Thursday, 30 January 2014

Values:

Resilience  Respect  Honesty  Responsibility  Learning

To develop confident and resilient students through the provision of a diverse range of learning experiences and challenges which encourage curiosity, excitement for learning, thirst for knowledge and connectedness to their community.

This is underpinned by a whole school community whose moral purpose is committed to promoting success for all students.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

School Website: www.greenvaleps.vic.edu.au

Term Dates for 2014

Term 1: Tuesday 28th January – Friday 4th April
Term 2: Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 27th June
Term 3: Monday 14th July – Friday 19th September
Term 4: Monday 6th October – Friday 19th December

Last Day of Term Students dismissed at 2:30pm

Principal’s Report

Mrs Angelika Ireland

Welcome Back

Welcome back to the 2014 school year! I hope all families have had an enjoyable holiday break with their children.

I am delighted to have been appointed to the position of Principal at Greenvale Primary School and thrilled to continue the fantastic educational journey that Mr Glenn Payne left upon his retirement. I enjoyed my first day at Greenvale Primary School yesterday with the staff and was really looking forward to meeting the students today. Staff returned to school yesterday in the extreme heat, spending the curriculum day on a range of activities, in particular working with their team and preparing for their students to attend school.

What an exciting, busy start we saw at Greenvale Primary School yesterday with students from Prep -6 returning to school. Students looked fantastic in their uniforms. They were excited to be back, happy to meet up with their friends and looking forward to another challenging year in 2014. We had 95 new Preps beginning their schooling at Greenvale this year. We welcome these children and their families and know that they will love their schooling at Greenvale. Very few tears were to be seen – not even from the parents! As well as our 95 new Prep students, we also welcome our 32 new students in Year 1 to Year 6 that have come to us from a wide range of schools.

I would like to thank Mrs Jane Greig-Hancock, who was the acting Principal during Term 4 last year, for her time and leadership of the school, as well as Mrs Rosemary Agnew who was acting Assistant Principal.

After a two week Merit and Equity period, my appointment was confirmed officially on 29th November, 2013, so you may understand that I have hit the ground running moving from one school to another. My experience in education has been long and varied. I come to Greenvale Primary School from Findon Primary School which is a Prep - 6 state school of 400 students. Prior to that, I fulfilled a four year position as the principal of Brookside Campus which was a Prep to Year 9 campus at Caroline Springs College. Caroline College had four campuses catering for Kinder to Year 12 with the capacity to cater for over 4000 students. Brookside Campus had an enrolment of about 900 students and shared the learning site with an independent college. Prior to that, I was the Assistant Principal at Concord School for just on three years. The remainder of my time in education I have spent in Primary Schools in various teaching and leadership capacities.

I look forward to meeting with the school community and getting to know parents and families. I invite you to come and say hello.
Staffing
We are delighted to welcome back Sujata Symons who had been on Family Leave in 2013 and is sharing a class with Elisa Mirenda, and Tara Franz who is a new Graduate and very excited to be at Greenvale.

Our Educational Leaders for this year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Miss Anne Killeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Mrs Heather Stevenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Mrs Michelle Pucar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Ms Robyn White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Mrs Emily Wilkes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Miss Kylie Cardamone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Mr Matthew Kerby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialists</td>
<td>Mr Andrew Bouzikas</td>
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</tbody>
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School Council Elections 2014
All schools are required to conduct annual elections for school council during the February/March period. There are three different categories of members on School Council - Parents, Department of Education and Early Childhood (DEECD) employees and Community Members.
At our 2014 election we will have four parent vacancies, one DEECD employee vacancy and one Community Member vacancy. The term of office for these vacancies is two years. Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging. You do not need any special experience to be on School Council. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.
School Council meets about two times each term and School Councillors are on a subcommittee also. Can I encourage parents who would like to be part of School Council to ensure that they are nominated. Parents may be nominated by another parent or they can nominate themselves. More information will be sent home next week.

Food For Thought:

Coffee & Chat
An invitation to all parents to come and meet the new Principal Mrs Angelika Ireland
Date: Tuesday 4th February
Time: 9:00am
Where: School Staffroom

Look forward to seeing you there!

Student Emergency Contact Details Update
Please remember that you must contact the office if your child’s emergency contact details or your home address have changed since last year. This is vital to ensure contact can be made quickly in emergency situations.

Student Family Details Update Forms are available at the school’s General Office or you can download one from our website under the Parents tab.
Assistant Principal’s Report
Mrs Jane Greig-Hancock

2014 WELCOME BACK
Welcome back for the 2014 school year. I hope all families had a most enjoyable break and that everyone is re-energised and excited about the new school year. I would like to thank the staff who worked extremely hard to ensure that the students had a smooth and positive start to the new school year. I’m sure all of our teaching and support staff enjoyed a well-earned break and are looking forward to a great year ahead. Working in any capacity in a school I believe is a privilege. I look forward to continuing the great work that has been undertaken and our commitment to strive for improvement in all areas.

HOT SPELL
The weather over the past few weeks has been very hot and it looks like we are in for a run of hot days so please make sure that your child has a hat, water bottle and sunscreen.

Greenvale Primary School is a Sun Smart School which means that all students are required to wear a hat from the start of Term 1 until ANZAC DAY, which is the last Friday in the first week of Term 2 then they wear their hats again from 1st September until the end of Term 4. The wearing of an approved school hat is compulsory and students are expected to wear a school hat when playing outside, participating in PE classes, Sport or attending excursions.

Hats are on sale at the office for $11 if you cannot find your school hat. It is advisable to put sunscreen on your child at home prior to coming to school on days with a very high UV rating. In the event of extremely hot weather the alternative weather timetable will be implemented and students will have their lunch play inside.

It’s Not Okay to Be Late!
Mrs Rosemary Agnew – Data Manager
Miss Peta Law – Strategic Leader Student Engagement and Wellbeing

In line with the Greenvale Primary School and Department of Education’s ‘It’s Not Okay to be Away’ policies this term we will launch our ‘Strike 3 Late Arrival Program’ to improve punctuality across the school.

It is imperative that your child arrives at school on time every day to ensure that their learning and opportunities are fully maximised. Did you know... that being late for an hour each day equates to over half a year of learning time from Prep to Grade 6.

In 2013 Greenvale Primary recorded well over 1,000 late arrivals. This is far too many and impacts greatly on students and classroom programs. We plan to work together with the community to improve our children’s learning opportunities. Our Annual Implementation Goal for 2014 is to reduce this number to well below this figure.

Commencing Week 3 of this term all teachers will be implementing our ‘Strike 3- Late Arrival Program’ across the school. This will involve teachers issuing a ‘Green’ Strike 1, 2 and or 3 Notice each time a child arrives to the classroom after the bell. The only acceptable late arrival will be any medically related appointments (which must be accompanied by a medical certificate).

If a child has received 3 strikes of ‘Late Arrivals’ within one term then their parents will be contacted by the Principal to attend a meeting to discuss an action plan that will improve the situation by setting up an improvement plan.

We understand that there are occasions where late arrivals are unavoidable and this may result in children receiving only one strike per term. At the end of each term these strikes will be eliminated.

Our greatest concern is to address the children who are ‘CONSISTENTLY’ late to school several times a week as this impacts greatly by interrupting the learning environment in each classroom.

We thank you for your continued support.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Chess-Ed.
Chess Education
Manager: Nick Speck
Email: info@chesseducation.com.au

Enrolment forms for Chess-Ed can be collected from the School Office

Chess-Ed Junior Chess Club – Term 1, 2014

Chess is one of the most powerful educational tools available to strengthen a child’s mind. Most 6-7 year olds can follow the basic rules and some children as young as 4 or 5 can play. Whatever a child’s age, chess can enhance concentration, patience, and perseverance, as well as develop creativity, intuition, and memory. Most importantly, children can develop the ability to analyse and deduce from a set of general principles, to make tough decisions and to solve problems flexibly.

The coach, David Beaumont is an experienced chess teacher and one of Victoria’s leading chess players.

The chess classes will take the children through a structured chess course with the dual aim of achieving the maximal educational benefits the game offers and providing an enjoyable learning environment.

If your child would like to participate in the Chess Club during Term 1 please fill out the form below and return it to the school office by the start of the first lesson. Numbers are limited to 24 and are taken on a first-come first-served basis. Any extra children will be placed on a waiting list.

- When: Monday Afterschool: 3:40 – 4:40pm
  There will be 7 classes in Term 1 on the following dates:
  10/2, 17/2, 24/2, 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3 and 31/3.
- Where: Greenvale Primary School Art Room
- Cost: $63 (for the 7 classes - $9 per class, includes GST) per child for Term 1
  Please make all cheques payable to ‘Chess Education’ and leave at the front office before the first class.
- Enquiries: Please feel free to contact us on (03) 9387 4503
  or via email at info@chesseducation.com.au

Enrolment forms for Chess-Ed can be collected from the School Office

Save lives together
JOIN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP IN MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE

CRAIGIEBURN MOBILE UNIT
Craigieburn Leisure Centre – Functions Lounge
Craigieburn Road West, Craigieburn.

Monday 24 February 1:30pm - 7:30pm
Tuesday 25 February 2:00pm - 7:30pm

To book your appointment please call 13 14 95