

# KOONDROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 Volume 6, Issue 1



## HOMEWORK

It's a familiar catchphrase in homes everywhere: A child gets home from school, drops their backpack onto the kitchen floor and says, "I have too much homework!" As a parent, helping your child with homework may be like a second job.

Homework may seem like a dirty word to children and parents alike, but research shows that children who spend more time on homework do better in school and develop good habits and attitudes.

Set a regular homework time for your child, based on what works best for your child and the family schedule. Some children do better by getting homework done immediately after school. Others need an hour or two of time to unwind, play and relax before starting in on homework. Arrange homework time around extra-curricular activities, but emphasize to your child that homework is a high priority.

Provide a quiet, area in your home for your child to do homework. Stock your home with pens, pencils, erasers, notebook paper, a stapler, pencil sharpener, paper clips, glue sticks, a calculator, maps, scissors, a dictionary and a thesaurus.

Be available during homework time. If possible, arrange to be home and around the house when your children are doing homework. Even if you're fixing dinner, paying bills, or reading the newspaper, being available means your child can come to you for help.

## GRANDPARENTS' DAY

The 1<sup>st</sup> of April isn't April Fools Day, it's Grandparents' Day so ring them or write to them but whatever you do make sure they can come along to Koondrook Primary on that day to see how schools work these days. Invitations will go out shortly and there will be more information and a program for the day but **BOOK YOUR GRANDPARENTS NOW!** If you do not have a grandparent perhaps you can borrow one for the day.

## NEWS FLASH

I have just been informed a Triathlon event will take place in Koondrook on Sunday morning and the run leg will include the track at the front of the school. A drinks station will also be at the front of the school. The organisers have requested the assistance of any students and their families to be at the school to help direct the athletes. If you are interested you may like to contact Doug or Rhonda Frankling.

## BOOK CLUB

Orders are due back no later than Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March.

## MEDIEVAL GROUP DAY

The Medieval Day is on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Leitchville Primary School.

An Arts Council performance will start at 10:00am.

The cost of the performance is **\$5.50** per child including GST.

As part of the day we ask the children to dress up.

We hope to see kings, queens, knights, court jesters, dragons, princesses.

It will be a full day, commencing at 10.00 am and concluding at 2.30 pm. The performance will be followed with tabloid sports and creative activities.

The Leitchville Parents will be supplying a BBQ lunch.

2 sausages and bread

Prima Drink

Cup Cake

**\$4.00**

Orders need to be in by Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

**Please complete a green envelope as your permission to attend. Include the \$5.50/child for the performance and if required a lunch order. Add the lunch order slip and money inside as well.**

.....  
Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_,

requires a BBQ lunch. I have enclosed \$4.00

## Grade 5 Writing Scorer

Summer has been a hot and dry season. Bushfires have raged all over Victoria reducing hundreds of homes to ash. In January and February we experienced a hot, dry spell. Temperatures in Melbourne topped 46 degrees and in the North West of the state the mercury got up to 47 degrees.

Summer covers three hot months; December, January and February. Summer is the season where you usually have a dip in the pool or go to the beach.

This summer was pretty unusual with some heavy rains in December but the blistering heat of January and February made us forget about the rain.

There has been a record number of scorching days during summer. Hopefully it should cool down in March and the heavens will open in April.

P.S. Perhaps we should build a pipeline to Queensland, where some areas have had up to 700mls of rain in 7 days! That could help alleviate the water crisis we have here!

Jack Thomas

**School Fees**

The fees for the 2009 school year are now due. The total amount is \$110.50. \$70.00 of this goes towards the cost of materials for Art and Library and the balance of \$40.50 goes towards each child’s class materials (books, pencils, etc.) If you feel you may have difficulty paying the fees please contact the office and we can discuss the matter.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 12<sup>th</sup> March -Mrs Callow meeting @ Bendigo
- 13<sup>th</sup> March- Mrs Callow & Ms Flood NAPLAN meeting @ Swan Hill
- 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March- Mrs Callow at a conference @ Ballarat
- 16<sup>th</sup> March- Golf clinic for 3-6 students
- 17<sup>th</sup> March- Bulldogs Football Clinic
- 23<sup>rd</sup> March-Medieval Performance @ Leitchville PS
- 1<sup>st</sup> April- Grandparents’ Day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April- ScienceTwists Day @ school. **Last day of Term 1**
- 20<sup>th</sup> April- Term 2 commences
- 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April- 5/6 URBAN CAMP
- 29<sup>th</sup> April - Food Fun P-4
- 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> July 3/4 Sleepover

**Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge**

The annual Reading Challenge is a celebration of Reading. All children read lots of books as part of their everyday education and most read for fun, too.

All children at Koondrook have now been registered for the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge and today the children will each bring home information about the challenge and their password which they can use to enter the books they have read on their online page. Children who complete the challenge will receive a certificate and have their name published in “The Age”. There is a permission form attached which needs to be signed. Please send this back ASAP so that I can have everything organised before I go on leave. The children in Grade 3-6 will learn at school how to enter their books online and the Prep-2 children will do the challenge at school with the teacher entering class books read. Parents can add to this list with books read at home if you wish.

Sally Fvfield

**More grade 5 Writing**

**Koondrook Primary School**

Our school is always so much fun,  
 We always run and run and run.  
 We love to play football,  
 And lots and lots of basketball.  
 The students are extremely cool,  
 They never miss a day of school.  
 They are big, they are small  
 They are little they are tall.  
 That’s all I have to say  
 About K.P.S today.

Olivia Turvey

**Motorbikes**

Motorbikes go very fast,  
 They leave behind a cloud of dust.  
 We ride them nearly every day,  
 We hold on tight and pray and pray.  
 No one likes falling off,  
 But everyone likes to show off.

Sam McNeil

**URBAN CAMP [www.urbancamp.org.au](http://www.urbancamp.org.au)**

This is a bi annual camp for the students of the Murray Plains Cluster.

Students stay at “Urban Camp” in Parkville. The camp experience gives country children a unique opportunity to discover Melbourne.

The camp is for students in years 5 and 6.

The cost of the camp is yet to be finalised. We have a figure of approximately \$200.00 but we expect to subsidize that amount.

At this stage we need an expression of interest for planning purposes.

.....  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_,

will be attending URBAN CAMP 27<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009.



Koondrook Primary School  
 Murray Parade Koondrook, PO Box 8 Koondrook 3580  
 Phone - 03 54532428  
 Fax - 03 54531147  
 E-mail address: koondrook.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

We’re on the Web!  
 See us at: koondrookps.vic.edu.au