Wow, what a busy week it has been. I joined the seniors at camp Monday afternoon, just in time to see the last of the activities for the day and hear some stories of the mud run they completed as their first activity. We then had a lovely roast dinner followed by some delicious fruit salad and ice-cream. After dinner we had a night walk with some toasted marshmallows and learning a great camp song which I am sure you will hear next week at assembly. There were some bleary eyes the next morning after some late night chatter but the bacon, eggs and hash browns for breakfast saw all students fuelled up for another day of adventure. I returned to school after lunch on Tuesday and Bek went to Rumbug to join the campers and have some laughs and some fun. She tells me it was a late night with disco fever at camp. It was great to see everyone return safely, although everyone was very tired yesterday afternoon. For more highlights have a look at the school’s website www.coralparkps.vic.edu.au. You will need to navigate to the programs tab and all of the blogs with camp pictures and details are listed under the Senior Team.

Make sure you read next week’s newsletter for even more details and photos and make sure you come along to assembly to hear some stories. I would like to thank all of the senior classroom teachers, Matt, Leanna and two previous student teachers Paul and Nick for all of their efforts in making camp such a success and a great opportunity for our students to enjoy.

It would be great to see many faces at our working bee on Saturday. Leanna, our keen gardener and integration aide has many plans for the day, we just need some volunteers to turn up and give us a helping hand. Remember, many hands make light work. Hopefully you can spare us at least an hour of your time between 9am and 12 midday to come along and help out.

Tomorrow, is the Principal’s Attendance Award Big Breakfast morning. Today, over 200 students received an invitation to the breakfast as they have had only two or less days absent during all of first semester. Congratulations to these students, I look forward to cooking LOTS of pancakes for you to enjoy. Again, some volunteers to assist would be great, if you can spare some time to pour juice and spread some toast, I would love your help. 51 of these students had 0 days away at all, that is an amazing feat, well done to you all. Awards will be handed out at assembly and 10 lucky students will win $5 lunch order vouchers in the raffle to be drawn at assembly.

There is lots happening this term so please make sure you keep updated by reading the Coral News and checking our Facebook page.

Remember, keep practising your reading each night!

Regards, Gill

Don’t Forget our School Working Bee!
We hope to see you on Saturday 27 July - between 9am to 12pm

All families welcome! Please come along and help us keep our grounds tidy and well looked after in our first working bee in years!
Bring along gardening tools & gloves and meet Leanna at the M.P.C.
Please remember that we don’t charge school fees or grounds fees so an hour of your time would be a great help.

Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. Please let the office know if you are able to help on the day.
Junior Swimming

Last term the Juniors went swimming at Paul Sadler Swimland in Amberly Park. The students had a great time learning how to swim and especially enjoyed their last day fun day.

Parent Opinion Survey

It is that time of year again when we ask for your valued input on what you think about Coral Park Primary School. The use of opinion data to monitor school performance is a very important step towards making our school the best it can possibly be. Each year, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development conduct annual and anonymous opinion surveys for staff, children and parents and we use the information gained to drive school improvements. On Monday, 70 randomly selected families will receive a Parent Opinion Survey. The list of families are computer generated and not selected by the school. We ask that these families return the completed survey to school by 4.00pm, on Friday August 2 2013. Students or parents, are asked to place their survey in the locked box labelled ‘Parent Opinion Surveys 2013’ located in the front office.

Please note that all surveys remain confidential and are not opened or read by school staff. Sealed envelopes are not opened at the school, so all responses are confidential. Envelopes are collected and compiled by a contractor and information returned to schools as correlated data.

The higher our response rate, the more accurate and therefore useful, our data will be. Results of Parent Opinion Surveys should be provided to schools by mid October. Parent satisfaction with our school remains steady. In the 2012 Parent Opinion survey, the general satisfaction with the school improved slightly. Our highest areas included; Student Motivation to Learn, Homework, Reporting and Extra-Curricular Activities offered whilst our lowest areas included; Social Skills, Learning Focus and General Satisfaction. These areas had shown an improvement since 2011 and were in line or above the state average but were sadly our lowest overall. From your feedback, we have incorporated Learning Intentions into all classroom planning and students should be able to articulate to parents much better what their learning focus was each day so please make sure you ask them. Social skills are something we work on with students daily in their interactions at all times, reminding them of correct use of manners and encouraging resilience skills. More promotion of this through the newsletter may help you see the great work we are doing in this area.

Last year our response rate to the survey was fabulous with 89% completed and returned. Thank you to the many parents who participated in the survey, your feedback is greatly appreciated. We apologise if you receive another one this year but strongly encourage you to please complete it again, your thoughts may have changed. If you are new to receiving the survey, please do your best to complete this honestly and give us your valued feedback.

We welcome any feedback at anytime and hope that parents feel encouraged to express their views and opinions. If you do not receive a survey but have some ideas on improvements you would like to see in the school, please don’t hesitate to contact us or send in some details, we would love to hear from you.

All results are presented to School Council upon receiving our data and to the wider community in our Annual Report that is sent home each year. Staff regularly discuss data results to help identify how we can best manage the school and make Coral Park the best school it can be.
If you did not apply for EMA at Coral Park PS in term 1 and have a current healthcare/pension card, please complete an application form at the front office.

All EMA forms are due in by Friday 2nd August.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:
There will be no sports academy this term. Remember Homework Club will be on every Wednesday 3:30 to 4:15pm

Congratulations
These children won a prize last week in the Healthy Eating and Playground raffle:

Arianna, J1 for keeping Coral Park tidy.
Onika, J4 for picking up rubbish.
Tjayse, M17 for encouraging & helping the preps.
Rinda, M18 for playing nicely.
Gabriel, S10 for picking up rubbish in the yard.
Elif, S11 for eating an apple, sandwich and water.

Before School Care Services at Coral Park.
As mentioned in the Coral News last week, Camp Australia is no longer running a Before School program here due to lack of numbers. Hampton Park Community House offer a service that opens at 6.30am and transports students to school at 8.45am in their mini bus. Details are on the back page.

Please note that after school care here at the school is not affected, and there are still plenty of fun activities to do with Yvonne and Camp Australia.

Fun times in after school care with Yvonne. Register your place at www.campaustralia.com

Thumbs up to our ‘6 Week Challengers’, 1 week completed 5 left to go. It has been great seeing the smiles of those enjoying the challenge, hopefully next time we will get some more parents involved. Currently we have 5 parents and 9 staff taking part. Don’t forget we have our first Boot Camp session tomorrow at Contours at 4.30pm. See you there, don’t forget your sweat towel for a fun and action filled work out. If you want to know more about the challenge, please give me a call.

Gill
Contours Narre Warren South

Update of Occupation Details
Last week a letter was sent home to all families requesting an update of your occupational details.

Like all Government schools, Coral Park receives funding based on the Family Occupation Status of each family enrolled at our school.

If you have not yet returned the form could you please return it by tomorrow. It is essential that the forms are returned so the school is able to receive accurate funding.

Thank you to the many parents who have already returned theirs.

BIRTHDAY BOOKS
Thank you to Nathan, Jordan, Con and Shreta for donating birthday books to our library.

We hope you all had a very happy birthday.

If you would like to donate a Birthday book, see Linda in the library.

Congratulations
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Raising Happy Kids

Wondering how to get your kids to listen? What parenting ideas work? Want to make parenting easier and more fun?

Then come along to one of our free information sessions and join other parents/caregivers/grandparents to discuss experiences, ideas and learn strategies from each other.

Light refreshments provided.

When: Monday 13th August
   7pm-9pm (limited child care available)

Cost: Free - bookings are required

Where: Pakenham Consolidated Primary School
   21 Dandenong Way
   Pakenham (meet at front office)

Open to all Parents/Other Caregivers/Grandparents

For bookings and enquiries please call Brie Greene at Parentzone
   0408 350 495 or email brie@parentzone.com.au

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM

Before & After School Care

Friendly, qualified staff will care for your children in their comfortable, purpose built facility.

- Nutritious breakfast
- Yummy variety of afternoon teas
- Activities that are fun & educational
- Active participation encouraged
- Homework area (computers and ipads available)
- Early school dismissal pick ups (at no extra charge)
- Bus drop off and pick up at local schools (included in fees)

Vacation Care

- Excursions/Excursions
- Innovative Program catering for all ages
- Breakfast and afternoon tea provided
- Activities driven by children’s interests

Community Garden Plot

Pakenham Community House
16 - 20 Sturt Avenue
Pakenham 3810
Ph: 9798 0343

We encourage personal growth and inclusion

Connections

Footy Fever Fun!

ARE YOU ON THE SAME WAVE LENGTH WITH YOUR CHILD OR THE CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE?

A parent/carer’s program in 6 sessions to help you tune into the child in your care.

Would you like to learn how to:
- Be better at tuning into your child’s emotions?
- Be better at understanding your child?
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- Teach your child how to deal with conflict?

Feedback has shown that Tuning Into Kids helps children:
- To calm down when distressed
- Get along better with other children
- Express their emotions in more appropriate ways

Who: Parents and carers of young children up to 10 years of age

When: Friday 9:30am - 12:00pm, 2 August - 6 September

Where: Connections UnitingCare, 55 Webb Street, Narre Warren

Cost: $5 per child. Donation (bookings essential)

Contact: Megan Mellington on 03 9704 8377

Tuning Into Kids