Principal’s Report
Welcome back.
It’s great to see so many enthusiastic students getting straight into their learning. Our Prep class has settled in well, as has each and every other year level. This term we are fortunate enough to have some of our Year 9 students at the School for Student Leadership at Marlo. Elections for house captains have been completed and I congratulate those student who have been prepared to take on the challenge of leading their House. We will soon be conducting elections for our student delegates and Flagstaff campus leaders. Each year we conduct our School Council elections. As part of this process each member serves a two year term, with half of the membership up for election each year. People who have been into the school may have seen the notice seeking four parent members and one DEECD member. Nomination forms are available through the office. The closing date for nominations is the 17th of this month at 4 pm. If you would like any information about the role of a School Councillor or the function of School Council please contact me.

Our planning for this year was based on 132 students. Currently we have 134 student we 72 on the Tambo campus and 62 at Flagstaff. Our five new teachers are enjoying their teaching, they are already actively being part of everyone learning to be the best they can be, academically and as global citizens. We are succeeding together by showing courage, joy and kindness.

Whole School Dates to remember
Feb 12th Swimming Sports

Flagstaff Campus Dates to remember
Feb 26th- Interschool Fun Gymkhana

Tambo Campus Dates to remember
Feb 17th-21st VCAL Bogong Leadership Camp
Feb 17th-21st VCE Camp Albury/Wodonga

Swimming Sports
Our SCS swimming sports are on Wednesday 12nd of February at the school pool. All students from both campuses are involved in the carnival. Year 7-12 students will be participating in many of their events from 9.30 until 11. Flagstaff students events start at 11.20am. There are a series of events, including novelty events in which everyone can participate, so please come with your bathers. It is also great to see students dressed in their House colours and supporting their team on the day. The House colours are green – Dargo, red - Wentworth, yellow - Timbarra (for Years 7-12 Tambo students). Parents are most welcome to come along to support their child.

We look forward to seeing everyone there.
Kate Bradbury, Wayne Gaunt, John O’Neill

Note that there will be a sausage sizzle on the day.
**For Sale**
Brand new pair of Asics kids runners
Gel - 180TR size 5
Bargain price $50
Contact Kathy Gallagher
Ph 51594404

**Parents’ Group Christmas Raffle**
The Winner of the Parents Group Christmas Raffle was Sharon Miles. Well Done.

**Attention Year 9-11 students:**
RACV is offering an opportunity for Year 9 -11 Victorian secondary school students to be creative contributors in a road safety initiative. Students learn about road safety and use their imaginations to create a Community Service Announcement for television. The most outstanding design will be professionally produced and screened on television.
If you are interested in participating in the program, please see Miss Caillard for more information or to sign up.

**Art**
The art department are looking for any recyclable items. If you have any milk bottles, cereal boxes, margarine containers, egg cartons, material or any other treasures that can be recycled send them in to Mr Cawley.

**Interschool Primary Gymkhana**
On February 26th Bairnsdale Pony Club will be holding the annual Interschool Gymkhana. If anyone is interested please contact Amanda in the Office and we can enter a team or just individuals who then will go into a composite team on the day.

**Office News**
If you have changed any contact details can you please contact either campus and let us know as it is very important in case of an emergency.
EMA forms are now due. If you have not already filled this form out please contact the office.
Conveyance Forms are now also due. If you have to travel more than 4.8km to your bus stop you are eligible to apply for Conveyance Allowance.

**Asthma**
10 Things to Tell/Ask your doctor.
**Symptoms**
If you are coughing, wheezing or breathless day or night
If you struggle to keep up with normal activity

**Triggers**
Anything that seems to trigger/make your asthma worse
What you do about your triggers and whether this helps

**Medication/Devices**
How often you take your blue reliever puffer
How often you take your preventer medication
How you use your device
If you are using any other medications or complementary (non-medical) therapies

**Asthma plan**
You would like an asthma action plan
You would like a regular asthma review

**For Sale**
Swifts Creek Tennis Club
Tennis coaching is on again starting Thursday 12th February. The lessons will start at 5pm and run for 45 minutes. The cost is $12 per lesson. Please let me know ASAP as the lessons are starting next week.
Kathy Gallagher
Ph 51594404

**Newsletter**
Please note that the Newsletters will be sent home on a Thursday this year.
WE ARE HAVING A SNAG SIZZLE

Lunchtime at the Swimming Sports
COME ALONG AND JOIN US, TO HELP US RAISE MONEY.

SNAG IN BREAD: $2
DRINKS :$2
SAUCE IS FOR FREE
ONION IS FREE AS WELL
YOU’LL EVEN GET A NAPKIN WITH IT ALL FOR HALF PRICE $0.0 :D

COOKED BY THE BEST CHEFS IN TOWN
WILLIAM TAYLOR and FEATURING NAO DOMEGRACIA
School procedures for the bushfire season

The way schools in Victoria respond to bushfires is being constantly revised.

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools – and children’s services – identified as being at highest bushfire risk have been included on the Bushfire-At Risk Register (BARR) and will be closed on days determined by fire authorities to be Code Red. Our school has been identified as a school at highest bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to three days notice of a planned closure following the issue of a Code Red warning by the CFA. We will contact you directly by email or letter sent home with your child with advice on planned closures and will confirm the decision to close by 12 noon the day before the planned closure.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child.

- No staff will be on site on days when the school is closed by the risk of fire.
- Out-of-school care will be cancelled on these days.
- School camps will be cancelled if the area where the camp is taking place is at risk.

There may also be changes to school bus routes. Depending on routes, this may also occur on days when the school is not closed.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days, children should never be left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire-prone area, the safest option when a Code Red day is declared may be to leave the night before, or early in the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for the threat of fire we have updated our emergency management plan; reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our school grounds and gutters.]

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s Bushfire Survival Plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements for your children in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website www.swifscreeksc.vic.edu.au, and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency plans.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s Bushfire Survival Plan.


For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season and Bushfire Survival Planning, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.