Swifts Creek School Newsletter

October 16th 2013

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Assistant Principal: Ms Barbara Napthine
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Assistant Principal: Ms Pauline Canfield
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Whole School Dates to remember
17th Oct—Adamridginal Performance
5th Nov—Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Flagstaff Campus Dates to remember
6-8th Nov—Gr 3/4 Camp Lakewood
13th Nov—Robo Tech Performacne
25-29th Nov—Gr 5/6 Camp to Gelantipy

Tambo Campus Dates to remember
21st-25th—Evolve Typo Station
28th Oct—Big Breakfast Yr 12 farewell
Year 6 transition day
30th Oct—Year 12 exams start

NAPLAN student reports
NAPLAN tests in key areas of literacy and numeracy were held for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 earlier this year. The individual student reports from those tests will be sent home to parents this week, along with an information sheet to help you, as parents, to read the reports.

The information sheet provided by ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority) reminds us that “NAPLAN test results provide a snapshot of student performance on the days of the tests. There are many reasons why students may not have performed to the best of their ability... Equally, some students will perform much better than expected.”

The important thing is that if your child’s NAPLAN results are higher or lower than you expected, you should discuss these results with the relevant classroom teacher, Home Group teacher or the principal.

Our aim is to use the NAPLAN results to ensure that each student is being taught and challenged at the right level for them. We use NAPLAN results to identify areas of need and to plan for future learning, and we are happy to discuss this with students and parents.
Barbara Napthine, Assistant Principal

Contact details
If parents could please inform the school immediately of any contact information changes that would be greatly appreciated. It is very important with regards to emergencies to have all correct details.

Hats
Term 1 and Term 4 wide brimmed hats are required to be worn at Flagstaff Campus. This is school policy so please ensure that your child is bringing their hat to school.

Reading Tips
Would your child rather clean up his room than pick up a book? These tips can help you get your child back on the right reading track.
- Make reading relaxing and low-key for a short part of the day.
- Read aloud some funny or interesting parts of your favourite book.

Lost
We are missing one set of Lightning McLean training wheels that we took of Henry Smith’s bike during Bike Ed. If they have gone home by mistake please return them to Mr G. Thank

Book Club
Could all book club orders be returned by this Friday please?
ARE YOU EX NAVY, ARMY, OR AIR FORCE?
Then Carry On (Victoria) may be able to help you with education costs if you meet our eligibility criteria.
If you have served in the Australian Defence Forces or Allied Forces and you wish to apply for a Secondary Education Grant for 2014, please telephone Carry On (Victoria) on (03) 9629 2648 to establish eligibility and request an application form.
Carry On (Victoria) assists Secondary School students in Years 7-12 with grants for expenses such as fees, books, uniforms, excursions etc. For those students going on to Tertiary Education a grant may also be available.
Children whose Parent/s or Legal Guardian/s have a need for financial assistance and comply with our eligibility criteria may apply. All grants are income tested and applications should be submitted by 7 November 2013.
**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as: **uniforms, excursions, textbooks,** and **stationery.** You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- **$200** for prep students
- **$150** for students in years 1 – 6.
- **$300** for year 7 students
- **$250** for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

**How to Apply:** Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

**Closing Date:** You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.

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**READING CIRCLES 2013**

This term we are looking forward to listening to some more fantastic stories read by community members at the Reading Circles held each month at Swifts Creek School – Flagstaff Campus, and Omeo Primary School libraries.

If you are a parent, grandparent or friend of a child aged from 0 to 6 years, then come along and join in the fun. Morning tea is provided.

The Reading Circle dates for term 4 are:

**Omeo** - Thursday 17th October – 10.00 a.m.

Swifts Creek – Wednesday 23rd October – 10.00 a.m. Reader: Amanda Pendergast

**Omeo** – Thursday 14th November – 10.00 a.m.

Swifts Creek – Wednesday 27th November – 10.00 a.m.

Swifts Creek – Wednesday 11th December – 10.00 a.m.

**Omeo** – Thursday 12th December – 10.00 a.m.

For more information ph:
Rowena Turner, Schools As Hubs Co-ordinator
Ph 51594323.

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**Swifts Creek P-12 School, Flagstaff FREE Dental Screening**

Omeo District Health will be conducting free dental screening at our school with prep-grade 6 students on: **Wednesday 30th October 1pm-3pm**

If you would like your child to participate please make sure your child’s consent form is returned to the school by Monday 21st October.

For more information please contact:
Lou-anne Mooney at Omeo District Health on 51590100.
Celebrating Children’s Week in East Gippsland

Children’s Week is an annual event celebrated in October and this year will be celebrated from the 19\textsuperscript{th} – 27\textsuperscript{th}. Children’s Week is an opportunity for the community to get involved in a variety of activities that facilitate, support and encourage children and their families to play, learn and grow together.

Each year Children’s Week has a different theme and in 2013 the theme is ‘Leisure, play and culture’. This recognises that children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities.

There are a number of activities that businesses, organisations and community groups are holding across East Gippsland to celebrate Children’s Week. There is a ‘Calendar of Activities’ which can be accessed online at - \url{http://www.ucgipps.org.au/}

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Benambra & District Historic Machinery Club Inc

Two day Annual Rally
Saturday 26\textsuperscript{th} and Sunday 27\textsuperscript{th} October 2013

At the Hinnomunjie Recreation Reserve, Cnr Benambra Road and Racecourse Lane, Hinnomunjie, Victoria

.............Featuring.............

HELICOPTER FLIGHTS
- Vintage Engines
- Vintage Tractors
- Working Demonstrations of Old Machinery
- Vintage & Classic Cars, Trucks & Motorcycles Display
- Swap Sites and Craft Stalls

For further information & Entry Forms contact Sue Braggs 51591329
- Public Entry $8.00 per person ~ $15.00 family and children 12 and under are free