For Your Diary

**Tuesday 4th August**
Basketball tournament
Boardman Stadium
Sunbury

**Saturday 8th August**
Trivia Night

**Tuesday 18th August**
Excursion Discovery Centre Bendigo

From the Principals Desk

There are still a small number of parents yet to see teachers to schedule parent, student, teacher interviews. It is very important that parents discuss their child’s progress with their teacher. It is a time to celebrate their achievements and provide encouragement. Please make an appointment as soon as possible.

I had a query from a parent regarding students filming or photographing other students in the playground on devices brought from home.

After discussion with staff and the parents concerned we have decided this activity will not continue.

Although seemingly completely innocent, the school is unable to control where these images may be stored or where they end up. This doesn’t affect the current school policy on storage of student images which are secure on our server. All parents have signed off on our permission to use student images consent form.

P - 2 Max Taylor - For fantastic improvement in his writing since the start of the year.

3 - 4 Jenna Honeychurch - For working wonderfully well as a part of a team on her ‘Inventions Timeline Poster.’

5 - 6 Tana Males - For taking responsibility for her own learning and always doing her best.

We have not had enough rain for the water tank to provide enough drinking water. After discussion with the School Council executive (Kari Males President & Nicole Rooke Deputy President) we ordered drinking water last Friday which was delivered yesterday.

Trivia Night

afternoon.
A big thank you to Darren Salmon who donated six slabs of bottled water. Very generous!

Our sixth annual Trivia night has been confirmed for Saturday 8th August at ‘Seasons’ in Riddells Creek.

The cost is confirmed at $50 a head for a two course meal as well as tea and coffee, drinks at bar prices.
As always it is a great night with lots of laughs and prizes. Bookings can be made with Kari Males. It has been a sell out the last couple of years so get in early and don’t miss out.

As yet we have only sold a small number of tickets for the night. Please see Kari asap. Any donation of prizes should also be given to Kari.

We neglected a couple of items for the newsletter last week.

Tana and Nysa Males competed at the State Cross Country Championships on Thursday 16th July. Nysa placed 8th in her age group and Tana 32nd in her age group. Well done!
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).

School Council has set the fee structure for 2015.

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 2015 netbook program. There is a $20 levy for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG) program for all year 3-6 students. This fee will supplement the allocated school budget for this program. Students will receive 16 free lunches which is a $1.25 a lunch. **Please note it is now only a year 3-6 program.**

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

**Netbooks**

Parents of year 3-6 students participating in the netbook program are required to pay $120 for the lease of their netbook each year. The school will make a $160 contribution for the lease of each machine. Parents were asked to make a payment of $120 in a lump sum or $60 in term one and a further $60 in term two.

Presently, most parents have paid or partially paid the essential education items levy which is pleasing.

Unfortunately very few payments have been paid for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, or the netbook program.

Invoices for outstanding fees were sent home with the newsletter last week.

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**Excursion**

As part of our theme on ‘Inventions’ we will be travelling to Bendigo by train on Tuesday 18th August to visit the ‘Discovery Science and Technology Centre.’ If you would like to know more go to www.discovery.asn.au/

We are awaiting transport costings from V Line. We should be able to advise of the cost in next weeks newsletter.

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**Reading Awards**

Congratulations to the following students

Amelia - 50 nights
Nysa- 75 nights
Patrick - 100 nights
Harreson - 100 nights

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**Parent opinion Survey**

Declan - 100 nights
Grace - 100 nights
Ryan 150 - nights

Parents are reminded that all ‘Parent Opinion Survey’s’ must be returned by Friday 31st July. Currently we have nine returns. The more returns, the more accurate the data.

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**SAKG**

Please complete the survey and return by the end of this week.

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program for Year 3-6 students will be conducted this Friday 31st July.