**From the Principal’s Desk**

**School Council Elections**  
The 2010 School Council Election process is now complete. As the number of nominations received matched the number of vacancies there will not be an election.  
The following parents have joined School Council for 2010 -12:  
Colin Petersen, Andrea Drendel, Peter Musson and Leonie Margrie.  
The DEECD member joining council for 2010-12 is Coral Shepherd.

I would like to thank retiring members Des Purcell and Sharna Cunningham for their valued contribution to School Council over the past years. I would also like to thank Leonie Dyson and Frank Pye for their two years of service as Community members of School Council.  
School Council will meet on March 24th. The AGM will be followed by the first meeting of the 2010 School Council. Our two community member positions will be filled at this meeting.

**Circus Oz Visit**  
Today the school received a visit from Circus Oz, a travelling circus group who introduced circus skills to the children. This is one of our cultural/arts activities for the year. I am sure all students will have enjoyed the experience this afternoon.

**Swimming Sports**  
The last two weeks have been incredibly busy with swimming including our swimming lessons, time trials, House Swimming Sports, District Swimming Competition and Zone Swimming events all happening in the last week.  
The house sports on Monday was well attended by parents and enjoyed by students. Purple house won the day but it was very close with all students swimming well for their house. Thanks to parents who helped to run the events and the BBQ. We can’t do it without you. Also, a big thanks to the brave parents who competed in the student parent relay even though the weather was not the best. It certainly makes the day when parents join in with these events.

Last Friday 17 children attended the District sports in Hamilton and swam very well indeed. We had many wins, both individual and relay events, and I know the children were extremely proud of themselves. One of the organisers said to me at one stage, “What has been happening down at Macarthur?...”: we were doing so well. Congratulations to all students who competed and also to Sam Lambevski and Laura Nield who were the 9 and 11 year old overall champions for the day. Laura also broke 2 district records in butterfly and backstroke. Well done, Laura. You are now in the record books.

Yesterday 4 students attended the zone swimming competition at Portland. Congratulations to Sarah Cassidy, Taylah Sharrock, Temika Gay and Laura Nield for their efforts in reaching this level. All girls swam very well and came 4th in the relay event.  
Thanks to all parents for transporting students to these swimming events and a special thanks to Brendan Gay for his work with our swimmers.

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**Special Birthday wishes to**

March

Mac Petersen (5th)
Athletics Sports
During the rest of this term students will be practicing for the Athletics Sports events to be held later in the term.
Our school House Sports will be held on Friday, March 19th. We will invite Penshurst Primary School to join us on this day. Parent helpers will be needed to run events so please put the date on your calendar and let the school know if you are able to help out.

The district Athletic Sports will be held on Monday March 22nd at Pedrina Park in Hamilton which is the last week of term 1. We will send home more information closer to the event.
We will be practicing athletics again this Friday afternoon. Next week practice days will be Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Parent helpers most welcome. The more help we have the better for training students. Thanks to the many helpers over the last two weeks Trudy Sharrock, Leonie Margrie, Andrea Drendel, Sue Logan and Ange Jones. The children are showing great improvement and confidence due to your help.

Ultranet
This year the government will be releasing the Ultranet, an online educational learning community facility for all schools. This will be available for all students, teachers and parents. The date for our school to come online will be the week beginning July 26th 2010. I have attached some information on the Ultranet to this newsletter.

Last night our district Ultranet coach, David Stevens, made a presentation to staff about the Ultranet and how it may look and be used by schools. It is certainly going to change the way we communicate as a learning community with the use of ICT in education at it’s core. I believe our school is well set up to move forward with this initiative with the investments we have made in technology in recent years, including installation of Interactive whiteboards into classrooms and the extension of the netbook program into our upper grade classroom. As more information is released to schools I will keep the community informed.

Labour Day Holiday
A reminder that next Monday, March 8th, will be a public holiday for Labour Day. No children attend school on this day.

Lynn Lyles

The Ultranet
Information for school community
The Ultranet is an online learning environment, which will support high quality learning and teaching, and connect students, parents, teachers and school administrators, anywhere, anytime. The Ultranet will rollout to schools in stages during 2010. The Ultranet focuses on the key priorities of teaching and learning and a parent portal. The parent portal will not be available to any schools prior to term 4. The Ultranet will be available online anywhere, anytime. It will be available during and outside regular school hours, on weekends and school holidays.

The Ultranet is designed to
Give students their own online workspaces, personally tailored education programs, direct feedback from teachers and better access to curriculum.
Allow students to learn in an environment that will ensure that they have the cutting edge ICT skills they will need in the 21st century workforce.
Ensure that every child will have a complete record of achievement across all years of schooling.

Why have an Ultranet?
The Government understands that to prepare students for the innovation and knowledge economy of the 21st century, schools must provide students with access to ICT environments that increase their participation, engagement and achievement in education. The education system faces irrelevance unless it recognises and minimises the gap between how students live and learn in the digital and multi-media world. Progressive and effective integration of ICT into education planning and delivery is needed.
Schools will be supported to achieve this goal through the implementation of the Ultranet.

Tissues
Each year we ask all parents to supply a large box of tissues for student use in each classroom. Tissues can be left with the class teacher.
Student Banking

Join the Dollarmites in 2010!!!
Banking will be on Wednesdays.
The Commonwealth Bank have revamped the student banking program. Students are able to collect tokens and redeem them for Dollarmite items.

Drop bank books into the Dollarmite container at the Office each Wednesday morning.

Sylvia Luke
Co-ordinator

Macarthur Tennis Club Social Tennis

Begins Monday 8th March for 4 weeks

Juniors at 4 - 5:00pm
Social Tennis from 5:30pm onwards
Sausage sizzle and drinks available
Everyone welcome.

Contact Jill Millard 55761224
Bruce Addinsall 55761303

CIRCUIT TRAINING
NEW: Monday @ 11am (minimum of 5 to maintain program)
& Monday @ 7.30pm
Macarthur Recreation Reserve
Full Use of Gym Equipment & Qualified Instructor
COME AND GIVE IT A TRY!

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL APPEAL

I would like to thank so much
Jo Moore and family
Anna Wortley and family
Sharyn Muldoon
who have done some door knocking for the Good Friday Appeal in their area or road. Many thanks.
They will be collecting anytime now.
Also I will be running a raffle ($1.00 per ticket) which will be drawn Good Friday and the Hotel.

Thankyou so much to the community for their continued support for such a worthy hospital.

Suzy Millard
Co-ordinator

YOGA

PHONE MACARTHUR COMMUNITY HEALTH TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
555 22000

Our fantastic swimmers who went to Hamilton last Friday.
RE (Religious Education)
Fiona Musson is looking for people who may like to help teach CRE (Christian Religious Education) at Macarthur PS. A session is only 30 minutes. You are provided with simple training and material to follow. You do not need a teaching background, just a love for our great Macarthur students who are keen to learn, respectful and a joy to teach!
If you would like information, phone Fiona on 55761222

Corangamite Library:
Monday  3:30 - 4:30pm
Wednesday  1:30 - 4:30pm
Jullie has an extensive range of books, talking books, DVD’s etc
AND if it’s not in the library, she can order it for you.
Come in and see her.

HAWKESDALE MACARTHUR FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB
JUNIOR NETBALL TRAINING - ALL WELCOME

Our first training run will be at Macarthur on Wednesday 10th March 2010.

Junior coaches for 2010 season.
17&u - 5.30pm to 6.30pm - Coach Nicole Bigham – Ph:  55721030 / 0407 621 301
14&u – 4.30pm – 5.30pm - Coach Bec Beard
12&u – (coach to be announced) from 4.30pm to 5.30pm

All new and existing players welcome.

These times and venues may be subject to change in the next few weeks so stay in contact with the relevant coaches to avoid confusion.
MADA will be holding the

Macarthur Community Auction
combined with a
Car Boot Sale
Sunday 21st March 2010
Macarthur Recreation Reserve

Site bookings —
Merilyn Cook 55761113
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND
Saleable Items only please for the auction
MADA Secretary – Mark Todd

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