Newsletter August 4th 2010

Pupil Free Day

Next Monday August 9th is a Pupil Free Day. No students will attend school on Monday and school buses will not run. Staff will be at school completing training on the Ultranet. This training will be run by Jacinta Mulder. I will be attending a principal’s meeting in Melbourne also about the introduction of the Ultranet.

Contacting School

I apologise to the community for not always being available to parents when they arrive at school at different times during the week. I think it necessary to clarify my teaching times and also the times when office support is available.

Office Hours: Liana Blake works each Tuesday and Wednesday between 8.30 am and 4.00pm. Parents needing assistance with administrative matters including payments, forms, EMA, enrolments etc are asked to contact the school during these times.

My Availability: As a small school principal I also have a teaching load each week including running a daily reading support program most mornings between 10.00am and 11.00am. I also teach every Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday for this term. Wednesday is, therefore, a very difficult day to make time to see parents as I am teaching. I would like to ask parents to try to avoid contacting me on Wednesdays unless the matter is urgent. The best times to contact me are:

By Phone: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30am – 10.00am. After 11am Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Personal Appointments/Meetings: Monday, Thursday and Friday all day (except between 10-11am)

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Working Bee

A reminder that we will be having a Working Bee on August 20th starting at 3.00pm onwards. Please return the Working Bee note to school if you are able to attend so we can organise jobs for the evening. There will be a BBQ provided at 5.30pm. I hope many families can attend.

Fundraising Efforts

Thank you to the community for the support which was shown at such short notice last week in organising catering for the funeral of Mr Harry Rowbottom. I realise this was a large event and many families were involved both in attending the funeral and assisting with the catering on behalf of the school. I extend my condolences to the family and the many members of the school community who were friends and associates of Mr Rowbottom.

Uniform Policy Review

I am currently conducting a review of our school Uniform Policy and would like to invite parent comment as part of this process. On Monday I sent home a copy of the Uniform Policy and a feedback sheet for parents to complete and return to school. I will need all feedback sheets returned to school by next Wednesday, August 11th.

Clubs Program

A reminder that our Clubs Program is due to begin on Friday, Aug 20th. Could anyone willing to assist with the program please contact Coral Shepherd soon so she can confirm activities and organise supplies. This is one of the programs that all students look forward to and a great way for parents to get involved in the school. If you have never been involved before why not consider giving it a try. The activities don’t have to be difficult or complicated and sessions are only 45 minutes long with groups of 5 or 6 students. Come and see us if you want to help out. We can even help with suggesting an activity.

Kinder Enrolments/Transition Program

Enrolment forms for all students enrolling in government schools in 2011 are now due. Could any parents wishing to enrol at Macarthur PS in 2011 please complete enrolment form and bring in to the school. The best days for this are Tuesday and Wednesday when our office is attended and we can assist you with any queries. The Prep Transition Program for this year is now organised and dates finalised. This will begin on August 25th with our current Preps and Mr Hilliard visiting the Kinder.
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.

Year 7 Enrolment Process  
All enrolment forms for year 7 students are now due. All students enrolling in a government school in the Warrnambool Network will need to return the form to us at school so we can forward to the Warrnambool Network Office. This includes Hawkesdale College. This is a different procedure to Baimbridge College, Hamilton where currently forms are sent directly to the school. Parents enrolling children in non-government schools will be advised by the school of their enrolment process.

Obstacle-a-thon  
I have attached some information regarding the Obstacle-a-thon which I am hoping to run on Friday, August 27th. This is to raise funds to buy the plants for our new vegetable garden. The information includes a parent permission slip and a sponsorship form as well as some information about what an Obstacle-a-thon is. I hope the community will support the event.

End of Day/Exit doors.  
Last week the prep and grade 1 students began using their new lockers and also new entry door near the multi-purpose room. They appear very happy with their new lockers and the grade is now getting used to the change in routine.  
All prep and grade one students are now expected to use this entry door. The front door is not to be used by students as we need to ensure our school entry/administration area remains clear. These end of day procedures are extremely important for the smooth running of the school.

I would also like to ask parents to try to stay clear of classroom doorways and lockers at the end of the day. The end of the day is a very important time for children to develop organisational skills and they need to develop independence in organising their equipment and belongings. This is particularly important for our prep students at this time of year as they are encouraged to develop increased independence in preparation for the transition of our new 2011 Preps.

At the Prep Information Session last Wednesday I discussed with parents the need to “step back” as children begin school and as we have a large group beginning next year we will need to give children space to grow. I know it is nice to watch at the end of the day as the children get organised but it can be distracting when there are many people around and often we step in to help when, given a little time and space, children can learn to do many things themselves.

I would like to ask all prep/one parents to wait for their children in the area inside the school beside the canteen and leave the locker area free for the students to organise themselves at the end of the day.

Thank you for your understanding.

Lynn Lyles.
### Calendar 2010

**PD** - Professional Development  
**Conf** - Conference  
**PM** - Principal Meeting  
**JRC** - Junior Red Cross  
**JSC** - Junior School Council  
**MT** - Mentor Train

**LL** - Lynn Lyles  
**JM** - Jacinta Mulder  
**DH** - Darren Hilliard  
**CS** - Coral Shepherd  
**SM** - Suzy Millard  
**JT** - Julie Timms  
**SL** - Sylvia Luke

### Macarthur Primary School Fundraiser  
**EGG & BACON BREAKFAST**

**Bacon & Egg Sandwich**  
**$3.00**  
**Tea, Coffee and Orange Juice**  
**$1.00**

**Saturday 21st AUGUST**

**When:** 8.00am onwards  
**Where:** Macarthur Primary School

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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 LL, JM Ultranet PD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 Marc Van LL—PM W’bool</td>
<td>6 Genes fior Jeans day</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9 Student Free Day Ultranet Day</td>
<td>10 Fire drill</td>
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<td>15 Book Fair</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>19 Marc Van</td>
<td>20 Clubs Working Bee BBQ Tea</td>
<td>21 Election Egg &amp; Bacon Breakfast</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 CFA Prep transition</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 Clubs Obstacle-a-thon</td>
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<td>29 Literacy &amp; Numeracy week</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>September 1 Garden Meeting</td>
<td>2 Marc Van LL—PM W’bool</td>
<td>3 Clubs Gr 6 transition</td>
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Thankyou

I would like to thank Tamara Hardy for her help in coordinating last weeks Funeral afternoon tea as a fundraiser for the school. Also to all the parents (female and male) that helped on the day and poured numerous cups of tea and coffee, cleaned up and stayed late, you know who you are. To all the families that cooked and delivered food to the hall, thank you. It was a big day. We had great reports on the lovely afternoon tea. We raised $400 for our fundraising account. Plates and dishes from the catering have been left in the library at school to be picked up.

Thankyou again
Leonie Dyson

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FOR SALE – UNIFORMS

The school has excess old sports uniforms for sale. If purchased, your children can wear them as part of their SPORTS uniform ONLY. On sale until stock runs out. First in best dressed.

PRICE $5.00 PER ITEM

Jagga Jagga Fleecy Track Pants - elastic waist, side pocket and double knee.
Size: 6 7 8 10 12 14 16

Jagga Jagga Rugby knit Shorts
Size: 6 7 8 10

Long Sleeve Green Polo’s (these can be worn as winter uniform)
Size: 10 12 14

ALL ENQUIRIES MUST CONTACT: CAROLYN MALSEED - 5578 4203 or LEONIE DYSON - 5576 4231/0438 586 762

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CLUBS PROGRAM 2010
Two places to fill

We invite all community members to take part in our very popular clubs program towards the end of this term. It runs over four Fridays with groups of about 6 children, and each afternoon runs two 45 minute sessions.

Grab a friend (it’s more fun with 2) and amaze the kids with your talents. Share your favourite activity or ask the teachers for ideas too; we have resources and patterns that could be used. We would like 8 groups running with teachers assisting rather than running a group, if possible.

Please send this expression of interest to Coral Shepherd as soon as possible so that I can help organise materials for you.

Thank you.

Coral Shepherd.

Name:

Contact phone number:

Activity(s)

Materials needed: i.e.consumables( Please list)

Equipment needed: eg. Scissors

Genes For Jeans Day

On the 6 of August Junior School Council is holding a Genes for Jeans day. It will cost 50c. You will be expected to wear jeans and any thing else casual.

Thank you
Junior School Council
EMA—Education Maintenance Allowance

In 2010 the EMA payment for parents/guardians is $225 for primary school students. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school and is paid in two instalments as per the schedule of payments set out in the table below.

Schedule of payments in 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instalment Portion payable to Primary school rate</th>
<th>Parent</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tr>
<td>One (70% of EMA)</td>
<td>$ 78.75</td>
<td>$ 78.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two (30% of EMA)</td>
<td>$ 33.75</td>
<td>$ 33.75</td>
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<td><strong>Total for 2010 $ 225.00</strong></td>
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The first instalment (70%) has been paid & the second instalment will comprise 30 per cent and will be paid from August 2010. This payment schedule recognises that families incur the highest educational costs at the start of the school year.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive the EMA, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent; and
- submit your application to the school by the due date.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of 3rd Term (12 July 2010) for the second instalment.

Any applications based on Centrelink payments that are not income tested (e.g. Carer Allowance, formerly Child Disability Allowance, Mobility Allowance and Remote Area Allowance) are not eligible unless the claimant, in their own name, complies with the second dot point above.

Application forms are available from the office. Please submit your application to school by 6 August 2010 for the second instalment of the EMA.

If you have submitted an application for the 1st semester you do not have to submit another application.

LATE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE RECEIVED.

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A McCain barcode collection box has been set up outside the office window.

By collecting barcodes from McCain frozen vegetable & purely potato packs and bringing them to school, we can redeem points for equipment —

10 points — McCain frozen vegetable 1 kg, 1.2kg & 2 kg packs
5 points -  McCain frozen vegetable & Purely Potato 500g, 600g, 750g & 800g packs.

Barcode = points