A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Some of you may have attended the last school assembly of 2013, to hear the announcement that Mark Warner has decided to move on from Rye Primary, and others may have heard the news through the grapevine. Please all be assured that Mark’s appointment took place at 12.30 on the last day of school and was not something that had been known for quite some time and not disclosed or held until the last day of school. As soon as Mark knew, the school community as a whole knew. Mark’s move to Somers Camp as Principal is with our best wishes, we wish him the very best of luck in his new adventure.

With that being said, I just wanted to advise everyone that Wayne Lovie, has been appointed as the Transition Principal for Rye Primary School, for Terms 1 and 2. During this time the standard application procedures will take place with the next step being, for us as school council, to liaise with the department whereby the position will be advertised and a selection panel put in place.

This is a new era of Rye Primary and one which will be exciting. If you see Mr Lovie around, please introduce yourself as he will do as he wanders around with lots of very unfamiliar faces.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or the school with any questions or concerns.

Thanks.
Bec Closter
School Council President
Rye Primary School

FROM OUR NEW PRINCIPAL

Hi everyone, we have had a wonderful start to the new school year. The teachers and I have been planning our curriculum and teaching for several weeks now and we are all very excited and keen to make 2014 a very successful year for our students and our school.

My name is Wayne Lovie and I am an experienced principal who has been asked by the Department of Education to be acting Principal for terms one and two. I am very passionate about working with staff and parents to bring about the best possible outcomes for our students. I am very approachable and together with the staff at Rye Primary School, we want the best for your children: academically, socially, emotionally and creatively.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents here at school on the first day of the new school year. I could tell from that first day that our parents love the school and are engaged in their children’s education.

I am looking forward to working with our parents as our partners in their child’s education and if you would like to catch up for a chat at any time I am available to do so.

Our new prep students have had a very smooth transition to school and are eager to learn and experience school for the first time. Keep reassuring your prep child about how great school and learning are and try to engage with them each afternoon after school to ask them what they have
been doing at school and what they have learnt.

There is a great deal of research that says that if parents are engaged with their child’s education the better the outcomes there are for the children. You don’t have to be at school each day to engage in your child’s education – it can be done by talking to them about their learning or by sharing in a conversation about a book.

Our focus will be on our students achieving their learning outcomes at their expected level of development and beyond. We want our students to be aspirational for themselves and for parents to be aspirational for their children.

I would like to welcome Sophia Grant to our school. Sophia will be teaching Year 3 this year and she is very keen and a great teacher. I would also like to welcome back Lauren Eagles who is returning from Family Leave – another great teacher.

Take Home Reading

I believe it is very important that we build on the reading culture that exists here at Rye Primary School. It would be a sad world if we didn’t have books and story-telling in our society. For the Take Home Reading Program this year, the teachers and I are asking each student to read for a minimum of fifty nights each term. If a student reads every school night they will easily reach this target. When they do we will acknowledge their achievement. Herein also lies an opportunity for parents to engage in their child’s learning by hearing their child read a few nights each week and talking to their child about the pictures, plot and characters. You could also vary the reading material. We ask that parents sign their child’s take home reading sheet each time their child reads so that we can keep a record. Happy reading!

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is an annual national assessment of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests are in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy. The tests are scheduled for the mornings of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday early in Term 2 each year. It is very important to note that the NAPLAN tests are designed to complement the regular assessments made by teachers over the year.

Bullying

Rye Primary School has policies, procedures and practises in place to help us with any bullying that may occur in our school. Unfortunately, bullying is a part of any community. If we know that bullying is occurring, we will do something about it.

Student Safety

I have been asked by the Department of Education to remind our school community to observe safe practises on the roads around our school during drop off and pick up times. We all need to observe the speed limits and take care when driving. Thank you.

Respect

I spoke earlier this week at our school assembly about the value of respect. It is important to our society and our school that we are all treating each other with respect. I spoke about: respect for self, respect for others, respect for learning and respect for our environment. I will continue to speak about respect and will treat all our students, parents, staff and visitors with respect and will expect the same in return. As adults we are always modelling to children and they will learn from us. If we want respect in return and we want our children to be respectful, we need to model it and demonstrate it at all times.
RYE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thank you to all the staff, students and parents who have made me feel very welcome at Rye Primary School.

Kind Regards,

Wayne Lovie
Acting Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Welcome back everyone. It was so lovely to see our new preps so excited to be starting here at Rye Primary School last week.

There is a major initiative from the Department of Education at the moment about not leaving little ones in cars in the hot weather called “No exceptions, No excuses”. The campaign, running in partnership with KidSafe Victoria, steps up the warning to parents and carers that leaving children inside parked cars during the heat – even for a moment – can be fatal. There is a web site associated with this if you would like to look it up. www.kidsafevic.com.au

Over the holidays I was lucky enough to be invited to Brisbane to look at a Social Emotional and Learning Skills program called Second Steps. It is a program that is based heavily in the latest research and is contemporary. We were very lucky to be one of only two schools (so far) in Australia to be using this program and we have been asked if we would like to become a lighthouse school. This means that we will become a school that other schools look to for implementation ideas and possibly come and visit.

The Second Step Program promotes:

- School Success
- School connectedness
- Safe and respectful school climate

The program looks at explicitly teaching and developing four main areas; Skills for Learning, Empathy, Emotion Management and Problem Solving. As you can see, this is a program that combines both learning skills and social emotional learning together.

This term we are focusing on Skills for Learning because students who can self-regulate are better able to participate in and benefit from classroom learning and teaching.

I look forward to talking to you more about this in next week’s newsletter.

Warm and fuzzies

Tina

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to everyone here at Rye Primary School. I trust you all enjoyed the holidays. I still find it hard to believe it's now 2014! The holidays just flew, but as they say, time flies when you’re having fun.

BOOK CLUB

All Book Club order forms for Issue 1 have gone out this week and will need to be back by Tuesday 11th February. While I’m on the subject of Book Club I’d like to thank everyone in our school community who supported us last year. This is not only a fantastic way to increase your home library it also benefits our school library. We receive bonus points based on the total amount spent and this allows us to purchase books or resources for our library and classrooms.

VOLUNTEERS

If there are any members of our school community that might have some spare time, I'd love to hear from you. We would like to make the
library more exciting by making some large book characters to display around the room. We are looking for some creative volunteers to help with this project.

Deb V

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

What a rewarding start to the year it has been. In classes this week we have talked about expectations in the Music Room and what good learners do. Students have also discussed different aspects of the performing arts and were asked to nominate their favourite subject between Dance, Drama and Music. The results will continue to be tallied so that a whole-school graph can be displayed.

Instrumental News – many instruments are available to hire!!

All tutors from 2013 will be back on deck again this year. Rye Primary School can offer lessons in the following instruments: guitar, piano, vocal technique/singing, flute, saxophone, clarinet, trumpet, trombone and drums. We have highly skilled tutors who come to the school and teach these instruments along with musical notation and theory at competitive rates. If you would like further information, please see Miss Parker in the Music Room before or after school.

Piano and guitar lessons with Christine and Roman will resume this week (Thursday 6th Feb) Drums will start with Lyn on Tuesday Feb 11th Renee will start singing lessons on Friday the 14th.

Senior CHOIR

Senior Choir will meet every Wednesday at 2:15PM in the Music Room. We are fortunate to have this scheduled into our weekly timetable at Rye PS. The Senior Choir is a great opportunity to learn with other students from grades three to six. It gives students confidence and musical practice, it’s fun and allows for performances in the community. For students who enjoy singing and being part of a team, it’s a great way to represent your school and make new friends.

CHOIR will have two sign-up or ‘try it and see’ weeks at the start of each term, and then it is asked that students commit for the duration of term. It is expected that students will keep up with their school work so that they are able to attend choir each week.

Quote of the Week:
- “Let us read and let us dance – two amusements that would never do any harm to the world.” Voltaire

Natalie Parker
Performing Arts Teacher

2014 EMA APPLICATION

2014 EMA Applications are now available at the office. Applications close 28th of February, No late applications can be processed. We also need to take a copy of your current health care card.

PFA NEWS

Welcome back to all our families to the new school year. Have you noticed our fabulous new school signage? This was purchased through the school communities’ support of our fundraising activities last year. Approximately $14 000 was raised and spent on new Basketball and Football Sports tops, a Sports Gazebo, Grade 6 graduation books, lighting for the school play, Atlases for Prep to Grade 2, A Blue Earth Kit, Supplies for the Library and a Resource Book on Autism.

Our first event for this year for your diaries is a BBQ at Bunnings Rosebud on Saturday 8th March. This is the long weekend and hopefully all the holiday home owners will be down doing some DIY on their properties and will purchase a snag and drink from us. A roster will be at the office from Friday this week, so please give us an hour of your time and come and have some fun with us at Bunnings. If you are going to be away or unable to help on the day could you please donate onions, serviettes or tomato sauce.

Our next PA meeting and AGM will be on Monday 3rd March at 2pm - venue to be advised. New members are always welcome.

Cheers Joanna, PA President.
TRAFFIC HAZARD

We would like to remind everyone that there is absolutely no right turn from the parking area into Collingwood Street. This is both illegal and extremely dangerous. We have been informed that the police will be issuing tickets for this.

LOST PROPERTY

Each Friday we will be displaying un-named Lost Property outside the Art Room. When you are picking up children have a look to see if there is anything that belongs to you. We will endeavour to return all items that are named directly to the child. Lost Property is still be kept near the staff room.

SPORTS NEWS

Beach Program for the Year 1's and 2's starts next week. Notes have been sent home along with the times your class is swimming. Swimming Sports are February 26th with school trials held on Monday 24th. Notes will be sent home to interested Year 4.5.6 children shortly.

2014 BUS TRAVEL

If your child travels on the School Bus and you didn't fill out a new form at the end of the year can you please drop into the office and grab one.

Music Tuition 2014

Drums, Saxophone & Clarinet

Once again our school is very luck to offer the services of Lyn Reynolds who will be teaching Drums, Saxophone and Clarinet. Please contact Lyn on: 0408 148 617

These are private lessons of which you will need to organise times and payments through Lynn.

Guitar

Roman Goldine will be teaching the Guitar. Please drop into the office for a Term 1 Contract and to obtain full details on times and payments for guitar tuition.
MEDIA RELEASE
30 Jan 2014

BAANY TO WARRNA NGARGEI: WATER TO WATER FESTIVAL
29 March 2014, The Briars, Mount Martha, Mornington Peninsula

*Archie Roach to perform at The Mornington Peninsula’s first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander music and cultural festival*

The Inaugural Baany to Warrna Ngargee is a groundbreaking Indigenous music and cultural festival in the Mornington Peninsula. The festival is a non-profit endeavour designed to promote cross-cultural awareness, bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together in a vibrant, family-friendly outdoor event where Indigenous music, art, dance and culture will be showcased.

Baany to Warrna gets its name from the local Boon Wurrung word meaning water and the Pitjantjatjara word for water. Maintaining language is important to identity and culture and the expression ‘water to water’ represents unity, sharing and collaborations.

Many people are unaware of the significant Indigenous population living on the Mornington Peninsula (approx. 1000). The festival will provide a welcoming environment for all people to share and celebrate the vibrancy and diversity of Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and engage with the local Indigenous population and others from all walks of life.

The festival program will run from 2pm to 10pm and will include both traditional and contemporary musicians and dancers, bush Tucker, Indigenous books, arts and crafts and Indigenous storytelling. Headlining the concert program is renowned Victorian singer and songwriter, Archie Roach. Mornington Peninsula musician and artist, Nola Lauch, will also perform, along with lyrical storyteller, Mau Power, from the Torres Strait, Yirrmal and the Yolngu Boys, the Indigenous Hip Hop Project and more.

Children’s activities include didgeridoo classes, Indigenous arts and crafts, face-painting and circus activities.

Food will be a combination of traditional and contemporary fare.

As part of a broader program, the festival will conduct lead-in events such as workshops and cultural activities in the build up to the main festival day. Indigenous dance and art workshops will run through schools and local community groups.

Schools or community groups interested in participating in the workshops can contact festival producer, Julie Buxton, below.

www.watertowater.org.au

Media Contact: Julie Buxton; Tel: 0403 461 244