Public Holidays

- Monday 25th April – ANZAC DAY
- Monday 13th June

Curriculum Day – Pupil Free Day – Monday 23rd May – Students Do Not come to school on this day.

Welcome Back to Term 2
Welcome back to all of families. I hope that our families enjoyed the time together over the term 1 holidays. We also have a number of new families who started with us this week and I would like to extend a warm welcome to those students and their families.

Grade Excursions & CSEF Funding
DON’T MISS OUT on providing for your child – APPLY NOW!
Throughout the year, every grade level will be involved in a range of class excursions. Excursions are important for many reasons.

Many of our families are eligible for the $125 through the CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund) which will cover activities such as sports, excursions and swimming. This funding is extremely important and enables your child to participate in a range of excursions and activities.

If you have a current and eligible Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card, you need to apply NOW!

Some grades will be going on an excursion within the next few weeks – Please makes sure you apply ASAP.

How do I apply for the CSEF funds?

Step 1: Bring your current Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card to the office and we will make a photocopy of it.
Step 2: Complete the CSEF application form and hand it to the office.

Educational trips are important in many ways. Going on a Educational excursion means more than simply leaving the school grounds. Educational excursions should always have a major educational element, but the impact of Educational trips can extend much further. The importance of Educational trips includes giving students the chance to build closer bonds with their classmates, experience new environments and enjoy a day away from the classroom.

Reinforcement
The trip can reinforce what a teacher has been instructing in class about a subject and help students understand the topic better

Engagement
Teachers turn trips into mobile classrooms, instructing students to collect data, then quizzing them or assigning a project based on what they learned during the outing.

Socialisation
Taking students into a new environment gives them the experience of traveling in a group and teaches them to be respectful of the locations they visit.

Exposure
Kids get to visit a place to which they have never been before. This can be particularly advantageous to students who are less fortunate and don’t have the opportunity to travel.

Curiosity
Students who go on Educational trips find that they want to learn more about the subjects on which the trip focused.
Retention
The type of memories that Educational trips create, called “episodic memories,” helps children retain information for longer periods.

Informal Learning Environment
Educational trips provide valuable educational opportunities away from the classroom, without using textbooks and other tools used in a normal school setting. Students on Educational trips can often learn while having fun in a more informal environment. If the Educational trip destination has staff members who do hands-on teaching with visiting students -- such as at a science center or historical museum -- the children will be excited to learn from someone new.

Fun
No matter how much students learn during a Educational trip, their favorite memories may be based on their enjoyment of the day. Getting away from school for a day or even half a day is always exciting for students, and Educational trips are always highly anticipated. Students will have fun with their friends and they also may return to the classroom with a renewed focus on their schoolwork.

Naplan Parent Workshop – Thank you to the parents who attended our Naplan Parent Workshop on Wednesday. The feedback has been very positive. Thanks to Mrs Hall and Mrs Moorman for running the workshop.

Naplan 10th, 11th & 12th May
The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 and 5 students will be held on Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May. This is a national test that gives a snapshot of each student’s ability in Literature and Numeracy compared to all other students in the same year level around Australia.

NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer.
This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the Principal or Assistant Principals. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school – Please see the Assistant Principal- Mrs. Hall or Mrs. Henderson.

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

Attitudes to School Survey
Student in Years 5 and 6 will complete the annual Attitudes to School Survey, which will be conducted from Monday 18th April to Friday 29th April. The survey provides schools with valuable data on students’ views of their wellbeing, teaching, learning and school in general. This data will be used to support school improvement, student engagement and wellbeing.

2016 CSEF APPLICATIONS
Have you applied yet?
There are a number of families who successfully applied for the CSEF payment in 2015 but have not yet submitted an application for 2016. A new application must be completed every year if you still have a current and eligible Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card. Please check to see if you have applied for the CSEF this year. This payment of $125 can be used for sport activities, swimming program or camps throughout the year.
Application forms are available at the office.
Please bring your card with you.
If you are not sure if you have applied or have any questions please contact the school office.

Advertisement
GARAGE SALE
When: This Saturday 16th April
9.00am – 2.00pm
Where: Unit 5, 1380 Heatherton Road,
Dandenong North 3175
Baby furniture, car seat, toys, books, manchester, bric-a-brac, towels, fence extensions, mini motorbike, kids inflatable jumping castle and more.