Hi Parents and Carers,

Who would believe we are nearly half way through our school year? It is always good to stop for a moment and reflect on the achievements our students have made since the beginning of the year. Early next term parents and carers will be invited to school for student support group (SSG) meetings with their child’s teacher. This is a great opportunity to evaluate your child’s progress towards the individual learning goals set for them earlier in the year. I look forward to catching up with you when you come up to the school. Please drop in and see me when you visit.

Last week I was fortunate to have dinner with our senior students on their urban camp. The urban camp offers our students a great opportunity to explore our magnificent city. Adventures included a trip to the Zoo, the Aquarium, the Galactic Circus and dinner in town. The accommodation, a big old house in St Kilda across the road from the beach was a great location to begin each journey. The kids were convinced it was haunted! Our students particularly enjoyed catching the tram in each day. Accessing public transport and helping prepare big evening meals were just some of the learning that was going on while they were having fun.

The installation of our tornado swing in our back playground is now complete. A new fence was erected around it last week. It has already proved to be a hit with our students. Chris Andrews and his band of apprentices, our senior students, have landscaped the area around the swing. It looks fantastic, well done guys!

This week at Frankston SDS we hosted our annual Australiana ‘Bush Whacker Day’. This day is all about celebrating the wonderful country we live in. Our students participated in a number of Australian themed activities before enjoying a traditional Aussie sausage sizzle. In the afternoon the whole school came together to participate in a giant bush dance. It was great to see so many students so enthusiastic. A highlight of the afternoon was when our school captain Hayden Birrell gave a demonstration to us all of how to crack a stockwhip. An incredibly difficult skill, Hayden made it look easy.

Have a great weekend!

Scott Tucker
Principal

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 27th June  
Last Day Term 2 (2.00pm dismissal)

Monday 14th July  
First Day Term 3

Monday 4th August  
School Photos

Friday 29th August  
Curriculum Day (Student free day)
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>13th June</td>
<td>Narnz Murphy</td>
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<td>14th June</td>
<td>Declan Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th June</td>
<td>Jamie Iacopetta</td>
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<td>20th June</td>
<td>Nicholas Fudge</td>
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<td>24th June</td>
<td>Caleb Parkinson</td>
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<td>24th June</td>
<td>Jordan Fulton</td>
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<td>5th July</td>
<td>John Ah Fa</td>
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<td>7th July</td>
<td>Teagan Daniels</td>
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<td>9th July</td>
<td>Perry Lewis</td>
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<td>13th July</td>
<td>Billy Millaris</td>
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<td>13th July</td>
<td>Larisa Kolokotronis</td>
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<td>14th July</td>
<td>Thomas Dornan</td>
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<td>14th July</td>
<td>Kylen Connell</td>
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<td>16th July</td>
<td>Patrick Wheeler</td>
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**PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS**

The Principal’s Awards are awarded to students according to Our School Values. These awards are given out at the fortnightly assemblies throughout the year.

**CARING— for others in our classroom, school and the wider community.**
Bree Thomas  
Chelsea Trueman

**RESPECT— for yourself and others, being kind, and learning our school rules.**
Georgia Watson  
Rhyun Munro

**SHARING— with others, taking turns and working with others.**

**INDIVIDUALITY— being the best you can and doing the best you can.**
Jordan Fulton  
Reeve Llewelyn  
John Ah Fa

**ONESIE/P.J. DAY**

On Friday 27th June (last day of term) all students are able to wear their pyjamas or onesies for gold coin donation.

This casual dress day will raise funds for cancer research.
A disco will also be held on the day for all students.
Thanks to SRC for coming up with the idea and collecting the money.
Come along dressed up and take part in the fun.

**BUSHWACKER DAY**

Congratulations to all who participated and enjoyed all the fun and had a special lunch. We raised $337 for the Dolphins Relay for Life team where all funds go to cancer research. Thanks and Well Done!!
The Junior Department took part in their first Come and Try day for the year on the 6th June. This session involved students trying new activities and points are awarded for being brave and participating in the program.

Students participated in their house group and rotated through three different activities. The activities were based around our Australian theme for the term. The activities were decorating paper thongs, making lamingtons, an Australian music session and a sensory session. The students felt different sensory boxes including a box with imitation spiders and water beads, Australian animal figurines with bark and pieces of native trees and a sand sensory box with shells.

Students coped so well with being with students from other classes and visiting different classes. A big thank you, to Jen Hayes for her organisation and Leading Teachers, Kris Baker and Michael Duckett for their time.

Heidi Fenech - Juniors
Seniors Urban Camp
DISABILITY Respite & Recreation EXPO 2014

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS LIVING IN THE SOUTH DIVISION
Find out more about opportunities for people with a disability
- Respite Options
- Recreation & Arts Info
- A Large Variety of Stalls

Wednesday 13th August
10am - 2pm
Peninsula Community Theatre
Cnr Nepean Highway & Wilsons Road
Mornington
MELWAYS REF: 145 E2
FREE EVENT

For more information contact the MOIRA Expo Coordinator:
Ph (03) 8552 2222 Email: respiteexpo@moira.org.au

Interpreters available on request

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Centrelink
Department of Human Services

COMMITTED TO A SUSTAINABLE PENINSULA
Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?

The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?

Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account; or
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?

The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?

In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?

Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional $12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?

No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.