Excellence..................Teamwork..................Support......................Effort

CALENDAR

March
Mon 16\textsuperscript{th} – Fri 20\textsuperscript{th} Parent-Teacher Meetings
Fri 20\textsuperscript{th}/27\textsuperscript{th} JSC icy-poles for sale at lunchtime & Visits from Mt Egerton PS students (early lunch)
Fri 27\textsuperscript{th} Last day of term – casual dress day

April
Mon 13\textsuperscript{th} First day of term 2
Fri 24\textsuperscript{th} Athletics Sports – Llanberris Reserve (full day)

May
Fri 1\textsuperscript{st} Cross Country- Little Bendigo PS

School Banking Day is now Wednesdays

From the Principal:

Just a reminder for any students and families interested in finding out more information about the Mount Clear College SEALP and Transition Band programs, that both information sessions are this \textbf{Wednesday night March 18\textsuperscript{th} in the MCC Library.}

- The Music Transition Band Information session is at 6.30pm in the Library.
- SEALP Information session begins at 7.00pm in the Library.

Many thanks to those parents who have come in for a conversation this week with your child's teacher - it's important to share concerns, and strategies, about how to best help your child on his/her journey as well as inform you about progress at school. If you meant to make a time but haven’t yet, please arrange a meeting before the end of term. We’d like to see every family.

Thanks also to people who have returned overdue library books - the system’s up and running well now with very few over-dues and children keen to borrow.

It's great to see people taking our veggie garden produce home to use. The zucchinis have been very productive this year and hopefully there will be time before the end of term to do some cooking in class. We also have some rock melons, pumpkins, silver beet, tomatoes, potatoes and onions. Soon it will be time to plant up the winter garden. Thanks to the supplier of cucumbers - wow, what a crop!!!

Last week when the new School Council met, office bearers were elected. Thank you and congratulations to the following people who were elected to these positions:

President: Sue Klerks
Vice-President: Melissa Donald
Secretary: Leesa Inglis
Assist Sec: Trudy East

Have a great weekend.

Jude Porteous, Principal
There were lots of awards presented at this week’s assembly. Harrison, Jake, Flynn and Jessica have all reached 25 nights of reading. Jessica is a super speller for being able to spell the first 25 Oxford words for writing and Flynn can spell the first 50. Some other children have nearly reached their first spelling target. Keep up the great spelling practise and you will get there too! Class achiever this week is Mangatea for being such a happy and helpful class member.

Ride to school day should be fun. On Friday we will be celebrating Harmony Day by exploring cultural diversity and what the term Harmony means to us.

This week the children are learning about 3D shapes and having a focus on sight word recognition for reading.

A reminder that we will be enthusiastically participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Please return permission notes ASAP so we can get the program going. It would be great to see every child participate this year.

Have a great week

Mrs East

Congratulations this week to Summah McMahon for achieving the classroom award for her excellent effort she has been putting in to her writing each week. Well done Summah, keep it up! Well done to Blake, Dexter, Spencer, Lukey, Jessica and Flynn for reaching 25 nights of home reading. Excellent job!

This week in Maths students are focusing on location and are learning to create and interpret simple grid maps, use and identify terms such as left, right, forwards and backwards when giving directions and drawing objects from different points of view. In Reading students have been learning about prefixes and have been identifying them in our stories we have been reading.

In PE this week students will be practising for Athletics and we will be focusing on 100 metre sprints, discus and javelin. Not long now till we head to Lanberris for the big day!

Have a great week everyone.

Miss Fisher

Over the last week, many children are getting stuck into the Lexia program, with the result that they have progressed quickly - great to see. The reports are very specific showing areas they're finding easy and pointing out difficulties. If your child is doing some at home, please see that they don't spend more than 2 x 20 min sessions a week as we don't want them to see it as a chore, but a challenge.

Next week in Geography, year 5/6 students are completing and presenting information about an Asian country such as elevations, latitude, longitude, climate land type (desert, plains, mountains etc), major industries, population; students in yrs 3/4 are preparing a talk/poster about a natural feature of Australia.

Congratulations to Max for his 50 nights reading award, to Beau Gear, Wiremu Wilson & Jack Murley for reaching 25 nights and to Blayzz for receiving a bronze Mathletics award. This week's student achievement award was presented to Dylan Anderson for focussing on improving his punctuation in his writing. It's really terrific to see students editing their own work. Wiremu wowed us all with his wonderful piece of descriptive writing – Zombies (see last page).

Many children in my class are not eating their sandwiches as I find them in the bin – please ask your child about this.

Ms Porteous

HARMONY DAY

On Friday 21st March we will be celebrating Harmony Day. This is a special day in Australia where we pause to celebrate the many cultures of the people who make up this great country.

At Lal Lal Primary School, children will be learning about some of these cultural differences in the morning, followed by a shared morning tea at 11.00am. If you can send along a small plate of food from another culture for children to taste, it would be much appreciated. Some possible suggestions are sushi or rice paper rolls, a simple rice dish, scones, strudel, curry puffs, gingerbread, nachos, naan bread, soda bread, pasta. An unusual fruit from another country could be interesting - a star fruit or some lychees perhaps. PARENTS AND FRIENDS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO COME ALONG TO THE MORNING TEA AT 11.00. YOU MAY WISH TO ALSO BRING AN OBJECT FROM ANOTHER CULTURE TO SHOW.
Performing Arts classes re-commenced this week after a break due to the swimming program and the long weekend. Our drama sessions are culminating in some exciting performances. The students have been using the tableau technique (frozen pictures) to begin and end scenes. They have been making their tableaus come to life in a dramatic scene such as a house fire or a beach scene emergency. They have been developing their ideas on what makes scenes successful and have been delivering feedback to each other about their performances.

Our focus in music has been beat and rhythm. Some music games the students have enjoyed were rhythmic tic tac toe (in the middle and upper primary groups) and bobs and statues in the lower primary group.

Choir Performance and Party
Choir members will need to meet before school next Monday 23rd March, as we will be performing one of our songs at assembly that day and will need a quick warm-up and rehearsal first. Parents are encouraged to come and watch the choir perform. Our performance will be of a work in progress and is an important part of our goal setting for the year.

At lunchtime, I will be rewarding the choir members for a perfect attendance record and fantastic effort this term by giving them a party. I will bring some treats and some of the students have expressed a wish to bring food also. If they do bring food, it can be left in the fridge until lunchtime.

The buy, swap and sell was a great success. There were a great number of kids buying and selling.
A reminder for casual dress day on the last day of term, bring a gold coin donation.
The JSC bulb drive is on again, orders need to be collected and returned asap. Please sell to as many friends and family as you can.
We are still selling icy-poles for 50c. We will be selling icy-poles for the rest of the term. If you owe us 50c from last week and haven’t paid, you won’t be able to have one this week.
We also still need old mobile phones to save the gorillas.

Homework Policy

Schools should:
- advise parents of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy
- follow up with parents if a student regularly fails to complete homework
- encourage the school to work with parents/guardians to establish good homework patterns from early primary school
- ensure that upper primary and secondary school students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school. Diaries may be electronic.

Note: These Homework Guidelines have been developed by the Department with the assistance of parents, teachers and students in Victorian primary and secondary schools. The Guidelines provide a framework to help schools engage their communities when reviewing their existing homework policies.

Successful practice
This table describes successful homework practice for the different year levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>should not be seen as a chore</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials</td>
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| Years Prep-4 | • will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings  
• will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations. |
|---|---|
| Years 5-9 | • should include daily independent reading  
• should be coordinated across subjects in secondary schools to avoid unreasonable workloads for students  
• may extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research  
• will generally range from:  
1. 30 to 45 minutes a day at Year 5  
2. 45 to 90 minutes a day in Year 9. |

**Parents’ Club News**

**Local Farm Open Day - Sunday 22nd March**

- Pick Your Own Corn between 10am - 3pm for $1 per cob. Dunnstown-Yendon Road, Dunnstown. Signs will be out to direct people, next to the quarry. **BBQ on the day run by Lal Lal Primary School Parents’ Club.** Spring Creek Organics will be selling other vegies and Inglenook Dairy will be there making coffee and milkshakes too, if there is room. Come and help support your local community. Ph. 0400 772 523

- Yendon Gourmet Tomatoes is 10am - 2pm, Harbours Road, Yendon. Strawberries, tomatoes, eggplant, cucumber, capsicum and basil available, subject to availability.

**Hot Lunch Days**

Friday hot lunches have been changed to Thursdays. The first hot lunch day will be Thursday 16th April – Sausages in bread – $1 Sausage. Orders due by Tuesday 14th April please use the attached envelope/order form.

Parents will also be providing a homemade cooked lunch every second Thursday for the kids to purchase, order sheets will be sent out with the newsletter for these each fortnight.

**We need volunteers!**

**Wednesdays** at 1:30pm for about half an hour to help heat up lunches.  
**Every second Thursday** from about 12:15pm to serve your meal, food will need to be made at home and reheated as we have limited cooking facilities. If you would like to make a meal but can’t be there to serve up on a Thursday, feel free to organise another parent to help out. There are sign-up sheets for both days in the office and a list of suggested meals for Thursdays, although we welcome your own delicious and healthy creations.

**Clothes Drive**

On the 22nd & 23rd April we will be holding the clothes drive in the playgroup room. Please bring along any unwanted clothing on Wednesday 22nd to allow time for people to sort and choose from over the 2 days.

**DUNNSTOWN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB 2015**

Dunnstown Football Netball Club is currently recruiting junior players for the 2015 season. Some of your classmates already play for Dunnstown so come and join them at this great club. Dunnstown has excellent coaches and has run a successful junior program for many years. It is also your local Central Highland's club (10 mins to get to training from Lal Lal). We are currently looking for players for all age group junior teams (U12/U15/U18) so if you have any older brothers or sisters they would also be most welcome. Pre-season training will start in March and the Central Highland's season commences on Saturday the 11th of April. We will also be running an Auskick program at Dunnstown this year. You can register for Auskick at: [http://www.aflauskick.com.au](http://www.aflauskick.com.au)

For further enquiries contact Dominic Hanrahan on 04 - 1227 9948 (Junior President), Paul Britt: 04 - 1933 1057 (Under 12’s Coach) or email: dunnstown.juniors@hotmail.com
Zombies

Zombies are magnificent beasts lurking in dark abandoned cities or graveyards.

They are human waste coming back to life.

They come in many groups of walkers and crawlers.

Some people may think they’re scary, ruthless, brainless, flesh eating beasts but I feel that they’re doing their part to protect the underworld.

Zombies are a greeny, white colour which matches their human like body.

By Wiremu Wilson