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**28th APRIL
 2017
 Issue No. 5**

Dates to Remember



MAY

Monday 8th

- School council meeting 4pm

Tuesday 9th – Thursday 11thst

- NAPLAN testing

Wednesday 10th

- Viva La France incursion

Thursday 11th – Friday 12th May

- Mothers Day stall

Monday 15th

- Curriculum Day – no children at school

Wednesday 17th

- Grade 4, 5, 6 Excursion to Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Wednesday 24th

- Indigenous infusion incursion

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,
 A warm welcome to all our students, families and staff to the start of Term 2.
 The first two weeks of school have proven to be very busy and eventful! I would like to thank Mrs. Ristovski for doing an amazing job as the Acting Principal whilst I was on a study tour in Vietnam last term. I attended this study tour with Principals and staff from Preston North East PS, Watsonia North Primary School, Pender's Grove Primary School and St. Clare's Primary School (Thomastown).

During my visit to Doan Thi Diem School, Halong Bay, Vietnam, I gained valuable insight into their educational programs and practices. I was fortunate enough to experience many cultural events and visit significant places in Hanoi whilst I was there. School Council will be formalising a sister school relationship with Doan Thi Diem School. All schools that attended the study tour have agreed in principle to host students/staff from the school for two weeks. Students from Doan Thi Diem School and their Principal are planning to visit Melbourne in June this year – they will be visiting St. Clare's P.S and Watsonia Nth P.S. Preston South Primary School is expected to be involved in some of the activities during this visit. We will, hopefully be hosting staff/students in 2018.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

Students at Preston South PS participated in cultural diversity week last term. Students were given the challenge to investigate cultural diversity within their school and community, whilst utilising a wide range of materials, techniques and ideas. Cultural Diversity Week at Preston South promotes community harmony and celebrates the many cultures that make our school so vibrant. Each student at our school drew a flag of their choice to create this amazing display at the front of our school.



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

This term some students will again be given the opportunity to participate in lunchtime clubs. Thank you to the teachers who gave up their lunchtime to run the clubs last term (board games, play pod, basketball and play doh). This term we have the 'pen pal club', the dance club and ipad club. We are keen to have parents on-board. If you are interested in helping with a garden club, we would love to hear from you! Students this term will also be supported to start their own club! Stay tuned...



OPEN DAY AND TOUR FOR PREP ENROLMENTS

Our Prep Tour and information dates have been finalised. If you have a child who will turn 5 years of age by 30 April 2018, we encourage you to attend one of these sessions. Also, if you have a friend or neighbour who is interested in enrolling their child at our school please pass on these dates and times:

9.30 am to 10.30am on Tuesday 2nd May, Tuesday 6th June, Tuesday 1st August and Tuesday 29th August.

Our school is fast becoming the school of choice. We are experiencing a great increase of enrolments for 2018. If you or anyone you know will be enrolling their child in 2018 please ask them to return their enrolment applications ASAP.

NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY 2017



During term 1, all of our senior young leaders attended and participated in the annual National Young Leaders Day event that was held on the 27th March 2017- thanks to the Halogen Foundation.

This event highlights the values and responsibilities we hold as leaders and how, with a little imagination, we can be and do anything. The event included many speakers, such as John Richards, Samantha Skinner, Jade Hameister, True Culture, James Merlino MP and Matt Cosgrove, all of which were remarkably inspiring in their own unique way. The event also included additional fun activities, such as a silent disco, open zoo and much more.

We have developed a short video of our experience at the NYLD event and we will be sharing this at one of our upcoming assemblies.

All of the leaders left the event overflowing with positivity and the sense of big leaders further flourishing within them. We look forward to attending this event again next year, as well as watching all of our young leaders make a difference within our school and local community this year!

The grade 5/6 Team

CHANGES TO THE REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR 2017

Schools are required to use a five-point scale or equivalent when reporting to parents against clearly defined learning standards. Teachers at Preston South Primary School will enter a score based on the teacher judgement of each student's level of achievement against the curriculum areas taught during the reporting period. Progress will be represented in a written statement and with a graphic representation.

The Victorian Curriculum has 11 levels (F-10) as well as Levels A to D for students with disabilities. Schools are required to report to parents student progress against the age-expected level of achievement for English, Mathematics and Science.

The curriculum is a developmental learning continuum and it is the fundamental role of teachers to enable students progress along this continuum. The scoring range for the curriculum for Foundation Level to Level 10 is structured in 0.5 increments and shows the nominal alignment of levels with years. Teachers are able to place a student anywhere on the continuum that accurately reflects the student's level of achievement against the achievement standards.

The Performance Rating codes used in the report for the Curriculum will now be:

- A.** 12 months - 2 years ahead of Year Level expectations for this time of the year
- B.** 6 months - 1 year ahead of Year Level expectations for this time of the year
- C.** At Year Level expectations for this time of the year
- D.** 6 months - 1 year below Year Level expectations for this time of the year
- E.** 12 months - 2 years below Year Level expectations for this time of the year