Have you noticed any changes around our school?

Photograph
During this year our Junior School Committee has been selling icy poles and badges to raise funds to replace the large photograph at the entrance of the school. The photograph was put in place during the last week of term. Congratulations to the JSC on achieving their goal.

Ride on Mower
Our recent Trivia Night was the major fundraiser for 2014. From the funds raised that night, we were able to invest in a ‘ride on mower’ for the school. I have it on good authority that it ‘handles well’. Special thanks to Bruce Walker from Barry Plant who christened our mower ‘BAZZA’ on the last day of term.

New Telephone System
We have also been able to purchase a new telephone system for our school. This will greatly improve communication and security around our school. All classrooms now have a telephone. We also have an ‘absence line option’. If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, call and choose ‘Option 1—Absence line’ and record your message. This will assist to reduce the number of ‘unexplained absences’ at our school.
I would like to thank everyone involved in these activities which have helped us to continue our progress around school improvement.

**Tee ball (Girls) – REGIONALS!!**

Congratulations to our T-Ball Girls team who are heading to Keilor Park on August 5th to compete at REGIONALS!! GET BEHIND THEM!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lily</th>
<th>Paige</th>
<th>Charlotte Z</th>
<th>Meg</th>
<th>Amy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alish</td>
<td>Mikaela</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>Holly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching staff:</td>
<td>Sandy Fankhauser &amp; Mr Peel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Preps 2015**

Do you know of any young people who will be turning 5 on or before April 30, 2015? These children would be eligible to being school next year. Enrolments are now being accepted for our 2015 Prep intake.

**Student of the Week**

**Prep Podhorsky: Kiara S**
For her outstanding attitude towards her learning. Well done.

**Prep Podhorsky: Clementine G**
For sounding out her words when writing—hooray!

**Junior Smith: Jewel Y**
For fantastic preparation of her ‘Waste Mini Talk’.

**Middle Baird: Minky D**
For always being a cheery and positive classroom member who always tries her personal best with a smile on her face. Well done Minky!

**Senior Burn: Tristan M**
For his well written reflection on his homework.

**Senior McClelland: Paige R**
For her dedication in teaching her dad how to use Skype for the Cyber—seniors homework!

**Senior Peel: Bella G**
For her outstanding work with the Cyber seniors homework task!

**Music Recital**

Congratulations to the staff and students at Breakthrough Music for a most entertaining recital during the last week of Term 2.

Reminder: Head lice check - please check your child’s hair and report any head lice to the school.

ABSENCES: if your child is going to be away for the day please call the school that day to notify the teacher. Thank you.
Excursions/Incursions—Term 3, 2014
Each term teachers plan learning experiences that address the AusVELS curriculum requirements. In so doing, they may plan incursions or excursions that make the learning more powerful. While teachers try to keep costs to a minimum, there is always an additional expense.

A forecast of excursion/incursion costs for Term 3 are:
- DAV (Debating) Workshop (SLA students) - $8 per student
- Lightning Premiership (selected students) - $9 per student
- District Athletic (selected students) - $8 per student
- Paint Storm Incursion (all students) - tba
- Concert—nil

Non-payment of costs means that the school must meet the shortfall. This reduces the monies available for other resources for all students.

Please refer to our school ‘Parent Payment’ available in the Policy section of our school website.

Road Safety Alert
It has been reported to the school that a number of students are crossing the road in an unsafe way on Skene St, south of our school.
Families waiting for students are encouraged to role model appropriate safety practices by meeting their children on the school side of the road and crossing with them when it is safe to do so.

Current unsafe behaviours mean that our children are at great risk of injury from passing cars.

EMA 2nd Half: if you were not eligible and now are or missed out on the first half and are eligible, or have come from another school and are eligible please come to the office with your Health Care card to fill in an application form. Closes August 1.
Seasons is a peer support program for young people who are experiencing grief and loss in their lives. This loss may be the result of death, separation, divorce or one of many other contributing factors.

When something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. Even though death or divorce appears to be only a ‘grown up’ problem, it does have a profound effect on the children that it touches. If a parent dies or a divorce occurs, not only do the parents grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children find it extremely difficult to verbalise those feelings.

I am a trained Seasons companion willing to help students put these feelings into words, work through their grief, build a stronger self-esteem, and begin to accept what has taken place in the family.

If your child is part of a single-parent family or a step-family, and struggling through a painful experience, this will be an opportunity for him/her to be supported and have the chance to explore his/her thoughts and feelings and to ask questions. Please note that this is not a clinical program and as such, no observation notes are taken or records kept. Due to the nature of the program it relies heavily on the confidentiality of all participants.

Hopefully, the 8 week program will begin in term 3 and will meet once a week for 1 hour. Sessions will take place within school hours—at a suitable time negotiated with class teachers.

If you have any queries or questions regarding the Seasons program, please feel free to come and speak to me on a Thursday or Friday.

Aaron Butters-Chaplain, Newtown PS.

Please discuss the matter with your child, fill out the form below and both sign it, as an expression of interest in the Seasons Program.

______________________________  ________________
Child’s Name Age Grade

Our interest in the program is due to (a) death (b) separation (c) divorce  (please circle)

Signature child ________________________________  Signature parent ________________________________