Principal’s News

Not long until our year 6s take the stage for *Much Ado About Nothing*. Dress rehearsals are in full swing and all is almost ready for the opening performance on Tuesday 3 May at 1.30. The second matinee will be performed on Wednesday 4 May and this is the day our whole school will attend to cheer our actors on. You will have already received a special note about the traditional banquet lunch that is offered on Wednesday before we head to the performance. Orders for the special lunch were due in today. If you have forgotten please send them back by Monday and we will do our best to ensure everyone is catered for. Those who would prefer their own lunch will simply bring their lunch to the banquet table. The final performance of *Much Ado About Nothing* is on Friday 6 May at 6.00pm. We would like to thank Rachel Nicholls for all the work she has done in organising and managing this very special activity for our year 6 students and Mrs Meredith and Mrs Nowak for giving up their lunch times to make sure our students have plenty of rehearsal times.

Last Friday we welcomed Darren Chester to a special assembly for our senior students. Darren presented our student leaders with their leadership badges and talked about how he came to be a member of parliament, what he does in his role as well as encouraging all of us listening to be the best at whatever we decide to be. A very positive message and one that fits well with the growth mindset approach we are beginning to explore.

We received some very positive feedback from our visitors to our school ANZAC service and after the Stratford march and service on Monday. Thank you to all of the families who were able to come along and represent the school at an important community event. Congratulations to Jack and Taleah, who helped lay the wreath on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans and to Keira and Emma, who laid the wreath on behalf of our school. It was exciting to see Daniel, Riley, Mathew and Taleah release the pigeons, whose story featured at this year’s service.

This Sunday our Family and Friends team will be running a food stall at the Shakespeare Faire. Helpers are needed for two hour shifts. If there is any way you could spare even an hour to spread the load it would be very much appreciated. Give Debbie in the office a call if you can’t find...
THRASS Information Session

We are planning a THRASS information session in the near future. If you are interested in knowing more about the how the program runs in our classroom could you please return the response sheet attached by Wednesday 4 May so that we can select a date and time to suit as many people as possible.

Please see page 4 for response form.

The Big Write

We are just about to embark on a new program to help our students become more skilled and confident writers. The program is called the Big Write – VCOP. Although focusing on writing there are many other skills – speaking and listening, creativity, vocabulary and spelling – that will get built on along the way. A major part of the program involves getting ready to write – collecting ideas and different opinions, thinking about the vocabulary that could be used and planning the plot. At this stage the program involves families adding ideas and suggestions to the mix through conversations about the given topic. Next week we are going to do our first attempt as a whole school. Keep a look out for a note outlining the topic and providing some sample questions you may like to use to get you started. The discussion starters will usually come home the day before the Big Write and will follow classroom sessions leading up to the writing day. The first one will be coming home next week.

Ashore the Turks kept firing at us, dying everywhere

No toilet, shower, fruit & veg, nothing from home – a great sacrifice

Zip go the bullets right by my arm

Anzacs digging trenches to survive during war

Courage, bravery, endurance are three of the qualities the soldiers needed

By Keira
Family & Friends News

QUEENSLAND HOLIDAY RAFFLE
We only have three weeks until this raffle is drawn, if you can return your books as soon as you have sold them so we can tick them off that would be great. If you would like another book to sell please see the office. All books whether tickets sold or not do need to be returned for accountability reasons. Tickets are just $2 each with the major prize valued at $2900. Sell a full book of 20 tickets and go into the draw to win an iPod. The raffle will be drawn on the 20th May at assembly.

SHAKESPEARE FAIRE DAY
This Sunday is Shakespeare faire day and we are having our food stall again this year. We would love any helpers possible if you could spare an hour or more anytime from 7am-4pm that would be fantastic. You will be able to spot our stall as Stratford primary is on the big red gazebo and we should be in our usual spot in front of the Mechanics Hall.

Heyfield & District Cross Country
Last Wednesday a team of 21 competitors represented our school at the HDSSA cross country event at the Heyfield Wetlands. This was the first time we had used this venue so it was a new course for everyone. All students ran extremely well and should be proud of their efforts. We have two students – Madison P and Jessie M – who will now represent the Heyfield District at the next level of competition which will be held at Yarram in May. Congratulations to both these girls as well as to all our other runners. Ani, Kiri H, Elise P, Cameron H, Riley L-H, Ronan H, Ryan P, Ryan E, Brock K, Lily T, Holly B, Latoya D, Craig H, Jacob VZ, Rylie K, Mathew F, Sasha B, Mangi, and Blair D.

Also a very big thank you to the parents who came along to support our team, to the ladies who supplied water bottles for our thirsty athletes and to those parents who volunteered to be checkpoint marshalls on the course.

Young Trista Leighton in grade 4 was our sole representative at the Gippsland Primary School’s Interschool Gymkhana that was held on Wednesday 20th April at Bairnsdale. She rode in a composite team which were placed 17th. Trista won and was placed in many events and was a wonderful ambassador for our school. Congratulations Trista.

Mother’s Day Stall
Family & Friends will be holding their annual Mother’s Day Stall on Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th May.

Items are prices from $1.00 to $5.00.
Stall will operate from 8:30am-9:00am both days in the Gallery.
**The Lizard Lounge**

**Our 2016 Garden Guru Team Project**

Our 2016 Garden Guru Team have put together an action plan to create an Australian themed Lizard Lounge Garden. Ideas for the project are to plant native insect attracting plants and grasses and to create a dry creek bed. The location for this project is in the existing garden area near the Indonesian room.

To make this project a reality donations are being sought for the following items:

**Plants:** Native grasses and native flowering plants when fully grown are no more than half a metre high.

**Rocks:** Thank you to the Evans Family for their generous donation and Michelle Peverill for picking them up. We now have enough rocks for the first stage of our Lizard Lounge.

Please contact the school office if you are able to assist.

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**THRASS Information Session**

**Response Form**

Name ................................................................. would be interested in attending a THRASS information session.

My preferred day is:   Tuesday   Wednesday   Thursday

My preferred time is:   4-5       4.30-5.30     5-6       5.30-6.30

Signed ........................................................................

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**Stratford Primary School**

**Winter Lunches**

We are looking to offer students the opportunity to bring to school lunches that, under adult supervision, can be microwaved at school. We would also like to offer students warm winter drinks before school. More details to follow if we are able to get the program up and running.

**Please contact the school if you are able to help. Phone 51456554**

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**CSEF**

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund applications are still open if you have a current Health Care Card, Veterans Gold Card or Pensioner Concession Card as of the first day of term 2.

The amount payable to eligible primary school students is $125.

Application forms are available at the school office.

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**New Sale Specialist School – Parent Action Group (NSPAG)**

Would you like your child to attend Sale Specialist School?

Are you interested in helping to get the NEW Sale Specialist School?

**Friday May 13th 11am @ 5 Star Housing – between Howard & McCole streets Sale**

All interested persons welcome

Contact Heather  51 841
321 haflynn@activ8.net.au

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RAAF Base East Sale Community Day

On the 8th of May, “Mothers Day” RAAF Base East Sale will host a Community Day for local Wellington residents to view the recent redevelopment works. A number of the training units will open their doors to show aspects of their training programs, and there will be displays of equipment, vehicles and locally based aircraft.

RAAF Base East Sale was established in April 1943 to provide flying training to Air Force pilots and aircrew. Over the last 73 years, the Base has grown to be one of the major Air Force training establishments, as well as other Air Force and Army units. A $185M redevelopment of the Base has recently been completed, improving Base infrastructure and delivering a number of new facilities.

The community day is free, you must register for tickets and live locally to attend. Tickets are available online until 03 May 2016 unless claimed earlier [bit.ly/RAAFeastsaleopenday](bit.ly/RAAFeastsaleopenday)

MAFFRA CARERS’ GROUP

Meetings held Feb - Nov providing information & support for people in various caring roles

If you know someone who could benefit - please feel free to extend a welcome to come along

We hope to see you there!

Maffra Hospital 48 Kent Street in the Community Meeting Room. Bring a plate to share

Contact people – Pam S 51455417 & Thelma C 5145 1387 1pm – 3pm on 16 May. Speaker on Wills & Estate Planning
Guided tours and information sessions: Tuesday 17 May 9.30am & 2.00pm

The students and staff at Stratford Primary School are excited to invite prospective families and community members to an Open Day on Tuesday 17 May. We will proudly show you our school and give you an insight into the many ways we work towards guiding our students to be empathetic, compassionate, to show initiative, to be able to persevere, and to have a strong sense of self-worth. Visit classrooms and see teaching and learning programs in action. You will also be able to talk to students and parents to find out even more about our school.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK TOUR PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL 5145 6554