Hi Everyone,

We are really pleased that the next stage of the admin upgrade has been completed. Shirley and Michael are in their new office. Pam and Tracey have returned from exile in the BER building and are in their new offices. And I am hopeful that by the time you are reading this everyone will be over the confusion of using the new front door now that the old front door is exit only. We had a ceremonial locking of the old front door on Thursday afternoon last week which was attended by the admin staff and Jan, lots of laughter a short speech by me and amid wild applause the front door was locked for the last time. Over the last week I have watched the new foyer with interest and noted that our visitors are very impressed. I was keen to provide our school with a reception that reflects the high quality of the teaching and learning that occurs at our school. I wanted a space that was welcoming and able to take the busy morning and afternoon rush without feeling overcrowded and uncomfortable. I believe we have succeeded beyond expectations.

As you can see from the photo we had a wonderful turn up to the Centrelink Information Night, Tony and his staff were overwhelmed by the response with 60 families represented and 40 staff attending. We were given some useful information, questions about personal circumstances were addressed over supper and it was just nice to catch up with parents I haven’t seen since last year’s concert.

In news from around the school you may be aware that we have had a couple of bike camps. Lisa and Vlad have just completed bike ed. training and we have purchased some fantastic new bikes for our students.

We are busy and happy at school.

Cheers

Sue
**Junior School Principal Awards**

- **Joshua J.** received his award for walking independently.
- **Amelia** received an award for wearing shoes & socks for the first time.
- **Korey** received his award for improved participation in all class activities.

**Middle School Principal Awards**

- **Chinedu** received his award for general excellence.
- **Joshua L.** received his award for great work in crash & bash.
- **Joshua P.** received his award for being kind & cooperative.

**Senior School Principal Awards**

- **Daniel** received his award for great use of Proloquo2go on his Ipad.
- **Tiger** received his award for great communication using Proloquo2go.
You Can Do It Awards

Jamila
Daniel
William
Olivia
William
Tahlia
Craig
Emily
Lindy

ΤΕΡΑΠΙΟY ΑΒΡΑΔ Κ
Brandon
Lachlan & Corey
Joshua

Beyond the Disability

Asphyxia, a deaf performer, puppeteer and
author provides insights into her own
childhood and through engaging and lively
stories, relates challenges and strategies
that are inspirational.

A ‘not to be missed’ event for parents,
carers and teachers.

Monday 24 June, 6.00 - 7.00pm
Cranbourne Library
65 Berwick Cranbourne Road
Melway: 134 B6

NO COST. Book online at
www.tinyurl.com/cccevents
or phone 5990 0150
A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO WERE ABLE TO ATTEND THE ART EXPO DURING EDUCATION WEEK!
THE ART WORK WAS SENSTATIONAL!
1. **Use bubbles to promote eye contact**: Watch for your child anticipating more bubbles, wait for eye contact before you blow more bubbles.

2. **Use bubbles to stimulate your child to make a request**: Screw the lid on tight, and give them back to your child. Wait to see what s/he does. If after trying to open the bubbles themselves unsuccessfully, s/he hands them back to you for help, they have just made a request.

3. **Use bubbles to teach a sign**: When your child hands the bubbles back to you to open you can use this opportunity to teach the sign for “open”. Or pause to see if s/he asks for more. If not, teach the sign for more. You may also teach the signs for “again, want, please, and all done.”

4. **Use bubbles to teach a sound**: Model the sound /m/ for more, /b/ for bubbles, or /p/ for pop (pop bubbles) when your child uses these words when you play with him/her.

5. **Use bubbles to teach a word**: “more, again, want, pop, all done, fun, please”

6. **Use bubbles to teach turn taking**: Say “my turn, your turn.”

7. **Use bubbles to teach lip rounding for the sounds /w/, oo, and /o/**: When your child blows bubbles watch the shape of their lips. If they are round, great! If they are more on the flat side try squeezing their cheeks forward to get their lips in the right position.

8. **Use bubbles to position and strengthen the tongue correctly for the /k/, /g/, and ng sounds**: Blowing exercises such as blowing bubbles position and strengthen the tongue for sounds produced in the back of the mouth.

9. **Use bubbles to develop airflow necessary for sustained speech**: Strong airflow can help fluency and increase sentence length. Work with your child to blow consistently longer streams of bubbles each time you practice.

10. **Use bubbles because they are fun and kids love them!!!**
REMINDER

THE WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN PROMOTION FINISHES THIS SUNDAY (9TH JUNE)

PLEASE ENSURE YOU SEND INTO SCHOOL ALL YOUR STICKERS/SHEETS SO AS WE CAN TALLY AND REDEEM THEM FOR GREAT SCHOOL RESOURCES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

FOR SALE

The Occupational Therapy (OT) have several 'Safe n Sound' booster seat covers (full sized to cover the Styrofoam booster seats). They are clean, in great condition and are $5 each (a steal)! It’s a first come first serve sale, so if you want one pop $5 in an envelope and mark it for ‘OT Booster seat cover’, and drop it into the office, or in your child’s diary and we will send one home.

Thankyou Rachael, Fiona and Sheeba.

Code 1 Police Band.

We are very lucky to have the Code 1 Police Band playing at Dandenong Valley SDS for the students next Tuesday (June 11). Interested class groups will be attending the performance. We are very grateful to Pat and his team.

Michael Weston
"Autism, my life long journey from Survival to Quality of Life"

Presented by ex-Irabina parent, Elizabeth Curren, who is raising Marcus who is 22 and Calen who is 20 years old, both have A.S.D. Elizabeth also has another son Aaron who is 24 and not on the spectrum. Elizabeth will share her moving and inspirational story from diagnoses through to Early Intervention and into the school years and beyond. She will discuss the challenges with transitions throughout the boys lives and the impact this has had on her marriage.

Time: 7-9 pm
Date: Thursday 13th June, 2013
Where: Irabina Childhood Autism Services
454 Princes Highway
Officer 3809
COST: $30.00 per person

Please contact reception on 9720 1118 for enquiries, or for registration please fill in the attached registration form. HURRY, as places are limited!

Little Rascal's
Party Food

Kids savory & sweet platters - Kids high tea - Picnic boxes - Adult platters

Kristie 0448 812 239 littlerascalspartyfood.com.au

Mention this ad in the newsletter & receive a FREE PLATTER of sausage rolls for orders over $100
Student Transport Unit has requested that all schools ensure parents are aware of the following information regarding access to school bus services.

Home pick-ups and drop-offs

Over recent years the Student Transport Unit (STU) has worked closely with schools and bus operators to increase the number of students who are picked up/dropped off at common points. Many students now access the bus services at common points and this has reduced the travel time for some students and enabled larger buses to be used on some routes. However, for some families a home pick-up/drop-off is the only practical way their children can access the bus. The Students with Disabilities Transport Program policy provides guidance about the circumstances where home pick-up/drop-off arrangements can be supported.

These circumstances are:

If a student is unable to access a designated pick-up point to meet a bus service, an alternative arrangement may be available.

Individual transport arrangements are usually approved quickly in the following circumstances:

• The nature of the student’s disability may prevent them from physically travelling to a pick-up point.
• A family has multiple students with diagnosed disability attending the same specialist school.

Requests for individual transport arrangements other than the above will require the completion of a special cases application form, which will then be considered by an expert panel.

Special transport arrangements cannot be approved by the STU when it extends the total service beyond policy time-frames, when it would significantly affect other student travellers, or where there would be significant financial implications.

Student behaviour and access to school buses

As our enrolments increase, so does the pressure on our school buses and many of our buses are now operating at full capacity. Students granted access to school buses are allocated one seat on one bus. In this situation, the bus staff no longer have the luxury of allowing vacant seats adjacent to students who find the close proximity of others a challenge. In these circumstances, if a student’s behaviour puts their own safety or the safety of others at risk, they will be denied access to the bus service and it will become the parents’ responsibility to transport the student to school. Families may be eligible for a conveyance allowance to assist with the cost of transporting students. We do appreciate that this could place many families in a very difficult position but as with everything, the safety of all our students is of paramount importance.

If you have any concerns or require further information about this or any other transport matter, please feel free to contact the school or Student Transport student.transport@edumail.vic.gov.au
22nd April 2013

No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS Loans)

Please share this information with your school.

Do you need to buy a new item for your home, but are finding it difficult to save the money? Do you want to avoid expensive credit card bills, rental agreements or store loans?

Women who receive Centrelink benefits or are on a low income can apply for a No Interest Loan of up to $1000. Repayments start from $20 per fortnight through Centrepay.

The loan can be used to buy a fridge, washing machine, TV, furniture, computer or other approved items. The items must be new and come with a warranty. The loan can also be used to pay for other items such as car registration, medical or dental expenses (including dentures, asthma pumps, sleep apnoea machines) or course fees. It cannot be used to pay for household bills or debts.

Applicants need to get a written quote from any reputable store. They need to complete a budget with the NILS Worker to see if the loan will be approved. Applications take 2-4 weeks to complete. Women who live in the City of Greater Dandenong and City of Casey can apply.

We can refer men to other local organisations who also offer the NILS loans.

Please note that Wellsprings is closed during school holidays.

Further Information

Contact Bernadette (NILS Coordinator) on Ph 9701 3740.
"My Time"
Dandenong Valley

**Venue**  Term 2, 2013
Oatlands Primary School
79-93 Kurrajong Road
Narre Warren, 3805

**Time**
Mondays Fortnightly
10.00am - 12.30pm (2.5hrs)

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For details please contact:
Lynne Wood 0418 480 166
DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN ACCESS

UP TO $7,000

The Electronic Communication Devices Scheme provides up to $7,000 for specialised communication devices for people of all ages who have no speech or who have difficulty being understood.

UP TO $7,000 FOR THE PROVISION OF:

- An electronic communication device (ECD) also known as a speech generating device (SGD)
- Voice output software
- Switch
- Including $1400 available for a mounting system

SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS


Contacts:
Phone: 9362 6111
Email: a&ep@yooralla.com.au
Is your son or daughter interested in dance? Are they into music? Are you looking for a social opportunity outside of school hours?

City of Casey’s Community Care is running a group respite program for clients who have mild to moderate disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders, Intellectual Disability and Down Syndrome.

Lead by a Dance Therapist who will run a series of fun dance and movement classes especially designed for children and young adults who have disabilities.

Dance therapists;
- appreciate the therapeutic experience of dance
- understand the integration of the physical, emotional and cognitive dimensions of human nature
- use their skills in movement
- observations to assess individuals
- recognise body movements as the basis of human communication and interaction
- Make movement and music fun

The program will introduce a range of social skills and social development opportunities as a respite initiative for children and young people aged 5 – 16 years.

The development of an innovative and community based respite initiative will be enhanced by engaging with a range of partners and community members, with the view to transitioning participants into other community dance groups if so desired.

The program will be run with the assistance of Direct Care Workers as program support workers.

There are two venues:
Hallam and Cranbourne Nth
The 5 – 10yr groups start at 4.30pm for 1.5 hours at each venue and the 11 – 16yr group runs from 6.15pm for 2 hours at the Cranbourne Nth venue.

Participants are asked to bring along a snack and a drink to have during the break.

Places are limited and if we are not able to accommodate your child at present, their name will be placed on an Expression of Interest list for future programs.

For further information please phone Community Care on 9705 5444.
Dear Parents,

Due to the outbreak of the Cryptosporidium infection (also referred to as 'crypto') in the southern and eastern metropolitan regions of Melbourne (including in some swimming pools), the Health Department has issued the following information.

· Do not swim if you have diarrhoea or for 14 days after the diarrhoea stops. Crypto can still be spread easily through water up to 14 days after diarrhoea stops

· All swimming pool patrons should shower and wash thoroughly with soap before entering the pool

· Please note the importance of preventing ill patrons from entering the pool. Even if the pool is properly chlorinated crypto is highly resistant to chlorine and can be spread easily through the water

For more information go to

Michael Weston
Assistant Principal
Dandenong Valley SDS
Victoria Road
Narre Warren Vic 3805
PH: (03) 9704 9411
FAX: (03) 9796 6298