Whole School Dates to Remember
Dec 8th State-wide Transition Day
Dec 16th Celebration Night

Principal’s Message:
We are racing to the great time of year where we have the opportunity to celebrate and share the joy of another year. The reality about this is that we must follow not only some social expectations but also legal ones. For the parents of our older students I have taken the liberty of including some information that has recently been brought to my attention. Please share this so we can all enjoy this time of year and not have added complexities to deal with.

Hosting a Teenage Party
Providing alcohol or allowing young people to drink at a party carries a number of risks. As the legal host of the party, you are responsible for providing a safe environment. You could be held liable if anything goes wrong, even after the party if the guests leave drunk.

Laws: Victoria
Under Victoria’s Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 it is illegal to supply alcohol to people aged under 18 years in a private home unless parental consent has been given. Offenders are liable for a fine of over $7 000.

No one wants their party ruined by drunken behaviour, property being damaged, or someone being injured.

Serving alcohol:
If you do provide alcohol at the party it’s a good idea to:
- Ensure no one under 18 years is served or given alcohol unless you have their parent’s explicit approval.
- Tell parents ahead of time.
- Set up an agreement between yourself and your child about alcohol and adult supervision.
- Only make alcohol available from one area and have a responsible adult serving who is not drinking alcohol.
- Take special care to control how much alcohol is drunk and only serve low-alcohol drinks.
- Make sure good non-alcoholic options are on hand.
- Avoid drinks like punch that could be easily spiked.
- Ensure that food is readily available for all party guests.
- Try not to serve salty snacks as they make people thirsty and could cause them to drink more.
- Plan for guests sleeping over if no one is able to take them home.

See more at: http://theothertalk.org.au/hosting-a-teenage-party

Robert Boucher
**Head Start for Years 7, 8 & 9**
Next week students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will commence their classes for 2016. This “Head Start” or “Rollover” sets students up for the next stage of their learning journey. Instead of the year winding down, students have the excitement of stepping up to another level of learning. It’s important for students to be here and to be learning during this time.

**Transition Day Tuesday 8th December at Flagstaff Campus**
During the State wide Transition day all Flagstaff students will spend the day with their 2016 Home Group teacher in their 2016 classes. This day is to introduce students to their teacher and classmates. It allows them to experience some of the learning opportunities they will participate in next year.
Students in Years 4-6 (next year’s 5, 6 and 7s) will take part in the Middle Years Transition Day along with the Year 6 students from Omeo Primary School. Notices with more details for these students are being sent home today.
Our 2016 Prep students will be joining us for the day and their parents have been invited to an informational morning tea in preparation for their first year of school.

**Celebration Night**
We are looking forward to Celebration Night on Wednesday December 16 at the Swifts Creek Hall.
Flagstaff Campus celebrations begin at 6pm. There will be a spectacular student performance, Yr 6 Graduation, choir and more, all to celebrate the achievements and talents of our Flagstaff students. They will be delighted to have family and friends there to celebrate with them, so we look forward to seeing lots of people there for this event. This will finish around 7.15pm.
Then we will have a break outdoors to enjoy the Year 8 Circus performance. Students, families and guests are invited to stay for this and for a meal provided by the school. The Lions Club will cater for us with hamburgers, etc. Families attending the second part of the evening are most welcome to join us for the circus and the meal too.
Tambo Campus celebrations will commence at 8pm. The evening is about recognising and celebrating a wide range of student activities, endeavours and successes. Many students get to go on stage to receive awards and others enjoy seeing themselves in the array of slideshows which highlight some of the special events for the year. The big kids, too, like to have family and friends there to celebrate the year with them, so again we hope to see lots of people at this event. At the end of the evening Tambo students will be able to collect their end of year reports and their copy of SCOBE magazine.
Celebration Night is a great way for everyone to enjoy what a great year it has been.

**Celebration Night - Play in a Day**
**Costume preparation**
We are once again having a ‘Play in a Day’ hosted by Darren McCubbin for our end of year Celebration Night on the 16th December.

**Year P-2**
Students have been allocated their colours for their costume. If you are unsure or would like to check please call Miss Bradbury.

**Year 3-6**
The students should dress up as stockmen and women. Darren McCubbin will bring a suit for “The Colt from Old Regret” and two horse riders costumes for “Clancy of the overflow” and the “Man from Swifts Creek”. If your child has a speaking part their costume will need to be a little more specific to their character.
If your child has a speaking part in the play please encourage them to continue to rehearse their lines at home.
Carols by Candlelight
Swifts Creek – Friday 04th December
6:30pm at Tambo Campus
Swifts Creek P-12 School
Come and Join us and enjoy -
CWA stall/ Parents group BBQ/ Lions doughnuts
Swifts Creek P-12 School Band and Choir
High Country Singers
And LOADS of Christmas carols and Christmas cheer!!

As part of our community Christmas carols please remember if you are in the choir we look forward to seeing you there.

Swifts Creek Kindergarten and Childcare Christmas party

Please join us to celebrate a great year of Kindergarten and Childcare. This will be held at Swifts Creek Caravan Park/Playground at 10.30am on Saturday 19th December. Please bring a plate of food to share.
Santa on a spider will be making a special appearance (free lolly bags for the children) at 11.00am.

All Community members are welcome to join us
How can YOU help?

It’s easy......we are looking for gifts of food, children’s gifts or money to support the appeal.

You can leave gifts at the Kmart Wishing Tree, Country Target Share Appeal Wishing Tree or drop off at UnitingCare Gippsland in McCulloch Street Bairnsdale.

Alternatively cash donations can be made at UnitingCare Gippsland, 49 McCulloch Street, Bairnsdale or you might like to volunteer to assist in making up hampers......

please contact c4cteam@ucgipps.org.au or UnitingCare Gippsland on 5152 9600

What is the East Gippsland Community Christmas Appeal (formerly Mother Christmas?)

This Appeal provides food hampers and children’s gifts to East Gippsland families at Christmas. It is about locals looking out for locals, and acknowledging that Christmas can sometimes be a time of financial strain and not all families experience the joy of sharing a Christmas celebration with family and friends.

Community Service Agencies refer families to the Christmas Appeal and hampers and gifts are given without judgement. It is an opportunity for the community to work together to share their best wishes at Christmas time.

This Appeal is a community partnership which involves several community service organisations including The Bairnsdale Salvation Army, Quantum Support Services, UnitingCare Gippsland, Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative, Riviera Christian Centre, St. Vincent de Paul Society, East Gippsland Shire Council, Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House and ADRA.

Last Christmas saw over 500 hampers, 150 vouchers and over 4,000 toys given right across East Gippsland including remote areas. This significant achievement could not happen without the incredible support of volunteers, workers, local businesses, schools, service clubs and families who contribute in a range of important ways including collecting food, donating money or packaging hampers.