1 March 2017

# From our Principal

### Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Cheltenham Primary School

Welcome to our 'new look' Orchid, courtesy of the very talented, Alexis Tame . Alexis has worked her magic to design a new template for us in publisher which makes compiling the newsletter so much quicker and easier for all. We are very blessed at Cheltenham to have a staff member with Alexis' graphic arts skills . For those of you that may not be aware, Alexis is the marketing and publicity officer for PTFA so 99.9% of the flyers that come home are created by Alexis. We thank her most sincerely for her tireless efforts on behalf of our school.

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### Notice of Election and Call for Nominations School Council

Each year in Term 1 our School Council calls for nominations from our parents to fill vacancies in the parent category of School Council.

The size and configuration of our Council's Constituting Order is 13 Council members, comprising seven parents, 4 Department of Education and Training (DET), and two Community members. All terms of office are for two years, with overlapping tenure, so that not all positions are declared vacant in any one year. Cheltenham Primary School has 4 vacancies which have arisen as a result of parent members whose term of office has expired.

Being a member of School Council can be both a rewarding and challenging experience. Acting as a team, School Council supports the Principal to help deliver the best possible educational outcomes for students.

Nomination forms for School Council will be available from the School Office from today **Wednesday, 1 March 2017**. The closing date for nominations is **Wednesday, 8 March 2017**., 4pm. The timeline and some further information about School Council is outlined on pages 8-9 of the Orchid.

### **Curriculum Information Evening Presentations**

For those families that were unable to attend our Curriculum Information Evenings from F-6 in February, all the presentations have been loaded onto our website at <a href="http://cheltenhamps.vic.edu.au/curriculum-night-presentations/">http://cheltenhamps.vic.edu.au/curriculum-night-presentations/</a>

I would encourage all families to revisit these presentations for your continued reference.

Now that the Curriculum Information Evenings have concluded our teachers have been making contact with new families and children with specific needs to arrange individual meetings. If you have not yet been contacted and would like to arrange an individual time to meet with your child's teacher please contact them via email to the school account, a note through your child or a request through the main office.

In conclusion, welcome back to our Senior school who had a wonderful time at Camp Coonawarra. Our acknowledgement to Bronwyn Fitzgerald (Camp Coordinator) and the dedicated senior school, specialist staff and volunteers who provided 24/7 care to make the experience so memorable for our children.

Kind regards

Bronwyn

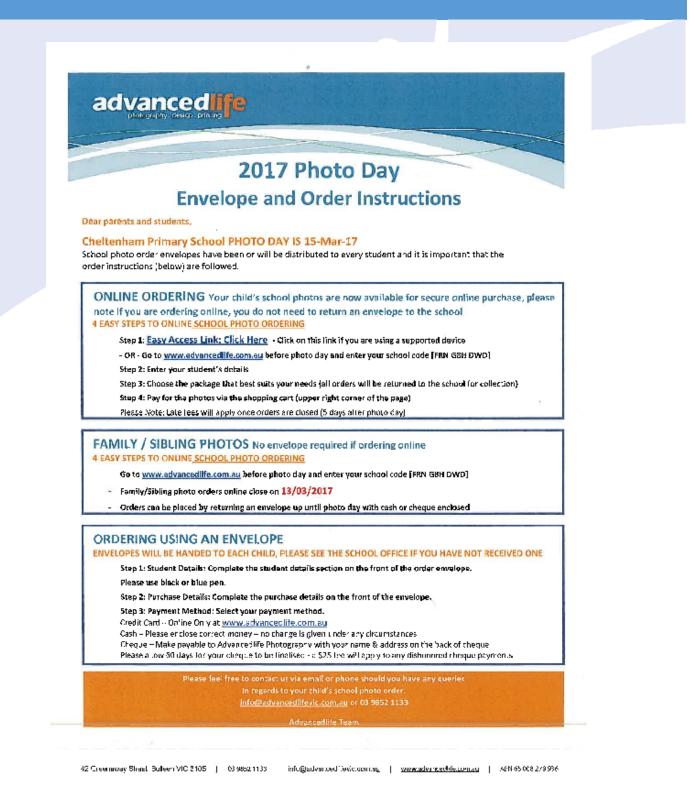
Bronwyn Morgan

Principal

'Collect moments not things!'



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# **Camp Coonawarra**

A very excited cohort of senior school students attended Coonawarra Camp, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> February. Ninety-five students attended with six staff members, one student teacher and three parent helpers.

**Staff** - Bronwyn Fitzgerald, Tanya Wells, Ellen Hollowood, Daniel Harrington, Andrea Kinsey and Jennifer Leason.

Student Teacher- Emily McGiffin

Parent Helpers- Linda McIntyre, Wes Hobson and Monique Reinher.

The activities selected, were to broaden our senior student's outdoor education and enrich their camping experience. Some students were hesitant about a few of the activities but overcame their apprehension and fear and continued to 'have a go', therefore rewarded with a successful experience.

Huge smiles were everywhere all week. Our Night Hike was great fun with amazing stars above to give us some light and the Disco was a great hit with incredible dance moves performed along with tuneful singing.

### **Student comments**

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Emma: I really liked when we went swimming in the lake and I really enjoyed all of the night activities.

Blake: The giant swing was great and I enjoyed the food. The flyer fox was really cool with the dust devil!

Christian: I loved the giant swing and horse riding – Albie was a great horse.

Eve: I found everything really good! I loved the flying fox and I wish we got to go lots! My horse, Paddy, was so much fun to ride.

Marley: The food was great and the cabins were nice and big. The activities were fun and I loved the giant swing.

Hannah: The activities were great – they helped build everyone's teamwork skills and confidence.





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### <u>Student camp comments</u> <u>continued...</u>

Liam: I went to the top of the giant swing, then went down and got so scared. But I tried again because I was confident and I loved it!

Reilly: Although I was scared of heights, I tried everything and I loved it!





# Pharmacy First

Proud partner of the school. Please support them with your custom

# **Premier's Reading Challenge**



Hi - my name is Nalini Bradford and I am the Premiers' Reading Challenge (PRC) co-ordinator for Cheltenham Primary School.

### What is the PRC?

The PRC began in 2005 to encourage children, from all grades, and of all abilities, to read a set number of books within a certain period of time. A child can read by themselves, or with the help of a friend, a parent, grandparent or anyone!

### When does it run?

From about mid-March till early Sept.

### How do students meet the Challenge?

Foundation - Yr 2 - need to read 30 books (20 or more from the PRC book list)

Yr 3 - Yr 6 - need to read 15 books (10 or more from the PRC book list)

### How do I know which books are on the PRC book list?

Here is a link to the book lists for each grade [http:// www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/ booklist.aspx]. The school library and Cheltenham Library (Stanley Ave), have labelled the spines of books, to indicate which books are on the lists.

### How do students record the books they've read?

Each child who participates in the PRC, will receive their own online login details to record the books they have read. In addition to that, they will also need to fill out a form detailing the books they have read, and send it back to the school. I will then verify the books, and send the form back to the child.

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# What does a child get when they finish the Challenge?

Your name (if you wish) will appear in an online Honour Roll and a certificate from the Premier of Victoria. Your child will also receive 500 house points. If you do not wish your child's name to appear on the online honour roll, your child can still participate in the PRC. Please email the school office and they will forward your email to me, so that I can register your child.

Recently registration forms were sent out to all students. I will send out an envelope with your child's sign on details, as soon as the website is operational. This programme has been running in the school for 12 years now, and every year the number of children involved, increases. This just shows how popular and fun, this reading challenge is. Its great, because all levels of the school are involved, and children tell their friends which books they've been reading. Please support your child and get behind this reading programme. And Foundation parents, you can re-read all those great books that you read when you were a kid, which have stayed with you for a lifetime!

### Please check out the PRC website for further information:

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/ prc/Pages/default.aspx

Nalini Bradford

PRC Co-ordinator



# **Sunshine Classics trial**

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Dear Parents

This term our school is trialling a digital literacy program called Sunshine Classics. The program has been developed by Sunshine Books – a highly respected Australian Educational Publisher.

The program offers all our students access to a digital library of over 300 levelled e-books and 1000 interactive activities. We would encourage your child to access this program at home for reading practice and enjoyment. The program can be used on an iPad or on a computer.

The school's access details are:

USERNAME: cheltenham PASSWORD: cheltenham

To access Sunshine Classics on an iPad first download the free app from the App Store by searching for 'sunshine classics'. Then log in with the above login details.

To access Sunshine Classics on a computer, go to <u>www.sunshineclassics.com.au</u> and log in as a STUDENT using the above login details.

Christine Day Early Intervention

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# You Can Do It

Persistence is the You Can Do It Foundation for this term.

Persistence means continuing to try even when school work is hard, not being distracted by others, checking your work when you're finished to make sure it's correct and completing tasks on time.

These students have won YCDI awards this week!

You can

do it!



Class	Winner
FA	Cayla S
FB	Alice N
FC	Markus H
1/2A	Keira O
1/2B	Violet F
1/2C	Eloise C
1/2D	Clementine D
1/2E	Tyson B
3/4A	Aidan K
3/4B	Michael S
3/4C	Milly N
3/4D	Mango F
3/4E	Maxx N
5/6A	Lewis K
5/6B	Issy T
5/6C	Tyg V
5/6D	Taj C
Kitchen Classroom	Neve W 1/2C

# **Canteen—Jude Fina Foods**

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The canteen has been outsourced to Jude Fina Foods. Our canteen manager's name is Peta. Canteen lunch orders online through Qkr! and cash counter sales (recess and lunchtime) Thursday and Friday. Please refer to the February 2016 Lunch Order Menu which can be found in this newsletter or located in Qkr!

When completing your order, please be careful to nominate the correct week and class for your child and proceed all the way through from confirm to submit.

If you have any further questions please contact Leo at Jude Fina Foods at

judefoods@ozemail.com.au or 0419 575 010





Children can attend OSHC from 7.15am to 8.45am each morning, and from 3.30pm to 6.00pm each afternoon.

Children are under the care of supervisors, and are provided with breakfast and afternoon tea. Further details and registration available from the **Camp Australia website.** 

https://www.campaustralia.com.au/

# **Term Dates for Your Diary**

# March

Week 6	March 8 5/6 excursion to Sovereign Hill March 10 Interschool Sport	
Week 7	March 13 Public holiday (Labour Day) March 14 House Swimming Carnival 11.45am-2.30pm March 14 Bay Swim, Marine ambassadors March 15 Whole school photo day March 17 Lightning Premiership Day at Mentone	
Week 8	March 26 School working bee	
Week 9	March 28-March 31 Bike Education 5/6 March 28 School Council meeting Friday 31st - Last Day of Term 1	

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# **Insurance for students**

The Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. Parents or guardians of students are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs. Parents or guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

EBM insurance accept online applications at:

https://www.ebminsurance.com/Studentcover/web/applicationform.aspx

The cost of this insurance is as low as \$29 per year.

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### SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Cheltenham Primary School

### **Cheltenham Primary School**

	EVENT	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Wednesday 1 March, 2017
b)	Closing date for nominees 4.00pm	Wednesday 8 March, 2017
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominations will be posted (if required)	Friday 10 March, 2017
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (if required)	On or before Monday 13 March, 2017
e)	Close of ballot 4.00pm	Monday 20 March, 2017
f)	Vote count	Tuesday 21 March, 2017
g)	Declaration of poll 9.00am	Wednesday 22 March, 2017
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt Communi- ty members (the principal will preside)	Tuesday 28 March, 2017
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Tuesday 28 March, 2017

### **Frequently asked questions**

### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

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### Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

• A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

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• A mandated elected DET Employee category – members of this category may make up no more than onethird of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

• An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members. Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- Standing for election as a member of the school council.
- Encouraging another person to stand for election.

### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### What do you need to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual timeline has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

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DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

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Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Consider standing for election to council this year.
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

The Nomination forms are available from the school office.



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### OPEN NIGHT Wednesday 3rd May 2017 7-9pm Commencing in the Gymnasium

### **OPEN AFTERNOONS**

Tuesday 9th & Thursday 11th May 2017 2-3.30pm Commencing in the Nina Carr Hall

See displays and workshops in action, speak to students, teachers and parents, and learn about the Year 7 enrolment process and school zone.

Please check our website for more College Tour dates in 2017.

Cnr Balcombe & Charman Roads, Mentone VIC 3194 | 9581 5200 mentone.girls.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au | www.mgsc.vic.edu.au

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