STRATCHAT

Principal’s News

Important Message – Gastro bug

It seems there is a very nasty gastro bug in the area at the moment. We will continue to remind our students to wash their hands at the usual key times and we have antibacterial sanitiser available in classrooms to do our best to stop the spread of any such bugs, however they may still creep through. If your child does become ill it is very important that he or she stay home to recover to prevent the spread of any infection. The normal health regulations stipulate a 24 hour period free of any signs of the gastro but with this strain a 48 hour period has been recommended. Let’s hope our kids are hail and hearty.

Tournament of Minds

This year we are leaping into a new and challenging program called Tournament of Minds (ToM). ToM is a program for teams of seven students who are presented with two challenges, one seen and practised and the second provided on the day of the Tournament (spontaneous). The challenges have many rules that must be followed and involve the team rehearsing and planning in preparation for Tournament day. These challenges include working co-operatively, preparing budgets and scripts, preparing costumes, and performing for judges on the day. All must be done without any help from staff or families! Normally this will be a program that will be offered to our year 5s and 6s but in this first year it has been opened to the year 4s to supplement the numbers. This year we will be entering one

Book Week Parade

Don’t forget we have our Book parade on Monday 15 August. We are asking all our students to get into the swing of it and come dressed to the nines for the day.

Coffee & Chat Assembly is on the first school Friday of each month.

Our next Coffee & Chat will be: Friday 5 August
Stratchat will be published on: 12th August. 26th August

No Assembly on Fri 12 August due to Athletics.

Calendar

**August**

Wed 3 ~P/1 Gym 11.30-12.15
Fri 5 ~Jump Rope for Heart ‘Jump Off’ Day
Mon 8 ~Vic Spell @St Mary’s Sale
Wed 10 ~P/1 Gym 11.30-12.15
Fri 12 ~ School Athletics
Mon 15 ~Book Week & Fair & Book Parade
Wed 17 ~P/1 Gym 11.30-12.15
Thurs 18 ~Dad’s Science night
Fri 19 ~School Olympics & Grandparents Day
Sat 20 ~Tournament of Minds—Churchill
Wed 24~HDSSA Athletics
Fri 26 ~Family & Friends Meeting after assembly
Mon 29 ~Hunchback of Notre Dame & School council 6pm
Wed 31 ~ Fathers Day Stall

**September**

Thur 1 ~ Fathers’ Day Stall
Fri 2 ~Pupil Free Day
Tue 6 ~Division Athletics
Fri 9 ~ P/1 & 2 Melbourne Aquarium Excursion
~Bike Ed Challenge (Araluen)
Fri 16 ~Footy Colours Day
Cancer Awareness fundraiser ~ Footy Tuck-shop
~ Last day term 3
Students dismissed at 2:30pm
~ School Banking Day - Tuesday

CHILDREN ARE SUPERVISED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:50AM AND 3:40PM WITHIN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Sent home today :
Before and After School Care Registration of Interest
Athletics House Sports information letter plus helpers slip
Fathers’ Day Raffle tickets
This year our school is participating in Jump Rope for Heart - a fantastic physical activity and fundraising program by the Heart Foundation. Our Jump Off day will be Friday 5th August. Jump Rope for Heart is a great way for your child to keep fit and learn new skills but it also helps raise funds for vital heart research and education programs. It’s really important you register your child online so they can receive the full benefits of the program and also participate in online fundraising. Simply follow the link below to get started.

Sign your child up for online fundraising now: [http://jumprope.everydayhero.do/jumprope2016/?group=Stratford-Primary-School-STRATFORD-VIC-121785](http://jumprope.everydayhero.do/jumprope2016/?group=Stratford-Primary-School-STRATFORD-VIC-121785)

Thank you for supporting the Jump Rope for Heart program!

School Athletics

Our school athletic house sports carnival will be held on Friday 12th August. All students are encouraged to wear their house colours in conjunction with their school sports uniform. Parents are most welcome to come along and support their child(ren). If they can spare some time to help with marshalling, scoring etc then that would be most appreciative. Students in the 9/10, 11 and 12/13 year age groups will be competing for a place in our school athletics team that will travel to Sale for the HDSSA Athletics Competition later in August.

Sporting Schools

This term our school will be participating in the Athletics component of Sporting Schools. We have been fortunate to have Denis Huffer coach our students in the finer skills of athletics. Denis is a level 2 coach for Athletics Australia and is looking forward to being involved in our Physical Education program. This program will be held on Wednesdays 3rd August, 10th August and Thursday 11th August. This will be a great lead up to our school athletics carnival on Friday 12th August. Could all parents please ensure that their child(ren) wear school sports uniform and supportive footwear on these days.

Last Wednesday, Denis focused on teaching and fine tuning, the skills of long jump and triple jump. He also focused on sprint techniques that incorporated running games. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by all the students and we look forward to next Wednesday’s program.
**Bike Challenge**

Try outs for this year’s Bike Challenge Team will be held during the week of 8-14th August. Could all interested students please ensure that they have a roadworthy bike and approved safety helmet ready on the Monday. Try outs will be held during lunch times.

**School Doorbell**

As you will be aware our school office is unattended on Mondays so to manage the safety of our students and the school the front door needs to be locked as there is no one in that area of the school on the day. Thanks to Dave Hooper, we now have a doorbell at the front door so if you need to come into the building all you need to do is ring the doorbell and someone will come and let you in. The office will still be unattended so there will not be anyone who will be able to help you with finance or more in-depth matters, but we are hoping it will be easier for families and students who need to gain access. The side gate will no longer be open.

**Reminder**

Grade 5\6 & 3\4 camp deposits are due next Friday 5th August.

**Lunch Warm Ups**

Our Microwave lunch warm ups continue on Tuesdays. Please make sure the lunches are in microwave proof containers and clearly named and marked with your child’s grade. Make sure you BYO all the bits and pieces your child may need.

**Hi all,**

Unfortunately we have had to postpone the planned tree planting event that was going to be taking place at the Garden of Harmony on Sunday 31st July.

We will hopefully try and reschedule for another time.

Kind regards,
Nikki Bradley, on behalf of the Avon Landcare Group

**Athletics with Denis Huffer**
CONFIDENT PARENTS, CONFIDENT CHILDREN.
A PARENTING PROGRAM THAT HELPS PARENTS TO LEARN NEW PARENTING STRATEGIES AND BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS IN THEIR FAMILY

This program will be facilitated by Parentzone Gippsland. The content will be based around the needs and interests of the participants and may include any of the following topics:
- Factors that influence how we parent
- Child development
- Developing a positive relationship with your children
- Understanding causes of children’s behaviour
- Ways to encourage cooperative behaviour
- Strategies to deal with difficult behaviour
- Self Esteem—theirs and yours
- And any other issues that are challenging you as a parent

Parentzone Gippsland Newsletter
To find the Parentzone Gippsland Newsletter, please follow the below directions:
Go to www.anglicarevic.org.au
- Click on What We Do
Click on Supporting Families then scroll to the bottom of the page to find the most recent Parentzone Gippsland newsletter or click on link to download the current edition https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Parentzone-Gippsland-Newsletter-Term-3-2016.pdf

First Prize $20
Second Prize $15
Entries can be any article knitted in 8 ply yarn.
Entries close 12 noon Saturday 20 August 2016
All entries need to be delivered to St Thomas’ Primary School Stadium between 9:30am and 12 noon Saturday 20 – August 2016
All enquiries to Sandra on 0400 492 509

Creative Arts Exhibition
North Gippsland Group Country Women’s Association
Sunday 21 August 2016
9.30am – 4.00pm
St Thomas’ Primary School Stadium
cn Raylan Street & Guthridge Parade Sale

Children’s Knitting Competition

Parents and carers are advised to ensure that children are appropriately supervised and not allowed to venture onto the open parade route to the venue.

Anglicare Victoria acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we provide services. We acknowledge their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

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BETTER TOMORROWS