



# Viewbank Primary School

*Love of Learning, Learning for Life*

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**Friday 16 July 2010**

## DIARY DATES:

**MON 19 JUL to WED 21:**  
Parent Teacher Interviews

**WED 21 JUL:**  
Join the Chorus at Hi Sense Arena

**FRI 23 JUL:**  
Grade 5/6 Hoop Time.

**TUES 27 JUL:**  
Parents & Friends Meeting 7.30pm.

**FRI 30 JUL:**  
Prep 100 days school party

**MON 2 AUG:**  
Education Sub Committee Meeting

**TUE 3 AUG:**  
NSW English Competition

**MON 9 AUG:**  
Pupil Free Day

**TUES 24 AUG:**  
School Ball Surnames A-K

**THU 26 AUG:**  
School Ball Surnames L-Z

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

### **WELCOME BACK**

A warm welcome back to everyone after a particularly cold end of Term 2 break. Perhaps we are returning to the winters of 15 years ago!! Anyway, I am sure the batteries are recharged and everyone is looking forward to the many events and happenings of Term 3. These include the School Ball, Gymnastics for Grades 3 and 4, Swimming for our Prep to Grade 2 children and the Joining The Chorus spectacular for 20 lucky Grade 5 and 6 students. As usual, we will keep you posted of these and many other events as they come up via this newsletter or the school's webpages.

### **JAPAN TRIP - 2011**

Matthew Tabone from G.E.T. Educational Tours was good enough to come out on a cold evening on Thursday, June 24 to outline our school's possible trip to Japan in September 2011. The evening was reasonably attended, and a lot of interesting questions were posed and interest registered. We are now at the stage of assessing its viability by asking for a commitment from our school community. On the advice of Matthew, and from other schools who have been down this path, and also in response to some very reasonable questions asked on the evening, we have set the parameters for attendance as follows. As an educational tour, only students studying Japanese at Viewbank Primary School in 2011 will be eligible to attend and they must be accompanied by a parent or parents. Mika Tonai, our Japanese teacher, will be our tour guide and at least two other teachers known to the students will be in attendance. There will be a maximum of 20 participants in our tour party, and as mentioned previously, the tour cost for the nine days will be in the vicinity of \$3400. Given these parameters, we are now seeking expressions of interest - please fill in the form attached to this week's newsletter and return it to the General Office no later than Friday, July 30, if you are interested in participating in September 2011. We will keep you posted if the interest registered will make this tour a viable proposition!!

### **DANCE PROGRAM AND SCHOOL BALL**

A five week program of dance instruction commenced this week under the careful eye of Ken Marshall from 'Strictly Ballroom'. Our students will be rehearsing their dances each week in order to showcase their skills on either Tuesday, August 24 (for students whose surnames commence with the letters A-K) or Thursday, August 26 (L-Z). Of course, there is an expectation that their parents will get up and dance on the nights as well! The School Ball will be held at the Serbian Orthodox Church Hall, 212 Diamond Creek Rd Greensborough VIC 3088. Tickets go on sale on Friday, August 6 at a cost of \$12 and will be limited to 3 per family.

Please note that ticket prices include entry into the Parents and Friends raffle to be drawn on the Thursday night, with prizes including a \$500 shopping voucher. As is tradition, the Ball is a BYO basket supper night, and seating arrangements will be on circular tables seating up to 10. An order form with all the details will be distributed shortly.

### **ULTRANET PUPIL-FREE DAY, MONDAY 9 AUGUST 2010**

In the last two weeks of term 2, our school logged into the future with the Ultranet, a new online learning system for schools. The Ultranet is a state-wide, secure site that teachers, parents/guardians and students can access via the internet.

Once everyone is 'on board' our students and teachers will be able to collaborate in the Ultranet using online tools such as wikis, blogs and discussion forums. Students will be able to create their own online learning portfolio and take part in online learning activities. Teachers will be able to access and share valuable online learning content across Victoria.

From the end of September, you will be able to log on and see information about your child and our school. This information will build up over time, creating an ongoing record for each student. These records will travel with your child from year to year and school to school.

Between now and then, we will give you more information about the system and how you and your child will be able to use it.

Monday 9 August is a pupil-free day across the State. Our teachers will participate in professional learning to support the implementation of the Ultranet in our school. This is a state-wide day dedicated to allowing all teachers time to plan, explore and learn to use the Ultranet.

### **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

I wish I could give you more positive news, but construction continues to be hampered by problems associated with a long forgotten tank from a time pre-dating the building of the school. Hopefully, the resolution of this problem will be sooner rather than later.

### **STAFF CHANGES**

We welcome to our school Andrea Jory who is replacing Oli Stoltz teaching Grade 2S (now 2J) and hope your stay is a long and productive one, Andrea! We also welcome back Pam Robinson after a stint of long service leave and she will resume her Music position teaching Grades 3 to 6.

### **WORKING BEE**

Many thanks to members of the following families for your attendance last Sunday for a 'back-to-school' tidy-up working bee - Paras, Timmins/Winkle, Matthews, Manolaros and Kersing. Your attendance is always greatly appreciated!! Our major working bee for the term is scheduled for Saturday, August 21, and plenty of advance notice will be provided!!

### **TERM ACTIVITY PLANNERS**

Planners for this term were distributed earlier this week. As mentioned previously, this term is quite a crowded one with a host of activities, and with the school ball also being held in Term 3, costs for this term may be a little higher than anticipated. We believe strongly in the educational value of each activity, but also understand that sometimes these costs can put a strain on family budgets so, as always, if there are families that may struggle to pay these amounts by the due date please make an appointment to see our Business Manager, Lyn Norman at your earliest convenience to discuss a payment plan.

### **CHESS KIDS**

You will have read with interest the success of our school chess team in recent weeks with victories in two Zone Competitions. Now we have even made it to the Chess Kids website as evidenced below.



## *A Chess Club half full of families!*

*Written by Noelle Wengier on 21st Jun, 2010*

At a recent Chess Tournament I was amazed to find out that half of the Viewbank Primary Chess Club (19 members) consists of four families.

There is one set of triplets (all boys), another family of 3 brothers and 3 families with 2 brothers. Isn't that amazing! Destinee is the only girl amongst the 18 boys but that doesn't stop her from attending.

The school performed magnificently and went on to win the tournament. They have now qualified to the Victorian [Interschool Finals](#) to be held in Melbourne at [Monash University](#) on 26 October 2010.

Andreas (one of the triplets) won the most games, winning 6.5 games also came from Viewbank.

Well, that's it from me this week.  
Kind regards,

**Bill Kersing**  
**PRINCIPAL**



## **JAPAN TOUR - SEPTEMBER 2011**

For the purposes of assessing the viability of the Viewbank PS Japan Tour 2011, we wish to indicate that we are planning on attending. We understand the conditions of attendance.

**Student's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year level** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/s Attending:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian's signature:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **BABY NEWS**

Lots happening in the maternity wards over the last few weeks! Congratulations to the Graham Family (Takyra is in Grade 1) on the birth of a baby boy and brother, Koda on July 1. Dulcie Griffiths, became a proud Grandmother to Thomas Griffiths on July 13, with young Thomas weighing in at 2.87kgs and to complete the trifecta Phil Byrne and his wife Kate welcomed Mary into the world on July 14 at 9.20am! Good to know, too, that she weighed in at 5lb 14oz - don't you love announcing birth weights in the imperial system!! We congratulate all of our parents, grandparents and sisters on their respective healthy (and undeniably cute!!) additions!!



## ***Nihongo* (Japanese) news**

*Konnichiwa* (Hello). Welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a great holiday and we all feel refreshed and are ready to learn with fun! This upcoming event by the sister-city Aichi prefecture, Japan and Victoria may inspire your Japanese cultural learning.

**SAMURAI ARE COMING TO MELBOURNE** from 18 Sunday to 20 Tuesday July!!!! The featured event will be the *Samurai* parade, commemoration ceremony, exhibition and experience activities etc. The venue is from the outdoor event space of the Victorian Arts centre through to Parliament House. Further details such as the event schedule are found at the website, <http://www.japaninmelbourne.com.au/event/event/54.html>

Let's time travel to the Japanese olden days!

**LOTE Japanese**  
**Mika Tonai-Walsh**

## FUN MATHS CHALLENGE JUNE/JULY

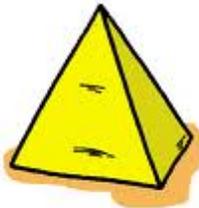
**Prep-** What is something we can do that takes exactly one minute?



**1/2-** What objects can you find in your home that have 1kg marked on them? Make a list.



**3/4-** What do you know and what can you find out about a pyramic



**5/6-** Jim measured the outside walls of his house. Some of the lengths were 8m, 6m, 5m and 4m. What might the house look like? (All corners are right angles)

Hand in your answers to Miss Ruddock by Friday July 23rd.

Have Fun!

### PMP UPDATE

Due to the hall being used for dancing lessons on Tuesdays, PMP Helpers will not be required to assist for the next 5 weeks.

All Prep children will still participate in PMP related activities on Tuesdays, however they will do this in a different setting and format.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parent PMP volunteers and our keen grade 3-6 students. Your punctuality and commitment to the program every week has been most beneficial to the Prep children and myself.

Enjoy the break and we will see you back soon.

Many thanks  
Sophie Noakes

## SOCCER & FOOTBALL TOPS

Senior students need to return washed soccer and football tops and school sports socks from the winter interschool sports season now. All coaches have a list of the jumper number allocated to each student so please assist us by returning your jumper as soon as possible.

Thanking you,  
Level 4 team



## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE UPDATE

Congratulations to the following students who have already completed this year's Challenge.

<b>Prep</b>	Grace, Sachi, Isabelle, Will, Charlotte, Jarrod, Olivia
<b>Grade One</b>	Jade, Lucinda, Adam, Kyle Tommy, Alysha, James, Lucas, Ronan, Thomas
<b>Grade Two</b>	Emily, Evan, Shakira, Khushi, Rose
<b>Grade Three</b>	Claire, Nethum, Alison, Rachel, Hannah, Nichola, Alexander, Andreas, Ella, Gabrielle, Raphael, Santiago, Sithum
<b>Grade Four</b>	Genevieve, Maddison, Michael, Charlotte, Roseanne, Eilish, Jemma
<b>Grade Five</b>	Michael
<b>Grade Six</b>	Tristan, Mahad, Christopher, Jemma

If you haven't entered the books you have read, please do so as the Challenge finishes at the end of Term 3.

Happy reading,

Ms Symons, Mrs Watt



## Welfare at Viewbank Primary School

We continue to use the High Five approach at our school and have had successful results with our student automatically using one or many of these strategies. Reinforcement of these strategies at home would

support your child in many ways.

Below outlines what it is and how you use it. Please reinforce this approach with your child/ren in order to encourage an assertive approach to problem solving.

**Suzanne Kot (Welfare Coordinator)**

### What is Hi 5?

- It is an effective strategy to develop problem-solving strategies for our students.
- A whole school approach that can also eradicate bullying.
- It is a 5 step problem solving strategy that can be used in the classroom, in the playground and for perceived bullying incidents.

### Values and Hi 5

- Values - used to foster better relationships, personal achievement and improved student well being.
- Hi 5- used to build student's social skills and resilience.
- Together positive impact and shape School Code of Cooperation.

### Core Beliefs

- **No "put downs"**
- **Use of "build ups"**

### "Put Downs"

- Can be a habit, a quick reply without thinking or a conscious mean, nasty response.
- Verbal/ Non verbal

### "Build Ups"

- Positive, supportive words you can say about people and their behaviour: Contribute to:
- Positive behaviour
- Establishment of positive relationships
- Positive self image



### Do the Hi 5:-

- Ignore
- Talk Friendly
- Walk Away
- Talk Firmly
- Report

### Ignore

- Pretend you didn't hear it.
- Do not make eye contact.
- Maintain positive body posture (calm, confident).
- Think positive self-esteem statements.
- Count to five in your head slowly.
- Take deep breaths.
- USE ROLE PLAY TO SHOW WHAT IGNORING LOOKS LIKE, SOUNDS LIKE AND MAY FEEL LIKE.

### Talk Friendly

- Use a calm voice.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Confident body language.
- Maintain relatively close body proximity.
- Use "I" statements – I feel . . . . when you . . . . . because....

### Walk Away

- Stand tall, head up high.
- Mouth closed.
- Look confident
- Do not use eye contact.
- Walk somewhere, preferably towards a congested area or to a safety zone (teacher).
- Do not look back. Walk confidently, don't run.

### Talk Firmly

- As per Talk Friendly.
- Use an assertive voice, slightly raised.
- Tell them to stop it.
- Re-state your "I" statement. eg. I said . . . . .
- State the consequences of continued bullying.

### Report

- Walk away and tell a staff member.
- Go to a safety zone.
- Bystanders - support and report.
- Report, report, report until somebody listens.

### Reporting Vs Dobbing:

- Children need to know the difference between reporting and dobbing.
- **Reporting** is helping/getting yourself out of trouble.
- **Dobbing** is trying to get someone in trouble using a whiny voice.

### Reporting:

- Children should in most circumstances attempt to problem- solve themselves first.
- Unsuccessful after doing Hi 5 steps- see teacher.

### Asking the teacher for support:

Teacher dialogue should take the following format:

- Is this a serious problem?
- Is this your problem?
- What have you tried already to solve it? (Have you tried the Hi 5?)
- Do you want a solution?
- What sort of solution do you want?

### Reporting straight away

- If the issue involves **health** or **safety**- children to report straight away to a teacher.
- They are not to solve problem themselves. e.g. Incidents of physical danger - Child running out of school gates

### Reporting Phase

Investigate and discuss incident with child.

- Refer to detention/advise Class Teacher
- Serious refer to Administration

**Success occurs when children can not only *talk the talk* but *walk the walk*.**

### CANTEEN NEWS

Thursday July 22	Jade Wills, Michelle Depetro
Friday July 23	Adele Dymock Jenni Priest

### ART ROOM

Thank you to the parents who have bought donations to the art room. We currently need more magazines and old plastic flowers.

**Maralyn Lamb**

### PARENTS & FRIENDS



**Warm and open  
and invitation to  
all to come and  
join us for a hot  
cuppa, morning tea and a  
friendly chat this  
Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> July  
after assembly in the  
staff room.**



### Walkathon money

**\*\*\*If you have forgotten to hand in your walkathon money please do so now it is NOT TOO LATE and remember all money raised will be going directly towards technology for the class rooms. By the end of July we hope to be able to give you a final total of money collected and what will be purchased. Thank you again for your continued support!!!**

### COMMUNITY NEWS

Acoustic guitar and bass guitar lessons  
Reasonable rates, flexible time slots after school on Tuesdays  
Musical theory and songs taught  
M: 0423769991 or E:  
[thepeoplesclub@hotmail.com](mailto:thepeoplesclub@hotmail.com) for details

Thanks,

**Scott McNabb**

