Dear Parents,

**Walkathon Results**
Congratulations to all of our students for raising the grand total of $8032.00. It was an excellent achievement.

The classes that raised the most money were:
- In fourth place Prep R with a total of $568.00
- In third place 3B with a total of $631.80
- In second place 2M with a total of $633.20

**Congratulations to class 1A. They raised an outstanding amount of $898.00 and became the winning class. 1A will participate in ‘pizza party’ next week and enjoy playing with some new class sports equipment too.**

**2016 Prep Transition Evening**
On Tuesday November 24th we will be conducting our Pinewood Transition evening for new Prep families for 2016. The session commences at 7.00pm and will be held in the current Prep building.

**Staffing-2016**
Our leadership team and staff have been involved in appointing new staff over the past few weeks. I will be putting out the class teaching positions in the final newsletter of the term, once appointments have been finalised, children will find out their teacher for 2016 in the last week. Reports will be sent home on 16 December. Please notify the school office if your child will not be at school during the last week of term as we will need to have their school report mailed home.

**Parent Helpers Morning Tea**
In appreciation of all their work at our school, parent helpers from 2015 are cordially invited to attend our thank you morning tea.

**Date & Time: Thursday 3rd December 10.45-11.30 am**
**Place: The School Hall**
We hope to see you there.  From Pinewood Staff

**Supporting Children during the Current International Climate**
Children and young people will have seen and heard about the terrorist attacks that occurred in Paris on Friday 13 November 2015. **Children often worry and know more than we realise. Adults may assume that children are doing okay if they don’t talk or ask questions about what has happened. Sometimes they have questions they may not ask unless we provide the opportunity.**

Most children and young people will experience normal reactions to something that is distressing and with support from trusted adults around them these reactions will subside.
Routines are important when an event like this occurs. School can be very useful to support all children and young people.

Remember sometimes teachers and parents feel like we don’t have the answers. It is helpful to remind children and ourselves that there are people working hard to make the current situation better. The Department Of Education and Training has provided the following advice for parents.

Advice for Parents

- It is wise for you to monitor your child’s exposure to television coverage, print media and social media.
- Some children and young people will want to talk about the tragic events and try to make sense of what they have both seen and heard.
- Other children will avoid any discussion around the events and will be reassured by routine and normality.
- Remember the importance of routine, sleep, exercise and healthy eating.

There are a range of things you can do to assist your child during events such as this, including:

- Acknowledge that the event was distressing
- Reassure children that they are safe
- Look for signs of distress (e.g. some children/young people might be scared)
- Normalise responses - typical response will range from anger to general upset or sadness
- Maintain a normal routine - keeping the structure at home or at school in place
- Allow children to express feelings as they arise
- Telling stories about how people manage during difficult times can be helpful.
- Separate fact from fiction e.g. children may express fears about unrelated events.
- Plan relaxing activities before bed – talk your child through a gentle relaxation, this might include using soothing music and talking them through relaxing tension in their body or simply reading something to them that induces relaxation (i.e. a favourite book).
- Speak in hopeful terms – children and young people will often take their cues from their parents' reactions; if you are honest, calm, compassionate and open they will be much more able to trust that they will be okay.
- Always remember the value of doing something with children that they like to do such as playing, exercising, being outdoors - have a time during your day to share time with your child.

Karen Jenkin
Principal

Is Your Child Starting Secondary School Next Year?

Parents of our Year 6 students will tell you that it doesn’t seem that long ago that their child was starting school. The primary years seem to fly by and our Year 6’s are already three weeks into their final term of primary school.

Secondary school can be a daunting thought for not only our students but parents as well. There are many questions which I’m sure you have, which may not be fully answered at information nights and orientation days.

The Department of Education and Training have developed an informative site which provides hints and tips on how to support your child through their transition to secondary school.

To receive articles please subscribe to Beyond Primary at: www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/bphome.aspx
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RESPECT     SELF CONFIDENCE     INTEGRITY     RESPONSIBILITY    OPTIMISM

VISVARCY T.  1JK
For his creativity and wonderful explanation about how his “Anti-Cockroach” machine was designed. Well Done!

TOMMY D.  4M
For his enthusiasm towards his learning during Inquiry and participating confidently in class activities.

OLIVIA R.  2D
For her enthusiastic attitude towards all classroom activities. Keep up the excellent work Olivia!

SEBASTIAN Y.  3M
For always trying his best to improve his work. Sebastian is a kind and considerate member of the class.

PE Award  2D
For their excellent Rounders hitting and pitching.

CHANGE OF CONTACT NUMBER
The school phone number has changed. Please phone 8847 3200 to contact the school.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Abby J.  Prep R
For her enthusiastic attitude and excellent behaviour at the Werribee Zoo. Well done Abby!

Fatima S.  Prep L
For having exemplary behaviour during our Life Ed Van lesson and for actively participating in the activities. Well done!

Malhar V.  Prep H
For showing interest and enthusiasm during our recent excursion to Werribee Zoo.

Milana G.  Prep M
For being a responsible helper at the Werribee Zoo excursion. Well done!

Aryan A.  1A
For settling in well to 1A and for his persistence in his work. Well done and keep up the good work!

Ilias G.  5K
For the wonderful effort you put into your writing and maths. You have a wonderful “You Can Do It” attitude.

Matthew K.  5C
For working co-operatively in your group during our Life Ed session and asking insightful questions. You’re a Star!

James S.  5T
For continuing to work with focus and independence. James made excellent choices and prioritized his tasks according to their importance.

Karen J.  3K
For your excellent oral presentation on your TV timer design. Your design was well considered and you spoke confidently.

Zoe M.  4R
For being extremely organised and for always striving to do her very best. Keep up the great work Zoe!

Shiya T.  2M
For working hard to improve her reading by participating fully in reading groups.

Jonathon S.  2M
For working hard on our persuasive writing tasks and coming up with interesting arguments. Well done!

Mason F.  1T
For his wonderful attitude towards his learning. You should be very proud of the effort you have made and the success you have achieved.

20 NOVEMBER 2015

CONTACT CLASSROOMCUISINE.COM.AU
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School Sport Victoria Softball State Finals

On Monday our Softball team competed in the State Finals. The girls knew they were going to be in for a tough day of competition. There were some nerves during the first innings against Cowes, resulting in a deficit we couldn’t overcome, going down 10-6. Our second game was against St Albans Meadows, who proved to be a formidable opponent. Despite a huge grand slam home run from Mackenzie, the girls struggled to score runs, eventually losing 14-5. The final game was against Reservoir West, and the girls went out seeking a consolation win. This was the girls’ best performance of the day, and in a close match time ran out just as we were making a charge for victory, with a 9-6 loss being the end result.

It has been a phenomenal effort to make the State Finals, as this was the first team from Pinewood to have made any state final in over 20 years! The girls have worked so hard to improve their game throughout the year, and they now know they are the best team in the Eastern Metropolitan Region, and one of the best 8 teams in all of Victoria.

Once again Mrs. Kay needs to be acknowledged for her hard work in training, educating and coaching the girls this year. I need to also send a massive thank you to the parents and relatives of the girls’. Your assistance in transporting and supporting the team this term has been of huge value. We cannot send teams to competitions like this one without your support.

Finally to the softball team. It has been a pleasure to see you develop and perform at such a high level. You have all learned so much about softball, but also about yourselves and each other. From Asher’s coaching and game day leadership, to Mackenzie’s resilience in pitching through multiple injuries, and to Ashley’s loud and encouraging sportsmanship and cheerleading, you have all exhibited the traits of excellent young ladies. Congratulations girls on a simply wonderful achievement!
Christmas Hamper Raffle

Earlier this week we sent home a letter requesting donations for our Christmas Hamper Raffle. Thank you to those families that have already kindly donated some fantastic items!

The deadline for donations is Friday 4th December and don’t forget we are raising money to purchase SHADE SAILS so please continue to give generously, thank you.

Raffle tickets for you to sell will be going home soon

School Office Hours
8.30am—4pm

Zooper Dooper Day

Thank you to Everyone who supported Zooper Dooper Day.

We would like to thank our Parent helpers who made this event possible: Koula Giannakis, Scott William, Diana Macpherson, Arlette Judukian, Kylie Phillips and Michelle Raimondi.

School Banking day is TUESDAY
**Megan L.**

Megan is a positive and cheerful student who participates in all activities with a smile. She is a polite, friendly student who is always willing to help others in need. Megan is a responsible class member who tackles each task with confidence. She is an excellent listener and works quietly and independently to complete all activities. Megan is well respected by students, parents and teachers. She uses her “You Can Do It” attitude to persist with challenging tasks. Megan is a fabulous role model to others and shows a sense of pride in belonging to Pinewood Primary School. Megan is a very worthy recipient of Grade Prep H’s Aussie of the Month.

Well done Megan!

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**Lucas Y.**

Lucas is a friendly and cheerful member of Prep L who works co-operatively with others. He displays beautiful manners towards all those around him including parents, teachers and students. Lucas shows confidence when approaching new activities and is persistent with challenging tasks. He is a responsible monitor and fulfils all jobs with a positive attitude. Lucas has a caring and supportive nature and always praises the efforts of other children for their work. He models excellent listening skills by showing respect to his peers and makes a conscious effort to ensure that everyone is included. Lucas takes great pride in his school work and always tries his best. He takes the initiative to ask for assistance and also provides help to his peers. Lucas is a fantastic role model to others and a worthy recipient of Prep L’s Aussie of the Month.

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**Charlie H.**

Charlie is a thoughtful, friendly and hardworking member of our class. He displays a positive attitude to all aspects of his work and interacts well with his peers. Charlie is always keen to learn and uses his initiative when faced with new and challenging activities. He enjoys sharing his knowledge with the class and always listens well to others.

Charlie has wonderful manners and consistently encourages others with his gentle and caring nature. He has developed a great ‘You Can Do It’ attitude towards all school activities. Charlie is an excellent role model for other students and always strives to do his best.

Charlie is a worthy recipient of Prep M’s Aussie of the Month. Well done Charlie!

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**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