Apology and correction:

Last week the Parents and Friends report in the Newsletter ended up being a mix of what was intended and elements of a draft version. It ended up being almost unintelligible in places and so I must apologise to the P&F for the confusion that this has caused with readers.

The intention of the section in question was simply to ask all parents to consider how they might be able to help with P&F this year. There is a special invitation for new parents to come along to the next meeting and share in the life of the school. All are welcome.

Additionally, there is a special request to help with the Easter raffle. There will be maximum benefit for the school if the P&F can have lots of prizes donated. Could each family please consider if there is something that they could contribute to the raffle prize pool.

4-6 Classroom:

Students have made a very positive start to the year and are generally getting into good routines. I am very pleased at the effort that is being put into spelling and times tables as these are foundation skills for future work. Thanks to the many parents who are taking the time to test their child/ren regularly for the weekly tests.

Our work on the novel *Hitler’s Daughter* is progressing well and we are now about half-way through the story. It has generated some good discussion around some important questions of history and morality.

F-3 Classroom:

This week finishes with the end of our swimming program, and it has been wonderful to see the progression of each student in their swimming. Again, thank you to our parent helpers, as your assistance has been much appreciated.

We have welcomed a new science project in the F-3 area, as Mrs Sapountzis has organized a clutch of chicken eggs to be incubated in the classroom, to help the F-2 students develop their understandings of how things grow. Students have been discussing what the chicks may look like, from pictures of the parents. We want to thank parents for reading with their child each night and this week we have started narrative writing, so watch this space for stories from our students.

Ms Douglas & Mrs Sapountzis would like to invite parents and grandparents to come into the Prep – 3 room between 9am to 9:30am and listen to children read. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Lorraine or Erin.

School council elections

At the beginning of each year, every Victorian state school engages in the process of electing parents to serve on school council. This group meets once per month (traditionally on the 3rd Tuesday of each school month) and aims to have about 10 meetings for the year.

School council is the group of people who are given the power to set the key directions for the school. This means that school council can directly influence the quality of education that a school provides to its students. It endorses the key school planning, evaluation and reporting documents including the School Strategic Plan, the school budget and the Annual...
Report to the School Community.

In essence, council makes sure that the school is running effectively in terms of how it spends its funds and the guidelines it makes for how the school is to work.

I would like all parents to consider whether they can assist in this role and make themselves available. Nomination forms will be available early in February.

If you require any further information or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

There are three (3) positions that are vacant. Nominations form will go home early next week.

**School Absence Notes**

Please find attached an Absence note that you can fill out and return it to school with your child when they return after being away.

**Parents & Friends**

Dear Parents,

We would really appreciate it if we could have your input in Parents & Friends for 2016. We are looking for fresh ideas across the school community in regards to fund raising and purchase to enrich the school.

We are also looking for helpers for BBQ's and term breakfast mornings, throughout the school year.

The P&F fund major school trips and experiences that are not funded by the department and we could really benefit from your time and support.

Our AGM is on Thursday, 10th March, all welcome.

Parents & Friends

Please let us know if you are available to help with _____________________________

Name _______________________________________________________________________

Easter Slip return with your donation

Goods donated by ____________________________________________________________________ Family Name.
ABSENCE NOTE

My child

Was absent from school on

Date/s

Reason: - Please tick

Medical

Dental

Parent Choice

Other

Signed

Date

ABSENCE NOTE

My child

Was absent from school on

Date/s

Reason: - Please tick

Medical

Dental

Parent Choice

Other

Signed

Date