What’s happening in Term 1:

February
- 25th Wednesday: Kinder & P/1 Environment Day
- 25th Wednesday: Garden Market (3-30pm)
- 27th Friday: Clean Up Australia Schools Day
- 28th Saturday: Strategic Planning meeting

March
- 2nd Monday: 3/4/5/6 camp at Wyatina
- 6th Friday: No school for campers
- 9th Monday: Public holiday
- 11th Wednesday: Kinder Environment Day
- 11th Wednesday: Garden Market (3-30pm)
- 12th Thursday: P/1 Environment day
- 13th Friday: Ride to School Day
- 18th Wednesday: 1/2 Environment Day
- 18th Wednesday: 3/4 Bike Day
- 23rd Monday: Growing Up program starts
- 25th Wednesday: Kinder Bike day
- 25th Wednesday: Garden Market (3-30pm)
- 27th Thursday: End of term concert

April
- 1st Wednesday: P/1/2 Bike Day
- 2nd Thursday: 5/6 Bike Day
- 2nd Thursday: Last Day Term One

From Steve: The wet weather last Saturday certainly didn’t deter the number of people who enthusiastically played their part in the school working bee. As well as achieving a mountain of work, it was obviously a welcome opportunity to have longer conversations, and for me to get an insight of your thoughts and views about our school.

I experienced another first on Monday, when along with students and staff we enjoyed the hot lunch prepared for us by Heather and her daughter Isabelle. Delicious!

On Wednesday I became a bus driver and accompanied Hana’s Middlies on their Environment Day to the lower reaches of the Longley River. A lovely bush walk with observations of the native fauna was followed by the inevitable shrieks of delight as children entered the cool water in a safe and controlled environment. Dams were built, boats were sent down the river, insects and lizards were discovered and relationships were formed. Little wonder that we were all feeling pleasantly tired by the time we got back to school.

By now all teachers have provided you with an opportunity to meet at their respective forums to find out how classrooms are operating and expectations for the coming term. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend and my thanks to teachers for planning and convening the forums.

This week has seen us collect some important assessment data including; spelling across years 2-6, and Performance Indicators in Primary Schools (PIPS) with the Preps. This data will inform us as educators as to how we can develop whole of school approaches to particular curriculum elements as well as assisting individual students to achieve their best.

At the Gathering this week I took the opportunity to talk to students about the fact that we pride ourselves on being a school where the value of peace is understood and enacted. To this I asked students to consider whether pretending to be violent with imaginary guns had a place within our school. I would encourage you to have a further conversation about this at home and to respectfully debate the pros and cons of imaginary violence.

Golden Handshake: This week’s golden handshake recipient is Lily Neyland. At the working bee, Lily helped to re-shelve all the books in Tom’s class and then replaced some of the green boxes etc. into the green box area. Lily also helped with the pine bark. Great job Lily!
Clean Up Australia Day: Next Friday, the 27th, is Clean Up Australia School's Day. We have a great tradition of participation and the students are keen to get out there and do their bit (finding Tellies and cricket bats is a great incentive)! The whole school will participate in the clean up around the Bellerive area, please send your child prepared as for an environment day. In the past we have had lots of willing adult helpers but unfortunately we can't have helpers with us who don't have their current working with children checks. Please see Annette if you'd like to participate in school activities in the future. Thanks, Lee.

Lost: Amadeo is missing a set of green and white headphones from the Littlies classroom from 2014. He used these to listen to stories on the CD player. He would like to take them to Southern Support School this year. If found could they please be left at the Cottage School Office.

Also lost: Has anybody seen the powerbox for the keyboard? It was last used at the end of year concert on the last day of school last year. It is a black rectangular power box with cords attached. The large keyboard is unusable without it. With many thanks in anticipation! Thanks, Lee.

Food Allergy List: On talking to Heather (cooked lunch coordinator), she said that some of the children on the list were no longer allergic to some foods. If your child’s allergy list has changed or been updated, can you please let me know so I can update the list. Heather has to follow the list which is in the kitchen and we can’t change any of it until we are formally notified. Thanks, Annette

En français: Bonjour, tout le monde. This year, each class has a vocab book, un carnet de vocabulaire, to use in French lessons. If you would like a copy, I will send it via email. Requests to frankn@netspace.net.au You might also like to try these websites: www.languagesonline.vic.gov.au www.ouinofrench.com and there are many Youtube clips to practise basic words and phrases. Thanks, Annette

Purple Scooter: There is a small purple scooter which has been left at school since last term. We would like to return it to its owner. If you think it belongs to you please see Annette. If no one comes to claim it in the next couple of weeks, we will donate it to the Salvos.

Working Bee: Thank you to everyone (siblings, grandparents and friends included!) who came along on Saturday & cooked, cleaned, gardened, fixed, built, dug, hoed and more! As always the school looks fantastic after this big dose of TLC. It was very satisfying to see all that was achieved on the day and it was also a great chance to meet new families. A few loose ends: - We will be in touch with those people who requested catch up jobs in the next few days to make arrangements for completing these. - All catch up jobs and those jobs that need to happen after the working bee (for various reasons) need to be completed by Monday 16 March please. If for some reason this is not possible please see the Working Bee coordinators. - If you have any receipts that you need to claim reimbursements for (eg materials purchased for the WB, tip fees etc) please give these to Gabrielle or Mel (you probably all know who we are by now!) by Wed 25 Feb. Please write your name on the receipt so we know who to give the $$ to! - And a reminder....if you use tools brought to the working bee by other people please treat them with respect (eg secutares are not trowels and using them to dig in sandy soil does them no favours!)

- Future Working Bee dates for 2015 Sat 13 June and Sat 17 October.

Garden Market: Is happening again this coming Wednesday 25 Feb @ 3pm. It is a great way to find good homes for any excess produce from your veggie gardens and fruit trees (or those of relatives or friends!). Any delights from your kitchens (no nuts or eggs and low sugar please) are also very welcome! See you Wednesday on the Kinder steps.

Calendar: A calendar for term one is attached. Print it out and put it on your fridge ☺ That way you can easily keep up with what is happening at school.
What's On:

1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching – Parent Course: Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children 2-12 years old. A two-session program for parents and carers at Anglicare Tasmania, 18 Watchorn St, Hobart
Two new courses starting on Monday 23 March 2015 9.30am-12.30pm or 6.00pm-9.00pm

Learn: How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
How to sort behaviour
How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
To choose your strategy – the three choices
To use emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

The course cost $50 per person or couple. $10 per person for concession card holders.
Register for this course by calling 1800 243 232 (free from landlines and mobiles)

Term 1 MILO in2CRICKET Programs
MILO in2CRICKET is a fun skill based program for boys and girls aged five to eight to get a taste of cricket!
The entry level program involves fun, safe activities that teach kids the basic skills to play cricket, in a supportive, non-competitive environment.
The active, inclusive program allows kids to make friends, develop social skills and team work.
The program is run by trained volunteers and each participant receives a pack containing a MILO backpack, hat shirts, bat, ball and lots more!
To find your local Term 1 program or more information, please visit www.in2cricket.com.au

Attachments:  Term One Calendar