Everyone learning to be the best they can be, academically and as global citizens.
We will succeed together by showing:

Courage  Joy  Kindness

Newsletter
Swifts Creek School
March 2014

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Flagstaff Campus: Ph 5159 4267  Fax 5159 4484
Principal: Robert Boucher
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

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Principal’s Message

It has been another busy term with lots of learning being done. Tonight will be a great opportunity for parents to chat with teachers about the learning.

Most importantly, it is an opportunity to build on the positive relationships between parents, teachers and students that enable the students to be the best they can be. Some topics for the chat this evening may be: Is the diary being used effectively? What are the student’s strengths? What will help them improve? What routines would help with homework completion?

As we are all aware, our school has been working with outside experts to improve students’ literacy skills. For a long while now we have been using Prof John Munro’s High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedures to build students’ skills and independence as readers. The HRLTPs are:

- Getting Knowledge Ready
- Vocabulary
- Reading Aloud
- Paraphrasing and Visualising
- Saying questions the text answers
- Summarising
- Reviewing

These strategies are great for the students, and are also very helpful for parents who want to get involved in helping students with their learning at home. Please talk to teachers about these.

Dr Tonya Stebbins worked with us last year on writing. Her very clear and helpful message was that every writing task must start with thinking about:

- Audience
- Purpose
- Context

These aspects will help the writer to decide on the right genre and voice for the piece of writing, so they are in the right frame of thinking before they even begin writing.

These messages are again useful for parents to help each child with their learning regardless of the age, stage or the content area they are working in.

We look forward with talking to many parents this afternoon and evening. Working together will help create the best outcomes for all.

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On Monday the 3rd of March 11 students from grade 5/6 nominated as candidates for our Campus leader positions and gave a speech to a crowd of approximately 70 people. We would like to congratulate all the students who nominated for this role. The successful candidates are Jess Airs, Phoebe Crisp, Jordan Neville and Josephine Gallagher. They will represent Flagstaff Campus during delegate meetings for our school.

Email: swifts.creek.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au  Web: www.swiftscreeksc.vic.edu.au  Twitter: twitter.com/swiftscreekp12
Year 9 catch a few waves
(The waves. Year 9 not pictured)

As part of their ongoing involvement with the Evolve Project, the remaining members of Year 9 not currently domiciled at the Snowy River Campus, enjoyed a day out at Lake Bunga, riding some surf, doing a spot of fishing and enjoying some team bonding.

We were introduced to Gerry our new Evolve liaison guy who’ll be accompanying us on our mountain hike in April (more information to follow) and an extremely pleasant and useful day was had by all.

Certain aspects of the day are covered by the Omerta code but no confidences are broken in revealing that Tim, TD and Bailey were unsuccessful in catching either a wave or a fish.

Better luck next day boys.

Gary Johnston

Our Year 11 and 12 VCAL students met the Kindergarten children last week and made some new buddies. With the refurbishment of the Kindergarten the VCAL students are offering to create a sensory garden for the playground along with some alterations and extensions to the current cubby house.

We had lots of fun with the children and had a chance to ask them what kinds of things they liked to play, what kinds of plants they thought should go into their garden that would smell, taste and feel nice. We also found out that the children really, really, really liked dinosaurs and felt that a digger toy is a cubby house necessity.

Our VCAL students now need to start coming up with some design ideas that hopefully the Kindergarten staff, and of course the children, are happy with.

Check out the brilliant big smiles on the faces of the children both big and small. Awesome!

Ellie Guerin
The VCE Camp serves as an orientation experience. It looks to help the students identify as a cohesive group, and serves as a way to investigate further education options at both the University and TAFE levels, assisting students to better direct their energies as they complete their final years of school. We had a wonderful group of VCE students to take away this year, and the camp was a valuable and enjoyable experience for all.

This year’s camp focussed on the options available in larger rural settings, specifically the Albury/Wodonga area. Upon arrival we visited Charles Sturt University at Thurgoona, and spent most of the next day at Latrobe University, Wodonga and the associated Wodonga TAFE.

These institutions provided informative sessions on their own particular offerings and had current students talking about life on campus. They also provided some valuable advice on further studies in general and various other options students could consider, such as how the tertiary application process differed in NSW compared to Victoria and how students could use TAFE studies as a bridging mechanism to university.

Of course relocating to study is about living a life as well, so we also visited some accommodation options, and looked into various eating and entertainment offerings in the region.

Students came away from the camp with a range of opinions. Some have extended their outlook and are now seriously considering some NSW universities for further studies. Some are considering the TAFE first option in case things do not go exactly as planned and their ATAR does not secure them a preferred university place, or are simply seeing TAFE as a genuine alternative in itself. Some have consolidated their existing opinion that they want to attend a rural tertiary institution, while others came away with the opposite viewpoint solidified, that they definitely want to move to the city for further studies. And some are more broadly considering both as viable alternatives.

Regardless of the end result the key purpose of the camp was to show students the possibilities and help give them some firmer grounds on which to base some very important decisions about their future, decisions that will be upon them before too much longer.

John O’Neill, Later Years Coordinator
Year 8/9/10 Outdoor Education – Mallacoota camp

On Wednesday March 19th, fifteen Outdoor Education students travelled to Mallacoota for a three day camp. The students participated in activities they had been working on during the Term. On arrival at Mallacoota, our camp site was set up on the banks of the Inlet. We were lucky enough to have a breathtaking view over Mallacoota Inlet; falling asleep listening to the lapping water and waking with the birds and sunrise made for a spectacular setting and an amazing camp experience. On the first day we met Luke and some VCE Outdoor Education students from Mallacoota P-12 who took us on a sea kayaking tour where we could practise our paddling skills followed by a cooling swim in the ocean. Dinner and night activities were filled with laughter before we fell into bed ready for a full day two. An early morning and a magnificent sun rise started the day walk; we embarked on our 12km round trip walk to Shipwreck Cove through Croajingolong National Park. Along the way we searched for the longest and fattest leaves with Wayne and Lloydd finding the winning leaves. Lunch and a rock scramble at the picturesque Shipwreck Cove was the perfect rest and recharge before the walk back to Mallacoota. The Surf Shack staff met us on the final morning for a Surfing lesson which was topped off by a pod of Dolphins swimming past Bastian Point just as we finished surfing. It was a pleasure to have such a brilliant group of students on camp and a joy to see them experience a range of environments through different outdoor activities.

Miss Bradbury
Flagstaff Campus Triathlon

Year 7 Barbeque
Great Victorian Bike Ride Anyone?

Swifts Creek School is considering riding along with the 2014 Great Victorian Bike Ride. This year’s route starts in Albury and travels a distance of 500km through Bright and the High Country ending in Lilydale. Riding distances range from 39km to 86km on each day. The entire route will be covered in 9 days (including one rest day) between Saturday, 29 November and Sunday, 7 December.

SCS has participated in the ride in previous years with much success. Participants have enjoyed themselves thoroughly while building confidence and physical fitness. The challenge is considerable but anyone who takes the ride seriously can complete it. Participants will be expected to participate in a series of training rides leading up to the Great Vic.

If you are interested in having a go at the Great Vic Bike Ride please let Miss. Bradbury know at the start of term 2.

Reading Tips

Become a Fan

Your child will soon develop a love for particular authors and illustrators. Nurture their fan-ship by helping them write a letter to their favourite author. Many authors have their own websites with contact information, but here’s a great place to start your search (http://www.scholastic.com/kids/stacks/authors/all.htm). You can also contact the book’s publisher, the mailing address for which can often be found on the back of the title page or on the publisher’s Web site.

BUS TRAVEL

If parents could please return the Application for bus travel forms that were posted home last week at their earliest convenience it would be much appreciated.

Also a reminder to please notify the school (phone call or note) if your child is travelling on a different bus or getting off before their usual stop.
I came first in.

The triathlon I am very happy and miss welsh went in our car and on the way back I went in the car. I am going to get a milestone I had so much fun.

By Ruby N

On Friday the 14th of March it was the triathlon. I just ped into a very cold pool then I got my run on and ran to the bike. I jumped onto my bike rode to the finish line. I had a great time.

By Ruby N

The triathlon on Friday we had a triathlon. I did not do the triathlon I did the triathlon that was meant for people that are sick at the finish line we got a 

use for and back in a lim back to school by patric

By Ruby Smith
‘Vantage Point’
Youth PhotoVoice Exhibition
Opening Night Friday the 4th of April 5.00 pm
Great Alpine Gallery, Swifts Creek
(Exhibition on display until Friday 11 April)
All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Be Heard on OSCAR
If you are young and interested in getting the chance to Be Heard! On community radio, you need to let us know… You can play the kind of music YOU WANT! Talk about things YOU are interested in and HAVE FUN!! Check out our latest OSCAR activity

Youth Events Group
Get involved and have your say...
Are you aged between 12-18 years and living in the Omeo District?
Are you interested in increasing the social, recreation and leisure opportunities for young people in the area? If so, then the Omeo District Youth social group is for you.
We are looking for keen teenagers who would like to form a Youth Group that will direct activities and opportunities and help promote young people in the district.
For more information Please contact Carla Hall

Carla Hall, Youth Worker
Omeo District Health
PO Box 42 (12 Easton St) Omeo, VIC 3898
Ph: (03) 5159 0164 Fax: (03) 5159 0194
E: youth.services@omeohs.com.au

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

Apps for young People
The Sorter – Bite sized life tips for young men
Headspace Meditation - Informative mindfulness meditation program.
Take a stand together – Anti Bullying information
Save the Date

For the Omeo District Health Fundraising Ball
Saturday, April 5, 2014 - 8pm at the Omeo Hall
Tickets: $30/person BYO drink & food, some finger food supplied
Entertainment by Dean Carruthers
Theme: Dress to Impress
Many prizes including door prize and auction
Book your tickets and table now!
For tickets and information

Swifts Creek Kindergarten Fundraiser
WOOD LOTTO
$5 per guess
Tickets are available at Darby’s and Post Office
Got to be in it to WIN it.
Prize is a very generous meter of wood.
Any enquiries call Paul Newton
0488594888

Email: swifts.creek.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
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# April 2014

## Swifts Creek School

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### Further Events

- **May 5th**: TIS Day
- **May 19th-23rd**: 5/6 Camp
- **May 21st-23rd**: Outdoor Ed Melbourne Camp

### Contact Information

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  - Fax: 5159 4408
  - Email: swifts.creek.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
  - Web: [www.swiftscreeksc.vic.edu.au](http://www.swiftscreeksc.vic.edu.au)
  - Twitter: twitter.com/swiftscreekp12

- **Flagstaff Campus**
  - Phone: 5159 4267
  - Fax: 5159 4484

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**April Events**

- **School Photos**
- **Term 1 Finishes 2.30pm**
- **Good Friday**
- **Easter Monday**
- **Term 2 starts**
- **Flagstaff campus closure**
- **Anzac Day**

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