Thank you.

In preparation for 130 year celebration today we had a working bee on Sunday to clean our school grounds and our Centenary garden area.

I would like to personally thank all those that offered their time to help on the day. With a particular shout out to Glen Lyons who volunteered his time on both Saturday and Sunday.

With the weather working against us today and throwing a few challenges our Parents and Friends in conjunction with our teaching staff are busy organizing a host of indoor activities for the children and parents to enjoy together. Our activities start at 3.30 and conclude at 6.30pm so please come and join in the fun with the children and please take this opportunity to look at what children have been doing in their classes. I am sure they will be very proud of their achievements.

For those of us new to the Officer District Audrey from the Pakenham Historical society will have a display of by gone times in our Prep/1 gallery area and we will have photos of past students and staff on display as well as Dvd presentation from the 1986 Centenary celebration. Seeing the changes and transition our school and neighborhood has gone through is a great way to introduce to our children our local heritage and embraces the History studies our children will be learning this term.

At 5.30 we will be having a cake cutting and speeches ceremony celebrating our 130 years with some very important guests and local identities. I hope we can all join in this ceremony with plenty of chocolate cake for everyone.

We also have Friday night dinner covered with sausages and drinks available. Prices are very reasonable with sausages at $2 and softdrinks at $1.50, tea and coffee will also be available for a gold coin donation.

I hope you all enjoy today’s activities and again thank you to those who helped at our working bee and all the preparation in the lead up.

Thank you.

Michael Ball.

School Council President.
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 2016 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 21st October, 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
Dear Parents and Friends of OPS;
SPECIAL VISITORS
On Wednesday afternoon we hosted Mr Rob Porter and Mr Alex Burgess who were past students of Officer Primary School. Both of these gentlemen are members of pioneering families in the area and had some great stories to tell about their experiences at the school and life as a child in this area. The students were interested in hearing about the differences and intrigued to find that some things such as the sports played have not really changed all that much. They were highly amused to hear that there was a bull paddock on the site of our oval and that football and cricket games were usually played on the Princes Highway. We are expecting some past families to visit tomorrow evening. Please take the time to make them feel welcome. I am sure they will have interesting stories to share.

PARENT PAYMENT POLICY
At our School Council meeting this week we passed a revised Parent Payment Policy that meets guidelines set by the DET. This policy is attached to our newsletter for your information. You may also be interested to know that School Council endorsed the recommendation to keep Parent Payments for 2017 the same as those for this year. Families will be asked to pay $100 per child to cover the cost of book packs and other Essential Education Items. Parents will also be asked to consider making voluntary contributions to the OPS Building Fund, Library and Digital Technologies. All families will receive further information about Parent Payments during November.

CITY CAMP SURVEY
This year was the first time that we offered our students the opportunity to participate in a City Camp experience. Traditionally the school has alternated between two venues with a focus on outdoor activities. One of the reasons behind the change of venue was to offer our students an educational experience focused on our city. Staff have noted over recent years that many of our students have limited knowledge of the city of Melbourne and its important landmarks. We also favoured the concept of offering camps with a different focus in alternating years to cater for the range of student interest.

As this was our first visit to the camp we are keen to receive parent feedback so that we can determine how we can make improvements for the future. To gather this feedback we distributed a short survey to students in Years 3 to 6. Please consider completing this survey and returning it to school so that we can take into account your thoughts when planning our camps in future years.
PREP TRANSITION
Yesterday we hosted our 2017 Preps and families for the second Transition session. The children enjoyed a session in the Prep classrooms where they were introduced to ‘Jolly Phonics’ and made jet packs to take home to remind them of the letter ‘j’. The parents participated in an information session and enjoyed a beautiful morning tea provided by our wonderful PFA team. The staff were most impressed with how the children managed the school routines and participated in the activities.

SCHOOL COUNCIL WORKING BEE
Thank you to the small group of families and staff who came along last Sunday morning to support the School Council working bee. All participants worked very hard to ensure that the Centenary Gardens and other areas of our school would be well presented for the 130 year celebration tonight. A special thank you to Glenn Lyons for the extra work he put in on Saturday to undertake some planting and mulching and to Michael Ball for the extra time he put in yesterday evening to do a final tidy up. I am sure our grounds will shine for the celebration.

We hope to see you all at our Family Night this evening!

Regards
Lynne Brenner
Principal

SUBWAY LUNCHES
Our next subway lunch is Wednesday 26th October 2016. Please remember to have orders into the office by 9.00am

CARPARK CLOSURE MONDAY 24th OCTOBER

As per our permit conditions I am writing to advise you that the carpark at 24 Tivendale Rd Officer will be closed next Monday 24th October – from 6am – 6pm

Please note that the temporary carpark further north along Tivendale Rd will be operational whilst the current carpark is closed – signage will be displayed advising this.

If you require any further information please don’t hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Kind Regards
Kate Campbell
Project Manager

AGTC PROPERTY
ANTHONY CASEY REAL ESTATE
27/1 Danaher Dve South Morang Vic,3752
PO BOX 237 South Morang Vic, 3752
Phone: 039 437 8966
Fax: 9437 8986
agcasey@bigpond.com
Hi All, I can’t believe that it is the end of week three, the term is just going so fast. I would like to start by congratulating our boys Soft Ball team who won at Lightning Prem last Friday and who will now compete at the next level. This is the first time that the Soft Ball team has ever make it through—Well Done Boys. The other senior students had a fabulous day and represented our school with great pride.

This week in Literacy the students have been focusing on writing poetry and publishing the fabulous autobiographies they wrote for their scrap books. In Maths all the students demonstrated fabulous improvement in their understanding of probability—Well done for all the hard work. Next week we are continuing to focus on measurement where we are looking at area, perimeter and volume. In CAFE the students will be looking at how social issues and cultural groups are depicted in texts. I hope that everyone has a fabulous time at our 130th Birthday Celebration.

NP and B/C

Hi everyone. A big thank you to all of the families who stayed for the OPS 13th Birthday Celebration last Friday afternoon. Next week in CAFE we will be looking at adding emphasis and interest when we read aloud by using cues from the text such as exclamation marks. Next week is our last week working on division. We will then start the topic of pattern and algebra and we will begin maths groups. In history we are focusing on aboriginal history.

Have a great week!

Reminders

Zooper Doopers: Zooper Doopers are for sale on a Tuesday and Thursday to raise money for Grade 6 Graduation. They are 50 cents each (one per student) and will be sold each week during term 4.

Breakfast Club—Breakfast club is Tuesday and Thursday, the booking sheet can be found in the foyer of the office. All are welcome.

T20 Cricket—All notes and money need to be returned for the T20 Cricket by Monday.
What’s On

LITERACY
CAFÉ has bought us so far this year and all students are enjoying our in-depth learning. The strategies that we will be focusing on are:
C – Questioning
A – Use beginning & ending sounds to read the words
F – Use exclamation marks
E – Tune into topic words

In writing this week, the students have been continuing on with recount writing. Students are exploring how to structure a recount and then read what they have written making sure it's exciting. Some of the topics they have been exploring are special days and events, birthdays, family days or even fun days at school.

MATHS
Our focus for the start of the term is number and place value. The preps are looking at number lines as well as the exciting topic of money, while the grade ones and twos are developing their understanding of making and sharing groups.

INQUIRY
Our Inquiry topic for the first few weeks is safety. We have specifically focused on water safety for the first two weeks to coincide with our swimming program. The students have learnt about why we need to be safe around water and what the best ways to be safe are!

SWIMMING
Just a few happy snaps from swimming.

Weekly Timetable
Specialist timetables have changed! Please check!

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<td>Signing – Tuesday</td>
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Reminders
ZOOPER DOOPERS – Zooper Doopers are being sold by the grade 6’s on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term for $50c.

BREAKFAST CLUB –
Tuesday and Thursday – Booking folder is located in the office

130 YEAR CELEBRATIONS
Don’t forget our 130 Year Celebrations next Friday afternoon from 3:30pm – 6:30pm
PARENT PAYMENT POLICY

Purpose:
To ensure that parent payment practices are consistent, transparent and ensure that all children have access to the standard curriculum.

Rationale:
The Victorian community shares a vision to build an education system that champions excellence and ensures that every child and young person has access to the opportunities to succeed in life, regardless of their background or circumstances. Schools are best placed to make local decisions which ensure that all students can access a broad range of learning opportunities that support their expectations and promote their aspirations as they move through the education system. Parent contribution, in all forms, assists schools to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and is highly valued by school communities. Learning and teaching programs vary across schools based on local needs and circumstances and reflect each school's priorities, decisions and resources. This, in turn, informs the parent payment charges approved by school councils that may vary from one school to the next.

What can schools charge for?
The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 provides for instruction in the standard curriculum program to be free to all students in government schools. School councils are responsible for developing and approving school-level parent payment charges and can request payments from parents1 under three categories only- Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items and Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Essential Student Learning Items are those items, activities or services that are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum. These are items that the school considers essential for all students and which students take possession of. Parents may choose to provide the items themselves or buy the items from the school where practical and appropriate.

Optional Items are those items, activities or services that are offered in addition to or support instruction in the standard curriculum program. These are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay for them.

Voluntary Financial Contributions
Parents can be invited to make a donation to the school for a general or specific purpose, e.g. school grounds projects, library fund or for new equipment. Only some Voluntary Financial Contributions are tax-deductible. The attached diagram "Understanding Parent Payment Categories" provides examples of items and materials under each category.

Implementation:
In implementing this policy, schools must adhere to the following principles:

Principles
- Educational value: Student learning, aspirations and wellbeing are paramount when schools determine their parent payments practices
- Access, equity and inclusion: All students have access to the standard curriculum program and participation of all students to the full school program is facilitated
- Affordability: Cost to parents is kept to a minimum and is affordable for most families at the school
- Engagement and Support: Early identification and engagement strategies by the school ensure parents are well informed of the payment options and supports available for those experiencing hardship

1 Parent in the policy has the same meaning as in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006, which is: 'parent', in relation to a child, includes a guardian and every person who has parental responsibility for the child including parental responsibility under the Family Law Act 1975 of the Commonwealth and any person with whom a child normally or regularly resides.
- **Respect and Confidentiality**: Parents and students experiencing hardship are treated with respect, dignity, sensitivity and without judgement and the identity and personal information of all parents and students are kept confidential in respect to parent payments.

- **Transparency and Accountability**: School parent payment practices are well communicated, clear and transparent and their impact on student programs and families are reviewed by school councils.

**Cost and support to parents**

When school councils consider the proposed requests for parent payments the cost is kept to a minimum and is affordable to most parents at the school.

School principals must ensure that:

- items students consume or take possession of are accurately costed
- payment requests are broadly itemised within the appropriate category
- parents are advised that they have the option of purchasing equivalent Essential Student Learning Items themselves, in consultation with the school
- information on payment options is available, accessible and easily understood to all parents so that they know what to expect and what supports they can access
- parents are provided with early notice of annual payment requests for school fees (i.e. a minimum of six weeks’ notice prior to the end of the previous school year). This enables parents to save and budget accordingly.
- parents are provided with reasonable notice of any other payment requests that arise during the school year—ensuring parents have a clear understanding of the full financial contribution being sought
- the status and details of any financial arrangements are kept confidential and only shared with relevant school personnel
- parents experiencing hardship are not pursued for outstanding school fees from one year to the next
- use of debt collectors to obtain outstanding school funds owed to the school from parents is not permitted
- there will be only one reminder notice to parents for voluntary financial contributions per year
- Invoices/statements for unpaid essential or optional items accepted by parents are not generated more than monthly or according to the parent payment arrangement with the school.

**Support for families**

Families may experience financial difficulties and be unable to meet the may full or part payments requested. Principals and school councils exercise sensitivity to the differing financial circumstances of students and their families when considering parent payment fees. There are a range of support options available to support and assist parents. These can be accessed through “Cost support for families.”

Consideration to hardship arrangements in respect to payment requests is provided to families experiencing long term hardship or short term crisis on a confidential, case by case basis. All schools have written hardship arrangements that include a proactive approach to providing support for parents experiencing financial difficulty.

All parents are provided the name and contact details of a nominated parent payment contact person at the school who they can discuss payment arrangements with.

**Engaging with parents**

In respect to each school’s development of its parent payments, school councils will engage in effective communication with the school community and have strategies in place to ensure they are aware of and understand the needs and views of parents.

**Review of policy implementation**

Schools will monitor the effectiveness and impact of the implementation of this policy at least annually as part of its ongoing improvement and report back to the school community.

The full Parent Payment Policy is available from the Department’s [School Policy and Advisory Guide](#). Answers to the most commonly asked questions about school costs for parents see: [Frequently Asked Questions – For Parents](#).
Officer Primary School Parent Payment Charges

Officer Primary School Council will annually review parent payments requested to ensure that they are in line with the Department of Education and Training guidelines. Charges will be clearly itemized, costed and categorized as Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items or Voluntary Contributions. Parent Contribution requests will be made in line with the principles of Educational Value; Access; Equity and Inclusion; Affordability; Engagement and Support; Respect and Confidentiality; Transparency and Accountability. Parent contributions will be requested to assist the school in providing an enhanced teaching and learning program for every student in line with the school priorities.

Payment arrangements and methods

Parents will be provided with early notification of annual payment requests (a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the end of the current school year). An estimate of additional costs that may occur during the school year (ie: costs for camps, excursions, swimming program etc) will be included in the request for annual parent payments and reasonable notice will be given for these payment requests. Parents will be permitted to make payments in instalments, and be provided with several methods of making payment including cash, card and BPAY. Parents are able to enter into confidential payment arrangements by contacting the Business Manager (Julie Barrow) on 5943 2315.

Family support options

There are a number of support options available to parents including but not limited to:

- Second hand uniform if available.
- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply and a Special Consideration eligibility category also exists.
- State Schools' Relief may cover the cost of new school uniforms, shoes, books and more for disadvantaged students. State Schools' Relief only responds to requests from school principals, assistant principals or welfare coordinators. Parents or Carers who are struggling need to make an appointment with the school to discuss their situation.
- Local community supports

Information regarding support options is available from the school office and will be advertised periodically in the school Newsletter.

Consideration of Hardship

The school understands that families may experience financial difficulties or hardship at times and may be unable to meet full or part payment requested. Families are invited to contact the Business Manager (Julie Barrow) to make payment arrangements or alternatively can contact the Principal (Lynne Brenner) or Wellbeing Coordinator (Paula Spierings) for a confidential discussion and information regarding support options.

Communication with families

The Parent Payment Policy will be published on the school website and distributed to new families in their Information Pack. General enquiries regarding parent charge may be made to the office on 59432315. Concerns should be directed in the first instance to the Business Manager (Julie Barrow).

Monitoring the review and implementation of the policy

The School Council (via the Finance Sub-Committee) will conduct an annual review of the implementation of the Parent Payment Policy including addressing concerns raised by the school community. Any changes to the policy implementation will be reported back to the community via a report in the school Newsletter.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in October 2016.
Want to earn your School a free iPad?

Nicola Parreira at Barry Plant Pakenham has created a special offer for Officer Primary School families. If you mention this add and List & Sell your home with Nicola Parreira she will generously donate an iPad to our School.

Nicola Parreira
Sales Consultant
M: 0407 921 322 T: 03 6941 1977 F: 03 6941 6877
16-18 Station Street, Pakenham 3810

Jason Morrison
Owner Manager
Morrison's Car & Motorcycle Mechanical Services
jason@morrison.com.au
0407 903 515
29 Melissa Rd
Pakenham 3810
Parents & Friends News

Survivor A-thon

Our Survivor A-thon is going to be a fun packed morning of activities organized by Miss C. Money for the sponsorship was due back last Friday and the prizes for those children that returned the forms have been ordered and will be handed out on the day of the event.

For any students that still have sponsorship money to hand in, please make sure it is back at the office by 9am Monday morning. I am able to do a subsequent order for these children’s prizes however I cannot guarantee the delivery by the event day.

130 year celebration

Our 130 year school birthday celebration is today. It’s going ahead rain, hail or shine. In the event of rain we have organized a range of indoor activities that the children can participate in.

Don’t forget to bring your very best singing voices as we sing Happy Birthday to the school at 5.30 during the cake ceremony.

I would like to thank all the parents & staff that have volunteered their time this afternoon, and an extra special thank you to Melissa Holden who has done a great job organizing this event.

Proud to always support the Officer Primary School.

Craig Currie
0417135075

A Local Family – Your Local Agent.

OBrien Real Estate
OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program

17th – 21st October

This week OSHClub children have been busy making little grass head people, drawing funny faces on foam cups & filling them with potting mix & grass seeds so once they grow, our grass head people will have awesome looking hair which will be ready for some cool styles!

We've also enjoyed watching our seeds grow in our beautifully painted pots! We've seen that our Sunflower seeds have grown the quickest! We've taken good care of them giving them drinks of water & taking them out for some sunshine!

We've had great fun building different things out of Mobilo & playing with dolls & mostly constructing different sand castles & enjoying the texture of kinetic sand!

We will also be having our grass head people activity available for everyone to come the OSHClub room & make one during the schools 130 years celebration, everyone is welcome to come in & join the activity! Hope to see you all then!

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<td>Learn to tie up</td>
<td>Cubby House</td>
<td>Hot and Cold</td>
<td>Lego building</td>
<td>Learn to draw Minecraft</td>
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<td>Musical statues.</td>
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| After Care Activities   |                       |                    |                       |                             |
| Planting Sunflower Seeds| Grass Heads           | Paper Plane         | Grass Heads           | Grass Heads                 |
| COMMUNITY               | COMMUNITY             | Flying Competition | COMMUNITY             | COMMUNITY                   |
| Scarecrow /            | AFL Football          | WELLBEING           | Around The World      | Cricket Match               |
| Toilet Titty            | LEARNING              | Skipping            | Basketball            | WELLBEING                   |
| WELLBEING               |                       | WELLBEING           |                       |                             |

Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0438 566 988
Coordinator: Susana Tapia
Assistant: Ellen Fisher & Amy Dunlop
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
Congratulations
Students of the week

Prep KS

Emanuel: For showing persistence with your swimming. You should be very proud of your efforts.

Prep RA

Chase: Sounding out tricky & long words that have digraphs and blends in them and then having a go to spell them. Amazing effort!

1 JDZ

Paige: Displaying fantastic speed and accuracy in our class maths challenges! Great job!

1/2 JD

Josh: Showing great organisation & enthusiasm for swimming!

1/2 DM

Levi: For excellent effort during maths groups.

3/4 BC

Jacinta: Trying really hard to improve in all areas of learning. Great effort!

4/5 AW
**Harry:** The sensational effort he has put into writing his autobiography and his brilliant performance at district!

**5/6YK**

**Dylan:** Working extremely hard to catch up with his work and presenting his yearbook in an interesting, creative way.

**Spencer:** His well-written and insightful summary of the book 'ONCE'- Great work!
Congratulations
Students of the week

[Image of children holding certificates]

Prep KS

Ella: Being such a good friend in the classroom and always willing to help others. You are such a delight to have in our classroom. Well done ELLA!

Prep RA

Lucas: Following instructions the first time and completing his work quickly in a positive way.

1 JDZ

Caedyn: Fantastic effort when participating in swimming and showing excellent organisation when getting ready!

1 LH

Connor: Working very hard to improve his writing and spelling.

1/2 JD

Taran: Showing great enthusiasm during the swimming program.

1/2 DM

Luke: Excellent effort at swimming and being organised.
2/3 NP
Cameron: Producing a fantastic 1900s and Today student.

3/4 BC
Noah: Trying really hard with his maths. You have got the hang of subtraction with re-grouping.

4/5 AW
Lachlan: Excellent effort even when things are difficult. Keep trying your best!

5/6YK
Ayesha: Demonstrating fabulous sportsmanship by offering to help a fallen opponent.

Matthew: Displaying a positive attitude towards school and his learning – keep up the good work!