



The P.I.P.

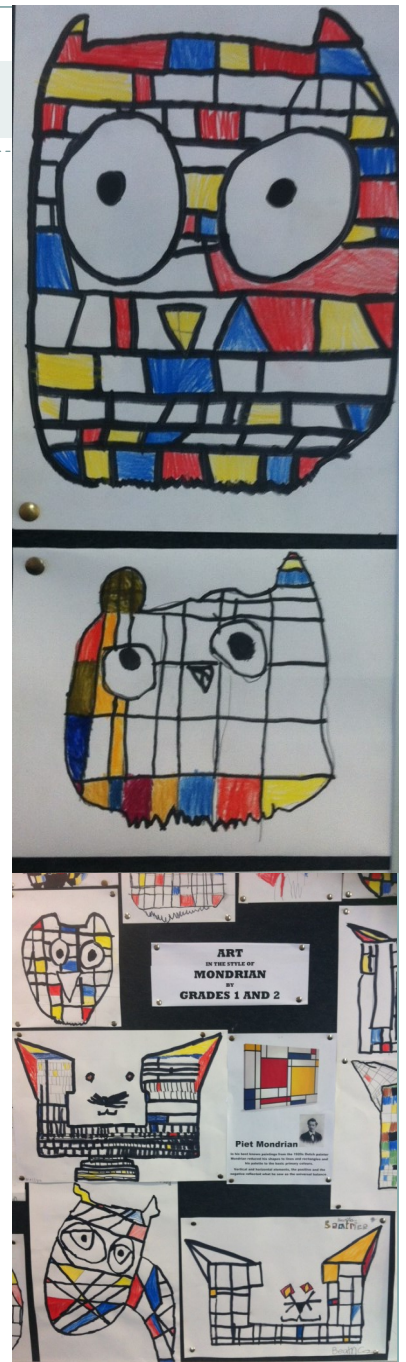
Parent Information Paper

- Everyone is settled in now and we are nearing the end of our “Building Our Learning Community” program. Tomorrow is our excursion to “The Tangled Maze” at Creswick to put into practice the things we have been talking about. We are looking forward to a great day. Please make sure that your children are on time as the bus will be leaving shortly after 9.
- This year, we have introduced uninterrupted weeks into our program and we are aiming to have half of each term as uninterrupted weeks. This means that on these weeks we are not scheduling any special activities so that teachers and children can be fully focussed on classroom learning, particularly in Maths and English. This was identified as a strategy from our school review last year. The next three weeks are identified as our first lot of uninterrupted weeks. The last week of term will also be an uninterrupted week. Please think carefully before making appointments or other arrangements during these weeks.
- The Grade 3-4 children received their notice about school camp yesterday. Please take advantage of the payment plan as it gives you a long lead time to pay for this.
- We are starting to work on our stall produce for the Applefest so please watch out for the special newsletter which will come out in the next week.
- We are having mulch for our playgrounds delivered Wednesday. If anyone has the time to spread it in the next few days, it would be appreciated.

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

As in previous years, we are running our “Building Our Learning Community” program for the next two weeks. We have a range of activities which you will be aware of from the notes you received last Friday, but just to recap.

Wednesday	No Preps Excursion to The Tangled Maze, Creswick School Council Meeting
Thursday	Buddy Bears Launch Parent Teacher Information Exchange (on request)
Friday	Technology Challenge—whole school morning activity
Monday 16th	Music Lessons for those students enrolled Book Club Orders due in
Tuesday 17th	Student Banking Day



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 11/2 Trip to Tangled Maze at Creswick
- 12/2 Parent Teacher Information Exchange
- 27/2 School Accounts to be paid to earn early bird discount
- 7/3 Applefest
- 9/3 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 12/3 Grade 3-6 Cross Country
- 27/3 Last Day Term 1



Michael Grose is the author of 8 parenting books, including his new release *Thriving!* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World* and *Last Borns Want to Change it*.

His popular parenting columns appear in newspapers and magazines across Australia. He appears regularly on television including Channel 10's *The Circle*, and is a popular & entertaining speaker as well as a frequent columnist for a variety of written media. He also has a regular fortnightly half hour parenting segment on ABC radio Victoria.

Michael has an education background, and holds a Master of Educational Studies with research into what makes healthy families tick. He has conducted over 1,500 parenting seminars over the last two decades.

FREE Chores & Responsibilities Guide

is waiting for you when you subscribe to Happy Kids, Michael's regular email newsletter and get heaps of practical tips and ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people.



French news from Madame Higgins

Bonjour tout le monde! Hello everyone.

The French program this year is continuing with its performance focus across all grade levels, while still devoting time to cultural awareness and everyday life language use. All grade levels will be learning and performing an entire play in French including several songs.

In addition to their play productions, Grades 4 through to 6 will be participating in mini immersion interviews with Madame during the year, as part of a progressive assessment of their listening and speaking skills. Below is a list of the plays, which we will begin working on from Term 2 for a performance in Term 3.

Please don't hesitate to contact me any time if you have any questions about the French program or for general information regarding your child's/ children's progress.

Classes Prep/1: *La Petite Poule Rouge*

Classes 1/2 : *La Poule Maboule*

Classes 3/4 : *Les Trois Petits Cochons*

Classes 5/6 : *Comment y Aller?*

School Banking Details for EFT Payments.

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 063509

Account: 10042656

Use your family name as the payment reference



Shared Lunch with the whole school. Girls brought sweets and boys brought savouries!



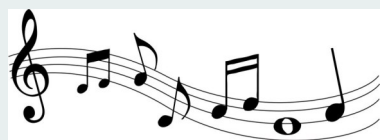
Swimming Day at the Harcourt Pool included fun games and activities for House points. **LANG** house was the winner, with their points being added to the ongoing total for 2015



“Building our Learning Community” walk last week included a visit to the Fire Station

DREW THORPE MUSIC

Drew will be available at our school this year for group music lessons on Mondays. Drew offers tuition on electric, acoustic & bass guitar; piano & keyboards; drums & percussion; saxophone, clarinet & woodwind; trumpet & brass; violin & cello; singing/vocals. Lessons are \$20 for half an hour, and you must contact Drew directly to book your child in on 0407502438 or email him on drewthorpemusic@gmail.com



UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop has been very busy with new children starting and others growing over the holidays!! We are a little behind in our Size 8 items in particular, so please be patient. If you have ordered items, and still owe for them, please pop into the office to pay and collect.

BOOK CLUB

Today the first Scholastic Book Club order forms have gone home with your child. These are a great opportunity to not only purchase books for your family, but also to have as gifts ready for that next birthday party invitation, or even get a head start on Christmas shopping!!!

School receives a terrific commission for all sales, which we in turn use to buy books and resources for the classrooms and library. There are also some great resources on their website, some pretty cool competitions and an online payment system that takes some of the load of our office staff!



These book club order forms and payments are due by Monday 16th February.

STUDENT BANKING

The Commonwealth Bank provides our students with the opportunity to start a regular savings pattern during their time at school. An envelope has been sent home today to all families giving them some more information about this great program. The main aim is to show students how quickly their savings can grow—so it isn't about how much you bank, but how regularly.

Banking day is Tuesday, and every deposit your child makes entitles them to a silver token. Once they have accumulated 10 tokens they can exchange these for a reward gift from the display cabinet in the office.

For more information, please read the details in the package, or come in and speak to Mrs Renfrey in the office on a Tuesday.

GASTRO ALERT.....

Quick reminder that we have a 48 hour gastro policy. If your child has had vomiting or diarrhoea, then they are not accepted back at school until 48 hours AFTER the last "event".

This policy has helped to stem the spread of these horrible bugs, so it is important for parents to remember.

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A colorful poster for 'Harcourt Applefest Kids Carnival' on Saturday 7th March. The title is in large, stylized letters. Below it, a green banner lists 'Rides, Entertainment, Workshop & Activities for Kids 2 to 22'. The bottom section lists activities like 'Castlemaine Circus, Specky Sports, Climbing Wall, Jumping Castles, Solar-powered Slot Cars, Mini-train Rides, Pony Rides, Hip-hop, Animal Farm, BMX's, Sideshow Alley' and ticket prices. It also includes the website www.harcourtapplefest.com.au and a pre-purchase link www.trybooking.com/GSSP.