**Granger Rocks K-ROCK!**

Our Grade 6 students frequently have the opportunity to read the weekend weather forecast on K-ROCK. Last week Granger met up with Geelong’s own Taylor Henderson in the studio.

**HOT DOG ORDERS DUE IN TOMORROW......**

**Save the Date**

**Trivia Night—Saturday May 31**

The organising team for the Trivia Night will be meeting on April 4 at 1:30pm in the MPR kitchen. Please come along and join the team if you are keen to part of this fun, productive team.

**Parenting Ideas Magazine**

Follow the link to Parenting Ideas Magazine


**Parentingideas Club**

Parentingideas Club is a new online parenting centre founded by Michael Grose. You can now get expert advice at every stage of your child’s development. Become a member at Parentingideasclub.com.au today and get ready for more confident parenting and happier, more successful kids.

**Excursions/Incursions—Term 1, 2014**

A forecast of excursion/incursion costs for Term 2 are:

- Gymnastics Program—approx. $24 per student

Non-payment of costs means that the school must meet the shortfall. This reduces the monies available for resources for all students. Prompt payment is expected.
**Student of the Week**

**Prep McKenzie:** Lily C
For showing respect to a friend who was feeling sad.

**Prep Podhorsky:** Yunseo H
For trying really hard to sound out words when reading. GREAT WORK.

**Junior Kelly:** Bailey A
Good focus in class.

**Junior Kelly:** Olympia K
Great effort in her reading & writing.

**Junior Smith:** Amadeus R
For showing great enthusiasm towards all areas of his learning.

**Junior Wrigley:** Zoe B
For her great attitude towards learning at all times. Happy Birthday!

**Middle Ashkanasy:** Astrid T
For being a great role model by working hard & showing kindness.

**Middle Baird:** Miles M
For being a respectful classroom member and staying behind to help after school. Thanks buddy.

**Middle McKinnis:** Peter K
For personnel best efforts this week.

**Senior Burn:** Kai C
For showing continued leadership in class, at skipping and at Cross Country.

**Senior McClelland:** Georgia C
For going above and beyond to be a brilliant role model for her buddy—well done buddy!

**Senior Peel:** Charlie F
For her helpful & positive attitude! What a great role model!

**Emma-Jane H & Rafferty G:**
Using their initiative as Sustainability Reps by helping everyone to recycle.

**KAISERCRAFT ARTS AWARD:**
**Audrey A:** For showing initiative, creativity & respect for learning (designing a plan for your artwork at home)

**Owen S:** for excellent listening skills. (You have a good ear for music! Able to distinguish the difference in a sound by half a note—a semitone! Wow!)

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**Icy Poles for Sale**
The Junior School Committee will have icy poles for sale on Friday. Until we have sold all of our current stock Bring along $1 for a refreshing icy pole.

**Easter Hamper Raffle**
Do you have any Easter theme items for our annual Easter Raffle? Please drop them in to the office and they will be used to make up hampers to the raffles at our final Term 1 assembly. Major Prize—$100 seafood voucher! Books of raffle tickets were sent home this week.

**Juniors go to Scienceworks—March 17**
On our excursion to Scienceworks I raced Cathy Freeman in the sports area. Sometimes I lost but sometimes I won. I liked the Nitty Gritty Super City. I played in the café. We saw a Lego model of Melbourne. I loved the sorts are too. I LOVED IT!!!

Zoe
On our excursion to Scienceworks I saw some old planes and they were very weird. We played on the ship. I was on the crane and loaded the boxes into the big box. We watched a show and the man weighed Joel’s shoe. I learnt not to smell Joel’s shoe!

Oliver

At Scienceworks we saw things about recycling. Scienceworks was amazing because there were cool things about science. All the Grade 1/2 students went. We left at 8:45 and came back at 3:10. It was a long trip to Melbourne but it was lots of fun.

Tessa

FACEBOOK
Did you know that our school has a facebook account. Where we share news, updates and links. https://www.facebook.comNewtownPrimarySchool

Cross Country/Fun Run
Congratulations to students, staff and families on a brilliant day last Friday as we gathered as a whole school at Barwon Valley Fun Park. Events were planned to challenge all age groups whether it be 3 km run or the prep obstacle course. Friday was also the National Day of Action Against Bullying. Our school demonstrated our stand against bullying by supporting and encouraging each other throughout the event.

All parents helping out in classrooms or on school excursions require a current Working With Children check.
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

**“Day off!”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:


Department of Education and Early Childhood Development