

Creekside News

8 MAR 2018

Learning for Life

Dear Parents/Guardians,

School Council

Thank you to the parents and staff who have nominated for school council. I would like to welcome the following parent representatives to school council: Vicki Cachia, Michele Plasc, Melanie Lynn, and Sini Margaritis. The teacher representative is Jayne Simmons. These representatives will join Deanna Azzopardi, Katrina Fraser, Kelly Ford, Renai Holland, Vicki Jukes, Wes Forke and Gerard Lucas who still have another year to go on school council. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Iccaro Rosson and Jess Miller whose council membership ends this year for their contribution and commitment to the College Council.

Meet & Greet

The Parent Teacher Meet & Greet evening held on Monday was once again a great success. This evening is designed to provide you the opportunity to discuss with your child's teacher any aspects of your child's learning, social and emotional growth that will help the teacher best cater for their individual needs. The number of parents attending makes it very evident that we are a school community committed to providing the best learning environment for our students. Thank you to those able to attend, I hope you found the experience beneficial and a good opportunity to get to know your child's teachers.

Curriculum Day Tuesday 13 March

The College will be holding a Curriculum Day on Tuesday 13 March. Students are not expected to attend on this day. Our guest presenter Chris Daicos will be working with us to support our School Wide Positive Behaviour Strategy.

Building and Grounds

The College is continuing to upgrade and refurbish our buildings and grounds. Over the break the Year 8 building works will be completed. Glass walls will reduce noise in classrooms and minimise outside distractions. The junior toilets in the gym will also be undergoing a refurbishment with new facilities and cabinetry.

Every day counts – school attendance

The slogan 'It's Not OK To Be Away' is a really important one. Attendance at school is one of the most important factors in your child's learning. If they are not at school, they are missing out on the opportunity to learn. Please ensure your child has a positive attendance ethos and that you support this ethos by discouraging absences unless

Dates to remember

Wed 07 Mar - Yr 7-9 Division Swimming Carnival

Fri 09 Mar - Yr 9 Interschool Sports

Mon 12 Mar - Labour Day Public Holiday

Tue 13 March - Curriculum Day

Wed 14 Mar - Yr 5 Sovereign Hill

Tue 20 Mar - Yr 3-6 Swimming Division Finals

Thurs 22 Mar - Yr 8 Interschool Sport

Thurs 22 Mar - Yr 6 Melbourne Museum

Fri 23 Mar - Yr 3-6 Fun Run

Mon 26 Mar - Yr 7 Interschool Sports

Tue 27 Mar - Yr 6 Celebration of Learning

Thurs 29 March - End of Term 1

Prep - Year 6 dismissal **2:10pm**

Year 7-9 dismissal **2:05pm**

Fri 30 Mar - Public Holiday Good Friday

Mon 16 April - First day of Term 2

Fri 20 Apr - Yr 1 Werribee Zoo

Mon 23 Apr - Yr 7-9 Athletics Carnival

Wed 25 Apr - Public Holiday ANZAC Day

Fri 27 Apr - Yr 2 RACV Street Scene

Wed 2 May - Yr 3-6 Athletics Carnival

Excursion dates & Buses

Please note the excursion dates above and allow extra time for travel on these days as there may be a large number of buses present to collect students.

they are absolutely unavoidable.

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begins with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. If this was to continue to Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school or if you are having attendance issues with your child, speak with your classroom teacher or year level co-ordinator early as early as possible so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Principal

Rosa Marchionda

Kinder-2 Sub School

Thank you to all the parents who made the time to meet their child's teacher earlier this week during the meet and greet sessions. It was great to see so many families making the most of this opportunity. At Creekside College, we value clear communication and positive partnerships with parents. In order to ensure that we are all on the same page and that we all have the information that we need, we encourage parents to keep in close contact with the teachers of their children. If parents wish to meet with a staff member, it is best to arrange a meeting time, either via a note to the teacher or through the office, or a phone call. Teachers are unable to meet with parents when they are teaching their class. Please note that on Monday and Wednesdays after school, teaching staff usually have meetings straight after school.

Parents Club meets every Wednesday morning from 9:00am - 10:00am, joining the Parents Club is a great way to support our school and to participate in a range of fundraising and social events. Please come along—new members are always valued. For more information enquire at the office for more information.

We also have a Play group running every Tuesday and Thursday morning in the auditorium. If you have preschool aged children and would like to attend the cost is a gold coin donation. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends for a play and a coffee. Again contact the office for more information.

All families should have received their COMPASS logon details in the last few weeks. I urge all parents to log on to familiarise themselves with the system as more modules will be added in due course.

No hat no play – as a sun smart accredited school our students from Prep – 6 must wear an appropriate hat whilst in the yard during terms 1 and 4. Please ensure your child has a hat that is sun smart approved.

Can I remind parents to **please not enter the buildings** at the start and end of each day as it is disruptive to

students and classes. Year 1 parents please walk around the outside of the Prep building to get to the Year 1 area.

A reminder that next Tuesday 13th March is a curriculum day and **students will not be required at school**. Teachers will be taking part in Professional Learning throughout the day. During the morning session we will be having a presentation from Chris Daicos (an external consultant) around building and maintaining positive relationships and the afternoon will be working on school priorities such as planning and differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of all students.

Monday 12th March is also a public holiday so there is **NO SCHOOL** on this day.

Final assembly for term 1 is on Wednesday March 28th at 2:20pm.

Regards

Effie Sultana

K-2 Assistant Principal

Attendance in Prep to Two

Last week we had the pleasure of delivering trophies to Prep B, 1E and 2D for having the highest attendance in week 4. The children and teachers were so excited that many jumped with joy! We are looking forward to handing out more trophies in the coming weeks.

Congratulations to **Prep B** for having the highest attendance for week 4!

Congratulations to **1E** for having the highest attendance for week 4!

Congratulations to **2D** for having the highest attendance for week 4!

Drita Demiri and Michelle Lowry

Engagement and Wellbeing Leading Teachers

Year 2

We are over half way through Term 1 and our Year 2 students have kept up the great work from the beginning of the year. It was great to see so many parents attend our Meet and Greet on Monday 5th March, where we were able to talk about how well all the students have settled into their classrooms.

Writing: Students have started to work on Procedural Texts and being able to identify the structure and features of a Procedural Text. In Maths we are beginning to look at Time, focusing on the number of seconds, minutes or hours it may take us to do something. We are also working on being able to read and answer questions from a calendar.

Reading: Students are continuing to Predict and look out for Author clues to help us make an informed Prediction.

Integrated Studies: Students have started to look at the importance of physical activity and how it benefits our health.

Year Two Teachers

3-6 Sub School

Meet and Greet

Our Term 1 'Meet and Greet' on Monday was a great success, with hundreds of parents and carers taking the opportunity to meet their child's 2018 teachers. It was fantastic to hear teachers learning about their student's home life and providing positive feedback to parents about their child's behaviour, effort and achievement at school. If you were unable to meet with your child's teacher, please feel free to ring the front office to make an appointment either before or after school.

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Thursday 16th March is 'National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.' Creekside has a clear Anti-Bullying policy and educates students daily about the importance of acceptance and tolerance of others.

Students learn getting along skills, with a focus on collaborative work and peer feedback. We also teach our students conflict resolution skills, which enables them to settle minor issues independently. The college's Anti Bullying policy can be accessed on the school website.

Swimming Carnival

Well done to all the students involved in the 3-6 Swimming Carnival. The light drizzle didn't put a dampener on the day, with plenty of talent on display in the pool. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came to support their child/ren in their events. Congratulations to Kaytlin Tesoriero who made it through to the next level of competition in butterfly. We wish Kaytlin all the best as she represents Creekside at the District Swimming Carnival!

Year 5 Excursion

Next Wednesday our Year 5 students will visit Sovereign Hill as part of their Gold Rush unit. Students will learn about life in the 1850s through hands on learning. I'm sure the gold pour, gold panning and sweets shop will be the highlights as they always are.

Compass

Recently Mr Young presented two information sessions on using the Compass portal, along with some information on internet safety. He spoke about creating a positive digital footprint, developing healthy sleep habits and shared some valuable resources designed to help keep our children safe online. If you weren't able to attend either of the sessions, you can access the information on the college website by accessing 'Parent Information' and then 'Compass Information.'

Curriculum Day

A reminder that Tuesday 13th March is a Curriculum Day, so it will be a student free day.

Regards,

Gerard Lucas

3-6 Assistant Principal

7-9 Sub School

As I reflect back over the last fortnight there have been a number of conversations and events surrounding the broad topic of friendship. A conversation with some year 9 students explaining that I didn't believe the number of Facebook or Instagram friends could truly gauge the capacity for friendship. Many of those Facebook friends, must, in reality, be casual acquaintances at best. To ascertain a sense of friendship from the online statistics of 'likes' is unfortunately what many individuals turn to for affirmation of their connectedness to others, or what is then termed as friendship. I was pleasantly surprised and filled with a sense of pride when one student then connected the school values of honesty, acceptance, respect and responsibility to the fundamental values of being a good friend. This segues into the first news topic below.

Compass and Internet Safety Information Sessions

The information sessions held on Thursday 22 February were really well received. For those who missed out, you can access the presentation at <http://bit.ly/CompassParentSlides> within this are all the relevant links and information provided. The biggest 'ah ha' moment from the crowd was the tip when using the Compass App on your phone, go to the menu and select 'open in browser'.

Meet and Greet

Monday 5 March saw over 1400 parent bookings to attend the Meet and Greet evening where the classroom teaching staff were able to outline the year ahead for the children. Our thanks to those who made the effort to come along, as feedback continues to illustrate just how valuable this night is for both parents and staff as an official introduction to the relationships that will develop across the year. If we measure the success of an evening such as this on the smiling faces, laughter, and good will, then it seems that this was indeed a worthwhile evening to attend. One new family reflected that in coming to Creekside they had felt so welcomed and cared for by the community, especially the way in which the Creekside staff and students had supported their children.

School Leader Selection

What a delightful experience it is to interview for these positions and meet our future leaders. Hearing from these students is quite inspiring when you hear such maturity and vision for contributions they intend on making to the children of the School, and when you see the pride reflected in their faces as they are asked to talk about themselves and what makes them want to be involved in the leadership of the School. My thanks and acknowledgement goes out to the children who have put themselves forward for these roles.

Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 2 February saw another successful swimming event where the entire 7-9 Sub School came together

to celebrate the athletic prowess of their peers. Without doubt this event has become a highlight on the school calendar for our students. The results of the carnival were 4th – Blue 321 points, 3rd – Red 456 points, 2nd – Green 461 points and in 1st – Yellow 486 points.

Sincerely,
Paul Young
Assistant Principal 7-9

Primary Science News

Science Talent Search

The Science Talent Search is an annual Victorian science competition which is open to students in Years 1 – 6 at Creekside College.

What is the Science Talent Search (STS)?

The STS encourages students to pursue creative and open-ended projects.

There are three divisions:

- Lower Primary (Years 1 & 2)
- Middle Primary (Years 3 & 4)
- Upper Primary (Years 5 & 6)

Students can choose to demonstrate scientific learning and discovery through:

- Experimental Research
- Picture Story Books
- Working Models
- Inventions
- Games
- Computer Programs
- Posters

Individual or group (two students) entries are accepted.

\$8 entry fee per student (non-refundable)

Students are recognised for their effort. All students will receive a certificate and some may be eligible for a monetary award.

It is compulsory that all students attend the Judging Day on Saturday 4 August at predetermined venues (this year the venues are in Kew, Prahran and Preston).

Parents or other adults are required to accompany the children to this event.

Each year the STS has a theme – this year's theme is 'Australian Game Changers and Change Makers'

Students are able to select what Section they would like to enter and are able to choose their own topic (it doesn't need to be related to the theme), except for Picture Story Books and Posters, where the topics are provided.

This year the topics for Picture Story Books are:

1. This changes everything
2. A revolutionary moment in time
3. And now we think differently
4. After many trials...

This year the topics for the Poster are:

1. Made in Australia

2. An idea that changed people's lives
3. Great Australian change makers
4. That Eureka moment!

The competition is voluntary and students will need to display a keen interest in Science and be self-motivated to complete their project at home.

For further information about the competition – its rules, conditions and guidelines, please visit:

<http://www.sciencevictoria.com.au/sts/documents/STSHandbook2018.web.pdf>

Expressions of interest will be sought from students who would like to enter this year's STS within the next few weeks.

If you would like require further information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Try this experiment at home: 'Making Slime'

Basically to make slime, use twice as much cornflour as water and mix together. Add a drop or two of food colouring.

<https://www.questacon.edu.au/outreach/programs/science-circus/videos/cornflour-slime>



Nichole Fraser
F-6 Science Leader



It's fun and it's free, all it takes is 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April.

Enjoy great benefits and win awesome prizes for you or our school. Some of the personal benefits include, 10 free passes to Melton Waves or St Albans Leisure Centre, 2-for1 ticket offers and more.

Creekside has the chance to win skill sessions and visits from high profile athletes. So what are you waiting for? Head over to activeapril.vic.gov.au and register entering our team id: **creekside**.

Parent Helpers Course

Do you want to help in your child's classroom or with other events throughout the school? If so, you must complete the Parent Helper Course. We will be offering a session for parents on Tuesday March 20th at 9:00am and again a repeat session at 2.20pm in the auditorium. Come along to learn what your role is in the classroom and how to help your child with reading and numeracy at home.

Please note: All school helpers must hold a current Working with Children's Check.

For more information, please contact your child's teacher. Further sessions will be held early next term if required.



2018 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

Dear Parent

Welcome to the 2018 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). For over 30 years, ICAS has taken place annually in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific Region and South Africa. Your child is invited to participate in ICAS in 2018.

ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in **Years 2 to 12** to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of English, Mathematics and Science. The tests are an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child's strengths and weaknesses.

All students receive a **certificate** and an **individual student report** indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Merit to the next 10% of students
- Participation to all other participating students.

A UNSW medal is awarded when the highest score in each year level in each state in each subject is judged to be sufficiently meritorious. Students must sit on the official sitting dates to be eligible for a UNSW medal.

The entry fee per student is as follows:

- Science – Tues 29th May 2018 (\$10.00 GST inclusive)
- English – Tues 31st July 2018 (\$10.00 GST inclusive)
- Mathematics – Tues 14th August 2018 (\$10.00 GST inclusive)
- All of the above (\$30.00 GST inclusive)

Please return the permission slip and entry fee/s by: April 27th 2018

Your child can now prepare for ICAS and other skills-based tests with EAA's new Practice Online series. Practice Online is a series of ten interactive online tests designed for school children in Years 2-12 developed by our team of subject experts. Each child that participates receives a comprehensive individual report detailing their overall results and their performance in each area assessed. Practice Online is now available for Mathematics and will soon be available for Science and other subjects.

For more information please visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au or contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or by email at info@eaa.unsw.edu.au

Yours sincerely
Dr Sofia Kesidou
Group Executive
Educational Assessment Australia

Educational Assessment Australia

Educational Assessment Australia PO Box 8020 Alexandria NSW 2015 Australia

T: +61 2 8344 1000 F: +61 2 8344 1090 E: info@eaa.unsw.edu.au W: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Educational Assessment Australia is an education group of UNSW Global Pty Limited, a not-for-profit provider of education, training and advisory services and a wholly owned enterprise of the University of New South Wales. UNSW Global Pty Limited ABN 62 086 418 582



2018 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)
PERMISSION SLIP

Please return THIS section to school by the due dates listed below.

I give permission for my child _____ of _____
Child's name *Class*

to participate in the following 2018 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):
(Please tick)

All of the above (\$30.00 GST inclusive) - **No orders accepted after April 27th 2018**

OR

Science – Tues 29th May 2018 (\$10.00 GST inclusive) - **No orders accepted after April 27th**

English – Tues 31st July 2018 (\$10.00 GST inclusive) - **No orders accepted after June 15th**

Mathematics – Tues 14th August (\$10.00 GST inclusive) – **No orders accepted after June 15th**

Please find enclosed _____ entry fee. (Cash or pay by card/cheque at the office)
Amount

Students will be withdrawn from regular classes to sit these tests (approx. 1 hour each test) during school time on the days above.

Students must be at school on the scheduled day/s above or they may miss out completing the assessments.

No refunds will be issued for missed tests.

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Effie Sultana
Assistant Principal

Creekside College staff please forward this form to the office / Effie Sultana