In this, the last newsletter of Term 1, I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday.

School breaks up tomorrow (Thursday 28th March) at 2.30pm. School resumes at 9.00am on Monday 15th April.

Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings

It was wonderful to see how many parents came to school for these meetings. They are an important part of your child’s education, ensuring that parents and teachers have an understanding of progress and areas in need of development.

Parents are reminded that they can contact teachers to make an appointment to see them at any time.

Assistant Principal Appointment

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Giselle Cassar has been formally appointed as an Assistant Principal at our school. Giselle has been acting Assistant Principal for the last year.

Council of International Schools European Conference

I will be representing the school at this conference in Berlin during the holidays.

John Hurley
Principal
Message from School Council

I am happy to deliver a brief report to the school community on what took place at the last school council meeting on 19 March 2013. During this meeting, we also welcomed the new members of the school council and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

School council had the opportunity to meet the 2013 school captains and vice captains and would like to thank them for the wonderful job in delivering the Year Level reports. All the year levels have had a very busy term 1 with various activities and excursions taking place in addition to timetabled classes. The junior school council report was also tabled and we are glad to see the year level representatives are taking an active role in providing suggestions to improve the facilities and student well-being in and around the school.

School council considered and adopted a Student Behaviour Management Policy. This policy is important to encourage positive behaviour and ensure that there is a consistent approach to decisions taken by the school in relation to student behaviour to achieve rational outcomes. School councillors also discussed at length the curriculum improvements and changes that are being introduced by the school to improve student learning.

Mr Hurley provided us with an update on some of the current issues and changes taking place in and around the school, and plans to improve the school grounds and technology resources. School councillors provided their input and had some constructive discussions on these issues.

Following the conclusion of our monthly meeting, the school council annual meeting was held. The purpose of the annual meeting was to elect office bearers for 2013. The process took place smoothly and congratulations to the new office bearers.

Have a safe and relaxing school holidays!!

Magdaline Goh
School Council Treasurer

Notices Sent Home

- Kelly Sports Flyer Foundation - 4
- Year 6 Gleneagles Seal Program Flyer

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN TIMES – Term 2 2013

Every Friday morning 8.30am to 9.30am:

19th and 26th April
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st May

Each 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon 3.00pm – 4.00pm

16th April
7th and 21st May
VISUAL ART NEWS

Four of our students were selected from 100’s of entrants as finalists in the Multicultural Diversity Week art competition.

Chris  Risini  Lily Rose  Sanja

Congratulations to all and especially to Risini, selected the winner for the Foundation to Year 1 category.

Rosa Spizzirri
Visual Arts

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Thomas Mitchell PS will be participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program again this year. When you spend $10 or more at Woolworths between Monday 8th April and Sunday 9th June 2013 you will receive a sticker from the checkout operator at Woolworths to place onto the sticker card (available from the school office next term). Once the sticker card is full please return it to school and place it in the Woolworths Earn & Learn box at the office. Please do not forward your dockets to school, just your stickers &/or completed cards.

Start collecting during the school holidays!!!

Last year we were lucky enough to earn lots of new maths equipment from the sponsor, MTA (Modern Teaching Aids) who again will be working in partnership with Woolworths. We encourage parents who shop at Woolworths to return their sticker cards to school when your card is full. You may collect more sticker cards from the school office. For further information please visit the website www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2013

It’s Challenge time again! All students from Foundation to Year 6 are invited to participate. To register, parents need to complete and sign the consent form which is available from the school office or maybe downloaded and printed from the schools website www.tmps.vic.edu.au Registration forms need to be returned to school by the 28th June 2013.

Josie Morando and Linda Loxton
Reading Challenge Coordinators
Health Centre News – Headlice

Head lice remain a problem in all school communities. As school holidays rapidly approach, this is a wonderful opportunity to check and rid your child/ren of head lice and nits. Head lice cannot jump from child to child or crawl into your home, so preventing infestations isn’t as hard as it may sound. To achieve this, it is reasonable to expect parent/guardians will:

• Regularly inspect their child’s hair to look for lice or eggs (using conditioner and a head lice comb is the easiest and most effective way to do this).

• Regularly inspect all household members and then treat them if necessary. Although the focus of parents is usually on treating head lice infestations it is probably more important to teach your children to avoid head lice.

WHAT CAN YOU DO THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

1) CHECK YOUR CHILD’S HAIR AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK.
2) Review pictures of live head lice and eggs to help you understand what you are looking for in your child’s hair.
3) Recognise symptoms of head lice which include an itchy, sometimes red blotchy scalp.
4) Hair conditioner and a nit comb will make it easier to comb through your child’s hair.
5) I would highly advise girls tie their hair in a high ponytail, bun or braid each school day. Tying hair back does not prevent head lice but does help stop the spread.
6) Encourage your child to avoid sharing things that have been on or near another child’s head.
   This may include: hats, ribbons hair ties, Alice bands, hairbrushes, combs, scarves, towels, helmets, pillows, sleeping bags, soft toys etc.
7) Teach your child to avoid hair to hair contact during play and other activities such as sharing a book etc.
8) Teach your child to hang clothing and hats on an individual hook when they get to school.
9) Regularly clean items that your child’s head has been in contact with, such as car seats, pillows, headphones, back rests of couches, towels, brushes etc if you are sharing these items with other children. Remind your child to bring home their school hat to be washed.
10) Bed clothes and pillow cases need to be washed in the hottest possible setting. Tumble dry and iron items to ensure all eggs are killed. Items that are not able to be washed can be stored in a plastic bag for 2 weeks.
11) Disinfect combs and brushes by soaking in hot water at least 130 ° degrees for 10 minutes
12) Vacuum floors and furniture where the infested person sat or lay.
13) Another preventative action would be to spray your child’s hair each day with 10 parts TeeTree oil to 90 parts water.

At Thomas Mitchell Primary School we aim to provide practical advice and a sympathetic attitude so as to avoid stigmatising families who are experiencing difficulty with the control measures.

Head lice can be controlled – It takes a consistent systematic community based approach.

Anthea Cupido
School Nurse
**THOMAS MITCHELL CROSS COUNTRY**

Last Friday we held our annual cross country event with close to 800 students running on the day. Fortunately the weather was a lot better than the day before and we were able to get all the way through without a drop of rain. A big congratulations to all students who ran on the day and many thanks to the parents who turned out to support the school and their children.

Don't forget that if you placed in the top ten for your age group 9 years old and above to get out and practice some running over the holidays.

**CALIKIDS AT THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Calikids is back in term two offering a Calisthenics class every Friday during lunchtime. Calisthenics is an artistic sport, incorporating elements of dance, gymnastics, simplified ballet, singing, acting, marching, apparatus technique and performance skills. CaliKids is a great way for your child to learn something new and exciting, whilst still being at school! It is not compulsory and does come at a cost, for more information please visit [http://www.calisthenics.asn.au/](http://www.calisthenics.asn.au/)

**YEAR 6 INTERSCHOOL SPORT**

Next term the year six students will start interschool sport on Friday 26th of April. The teams have been chosen and you can come see them in the gym foyer so you can practice over the holidays.

**HOUSE POINTS**

Keep an eye out early next term in the gym foyer for the updated house points from cross country. So far this year Perkins has lead most of the way with competition for places 2nd to 4th remaining very close. Remember that all students can earn house points both in and out of the classroom and does not have to be sport related.

**HAPPY EASTER**

Lastly I hope that everyone has a safe and happy Easter, don’t eat too much chocolate and come back to school ready and excited for more sports to come in term 2.

*Troy Diaz,*  
*Physical Education Teacher.*
Easter Raffle Results

The Easter Raffle was drawn on Monday 25th March. $1153.00 was raised!!!

Many thanks to all who purchased tickets, and a huge thank you to those of you who donated the many great prizes. It's great to see so much support for our school community. Let's keep it going for the rest of the year!

Congratulations to the winners:

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ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are now selling the 2013/2014 Melbourne Entertainment Books. For only $65.00 you get over $15,000 worth of valuable offers that can be used right away. The vouchers are valid up until 1st June 2014!!!!

$13.00 from each book sold will go towards TMPS' fundraising. Brochures were sent home with last week’s newsletter. If you wish to order an Entertainment Book, you can either order online https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1876q86 or return the order form with correct money to school for delivery early next term. If you did not receive an order form, spare forms are available from the office.

**If you have placed an order for an Entertainment Book please note that they will be delivered to school early next term.**

Parents’ Club
There is still time to book for holiday program. Please come into the OSHC room or visit the website for more information.

This week at OSHC the children have been working so hard on their entries for the Easter colouring competition. All entries were fantastic and are displayed in our room. Congratulations to both Christian and Naomi as first prize winners. Also we would like to mention Natalie, Sethuni, Yashita, Jayden, Andrew and Daniel as runners up.

Please remember to call or text the service when your child will be absent from the program.

Have a wonderful Easter.

Janice 😊

**REMINDERS**

**How to get started** before using our programs you must register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

**Once registered** you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online. Keep in mind we are able to take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

**Save on Care** You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.

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**Community News**

Endeavour Hills Junior Football Club is seeking players for Under 12s for 2013 Boys and Girls Born in 2001, be part of the Team come down to Training on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.30pm at Charles Green Reserve. All new players receive Matchday Shorts and Socks on registering, For more information Contact President: Darren Baker 0412557444 or visit [www.endeavourhillsjfc.com.au](http://www.endeavourhillsjfc.com.au)

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**Endeavour Hills JFC is AFL Multicultural Program Club**
NAB AFL Auskick – Mossgiel Park 2013

Auskick is a great fun way to learn the basic skills of AFL Football and is open to all primary school aged children. Registration Day and the first clinic for Mossgiel Park Auskick 2013 will be on Saturday 27th April (the second Saturday in Term 2) from 9:15am until 11:00am at Barry Simon Reserve, Gleneagles Drive, Endeavour Hills (Mel 91 F2) and includes an introductory skills clinic from 9:45am and a free sausage sizzle. Clinics will then be held on Saturdays from 9:30am until 11:00am at the same venue until mid-August.

For more details and to register and pay on-line, go to www.aflauskick.com.au, enter the postcode 3802, scroll down to Mossgiel Park, click on ‘Register’ and follow the instructions. If you register and pay online by Monday 15th April 2013, you will receive a free family pass to an AFL game of your nominated club. Please contact Julie Webber, Centre Co-Ordinator, on 0439 839 351 if you have any queries.

SEAL Opportunity for current Year 6 students- Gleneagles Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program for 2014

Gleneagles Secondary College is one of 35 schools accredited to offer Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program (SEAL) in Victoria. One SEAL class of 25 students is offered at each year level from Year 7 to 10. The SEAL program provides an opportunity for high potential students to undertake a challenging, concept–based curriculum in the company of like–minded peers. Instruction is designed to stimulate and inspire this highly motivated group, and emphasis is placed on developing creativity, independent inquiry and research skills.

SEAL students complete the same subjects as other students in the year level but curriculum delivery is differentiated to provide faster paced instruction and minimal repetition. The concepts explored in class are often more complex, abstract and challenging.

Entry into the SEAL program is via formal testing and interviews. To be eligible for the Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) program, students need to apply and complete the selection process. Prospective students and parents are encouraged to attend a SEAL 2014 Information Night on Thursday, 18th April 2013 at 7.00pm to hear more about the program and collect an application package.

For further details, please visit the Gleneagles website: http://www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-process/ or contact the SEAL Manager, Julie Mullins on Tel 9708 1319 or email gleneagles.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au.