Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Monday night we held an information evening outlining curriculum delivery and activities taking place this year for the 5/6 area. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend. If you were unable to attend please see us for an information pack.

Congratulations to all the students who tried out for the District Swimming Trials. It was great to see everyone give it a go. Well done to Johnny, Jesse, Saxby, Austen, Peter, Jack, Ashley, Caitlyn, Imogen, Jai, Seth, Keely, Sarah, Greta and Gwen who were winners on the day and will be representing Rye on Wednesday 24th February.

On Tuesday we were very fortunate to have some volunteers out from the Rye CFA who gave a talk to our students about the Junior Volunteer Development Program. They will be having their first meeting on Tuesday February 23rd from 5:30pm to 7:00pm.

The Grade Six students all enjoyed their first sailing day yesterday. A huge thank you to Pam, Jason, Mim and Danny for volunteering their time to help supervise the students.

The Grade Five Camp to Sovereign Hill will take place on the 1st-3rd June. We are currently in the process of costing the camp in an effort to get notes and a payment plan out soon to assist families in making payments.

This year we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to send ten of our students to Somers Camp from the 14th-22nd June. This is an excellent camp, where students have the opportunity to meet students from a variety of other schools on the Mornington Peninsula. As we are only able to send ten students, we are looking at students who have an excellent behavioural record, enjoy challenges and are confident to be away from their family for nine days. The cost of the camp is $250.00. Below, is an expression of interest slip. If you would like your child to attend please fill out the form and return it to school by Wednesday 24th February.

Please note that this camp is not in lieu of other compulsory school camps such as Sovereign Hill and Surf Camp. This is an extra camp. If we receive more than 10 responses, names will be drawn from a hat.

On Friday 26th February we will be having our first BIG WRITE for the term. The genre will be a narrative and the topic is The Mysterious Door. Over the next week, please discuss some ideas for a story with your child and together come up with some interesting vocabulary and openers they could use. What will be the problem? How will it end? We have been working on narratives this term so your child will have an idea on how to plan and structure their piece. They are able to bring some notes in on the day to help them complete their narrative.

We have the Summer Lightning Premierships coming up on Wednesday 23rd March. We will need a lot of volunteers to help run this event. We are looking for people who are able to accompany and supervise each team and perhaps score. Volunteers do require a valid Working with Children card. If you are available to help on the day please see your child’s teacher or Tom Campbell.

On Wednesday 2nd March at 10:30am the Grade Six students will be involved in the unveiling of the Spider Crab Mosaic at the Rye Foreshore Park. All of the year six students were involved in creating this amazing
piece of art work last year.

There seems to have been some confusion regarding homework. Each week (usually Tuesday) students will be given a spelling task to complete at home, using words they have chosen at school. This week they are to do a Look Say Cover Write Check on their words two times. As well as spelling students are to read at least 4 nights each week for a sustained period of at least 20 minutes per session. This needs to be recorded in their diary and signed by an adult. We would encourage your child to learn their times tables, perhaps concentrating on one each week until they are confident in all of them. As of next week, students will be required to complete two assigned Mathletics tasks each week. If they are unable to use the internet at home please send a note in their diary letting us know so that we can organise a time either before school or during lunch time for them to complete their tasks.

In an endeavour to help the students in becoming more organised we would like for them to bring their diary into school each day so that they can record important dates, add homework tasks, record their learning goals, etc. so that you are also aware of what’s happening at school.

In an effort to conserve paper we would like to send the newsletter out electronically. Thank you to those parents who have already sent in their email details, however if you have yet to return your details and would like to receive the newsletter via email please fill out the attached slip.

Year 5/6 Team – Colleen Carter, Lauren Eagles, Sandra Emile and Gaynor English

Important Dates

- Wednesday 24th February - District Swimming
- Friday 26th February – DRI Dolphin Swim
- Wednesday 2nd March - Unveiling of Mosaic
- Wednesday 2nd March – Dromana Secondary College Talk
- Friday 4th March – Rosebud Secondary College Talk
- Wednesday 9th March - Division Swimming
- Wednesday 23rd March - Summer Lightning Premierships

Notes to be returned

- Swimming Note
- Walking Note

HOMEWORK

We have designed our homework tasks to support the students in their learning, targeting areas where we think the students need most assistance. We would expect students to be spending approximately 30 minutes (at the most) a night to complete these activities.
For homework this term we will expect all students to be **reading** at least four nights a week, practising their **spelling** words (in order to receive at least 18/20 on their spelling test) and completing their assigned task. Learning their times tables and continuing to use the **Mathletics** Program. Students have been asked to write their nightly reading into their diary and parents or carers are to sign the diary prior to its being handed in each Monday morning.

**If students are not completing their assigned tasks they will be asked to attend a lunch time support group on Monday to complete their homework. Could you please support your children to ensure that their diary and homework is returned to school each Monday.**

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**I would like to receive the newsletter via email.**

My email address is _________________________________________________________.

My child's name _______________________________ and Class ____________________

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**Somers Camp Expression of Interest**

I would like for my child ____________________________ to attend Somers Camp from June 14\(^{th}\) - 22\(^{nd}\).