Further to the letter sent out last Friday regarding the 2014 School Council, Kari Males, Rachael McKay have been returned while Sarah Harris will be a new councillor. Nicole Rooke will take up the 12 month casual vacancy with the resignation of Amanda Ruzicska. Ann Honeychurch is our other counsellor who will this year be in the second year of her two year appointment.

I would like the thank Amanda and retiring councillor Tonia Langdon for their contribution to the Bolinda Primary School Council.

Office bearers will be elected at our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 12th March.

We had three families pay their fees in the last week, we thank you. It would be great if other families could also pay. I have received two quotes for the concreting work which I will discuss with School Council at our AGM. Some paid fees would be helpful to fund this project.

Student, Parent, Teacher Interviews

Student/Parent/Teacher interviews were held on Thursday 20th February and Monday 24th February after school. There are further interviews tonight.

There are still a few parents who are yet to book in for interviews. Please do so asap.

Bunnings BBQ

Our first Bunnings Sunbury BBQ for the year is Sunday 23rd March. These BBQ's are one of our main fundraisers for the year. If you can turn a sausage, pass a sausage in bread to a customer or give correct change then you’re qualified to help. We have two shifts (9.00—12.30 & 12.30—4.00) See John if you can help.

Contact information

Thanks to the parents who have sent back their contact information details sent out last week. It is extremely important that our contact details are accurate and complete. If you haven’t completed the forms and sent them back, could you please do so by the end of this week.

Student Achievement Awards

Year P– 2
Keira Watts – For her fantastic attitude and work in all areas of her learning.

Year 3- 6
Chloe Bonnici — Having a go and taking more responsibility for her own learning.

Working Bee

We have scheduled a working bee for Tuesday 4th March. There are elm suckers along the western fence line which need to be removed before they become too big. I would also like to separate the rubbish pile at the end of the yard and order a skip dispose of the rubbish.

Essendon Football Club Clinic

AFL team Essendon Football Club will have players attend the school to conduct a clinic for all students on Tuesday 11th March. Further information in next weeks newsletter.
The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 provides for the provision of free instruction in the standard curriculum program, and empowers school councils to charge for goods and services used in the course of instruction and to raise funds.

Free instruction includes learning and teaching, instructional supports, materials and resources, administration and facilities associated with the provision of the standard curriculum program. The standard curriculum program includes core learning and teaching activities associated with the Australian Victorian Essential Learning Standards (AusVELS).

In summary, school councils can request payments from parents for student materials and services charges, and for voluntary financial contributions.

These payments fall into three categories:

1. **Essential education items** which parents and guardians are **required** to provide or pay the school to provide for their child (e.g. stationery, text books etc.)

2. **Optional extras** which are offered on a user-pays basis and which parents and guardians may **choose** whether their child accesses or participates in (e.g. Netbook program, SAKG program, extra curricular programs or activities)

3. **Voluntary financial contributions** which parents and guardians may be **invited** to donate to the school (e.g. grounds maintenance, beautification)

Parents who have difficulty paying for essential items may have access to a range of support options including the **Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

School Council has set the fee structure for 2014.

1. Educational—Education items Parents are **required** to pay this fee—$100 per student

2. Optional extras—only parents of year 3-6 students need to pay $120 for 2014 for the netbook program. There is a $10 levy for the SAKG program for all students.

3. Voluntary—Parents are invited to pay a small levy to help with the improvement and up keep of the school grounds—$30—No change

**Netbooks**

Parents of year 3-6 students participating in the netbook program are required to pay $240 for the lease of their netbook over two years. The school will make a $268 contribution for the lease of each machine. Parents are asked to make a payment of $120 for 2014 and a further $120 in 2015. lump sum or $60 in term one and a further $60 in term two.

Happy birthday to Nysa on Thursday. We hope you have a great day.

Children wishing to participate in the Catholic Sacramental Program for 2014:

- Reconciliation ( Grade 3 or above )
- Eucharist ( Grade 4 or above )
- Confirmation ( Grade 6 )

need to contact

Joanne Reuther (Pastoral Associate) St Mary’s Parish – Lancefield & Romsey on 54292130

Enrolments close 28th February.

**Last Day Term One**

Similar to the end of term one last year we would like to have a themed day, Walk-a-thon and sausage sizzle on the last day of term.

In line with our current theme the day will be super heroes. This could be as simple as bringing a book or magazine about superheroes or wearing a costume and everything in between.

We are acutely aware of the boundaries regarding superheroes, these are the good guys! We are not in any way promoting bad role models or any form of violence.

We will send home further details about the Walk-a-thon and the sausages sizzle next week so parents can attend should they choose.