others, or danger to students. In particular, I was concerned that one car was backed into by another last Friday, causing significant panel damage that could not have gone unnoticed. The damaged car was only a month old and was a replacement for a vehicle written off in the Christmas hail. I would be grateful if the driver involved would come forward.

FUND RAISING – WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS AND THE RED CROSS
Next week, we are acknowledging Harmony Day with a series of activities in each school on Wednesday, 21st March. As part of this activity, there will be fundraising on behalf of the Red Cross. In addition, Madison Davies from the Senior School, who is a member of the Student Executive has organised a fundraising event to support the Wheelchairs for Kids program. This program involves retired volunteers in Australia using donations to make and distribute up to 300 wheelchairs per month to poor disabled children in developing countries. Every $125 raised gives a child the freedom of mobility and liberates a carer. Madison’s experiences in the last College tour to Zambia have helped her to understand the context of this great need in the African continent in particular.

To support these fundraising initiatives, there will be a casual clothes day on Thursday 22nd March. Students are required to bring a gold coin donation on the day.

PARENTS AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE PRINCIPAL
Mr Laussen will again be holding informal opportunities for parents to meet with him over a cup of tea. Please feel free to call in should you wish to have a chat, ask a question, or share a good news story about your child.

TERM 1, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 15th March</td>
<td>Year 12 Parent/Student/Teacher interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 16th March</td>
<td>Class of 2002 - 10 Year Reunion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 19th March</td>
<td>House Swimming Carnival-Middle School, Keilor Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20th March</td>
<td>Junior School Parent/Teacher interviews at both Campuses</td>
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<td>Thursday 22nd March</td>
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<td>Saturday 24th March</td>
<td>Working bee at both Campuses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22nd March</td>
<td>Casual clothes day-Keilor Campus</td>
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<td>Sunday 25th March</td>
<td>Year 9-12 Fishing Trip</td>
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TERM 2, 2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd May</td>
<td>Keilor Campus Principal’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th May</td>
<td>Taylors Lakes Campus Meeting Room</td>
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<td>Thursday 31st May</td>
<td>Time: 2:30 - 3:30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 14th June</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17th April</td>
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<td>Wednesday16th May</td>
<td>Wednesday13th June</td>
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JUNIOR SCHOOL-KEILOR CAMPUS

As we head into our sixth week of the term we can reflect on how grateful we are for the things achieved thus far.

Our Parent Information Evening conducted earlier in February saw record numbers of parents in attendance. With the focus clearly on classroom programs, parents were able to hear about how their children will work within their classes this year, specifically in relation to the curriculum.

Similarly, our Prep parents participated in an Information Morning on the first of March, where the specific details of the acquisition of early literacy and numeracy skills was explained.

It is always our aim to keep families informed about the learning that is taking place and there will be two further opportunities for this before the end of this term. On Tuesday the 29th and Thursday the 22nd of March, each family has been allocated a fifteen minute parent teacher interview time. The aim of this first formal interview for the year is for teachers to outline progress to date and directions for Term 2 that are specific to each student. A less formal, however very enjoyable occasion is our first Celebration of Learning morning on Wednesday the 28th of March. Parents will be welcomed into the classrooms at 9am to spend an hour with their child and their classmates.

This will be the final such occasion in our present classrooms, indeed, the rooms may appear a little dishevelled as packing and moving will be in full swing by this date. A comprehensive information pack regarding the move to the new building will be sent to families in the coming weeks. This pack will outline such things as car parking, dropping off and collecting students and movement through, and around the building.

It is worth noting before the end of the term that we are very concerned about the number of students arriving very early in the morning and not being collected until well after 4pm. In our present buildings, although still an incredibly unsafe practice, there is the occasional senior student moving through our spaces should safety be compromised. However, when we are in the new location, students will be alone in the yard and also in the new drop-off area and they will not be supported by the presence of some of the older students. The school yard is supervised from 8.30am and until 3.45pm. Beyond these times the Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program operates. As stated in College policy, all Junior School students arriving early to school and not collected by 3.45pm will be taken into the OSHC program and parents will be charged accordingly.

The annual House Lapathon was held in perfect conditions last Thursday. Miss Crandles has reported on this event in this week’s Whispers. The exciting thing for many students was that is was held on the soccer oval adjacent to the new Junior School at the very time that the site huts were being removed by huge cranes. Not related to running but an education in itself!

Parents will have watched the playground being built and the final touches being applied to our new building. There was an audible gasp at the first assembly this year when a photo of one of the classrooms was displayed. There will certainly be much excitement in the air on our first day next term and it is something that we are all very much looking forward to.

THE HOUSE LAPATHON

On Thursday morning 8th March, with the sun shining upon us, the students in Junior School participated in the House Lapathon. Excited and full of energy, the children gathered down on the soccer ground in their House teams and prepared to run.

The Preps and Year 1s started us off. With the screech of a horn they were off! Cheered on by their peers on the sidelines, they set a rapid pace for the Year 2s, 3s and 4s to follow. Their enthusiasm was contagious. The older students ran just as fast and completed as many laps as they could within 20 minutes. All children earned 1 House point for every lap they ran.

So which House earned the most points? All will be revealed at our next assembly, so stay tuned!

Images have been removed to meet privacy needs

Congratulations to all the students for demonstrating persistence when they were tired and not giving up – everyone gave it their best and can be most proud of their efforts. It was also wonderful to see so much team spirit and camaraderie between students as they supported each other throughout the event.

Thanks to the House Leaders and staff for their assistance on the day

Anne McNaughton
Junior School House Activities Co-ordinator-Keilor Campus
The following students received a Student of the Week Certificate. (Thursday 15th March, 2012)

Prep C  
- **Amelie Midon** for her enthusiastic attitude to learning in the classroom and extending this at home

Prep F  
- **Ruby La Ferla** for showing great organisation during morning and afternoon routines

Prep P  
- **Isaac Scalise** for an enthusiastic and diligent approach to all new school experiences

Prep S  
- **Finnian Armstrong** for his exceptional attitude to learning

1CA  
- **Caitlin Karic** for being positive and encouraging her classmates to work well

1CR  
- **Jasmine Cantarella** for offering support and encouragement to those around her. Jasmine shows genuine care for others at all times

1R  
- **Oliver Sugarevski** for getting along and showing kindness to those around him

1W  
- **Charlotte Eres** for sharing her inquiry information with the class

2G  
- **Keiya Osumi** for always making good use of work time

2M  
- **Christos Zahopoulos** for showing persistence when completing his classroom tasks

2P  
- **Sofia Luppino** for reflecting on her reading strategies and setting appropriate reading goals

2T  
- **Tara Burke** for approaching all her work with greater confidence and completing it in the given time

3C  
- **Nikola Koromilas** for enthusiastically participating in classroom activities and working well with others

3F  
- **Brad Parke** for demonstrating a positive attitude to all tasks and completing his tasks with pride

3G  
- **Madison Falla** for approaching her learning with great enthusiasm

3S  
- **Chanel Scalise** for demonstrating excellent getting along skills by positively contributing ideas during group work and listening attentively to others

4C  
- **Chloe Charalambous** for being motivated and enthusiastic with respect to her learning and for making the effort to establish positive relationships

4L  
- **Michael Cesario** for excellent work in Mathematics. Michael is a thorough and independent worker and an excellent problem solver

4N  
- **Damon Exadactylos** for persistently working on his thinking

4P  
- **Jessica Pocov** for showing determination and a ‘can do’ attitude when learning her times tables

**JUNIOR SCHOOL KEILOR CAMPUS - COMING EVENTS TERM 1 – 2012**

**Thursday 15th March**  
- Year 4 Incursion ‘The History Box’ 9.00am – 1.15pm
- Year 2 Excursion Keilor Historical Sights – 9.00am – 3.20pm

**Friday 16th March**  
- CHAPEL–Prep, 1, & 2 – 2.15pm – 2.45pm and Year 3 & 4 – 2.45pm – 3.15pm - Assembly Room - 3S Hosting

**Tuesday 20th March**  
- Parent Teacher interviews – 4.00pm -8.30pm

**Thursday 22nd March**  
- Parent Teacher interviews – 4.00pm -6.00pm

**Friday 23rd March**  
- CHAPEL – Prep, 1, & 2 – 2.15pm – 2.45pm Year 3 & 4 – 2.45pm – 3.15pm – Assembly Room - 3G Hosting

**Monday 26th March**  
- ASSEMBLY – 2.15pm – 3.20pm

**Wednesday 28th March**  
- Celebration of Learning Morning – 9.00am-10.00am

**Friday 30th March**  
- LAST DAY OF TERM 1 – HOT CROSS BUN DAY

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
JUNIOR SCHOOL-TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS

We have enjoyed a packed six weeks of school already and it is certainly hard to believe that we only have two weeks left of Term 1. The staff and students have worked hard on building relationships and taking part in new learning. It has been impressive to see the children so deeply involved in their inquiry units based on different aspects of history. There has been a great deal of learning based on personal and family history through to our local history and the settlement of Australia. This sequential learning approach will enable our students to build on their knowledge as their skills increase throughout their Junior School years. Staff have also been learning along the way as they discover deeper understandings of how children learn through inquiry. There has certainly been a great deal of rich discussion amongst staff during their collaborative planning sessions led by Mrs Deb Sheehan. The embedding of Studies of Asia into the units of inquiry with the support of Mrs Melissa Albers has enabled a new perspective to be introduced into the students’ learning.

It is certainly an exciting time in education at the moment and the Junior School has many new academic initiatives taking place. Six of our staff attended a two day THRASS (Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Skills) accredited course this term. THRASS is a tool for teaching learners of any age about the building blocks of reading and spelling, that is the 44 phonemes (speech sounds) of spoken English and the graphemes (spelling choices) of written English. THRASS is divided into three main skill areas – reading, spelling and handwriting. These skills are interconnected and build on each other to increase learner’s knowledge and understanding of the relationships between the 44 phonemes of spoken English and the 26 letters of the alphabet. This forms the basis to successful literacy. The implementation of THRASS will begin in Prep and Year 1 this year with the gradual introduction to Years 2 – 4 over time. A THRASS Parent Education Evening will be held in Term 2.

Mrs Deb Sheehan continues to work in a coaching capacity with Junior School staff to assist in the embedding of sound Numeracy skills within our classrooms. There are many amazing Numeracy lessons occurring within the Junior School classrooms. I was extremely impressed with a Mathematical explanation that I received from two Year 2 students this week. They could tell me exactly what the process of their work involved and how they came to find the answers they had. This is learning at its best!

Our improvements in Mathematics are being supported by Mrs Melani Watson this year. Melani works across both campuses to analyse the Junior School Numeracy data and to offer advice in new directions and assessments. The focus for this project is in Year 1 and 2. Melani will work closely with the Prep – Year 2 coordinators, Heads of Teaching and Learning, and Heads of School to provide specific information related to our student outcomes and ways to enhance these further.

All of these projects will enable our students to access consistent approaches to their learning throughout their Junior School years which in turn will have a positive effect on successful outcomes for all.

I would like to remind parents that they are very welcome to visit classrooms from 8.45am. However, it is essential that all parents leave the classrooms, including the veranda and Prep Centre foyer when the music begins at 8.55am. This will allow the children to have time to settle into their classrooms and for teachers to begin lessons promptly at 9.00am. Our goal is to utilise time effectively to ensure optimal learning. When parents remain on the verandas or in the Prep Centre foyer, distractions occur for both students and staff. Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to remind parents that children playing on the Pirate Ship, oval or playground area after school is not permitted. There is no teacher on duty in the yard at these times and this can become dangerous. We appreciate parents taking their children out of the school grounds after collection to ensure every child remains safe. If you have an appointment with a teacher after school, your children are welcome to sit outside of the classroom or attend After School Care.

As a part of their history units of work the Year 3 and 4 students attended excursions last week. Reports from both year levels are included in this edition of Whispers. Enjoy the read!

Tracy Fielder
Head of Junior School

YEAR 4 EXCURSION TO THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

On Thursday 8th of March, the Year 4s visited the Aboriginal Trail Walk at the Royal Botanic Gardens. The students participated in a range of engaging, fun activities that complimented our Australian History theme. We were able to participate in a traditional style ceremony, incorporating fire, dance and music created by sticks, showcasing our musical talents. We walked the trail, discovering a wide range of native plants and wildlife, and learned about what the Aboriginals ate. We enjoyed mixing our own ochres using rocks and natural earth materials and using these to create an Aboriginal inspired painting. We identified and learnt about the uses of a range of artefacts, finishing off the session making bracelets from long strings of hay. The Year 4s had a very enjoyable excursion extending their knowledge of Aboriginal life.

YEAR 3 EXCURSION TO THE IMMIGRATION MUSEUM

On Thursday 8th March, the Year 3 students went on an excursion to The Immigration Museum. We found out interesting stories about immigrants and timelines about immigration. We learnt some of the things people had to do to get into Australia such as having an interview. We visited ‘Journeys of a Lifetime’ where we saw what the living conditions were like inside the ship that people travelled on to get to Australia. Finally we saw a very sad video about people having to leave their homeland for many reasons such as, wars.

Beth Seiffert 3MY
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OVERNEWTON FAMILIES

Parents who have a child attending Overnewton College and are interested in obtaining a position for other siblings in their family should contact the Registrar, Diane King on 9334 0141 and request an application form as soon as possible as prep offers for 2013 has already commenced.

JUNIOR SCHOOL-TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS

When we went to the Immigration Museum, we saw part of a ship. This ship was a good example of how people travelled to get to Australia. We also learnt about families in the olden days who migrated to Australia.

Claudia Petreski

Images have been removed to meet privacy needs

HARMONY DAY – 21ST OF MARCH

On Wednesday the 21st of March, all children across the Junior School at Taylors Lakes will celebrate and recognise Harmony Day. In 2012, the Harmony Day theme Sport - play, engage, inspire, recognises the important role and positive influence that sport has in our multicultural nation. Involvement in sport whether as a participant, volunteer, spectator or administrator unites people of all ages and fosters a sense of belonging, acceptance and an understanding of other cultures. The children in the Junior School will be encouraged to wear orange to support this day and participate in cross age activities across the Junior School. Items children may like to wear include an orange t-shirt, shorts, top, jumper or even hat or wig. Children can also wear their Overnewton House sports uniform on this day as well. The children will be encouraged to bring an international lunch on this day to mark this special occasion. Food will not be shared on this day.

AROUND THE WORLD DAY – 29TH OF MARCH

The children in the Junior School will celebrate the diversity of their school peers and the experiences each child brings to school each day on ‘Around the World Day’ on the 29th of March. The children will be given international passports and will participate in rotational activities, learning about different cultures, countries, food, schooling and religions around the world. The children can celebrate this special day by dressing up in national dress. They will also be encouraged to bring along and enjoy an international lunch (children to bring their own) and share their background with other children in their Houses. It is going to be a wonderful day.

NUDE FOOD FRIDAYS IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL AT TAYLORS LAKES

The children in the Junior School are encouraged to reduce their carbon footprint by reducing the amount of packaging they use to store their food in each day. Each Friday, the children will be encouraged to earn House points by continuing to bring nude food to school.

Children can help by:

- bringing their sandwiches, crackers, sultanas, biscuits and cakes in a lunchbox wrapper free.
- bringing their own fork or spoon to school to save on the use of plastics.
- Eat more nude food like bananas, apples, mandarins, apples and avocados.

1 house point = two pieces of nude food.
2 house points = three or more pieces of nude food.

The children will have an opportunity to earn points for their House on Fridays, but can bring nude food to school every day!!

PLEASE LABEL YOUR STUDENT’S UNIFORM

Please ensure all of your childrens’ uniform items are clearly labelled with their name and class.

This will assist in the prompt return of misplaced items to the correct students.

JUNIOR SCHOOL TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS COMING EVENTS

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<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Celebration of Learning Morning</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
<td>Friday 11th May</td>
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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OVERNEWTON FAMILIES

SIBLING APPLICATIONS

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

"Restorative Practices involves the building of positive relationships and establishing a supportive environment that is fair, consistent and democratic. The underlying principle is that relationships are important, and when a harmful or disruptive incident occurs, the focus is on the harm caused to the relationship and the subsequent repairing of that harm; rather than, what rule has been broken and therefore what consequences will be imposed."


THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES OF RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Restorative Practices is a commitment to quality relationships. It establishes a philosophy and a set of practices that reflect a commitment to inclusiveness and collaborative problem solving while maintaining the respect and dignity of all parties. Restorative practices is a theory of justice and conflict resolution that emphasizes the repairing the harm. It is accomplished through a cooperative process, where a high value is placed on having all parties meet, listen and discuss the incident and how it has affected them. All people work together to understand one another and decide on a relevant consequence or way forward.

In a restorative school culture all work towards:

- Quality relationships
- Engagement with school
- Restorative intent
- Empowerment to learn
- A respectful and inclusive community

In order to repair the harm done we seek to restore relationships by conducting a restorative meeting. There are a number of key values which underpin these meetings:

**Participation:** All present at a restorative meeting have something valuable to contribute to the goals of the meeting, discussing the incident and its aftermath.

**Respect:** All participants deserve to be spoken to and treated with respect in a restorative meeting. Mutual respect engenders trust and good faith between the participants.

**Honesty:** Truthfulness is essential. In a restorative meeting, honesty is valued and people speak openly and honestly about their feelings and their moral responsibilities.

**Accountability:** Ensure that each person takes responsibility for their actions and understands the consequences of their choices. There is an expectation the offender takes steps to repair the harm they have caused.

**Empowerment:** Provide opportunities for all parties with a stake in an incident to participate in its resolution.

Examples of restorative questions used in these meeting by the facilitator are detailed below.

**Restorative Questions – When someone has been hurt.**

What did you think when you realised what had happened?
What impact has this incident had on you and others?
What has been the hardest thing for you?
What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

**Restorative Questions – When things go wrong.**

What happened?
What were you thinking at the time?
What have you thought about since?
Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
What do you think you need to do to make things right?
GOAL SETTING DAY
Thank you all parents who participated in their son or daughters (or both in some cases) Goal Setting interview. Students did spend some time preparing for them and we hope you found the process informative and interesting. Students will revisit their goals throughout the year and reflect on their achievements as they prepare for their Digital Portfolio Presentations late in 2012. We hope to see you there too.

FOCUS WEEK 2
March 19th sees the start of our second Focus Week of the year. Two programs have students out and about, My Place Our Place and the Waratah Bay camp for students who don’t do Outdoor Education this year. Please help staff by ensuring all paperwork has been returned. Students going on camp will spend Monday and Tuesday on important preparation activities before they leave on Wednesday morning. We hope the weather is a little kinder than last year’s torrential downpour.

MIDDLE SCHOOL-COMING EVENTS

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 19th March</td>
<td>Re scheduled Keilor Campus House Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 19th March</td>
<td>Keilor Campus Year 5 Family BBQ organised by the Parent Support Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 15th March</td>
<td>ACS Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>26th to 30th March</td>
<td>Year 8 Camp for both Campuses and Keilor Campus Year 7 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 30th March</td>
<td>Final Day for Term 1</td>
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CAREERS NEWS
Visit the Careers Centre
During Parent /Teacher interviews on Thursday 15th March and Tuesday 20th March, the Careers Centre will be open from 4.30pm until 8.15pm for parents and students to browse through the available careers resources. All are most welcome and complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided in the Careers Centre by the Senior School Support Group. This is an opportunity to familiarise yourself with the wide variety of career and course information currently available whilst waiting for your parent/teacher appointments.

Year 10 Jobskills Workshop
On Tuesday 20th March, Year 10 students will participate in an all day workshop focussing on employability and interview skills. This will include experiential learning and mock job interviews conducted by employers currently working in recruitment. A letter outlining the workshop has been posted to parents. Students are to wear full summer school uniform for the workshop including their blazers for the mock interviews.

Year 10 Work Experience
Year 10 Work Experience occurs from 14th to 18th May 2012. This is an excellent opportunity for students to gain an understanding of potential career directions and pathways. However, a number of Year 10 students are yet to return the completed work experience arrangement form. This is now well overdue and must be returned to Mrs Phillips or Mrs Dixon in the Careers Centre as a matter of priority.

YEAR 5 - 6 SPORT - ROUND 4
With last week cancelled due to unsafe grounds in light of the poor weather we had last week, the students from both Campuses were keen to engage in some interschool competition. The Keilor Campus was home to Mary McKillop Primary School and the Taylors Lakes Campus played away at Monnia. It was a brilliant game by all players from the Keilor Campus netball team with particular congratulations to Georgia Daalmeyer for her blitzing 8 goal tally. From the Keilor mixed netball team Erin Welsh played an excellent game as wing attack/centre continually moving down the court. Georgia Cooper stepped up her game as goal keeper developing her netball skills.

The winners from the Keilor Campus were the open soccer and the girls’ volleyball teams. From the Taylors Lakes Campus, the winners were the open football, open soccer and the girls’ netball teams.

For fixtures and other relevant information visit the College Web site using the URL http://www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/data/pdf/ACSinternetsection.pdf
YEAR 7

Highlights from the girls’ tennis match were Emily Papageorge and Emily Hickmott both displaying persistence in their singles games. Emily Papageorge won 6 -3 against an opponent of similar ability and Emily Hickmott lost narrowly in a tie break 5-6.

After a very even singles competition in the boys’ table tennis match, the boys combined extremely well in the doubles to win this section 6 matches to 2, thus giving Overnewton the win.

The boys’ hockey team played really well but was unable to score despite getting so close a couple of times. Their game will only improve as they became more familiar with the game. Best players on the pitch were Andre Martinovic and Nathan Nguyen.

Every player of the boys’ softball team managed to gain a hit and combined very well throughout the match. Shannon Bain was excellent in his first appearance as catcher. Thomas Porto batted very well and also pitched extremely well. It was a great improvement by the girls’ softball team this week displaying some great batting. Kobi West put in a sterling effort as catcher.

Elise Moon and Aprille Trajcevski both played well in the girls’ volleyball A team. Both girls displayed some great serving to get the team off to a great start. The B team had an impressive win this week not allowing the opposition to get into the game at all.

Leading scorers from the basketball games this week were Trent Cousins (19 pts) and 4 points each from James Savvidis, Michael Dinatale, Johan Hansma, Ivan Mandic, Liam Marchment and Callum Stephens.

Mehtaab Singh top scored with 41 runs not out and he also captured one wicket. He and Daniel Guisti had a 50 run partnership that set up an Overnewton victory. Daniel Guisti took 2 wickets; Nicholas Piper took a screamer of a catch and also participated in a stumping. Jayden Ibrahim also took a wicket and bowled very well.

Winners: Girls’ tennis (8 sets – 2); boys’ cricket (87 runs – 69); boys’ basketball A (33 pts – 33); boys’ basketball B (20 pts – 7); girls’ volleyball A (3 sets – 1)’ girls’ volleyball B (4 sets – 0); boys’ table tennis 10 matches – 6); girls’ soccer (0 goal – 0 draw); boys’ softball (19 runs – 6)

YEAR 8

It was an excellent first half from the girls’ soccer team this week. Emily Stipic displayed great attacking skills along with Isabella Markovski with Emily scoring 2 goals and Isabella scoring 1 goal. Rebecca Abeyesiri started to make her presence felt in the second half of the game and Zoe Sadler and Minne Hudaverdi both scored a goal a piece.

Daniel Venables top scored with 42 runs not out in the cricket match this week. Adrian Cannalelli kept the score ticking over with 15 runs and 10 runs came from Jackson Norton Reid. Ryan Nelson, William Connor and Jack Phillips each got a wicket.

Leading scorers from the basketball games were Harrison Bult (17 pts), Andrew Bellinger (11 pts) and Nikolas Nikolaidis (6 pts). Matthew Mobile displayed some great ball handling skills with his dribbling in his game.

Charlotte Lake displayed great pitching skills in the girls’ softball match. Liana Fissichia did some great work on first base and Emily Stancombe did an excellent job as catcher.

Winners: Girls’ tennis (5 goals – 0); girls’ softball (14 runs 14 draw); boys’ table tennis (14 matches – 2); boys’ basketball A (47 pts – 30)

YEAR 9

It was a disappointing round for the Year 9 teams this week with only three teams bringing home the points for a win. The boys from the table tennis had another disappointing narrow defeat by only 3 games. The boys played really well right throughout the afternoon. After being level after the singles matches and even after the doubles matches were played, the Overnewton team went down on a count back of the number of games won by each team.

It was another win and a loss for the boys’ basketball teams this week. The B team were the victors by 23 points while the A team had the loss by 8 points. Leading scorers from these games were Jeremy Botroli (19 pts), Adam Mandic (8 pts), Gavin Dannock (7 pts), James Paraskevopoulos (5 pts), Mitchell Peacock (5 pts) and Ethan Towns (4 pts).

Despite the loss the girls from the soccer played well and especially Alanna Daalmeyer who was solid in defence. Dimitra De Losa was great with her defensive marking of her opposition players.

The boys’ hockey team had a one all draw this week. Zachary Antovski continues to impress along with Matthew Muscari. Matthew Bell and Benjamin Spitteler were both solid all game and Matthew scored the equalizer within the last minute of the game.

In the boys’ softball game Hanifi Hasan made the catch of the season from the position of pitcher. It was low and hard but Hanifi’s quick reflexes were able to get glove on the ball to make the out. The girls’ softball team continues to improve and with some valuable training before the beginning of the restart of the summer season later in the year they will notch up a win.

The boys from the cricket retain their top position with another massive win over their opponents this week. Zak Wunhym continues to be impressive with the ball taking a grand total of 7 wickets for a miserly 8 runs. He also made 25 runs with the bat but the top scorer this week was Jackson Smith with 43 not out.

(Continued on page 10)
The girls’ volleyball A team had a loss this week but hopefully this will not deter them from remaining in the hunt for back to back premierships this year. Liana Konjarski was the best on court this week. From the B match Emily Zdravski and Tayla Fabbro both impressed their coach with their general play and serving ability.

Winners: Boys’ basketball B (35 pts – 12); boys’ softball (13 runs – 6); boys’ cricket (149 runs – 24); boys’ hockey (1 goal – 1 draw)

SENIORS
Vedant Khanna put in a great overall effort in both his doubles and singles games in the 2nd boys’ table tennis match. Ninos Yako was the only player to win his singles match and Reece Cutajar showed improvement throughout his matches. The boys from the 1st table tennis team had a tough game against a tough opponent. Congratulations to Leslie Li and George Papadopoulos, and Justin Kanzamar and Marcus Pensa for combining well to win their doubles matches.

All the basketball teams won this week which is a first for Overnewton. Leading scorers from the 1st game were Dylan Johnson (16 pts), David Pino (15 pts) and Brendan Shackleton (5 pts). From the 2nd basketball game Nik Dimitrijevic scored 11 points, Mark Michail (9 pts), Justin Borzillo (4 pts) and Simon Brooker (4 pts). From the 3rd basketball game Michael Sirianni put in a huge effort with 13 points and Dylan Vowles made a last minute 3 point basket that won Overnewton the game. From the 4th game Andrew Grandja displayed great rebounding skills and Emmanuel Hagos scored 8 points.

It was a great team effort from the 2nd girls’ softball team as they started with 6 home runs. It was a top effort from Alexandra Pavlovic, Charmaine Cauchi and Kristen Koroneos who were all well supported by the rest of the team. Andrew Coster from the 2nd boys’ softball team had an excellent catching performance and also made two catches. Angus Turner-Summerston played his first full game making two home runs in the process. Olivia White scored a home run in the 1st softball game. Shaelyn Hughes made 2 outs at second base. All players were very effective in stealing bases.

The 1st cricket team had a great win by 77 runs. Patrick Dunster had figures of 4/18 off 4 overs, Pumal Alakahooko had figures of 1/15 off 4 overs and a catch, Rukshan Gunasekere 2/34 and Brandon Briz had figures of 1/13 off 3 overs. With the bat Hashan Weerasooriya was 40 retired, Abishek Khanna 36 runs and Alex Hussey 22.

Mae Turk had a very good tennis match in the 2nds game this week winning the tie-break of her singles match. It was a difficult match for the 1st team this week. Best player on court was Tiana Koukoulis for her singles victory 6 – 5.

Joel Clinnick scored Overnewton’s only goal in the 1st boys’ hockey match. Philip Nguyen and Joel Clinnick made several goal line saves. Shawn Liyanage was brave as goal keeper.

Great effort by both mixed touch footy teams this week displaying great defensive efforts. The teams will need to improve in their ball movement and thus enabling them greater opportunities in attack.

Sarah Gonsalves scored three goals in the win in the 1st soccer match. Logan Rozankovic and Gabriel Fox assisted in defence.

Winners: 2nd boys’ softball (14 runs – 6); 2nd girls’ softball (10 runs – 6); 1st girls’ soccer (3 goals – 0); 2nd girls’ soccer (1 goal – 0); 1st boys’ basketball (48 pts – 32); 2nd boys’ basketball (32 pts – 10); 3rd boys’ basketball (33 pts – 32); 4th boys’ basketball (25 pts – 11)

Nikki Little and Janene Lokaj
Heads of Sport

For information regarding departure and return times of the ACS teams during the week, call the College’s Sports Information Line on 9 331 5980. For fixtures and other relevant information visit the College Web site using the URL http://www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/data/pdf/ACSinternetsection.pdf

2012 YEAR 4, 5 & 6 DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The 2012 Sydenham District Swimming Carnival was held on Wednesday 6th March at the St Albans Leisure Centre. Nine schools competed for the District Shield and an opportunity for individuals and relay teams to progress to the Division and Western Metropolitan Regional Swimming Championships. Keilor and Taylors Lakes Campuses competed against each other in the competition although all students were encouraging and supportive of one another. Overnewton Taylors Lakes Campus won the overall championship (163 points), with Overnewton Keilor Campus placing second (117 points) and Taylors Lakes Primary School in third (99 points).

Due to the size and strength of the Sydenham District, the two fastest swimmers in each event will progress to the next round of competition.

Congratulations to the representatives who qualified from Keilor Campus:

Christian Petrevski (freestyle, butterfly, relay)
Harry Osumi (breaststroke, backstroke, relay)
Zach Ferguson (backstroke, relay)
Audrey Krawczyk (butterfly,)
Lachie Stewart (relay)
Nicholas Koroneos (relay)
Aaron Cox (relay)

Alexander Cesarios (freestyle, relay)
Keeley DiMartino (breaststroke,)
Alan Wu (backstroke, relay)
Charles Hong (butterfly, relay)
Ben Cantarella (relay)
Simon Borzillo (relay)
Michael Huynh (relay)
Congratulations to the representatives who qualified from Taylors Lakes Campus:

- Amelia Velardo (freestyle, relay)
- Sophie Veitch (freestyle, relay)
- Noah Krznaric (breaststroke, relay)
- Billy Tzimos (backstroke, relay)
- Jessica Farrugia (backstroke, butterfly, relay)
- Matthew Fissichia (butterfly, relay)
- Chelsea Jones (relay)
- Lachlan McKillop (relay)
- Alessia Fissichia (relay)
- Aliesha Samuel (relay)
- James Elkington (relay)
- Darby Lalor (butterfly)
- John Santi (freestyle, breaststroke, relay)
- Emma Pollard (backstroke, relay)
- Lachlan Kanellos (backstroke, relay)
- Jessica Pollard (relay)
- Kayla Nguyen (relay)
- Alison Cram (relay)
- Madeline Cram (relay)
- Mallory Vanderloo (relay)
- Joshua Velardo (relay)

We know that all representatives will proudly represent the College at the division event at the Oak Park Pool and the Regional Championships. We wish everyone the best of luck.

Nikki Little and Janene Lokaj
College Heads of Sport

ACS SPORT
Over the past few years the College has increased its profile in a range of sports within the ACS program. In particular our major squads in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country.

To recognise the hard work of students in these teams and to address the need for a specific training uniform, we have had a College Squad training top designed and available for purchase for all students directly involved in any, or all of these squads.

These tops can be worn to, from and during ACS Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country sessions, as well as on the day of competition.

In addition to this, we are also pleased to have new College bathers available for purchase. These bathers have been designed by Arena and are of a high quality.

All items will be available for purchase directly from the College Heads of Sport, Nikki Little (Keilor Campurs) and Janene Lokaj (Taylors Lakes Campus) from Wednesday 14th March.

The costs of these items are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training Top</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathers - Ladies</td>
<td>$53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathers - Girls</td>
<td>$47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathers - Men's/boys (1/2 leg)</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathers - Ladies ½ leg zip back</td>
<td>$82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some teams who compete with our District and ACS Sport programs wear specialised uniforms. The College purchases these uniforms in sets to ensure all team members are appropriately attired and unified in appearance. These uniforms are not to be worn outside of District and ACS competitions and cannot be substituted for College uniform items. The following teams are required to wear specialised uniforms:

- Football (jumpers, shorts)
- Soccer (tops, shorts)
- Basketball (tops, shorts)
- Netball (skirts)

Team uniform items are loaned at the beginning of each season with the loan items documented by College coaches. There is a clear expectation that these items are to be returned at the season’s conclusion to ensure they can be audited and reissued to new teams. Replacing uniform items which have not been returned is costly and impractical. Students who fail to return their uniforms in a timely manner will be billed for a percentage cost of a new uniform set.

2011 is regarded as our most successful year for College Sport, with Overnewton demonstrating significant improvements in the major carnivals and featuring in ACS grand finals in record numbers. In 2012 we face the challenge of maintaining and improving our performance. Optional sport training is an initiative that provides students from Years 7, 8 and 9 with an additional opportunity to be physically active in an inclusive setting. The focus for each session is on fitness and skill enhancement through game play. All sports within the ACS program are explored with emphasis placed on enhancing the development of transferable skills that can be adapted in a range of sports. All students, irrespective of which sport or activity they undertake within the ACS program, have the potential to benefit physically and socially. Sessions are offered on Friday mornings from 8.00am – 8.45am in the Keilor Sports Hall and Taylors Lakes Gymnasium.
CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE

Classroom Assistance positions for both Keilor and Taylors Lakes Campuses will be advertised through Whispers on a weekly basis. Most positions require a regular weekly commitment for the whole year, although in specific cases you may be able to alternate with another parent or join a roster. You are invited to apply for any position, even if your child is at another Campus or different year level. Please note that the person you will be telephoning is a parent fulfilling their 18 hour commitment, so please do not phone before 7.15am or after 9.00pm. Younger siblings or sick children cannot accompany parents whilst on duty. A blue Classroom Assistance folder is kept at the front office at each Campus to record your hours.

Recording Hours
A reminder to parents that it is your responsibility to record your own hours for classroom assistance and excursions in the folder at the front office labelled Classroom Assistance. Please ensure you write legibly and include details of your child, including the surname if you have a different name to your child, and your home telephone number. These hours are collated at the end of each term.

Working with Children Check
It is a Victorian Government requirement that all adults working with children have a current Working with Children Check with Overnewton College listed as a volunteer organisation. If you need to amend your details to include Overnewton College a ‘Change of Personal Details Form’ can be downloaded from the Department of Justice website www.justice.vic.gov.au. Please ensure you have your card number or Post Office Receipt number when you phone to register your name.

TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS

If you have any concerns regarding the Classroom Assistance Program at Taylors Lakes Campus please contact Denise O’Keefe, Resource Officer on 9334 0245.

Parent Co-ordinators
Melissa Lo-Iudice – Years Prep-2 9449 0529 michelledigby@mac.com
Michelle Schembri – Year 3 - 8 0414 907 337 rocknu1@optusnet.com.au
Michelle Digby – Canowindra 0425 757 838 michele04@iinet.net.au

Junior School Classroom Assistance
Parent help is needed to fill the following classroom assistance positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep MA</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Tues</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Wed, Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep MI</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Thurs</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Mon, Tues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Fri</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Tues, Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>10.00am – 11.00am Thurs</td>
<td>9.00am – 10.00am Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Tues, Thu</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Thur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Mon - Fri</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Mon, Wed, &amp; Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>9.00am – 11.00am Mon Wed, Thurs Fri</td>
<td>9.00am – 10.00am Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>11.00am – 12.00pm Mon, Fri</td>
<td>11.00am – 10.00pm Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>11.00am – 1.00pm Tues</td>
<td>11.00am – 1.00pm Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>1.30pm – 3.30pm Tues, Wed</td>
<td>1.30pm – 3.30pm Tues, Wed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prep Computer Assistance - URGENT
Parent help is needed to assist the prep students with ICT. Parents require only very basic computer skills, eg using a mouse, logging in. Days and times are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep MI</td>
<td>9.00am – 10.00am</td>
<td>11.00am – 12.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep MA</td>
<td>10.00am – 11.10am</td>
<td>11.00am – 12.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep ME</td>
<td>9.45am – 10.45am</td>
<td>9.00am – 10.00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Junior School Classroom Art Assistance
Parent help is needed to assist the following Junior School Art classes. Duties will include setting up, packing up and general assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep ME</td>
<td>Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 12.00pm – 1.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep MA</td>
<td>Monday 11.00am – 1.00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3MR       | Tuesday 11.00am – 12.00pm |
3MY       | Wednesday 8.50am – 11.00am |
3BF       | Wednesday 11.00am – 1.00pm |
4NW       | Tuesday 12.00pm – 1.00pm  |
4S        | Wednesday 8.50am – 10.00am |

Michelle Schembri 0414 907 337 michele04@iinet.net.au

Melissa Lo-Iudice 0425 757 838 rocknu1@optusnet.com.au

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
KEILOR CAMPUS

If you have any concerns regarding the Classroom Assistance program at Keilor Campus please contact the relevant co-ordinator or Jennie McCullagh, Resource Officer on 9334 0086.

Parent Co-ordinators

Wendy Weeks – Prep and Year 1 (9331 7750) wendyweeks@live.com.au
Nadine Azzi – Years 2–8 and 10-12 (9336 0071) nadine@azzicorp.com
Mimma Beazley – Library and Art (9390 7516) mimma.beazley@internode.on.net
Tracy Wright – ACS/House Sport (9336 7294) tracy.wright@overnewton.vic.edu.au

Classroom Assistance in Prep

Parent help will be required in Prep classrooms daily. If you would like to register your name please contact Wendy Weeks for specific sessions. Please remember that you must have a current Working with Children Check to apply.

Prep C  Wednesdays 9.00am – 11.10am, Thursdays 9.00am – 11.10am and Fridays 9.00am – 10.00am.
Prep S  Mondays 9.00am – 11.10am Week 2, Tuesdays 9.00am – 11.10am Week 1 only, Wednesdays 9.00am – 11.10am and Thursdays 9.00am – 11.10am.

Year 1 Classroom Help

1CA require assistance on Mondays 9.00am – 11.10am weekly.
1W require assistance on Wednesdays 9.00am – 11.10am weekly.

Junior School Art Classes

Parent help is required in Art classes for preparation, setting up, assisting students and cleaning up.

Prep C  Fridays 9.30am – 11.15am Weeks 1 & 2
Prep P  Tuesdays 10.15am – 11.15am Week 1 & 11.15am – 1.15pm Week 2
1CA  Thursdays 11.15am – 1.00pm Weeks 1 & 2
2P  Tuesdays 9.00am – 10.20am Weeks 1 & 2
3F  Tuesdays 2.00pm – 3.20pm Weeks 1 & 2
3S  Tuesdays 11.00am – 1.00pm Weeks 1 & 2

Mimma Beazley 9390 7516 mimma.beazley@internode.on.net

Year 3 Movie Makers

Year 3 students will be making a mini movie/news story about the History of Overnewton College. Parents are required to work with small groups of students for a minimum half a day on the following dates commencing at 9.00am:

3F – Monday 19th March, 3C – Tuesday 20th March, 3S – Thursday 22nd March and 3G – Thursday 22nd March

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com

Year 3 Classroom Help

3C require assistance on Wednesdays 9.55am – 11.10am Weeks 1 & 2, Thursdays 8.55am - 11.05am Week 1, Thursdays 8.55am – 10.15am Week 2 and Fridays 8.55am – 10.30am Weeks 1 & 2.
Computers help is needed on Wednesdays 2.05pm – 3.20pm Weeks 1 & 2 and Fridays 11.30am – 12.30pm Week 2
Spelling help on Fridays 8.55am – 10.30am Week 1 and Fridays 8.55am – 11.10am Week 2

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com

Year 5 Excursion

Parent help is required to assist with a Year 5 excursion to Sovereign Hill on Thursday 14th June from 8.30am – 3.20pm.

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com

Year 6 German Excursion

Parent help is required to assist with a Year 6 German excursion on Tuesday 24th April from 9.00am – 3.20pm.

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com

Year 8 Indonesian Excursion

Parent help is required to assist with a Year 8 Indonesian excursion to the Victoria Market on Thursday 16th August from 9.30am – 3.15pm.

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com

Year 8 German Excursion

Parent help is required to assist with a Year 8 German excursion to Melbourne Zoo on Thursday 16th August from 9.00am – 3.20pm.

Nadine Azzi 9336 0071 nadine@azzicorp.com
**Lent begins…**

Join us in the Mini Chapel
Tuesdays 4pm – 5pm
For discussion and prayer
As we explore together,
“Out of the Depths”
Using wisdom of our elders to explore issues of our time.
Tuesdays from 28 Feb, through Lent

interested? inquisitive?
feel free to contact Rev Kim
on kim.cruickshank@overnewton.vic.edu.au
for more information, and relevant links.

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**MOTHERS DAY GIFT SHOP**
**KEILOR CAMPUS**

Helpers are needed for set-up of the Mother’s Day gift shop at Keilor on Thursday 3rd May from 3.30pm and Friday 11th May, gift shop day from 8.30am.

Donations welcome, please contact us regarding all donations.

If you wish to help, please contact:

- Anne Damanti 0401 773 564
- Tammie Tanti 0417 388 028

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
Each Overnewton family is able to contribute hours for one term of hours only per calendar year, in this workgroup through one Campus only.

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**TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS PARENT SUPPORT TEAM**
**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Invites parents to attend our Parent Support Team Meeting**

We will be planning fun events for Middle School students.

New parents welcome.

**Time:** 7.30 pm
**Date:** Thursday 15th March 2012
**Place:** De Caprio’s - Watergardens
Meeting room

Hours spent attending this meeting will be allocated towards the Family Contribution Scheme.

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**COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP**

The College Shop is open **Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday** every week during term. **Please note:** the College Shop is not open during school holidays unless advertised in Whispers.

**OPENING HOURS**
Tuesday 8.15am - 4.30pm
Wednesday 8.15am - 4.30pm
Thursday 8.15am - 4.30pm

**SATURDAY OPENINGS 2012**
**TERM 1**
24th March 9 – 1pm

**TERM 2**
21st April 9 – 1pm
23rd June 9 – 1pm

**TERM 3**
28th July 9 – 1pm
4th August 9 – 3pm
15th September 9 – 1pm

**TERM 4**
13th October 9 – 1pm
8th December 9 – 1pm

**BLAZER FITTINGS ONLY**

A reminder that Term 1 is drawing close and now is the time to ensure that you purchase your child’s winter uniform requirements. Please note that our next Saturday opening prior to the end of term is the **24th of March**, should you require an upgrade.

As an option there are also girl’s winter slacks available, however these are made to order and not always in stock.

**SECOND HAND SALES**

Please note when purchasing second hand uniforms, they must be paid for by Cash Only. Choose well as there is no exchange on second hand items. If you are wishing to drop off items for sale in the second hand section, these items must be handed to Miranda Turner. All items must be clearly marked with name, address and telephone number, otherwise goods will not be accepted. Blazars MUST be dry-cleaned with the dry cleaning tag displayed and all other items must be washed. We do not accept hats or any items of clothing with holes or stains of any kind (such as paint). We will hold items for sale for a period of 12 months only. At the end of that 12 month period, if they have not been sold, we ask that you collect your items from the College Shop. If not collected, your items of clothing are then donated to the orphanage in Zambia.

**EXCHANGE & REFUNDS**

While we are happy to exchange, you will need to keep your receipt to do so. All exchanges and refunds will only be accepted in the term of purchase.

Miranda Turner
College Uniform Shop
Direct to Shop 9334 0112
Junior Sport Program (JSP)

SOCCER
Term 2 and 3

Attention: Boys and Girls in Years 1 to 4.

The Junior Sports Program is pleased to inform you that the soccer program at Overnewton is back for 2012. Martin Colak will be co-ordinating the program again this year.

Venue: Keilor Campus
Time: 11.00am – 12.30
Day: Saturday
Duration: Term 2 and Term 3 approximately 16 weeks (starting the 28th of April)
Cost: $90 (participants will receive one pair of soccer socks, shin pads, and a ball)

Numbers are strictly limited.
Register by Friday 16th of March

PARENT ASSISTANCE REQUIRED
The program requires parents to actively assist and will only go ahead if there are parents able to help. Participating parents can contribute their time towards the Family Contribution Scheme.

Note: Parents will need to have a current Working With Children Check to participate.

To register your interest for your child or to help out, email Mary Poalozza on: tonypa@optusnet.com.au

If there are any soccer coaches out there (or coaches of any other sports) who would like to be part of the program, we would like to speak to you.

Regards

Junior Sports Committee

OVERNEWTON PARENTS & FRIENDS
BUSINESS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS AND NEW FAMILIES.
Support the Overnewton Community and always consult the Parents and Friends Business and Services Directory!

The 2012/13 edition is currently being compiled. If you would like to advertise your business please contact Janine Hilton for further details. Current advertisers please send in your renewal form, or email your requirements for the new edition. Applications close 23rd March, 2012

Janine Hilton 9334 0104 (Tuesday and Wednesday) or email janine.hilton@overnewton.vic.edu.au

This Parents & Friends Services Directory is now available on line - Check it out by visiting www.overnewton.vic.edu.au, click on the photo of Our Community and select the Parents and Friends Directory. You can then download this directory or view it online.

STUDENT BANKING DAY-REMINDER

Teaching your child the all important skill of money management and saving when they are young can empower them for success in the future. The Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program is a special initiative designed to do just that. It also has a fantastic rewards program that child can redeem for awesome gifts along the way such as a watch, ball, book light and USB stick. You can participate with as little as 5 cents per week.

Please refer to the information pack that you received recently with instructions on how to participate in this fantastic program. When your child banks at school for the first time they receive their token and the school receives $5 to go towards our fundraising efforts.

If your child already has a Dollarmites/Youthsaver account with the Commonwealth Bank simply fill in the deposit book and amount and simply start banking straight away.

Commonwealth bank account.

Keilor Campus banking day- WEDNESDAY
Taylors Lakes Campus banking day- WEDNESDAY

CANTEEN KEILOR CAMPUS

Parent help is needed in the Junior Canteen at the Keilor Campus especially on the following dates:

- Wednesday 21st March
- Monday 26th March
- Wednesday 28th March
- Thursday 29th March

Contact Debbie Cutajar on 3930 7322 or 0403 092 801

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
NEW PARENT SUPPORT TEAM CO-ORDINATORS NEEDED

The Taylors Lakes Campus Junior School Parent Support Team is looking for an enthusiastic and creative co-ordinator, to work alongside Maria Winton.

The Parent Support Team is responsible for Overnewton’s ‘friend-raising’ activities and creates a selection of events for parents and students throughout the year, with the support of a fantastic Parent Support Team.

From doughnut day, Prep morning tea and parent dinners, the Parent Support Team co-ordinators play a vital role in maintaining and nurturing positive parents and students relationships.

If you are interested, please contact Diane Falzon 0430 596 699 or email diane.falzon@bigpond.com

A VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE regarding the WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

All parent volunteers must now have completed the Working With Children Check (WWC Check). The WWC Check is required before any parent at Overnewton College is able to participate and fulfil their 18 Hour Family Contribution commitment and co-ordinators cannot allocate parents to a roster unless they have completed this check. Please note that there will be some minor exceptions to this e.g. parents working at Saturday working bees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 9334 0140 if you have any questions or alternatively you can contact the WWC Check Information Line on 1300 652 870.

Shirley Seitz, Head of Community Development.
9334 0140 / shirley.seitz@overnewton.vic.edu.au

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR WWC CARDHOLDERS

Please check the expiry date on your card

The first batch of cards issued in 2007 will need to be renewed this year.

Approximately 60 days prior to the expiration date, the Department of Justice will send a renewal form to your home to fill in and be returned to the Post Office.

Note: If you have changed address since the card was issued you must inform the Department of Justice via phone or website of your new details as renewal forms are only sent out from the Justice Department. Renewal forms are not available from the Post Office or Overnewton.

Information line: 1300 652 879 or website www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren

CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED

WALKING SCHOOL BUS - KEILOR CAMPUS

Duties include ensuring parents are at every stop and pick-up zone, taking enquiries from parents regarding allocated bus stops. Keeping records of parent’s hours.

For a full duty description please contact: Kathy Tyrovolas, Parents and Friends Committee member: 0409 161 919

Hot Cross Bun Day

Friday 30th March 2012

Keilor Campus Junior School Parents Support Team are organising a “Hot Cross Bun Day” on Friday 30th March.

All Hot Cross Buns are $1 each.

Please return your order forms and money to your home room teacher before the 21st March 2012.

Junior School Parents Support Team
Keilor Campus

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
Combined Working Bee  
Saturday 24th March, 2012  
Keilor & Taylors Lakes Campus

The next combined campus working bees will be held on Saturday 24th March, 2012. Please note that the working bee commences at 8.30am and not before. Hours will only be credited after 8.30am. The day will finish at 4.30pm. Please stay as long as possible so that the tasks organised for the day can be completed. The day will cover projects and general clean up at both campuses. Please bring along your own gloves and any gardening tools you may require, including lawn mowers. Lunch: $5.00

Please note that children are not permitted to attend working bees.

Co-ordinators:  
Keilor Campus  
Andrew Daalmeyer  0411 269 331

Taylors Lakes Campus  
Sando Temelkovski  0412 046 811

(Working Bee dates are also listed on the College website, www.overnewton.vic.edu.au)

Hot Cross Bun Day  

Taylors Lakes Campus Junior School is having a Hot Cross Bun Day on Friday 30th March

Signed order forms and money must be returned by 23rd March

• Traditional Hot Cross Bun  
• Choc Chip Hot Cross Bun  
• Fruitless Hot Cross Bun

If you have any queries please call:  
Maria Winton 0414 900 018

Junior School-Taylors Lakes Campus  
Parent Support Team Co-ordinator

Easter Colouring In Competition.

We encourage all students to participate. There will be winners in each year level and exciting prizes given to each winner. Colouring sheets will be distributed in class and put into student diaries to take home and complete.

All Entries will be due back to your class room teacher by Friday 23rd March

MOTHERS DAY GIFT SHOP

Taylors Lakes Campus  
Friday 11th May 2012

Donations required for ‘Mothers’ Day Stall’ at Taylors Lakes. This contributes towards the Family Contribution Scheme.

If you wish to make donations or have any other enquiries please contact:

Jackie Cousins  0421 932 085
Melissa McAlister  0431 132 130

HELP US PLEASE!!

INCLUDE HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER 9334 0000

When recording hours contributed toward the Family Contribution Scheme please write your home telephone number (NOT mobile number) as this will assist us to ensure your hours are allocated correctly.
Parents and School in Sync.

A strong trusting relationship between home and school is so important for a child. The two major learning environments for a child need to be in harmony.

- Children need consistency between parents, and between home and school. Consistency of expectations between home and school provides a child with a clear understanding of what is required. Good habits are learned through reinforcement.

- Trust between home and school increases the child's respect for both parents and teachers. By their positive talk, parents reinforce the appreciation of a child for teachers. Teachers also must be careful not to criticise parents... even in the staffroom. A negative culture towards parents or school develops when gratuitous criticism is offered.

- It is very much in the parents' interest to know their child's teachers and to work together to help the child reach his or her full potential. Parents have the duty to ensure that the other inputs in the lives of their children are consistent with their own messages. If they fail to do so there is the danger that, no matter how dedicated they are, their own efforts will be undercut by the competition. Children are wired to imitate those who take an interest in them... for better or for worse. Children imitate whoever they spend time with, not only in classrooms, but in Facebook, on DVDs, and on mobile phones.

Such a relationship requires a high level of communication between home and school, between teachers and parents. There need to be effective structures for regular communication in place, as well as a desire to be proactive, foresee each other's need for information, and back each other up.

Emails between home and school

Emails are like people. They have good and bad points. At their best they are great communicators. At their worst they cause misunderstanding, fail to communicate emotional nuances, and by their broadcast qualities can irreparably harm a reputation.

Communication is a good thing. The more communication the better, provided the communication is positive or constructive and appreciated by the other party. When staff and parents use emails to communicate we all need to observe some common sense protocols that allow us to maximise benefits and avoid the collateral! The advantage of email's speed is also its shortcoming. Friendships can be lost by too much haste and too little thought before pressing 'send'.

The mouse is mightier than the sword. Wield it with caution.
Common sense guidelines for emails

The following guidelines serve well. Many are standard etiquette for email communication. Parents may wish to adopt them in guiding children in use of electronic messaging in all its forms.

- Greet your recipient by name - it's polite.

- Emails are at their best with content that is informative. Avoid emails that have emotional overlay. Avoid negative emails. Pick up the phone instead.

- Group emails have the potential to waste many people's time if they are not pertinent. It is courteous to avoid timewasting emails, and even joke emails broadcast to groups.

- Avoid emails for topics in the least confrontational, and for any issue that could at all possibly be taken the wrong way. Pick up the phone instead.

- We must never email words we wouldn't say to a recipient's face.

- We must not write about third parties using emotion charged words they would be uncomfortable to read about themselves. Interpret behaviour in a most charitable light and stick to the facts.

- If an email is received that is contentious. Neither staff nor parents should ever reply to such emails. A face to face discussion is needed.

- Emails of any sensitivity must not be forwarded to a third party without permission of the sender. This is obviously all the more important if there is distribution to a group.

- Brevity is the strength of email but it can be all too easily mistaken for impoliteness. Before pressing 'send', if it is not an email response, recheck the text and add some niceties.

- Sign off with your name and contact details - it's helpful.

- CC the home room teacher in all communications touching on the welfare of a child.

Source: One school's approach to building a positive email culture.

Parenting Tips is provided as a service to the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia
To receive Parenting Tips email: parentingtips@pared.edu.au