**Principal’s message**

Next week our Year 11 students will have completed their Work Experience and the year 2,3,4’s will be in Melbourne attending the ACMI awards ceremony for the movie that they made. This is just another week, just another lot of learning activities. These opportunities and other, such as the pallet cart derby, are essential for all students to develop their skills and knowledge and make the academic learning even more relevant to them.

As we race towards the end of the year it is important that each student continues to make the most of the learning that is provided to them. A number of our older students have commenced their roll over for next year. The significance of this is they are well under way with their next phase of the learning journey. It does allow for students to get a good start. The reality is that when they finish their time at school and are moving onto the next stage they will be competing against others for either an apprenticeship, position at TAFE or University.

On Monday 9 December we will have a pupil free day. The main focus for the day will be planning for 2014 using the new curriculum framework. As many of you are aware from the media we are moving from the VELs to AusVELS. This is a significant change. Hence, the planning day to ensure our teachers are set up ready to deliver classes that enable our students to be the best they can be, both academically and as global citizens.

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**Later Years Report**

It seems like only yesterday that the whole school got together to farewell the Year 12 students at the Big Breakfast, but in fact a very busy month has gone by since then.

In that time our Year 12 students went through an intense period undertaking their final VCE exams, as well as the less intense pleasures of leaving their mark here by way of the traditional wall handprints and signing. Most of our Year 11 students of course also study at least one Year 12 subject, so they got to experience the stresses, pressures, and joys of an external exam as well. The exams have all been sent off for marking now, and we await with anticipation the release of final results in the third week of December.

The final Year 12 exam took place last Tuesday, the 19th of November. As is traditional on the night of the final exam the students hosted the Year 12 Dinner. Here they got together for the last time as a group of school students, and joined with their parents, teachers and other staff who have worked with them along the way to celebrate the end of their thirteen years of schooling. This year we headed to the Albion Hotel for a good meal and fun reminiscences of some of the many learning experiences and social activities that students have taken part in at the school over the years. This night really brings home the good times shared and the multitude of opportunities that students at Swifts Creek School have over their time here, and reminds us what a great bunch of Year 12s we have had to work with this year.

The Year 11s had their internal exams last week for their other subjects, and then completed the week participating in head start classes to get under way with their Year 12 subjects for next year. This week they have headed off on Work Experience to try to get a better feel for what comes next after they finish with us. This week it’s the turn of the Year 10s, who are completing their exams as I write. In the next couple of days they will take part in their head start program to get under way for Year 11, and are then off for Work Experience next week.

As our outgoing Year 12s now depart on their many varied paths to the future, we look forward to hearing about all the adventures and travails that await them over the coming years. And of course as one group goes out another comes in. Things are always busy in the later years, so our senior students for next year should make sure they have a good break over the coming holidays and complete any work they have been set in anticipation of all that awaits them in VCE and VCAL in 2014.

John O’Neill
Later Years Coordinator

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Email: swifts.creek.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au  Web: www.swiftscreeksc.vic.edu.au  Twitter: twitter.com/swiftscreekp12
In their own words:

**Keren Collins**: My favourite part of camp was tubing because we went really fast on the tubes and kite making, the first reason is because I don’t have a kite at home. The second reason is because it is interesting.

**Olivia Walker**: My favourite part of camp was when we went tubing. My favorite thing in the pallet cart derby was the gauntlet because our team won the race. After lunch we had the presentations because we won the fastest cart. Our cart name was cool stars.

**Sam Coy**: My favourite part of the pallet cart derby was when we took the wheels off the old pallet carts.

**Riley McCole**: at the pallet cart derby 2 other Schools came to compete it was fun.

**Kalisha Warner**: Camp was fun but tubing was awesome.

**Shannon Head**: My favourite was the pallet cart day because it was fun and the jelly was good, but my favourite bit was throwing the water balloons at the grade 3.4

**AIDEN HAYWARD**: I HAD FUN AT THE PALLET CART DAY. MY FAVORITE RACE WAS THE GAUNTLET BECAUSE I GOT TO EAT TWO LITERS OF JELLY. I GOT WET FROM ALL THE WATER BOMBS.

**Emma Airs**: On the 22 of the 11 Swift Creek school had the pallet cart day. 2 other schools came over to race.

**Emma Reid**: on Friday the 22d of November we had a pallet cart day. We threw water bombs at the grade 3-4's. We had great fun

**Max Coy**: At camp I really liked tubing and seeing Robert going in the air.

**Bailey Humphries**: I really liked tubing, Archery, 90 mile beach, Cruise and all the other stuff.

**Jordy Neville**: Friday grades 2-3-4 had a pallet cart derby. Cann River and Noorimbi primary school came to swifts creek. my favourite track was the Downhill I won two races.

**Robert Crellin**: On Wednesday the 6th of November, Swifts Creek and Omeo 3-4s went on camp to Lakewood school camp. On the first day we went on a boat cruise to Raymond Island we saw ten Koalas. Then we went to Ninety Mile Beach I got forty three shells.
**SMART Generation** Poster Competition

The year seven students have participated in a ‘SMART Generation’ competition, which involved making posters to warn kids and teenagers about the dangers of drinking alcohol under the legal drinking age of 18. Miss Carr and Heather our school nurse picked the winning posters which had the best message and design. First prize went to Shelby Gray who won a iTunes gift card, second place went to Pirra Beltrame who won a One Direction pencil case, and third place went to Annika Fitzpatrick who won a bag of lollies and a hacki sack. It is important for us all to remember the dangers of drinking alcohol before the age of 18 and to talk about it with our families.

Written by Annika Fitzpatrick, Pirra Beltrame and Shelby Gray.

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**Junior Rotary Community Award**

On Tuesday the 12th Of November Jade Canfield was awarded her Rotary Community Award at a ceremony at Lucknow. Jade earnt this award by helping the Schools as Hubs co-ordinator, doing jewellery making, attending community events, participating in the CWA cultural day and various other things. Well done Jade on being the only person from our school who completed the award this year.

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**GINGERBREAD A WINNER AT 2013 OMEO AND DISTRICT SHOW!**

Students in Years 7-10 Food Technology prepared and baked their hearts out to produce a range of goods to display and compete in the annual Omeo and District Show, 2013.

This year, students baked Gingerbread people for the competition open to Junior and Senior School students. The winning entry was prepared, baked and decorated by Laura Firus and Jodie-Lee Camm. Congratulations go to both girls. Well done!

Second prize was awarded to Lloyd Jones and third prize to Pirra Beltrame. Congratulations to these students who I’m sure will be right up there in the judging in 2014.

Entries were also made by the following students who had to compete in the OPEN competition against proven and experienced cooks. Leah and Bailey Smith-Crisp - Scones (which were light and fluffy); Brigette Roberts who produced ANZAC biscuit beautifully decorated with gum leaves (a real Aussie theme); tasty sausage rolls produced by Siarne Cody, Jacinta Strong and Nikita McAlpine; Jelly slice by Tiffany McMillan; Apple and sour cream slice by Rachel Curren.

**Picture Right: Winning gingerbread baked by Laura and Jodie-Lee**

Congratulations go to all students who participated in the Omeo Show competitions and keep attacking! Swifts Creek School can sweep the pool in the future with the skills and enthusiasm for food being developed in the Food Technology kitchen at Swifts Creek School. All the best for 2014 and happy cooking!

Andrea Shepherd and Sarah Carr (Year 7-10 Food Technology teachers)
Year 8 Abseil Time!

As part of their introduction to the Evolve Project they’ll experience in 2014, Year 8 students enjoyed an abseil in perfect conditions near Falls Creek last week.

In fact, so easily did Year 8 take to abseiling that the twisting turning road out to the venue was by far a scarier option, as evidenced by a couple of minor ‘chuck’ situations.

‘Can’t wait’ seemed to be the general response to this prospect even although, to my partially deaf ears, those words sounded suspiciously like ‘oh no!’

Thanks to all concerned.

Gary Johnston
Year 9 Home Group Teacher.
Year 12 Dinner

Classiest Class of 2013

Tom Cowler

Rhiana

Tori

Belts

Sue

Emma Cooley

Luke #148

RICHARD
Life Education Van Flagstaff Campus
The Life Education Van is visiting Swifts Creek School on the 11th of December. A parent session will be running from 9.00am til 9.30 am for any interested parents at Swifts Creek Flagstaff Campus.

Students in Grade 5 and 6 will participate in a program called ‘Think Twice’, Grade 2s, 3s and 4s ‘Harold’s Diary’ and Prep and 1s ‘Harold’s Surprise’. The focus of the Life Education Van is around Health and Wellbeing.

Alpine Bioscan: Scientists visit the Alps
Omeo community day, where students meet the scientists to discover more about their local environment.

Parks Victoria, Museum Victoria and 4WD Victoria are undertaking one of the most comprehensive wildlife, geology and palaeontology surveys ever conducted in the Victorian Alpine National Park, north of Omeo. For two weeks, the Bioscan crew will focus on rarely researched species across the remote and rugged terrain of the eastern area of the Alpine National Park; on the lookout for mammals, birds, frogs, fish, snakes, snails, moths and other insects.

We are very pleased your school will be participating in the day where we can share the findings with you and your students.

Date: Friday 29 November
Time: 1.15pm to 2.45pm
Venue: Omeo Hall, 179 Day Avenue, Omeo

The event will involve a talk by, Dr Mark Norman and a Parks Victoria Ranger for approximately 30 minutes, followed by students visiting tables of the following:

- Mammals & birds experts
- Insects experts
- Reptiles experts
- Wildlife photographers
- Palaeontologists

Schools involved in the day are:
- Omeo Primary School
- Swifts Creek P-12 School
- The Alpine School
- Falls Creek Primary School

In total we are expecting about 120 students plus teachers.
THANK YOU...

To Val O’Brien for voluntarily covering many library books for the Flagstaff & Tambo campus during the year.

And another big Thank You to Ita Rose and Deborah Crellin, who volunteered to help us organising the library at Flagstaff Campus.

Without volunteers like Val, Ita and Deborah, jobs like this would not get done as nicely and the books wouldn’t be in circulation for student learning and staff use.

Thank you Val, Ita & Deborah!

Bring Your Cartridges From Home
Swifts Creek School is a member of the 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' program.

To help you make your home a little greener, you are invited to bring your used printer cartridges from home and drop them into our collection box for recycling. The boxes are located at Tambo Campus in the library & Flagstaff Campus in the office. Every cartridge we recycle saves energy, water and natural resources, such as aluminium, steel and plastics. The plastics can be turned into useful eWood items like pens, rulers, and outdoor furniture. So keep making a difference by recycling all of your printer cartridges, including those you use at home.

This program collects and returns inkjet, toner cartridges, toner bottles and other consumables from printers, fax machines and photocopiers for reprocessing and recycling. Please keep all packaging out of the cartridge collection box.

The following brands are accepted: Brother, Canon, Oce, Epson, HP, Konica Minolta, or Kyocera as well as Toshiba, Lanier, Fuji Xerox Australia, Samsung, Panasonic, Sharp or Lexmark. These manufacturers pay for the cost of recycling their printer cartridges through the 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' program. Please keep all other brands out of the cartridge collection box. Cartridges from other brands create a financial burden on the program, making it less sustainable.

To find out more visit the website at http://cartridges.planetark.org/about/ or call the Cartridges Hotline on 1800 24 24 73.
Swifts Creek School Parents’ Group

Serving Benambra, Omeo, Swifts Creek, Ensay
and surrounding communities

Raffle – Christmas Tree & $100.00 of scratchies

Tickets $2 each or 3 for $5

Tickets will be sent home next week. More are available at Tambo and Flagstaff offices and will also be on sale at Celebration Night.
5th Annual Dinner Plain Community
Carols in the Alps
Friday 20th December
7.00pm

Presenters:
Shelley Holah, Rory McDermott

Featuring:
Lisa Edwards, Michael Cristiano, Andrew Wishart,
Merlyn Quaife, Roger Heagney, Roy Best,
Fabian Stirling, Barry Fry, Janet Perkins,
Heather de Castella, John Houghton, Kathy Anstey,
Swifts Creek Primary School Choir
with Conductor: Bev Cook,
Omeo Primary School Choir
with Conductor: Natalie Mitchell,
Members of Wangaratta City Pipe Band
& a visit from Santa

A pure high country celebration, joining local communities in the family spirit of Christmas. Come and sing along in the 'Secret Garden' under the giant Christmas tree, rear of Alp hutte Restaurant.

BBQ and Refreshments available

A Dinner Plain Residents & Business Operators Inc. Initiative
## December 2013
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### Further Events
- **Jan 29th**– First Day Term 1 2014
- **Feb 5th-7th**– Year 7 Camp

### Contact Information
- **Tambo Campus Phone:** 5159 4366  **Fax:** 5159 4408
- **Flagstaff Campus Phone:** 5159 4267  **Fax:** 5159 4484
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- **Web:** www.swiftscreekse.vic.edu.au
- **Twitter:** twitter.com/swiftscreekp12