Dear Parents,

Welcome John Cleary…
I welcome John Cleary to staff as our Physical Education teacher. This is John’s first teaching appointment and he brings with him a strong commitment to education, a love of sport and a long-standing loyalty to The Cats Footy Club (Well done John!). I hope John finds his time here professionally rewarding. Students will have a one hour lesson each week; senior students will also have additional support from John during the time set aside for Interschool Sports.

Merger Discussions…
School Council will meet on Monday evening to decide on whether to consider, in principle, a proposal for a merger with Milleara Primary School. If Council approves, a proposal would be developed where a number of options are identified.
Given that a proposal for merger is developed, Council and other stake-holders could consider the content of the proposal and implications in various meetings. I will keep parents informed of the facts, in this weekly newsletter as we proceed.

A busy term ahead…
There are plenty of wonderful, educational activities planned for our students this term. I thank teachers for their thoughtful and careful planning to ensure activities challenge and reward every individual student with success in learning. See the term calendar attached.

Helping your child learn…
You can assist your child by discussing their learning style. We all have preferred ways of absorbing information; some of us are auditory learners – that is we prefer to listen, some of us are visual learners, most of us respond to direct experiences – we learn by doing or copying a competent person and then discussing our efforts.
The process of finding out how we learn is called metacognition, you can read more about this at: http://coe.sdsu.edu/eet/Articles/metacognition/start.htm

Premier’s Reading Challenge…
On Monday, your child received an invitation to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Accompanying the invitation was a record sheet. I hope you accept this invitation and encourage your child to read every night and enjoy the great stories available. I am sure you will find much enjoyment too.
Prep to Year 2 students need to read 30 books with at least 20 from the challenge list; Years 3-6, 15 books with at least 10 from the list. A hard-copy of the list is available in each corridor and library. Permission forms are due by Friday 1st May. The Challenge started this week and runs through to Monday 17th August, 2009.
To view the challenge list, you can go to: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/pre/ then select the “Books” tab (left side) and click on your child’s grade-list by author or title.

Did you know, in your child’s class… ???
Every student reads for 30 minutes each day – uninterrupted
There are over 250 titles available – some classes have more
Water and fruit is available to keep your child’s concentration level high.

Have a great week (Go Cats!)
CHESS CLUB!!!

Chess club starts next Wednesday (12th July) in the Library. From 1 pm to 1.30 pm. So come in and sign-up.

And... remember EVERY Wednesday until the end of term, The Chess club will meeting (and playing) until the end of term. See you there!

For further enquiries please contact Liz Oruba, Library Technician.

DATES TO REMEMBER
(subject to change check regularly)

April
Monday 27th  Special School Council Meeting—7.30pm
Wednesday 29th  Secondary School Expo (Moonee Ponds West PS) 4pm—7.30pm (for Yr 5 & 6 students and their parents)

May
Tuesday 5th  5/6s to visit Essendon Keilor College Discovery Day
Wednesday 6th  Police band Code One at the ECA centre—free for students
Thursday 7th  Prep Mothers Morning Tea
Friday 8th  Mothers Day Stall
13, 14 & 15  Naplan Testing
Monday 18th-22nd  Education Week and Bookfair in Library
Tuesday 19th  Grade 5/6 Excursion to The Shrine and MCG
Wednesday 20th  Open Day - Tours of the School every half hour

Newsletters can be found every Friday on our website - www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au. You can also check this site for the term Calendar.

Rebel Sport Fundraiser
When you purchase goods at Rebel Sport Highpoint and mention Avondale Primary School in the MVP program, the school receives 5% of the purchase price and you receive a 5% discount. Why not mention this next time you’re there?

Rosehill Secondary College
Sapphire Street, Niddrie 3042
Phone: 9337 2488 Fax: 9331 0525 roshell.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

School Tours-Tuesday 9.30
Phone 9337 2488 to book

Open Evening
Thursday 7th May, 2009 3.00pm to 7.30pm
6.30pm-College Principal address
- Tours
- Classes in action
- Teaching Staff available to answer questions

School photos are being sent home today.

Homework Survey
Dear Parents,
We have had an enormous response to the homework survey and I thank parents who responded most sincerely. The information provided is now the basis from which a new policy will formulated. The policy will reflect the overall attitude of our school community.
A particular thank you to those who provided written feedback. There is a wide range of well considered opinions which we will take into account as we proceed in our discussions. Due to the large number of returns the information is still being collated. I hope to be able to share this with you soon, in a forthcoming newsletter.
Kind Regards
Joe Scarfo
Curriculum Coordinator

Kelly Sports
BOUNCE into action and Term 2 with Kelly sports!!
Come and try what we have to offer with our fun and exciting Winter Sports.
Kelly sports is a wonderful opportunity for your child to develop key sporting skills and inspire them to give sport a go as they improve their catching, throwing, striking, running and jumping.

So come and see what 40 000 thousand Australian kids do at the end of their school day.

So what are you waiting for! Look out for our fliers and come out and enjoy the cooler weather.

For more information call Kelly Sports Essendon on 93751355 or email Sonya@kellysports.com.au or check out our website www.kellysports.com.au

Advertisements
The advertisements in this newsletter are for community interest only. The school has no connection with, nor endorses, any particular business activity.

Chocolate Reminder
Those families who have not returned their chocolate money or unsold chocolates, they MUST be returned no later than Monday.

Stockdale & Leggo
FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS
26 Centreway, East Keilor, Vic. 3033
Phone: 9331 6244  Fax: 9331 6277
Email: sam@stockdale.com.au