

# KISMET NEWS

**Our Purpose:** To provide a cooperative, supportive learning environment which assists students and staff to achieve personal excellence by fostering respect for ourselves, others and the environment while celebrating achievement and success in learning.

Our School Motto is "Empowerment and Excellence for all."

Confidence Persistence Organisation Getting Along Resilience

**Term 1 Week 3**

**19/02/09**

REMEMBER	Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Grade 3/4 Swimming Program
	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Last Day for payment</b> Grade 1/2 Swimming Program
	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Fete Meeting at 9am.
	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Last Day for EMA Application.</b> See Deb with your current Health Care Card to apply.
	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Grade 1/2 Swimming Program
	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Twilight Swimming Sports
	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Photos – Band, JSC
	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Meeting at 9am.

Assembly This week: **At assembly tomorrow** we will be acknowledging our 2008 Junior School Councillors

## Dear Parents, Staff & Students,

We would like to start this week by thanking the Kismet Park Community for the generosity they have shown over the past week in support of the families who have been affected by bushfires. As a result of our casual clothes day we were able to contribute \$4569.00 to the Red Cross Appeal. We also received a large number of donations of toiletries and other small household items which have been passed on to appropriate charity organisations for distribution. Throughout the week a number of our parents have been involved in coordinating and transporting goods. To everyone we say a huge thanks!

To Nathan, Harong and their family who joined our learning community earlier this week we extend a warm welcome. We look forward to working with them over the coming years and trust that their time with us will be enjoyable and rewarding.

Finally, a number of residents have contacted us regarding the rabbits which have decided Kismet is a great place to live. We can assure all that we have spoken with Brad Spear (Rabbit Control) who has also visited our site. All recommendations made by Brad are being implemented on an ongoing basis. We continue to monitor issues on our site and believe that steps being taken are so far proving effective.

Glenn & Diane

## School Council News

On Monday night School Council ratified the following time line for our 2009 School Council Election

Notice of election and call for nominations	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> of February 2009
Closing date for nominations	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> of February 2009
The date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be displayed	Thursday, 26 <sup>th</sup> of February 2009
The date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed.	On or before Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> of March 2009
Close of ballot	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2009
Vote count	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> of March 2009
Declaration of ballot	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> of March 2009
First council meeting	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> of March 2009

For those who would like to know more about the workings of school council we have included the following information.

### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

**A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

**The term of office for all members is two years.** Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### How can you become involved?

## PTA & Community 1

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal issues a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Please contact Glenn or Diane for further information.

## Student Safety

**For student safety reasons please ensure you always Parking Safely and Legally**

**Due to a number of parents continuing to use the Staff Car Park as a drop off point we will be closing the gates to the staff car park in the interests of student safety.**

Because of the narrow streets surrounding our school parking will always be a problem.

Please do not exacerbate this problem by careless or illegal practices.

To provide a safe environment for all of our students to arrive and leave school safely please ensure that you:

- Do not use the staff car park.
- Do not double park anywhere.
- Do not drop off in the oval car park if there are not parking spaces. This causes danger to your children and to those already parked who are coming in to school.
- ALWAYS ENSURE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN USE SCHOOL CROSSINGS.
- Use pedestrian entries to the school NOT the staff car park.
- Ensure you children DON'T jump fences.

## DOGS

In the interests of student safety dogs are not permitted in the school playground. Please be mindful that when a number of children are around dogs can become excited

### Why we use 'You Can Do It!' at Kismet Park

*Detailed below is the background to the You Can Do It! program as described by its creator Michael Bernard.*

All children arrive on their first day of school with a gleam in their eyes, wanting to learn. Each child dreams of being able to read, write, spell and count to infinity. For many children, their dreams are turned into reality. For many others, however, their reality consists of frustration, failure, disappointment, low self-esteem, and never living up to the promise of their potential.

We know there are a variety of reasons why children are at risk of under-achievement, poor psychological health, and disaffection. We also know that there are Five Foundations that support the success of achieving students and that are lacking in under-achieving and at-risk children.

Foundations for Achievement is a vital resource based on the latest research into why children do not reach their full potential. Foundations for Achievement provides educators with the tools for teaching students the five basic foundations of Confidence, Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along and Resilience.

The Foundations for Achievement program introduces

- The Five Foundations
- Positive Habits of the Mind and the Foundations they support
- Negative Habits of the Mind that lead to problems
- Keeping our eye on the achievement ball: Time on Task
- Home as a vital key
- Developing emotional resilience and well-being

Program Achieve (You Can Do It!) focuses on teaching students the Five Foundations (Confidence, Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along & Resilience) that together constitute a positive mindset for developing their academic potential.

Students are also taught how to think rationally and to eliminate the negative mindset that is associated with anxiety/low self-esteem, work avoidance, general disorganization and rebelliousness/anger.

## Punctuality

Students arriving late often means they miss out on important information or instruction time at the beginning of the learning session. It can also distract others from their work. As we strive to make the most of all learning times, please assist class teachers by ensuring students arrive on time. Students who arrive at classrooms after the bell has sounded will be asked to attend the office so that their late arrival can be recorded on CASES which can be monitored by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. (This allows us to accurately track late arrivals) Students will then be handed a late pass which will be passed on to the class teacher.

School commences at 8:55am

Recess is from 11:00 -11:30 am

Students eat lunch in classrooms from 1:15pm to 1:30pm

Lunch play is from 1:30 -2:15PM

**Student Welfare** This week the following students were awarded ribbons for Pupil of the Week. Congratulations to the following students

1/2A	Tyler Collins	Organisation	Being attentive getting work done
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	Brielle Brne	Confidence	Trying really hard with reading
1/2B	Jake Ugrenovic	Organisation	Being ready to learn
1/2G	Tyson Griffin Rebecca Baker	Persistence Persistence	Completing maths work Fantastic Sunsmart work
1/2H	Alex Nutkins	Getting Along	Making new friends and setting an excellent example for others
1/2Z	Ellyse Xiberras	Getting Along	Making new friends
3/4B	Mitchell Arnold Laura Pemberton	Organisation	Being ready to learn
3/4C	Abby Wells Benjamin Marcuse	Confidence	Always having a go and doing their best
3/4N	Ryan Attard Jackson Coates	Confidence Confidence	Doing his best work Always doing his work
3/4S	Matilda Tobin Benjamin Mounsey	Getting Along Persistence	Thinking of others by organising gifts for bushfire victims Tolerating Mrs S and her mess!
3/4W	Mitchell Shields Ashlee Sycz	Getting Along Persistence	Settling in well at his new school Working hard in maths
5/6A	Brooke Goodson Michael Attard	Organisation Getting along/Confidence	Excellent book work Forming excellent relationships with his classmates
5/6C	Hayley Knight Hayley Routley	Resilience Organisation	Bouncing back when things get tough Working to a high standard
5/6G	Sophie Geytenbeek	Persistence	Always working hard
5/6S	Bianca Holmes Cameron Richards	Organisation Confidence	Be well prepared Approaching tasks well
5/6W	Maverick Azzopardi Michael Sahlberg	Persistence Getting Along	For concentrating on Holly's Heroes work For being helpful class member

## Social Service Report

**Bush Fire Appeal** A huge thank you to all the Kismet Park Primary School families and friends, who assisted with the Bushfire Appeal at National Storage in Sunbury last weekend. Volunteers assisted with handing out flyers and numerous people gave up their time on the weekend to help sort through all the donations. We were inundated with donations and desperately needed more help, the phone calls went out for more help and the response was fantastic. We managed to receive enough donations to fill an 8 tonne truck that went to the Puckapunyal Army Base on Monday. Over 1000 people affected by the bushfires will be relocated to Puckapunyal by the end of this week. Thank you all again for your support and assistance. Penny Draper, Bushfire appeal Coordinator.

### INFORMATION ON THE EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

To be eligible for the receipt of the EMA you must be:

- either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of 16
- an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004
- a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner
- a foster parent.

The EMA applications must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009.

The EMA provides an amount of \$77-35 for the parent and \$77-35 for the school for primary students.

Commencing in 2009, eligible parents will have the option to receive the parent portion of the EMA payment directly into the parent's nominated bank account, or as a cheque payment.

**Junior School Council 2009** It has been a busy and exciting time for Junior School Council with elections underway to find this year's representatives.

Last week children from grades two to six voted to find their grade representatives. The successful nominee's posters have been displayed on the canteen windows.

This week the final voting will take place to choose our JSC representatives for 2009. Thank you to all nominees who participated in the elections. Good Luck!

The successful 2009 JSC representatives for each year level will be announced at next week's assembly.

At assembly tomorrow we will have our farewell presentation for the 2008 JSC representatives. A time to

reflect and thank the students for all the hard work undertaken by them in 2008.

Thank you,

Julie Zabielski.

### Instrumental Music News

**Drums and Guitar Lessons** All students who want to have drum lessons with Arthur Rich or guitar lessons with Anne-Marie must contact them directly to confirm lesson times and payments. If you don't have their phone number, please contact the office or Mr Schumann.

**Violin, Brass and Woodwind Lessons** We still have some vacancies for anyone who wants to have violin, brass or woodwind lessons. Please contact Mr Schumann