Welcome back to Term 3. I hope everyone had a lovely break. It is great to see all students back on deck ready for another term’s learning.

Reports: Last Friday the reports went out to all families. The teachers have worked very hard to personalise them so you will gain a clear understanding of your child’s strengths and future learning needs and how you can work with us to support the next stage of learning. I would be interested in your feedback about the reports. Please drop me a note, make a time to come in for a chat or catch me in the yard if you would like to have some input.

Attendance: While reading the reports, I noticed that some students had a significant number of absences. Obviously if children are sick the best place for them is at home but other than that it is very important that children are at school. Children who are frequently away from school often experience gaps in their learning and also struggle to maintain friendships with peers. If you are experiencing difficulty with getting your child to school regularly, please come and see us as we can offer support and strategies. Philippa Morrison has included some information regarding attendance later in this newsletter.

Headlice: Headlice is a part of school life but the impact it has on families can be minimised if everyone in the community takes responsibility for the problem. We have had a number of outbreaks recently so please check your children’s heads regularly and if you see eggs or live lice, please treat it before sending your child back to school. Recently we sent out treatment advice in the newsletter. We have included it again this week. If you are struggling with a headlice problem at home and would like some extra support, please come and see us for other support options.

Curriculum Day: On Monday all staff spent the day working on our vision for Rye Primary School and the values which underpin everything we do. Our next step will be to ask students and parents for input into these areas. Although we currently have a vision statement and values identified, we are revisiting them before writing our new four year school strategic plan. Our vision is something we strive for so it is important to revisit it to ensure we are always pushing boundaries and challenging ourselves.

Prep enrolments: I have been showing a lot of people around and Prep enrolments are coming in for 2016. If you have a child starting Prep next year, please come and see us soon to enrol. We are already starting our planning for next year so it is important to know how many Prep students we will be catering for.

POP: Our Prep transition program, Preparing our Preps, starts in August. We have four sessions where next year’s Prep students are offered the chance to
experience life in a prep classroom. If you have already enrolled you will have received information about these sessions. We will be contacting families who have put in an expression of interest this week too. If you are interested but have not yet made contact, please do so as a matter of urgency so your child can be included.

**Sport:** A big congratulations to our girls’ netball team and our boys’ soccer team who qualified for the Regional playoffs this week. The girls made us very proud. They missed out on the Grand Final by one point but they pulled together as a team and gave their hearts and souls to the task. The boys’ soccer team won their Regional playoffs and have been invited to compete at Zone level. If they win this they will be representing our State so we wish them all the very best of luck. Well done boys. A super effort!

**Parent Opinion Survey:** Shortly a randomly generated sample of parents will receive a feedback form about Rye Primary School. I encourage you to complete and return this form if you are selected as part of the sample. We value parent feedback, both good and constructive. This is a great time to have input as we are about to start writing our new strategic plan.

**URGENT Parent teacher conferences:** A notice went out with the reports of the youngest member of each family about parent teacher conferences being held next week. I strongly encourage parents to attend these meetings. It is a great opportunity to meet the person who spends a significant amount of time with your child. Notices were due in on Tuesday, but if you haven’t returned yours we will endeavour to meet your requests for meeting times.

Jackie Annable, Principal Rye Primary School.

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23rd July</td>
<td>First instalment of payment plan due for Yr3 Somers Camp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th July</td>
<td>Assembly 2.40pm in Hall.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th July</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th July</td>
<td>School Council.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th July</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th July</td>
<td>Yr 4 Swimming Program payment and permission due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th August</td>
<td>PFA Bunnings BBQ, Rosebud.</td>
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**SCHOOL ENTRANT HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRES. (Preps)**

The visiting Primary School Nurse is currently assessing children in the Prep Grades. The Primary School Nursing Program gives parents/guardians, teachers and nurses an opportunity to work together to promote health and wellbeing for children at school. A questionnaire was previously sent home but we still have a lot that were not returned. If you would like your Prep to participate in this free program please complete the School Entrant Health Questionnaire that has been sent home with your student this week. If you do not want your child to participate please tick the no box on the questionnaire and return to school.

**Parents and Friends Association**

Welcome back to Term 3. Our next fundraiser is a Bunnings BBQ at the Rosebud store on Saturday 8th August. We will need helpers from 8am to 4.30ish. There is a roster at the office. We are asking families for 1-2 hours of their time.

We also need donations of onions, tomato sauce, sausages, bread, BBQ sauce and mustard, if you are unable to help out on the day.

Another date for your diary is the Father’s Day stall on Thursday 3rd September.
SCHOOL PASSION PROJECT

Hello everyone. For my Year 6 Passion Project I am holding a school art project called ‘Holding Hands.’ The purpose of my project is to support Donate Life Week in August and my little brother Jagger who has a kidney disease that will require him to have a double transplant.

The artwork created in the art room with Mr Campbell will be displayed in the school hall. The best four designs, judged by Mrs Emile and me will receive a super prize.

To support my Passion Project and this worthy cause (organ donation), please add a touch of pink to your uniform on Tuesday 4th August and bring along a gold coin for the sausage sizzle. All monies raised will be donated to the Zaidee’s Rainbow Foundation.

I’m looking forward to seeing lots of pink on Tuesday 4th August and selling lots of sausages. See you there for all the fun!

From Savannah Fangmeier, Art Captain, Rye Primary School

SPORTS NEWS

Thankyou to Rye Tennis coach Julian Arnold for the kind donation of tennis balls. Our children have already put them to good use. Julian is taking coaching and lesson bookings now. Coaching and lessons are available for all ages.

We have just completed grade 5/6 participation in the winter lightning premiership competition for a range of sports in 2015. Teams competed in footy, netball, handball, T ball, and soccer and students enjoyed the experience. Well done to the netball and soccer teams who won their interschool district competition and have now progressed to regional finals. Thank you to those parents who volunteered their time to assist with some of these teams, your help was greatly appreciated. We are asking parents to be supportive of us in our efforts to encourage all students in grades 5/6 to participate in sport. Obviously if a child is injured they may need to be excused temporarily but under normal circumstances we are aiming for 100% participation. If a child is unable to participate in PE or sport for a medical reason, a note should be sent with the child who can hand it to the teacher in charge of the sport event. Thank you for your support this year and we hope to have continued success in sport at Rye Primary School.

Tom Campbell

REGIONAL NETBALL FINAL

The Netball A team played off this week in the Regional Netball Final and missed out on making the Grand Final by 1 point. The girls played well but were outplayed by a much taller team on the day. Well done to Captain Casey, Laura, Greta, Chloe, Molly, Claudia, Faith and Bridgette on giving their best on the day and being good sports. Thank you to Miranda G for taking on coaching duties on the day, and to the wonderful parents who attended to support their girls.
SAVE THE DATE.
Our School musical production will be on October 28th & 29th.
More detail to follow.
EVERY DAY COUNTS

In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That’s half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: education.vic.gov.au

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
Treating and controlling head lice

While children are at school many families will have contact with head lice. The information contained here will help you treat and control head lice.

Catching head lice
Head lice have been around for many thousands of years. Anyone can get head lice.

Head lice are small, wingless, blood sucking insects. Their colour varies from whitish-brown to reddish-brown. Head lice only survive on humans. If isolated from the head they die very quickly (usually within 24 hours).

People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who has head lice. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together.

Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl.

Finding head lice
Many lice do not cause an itch, so you have to look carefully to find them.

Head lice are found on the hair itself and move to the scalp to feed. They have six legs which end in a claw and they rarely fall from the head. Louse eggs (also called nits) are laid within 1.5 cm of the scalp and are firmly attached to the hair. They resemble dandruff, but can’t be brushed off.

Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:

Step 1 Comb any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This softens the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.

Step 2 Now comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.

Step 3 Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.

Step 4 Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.

Step 5 Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least four or five times.

If lice or eggs are found, the hair should be treated.
If the person has been treated recently and you only find empty hatched eggs, you may not have to treat, as the empty eggs could be from a previous episode.

Treating head lice
Treating head lice involves removing lice and eggs from the hair. There are two ways you can do this:

1. Buying and using a head lice lotion or shampoo, following the instructions on the product
2. Using the conditioner and comb method (described under “finding head lice”) every second day until there have been no live lice found for ten days.

If you choose to use a head lice product always read and follow the instructions provided with the product carefully.

The following points may also be helpful:

- Head lice products must be applied to all parts of the hair and scalp.
- No treatment kills all of the eggs so treatment must involve two applications, seven days apart. The first treatment kills all lice; the second treatment kills the lice that may have hatched from eggs not killed by the first treatment.
- Cover the person’s eyes while the treatment is being applied. A towel is a good way to do this.
- If you are using a lotion, apply the product to dry hair.
- If you are using a shampoo, wet the hair, but use the least amount of water possible.
- Apply the treatment near the scalp, using an ordinary comb to cover the hair from root to tip. Repeat this several times until all the hair is covered.

There is no need to treat the whole family - unless they also have head lice.

Concentrate on the head - there is no need to clean the house or the classroom.

Only the pillowcase requires washing - either wash it in hot water (at least 60ºC) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.
Testing resistance
Head lice products belong in one of the following categories depending on the active compound they contain:
- pyrethins
- synthetic pyrethroids (permethrin, bioallethrin)
- organophosphates (malathion or malathion)
- herbal with or without natural (non-chemical) pyrethrin.
Insecticide resistance is common, so you should test if lice are dead. If they are, treat again in seven days using the same product. If the lice are not dead, the treatment has not worked and the lice may be resistant to the product and all products containing the same active compound. Wash off the product and treat as soon as possible using a product containing a different active compound. If the insecticide has worked, the lice will be dead within 20 minutes.

Any head lice product could cause a reaction and should be used with care by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding, children less than 12 months old and people with allergies, asthma or open wounds on the scalp. If you are unsure, please check with your pharmacist or doctor.

Head lice combs
Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be used.

Head lice eggs
Head lice eggs are small (the size of a pinhead) and oval. A live egg will “pop” when squashed between fingernails.

Dead eggs have crumpled sides and hatched eggs look like tiny boiled eggs with their tops cut off.

Regulations
According to the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009, children with head lice can be readmitted to school or children's service centres after treatment has commenced.

The department recommends a child with head lice can be treated one evening and return to school or children's service centres the next day, even if there are still some eggs present. There is no need to miss school or child care because of head lice.

Preventing head lice
Check your child's head regularly with comb and conditioner. There is no research to prove that chemical or herbal therapies can prevent head lice.

Further information
The following website offers further information:

Cover concept by students from St Patrick's Primary School, West Geelong. Life cycle diagram courtesy of Nitpickers Qld.
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