Hi Everyone,

Well the year is starting to draw to a close. Staff are busy finalising reports to send home on our last day which this year is Thursday December 19th. When the reports arrive they will come with a package including the group and staff for 2014 and a list of requisites and fees.

Providing all runs smoothly at the printers you will also get a copy of our yearbook. I am very excited about this year’s book and I want to thank all staff for their contributions but especially Di Haslett and Jenny Adams who have been burning the midnight oil with editing and organising the book for the printer.

Students are very busy …out and about on end of year excursions, planning special days and class parties. Our school is just abuzz.

Sadly at this time of year we have to think about saying goodbye to folk. We have staff whose contracts have come to an end and are leaving us; they are Rangi, Lil, Andrea W, Lorraine, Jodie and Heather. We wish them all well for the future.

We have three teachers who are off to other schools. Glynis is off to the new school at Officer, Julie is off to Yarrabah and Denise has picked up a promotion to leading teacher with Southern Autistic next year, congratulations to them all.

We also have some families leaving our community, a few are going to Officer Specialist next year and others are moving house as well as schools. We wish you all the very best and hope to see you again.

There will be one last newsletter in the last week of school with our final award winners for the year. Our last assembly next Monday will not only feature award winning students but it will be a time when we present certificates to those students who are moving departments.

Don’t relax there are only 19 sleeps til Xmas now........ I might see you at the shops.

Cheers Sue
JUNIOR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Lachlan received his award for completing his activity schedule.

Sabrina received her award for wearing her new glasses.

Victoria received her award for improved communication phase 3 of PECs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Corey received his award for riding a tricycle independently.

Jordan received his award for excelling in maths - money.

Thiviya received her award for excellent work on her transport project.

SENIOR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Kael received his award for using his communicator.

Emily received her award for great handwriting.

Jason received his award for excellent participation on camp.
‘You Can Do It’ Awards

♦ Hong
♦ Una
♦ Jirrah
♦ Jordan
♦ Januka
♦ Rodman
♦ Natasha
♦ Daniel
♦ Steve

Notice to all parents looking for polo shirts for students at Dandy Valley

One of our parent’s at Dandy Valley has kindly donated quite a few size 5 & 6 polo shirts with the school logo and colour. If your child is in need of a polo shirt in these sizes, please contact the school office for details. These polos are in good condition and are free.

School phone: 9704 4800
We are so excited to let you know that this year there are 4 locations offering ‘Sensitive Santa’, with special times reserved for children with ASD.

Thanks to the GPT Group which runs many shopping centres across Australia, Sensitive Santa will be available at:

- Chirnside Park 19 Nov-21 Dec (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday only)
- Dandenong Plaza 19 Nov-21 Dec (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday only)
- Highpoint Centre 19 Nov-21 Dec (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday only)
- Parkmore Centre 3-21 Dec (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday only)

“We are delighted to offer children with Autism the opportunity to meet and have their photo taken with Santa this Christmas. The sensory friendly environment provides a low stress, quiet surrounding creating an ideal setting for your child to meet Santa.

“Each participating family will receive a complimentary photo. There is also the option to purchase a wide selection of photo packages starting at $19.95.”

Bookings are available between 8am and 9am. Call your preferred centre to book a spot.

- Chirnside Park Centre Management (03) 9727 9000
- Dandenong Plaza Centre Management (03) 9767 2000
- Highpoint Centre Management (03) 9318 1699
- Parkmore Guest Service Desk (03) 9798 9494

We hope that you are able to take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy an important aspect of the Christmas traditions.

Kind regards
Siblings in Sync

Special Needs Access Program for Families

Siblings in Sync is a unique and innovative school holiday program for children with disabilities and their siblings.

It aims to:
- Foster relationships between siblings
- Provide positive shared experiences
- Give children the opportunity to express themselves
- Communicate with their sibling through creative music-making

The session is run by two Registered Music Therapists and will be tailored to suit the individual needs of participants within a small group.

Participants will have the opportunity to:
- Create music together
- Use music technology (including The Special Access Kit)

A music therapist will be in contact with you prior to your session commencing to obtain relevant information in order to plan for individual needs.

All participants must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the sessions.

Venue: Arts Centre Melbourne, Digital Learning Hub
Times: 11am
Dates: Tuesday 14 January or Thursday 16 January
Duration: 60 mins
Cost: $25 per family
Bookings: For more information or to book, phone (03) 9281 8194, or email snap@artscentremelbourne.com.au.

Thank you to the generous donors who support our programs.
Anonymous
Miss Betty Amisden OAM
Ms Barbara Haynes
The Pratt Foundation

Music Therapy is the planned and creative use of music to attain and maintain health and wellbeing. It may address physical, psychological, emotional, cognitive and social needs of individuals within a therapeutic relationship. Music Therapy is a registered allied health profession.
The CareChoice Holiday Program enables people to access a range of activities throughout the school holiday period. With a social inclusive focus, enjoy age related group activities for groups 6-11 years, 12-17 years and 18 years plus.

Individuals can access an unlimited number of programs per week, each week of the school holidays.

25% off DHS Unit cost
Socially inclusive activities
Limited spaces available

Call Tatum Jackson (Operations Manager) on 1300 737 942 or via email tjackson@carechoice.net.au to book your place now!
Week One
13 - 17 January 2014
BOOKINGS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2014
UNLESS BOOKED OUT PRIOR.

Monday 13 January
Galactic Circus – 2 hours unlimited games
Venue: Galactic Circus, Southbank
Time: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Cost: $16
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money & bottle of water

Tuesday 14 January (waiver form required)
‘Splatball’ – paintball for kids
Venue: World Series Paintball, Oakleigh
Time: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
Cost: $30
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money & bottle of water

Wednesday 15 January
Australian Open Tennis
Venue: Melbourne Park, Melbourne
Time: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Cost: $22
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money, bottle of water, sunscreen & hat

Thursday 16 January
Indoor Sports Tournament – with Basketball!
Venue: Casey Indoor Sports Centre
Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Cost: $5
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money & bottle of water

Friday 17 January
Reptile Encounters – Stars of the Sea
Reptile Encounters are back, featuring sea stars, elephant
snails, sea urchins, octopus, sea horse, spider crabs, puffer
fish, stingrays and even a Port Jackson Shark. As much fun as
a day at the beach!
Venue: Cranbourne Youth Information Centre
Time: 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Cost: FREE
Transport not included
Snacks & refreshments provided

Week Two
20 – 24 January 2014
BOOKINGS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2014
UNLESS BOOKED OUT PRIOR.

Monday 20 January
Indoor Rock Climbing
Venue: Hard Rock Climbing Centre, Melbourne CBD
Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Cost: $19
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money, bottle of water, sunscreen & hat

Tuesday 21 January
Surfing Lesson
Venue: Out There Outdoor Activities, Phillip Island
Time: 10:30 am – 2:00 pm
Cost: $35
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money, bottle of water, sunscreen & hat

Wednesday 22 January
Melbourne Zoo
Venue: Melbourne Zoo, Parkville
Time: 11:00 am – 2:30 pm
Cost: $10
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money, bottle of water, sunscreen & hat

Thursday 23 January
Hip Hop & Breakdancing Workshop
Venue: The Factory Rehearsal Centre for the Arts, Cranbourne
Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Cost: $10
Transport included (see back of flyer for details)
BYO Lunch/Money & bottle of water

Friday 24 January
Reptile Encounters – Stars of the Sea
Reptile Encounters are back, featuring sea stars, elephant
snails, sea urchins, octopus, sea horse, spider crabs, puffer
fish, stingrays and even a Port Jackson Shark. As much fun as
a day at the beach!
Venue: Hampton Park Youth Information Centre
Time: 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Cost: FREE
Transport not included
BBQ provided

BOOKINGS OPEN WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013
For more information and to book in please contact the
City of Casey on 9705 5200,
www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au

Victoria's Largest and Most Vibrant Municipality
Booking Information

1. Fill in a booking form. You can obtain a booking form by:
   - Contacting the City of Casey on 9705 5200 to have one sent out to you, or
   - Visiting www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au to download a form, or
   - Visiting one of Council’s Customer Service Centres or Youth Information Centres to pick up a form.

2. Take the completed form and payment into one of the Council’s Customer Service Centres to make your booking.

3. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS.
   *Bookings will not be accepted by fax or mail*

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Galactic Circus
Monday 13 January 2014

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Indoor Rock Climbing
Monday 20 January 2014

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'Splatball'
Tuesday 14 January 2014

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Surfing Lesson
Tuesday 21 January 2014

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Australian Open Tennis
Wednesday 15 January 2014

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Melbourne Zoo
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Indoor Sports Tournament
Thursday 16 January 2014

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Hip Hop & Breakdancing Workshop
Thursday 23 January 2014

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Pick up & Drop off Points
Berwick
Cranbourne
Doveton
Endeavour Hills
Fountain Gate
Hampton Park

High Street outside Masonic Centre/Guides Hall (Mel Ref 111 D7)
Lyall Street Bus Stop (Mel Ref 133 K5)
John Pandazopoulos Hall, Power Road (Mel Ref 90 K9)
Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre Bus Stop (Mel Ref 91 D5)
Westfield Shopping Centre Bus Stop (Mel Ref 110 D4)
Stuart Avenue Bus Stop (Mel Ref 96 E8)

Youth Information Centres
Cranbourne
Shop 55 Centro Cranbourne Shopping Centre
Hampton Park
22 - 26 Stuart Avenue
Hampton Park
EMA 2014

Payment Options

In 2014, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;
- Paid by Direct Deposit (Electronic Funds transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by Direct Deposit to school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses or
Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection
The EMA application form includes a section for you to tick which payment option you would prefer.
EMA application forms are available from your child's school.

Payment amounts for 2014

The EMA is paid in two installments; installment one is paid from March onwards and installment two is paid from August onwards.
For 2014, the applicant payment amount for primary prep students will be $200 and the applicant payment amount for primary years 1-6 students will be $150.
For 2014, the applicant payment for secondary year 7 students will be $300 and the applicant payment for secondary students from year 8 onwards* will be $250 (except for students turning 16 during the year in which case a monthly pro-rata amount is paid).

EMA schedule of payments - 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment to Parent (per child)</th>
<th>Instalment 1 (70%) From March 2014</th>
<th>Instalment 2 (30%) From August 2014</th>
<th>Annual Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Primary - Year Prep</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary - Year 1 – 6</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary - Year 7</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary - Year 8 onwards to age 16*</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$75</td>
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*Students turning 16 years during 2014 will be paid $20.85 per month until the birth month.
*Students year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will form the basis for calculating the amount payable.

PLEASE NOTE:
There is no EMA paid to your child’s school, (commenced 2013).
The EMA schedule of payments listed above are payments that are made directly to parents, by direct deposit or cheque only.

Applicants MUST provide a copy of their Health Care Card or relevant Pension Card for their EMA application to be processed.

Please find an application form and information sheet attached to this newsletter.
The following details must be completed by the applicant (the concession card holder). EMA is payable by Direct Deposit (EFT) to the applicant, Direct Deposit to the school, or as a cheque payment.

**SCHOOL NAME**

**APPLICANT / PARENT DETAILS**

**SURNAME**

**FIRST NAME**

**ADDRESS**

**TOWN/SUBURB**

**STATE**

**POSTCODE**

**CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:**

- CENTRELINK PENSIONER
- CONCESSION / HEALTH
- CARE CARD NUMBER (CRN)
- OR
- FOSTER
- PARENT (*)
- OR
- VETERANS AFFAIRS
- PENSIONER

* Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Human Services (DHS) or Courts, etc.

**EMA PAYMENT METHOD**

- Please TICK the box below for your nominated EMA payment method

- Direct Deposit to parent
  
  Payment will be made to your bank account by Electronic Funds Transfer (provide bank account details below)

- Direct Deposit to school
  
  Payment will be made to school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses.

- Cheque
  
  Payment will be made as a cheque which will be posted to the school

**ACCOUNT NAME** (e.g. John Smith)

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTION** (e.g. Westpac) AND BRANCH

**BSB No.**

**BANK ACCOUNT No.**

* If you are unsure of the above details check your Bank Statements or enquire at your Financial Institution.

**STUDENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHILD'S SURNAME</th>
<th>CHILD'S FIRST NAME</th>
<th>STUDENT ID</th>
<th>DATE OF BIRTH (DD/MM/YYYY)</th>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
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The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development collects your personal information for the purpose of administering the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment. Some personal information may be disclosed to other Victorian Government departments, such as the Department of Human Services, for the purpose of evaluation and monitoring of concession card services.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development may disclose some of your personal information to Centrelink to confirm that the details provided matches Centrelink's records. This is to be used for testing eligibility for EMA applications for 2014.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will provide the above bank account details to Westpac Bank for the sole purpose of making the EMA payment into your nominated bank account. The bank account details provided will not be disclosed or used for any other purpose. You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT**

**DATE** / /