

## **DIARY DATES**

### **DECEMBER**

Tues 3	Year 4 Excursion to Immigration Museum
Thurs 5	Choir Excursion to Craigieburn Central
Wed 18	Year 6 Excursion to Funfields
Thurs 19	Year 6 Graduation
<b>Fri 20</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 4—Early Finish @ 1.30pm</b>



This time of the term is such a busy one for staff and students as we finish one year and simultaneously prepare for the new school year.

Thank you to those parents who have informed us if they are moving schools next year. We are interviewing for new staff this week and student enrolments dictate staff numbers that are required. Alternatively, if you know of anyone that is intending to enrol their children and haven't done so, please let them know that enrolments will be closing soon.

### **Voluntary Contributions**

School Council and our Administrative Office have been asked several times of late, why we ask for a voluntary contribution. Our school asks for a General levy of \$20 and a Computer levy of \$20. The General levy assists the school to purchase more expensive items such as playground, sporting, science, technology, library, music and art/ craft materials and equipment.

The Computer levy is specifically targeted at providing all students with access to up to date networks of computers, devices and technology equipment.

This helps to compliment the money in the budget from the government which needs to pay for salaries, facilities, specialised programs and grounds.

We thank you for your support and appreciate your understanding with this small request.

### **Staffing**

At this stage of the year we farewell not only students but members of staff also. I would like to thank Tara, Monique and Rachelle for their outstanding contribution to our school community.

Tara will be joining her husband in Darwin, NT. We were lucky enough to employ Tara initially from the Northern Territory and she has been such a wonderful, dedicated member of staff from the moment she stepped through our door. Tara has shown wonderful leadership and like Monique and Rachelle always puts the students at the centre of their work. Tara is an exceptional teacher and will be missed.

We congratulate Monique on obtaining an ongoing position at Mernda P.S. As a graduate teacher, Monique has displayed a maturity and depth of knowledge beyond her years of teaching. Monique has a strong work ethic and goes over and beyond the classroom to provide her students with support and extra- curricular activities. Monique's bright and cheerful personality will be missed by staff, students and families. We wish Monique all the very best in her new school. Mernda Primary School is gaining a talented young teacher.

Congratulations to Rachelle who has recently been appointed Principal of Diggers Rest P.S. Rachelle had a brief time there as Acting Principal in term 2 and was well respected by the school community. Rachelle will take up the position in 2014. Rachelle has been pivotal in ensuring our school's vision and values go beyond the rhetoric. Rachelle has been a valued, teacher, team leader, literacy leading teacher and of course most recently, respected member of the leadership and principal class team. This is a wonderful opportunity for Rachelle to lead her own school and school community. Indeed our system can only benefit from having her in such a position of leadership. Her support over the years to students, staff and families has been appreciated and will be missed.

We wish all our departing staff every good wish for the future and thank them for their years of care and dedication to our students.

In the next newsletter, we will be able to inform you of our incoming staff.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Leah Dusenjko, grade 6 Bay on receiving the Hume City Council, Education Scholarship. This award aims to recognise the significant contribution made by schools and students in the pursuit of academic excellence and in encouraging qualities of good citizenship both at school and the wider community. We are very proud of Leah!

**Barb**

## Vocabulary Development in children

If you were to ask your child to describe their bedroom, a favourite toy or an event they attended, would they give you one word, a sentence or a paragraph? What sort of language would they use? Would your child provide a brief response? Would they use descriptive language, helping you to create a picture in your own head?

A broad vocabulary is a pivotal component in literacy development. The use of adjectives is central to this notion and is often the key issue when moving from picture books to novels. Adjectives are the describing words that help us to form a picture in our heads. This may include colours, numbers and words to indicate size or ownership. In day to day life, for a variety of reasons, we often neglect the use of adjectives in our spoken language. We can point to an object or demonstrate an action, and this might mean adjectives are not always necessary. When reading or writing however, adjectives become very important as they are the tools that help an audience to visualise what is going on in a story, letter or report. Successful readers often comment that when they are reading, they have a movie in their heads. It is the author's use of adjectives that allows this to happen.

Our grade one students have been exploring their use of adjectives this term. Read the following sentences and think about the picture they conjure in your mind!

*One dark night I was in my bedroom sleeping. Then I heard a scary noise. I looked outside. There was a strange, funny shape at the window. It was a zombie!...* Mercedes Ioane.

*One cold, dark morning at school I sat down to eat my sandwich. I had salami and lettuce. When I was eating suddenly Zeynep took my navy blue sun smart hat...* Nicolette Paschalis

*One day there was a boy named Hasan. He lived in a forest. He heard a creepy noise. It was a goat. It was very dark brown and it had sharp horns...* Hasan Mayhoub

*One day Rosy was playing in her bedroom and she saw a grizzly bear in her backyard....*Hazel Dalak

Remember...the best way for your child to learn about adjectives is through reading! Ask your child about the picture or the movie they have in their head whilst reading or writing. What are the adjectives that help with the picture?

**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."** Dr. Seuss

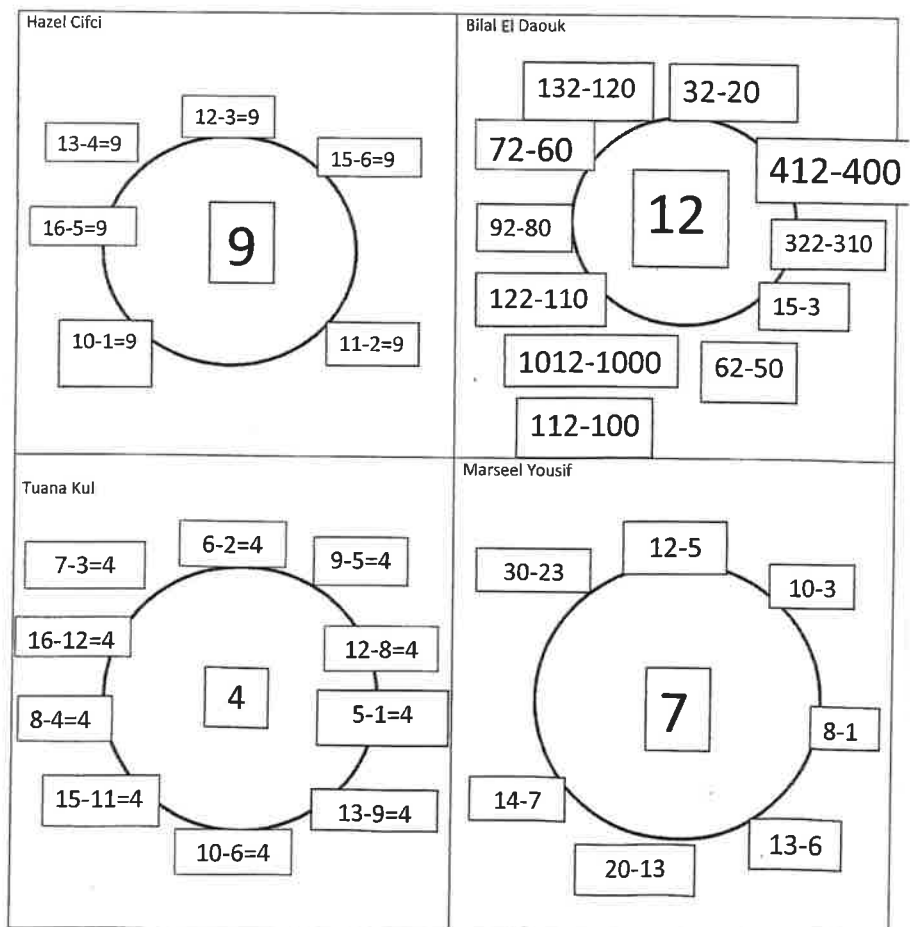
**Rachelle Hedger & Anthony Simone**

### Grade 1 Erin's Subtraction Challenge

Grade 1 Erin have been learning how to solve subtraction problems. Their teacher, Erin, presented this problem to the grade...

The answer to a subtraction problem is 7. What could the number sentence be?

The children explored different ways to solve the problem. Some children were given a different number to solve. This is what they discovered...



# Have you thought about using Out of School Hours Care??

We have spaces available for your children to enjoy playing and extending their life experiences. If you are interested in being part of our programs either this year (Christmas shopping in peace) or next year, please pop in and see or phone Margaret and Danielle or any of our friendly professional staff for an enrolment form and information sheet.

Our prices are very affordable; childcare benefit is automatically deducted from your weekly fee and you can also arrange to have your childcare rebate deducted.

The Vacation Care Program will run from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January to Friday January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Contact us on **0417 594 511** during program hours for more information regarding our Before & After Care Program or our Vacation Care Program.

Looking forward to seeing you!!

## WEEKLY PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING TO SUPPORT FRAMEWORKS

Week Beg. 2/12/13	Afternoon Tea	Art/Craft Special	Staff Allocation for activity	Resources needed	Learning Outcome	Indoor Regular	Outdoor Special	Outdoor Regular
<b>Monday</b>	Dip Platters	Stars	Beulah	Paints & templates	Interacting verbally and non-verbally; community; media Outcome 4 & 5	<u>Fine Motor</u> Hama Beads Lego Beading	Group games	<u>Gross Motor</u> Down ball Play equip.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Fruit platters	Snow balls	Lauren	Paper plates; glue and paint	Develops confidence & creativity. Outcome 4	<u>Co-operative</u> Home Corner Board Games		<u>Social</u> Sandpit Chalk Drawing Outdoor trolley
<b>Wednesday</b>	Dips platters	Angels	Cheyane	Templates & textas	Developing strong wellbeing Outcome 3	<u>Creativity</u> Drawing Blocks Construction		<u>Co-operative</u> Football Basketball Netball
<b>Thursday</b>	Fruit platters	Flower pressing	Marg	Flowers from Marg's garden, ironing paper	Using natural resources Outcome 4	<u>Social</u> Card Games Music	T-Ball	
<b>Friday</b>	Special treat to be advised	Necklaces & chains	Danielle	Pasta shapes; food colour	Using everyday resources & developing creativity Outcome 2 & 4	<u>Cognitive</u> Puzzles	Netball	
<b>Weekly On-going Activity</b>	Christmas decorations help children prepare for the Christmas cheer and respect diversity and celebrations. Learning Outcome 2					Outdoor group games help children to share space and develop self esteem. Learning Outcome 1		

### ENROLMENTS

If you, or any of your friends or neighbours are intending to enrol at Roxburgh Homestead please do so ASAP as we are about to organise staffing for 2014.

**Are you leaving Roxburgh Homestead Primary School at the end of 2013? If so please notify the Office ASAP.**

**Name.....Grade.....School in 2014.....**

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