**PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS**

This week our teachers attended a meeting at Churchill PS with other teachers from the Churchill Cluster. It is always a great opportunity for teachers to meet collegially to discuss ideas and approaches to teaching and learning. There were Prep-2, 3-4 and 5-8 groups, and all are continuing the learning of James Nottingham, which has been a major focus for the past few years. All groups concentrated on Feedback, which research shows is essential in student learning. Feedback can take on multiple forms and part of our learning this year will be around providing the best type of feedback to improve student outcomes.

I can remember at school receiving feedback as either a mark or a comment like ‘Good Job!’ or ‘More effort needed’. What this feedback didn't tell me was what I did well or where I needed more effort. Marks also just reaffirmed to me what I could or couldn't do; it gave me no idea about what I needed to do to improve. There is also feedback teachers receive from students as to whether our instruction has been sufficient enough. This year, as a school we will be concentrating on giving (and receiving) effective feedback to enhance student learning. This is a follow on from work conducted by staff in previous years with examples such as the writing checklist and teacher discussions around goal setting.

As we gear up for our Grade 6 leadership camp to Marlo next week, another exciting offer came into the school email this week. Somers Camp, located at Western Port Bay, is a Department run camp for students in Grade 5/6 and will run this year from 28/4 until 6/5. Cost for the camp is $210. The camp is offered every two years to students in this area. We have been asked to give expressions of interest to the camp co-ordinator by the 3rd of March. If you would like your child to be considered for the camp, please fill out the form in the newsletter. You can visit the camp website [http://www.somersschoolcamp.org](http://www.somersschoolcamp.org) for an idea of some activities at the camp. Previous students who attended said it was one of the best camps they've ever been on!

Could parents please be very mindful of the traffic in and around the school at our busy drop off and pick up times? The area in front of the gate in the car park is for drop off and immediate pick up only. There has been some congestion there with parents needing to come and find children at the end of the day. Please also be mindful of the speed in which you travel through the car park and around the school.

Finally, you may have read or heard in the press that the Victorian Auditor-General has released a report on school costs for parents. In response to the report's findings, the Minister for Education has asked the Department of Education and Training to review its parent...
payment policy. As a result of any changes to the Department’s policy, we will work with our School Council to update our own policy. We don’t expect any changes until later in 2015 and we will let you know well in advance. The Department’s parent payment policy is what we use to guide us in deciding what we will ask you to pay each year. We review our own parent payment policy in conjunction with our School Council, on a yearly basis. Our aim is to ensure our policy meets parents’ expectations, while also ensuring that all of our students are able to participate in the programs we offer. As always, if you have any queries, or would like to discuss how the school can support you in financial matters, please contact me at school.

Good luck to our swimmers on Monday!!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
All forms have been sent home. Those families wishing to participate please send the form back to school by next Wednesday. Non return of forms will deem those families not wishing their child to participate.

LOST PROPERTY
It’s hard to believe we have 18 items ranging from windcheaters, long pants and jackets in lost property already. I urge parents to take a quick look at the end of the day to see if your child has a misplaced an item on the rack. Lost property is located outside the main entrance to the school.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
All envelopes have now been sent home with the students for our big day on Tuesday, 3rd March. Photos will commence from 9.00 am onwards and students will need to be in FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM. **Please note: all envelopes and monies must be returned to school by Thursday, 26th February, 2015 otherwise you will need to make arrangements to take the envelope to the photographer in Traralgon yourself.**

NEWS FROM PARENTS’ & FRIENDS’ CLUB - Bronwyn Woodward (President)
**Calendar of Events**
- **Monday, 16th February** - Cadbury Chocolates interest forms are due back
- **Friday, 27th February** - Chocolates ready for collection after school
- **Monday, 2nd March** - Parents’ & Friends’ AGM
- **March** - Hot Cross Buns – information out soon

**Cadbury Chocolates**
Notes have gone home asking who can sell chocolates and what sort. If you don’t feel you can sell a box or don’t want to eat a box but would like to help, there is a section for the option of donating the $20 profit that we receive from the box. We will also have boxes at school you can buy some from without having to worry about the whole box. A copy of the form is also attached if you didn’t receive one.

**Fundraising**
The funds we raise are very important as this assists the school with other items that our school budget just does not cover.

We also have other various fundraising events during the year; you will be notified about these through the newsletter. Some of which are Cadbury Chocolates, Pie Drive and Fruit Tree Drive.

Throughout the year we receive support from Ritchies IGA-Churchill through their Community Benefits and Bakers Delight Midvalley, through their Dough Raiser Cards. These two businesses give back to the school a % of sales; it is an easier way to raise funds if you already shop there. If you do not have either of these cards or have lost them, please ask Brenda at the office.

Student banking through your children’s Dollarmite Accounts is another easy way to raise funds for the school. CBA give a commission back to the school on banking done through the school.
Don't forget to check out the school website [www.haznthps.com.au](http://www.haznthps.com.au) for important dates on the school calendar.

**Next Meeting**
The next meeting will be the on Monday, 2nd March commencing at **9.30 am** at school. Please note the change of day. This will be the AGM followed by a general meeting. Everyone is most welcome to attend including younger siblings. These meetings normally run for about 2 hours. Our main role is to organise fundraising for the school. We also assist the teachers wherever they need a little extra hand, be it in class or around the grounds.

The Committee cannot operate without the support of people so it goes to say “more hands make light work”.

You may not be able to come to meetings but you may be able to help out on other days with sorting pies, second-hand uniforms or cleaning the kitchen area. Please keep an eye out for **HELP WANTED** notes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on **0412 855 933** or bronwyn@wideband.net.au if you have any questions on any of the above or leave a message with Brenda at the office.

Come and have a chat and a cuppa.

**Chinese New Year**

Look at some of the Art Work produced by Hazelwood North PS students in Ms. Rule’s class.

You can check it out in the foyer and outside the staffroom.
Expression of Interest

Somers Camp

http://www.somersschoolcamp.org

Grades 5 & 6

Tuesday, 28th April to Wednesday, 6th May, 2015.

Cost: $210.00

Family Name: ..........................................................................................................................................

Student’s Name: .....................................................................................................................................

Grade: ......................................................................................................................................................

Please return to school by Tuesday, 3rd March for processing.