Dear Parents,

**Walkathon Update**
As of today, the walkathon has raised the amazing amount of approximately $7,000. The students really enjoyed participating in the health promoting, fund raising activity as did many of the parents. It would be greatly appreciated if everyone could finalise the collection of their sponsorship money by next Monday. We will then be able to announce the grand total raised by the event and the winning class.

**Halloween Disco**
Thank you to our very enthusiastic parent committee for organising a successful Halloween disco last Friday evening. The students really enjoyed dressing up in costume and dancing with their friends to the music provided by the entertaining DJ.

**Safety Reminder: Please use pedestrian crossings where possible.**
Some of our students have been seen crossing the road at Centreway, (Pinewood shops), between parked cars rather than crossing at the marked pedestrian crossing. Please reinforce to your children the importance of using the pedestrian crossings provided when crossing a road.

**Life Education Program and Swimming Program**
The Life Education Program commences next week as does the Yr 3–6 Swimming Program. Please ensure that any clothing and/or towels taken to the pool during the swimming program are clearly named.

**Principal’s Corner**
*On occasion, parents ask me to provide tips on ‘how to get the best out of boys’ both at home and at school. Understanding what makes boys tick is the key to teaching and raising them. I would like to share the following article with you as I found it to be very informative and offers twelve essentials in order to connect with our sons and help raise well-adjusted boys. I hope you enjoy the article.*
Raising Mighty Boys
By Michael Grose (Parentzone)

Raising and educating boys is a hot topic in Australia and other parts of the world. From my experience those adults who do best teaching and raising boys have a significant understanding of what makes boys tick. Here are twelve key understandings that will help you regardless of your gender or family situation raise well-adjusted boys:

# 1: You must like them
Approval is at the heart of raising boys. Most will walk over hot coals for you if they know you like them. In a sense, this need for approval holds many boys back in school, as they can shut for a teacher who doesn’t like them. If you can feel comfortable with their boisterousness, live with their lack of organisational skills, and not be confronted by their in-your-face ways then the chances are that they’ll respond to you.

# 2: Boys like to blend in
Boys are group-oriented by nature. They want to fit in. They tend to play group games and form themselves into structured groups. Boys don’t want to stand out from the crowd. Don’t put them down in front of their friends and understand that they make poor friendship choices rather than be in a group of one. They’ll generally prefer the wrong friends rather than no friends at all.

# 3: They are hierarchical by nature
Boys need limits and boundaries as they make them feel safe and secure. They like to know someone is going to enforce those rules, so don’t be afraid to take the lead with them.

# 4: Many boys hide behind a mask
Some boys wear a mask to protect them from being hurt. The mask can take many guises including; ‘tough nut’, ‘cool dude’ and ‘class clown.’ Refuse to communicate with the mask. Make them feel comfortable, joke with them, even tickle them. Do whatever you can to get behind the mask.

# 5: Boys are just as sensitive as girls
Despite the fact that research shows that boys are more easily stressed and more fragile than girls, parents will ask daughters how they feel more often than they ask sons. Also when daughters get hurt, parents tend to comfort them more than they comfort sons. Boys are sensitive you just need to use different language to get them to open up than you do with girls. For instance, a boy will more than likely tell you how he feels if you ask him how he thinks about something. Also, he generally needs more time to process his feelings so bedrooms can become their caves that they’ll retreat to when they need the space to work out what’s going in their hearts.

# 6: Boys are tactile by nature
Ever noticed how little boys are more likely than little girls to pop new objects in their mouths. That’s because taste and touch are two important ways that they take in the world. That tactile nature of boys needs to be nurtured, not ignored. One way is to hug them – lots! Boys need to be touched two to three times as much as girls to release the same amount of oxytocin (a feel-good chemical in the brain) that is released during a hug.

# 7: Boys learn from experience
Many parents know the extreme frustration that comes from imparting their wisdom on to their sons, only to see it completely ignored. If you have boys in your life then you need to get used to the fact that boys like to learn many of their life lessons for themselves. Experience, for better or worse, is a teacher many boys can relate to.

# 8: Loyalty is a high-driver
Understand that a boy’s loyalty to his friends and family is a key driver and you’ll unlock the key to the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold them back, stopping many from getting too far ahead of the pack. Loyalty also gets many boys into strife with authority. Call a boy’s sister or friend an insulting name and you’re asking for trouble!
# 9: Many boys’ mouths don’t work unless they are moving
If you want to have a serious or personal conversation with a boy then you are better off joining him on a walk. Face-to-face conversation can make them feel awkward, whereas shoulder-to-shoulder chats or conversations that happen during a game or activity seem to flow more naturally.

#10: Boys need social scripts
Most boys need some didactic teaching about how to act and what to say to others at some stage in their life. Don’t be afraid to tell boys of any age exactly what to say in new social situations as they can often struggle to find the words and the way to get their messages across.

#11: Boys need a purpose to learn
If you want to motivate a boy to learn then you need to offer him tangible, short-term goals. He’ll learn to play a musical instrument if he wants to be in a band; but get him to practise a musical instrument without a purpose and you’ll probably be locked in a continuous struggle.

#12: A boy’s brain matures differently than a girl’s brain
The maturation rate and sequence is different for boys than girls. For instance, the brain developments in the first five years of life prepares girls for the rigours of school better than it does for boys. A girl’s brain in that period is busy developing fine motor skills, verbal acuity and social skills, which are highly valued by parents and teachers. A boy’s brain, on the other hand, is busy developing gross motor, spatial and visual skills, which are essential hunting skills. Unfortunately, there isn’t a great need for these traits in primary schools these days!!

There’s no doubt that raising boys tends to be more of a challenge for parents than raising girls. Understanding and appreciating the differences is a great start. However I think parents who really connect well with boys somehow develop the wisdom to step as well as speak up at the right time, and the smarts to know when to stand back and allow their sons to work things out for themselves.

Congratulations to Naira Naaz on achieving a high distinction (A+) in her AMEB preliminary grade violin exam. Her teacher, Ian McCulloch is very proud of her, as we are.

Karen Jenkin
Principal

Reminder- Sustainability Survey
As you may be aware, Pinewood Primary School has signed up to Sustainability Victoria’s ResourceSmart Schools, which aims to embed sustainability across the school. As part of this program, we’d really like to know what you think about sustainability at our school and any sustainable initiatives you might already do at home. Please click on the following link to complete a short survey. Please note:
- Finish date for the survey is Wed 11/11/15
- The survey is for parents and teachers to complete
- One response per family
- Prizes on offer (iTunes voucher + Energy Remote Control Socket)
Icy poles for the student year level with the highest number of parents who respond

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PinewoodPS
Music groups such as marimba group, orchestra and recorder will begin this Monday with Ms McLaughlin. Please bring appropriate instruments along on Monday ready for rehearsals.

Term Dates 2016

**Term 1**
- Years 1—6  Thursday, 28th January - Thursday, 24th March
- Preps  Friday, 29th January—Thursday, 24th March
- Good Friday, 25th March
- Easter Monday, 28th March

**Term 2**
- Monday, 11th April – Friday, 24th June

**Term 3**
- Monday, 11th July – Friday, 16th September

**Term 4**
- Monday, 3rd October – Friday, 20th December

Uniform Opening Times
- Monday, 3.15pm—3.45pm
- Thursday, 3.15pm—3.45pm

Grade 1 & Grade 2: End Of Year Gathering
- Date: Saturday November 28th
- Time: 5.30 - 8.30 pm
- Address: 1924 Princes Hwy, Clayton, VIC 3168
- Bookings Essential: Lisa 0413 015 143

Keep your children healthy and happy
- Osteopathy
- Naturopathy
- Remedial Massage
- Nutrition
- Back and Neck pain
- Children’s Allergies
- Growing Pains
- Sleeping Difficulties
- Food Intolerances
- Children's Immunity

2015/16 Little Athletics season has begun

**Come & Try**
Be part of the 2015/16 Little Athletics
Season at Waverley!

Little Athletics is for children aged 5–15 years old
In-Wac15
Limited spots available.

Osteopathy
Naturopathy
Remedial Massage
Nutrition
Halloween Disco

Thank you to Everyone who supported the Schools Halloween Disco. This event was enjoyed by many. It was great to see a lot of thought and effort that went into the costumes and make up. Thank you to our Parent Helpers who gave up their time.

Janine Stockdale, Michelle Woolley, Anna Kokolios, Diana Macpherson, Sue Bleaker, Lucy Adams, Koula Giannakis, Jules Berry, Debby Lin, Kellie Ellis, Kathryn Nichols, Linh Cooper, Jags, Janene Smith, Scott Williams, Thillini Alahakosn, Lucy Walker, Amanda Fairbairn and Bee Hansen.

We look forward to the next event.

Parents Committee

BUNNINGS BARBEQUE, NOTTING HILL

SATURDAY, 5TH DECEMBER

!WE NEED YOU!

Even though some of you have kindly volunteered to help already we still desperately need more helpers on the day. This is such a great opportunity to raise funds for our school. It would be a real shame if we had to cancel as dates are very hard to secure and it can be a very lucrative fundraiser for us.

If you can give up even an hour of your time on Saturday 5th December we would be extremely grateful. Please email Lisa Strong at sunnymountain1@yahoo.com.au or speak to one of the Parent Committee members if you can help.

Greg Tate

“Little Scientists, Big Science”

Congratulations to our year five students Amelia Chen, Vansh Mehta, Carli Barbaro and Arib Haider for representing Pinewood at the “Little Scientists, Big Science” program at John Monash Science School. During third term the students visited John Monash SS and participated in four science sessions. Topics included researching and presenting a science project, the physics of flight, nanotechnology and biomedical science.

On October 26th Vansh, Carli and Amelia presented their projects at the JMSS Science Fair Night. They were part of a large primary school contingent to present on the night. Our students also observed the very impressive year ten projects on display that evening. (Unfortunately Arib was unwell on the night).

Well done to these four students. Hopefully Pinewood will be asked to contribute again in 2016.

Greg Tate
Guys—Awesome Sunday Sessions

Sunday sessions 8am—Pinewood Gym-$20
Amazing circuit targeting the whole body.
Circuits are fun, engaging and provide a positive experience to fitness.

Bookings are essential.
Please call Kirsty on 0458 544 888 to secure your spot.

Recipe Books
Recipe books from the fete are still available for each year level. If you missed out on the fete day, please purchase one from the office. The cost is $5.

School Banking day is TUESDAY

Parents should note that advertisements that appear in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the school council or staff. These services are in no way connected to the Department of Education and are included according to relevance and interest to the school community.

Let the Kids Join in the Fun

Sunday 22nd November 2015

Children aged 3 to 12 years get the chance to run with Thomas the Tank Engine and Puffing Billy

For more information and registration go to:
www.kidsfunrunwiththomas.org.au

SWIMMING NEWS
GRADE 3-6’S

Just a reminder that swimming begins on Monday.
Please NAME all belongings and remember to bring your swimming gear.
PLEASE NOTE: -
To satisfy regulations for numbers on the bus, 5C will now be going to the 1pm lesson and 5K will be going to the 1.40pm lesson.
Mrs McGregor and Mr Bryon.