Calendar of Events

Don’t forget, every Friday the Student Leaders host Parent coffee & chat in the MPC from 2.35pm. Come along and meet with other parents.

- Friday 15th April
  Assembly item S12

- Friday 22nd April
  Assembly item S19

- Monday 25th April
  Anzac Day Public Holiday

- Friday 29th April
  Assembly item J1 & J2

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:
- Monday 23rd May
  is a Curriculum Day.
- Monday 13th June
  is the Queen’s birthday public holiday.
- Tuesday 21st June
  is a Pupil Free Day for Student Led Conferences.

Welcome back for a busy, busy, busy term 2.

I hope you all enjoyed a nice holiday break after a choc-filled Easter.

The Victorian Premiers’ reading Challenge has started so I hope all forms have been returned. We have many great new books ready for borrowing and reading here at school.

NAPLAN testing is in week 5 for all year 3 and 5 students. (For further information please see page 3 and the newsletters coming home today for all Year 3 and 5 students.) It is important that your child is here on the day of testing as missing the day of school doesn’t mean missing the test. Your child will then have to sit the test alone during other class time rather than in the group setting when all students complete the assessments. If you don’t wish for your child to sit the tests you can make them exempt from the tests, please discuss this with your child’s classroom teacher immediately.

We have two curriculum days scheduled for this term. The first is on Monday 23rd May for teachers to visit other schools and complete professional learning time on improving our teaching of reading practices. Our second one is on Tuesday 21st June for our Student Led Conferences. More information regarding these will be out later in the term. Please put these dates in your calendars for the future.

We have lots of different lunchtime clubs happening this term (see next week’s newsletter for the outline) and don’t forget Homework Club is on each Wednesday in the library and Breakfast Club is open every morning in the art room from 8.30am. All foods are kindly supplied by Food Bank. Gill Gray

2016 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge has started. Notices were sent home last term, most students have returned them already, well done!

As always, we are excited to see so many of our students engaged in reading and participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to 16 years in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books. The Challenge book lists have been developed by a reference group of experienced teacher-librarians and experts in children’s literature. The Challenge book lists include high quality children’s and young adult literature as well as books which engage students and get them excited about reading. To view the lists visit:


Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers.

Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. (Forms must be completed for this) For more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and to view the booklists, visit:


DON’T FORGET:

Have you changed your address, medical details or phone numbers recently? If so, it is vital that you provide updated details to the school.
Preps: Postcards and Letters (Transactional writing)
Why do we need postcards and letters?
Do you have postcards and letters at home that you can look at?
What do we include when writing a letter e.g. To, Dear, From...

Juniors: Who am I? ... What am I like? (Descriptive writing –describe a character)
What do they look like?
How do they act?
What personality traits do they have?
What are their strengths?

Middles: Australia ... the Lucky Country (Persuasive writing)
What do you think? Do you agree or disagree?
What is ‘lucky’ about living in Australia?
What is special or different about Australia?
Is there another country better than Australia? Why?

Seniors: We should spend millions on finding a new habitable planet. (Persuasive writing)
What do you think? Do you agree or disagree?
Is this something we should be spending money on?
Do we need to think about inhabiting another planet? Why?
Are there more important things we need to think about and spend money on?

Have you ever tried lawn bowls?
This week at Coral Park we have been learning about a new sport. The students have been actively involved in Lawn Bowls. Laurie from Bowls Australia, a qualified coach has been teaching the students the correct technique as well as showing them how much fun bowls can be. The students have shown some excellent skills as well as learning the new words and their meaning such as Bias, backhand bowls, forehand bowls and what a jack is.
I am looking at making a team from the talent I have seen and taking this group to Hampton Park Bowling club to experience real lawn bowls in term 3.

Hope you are all well and staying fit and healthy
Cheers.
Bill Hains
NAPLAN is coming for all year 3 and 5 students.

The National Assessment Program for Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a national assessment and reporting program in the areas of numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) for students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 each year. This testing will be conducted this term between 10th—12th May 2016.

These national test results provide information on how your child is progressing and performing in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. Students will begin looking at some practice tests at school to help them to understand the format of the questions and give them the experience of completing the test in the required test conditions (eg. working silently and independently and within a time limit). Some have also been practicing some questions as part of their homework.

Over the last few years NAPLAN assessment has been in the news frequently. One of the main criticisms has been that school results in every state have not increased since NAPLAN began. In fact many states overall results have decreased. Queensland is the only state to be on the rise of late.

Only recently the NAPLAN site has uploaded full proper practice versions of all tests, these haven’t been accessible over the past 4 years. In fact the NAPLAN site has only offered a few sample questions – 1-2 pages for each of the upcoming NAPLAN in the last 3 years. While some questions I recognise from past NAPLAN, many are new.

If you have access to a computer at home, these full tests online are definitely worth sitting students through as a pre-test to NAPLAN preparation. We cannot teach to the test, nor do we continually practice tests as we have so much curriculum to cover, but it does help to improve by practicing.

You can find the tests at [http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests/the-tests.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests/the-tests.html)

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**House Cross Country**

Well done to all our students who participated in our House Cross Country event on the last day of term 1. Lots of fun was had with students cheering each other on as they ran through the finish line. Well done to all students who qualified in the top ten of their year level. Those in the age bracket 9/10/11/12 now qualify through to the district final to be held at Sydney Pargetta Reserve in Endeavour Hills on Friday 6th May.

Running Club will continue each Monday for all interested students to help train them up for this event. Don’t forget to come along to help train for the distance of the event and for fitness fun with Matt, Katrina and Mrs Gray.
Thank you to Cailin and Milica for donating birthday books to our library.
We wish you a very happy birthday.

If you would like to donate a birthday book to the school, please see Linda at the school office or Tony in the library after school.

To enrol your child into the Coral Park OSHC Program, complete an OSHC Registration Form which is located on the Camp Australia website - www.campaus.com.au.

All bookings, cancellations and account changes can be done through the Parent Portal located on the Camp Australia website. Once enrolled be ready to get involved in FUN, QUALITY and ENGAGING experiences in a SAFE and HAPPY ENVIRONMENT.

If you have any queries please call Jess, the Kids Club Coordinator on 9799 6182 or drop in for a visit and see the programs in action.

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

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2017 Year 7 Future Students Information Sessions
Monday April 18th 11am or 6pm

These sessions will provide a guided tour as well as general information about Alkira Secondary College.
Booking are essential via https://www.trybooking.com/KUWN

Venue: Alkira Secondary College Theatre
15 Nurture Avenue
Cranbourne North, Victoria 3977

Applications to Alkira’s Sports Program and Accelerated Learning Program close on Friday May 13th 2016. Applications after this date will not be considered.

Accelerated Learning Program testing will take place on Saturday May 28th 2016.

Inquiries: Sandra Stevens 03 5991 3514 or email: stevens.sandra.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

SUNSMART REMINDER—UV Rays are still out over the holidays
I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday break. Lets hope this lovely autumn weather continues! This is just a quick note to remind children and families to continue using sun protection for a few weeks in term two.

UV levels are still above three so please continue to Slip on sun protective clothing, Slop on SPF 30 or higher sunscreen, Slap on a wide brimmed hat, Seek shade and, if practical, Slide on wrap-around sunglasses until the end of April.

Please check the daily sun protection times to be sure. These are available on the free SunSmart app and widget, on our school website, in the weather section of the newspaper or at sunsmart.com.au Even in the cooler autumn weather, that UV exposure all adds up.

New Parking Signs & Rules
Have you seen the new Parking signs outside the school between the crossing and Coral Drive Kinder? Under the Road Rules, a motorist is allowed to stop in a No Parking area for a period of up to 2 minutes to drop off or pick up passengers, as long as they do not leave their vehicle unattended. A vehicle is considered to be unattended if the driver is over 3m from the closest point of the vehicle. The No Parking area is significantly different to the No Stopping area which means a vehicle is not permitted to stop at all.