Thursday, 30 October 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

NOVEMBER

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<td>Student Free Day – Students Do Not Attend School</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup – Public Holiday – School Closed</td>
<td>2015 ‘Flying To Foundation’ Transition – Session 1</td>
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<td>Year 3 Camp Excursion and Sleepover</td>
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From The Principal’s Desk

Angelika Ireland

2014 WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY
Teachers Shape the Future!

We are celebrating this day on Friday 31st October in recognition of the contribution teachers make to education across the globe. Research states that the most important element that makes a difference to student outcomes is the teacher. Celebrated in over 100 countries, World Teachers’ Day was inaugurated on 5th October 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to commemorate the 1966 joint signing of the UNESCO/ILO (International Labour Organisation) Recommendation Concerning the Status of Teachers. In adopting this recommendation, governments unanimously recognised the importance of competent, qualified and motivated teachers in society. Internationally World Teachers’ Day is celebrated on the first Friday in October. However, as this is usually during Australian school holidays, Australia celebrates the day on the last Friday in October of each year. In our rapidly changing and interdependent world, teachers not only have to ensure that students acquire solid skills in basic subjects, but also that they become responsible local and global citizens, at ease with new technologies and able to make informed decisions about health, the environment and other challenges. Can I encourage you to show your appreciation to your child’s teacher on that day? I’m sure your child will have some ideas.

‘EVERY DAY COUNTS’ – Student Attendance

The Education and Training Reform Act 2006, the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 and the Education and Training Reform (School Attendance) Regulations 2013 require children of school age (six to sixteen years) resident in Victoria to be in full-time attendance at a government or registered non-government school unless they are receiving approved home tuition, correspondence education, or have been granted an exemption by the Regional Director.

It is vital that all students attend school. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their child/ren attend school regularly and are punctual, and are only absent if ill or if absolutely necessary. Illness is reasonable grounds for an absence - shopping excursions or birthday parties are not.

Education is a sequential process. Absences often mean students miss important stages in the development of learning, causing them to find ‘catching up’ difficult contributing significantly to the student’s lack of opportunity to achieve their potential.

Parents have a further responsibility to provide a written note or return a completed absence form to the school explaining why an absence has occurred. All student absences and late arrivals are recorded in both the morning and the afternoon by teachers, are aggregated on our CASES database and communicated to the Department of Education. The Department of Education and enrolment auditors may seek student attendance records.
The Principal has a further responsibility to ensure that unexplained absences and late arrivals are investigated, and that high levels of absenteeism and punctuality are adequately explained. The Principal will ensure parents of students with high levels of unexplained or unapproved absences and late arrivals are contacted, with the view to developing and implementing strategies to minimise absences.

Parents are to notify the school prior to taking their child on a family holiday. For students going on an extended (more than one week) family holiday, a Student Absence Learning Plan will be developed, with the expectation that the student completes the work while they are away. Completion of the work will result in the absence being listed as an approved absence. Unresolved and prolonged attendance issues may be reported by the principal to Child First, the Department of Human Services or to the School Attendance Officer as deemed appropriate.

**Parent Behaviours**
We have such a supportive, friendly parent group who cooperate with the school in ensuring we abide by our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Learning and Resilience so that we can best meet the needs for all the students, both learning and wellbeing. So, it was very disappointing to hear earlier this week from a distressed staff member who had been accosted by a parent in the car park who opened her car door, stuck their face into the car and proceeded to abuse her using the most inappropriate threats and language. This sort of behaviour is NEVER OK.

Why did this happen? Because this parent thought it was OK to run across the staff car park with his son while there were cars driving in and out and was angry that the staff member who was in her car had honked her horn to get his attention to get back on the pedestrian walkways. If you are not happy with a staff member’s responses to or interactions with you, you should approach myself or the Assistant Principal, Meredith Clegg, with your concerns so that these can be resolved in a manner that has positive outcomes for all.

May I remind everyone that the staff car park is not a pedestrian thoroughfare and on that particular morning with the heavy rain, the parent was actually putting his child at risk. It is also vital that parents show their children how to cross safely at the school crossing and not just anywhere on the road between cars passing. Let’s continue to work together to make sure your children, and our students, remain safe!

**Reminders……..**

**Enrolments For 2015 – Are You Moving??**
If you are leaving our school and will not require a place at Greenvale PS in 2015 you need to let the office know immediately. We are currently organizing class structures for 2015, so it is essential that we are informed of any students who are leaving.

**Parent Requests re Class Placements 2015**
If you know of any issues that could impact on your child’s learning, please put it in writing addressed to the Principal. Please do not send requests asking for a specific teacher. Parent requests for their child’s class placement needs to come to me by Friday 31st October.

**Food For Thought:**
One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child. Carl Jung

**Assistant Principal’s Report**
Meredith Clegg

Italian Immersion Poetry Competition – Gladstone Park Secondary College

Some of our Year 5 & 6 students represented our school at the Gladstone Park Secondary College Italian Immersion Poetry Competition on Wednesday 29th October. Competing for Greenvale Primary School were Naomi Chew, Lily Marchino, Chantelle Ricciuti, Isaac Suraci, Christian Lagana, Darcy Molony, Sharlys Kalolo, Matti Gocci and James Schembri. The competition involved students from five local primary schools individually reciting a poem in Italian to a panel of five Secondary College judges. It was quite a daunting experience for our students but they all performed exceptionally well, especially considering they had to learn and rehearse the poem at home.

At the completion of the individual rounds two finalists were selected from each school to compete in the finals. Our finalists were James (Year 5) and Isaac (Year 6).

After the finals were conducted we enjoyed freshly made pizza for lunch. Then the presentations were made.
Congratulations to all students for their performances. The efforts of Greenvale Primary School students were particularly noted by the Secondary Italian Teachers who appreciated the fact that these students did not learn Italian at school. Congratulations to Isaac Suraci who placed second overall in the Year 6 Italian Immersion Poetry Competition. Congratulations also to James Schembri – Actor of the Future Award, Christian Lagana – Participation Award, Darcy Molony, Matti Gocci, Chantelle Ricciuti and Sharhys Kalolo – Credit Awards.

**Community Events News**
Sharon Matuauto – Community Events Committee Member

**Family Portraits By Vision Portraits**
Just a reminder that bookings will close for family portraits on **Friday 28th November**. Photos are taken and selected at the time of your sitting. No return appointments for selection! All photos will be returned to school before the end of term, just in time for Christmas!

**Toy Networks Shopping Night:**
Last reminder for $5 ticket sales for the Toy Networks shopping night. Get some great toys for Christmas at factory prices. Ticket sales at the front office only.

**Christmas Raffle:**
The end of the year is around the corner and in preparation for our traditional Christmas Raffle we are calling on families or local community members to donate prizes. If you are able to donate something, no matter how great or small please speak to one of the community events committee or the front office.
Zumba 4 Kids
Exciting news Zumba 4 Kids has arrived and taking off with a blast.

Kids get to enjoy a fun-filled 45 minute dance fitness class on Friday afternoon's at 3:45pm in the school hall at Greenvale Primary School. Cost is $10 per child. Bookings essential – Debbie Muscat on 0425 712 852

Stay tuned for additional classes starting soon!!!

Greenvale Kangaroos Cricket Club are looking for some players for our Under 10s, Under 14s and Under 16s cricket teams.

If you would like to attend a training session, get some more information or you would like to play, please contact Jill 0418 525 481 or Ken 0418 582 902.

“Milo In2Cricket program for 5-8 year olds”
Has commenced at Greenvale Recreational oval on Friday nights 4.45-6pm. Contact Jill to register for Milo In2Cricket

Represent the Greenvale Kangaroos Cricket Club and play the “NEW” T20 Blast Cricket program for 8-10 year olds (played on Wednesday nights commencing 22nd October 2014 and all games will be played at Highgate Reserve oval at Craigieburn Cricket Club). You can register at t20blast.com.au under Greenvale
Self-development through drama!
Boost your child’s creativity, confidence and communication skills.

Enrolling Now – Ages 5 to 17
Contact the Principal
Joanna Melo Howard - 90168928
The above sponsors are not endorsed by the Greenvale Primary School