Thursday, 5th February 2015

**Term 1, Week 2**

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**Key Dates:**

**February 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Foundation students commence 9.00am - 12.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>No Assembly</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2nd hand uniform sale 9.15am - 9.45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Chinese Lion Dancers - Years 1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Immigration Museum Excursion - Years 5-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Immigration Museum Excursion - Years 5-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Outdoor Cinema &quot;Lego Movie&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Whole School Athletics Day</td>
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</tbody>
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**March**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 - 20</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sushi day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2.30pm Finish</td>
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**From the Principal**

Welcome back to the 2015 school year and a Happy New Year to all. I would like to wish you all a wonderful 2015 ahead. As a school community we certainly have much to look forward to and lots to celebrate along the way. In particular, I would like to welcome our new families to the school. We have around 80 little Foundation/Prep students starting tomorrow. This is always a wonderful day as we watch these young children come in on their first day all excited and a little nervous. It’s also a big day for the parents and so, as usual we will have our ‘Tissues and Tears’ morning tea in the staff room ready for all our new parents after they drop off their little ones.

I would also like to welcome our new staff: Michelle Ogilvie our new Assistant Principal, Kate McCracken (Year 2), Kym Morgan (Year 3), Matt Anthony (Year 4) and Erin Ward (Year 5/6). It is wonderful to have such enthusiastic and talented teachers joining our team. I know they will enjoy being part of our Orchard Grove community.

This term we are celebrating community across the school. Students will begin by exploring their own classroom communities, then shift the focus to our immediate community and those beyond our shores. As part of this study, it would be fantastic if we could celebrate our immediate community with a ‘Colossal Collage of Community’. If you could take a few photos of places that hold some significance for your family - sporting clubs, scout or guide groups, swimming pools, parks and gardens, restaurants, take away shops, playgrounds, kinders/childcare centres etc - and then bring them to school to be part of our collage that would be fabulous and very much appreciated. If there are significant people in your community please ask permission, but we can add these to the display as well.

We will start collecting photos this week, so please drop them in to Margaret at the office or Rosie Campbell in the art room.

Whilst on ‘community matters’, as a school we are spending time exploring our guiding values. At Orchard Grove these are: Respect, Integrity, Valuing Diversity, Fostering Growth and Working Together. In all areas of the school we have expectations that these values are demonstrated through positive behaviours. These are modelled by staff, school council members and by our students. At assembly our school leaders will organise presentations, highlighting our values and we will celebrate students who model these behaviours through our Principal Awards. We are always encouraging our students to be the best they can be here at school and in the wider community and our values guide us to this end.

Please look out for your child’s class mission statement and class rules. These will be coming home over the next week for you to become familiar with and have an opportunity to discuss with your child. It is important to help us reinforce the correct and expected behaviours. Also keep a look out for the notices regarding photo permission, head lice and use of electronic devices agreement, that need to be signed and returned to school.

School Philosophy

Orchard Grove Primary School is committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment that engages curiosity, promotes learning, personal growth and wellbeing for all students. We strive to develop adaptability and resilience so students can become valued members of the local and global communities and be prepared for future life experiences.

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DEECD and Orchard Grove P.S. do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by DEECD for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.
Next week is planning week for the staff so your child will have all their specialist classes on the one day. The days are as follows:

Monday - Years 3 & 4
Tuesday - Years 1 & 2
Wednesday - Years 5 & 6
Thursday - Foundation / Prep

Over the last two years we have subscribed to the Parenting newsletter with Psychologist Michael Grose. I usually pop one of these into the school newsletter each week and they have their websites that you can access because the school has a membership. Over the last couple of years, I have had positive feedback about these articles but, once again, it is time to renew our membership for 2015, and I thought it might be pertinent to ask for some feedback. Do you find these articles interesting and helpful or should we let the subscription lapse? If you have an opinion please let Margaret know, either personally or via email.

Due to the Foundation/Prep students starting this Friday we will not be having an assembly this week, but will be holding an extraordinary assembly on Thursday 12th February for our Student Leaders Badge presentation, which will be followed by a morning tea for these students and their parents. The next day, Friday 13th, we will have our normal assembly starting at 9.10am. You are most welcome to attend both of these events.

Please note that this year our Athletics Day is being held on Wednesday 25th February. We usually try to hold this event on a Friday but this was not possible this year. We just love it when parents can come along on the day, so if you can plan to come, that would be great and your child will absolutely love to see you there. Let's hope the weather is kind to us – no rain and not too hot.

Well that's all from me for this week.

Have a wonderful weekend with the family.

Talk soon.

Glenda Harry
Principal

PARENTS’ CLUB

Movie Night - The Lego Movie
Order forms have gone home for our Outdoor Cinema on Saturday, 21st February. We are showing the "Lego Movie". Spare order forms available from the office. Family & friends are welcome!

Next meeting - Wednesday 11th February 2015 at 2.45pm in the staffroom.

Bronwyn McIlroy
Coordinator

PAYMENTS DUE AT THE OFFICE

- 2015 Contributions & Excursion Levy - final instalment due by 6th February
- Year 6 Camp - full payment $406.00 due Wednesday 25th February OR 1st instalment $200.00 (or $100 if deposit already paid) due Friday 13th February
- Year 6 Bomber Jackets due 13th February
- Lego Movie ticket orders - due 16th February
- Immigration Museum Excursion - $10.00 - due 13th February - Years 5 & 6

UNIFORM SHOP

This year orders will be filled on Thursdays and sent home via your child's class. Please make sure you use the 2015 order form which area available from the office.

Hi Everyone,
Welcome to Term 1!
Thank you to everyone that attended our holiday program we had a fantastic time. We loved it that everyone got dressed up to follow our themes. This week we are working towards getting back into the swing of things! Come and check out our new bright room!

Remember it is term 1 which means NO HAT NO PLAY please ensure you pack an extra hat for your child to bring to aftercare. Could we ask of all families to donate any recycling materials including but not limited to: boxes; shoe, tissue, anything, books, games, clothes for dress ups, cushions, blankets.

Next week we are welcoming out preps during term 1 we walk our preps to school and collect them for after care.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the program on 0438 565 727. Calls will be answered/returned between 7-9am and 3-6pm.

Also, please remember to book your children into the program online to avoid the casual fee surcharge and assist the program to be appropriately staffed to comply with regulations. Be sure to book in early.

Have a great week,
OSHClub Team

CANTEEN NEWS

Well, it seems everyone has settled in nicely for another year. The canteen started up this week and I’m looking forward to a busy year. The revised summer menu and volunteer rosters have been distributed to all. I understand that volunteer availability has changed for some, so new forms will be going out in order to put together the roster for Term 2. Also, a special note for new parents and foundation parents. On Monday 9th February you are all welcome to come to canteen and see what actually happens on a normal working day. I’m calling it ‘orientation for new parents’ and this way you will be able to decide if you want to volunteer for canteen duty. Morning tea will be provided and you will be able to chat to other parents who are working that day. Please feel free to pop in at any time that suits you if you are unable to come on the 9th. I am looking forward to meeting new people this year and I still encourage the role of canteen volunteer, as we work in a friendly, happy environment and it’s such a great place to meet other parents and form a social circle. Once again, thank you to all the current volunteers for offering their help to the canteen and to me.

Happy first term everyone
Sophie Polites

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This year PE and Sport will be coordinated by Kate Enticott and Kiralee Molnar. Kiralee will be working on Monday and Tuesdays and teaching Foundation and Year Three. Kate will be teaching on Wednesdays and Thursdays teaching Years Four to Six. The Year One and Two students will be shared between both teachers. Classroom teachers will confirm this in the coming weeks.

Upcoming sporting events
District Swimming - Monday 23rd February
Try out notices went home on the first day of school to interested students in Years 3 - 6. If your child is interested and missed out, please see the office or a PE teacher for a note. Please be reminded that notices need to be returned before 9am, on the 9th February. No late forms can be accepted. Please contact Kate or Kiralee with any questions.

Whole School Athletics - Wednesday 25th February
Students from Year 1 - 6 have commenced training for this event and the Foundation students will start in the next week. All students attend this event and come in their house colours (please see classroom teachers about which house your student is in). Lots of parent helpers are needed on the day to help it run smoothly. If you are interested in helping on the day please email Kate at enticott.kate.k@edumail.vic.gov.au. Please include your child’s grade, and if appropriate any prior athletics skills you may have (no experience is necessary).

Thanks
Kate Enticott and Kiralee Molnar
Help your child ACHIEVE!

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child’s teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

1. **Know what your child’s teacher is trying to achieve**
   - Like children, every teacher is different with their own specific expectations, goals and interests. Get to know your child’s teacher and gain an understanding of their approach and aspirations for your child’s class.

2. **Keep your expectations reasonable and positive**
   - If your expectations are too high your teacher may give up. Too low and they will meet them! The trick is to keep your aspirations for your child in line with their ability and their interests. Also be realistic about what your child’s school can deliver. Sometimes our expectations of schools are not in line with their capabilities or their roles.

3. **Support your teacher’s expectations & activities at home**
   - One practical way of supporting your child is to take a real interest in their home-based learning tasks and follow the guidelines laid out by teachers.

4. **Send kids to school ready to learn and on time**
   - Maximise your child’s chances of success by sending them to school in a good frame of mind, with plenty of sleep and a good breakfast. Also make sure they get to school on time. It’s estimated that many kids miss up to two weeks of school a year when they are routinely late by just five minutes a day.

5. **Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes**
   - Life’s not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter. Friends move away. Illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child’s teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. **Skill children to work with others**
   - Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others are practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. **Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties**
   - Resist the temptation to solve all your children’s problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together in the best interests of the child.

8. **Participate in class & school activities**
   - There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child’s schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child’s teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. **Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience**
   - Your child’s teachers are your greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids, and their objective professionalism puts them in a strong position to make judgement calls about your child.

10. **Talk up what happens at school**
    - Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by talking up your school.

This type of 10-point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child’s teachers.
SIGN UP NOW FOR MUSIC LESSONS 2015

Dear Parents and students,

Instrumental music lessons will commence from Week 3 of term 1. 2015 options include keyboard, guitar, violin, cello, drums, sax, clarinet, flute and trumpet.

Students wishing to participate in any of these programs will need to get themselves an enrolment form from the school office, have their parents fill it in and either leave it at the school office or post it directly to Online Music Solutions. Information about the programs may be found on the reverse side of the enrolment forms. All families will receive a phone call close to lessons commencing to confirm the lesson time.

Note: Students from 2014 need to re-enrol to continue in 2015.
Website Link – visit www.musiclessonvideos.net
Further enquiries: ph: 9874 6667 or email oms@bigpond.net.au

Seeking expressions of interest for LUNCH-TIME CHESS CLASSES IN 2015

Dark Horse Chess offers fun and engaging group chess classes with friendly and enthusiastic coaches. We are seeking expressions of interest for weekly lunch-time chess classes in Term 1, 2015. Classes involve a lesson by an experienced chess coach followed by supervised game-time, with opportunities to win lots of fun prizes each term!

Chess provides children with an opportunity to:

- Have lots of fun indoors during lunch-time
- Develop great planning and problem-solving skills
- Make new friends
- Play in inter-school chess competitions

Classes are suitable for children of all ages and skill levels – even if you’ve never played before!

To register your interest or for more information, please email admin@darkhorsechess.com

There is no commitment to join; lessons will be run depending on the level of interest received. To learn more about us, please visit www.darkhorsechess.net
After-school classes!! Holiday Workshops!! Lego Birthdays!!
e² Young Engineers LEGO® Challenge after-school classes are hands-on where students will build educational models like amusement park rides, aircraft, transportation vehicles, cranes etc. Through the use of exciting experiments and building originally designed LEGO® bricks models that illustrate Science and Engineering topics your child will have FUN while learning and developing fine motor, visual-spatial and social skills just to name a few. Our programs are designed for children ages 6-12 yrs and are conducted at various locations in Melbourne.

Contact now to find a class near you.

Box Hill | Clayton | East Malvern | Glen Iris | Wheelers Hill
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From beginners to advanced.

- Develop successful life skills like confidence, communication and teamwork.
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