Calendar of events 2014

**March**

Friday 21st March
National Day against Bullying
Harmony Day Celebrations
12.50-1.00pm bring a plate of food from your country to share with your child’s class
Come along to assembly to see the students perform cultural dances.

16th March—22nd March
Cultural Diversity Week

Wednesday 26th March
Parent Session on Helping Your Child with Reading
9am in the art room

MONDAY 24th March
Money and forms due for ICAS tests

Friday 28th March
Assembly item— M15

**APRIL**

Tuesday 1 April
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Term 1 ends
4th April
at 2.30pm.

HARMONY DAY IS TOMORROW

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs.
Our Australian Story is diverse. We come from many countries around the world. Let’s take the time to celebrate our diversity. It’s a way we can learn and understand. Everyone has a story to tell and a recipe to share.

DON’T FORGET
HARMONY DAY IS TOMORROW – FRIDAY 21ST MARCH

Students are invited to dress in their cultural clothes, colours of the flag of their heritage or orange – the colour of Harmony Day.
12:50pm - 1:15pm—come along and have lunch with your child and their class and bring a cultural dish to share.
Parents are invited to attend assembly and concert performed by students from 2:30pm—3:25pm in the MPC.

2014 family recipe book
“From My Country To Your Plate”

We invite all families to help us produce a cookbook for Cultural Diversity Week this year. Our aim is to collect as many recipes from the various cultures of our families, along with a story (if you like) about the child’s/families/parents journey to Australia or about life in Australia including why this recipe is important to you (limit 600 words). We will then collate these stories and recipes to produce our book, ‘From My Country To Your Plate’ which will be available for sale once completed.

The cut off date for recipes and stories is TOMMOROW. Please send in your recipe/story either on paper so it can be typed here at school or already typed as a Word document and sent to the school email address (preferred) at coral.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au with the heading recipe into the email subject line. We look forward to hearing your stories and trying some new recipes.
WANT TO KNOW HOW TO BEST HELP YOUR CHILD READ A BOOK?
Then come along to our parent session hosted by teacher Kelly Stevens who will present a short session on how to use a range of strategies to help your child develop their reading skills. This session will also be very helpful for all the parent helpers who have given us their time to support literacy in the classroom.

When: Wednesday 26th March
Time: 9:00am
Where: Art Room
Tea and coffee provided

This is a repeat session for last week for any new parents who missed out.

LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP
On Friday the 14th March, Coral Park year 5 and 6 students participated in a Lightning Premiership in a culmination of their summer sports season.

The basketball and bat tennis teams travelled to Lynbrook Primary School. The bat tennis team played some excellent games.

The basketball teams played extremely well with both teams winning enough matches to qualify through to the grand final. The girls team were very competitive but Lynbrook proved too strong in the second half of the game. In the boys grand final, Coral Park boys were down by a few points at half time but stuck to their game plan to outscore River Gum in the second half and win the flag. I was very proud of their efforts and most of all their team play.

The cricket, T ball and soccer teams travelled to Reedy Reserve to participate in their sports. Both soccer teams had a few wins along with the cricket teams while T ball B team won their grand final by one home run against Lynbrook. It was an exciting grand final with both teams performing very well.

The students are to be congratulated on their excellent sportsmanship and cooperation with their coaches on the day. They now look forward to their winter sports competition in term two. Bill Hains
Interschool Sports Coordinator

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
On Friday, 21 March 2014, students across the country will 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence in Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools. The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence - now in its fourth year - gives schools the chance to promote the important work they do throughout the year to counter bullying and violence. Students at Coral Park will be visiting the website and pledging support to this worthy cause.

What to do if somebody is being mean to you online:
The internet lets us watch videos, play all kinds of games and find out interesting stuff. But sometimes people can be mean on the internet, just like some people are mean in real life. If someone is being mean to you while you are on the internet or on a mobile phone: Tell one of these people: your mum or dad, your teacher, an aunty, an uncle, a grandparent, your brother, your sister or a friend. Keep telling them until they help. Don't answer any of their mean comments. Save them and show them to a parent or teacher. Get a parent or teacher to help you block them so they can't contact you any more. Report them to the game/video host so they get blocked. Remember it isn't your fault if someone is mean online. Nobody should be bullied.

www.cybersmart.gov.au

CORAL PARK NEWSLETTER IS ONLINE!
Would you like to read the newsletter online? You can subscribe to an environmentally friendly version of our school newsletter by following the links on our website www.coralparkps.vic.edu.au

The right hand side of the home page under the heading newsletter is a 'subscribe to Newsletter' link. Just follow the online instructions and you will receive a weekly email with the school's newsletter and links to the recently updated photo gallery and recent news.
Keeping kids safe in a cyber world

Social media sites have taken cyber bullying and harassment to a new level. Here’s how to keep your kids safe when online. By parent educator Michael Grose.

Cyber bullying is one of the biggest, safety issues facing young people today. Bullying and harassment online is now commonplace. For instance, over a third of teenage girls have been sexually harassed via the internet.

The emergence of social media sites has seen cyber bullying go to a new level. Messages and images can now spread like wildfire reaching a huge potential audience in the time it takes to upload an image or shoot off a text message.

Once the family home offered young people an escape from schoolyard bullies. Now the cyber world is so invasive, that their bedrooms offer no guarantees of safety any more.

The cyber world is enticing. Young people have always wanted to escape from their parents’ world. In the past they hung out in shopping centres and pool halls. Parents tried their best to keep an eye on where their children were and what they were doing.

The online world is now the shopping mall of the 21st Century. Parents have the same responsibility to help kids stay safe in the online world as they do in the real world. ‘Stranger danger’ and accompanying safe behaviours are just as relevant in the online world as they are in the real world.

Parents should use the same offline preventative strategies to maximise their children’s online safety as they’ve always used. These strategies include: teaching children about the right way to behave online; don’t let them spend all night in the cyber world; and ask questions about what they are doing and where they go when they're online.

Parents need to remind kids that things in the online world can spin out of control very quickly. A written message or an image can be circulated electronically so rapidly that the scope and scale of cyber bullying can be greater than any other form of bullying.

The following seven key messages form the basis of an online safety strategy for kids. They should be taught to kids so they become second nature, just as the messages about stranger danger were absorbed by an earlier generation.

1. Respect others. Make kids aware that what they send can offend. Discuss with kids what they can do if they see the types of messages and images that can cause harm to others when spread. Teenagers often pass on a ‘bad’ message with what they think is no harm but it goes to a potential unlimited number. Once it is sent it’s almost impossible to erase and take back.

2. Think before you send. Remind kids cyber space is a very public and instant forum. A text message or image sent to just one person can be passed on to a potentially unlimited number. Once it is sent it’s almost impossible to erase and take back.

3. Treat online passwords like your house key. Teach kids to keep passwords guarded at all times.

4. Block bullies. Teach kids to block bullying messages. They can filter out messages and addresses online. Similarly, they can block text messages from bullies as well.

5. Don’t reply to harassment. Bullies can retain proof of your response, which can further be spread around. Besides responding to bullying behaviour often simply encourages the bully to continue.

6. Save the evidence. If kids are bullied they should keep the pictures and offending messages. These can be used as proof if the bullies are brought to justice.

7. Tell someone. The insidious part of bullying is that kids on the receiving end often don’t seek help, as they think there’s something wrong with them. Talk with kids about going to a trusted adult, when they feel their rights or safety have been violated. They should with your help report online bullying to the appropriate service provider.

Stoking the proverbial hellfire in the sand regarding kids’ use of communications technology is no longer an option for parents. Savvy parents need to learn as much as they can about children’s and young people’s online lives so they can respond to situations appropriately.

parenting@des.vic.edu.au

School Captains Report

Last Thursday afternoon our 4 School Captains went off to meet the Mayor of Casey, Mr Geoff Ablett. They attended the Casey Leaders Reception at Berwick Church of Christ with Gill and Brandon and listened to special guest speaker Tiffany Hall. They were presented with some special badges. Here is some information from the Captains.

Last Thursday, all the school captains that are part of the City of Casey joined together at the Berwick auditorium to listen to other peoples experience as leaders. Jessie and I enjoyed hearing about one person experiences in Africa and helping villagers which we felt showed she was a caring leader. Another part of the night was meeting the Mayor and Tiffany Hall and listening to what they had to say about being leaders. Tiffany talked about having passion for what you do which helps you to see it through. We had our photo taken with them both.

Joalin & Jessie

Last Thursday, 4 selected leaders from each school in the City of Casey had the opportunity to listen to people talk about their personal experiences as leaders. There was also a guest speaker, Tiffany Hall (from Biggest Loser and Gladiators). She shared her story about how she made some very tough decisions when she was younger and the grit and determination needed to see things through. Overall, the presentation was very inspiring and we hope to reciprocate their actions as leaders.

Alicia & Jastehana

FREE FLU VACCINE ANYTIME, ANYDAY, ANYONE
CALL AMBERLY HEALTHCARE
03 8794 9700

HOMEWORK CLUB
Every Wednesday from 3.30pm to 4.15pm in the Library with Linda & Tony.

FUN & FITNESS
Every Morning from 8.30am till 8.55am in the MPC with Bill.
Congratulations
These children won a prize last week in the Playground Raffle:
Zhuo Lin, J6 for cleaning the sandpit.
Marcus, J1 for picking up rubbish.
Nuria, J1 for helping the teacher.
Munira, J3 for helping the teacher.
Raj, M15 for playing nicely and wearing a hat.
Lakmini, M17 for keeping Coral Park tidy.
Michaela, M17 for picking up rubbish.
Jasmine, M17 for raking the tan bark

2014 International Competitions & Assessments For Schools (ICAS)

For over 30 years ICAS has taken place in schools throughout Australia. ICAS provides an opportunity for all years 3-6 students to gain a measure of their achievement in an external testing situation. It provides parents, students and teachers with comprehensive reporting results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. All students receive a certificate and individual student report.
There are entry fees of between $9- to $19 depending on the test. For further information and to enter the competitions, please collect an entry form from the school office. You can choose to sit any number of the tests but don’t have to do them all.
Please return permission slips and entry fees to the office by Monday 24 March.
NO late entries can be accepted

Before and After School Care

Come along and introduce yourself to Jess in the art room before and after school. Jess can inform you on the great activities she provides for our students at C.P.P.S.
To enrol your child into the Coral Park OSHC Program, complete an OSHC Registration Form which is located on the Camp Australia website - www.campaustalia.com.au/parents.aspx
Once enrolled be ready to get involved in FUN, QUALITY and ENGAGING experiences in a SAFE and HAPPY ENVIRONMENT.
To sustain the before school care program, we need more students in the morning. Come along and join us for breakfast and join in the fun ‘wake-up’ activities.

Camp Australia would like your feedback—What activities would you like to see in the program? Are there any changes you think we could make? What would encourage you to use their program? Please leave any feedback at the school office. Your feedback is highly valued and can only help improve the program.

www.campaustalia.com.au

Well done to Andy and Noah from S14 on their terrific art work.

Session times:
Before Care- 6:45am-8:45am
After Care- 3:30pm-6:00pm

Contact Us
Kids Club Direct: 9799 6182