Dear Parents,

Celebrating Christmas in Government Schools

With the festive season soon approaching and some teachers planning to incorporate celebratory craft activities in their program, such as making classroom decorations and festive cards etc., I thought I would confirm that advice from the Department of Education and Training about Christmas activities and making decorations is, ‘that government schools can put up Christmas decorations and /or pictures of Santa, sing carols and /or decorate Christmas trees on school grounds as these items have a secular cultural place in Australian society, rather than solely being symbols of or endorsements of the Christian faith. They are common references within a common festive season in Australian society’. I hope this clarifies the school position in regard to various end of year festive activities.

Prep Transition Evening

On Tuesday evening, we conducted a very successful information session for our new Prep families enrolled at Pinewood PS for 2016.

I would like to thank our School Council President, Tim Day, and our Parents Club president, Mick Daly, for joining us on the evening to welcome new families to the school and provide information about the important role of both the School Council and the Parents Club.

I would also like to thank Lisa Strong, Helen Vickery, Jules Berry, Koula Giannakis, Nirosha Herat, Maya Simpson and Sarah Scales for assisting with the school uniform sales and the school banking presentation on the evening. Thanks to Jan Beecroft and Jenny Walker for assisting with school fee payments and/or questions relating to our, ‘before and after school care’ program.

It really was a great introduction to our wonderful school community for our new families for 2016.
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

End of year musical evening- Bring along your best singing voices!
Our end of year music night will be held on Wednesday 9th Dec. We hope you can all come and join us on this end of year celebration. The performance will start at approximately 7.00pm but our parents club will be holding a sausage sizzle starting at 6.00pm.

Leaving our School
With the exception of year 6 students, please notify the school office if you are planning on moving away from our school at the end of this year and your children will be attending another primary school. This will help us in our planning for classrooms and teachers for 2016.

Lock Down Drill, Tuesday Dec 2nd - Outside to Inside Drill
On Tuesday Dec 2nd at approximately 1.55pm, (during lunchtime) we will be conducting an OH&S safety ‘lock down’ drill. The students will be required to respond to an external siren being sounded by moving straight to their line up area, where their teacher will meet them and bring them inside the classroom. Once inside, staff will follow ‘internal lock down’ procedures, such as marking the roll, checking student toilets and external doors etc. The students are becoming quite confident in enacting the various rehearsed drill responses required in different types of emergency situations.

Bunnings BBQ -Saturday Dec 5th - Request for assistance
Our wonderful Parents club are hosting a fund raising BBQ at the Bunnings store at Notting Hill on Saturday 5th Dec. If you have a spare hour or so to volunteer to assist at the BBQ on the day it would be greatly appreciated. The money raised from the BBQ goes towards the school. Please contact Lisa Strong, Parents Club member, if you are able to help out.

Wishing Tree – Best Chance
Each year Bestchance attempts to ease the anxiety many families feel with Christmas approaching by offering a food hamper and one new gift for each child which parents can give as their own. Wishing Tree is funded entirely by donations from the community and for many this reflects the true meaning of giving at Christmas time. How can you help... Please see the Wishing Tree flyer attached to the newsletter.

Student end of year reports
Student reports will be distributed to families on Wednesday 16 December.
Reminder, Last Day of Term – Friday 18 December
Final assembly will be at 9.15am
School finishing time is 2.30pm
Crossing supervisors will be working at this time to support the school and ensure our children are able to cross roads safely.
Students start the 2016 school year at 9.00am on Thursday 28th January 2016.
(Prep students commence on Friday 29th January).
Karen Jenkin
Principal
From the Assistant Principal’s Desk

HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE LUNCHES DELIVERED FRESH TO PINEWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

AVAILABLE MONDAY TO FRIDAY (Unavailable Tuesday)
Our Menu offers either a 2 or 3 Course Lunch with 15 choices available for each course each day!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE www.classroomcuisine.com.au
Orders are received by our customer friendly website until 8.30am the day the lunch is required.

Email: contact@classroomcuisine.com.au

RELATIONSHIP  RESPECT  SELF CONFIDENCE  INTEGRITY  RESPONSIBILITY  OPTIMISM

How To Raise Happy Kids (and stay sane)

1. Share a meal together on a regular basis.
2. Make encouragement a habit.
3. Catch kids doing the right thing.
4. Have fun together as a family.
5. Provide regular one-to-one time with each child.
6. Develop the helping habit in children from a young age.
7. Base discipline around consistency and respect rather that severity.
8. Teach kids to recognise and talk about their feelings.
9. Develop a healthy attitude to mistakes - they are a part of learning.
10. Avoid comparing children to their siblings or friends.
11. Listen to understand, rather than advise.
12. Celebrate children’s efforts and achievements.
13. Identify and point out your children’s strengths.
14. Support the other parent in their attempts to raise your child, even if separated.
15. Give yourself some regular time-off to relax, unwind and recharge your physical and emotional batteries.

Source: Michael Grose Education

Robbie Mallett

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

Confidence Communication Skills Creativity

Weekly public speaking & drama program for children aged 6 - 15

ENROL NOW
Glen Iris, Chadstone, Berwick, Canterbury, Doncaster, Essendon, Rowville, Preston, Glen Waverley, & Malvern East


9572 5249

RESPECT SELF CONFIDENCE INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY OPTIMISM
Aaron D. Prep R
For being a responsible monitor and displaying lovely manners. Well done Aaron!

James F. 2M
For working hard to monitor his classroom behaviour and make changes when needed. Keep it up!

James D. 2M
For settling in quickly to classroom activities and working hard to complete all tasks.

Belinda F. Prep M
For confidently contributing to ‘Show & Tell’ and listening attentively to others.

Ev B. Prep L
For the improvement he has made to complete his reading group activity within the allocated time frame. Well done!

Dylan W. 2D
For putting his best effort into all tasks. Dylan has worked hard to produce high quality work this term.

Lincoln W. Prep H
For the fantastic improvement that he has made with the presentation of his work. Well done Lincoln!

Ben G. 1A
For always being a willing and cheerful helper and for the kindness he shows to his classmates. Keep it up!

Mina S. 5C
For the outstanding effort she has put into her writing this year. Keep up the amazing work!

Olivia E. 4M
For always putting in a strong effort towards her learning and consistently presenting work of a high standard. Well done.

Amanda F. 4R
For all her hard work throughout the year. The standard and presentation of her work is exemplary. Well done Amanda!

Maddison L. 5T
For her excellent layout and presentation skills as she worked on her explanation poster titled ‘Venus Flytraps’.

Stefan A. 5K
For the hard work and enthusiasm he puts into his homework tasks and our class blog. Well done Stefan.

Raghad Y. 3K
For the improvement in her independent learning skills and the responsibility she displayed with her oral presentation.

Pearl B. 1JK
For the positive attitude she displays toward completing all tasks. Well done Pearl.

Nik M. 1T
For being a responsible class member and for always working diligently. Well done Nik.

Mani V. 3M
For being helpful in the classroom and completing work tasks with confidence.

Helya S. 3B
For her cheerful and enthusiastic attitude towards all school activities and for always having lovely manners.

PE Award—6U
For the excellent execution when throwing and catching a Frisbee!

The Out of Hours Vacation Care forms will be available next week. Forms must be back no later than Monday, 7th December.

The program will run from Monday, 11th January, 2016 — Wednesday, 27th January 2016. The program will be closed on Australia Day, Tuesday, 26th January, 2016.

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.
Could your family be ‘Lizard Keepers’?

Would anyone in our school community have the space and inclination to care for one of our bearded dragons during the holidays? As pets, they are quite easy to look after. Tank (1 metre long), lighting and resident lizard can be delivered to your door. All instructions on their care included (with a grateful smile).

Enquiries to Greg Tate a.s.a.p

Uniform Shop Opening Hours 2016
The Uniform Shop will be open on
Monday, 25th January & Wednesday, 27th January
9am—10.30am
Tuesday afternoons 3.15pm—3.45pm
Thursday afternoons 3.15pm—3.45pm

School Office Hours
8.30am—4pm

School Banking day is TUESDAY
WISHING TREE

Each year bestchance attempts to ease the anxiety many families feel with Christmas approaching by offering a food hamper and one new gift for each child which parents can give as their own. Wishing Tree is funded entirely by donations from the community and for many this reflects the true meaning of giving at Christmas.

.... HOW CAN YOU HELP ....

- Purchase a $30 gift for a child.
  In order to purchase the most appropriate gift for a child please avoid toys that require batteries or promote violence. We aim to provide each child up to 16 years with a gift/s to the value of $30.
- Donate non-perishable food items.
- Make a tax deductible cash donation by contacting bestchance 8562 5100.

Please return donations by 4th December 2015

Contact bestchance CHILD FAMILY CARE reception 589 Ferntree Gully Road Glen Waverley (03) 8562 5100 for further information

Thank you for your assistance

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THE PANCAKE PARLOUR

BUY ONE SHORT STACK
(Two buttermilk pancakes with your choice of cream, ice-cream or whipped butter and topped with maple-flavoured syrup)

AND RECEIVE A SECOND SHORT STACK FREE.

For restaurant locations www.pancakeparlour.com.au
Dine-in only. Present this voucher to redeem offer. Valid until 20/01/2016. Maximum 3 vouchers per group. Not valid public holidays.