FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Over the next 10 weeks students will be busily preparing for the school production. This year the students will be performing ‘Kids At Sea’. Many of the Grade 5/6 students will take on leading roles and students in Grades Prep to 4 will have singing and dancing roles. It is an exciting time but also a very time consuming event for students and staff. An initial request is for any parents, grandparents or family members who are handy with a sewing machine to lend a hand with the sewing of various costumes. If you would like to assist please let Jason or your child’s classroom teacher know. Vern Wall has been employed as Director of the production and will work with the children on a weekly basis and liaise with staff and community members in preparation for big event.

IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY

Student Absence Data 02/02/12 to 10/08/12

As we come to the end of term 2 (112 school days) I would like to share our attendance data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Late Arrivals</th>
<th>No. of days absent from school</th>
<th>Current school absence rate</th>
<th>School absence rate 2011</th>
<th>School absence rate target for 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>599.5</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>607.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>1207</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our current school absent rate (average per student) is 6.8. At the end of term 2 our school absent rate (average per student) was 4.6 with the number of days children were absent at 834. You will notice the number of days absent from school has risen to 1207 and the average number of days absent has increased significantly. Winter can be a terrible time for families with colds and flu’s setting in and it is understandable that the absent rate might increase at this time of year. That said it is critical that as long as your child is fit and healthy they are at school giving themselves every opportunity to grow academically, physically, socially and emotionally. If you are having problems getting your child to school or are finding it hard to arrive on time please speak to myself or Kerryn to see how we might be able to support you.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Student Attendance: 02/02/12 to 10/08/12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Students</th>
<th>95% Attendance</th>
<th>100% Attendance</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>178</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>of total school population</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since the beginning of the year 98 students have attended school 95 % or more of the time, which equates to no more than 5.5 days absent for the year. Of those 17 students have not missed a day, which is excellent.

**PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE**
The Premiers Reading Challenge will conclude on 10th September 2012. Many children will be very close to completing the Challenge and I ask parents to encourage their children child to borrow ‘Challenge Books’ from the school library in order to finish the challenge. Children will need to take their signed PRC booklets to Mrs. Holt who will then update their status on the Premiers” Reading Challenge website.

**NETBOOKS FINAL PAYMENTS**
Final reminder letters have been sent home for Netbook lease payments. Please pay as soon as possible to the office.

*Jason Lee*
Principal
SCHOOL WALK-A-THON

Our walk-a-thon is on Friday, September 7th, at Lake Neangar. Walk-a-thon sponsorship forms were handed out on Monday so children can begin collecting sponsors. Please make sure that children are supervised when collecting sponsors.

HEALTHY LIVING

Issues of Overweight

Consuming foods high in energy or calories combined with an inactive lifestyle can lead to children (and adults) becoming overweight and/or obese. As a result of these conditions, children can face both emotional issues as well as medical problems.

Emotional based problems include decreased social activity and/or social isolation due to being teased by peers. This in turn can contribute to low self-esteem levels, negative self-image which can further spiral into feeling worthless or unwanted.

Medical problems which are directly attributed to increased weight include high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol and an increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease.

Despite these frightening realities, these health issues can be prevented by making positive lifestyle changes that encourage healthy eating and regular physical activity for the whole family.

Enjoying a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, combined with 30 minutes of moderate physical activity every day is the key!

For more information visit www.nutritionaustralia.org

Free Kids Good Health Recipe Book

It is important to teach children about nutrition so they can establish healthy eating habits. Dairy Australia has a free Kids Good Health Recipe Book full of easy, tasty and healthy recipes. Most importantly all of these recipes contain calcium rich dairy foods which will help kids achieve their 3 recommended serves of dairy every day! Check out the recipe book at http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/kidsneed3

ATTENTION GRADE 5/6 PARENTS

All of the Grade 5/6 classes are in desperate need of tissues, can each child please be sent to school with a box of tissues for their classroom.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
PARENTS CLUB NEWS

Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be Friday September 14th, after assembly in the school conference room - opposite the office. All are welcome to attend.

Fathers’ Day Stall
The Fathers’ Day stall is fast approaching and Parents’ Club are seeking your assistance. They would love donations of gifts (or a gold coin to go towards the purchase of gifts). These can be left in the school office. The Fathers’ Day stall will be held on Friday August 31st.

Fathers’ Day Raffle
Books of raffle tickets for the Fathers’ Day Raffle have been sent home. Please have sold and unsold tickets along with correct money returned to school by Thursday August 30th. The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday August 31st.

PLAYGROUP
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.
in the Outside School Hours Care room.
The next Playgroup sessions will be Tuesday August 21st and Thursday August 23rd.
Please bring along a healthy snack and drink.
All Welcome!
We always try to encourage the healthy eating and SunSmart messages that are taught to our students at school, to provide a great foundation for our future students.

Join us on Facebook:
www.facebook/calgullyplaygroup1

Vision care for children is highly important and the detection of eyesight problems at an early age is imperative.
An eye test before starting school and at two year intervals following this are recommended (unless requested otherwise from an optometrist).
SpecSavers Kangaroo Flat are offering all students who attend California Gully Primary School and visit them on any Tuesday until September 30th 2012, a 30% bulk discount on 1 complete pair for glasses from their two pair deal along with eye tests being bulk billed. Their usual offer of 1 complete pair for $39 or $99 is still effective.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Congratulations to the following students on being named Student of The Week for their positive attitude to school and social values.

**Friday August 10th**

**Prep/1 Christian:** Zeppelin R. - For always being attentive and happy to 'have a go' in class.
Cody S. - For wonderful participation in reading groups.

**Prep/1 Peacock:** Jade H. - For showing patience and good manners when lining up with the class.
Ella S. - For making very good progress with her spelling words.

**2 Carroll-Hinton:**
- Hannah C. - For completing the Premiers' Reading Challenge. Well Done!
- Kodi P. - For being so excited at understanding his 10's maths work! Top effort Kodi!
- Isabel P. - For completing the Premiers' Reading Challenge. Fantastic effort!
- Jazmin T. - For completing the Premiers' Reading Challenge. Top effort Jaz!

**3/4 Hartney:**
- Izak O’S. - For participating enthusiastically at VIBE.
- Chara S. - For being a fantastic contributor at VIBE.

**3/4 Tanner:**
- Mickayla B-W. - For having a deadly time at VIBE!
- Jackson T. - For his fantastic efforts at VIBE.

**5/6 McKerrow:**
- Cody B. - For her display of unbridled joy at VIBE.
- Abbey W. - For impressing Casey Donovan with her dancing.

**5/6 Windridge:**
- Sharna B. - For being a helpful and friendly class member.
- Skylah R. - For working very well in class and being helpful to her teachers.

2012 VIBE Team - For their Deadly performances.

**NIT WIZ head lice salon,** 942 Wellington Way Strathfieldsaye, across from IGA complex, opening this week All natural products! Call Nicole on 0418352550 for information and bookings.

**BOOK CLUB**

Book Club Issue 6 has been sent home and is due back (with correct money) at school on Monday, August 27th.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
The Olympics
As you can see Mr. Hartney’s Grade 3/4 class have been enjoying their recent theme study on the Olympics. All their poems were fantastic so we just had to show them to the rest of the school.

BOOK WEEK 2012 “CHAMPIONS READ”

DRESS UP DAY

In conjunction with Book Week, California Gully will be holding a dress up day Friday August 24th.

Students are to come dressed as their favourite book character. A parade will be held showcasing all costumes. Parents are more than welcome to come along and watch.

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