The container we purchased for storage arrived last Friday. Staff and hopefully parents can start cleaning out the shed. We intend to spend next Thursday 4th April at 10.00 am sorting out what stays and what goes from the shed. It would be great if you could give us an hour or so of your time.

Have a safe and restful break and we will see everyone back on the first day next term.

Year Prep—2
Emma Rose Langdon — For always co-operating and working with others.

Year 3-6

Parents are reminded that the Education Department and the school do not have insurance policies for students who are injured at school. Parents are able to take out their own insurance; there are a number of companies who provide this cover. See John if you require further information.

At our most recent School Council meeting there was discussion regarding the possibility of offering musical instrument lessons. If you or someone you know is interested in providing musical instrument lessons, please let us know.

From the Principal’s Desk

We will be conducting a walkathon on Thursday 28th March. We ask that students are sponsored for the number of laps they complete of the walking track in 45 minutes. Alternatively a donation is acceptable. The walk will begin at approximately midday, it would be great if parents could attend and walk with us. After the walk we will be having an end of term sausage sizzle and award prizes for the 5c fundraiser. Dismissal is at 2.00pm but parents who attend are free to take their children home after the sausage sizzle. Please complete the sponsorship form and return to school by Thursday 28th March so we can process them and give them back to students to collect the money. (The form is also on our website) Money should be sent to school early next term.

A timetable of the events on Thursday has been included with the newsletter. Parents are free to join in any or all of the activities.

Walkathon

Friday 28th March
Walkathon BBQ lunch Last day term one 2.00 pm dismissal

Monday 15th April
First day term 2

Tuesday 30th April
Gisborne SC Information night

Friday 24th May
School photos

Friday 7th June
Curriculum Day

Five cent fundraiser

Donate your unloved and unwanted 5c pieces to the school and we will make them into a very long snake.

On Thursday we will hold competitions with prizes for students to guess the length of the snake and the amount of money raised. Thank you to those who have donated.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to everyone who donated eggs for our annual Easter raffle. Special thank you to Amanda Ruzicska and Sarah Harris for putting the baskets together.

The raffle will be drawn on Thursday the last day of term, there are 10 prizes.

Raffle tickets are $1.00 each or 3 for $2.00

Could all tickets and money be returned by tomorrow, Wednesday 27th March at the latest.

Mathletics Awards

The following students from the junior class received mathletics bronze awards this week.

Nea Ferraro, Jack Ruzicska, Declan McLaughlin, Talitha Van Der Weerden and Harreson Watts.
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 Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).

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, 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 2013.

1. Educational—Education items Parents are required to pay this fee—$90 per student

2. Optional extras—only parents of yr 3-6 students need to pay $120 for 2013 for the netbook program.

3. Voluntary—Parents are invited to pay a small levy to help with the improvement and upkeep of the school grounds—$30

**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 2013 and a further $120 in 2014.

**Parents are reminded that either $120 is due before the end of term one or $60 in term one and $60 in term three as per the signed agreement.**

We forgot to put the chook and cat roster in the newsletter last week.

We would really appreciate people filling in the roster in the office by Thursday. Sooty and the chooks thank you.

If people could donate some cat food that would be fantastic as well.

We will be scheduling open days for prospective 2014 prep student families early next term.

If you have a child who is scheduled to begin school next year or know anyone who has a child who will begin school in 2014, please let John know. It may seem a long way until next year but we need to make some financial decisions this year which will be impacted by our projected 2014 enrolment.

Just to make the last day of term even busier, we have decided to make it a dress up day. Information was sent to parents 10 days ago. If you have any queries, see one of the teachers.

A proforma regarding parent helpers in the P—2 class was sent home with the newsletter last week. Could these also be sent back to school by Thursday so teachers can complete planning for term two.