IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 10th March
Labour Day

Wednesday 12th March
APC Families’ Meeting - 7.30pm
APC Art Show Meeting - 7.00pm

Thursday 20th March
APC Parents Social Night - Stavros Tavern 7.00pm

Tuesday 25th March
Parent/Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 27th March
Grants and Partnerships Team Meeting - 8am

Friday 28th March
APC Families’ Coffee

School Tours - Wednesday 9.30pm
Bookings are required
March 19th
March 26th
April 2nd
April 23rd

PRINCIPAL’S SAY
FOR THE LOVE OF READING

When I was in Primary school I would walk three kilometres to the mobile library. The converted bus arrived once a week in our country town and I loved walking up the rickety steps into a wall of books.

I would sit amongst them and immerse myself in the world of Biggles, Treasure Island, Robinson Crusoe and the Hornblower series. It was the beginning of a life-long love of reading and it is the way books transport you into another world that I still love today.

Fortunately, at Albert Park College, we do not have to travel to get access to great books. We have surrounded ourselves with books and sitting in pride of place at the center of our College are two floors of books. Our stunning library is symbolic of our love of the liberal arts.

We know of the power of books to transform learning. A reading habit- learnt early- does more for your education and for your life-long learning than any other form of preparation for school. Fluent readers make successful students!

Research tells us that the top ten percent of students read more than twenty-five books a year.

At APC we are passionate about developing a love of reading. Every fortnight all English classes are booked into the library. Library lessons promote new book arrivals, specific genres and authors. Book competitions are run with awards for most books read. Each students reading level is established and we carefully monitor improving reading levels.

CONTINUED >>
As the year unfolds visiting authors will discuss their books and they will further excite kids about new publications that they can read.

The library staff have also developed an on-line interactive space in which they promote a love of reading. Our partnership with the City of Port Phillip Libraries enables each one of our students to access their extensive e-book collection.

At APC we value a partnership of learning so how can we, as parents, make our kids love reading. If you love books they probably will too. Reading aloud to our children at any age remains one of the clearest markers of school success. Join up to the local library, give a book at birthdays and special events and fill their lives with books. Expose them to books of quality and across a range of genres.

So why is reading so important? First and foremost reading is fun. Stories are a way of making sense of life. We want to develop our students as global citizens and reading stimulates their interest in the broad sweep of human experience. As Susan Sontag said ultimately books are “a way of being fully human.”

Steve Cook
Foundation Principal

If you are as passionate about reading as we are and want to assist us in creating the next generation of readers then you may want to contribute to our Library fund. It is fully tax deductible and all funds will be used to promote an appreciation of the liberal arts.

Please find the donation form attached to page 10 of this newsletter or contact the School Office to make a donation.

**APC READING COMPETITION**

In 2014 Albert Park College is promoting recreational student reading through the Lexile Reading Framework. This program enables students to identify which books are within their reading level and also of interest to them.

To encourage students to expand their reading the Albert Park College Library is running a year 7 to 9 reading competition. For each year level there will be three students who receive a prize, prizes will be awarded to students who improve both the number of books they read and their personal reading level.

Prizes Include: $20 iTunes voucher | $15 canteen voucher | $10 canteen voucher

Lead Create Inspire
APC STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

In the sporting arena, Year 10 student Brandon Eagle has also been working hard. On January 11th this year, Brandon headed to Adelaide to represent Victoria in the Australian Beach Volleyball Junior Championships.

Arriving in Adelaide the weather was to be expected to be over 40° every day so players were informed that games would start at 6am, stop for the hottest parts of the day and then continue when it had cooled down. Out of 20 teams Brandon and his partner placed eleventh, which is a great achievement at such a competitive level, particularly as Brandon is the youngest in his age group. If anyone would like to take up this great sport Brandon is more than happy to assist.

Whilst many students have been enjoying a relaxing break over the summer, two APC students have been keeping very busy! Emerging film director and Year 7 student Cat Warren's latest film “Roar!” has been accepted into California's San Luis Obispo Film Festival, the first of the US film festivals to include the film in its official program. Roar! is the story of a young girl who, when dismissed by her older siblings as too young and too small to matter, sets out to prove neither age nor size is any barrier to succeeding where others fail.

Roar! is Cat's fourth film as a director and was screened in Sydney last December as a finalist in the prestigious Tropfest (Junior) Australia competition. Cat has enjoyed previous film success in North America, winning five US film awards and a Canadian film award for “Abracadabra,” her directorial debut.

Watch the trailer for the film here: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8QSZQgkEOM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8QSZQgkEOM)

SPORT

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MONDAY NIGHT CRICKET AT APC

Attention all Cricketers!

Feel free to meet myself and a number of other cricketers on the outdoor basketball court on Monday afternoons at 3.20pm and we will have our own T20 Competition on Lagoon Reserve. This is open to all year levels. If you have any questions, contact Mr Wallace Smith.

Thanks & see you there!

Starts on Monday the 10th of February 2014!
If you are looking for a great sport alternative for your kids, why not consider trying hockey with Powerhouse St Kilda Hockey Club?

Engaging with the local community for over 50 years, PHSK offers the highest quality, accredited coaching and friendship opportunities for junior players of all skill levels and experience. From our Hookin2Hockey program for U10s up to competition for U16 players, PHSK offers coaching and Hockey Victoria-sanctioned competition which develops skills for this global, Olympic sport. Pre-season training is about to begin for the 2014 season and the Club is looking to embrace new players in all age groups.

A series of pre-season training sessions based on having fun and improving hockey skills are being held at the PHSK home ground on Sundays in February (9, 16 and 23 Feb). This is a great, free opportunity for you and your family to come along, have a go and see if your kids are interested in playing hockey. We would love to see you and welcome you into the PHSK family.

INTERESTED IN HOCKEY?
Come Play Hockey with Powerhouse St Kilda Hockey Club

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POWERHOUSE JUNIORS PRESEASON TRAINING

Dates: Sunday, February 9, 16 and 23
U14 (2000 & 2001) and U16s (1998 & 1999) - 9:45 am to 11:00 am
Venue: Albert Park Hockey & Tennis Centre, Hockey Drive, St Kilda (In Albert Park precinct)

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact PHSK Juniors President.
Nini Fornasiero via:
crandall9000@hotmail.com or 0434438827
2013 APC FAMILIES’ HIKE REPORT

For the past two years, a group of APC parents and teachers have run two wonderful and very successful ‘Parent & Student’ hikes. Both of these hikes have been to the Lerderderg Valley, which is not only a beautiful area located only 40 minutes from Melbourne, but it is also not very well known, which leaves all the campsites and the swimming places for us! The trail can be a little steep and rocky in places; however, it is a perfect hike for beginners who are keen to learn more about the great outdoors.

The idea behind these hikes is that one parent and one child per family can join other families and go bush-walking together in the wilderness. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time in a challenging and educational environment, whilst enjoying the great outdoors. There is also a maximum of four hours hiking each day.

In addition to the hiking and camping, we also eat delicious food, pan for gold, swim in the river, explore old ruins from the Gold Rush era and hear some ghost stories from the region. We also have campfires, which everyone enjoys and occasionally, we even cook marshmallows!

This year we have two hikes in first term here at APC in 2014. We have the Year 7 & 8 three-day hike on Saturday 15, Sunday 16 & Monday 17 of March in the Lerderderg State Park and then we have the Year 9 & 10 three-day hike in the High Country on Saturday 22, Sunday 23 & Monday 24 of March, which is around Mt Stirling and also visits ‘Craig’s Hut, the Hut in the famous ‘Man from Snowy River’ movie.

The Year 7 & 8 Hike to Lerderderg Valley has been booked out; however, (at the time of writing), there are still a few spaces left on the Year 9 & 10 High Country Hike.

For more information contact Dominic Grounds (a parent) domgrounds@yahoo.com.au or on 0413 709 117 or James Wallace Smith (a teacher) at the school.

Thinking of becoming a Foster Carer?

Berry Street is looking for families like yours who can provide emergency, respite, short and long term care for vulnerable children. If you have room in your heart and home for a child then we want to speak to you.

Call today to discuss about becoming a foster carer on 1800 U FOSTER (1800 836 7831) or visit www.berrystreet.org.au
APC FAMILIES’ HIKE
CRAIGS HUT AND KING RIVER

This year’s hike is an accessible three-day walk to Craigs Hut and King River, near Mount Stirling and Mansfield. The experience is designed to show families how easy, inexpensive and fun it is to go bushwalking together and so children can learn about the beauty and wonder of Victoria’s wilderness. This year the hike will be to Craigs Hut, a beautiful cattleman’s style hut on Mount Stirling, 51 km past Mansfield.

The hike will be from Saturday the 22nd to Monday the 24th of March, 2014. Leaving Melbourne early Saturday morning, returning late on Monday.

We will provide guidance on clothing, food, gear and safety closer to the event.

• The hike is for APC students (year 9 or 10) only, with each APC student being accompanied by their parent or carer. (i.e. one child with one adult.)
• Travel will be by private car to Mount Stirling, 250km north east of Melbourne (we will help connect people with cars to those without).
• The two evening meals will be catered for and cooked as a group, with each hiker bringing their own breakfast, lunch and nibbles. Each camper will bring their own camping gear (i.e. pack, sleeping bag, tent).

We meet on Saturday morning for breakfast in Yea at 8.00 am (1.5 hours driving). On the first day we will walk with our gear for about 8km over Mount Stirling above the tree line and along the clear hills track through classic Victorian alpine wilderness, to Craigs hut to camp for two nights (3.5 hrs walking). Craigs hut offers astonishing views across the High country ranges, including Mt cobbler and beyound. On Sunday we’ll have have a day trip down to king river for a swim and lunch (4hrs return). On Monday we’ll return to our cars.

Estimated Cost: The hike fee will be around $95 per person (subject to numbers). Please allow for transport costs, your own breakfast and lunch and all your gear above that amount.

Queries: For more information contact Babs Fairchild (a parent) babsfairchild@gmail.com 0425 266 483, or James Wallace-Smith (a teacher) at the school.

Registration of Interest: To register your interest, please complete the form and hand it into the school office no later than 12.00 pm on Tuesday, 25 February. If the interest exceeds the number of places, short-listing will have regard to transport logistics, the diversity of the group and students ability to cope with missing classes on the Monday of the hike.
SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Victorian state schools are largely self-governing, via their School Councils. We set most of the school's rules, its curriculum focus, its achievement targets, and its budget. We enter into its contracts with suppliers and partners, we employ its casual staff, and we will appoint the next Principal. We aim to get the most out of our funding, and we plan for our school's future.

This year our focus has been to work with the Principal team (Steve Cook, Anne Stout, John Pobjoy) and staff to achieve the following:

- Helping government understand our looming problem of excess demand, and proposing a solution to the problem. We hope to expand into the government's vacant Circus Oz building on Bay Street as an Environmental Arts Community Education Hub and Year 9 campus (see our proposal outline attached to this newsletter).

- Monitoring our performance against targets in our Annual Implementation Plan (the longer term School Strategic Plan is up for renewal this year).

- Working side by side with APC Families to help maintain meaningful partnerships with our students' families, and to balance the load of events on parents, staff and students.

- Helping establish new mutually beneficial partnerships, to enrich our students' education and access to resources.

- Supporting the school leadership team in growing the school with 25 new staff while keeping the positive culture they have created so successfully.

Our Council consists of six elected parents/carers, four teachers, and up to two other invitees. Half the parent/carer quota is up for election each March. Council is supportive, collegiate, actively engaged between monthly meetings, and focussed on making ours the best school in Victoria.

SCHOOL INSURANCE AND LIABILITY INFORMATION

Parents are reminded that the department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Parents and students are also reminded that any private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage.
APC ENVIRONMENTAL ARTS HUB PROPOSAL

The Environmental Arts Hub at Albert Park College is a creative solution to the growing community interest in Albert Park College, if endorsed by the DEECD, it will enable the school to enrol up to 200 students per year level.

The Hub will form the heart of the schools creative program. The site will engage students, provide an open door into the community and be a groundbreaking facility where artistic and environmental pursuits will be studied, presented and acknowledged. The hub will firmly embed APC’s innovative 21st century learning into the local character and be a cornerstone through which the entire community will engage and further build on.

The Albert Park College School Council fully supports this proposal, as a direct benefit to both the school and the Albert Park community.

FLOOR PLAN LEVEL ONE

Lead Create Inspire
The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to parents of eligible students under 16 years of age.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two installments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationary. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- $300 for year 7 students.
- $250 for students in year 8- until age 16.

EMA application forms must be lodged at the College by Friday 28th February 2014 to receive the first installment. A copy of your health card is required to be attached. EMA forms are available at Reception.
LIBRARY DONATION PROGRAM

Your name

Your address

Contact details, Phone Mobile

Email

The name you would like to appear in the front of the book/s you fund

Number of books you would like to fund at $20 each. Total donation =

1. Cheque - made payable to Albert Park College

2. Credit card - Visa Mastercard

   Card number (16 digits) Expiry

   Name on the card

   CCV number (last 3 digits on back of card)

3. Cash donations - we would urge you to visit the school if you wish to make a cash donation.

Students and teachers alike would greatly appreciate any generosity you could offer to help build the foundations of knowledge at Albert Park College.

With sincerest thanks for your interest and any assistance.

Steve Cook
Foundation Principal, Albert Park College
SAILING

SAILING TEAM

Victorian Teams Sailing Regatta
28 & 29 March 2014
St Kilda Harbour
Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron

Basic Requirements

3 Boats - supplied by Yachting Victoria
8 Team Sailors
- A minimum of 4 experienced sailors
- A minimum of 4 keen crew (experience optional)

4 Free Pre-Event Coaching sessions
- Coaching & Boats
- Coaching Dates March TBA

Event Regatta 28 & 29 March 2014
Coaching & Regatta Entry: $100 p/p

APC Sailing Team Manager: Mark Ashkanasy
RMYS Sponsor: Rod Austin
Coach: Yachting Victoria Certified
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY 2014

Empowering Women

THROUGH EDUCATION
MIDDLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.middleparkps.vic.edu.au

2014 CARNIVALE

SATURDAY 1st MARCH
11am - 6pm

Food from around the community
Street & School stalls
Entertainment by:
The Jonny Fab Trio
Dancers, music and much more........

UNLIMITED RIDE WRISTBANDS
$35 or $5 per ride

CAYZER
TACO BILL
Sweet Club
RYAN COMMERCIAL LAWYERS
auroratrade
Albert Park Primary Fete

Sat 29 March 2014

9am – 4pm
Bridport Street, Albert Park

fabulous rides, live entertainment, craft, books, vintage clothing, trash & treasure, toys, silent auction, cake stall, food & more

working towards a zero waste fete
Would $500 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and textbooks
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Henry Frenkel, your local Saver Plus Worker

Tel: 03 8517 5670 or 0488 069 627

Email: saverplus@bsl.org.au