

Aiming For Excellence In Education

Our School Values:

RESPECT
ATTITUDE
CO-OPERATION
ENVIRONMENT



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SCHOOL EVENTS - DECEMBER

FRIDAY 4TH

WORKING BEE & SAUSAGE SIZZLE

MONDAY 14TH

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 7:00PM AT THE SCHOOL



Working Bee

This Friday families are invited to come along from 12:00pm for a working bee to tidy the school before the concert. The main task is to give the garden a good trim so tools to help with this should be brought along. Please let staff know if you are coming so we can cater for the bbq lunch.

Water incursion – Hydration & Health



Last week we had Gippsland Water representatives speak to our students about the benefits of drinking water. 9-13yr olds should drink 6 cups of water each day. The darker the colour of your urine, the more dehydrated you are.

Drink tap water not bottles. People chuck out the bottles and fish eat the plastic rubbish. Declan Most people think fruit juices are healthy but they are full of sugar. Opal

School Council

Matters discussed at School Council on Monday night:
*Survey results: Arts Survey – All parents who responded were happy with this year's excursions to Melbourne, viewing the bus as the best means of travel (although the train experience was worthwhile). It was good that parents could be included and this will increase in 2016 when a larger bus is needed due to increased enrolments. Excursions are already booked for April 13 (*The 52 Storey Treehouse* and 2 dance performances in August).

Sale Rural Cluster Sports survey – Parents were divided about whether to introduce a 'House' system to our cluster sports rather than students competing in their own schools. Results from some other cluster schools are not in favour of a House system.

* Special Religious Education will NOT be offered in 2016. This is a result of the Department of Education saying SRI cannot be taught during class time.

*A working bee will be held on January 21 to prepare for the new school year. Please mark this date in your diary.

Congratulations

Maddie C gave a speech on Monday night when she received her Rotary Junior Community Award at Sale College.

Maddie spoke exceptionally well in front of a large crowd. She was the only student to speak about her efforts to complete the award.



Thank you

*Alison's dad has donated rosemary, pumpkin, tomato and zucchini plants for our vegetable garden.

* Wright Refrigeration & Engineering Pty Ltd, Tinamba donated steel to make a theatre curtain rail and thank you to Deb's husband for organising this.

* Jason B has done some construction for our concert props.

*Sale Field & Game Association has donated two duck nesting boxes. Dallas will install these in the big cypress tree.

*Jan O bought students a set of 'Treehouse Story' quiz cards.

* CJ and Marty painted a wall in the big shed to act as a backdrop for the concert.

- Hans Simon donated teaching resources and books about Penguins (on behalf of Esso).

Christmas Concert

Families and friends are all invited to our annual concert on Monday, December 14 at 7:00pm at the school. Please bring along chairs to sit on and a plate of supper to share after the concert.

Professional Development

Even at this busy time of year, our teaching staff is still learning to improve their capacity to teach our students. Online webinars have been undertaken in the last week on the topics of *Synthetic Phonics* and *Encoding (spelling) difficulties*. Staff also attended the *Cybersafety* session at Cobains PS. Miss Carter reckons it's the best hour she's spent lately! Did you know that the Australian Government considers 'online safety' to be so important that they have made an entire department called "Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner". You can visit them at <https://esafety.gov.au/>

They told us that children using electronic devices are getting younger and younger and that 70-80% of children have up to 4 devices in their bedrooms.

How are parents monitoring their use?

What is a **decoy app**?

As both a school in the 21st Century and being eSmart, we are lucky to use a variety of technology. As at any other time, students are expected to display our school values while using these tools. Next year's school curriculum requires that we all use social media to communicate ideas.

There were so many interesting things we learnt at Cobains, perhaps the most interesting is the decoy apps. These are apps that are designed to look like an innocent calculator, schoolwork folder or random uninteresting file. In fact, they are usually where people hide their private photos.

Head lice

Last week a case of head lice was reported amongst students. Please check your child's hair. Students need to be treated for head lice before returning to school.

MARC Library

Families should be looking for any outstanding library books to be returned to the MARC van. A \$10.00 fee needs to be paid for all unreturned books.

Birthdays

The following student will be celebrating his birthday during the next week

ALEXIS 7th December

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Families are asked to donate items for our annual Christmas raffle which will be drawn at the school concert on Monday December 14th.

Donations may be left at the school office.

If you need extra raffle books please call into the school office.

Please return tickets and money to the office by Tuesday December 8th. Thank you.



Regards

Brenda, Geri, Kerrie, Alison and Deb