Friday, 18 March 2016

Values:

Resilience  Respect  Honesty  Responsibility  Learning

Purpose:
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](http://www.greenvaleps.vic.edu.au)

**MARCH**
- Friday 18th: Year 6 Interschool Sports
- Monday 21st: Harmony Day – Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in ORANGE
  Easter Raffle drawn at morning assembly
- Tuesday 22nd: Year 3 – Year 6 School Athletics Day
- Thursday 24th: Last Day of Term 1 – STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 2:30PM

**APRIL**
- Monday 11th: First Day of Term 2
- Tuesday 12th: Year 3 Personal Learning Excursion to Hall’s Taekwondo

**From The Principal’s Desk**
Angelika Ireland

**2 Minute Parking Zones**

Streets around school zones are always busy just before school when parents are dropping their child/ren off, or after school when it is time to pick up them up. It seems we have had a number of parents not adhering to parking signs around the school which has added significantly to the blockage of traffic during these busy times.

Around Greenvale PS there are **2 Minute Parking Zones** on Bradford Avenue and Langton Way for the **morning drop off**.

Three of these are **new and recently installed by the Hume Council**. These are “**Kiss and Drop zones**” – which means you pull in, kiss your child good-bye, they exit the car and then you drive off and vacate the space so another car can do the same. **THEY ARE NOT PARKING BAYS**.

You cannot turn off your motor and leave your car in the **2 Minute Parking Zones** to drop your child off at their classroom. It only takes two or three cars to park then the whole area becomes ineffective as the flow of traffic is broken. If you need to walk your child in, which is often the case with younger students, the recommendation is to find a parking place further away from the school and walk. This not only will alleviate your parking stress but will also develop healthy life habits.

Council Parking Officers monitor parking around the school on a regular basis. You will not be approached, however, you will receive a Parking Infringement Fine in the mail. Can I please ask for all parents to remember their responsibility and follow parking signs around the school. ‘Responsibility’ is one of our school values and I would anticipate parents model this for their children.

**Annual Implementation Plan 2016**

Work has been completed on the development of our Annual Implementation Plan for 2016. The main Key Improvement Strategies/significant projects for this year include:
**Student Learning**
- Develop an agreed school wide pedagogy in Literacy and Numeracy.
- To build teacher capacity and improve curriculum planning and pedagogical knowledge
- Continue to develop and improve collective accountability for the assessment and monitoring of all students, and the school as a whole.

**Student Engagement**
- Increase student involvement and participation through an enhanced student voice.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive and inclusive approach to engaging all families in supporting high expectations of student learning.
- To provide opportunities for the parents and the wider community to actively participate in our school.

**Student Wellbeing**
- Enhance agreed process to support successful transitions through the stages of learning by strengthening community partnerships.

It is a requirement that the Annual Implementation Plan is accepted by School Council and forwarded to DET School Accountability Branch by 31 March.

**Italian at Greenvale..................**
Learning another language is an exciting experience for young children. Our Italian classes have begun with Signora Schembri with students engaging themselves in learning about another country and language. While children have fun discovering new and unusual ways of expressing themselves, they also exercise and strengthen their brains. The best time to start learning a language is early in life.

No matter what your child's ability, research shows that learning another language can-

1. **Stimulate brain development**
   Learning another language helps develop essential areas of children's brains. It also helps them to think more creatively, connect ideas and solve problems more easily.

2. **Significantly enhance English literacy skills**
   Learning another language means more than just memorising lists of words. Languages all use different systems. Children automatically compare and contrast the system of the new language they are learning with English. This gives them an insight to how English works, which accelerates their ability to read and write.

3. **Improve memory, concentration and numeracy skills**
   Learning another language strengthens children's memory for sequences and their ability to concentrate and build connections.

4. **Overall performance at school**
   Learning another language is associated with excellent, long-term academic results. Studies show that in the world's highest-performing school systems, all students in all year levels learn one or more languages.

5. **Encourage respect and understanding of other cultures**
   Learning another language sparks children's curiosity for other cultures. It opens their minds to different ways of living and promotes harmony and respect in the schoolyard and beyond.

Learning another language is crucial to preparing children for our increasingly globalised and multilingual jobs market. Remember, learning any language – whether it's Italian or Indonesian, Punjabi or Portuguese – helps children to become better thinkers, better communicators and better global citizens.

*Take the opportunity to learn the Italian words/phrases that Signora Schembri puts into the Newsletter each fortnight.*

**Foundation Students**
During their first year of school children focus on reading, writing, spelling, maths and problem-solving. Foundation students are at a stage where they're exploring the world around them, and developing physical, creative and technical skills.

To find out more about what's coming up in your child's learning, ask your child's teacher. Some topics they may be learning about include:

- **English** – developing a working understanding of how sounds are represented alphabetically; learning to read and write, drawing on their knowledge of the alphabet and its relationship with the sounds the letters and words make; and listening to and responding to a range of simple texts, including books read aloud, audio tapes and films.
• Mathematics – counting; relating the items counted to the actual number (for example four children with blue tops); placing objects in order (such as first, second, third) and grouping them in sets (all round objects or red blocks together); using everyday objects to identify and describe points, lines, edges and surfaces; and comparing objects using terms such as longer, heavier, fuller and hotter.

• Science – exploring things like day and night, the seasons, and living and non-living things; identifying and describing things that are similar, using things like size, shape, colour and weight.

• Health and physical education – developing skills such as running, skipping, catching, throwing, kicking and balancing. Activities such as dance, gymnastics and games help children progressively gain control of their movements.

• Interpersonal development – developing skills that let them work and play together in a group, including taking turns and sharing, as well as listening to others and beginning to understand how their actions affect others.

• Civics and citizenship – learning about respect, concern for others, and being fair; recognising rules and why they are needed and comparing classroom and family rules with other rules, such as those used in games and sport.

• The Arts – discussing the things they are creating and, with guidance, beginning to describe their own and others' work.

• The Humanities – beginning to understand their local area by investigating the location, direction and distance of their home, school, local parks and shops to each other; as well as exploring how and why natural factors and human activities affect their lives.

To help support their learning, ask your child what they did in class today, and build this question into their routine – make it something that they expect and are happy to answer every day.

**Family Picnic last Friday – Parents in Partnership**

Fabulous to see the many families who attended our school’s Family Picnic despite the incredibly hot weather. Fun was had by all! This was an alternative to the Family Fun Night which was held last year. Families were invited to bring their picnic blankets and chairs, and either buy food at our sausage sizzle or bring a picnic dinner. Teachers organized special events for students to join in with such as a Treasure Hunt, Egg and Spoon Race and ‘Tug of War’. Many thanks to the parents and staff who organized this evening. Without you, such a celebration would not be possible.
Food For Thought:
Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right path, the final forming of a person’s character lies in their own hands.  
--- Anne Frank

Assistant Principal’s Notes
Meredith Clegg

STUDENT ATTENDANCE – Every Day Counts!
Term 1 Attendance Data

Our school goal is to reduce the number of student absences over the year from last year’s average of 12.7 days per student.

Here are the student absence statistics for term 1 from 28/01/16 to 16/03/16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number Students</th>
<th>Absent without note</th>
<th>Absent with note</th>
<th>Total Students Absent</th>
<th>Average absence rate per student</th>
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<tr>
<td>FOUNDATION</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>168</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>248</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>1039</td>
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The term 1 average absence rate of 1.41 days per student is an improvement on the same time last year in term 1 where the average was 1.9 days per student.

If we can maintain, or ideally improve, the 1.41 average absence rate per student then by the end of 2016 we will be well under last year’s average of 12.7.

REMEMBER! EVERY DAY COUNTS! Being at school every day on time at 9.00 am ensures your child doesn’t miss any learning. If your child is away please make sure you continue to send a note to school to explain that absence.

Save this date! The dance-A-thon is coming!
‘KINDNESS WEEK’

Monday 21st March — Thursday 24th March

In 2016, our Harmony Day theme is ‘our diversity is our strength’

On Monday 21st March, students, staff and parents are encouraged to come to school dressed in ORANGE. (There is no donation for this whole school event.) As a school, we will celebrate the day by having a whole school lunch beginning at 1.15pm.

Throughout the last week of Term 1 students, staff and parents will participate in different activities and events across the school.

| Monday 21st March | - Students to wear ORANGE to school  
|                  | - Kindness Week launch at assembly  
|                  | - Whole school buddy lunch on the assembly court |
| Tuesday 22nd March | - Foundation – Year Two story time and buddy reading at lunchtime |
| Wednesday 23rd March | - Year Three – Year Six ‘make a new friend’ activities at lunchtime |

For more information related to Harmony Day; feel free to visit:  
ITALIAN NEWS
Signora Eleonora Schembri

We have had a great term learning songs and many new words. This term:
Foundation to Year 2 students have listened to a story about Pinocchio, (Ecco Pinocchio!) learnt a counting song, a song about body parts and a good morning song. They have also learnt the language associated with greetings and learnt an Easter song.
Year 3 and Year 4 students have listened to a story about a cockatoo (Il Pappagallo), learnt about colours and learnt songs. They have also learnt the language associated with greetings and learnt an Easter song.
Year 5 and Year 6 students have listened to a story about a little red car, (La Macchinetta Rossa), learnt about the regions and capital cities in Italy. They have also learnt the language associated with greetings and learnt an Easter song.

Numbers 1 – 20

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Buona Pasqua e Buona vacanza (Happy Easter and Happy holidays) to all our families at Greenvale Primary and I look forward to working with your children in term 2.
A presto! (See you soon!)

Artists of the Month for March
Congratulations to:
Alanah Acilioglu - 4 EW
A terrific symmetrical sketch of The Taj Mahal in India.

Mohaned Morked - 1/2 H
A well-constructed mixed Media Hot Air Balloon
COMMUNITY NEWS

Hume Network Schools Present
Dr Michael Carr-Gregg
Parent Forum
How Technology Can Help Student Wellbeing

What are the benefits of the Technology age for our children and young adults?
How can we tap into these benefits and support their growth?
Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is one of Australia’s highest profile psychologists. He is the resident parenting expert in Channel 7’s Sunrise program and 3AW’s morning program with Neil Mitchell.
He is also an author, academic researcher and political lobbyist.
Don’t miss the opportunity to hear one of the most knowledgeable and engaging speakers on the topic of child and adolescent development.
Where: Mount Ridley P-12 College - Landale Building
When: April 20th - 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Cost: Nil
Booking: Click on the link below to register or call Mount Ridley College
Phone: 8338 3600 to secure your free place for this important event


AFL Victoria
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Footy Fun Day

9-12 YEARS
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SESSION DETAILS

WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH
BRUNSWICK - GILLON OVAL

THURSDAY 31ST MARCH
MOORABBIN - MOORABBIN OVAL

THURSDAY 1ST APRIL
ESSENDON FC - TRUE VALUE SOLAR CENTRE

MONDAY 4TH APRIL
BOX HILL - WHITEHORSE RESERVE

TUESDAY 5TH APRIL
FOOTSCRAY - MERY HUGHES OVAL

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