Every Child Matters Every Day
At Officer Primary School we hold the following values – the four ‘R’s‘ for all members of the school community:

- RESPONSIBILITY
- RESPECT
- RESILIENCE
- RELATIONSHIPS

As a staff, we make a commitment in 2015 to make these core values part of our explicit teaching on a routine basis.

We invite parents as well to engage in teaching and living by these values.

Date: Friday 27th February, 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Friends of OPS;

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
On Monday nominations for the vacancies in the Parent and DET categories of School Council closed.

Four nominations were received for the two vacancies in the parent category and one nomination was submitted for the DET vacancy. As a result Paula Spierings has been elected to the DET category and a ballot will be conducted to determine which of the four nominated parents will fill the vacancies in the parent category.

All parents/guardians are eligible to vote with the electorate being determined according to the current school records. Ballot papers have been delivered to parents via their children today or, in the case of alternative families, by post. These can be returned personally to the school administration or posted to arrive at the school by the closing date of 4:00pm on Tuesday 10th March.

As part of the process each of the four candidates has prepared a brief statement about themselves that will be distributed with the ballot papers. No other campaign literature supporting candidates or groups of candidates may be distributed or posted in the school and no school resources, whether human or material, may be used to support particular candidates or groups of candidates.

I believe that it is the first time in many years that a ballot has been required. It is really exciting to be in a position where we have a high level of interest in School Council and I am sure that whatever the outcome may be, the interested parties will all be able to continue to contribute to the future of the school in some way.

EASTER BONNET PARADE
I believe that the annual Easter Bonnet Parade is somewhat of a tradition at Officer Primary School with all students and staff taking part. This is a tradition that we will be happy to support again this year. As some parents have been keen to find out if the parade will be going ahead I thought that it would be a good idea to give families advance notice so that they will have time to prepare their creations. The parade will go ahead on the last day of term, Friday 27th March, with our plans being to hold it first thing in the morning and then follow it with our final assembly for the term.
If you are stuck for some simple ideas some inspiration can be found on the internet. One useful site that I was able to find was at http://www.kidspot.com.au/Easter-Traditions-Easter-hat-ideas+4675+409+article.htm I am sure that there are many more!

CAFÉ READING PROGRAM
After school yesterday our staff took part in a follow-up session to our recent curriculum day. Lyn Watts visited us to check in on our progress in implementing some of our learnings and answer questions that teachers and aides had about components of the program. Most of the staff reported that they have trialled some of the visual literacy activities and commenced the training of their students in sustained reading, reading to self and reading to others. They have also visited the library to select books for the class library and worked with the children to categorise their selection of books. Some have also started teaching the CAFÉ strategies. All teachers reported very positive responses from their students regarding the broad choice of reading material available to them and an increased enthusiasm for reading.
We have now taken delivery of the individual book boxes for each student and over the next few weeks staff will work on setting up Reading Journals for each student and identifying individual learning goals.
The next curriculum day on Wednesday April 15th will involve staff in a visit to another school where the CAFÉ program is operating successfully and further training in how to deliver effective mini lessons focusing on the development of reading strategies.
Congratulations to our staff on a great start to the program!

Have a great weekend!
Regards

Lynne Brenner
Acting Principal

Officer PS introduces

CAFE
The CAFE Reading Program encourages and motivates students to read. CAFE stands for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary. These are four areas of reading skills that our students work on throughout the year. During CAFE Reading teachers teach whole class lessons, small group lessons and lessons with individuals to work on these reading skills.

Below is an outline of some of the ACCURACY STRATEGIES your children will learn to utilise when reading:

- Back up and reread
- Cross Checking...Does this make sense, do the letters match?
- Blend sounds... stretch and read
- Chunk letters together
- Use beginning sounds
- Use the picture...Do the words and pictures match?
- Skip the word then come back
- Trade a word
- Sound it out

Enjoy your weekend!
Regards

Lynne Brenner
Acting Principal

SUBWAY LUNCHES

Wednesday March 11th is the next Subway lunch day. Please have your orders in before the bell on Wednesday morning.
Envelopes are available from the office.

Wayne Jones the volunteer for our tool shed would like families to collect GOLBURN VALLEY screw top jars for the tool shed, so he can keep our nails and screws etc separated.
We are hopeful the tool shed will be open next term for some of the classes.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

[Images of students holding certificates]
BUNNINGS BBQ

ONE DAY RAFFLE

1st Prize – 4 day Camper hire from Johnno’s Camper Trailers & a Tactix Power Bank value $300

2nd Prize – Rapid Tune Car Services up to $850 value including 3 minor services

3rd Prize – Large Wii Radio Control Mario Kart (Donkey Kong)

4th Prize – The Central Hotel Beaconsfield $50 voucher

5th Prize – Girls Krunk Alloy Kick Scooter

6th Prize – Skylark Infared Control Helicopter

Tickets $1 each or 3 for $2

Winner drawn at 4.30pm at Bunnings
The next Parent & Friend Meeting on Tuesday 10th March will be our Annual General Meeting. If you would like to join the committee, we have the following roles up for nomination:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Grants Co-Ordinator
- General Committee Member

If you would like further information on any of the roles, or a nomination form, contact Julie in the Office. We welcome new members at any time.

**Bunnings BBQ**

We still need volunteers for the BBQ at the Pakenham store on Saturday 14th March
Between 8.15am – 5pm
Please complete the tear off form below

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**Bunnings BBQ**
Name:
Contact No
I can help between

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**Jefts Main Street Meats**

Last week’s winner was Jakob Fullard from Prep JD. Congratulations.

This week’s question is what time do we need helpers for the Bunnings BBQ?

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Answer:
Name:
Class