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# NEWSLETTER

## NOTICES SENT OUT SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Watch this space for notices sent out each week.

If you have not received any of the following notices, please ask your child's teacher, or contact the school office.

19 February	Boomtec Disco	Level 4 students
	Head Lice notifications	various grades
24 February	Teacher absence	Grade 3N families
27 February	Buddy Picnic	Level 1 & 4 families

**We have had reports of Head Lice infestations. Please be vigilant in checking and treating your children's hair. Please report outbreaks to the office.**

### Diary Dates

#### **March**

Friday 6	I/S Sport v Ringwood North
Monday 9	Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 10	School Council
Friday 13	I/S Sport v Kalinda

### From the Principal



*(Level 2 Maths in 2008)*

### Mini Bee March 11

Next Wednesday from 2:30 until 4:30 we will be holding a mini working bee in the hall to clear out the last of our remaining unwanted items to make the space even more effective as a games and dance area for classes. Any parents who are able to come a little earlier or leave a little later are urged to drop in and help out for an hour or so. (Car parking spaces are virtually guaranteed for those who come earlier than 3:25.)

### Parent Cuppa

It was great to catch up with Heidi Victoria, the local MLA, after last Monday morning's assembly where she presented students with awards. Several parents joined Heidi and me for a cuppa in the staffroom afterwards and while bushfires dominated the conversation we touched on several topics.

### New Building Projects:

We have received more information on the \$3.2 Million that we are eligible for through DEECD and the Federal Government. The Facilities Committee has already looked at some options. Parents are welcome to sit in on our Monday morning cuppa after assembly next week to discuss their ideas.

School Council will be discussing use of the funds at its meeting next Tuesday night.

### School Council Vacancies

Thank you to all those parents who have considered standing for the three casual vacancies that we currently have on School Council. I have had conversations with at least eight parents from different families and am happy to announce that Heather Monteau, Shawn Kewley and Ian Roberts have each put their names forward for co-option to these vacancies.

### Disabled Parking

Parents and grandparents and family friends collecting children are reminded that the disabled parking spaces in the staff car park and parent car park off Great Ryrie Street, are for cars displaying a current Disable Parking tag only.

We have a few parents as well as staff who need this facility and display the appropriate tag, however it has been noted that some people have used these spaces without a tag. This causes a great deal of difficulty to those who have a legitimate need for disabled parking.

### Parking in the staff car park

Parents are reminded that the staff car park is not the place to pick up or drop off children. This practice is dangerous, particularly at the start or the end of the day.

Parents are encouraged to park further away from the school if they must drive and to enjoy a healthy short walk with their children rather than face parking fines.

### Working Bee Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>

The Facilities Committee of School Council is organizing a working bee on Saturday March 21. Please keep this date free as we have several fantastic gardening projects that we would like to develop on this morning.

### Greening Great Ryrie:

We are still looking at setting up a committee to develop and enhance our planting across the school. If you are able to help, please contact the office to leave your name and contact details.

### A School Fete In 2009?

Your thoughts on a school fete in 2009 are most welcome (before school council meets next Tuesday to make the final decision).

Have a great weekend,  
Doug Elliott  
Principal



### Level Reports by Our School Captains: (David, Abbey, Zoe and Ellena)

**David:** In Level 4 last week, we have been focusing on the LEM sound "er". We have also been focusing on aboriginal culture and what their lifestyle was like. Some of the level 3 and 4 students went to the inter-school swimming last Monday and we all had fun. We also had fun playing our inter-school sports against Warranwood and we all played well.

**Ellena:** In Level 3 last week the students have learnt all about place value in maths. They have also learnt about water and have been doing lots of story writing. Also they have set their goals for 2009!

**Zoe:** In Level 2 last week the children have been continuing anti-clockwise letters. In literacy, they have been learning the vowels sounds. They have also enjoyed designing families, giving them their ages and putting them in order. Finally, they have nearly finished their "me" investigations, and are looking forward to sharing them.

**Abbey:** In Level 1 the preps have had a great week. They have enjoyed box construction and have been focusing on the numbers 3 and 4. They made pancakes on Tuesday, which they all thought was really yummy. They have also listened to the stories of Rainbow Fish and the Ugly Duckling. Keep up the great work preps!

### FREE Level 4 LOTE Incursion

Thanks to Ibu Breen's hard work we have been lucky enough to get a grant from the Department of Education to fund an Indonesian Incursion for our Level 4 students. On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March (which is the beginning of Multicultural Education Week) the level 4 students will be participating in a workshop and fashion parade of traditional Indonesian clothing. This incursion would normally cost \$5.00 per student but thanks to the grant it will be free of charge.  
Ibu Henry.

## Community Notices

*Is there some good news in your family that you would like to share with the rest of GRPS? A new addition to the family, a win in a Grand Final, a great sports game .... Let Yvonne at the office have the details by Wednesday morning and we'll let everyone know!!*

### CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

5 March 2009

1J	-	Rory Mannion
1S	-	Samuel Kirchner
2E	-	Skylar Browne
2F	-	Charlize James-Hayden
2H	-	Jamieson Howard
2J	-	Julian Feng
2K	-	Molly McDonald
2M	-	Stephanie Henry
2R	-	Alysha Burns
2T	-	Georgia Scotto
3E	-	Renee Jenkins
3H	-	Keenan Carruthers
3N	-	Glenda Smith
3S	-	Matthew Egan
4B	-	Shayla Sullivan
4F	-	Ella Birt
4J	-	Chaniece Silvester
4M	-	Arthur Foo
4W	-	Stephan Dang
LOTE	-	Emily Adams (2T)
L4 LOTE	-	Jacob Hayles (4F)

#### Reminder

To contact  
OSHC (Out  
of School  
Hours  
Care)  
please  
telephone  
them direct  
on:

**0418  
571 136**

☺ Congratulations to the Kerwin family on the safe arrival of Benjamin. Brother of **Bethany (3N)** and **Sam (1D)**. Everyone is excited!



Over the last few weeks the Level 3 Gardening Committee has developed some of our garden beds to enhance the beauty of our school. We made sure we chose water saving plants, including succulents and native Australian plants. We would appreciate if the school community could treat our garden with respect.

Thankyou,  
Level 3 Gardening Committee

### **GO RED! GO RED! GO RED!**

Thank you and congratulations to all kids in Red Houses for topping the House Points for the week! Keep doing your best and earning points for Red House. Well done to all the other Houses for their effort over the week.

**GO RED!!!!**

From Hayley Morrow and Lachlan Kewley

## Maroondah Photo Competition 2009

Would you like to own a new digital camera, go on a shopping spree at Eastland or have a free trip to the movies?

You could win one of these prizes in the Maroondah Photo Competition.

The competition is open to all ages (parents too) and closes 30 June 2009.

**Entry forms are available from the front office.**

### **LIBRARY BOOK CLUB**

BOOK CLUB ISSUE 2 MARCH has been distributed to the classes, orders and payment due no later than FRIDAY THE 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, the orders will be placed online on that day, after the orders are placed delivery should be within seven working days.

Last year as a result of the sales from Book Club and the Book Fairs Scholastic donated approximately \$8,000 in educational resources, so thank-you once again for your support. Happy reading,

Mardi Pechar

## Chaplaincy AGM Tuesday March 17th **come!**

This is an open invitation for any interested families to attend our Chaplaincy Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm in the library.

This is an excellent opportunity to hear about this program in the school, from the point of view of staff, families and, of course, the Chaplain, Alan Silverwood.

There will be opportunity to ask questions or comment on the program.

You can come and see some of the books, gadgets, cards and games that are used in working with the children, and there will be supper.

So, put this in your diary. We'd love to see you there.

### **ICT COMMITTEE**

Calling all parents who have computer expertise and are interested in the ICT program at Great Ryrie. We would love you to be part of the ICT sub-committee of School Council. Our meetings are usually held once a month, after school or during an evening.

If you are interested in knowing more or coming along to our next meeting, please contact Alison Holdsworth (room 4) or telephone the school office.

### **PFA NEWS**

#### **Chocolate Drive**

A big thank you to everyone who turned up to help pack the chocolate boxes. It was a fantastic effort!

Chocolates are \$1.20 each (\$57.60 per box) this year and the money is due back on 25 March.

If you are able to sell more than one box of chocolates, please let Janine know and she'll arrange for another to be given to your child.



#### **Easter Raffle**

We will be holding our annual Easter raffle soon with a huge basket of Easter chocolate as first prize, with second and third prizes too.

#### **Hot Cross Bun orders**

Thanks to Bakers Delight in Heathmont, we will again be offering Hot Cross Bun orders. Full details will be sent home in the next couple of weeks.

With thanks  
Karen Beecher.

### **Have you got any good quality second-hand children's books not needed anymore?**

Help Borders Bookstores raise \$200,000 for the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

Borders will match the retail price of all donated books up to \$200,000, which will go directly to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal, to help restock schools and libraries in fire affected communities.

Bring to school any good quality second-hand books, and place them in the labelled box in the School Library.

These will be passed on to Borders Bookstores, as a contribution from Great Ryrie School families.

Any further information, please contact Linda Sanchez on 0408 994 481

### **UNIFORM SHOP**

During the year the Uniform Shop is open:-

MONDAY 8.30am-10am

FRIDAY 3.20pm-4pm

If you need to purchase items of uniform and cannot make it during these hours please fill in the order form, obtainable from the office, and pay by either cash, cheque (made payable to Great Ryrie Primary School) or credit card/EFTPOS at the office. I will fill the order and send it home with your child as soon as possible, depending on availability of stock.

### **SECOND-HAND UNIFORMS**

If you have clothes that your children have grown out of and are in good condition they would be most welcome at second-hand uniforms.

All second-hand uniforms are FREE so please look through the boxes located outside the Uniform Shop during opening hours.

Thank-you,

Mardi Pechar

**The Chaplain's Corner March 5th**  
**"Forgiveness – what is it? ...**  
**how can we do it?"**

With all that's happened recently regarding the bushfires, one of the issues that has been raised is guilt and forgiveness. Some have felt guilty because they survived and others didn't. Some have felt guilty because their actions unfortunately caused others to die. Many are angry at the actions of those who caused fires. How do we cope with these situations?

What is forgiveness? Here are some things that it is **NOT**.

It is **not** forgetting, excusing what happened, tolerating an offence, or saying it doesn't matter. It is **not** denying our needs or our anger.

It **is** a part of healing, an act of courage, part of reconstructing meaning, and an act of empowerment. It **is** a journey rather than an event, making right things that can be fixed; letting go of things that cannot be fixed. It **is** an act of will, and a mystery.

These points come from a list compiled by Howard Zehr, the "father of restorative justice", and quoted in the March edition of "Witness".

There are many times in life when it is hard to forgive; when children are hurt, when someone you trusted betrays you, when the other person is not sorry, when our lives are hurt physically or emotionally. Whatever the reason, it can be a tough process.

"When you hold resentment toward another, you are bound to that person or condition by an emotional link that is stronger than steel. Forgiveness is the only way to dissolve that link and get free." [Catherine Ponder]

The best benefit of forgiveness comes for ourselves. We don't forgive so much to effect the offender, as to free ourselves from the hold that they have over our life. It is one of the hardest lessons in life, but it is a very important one, if we are to move on from tragedy.

**Alan Silverwood** – Chaplain

[The Chaplaincy program is funded through the Federal Government & Community support.

This is a voluntary program in our school community.]

### **SOUTHWOOD NETBALL**

Players interested in playing in 9 & under age group DOB 2000, 2001 and players in the 13 & under age group DOB 1996. Contact Lynda on 9738 0226 or Cindy on 98794420.

## **INDONESIAN NEWS**

On Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> the Immigration Museum at 400 Flinders Street will be hosting **INDONESIAN FESTA** from 11am-4pm.

Some exciting events will be angklung (Indonesian instrument) workshop, dancing, gamelan (Indonesian orchestra), pencak silat (Martial Arts) and food. All of these cultural activities, I mention in class and admission is free for children, \$8 for adults. Sanggar Lestari will be present. They are the Indonesian Dance group who will be visiting our school on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March for a L4 incursion. I'm sure your children will love the opportunity to see Indonesian people and experience their culture at this festival.

Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> is also the **FOSTER PARENTS INDONESIAN CULTURAL DAY** at Drouin. Guests are welcome. I will be attending this function.

For more information see the advertisement on the new Indonesian/Multicultural display board in the corridor or see me in the withdrawal room between rooms 13 and 14.

Ibu Chris Breen.

## **SCHOOL BANKING – PIGGY ACCOUNTS**

By now all students would have received a Ringwood East Community Bank School Banking pack. Great Ryrie Primary School offers your children the easy availability of school banking through Ringwood East Community Bendigo Bank.

In order to take up this opportunity, all new applicants are required to complete the forms from your pack and bring along both parents and children's identification to one of the account opening sessions listed below:

### **Session 1:**

**Date: Monday 16th March 2009**

**Where: In front of School Library Near main office**

**Time: 8.30-10.00**

### **Session 2:**

**Date: Friday 20th March 2009**

**Where: In front of School Library Near main office**

**Time: 2.30-3.30**

Don't forget to send your school banking every Wednesday during school term.

***And watch your money grow!!***

**Ringwood East  
Community Bank® Branch**

62 Railway Avenue, Ringwood East  
Phone 9870 3655

 **Bendigo Bank**

**RINGWOOD JETS FOOTY CLUB invite boys & girls from Grades 2-6 to register to play in our SATURDAY MORNING COMPETITION.**

Registration Day: Thursday February 26, 3.30 – 4.30pm, & Friday, February 27, 3.30 – 4.30pm.

In the "Our Lady's Primary School" quadrangle, Wilana St., Ringwood.

For more information contact:

Tony Hayes: President (9893 1308);

Ray Mitchell: Coach U/10 (0404 056 073)

Chris Taggart: Coach U/12 (0402 099 032)

**GO JETS!!!**



## Maroondah Magic Basketball Club Inc.

**Free Training Sessions**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Time:** 5pm till 5.45 for under 9  
5.45 till 6.15pm for under 12.

**Where:** Maroondah Secondary College Stadium,  
Maroondah Hwy Croydon.

**Come and check us out and have a go before the start of the winter season.**

Basketball keeps children fit, enables them to learn valuable skills, make new friends and have fun. Maroondah Magic Basketball Club is a well respected club in the outer east with over 450 members. Maroondah Magic prides itself on being a welcoming and friendly club for the whole family. Basketball is played indoors, game times are less than 1 hour, and fees are inexpensive.

We offer separate teams for boys and girls of all abilities.

No previous basketball skills necessary, just a willingness to "give it a go".

Learn basic basketball skills from our experienced coaches. For more information please contact the club direct on 9725 4740, or visit our website at <http://www.magic.org.au> or email us at [mmbc@magic.org.au](mailto:mmbc@magic.org.au) or alternatively just turn up on the dates 'above'.

**Remember to bring your basketball!!**



### PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

*The Department of Education, Employment and Training and Great Ryrie Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.*

*No responsibility is accepted by DEET and Great Ryrie Primary School for accuracy of information in advertisements or claims made by them.*

### COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

*We would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors.  
(For more details please see our website!)*

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**Century 21 UNLIMITED** Real Estate Agents, Ringwood East, offer a \$250 referral fee to members of the school community (*with a further \$250 going to Great Ryrie Primary School*).

Contact Jenny for more information on:  
**0433 770 676**

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**AMAZING TRANSFORMATIONS COSTUME HIRE** kindly donate all the wonderful costumes we use for school functions.  
**33 High Street Glen Iris, 9885 4714**

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**BAKERS' DELIGHT, HEATHMONT** donate all the bread requirements for school.  
**144 Canterbury Road. Phone: 9738 0322**

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**BEAUTY ON RYRIE** donate many beauty products and vouchers for all school fundraisers and events.  
**41B Great Ryrie St Ringwood, 9870 6766**

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The Roberts family offer a **DRY CLEANING SERVICE** to the GRPS community, with a percentage going to school fundraising.  
**Please call at the office for details.**

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**ENJO - CLEAN THE WORLD**  
Lucinda Murphy donates goods and commissions to GRPS through ENJO with 10% of all sales going towards the school!  
**Call Lucinda on 0412 621 214**

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**BENDIGO COMMUNITY BANK (East Ringwood Branch)** sponsor our school and along with Student Banking offer a donation of \$150 for all home loans and a donation of \$50 for all personal loans and car leasing arrangements referred through the school.

**All Smiles of the Yarra Valley** are major sponsors of our fundraising events.  
21 - 23 Delaneys Rd, Warranwood, The Yarra Valley, Victoria 3134. Phone: 9876 4044  
[www.allsmiles.com.au](http://www.allsmiles.com.au)

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**Hot Chilli Thai Restaurant** Proudly sponsor our food fairs and support other school functions!  
17 Maroondah Hwy  
Croydon 3136 VIC  
Phone: (03) 9870 1862

### CAV Fund Raising Mini Food Fair

320 Wantirna Road, Wantirna  
Sunday 15 March 11.00am to 2.00pm  
All proceeds to Victorian Bushfire Appeal  
2009  
Enquiries to Vincent Chow  
on 0413 734 088