Welcome Back
I would like to formally welcome back all members of the Clyde Primary School Community for 2015. I hope that everyone had a relaxing holiday period with their families and feel excited about the year ahead. In case some members of the community didn’t know, I have been appointed as the Acting Principal for Term 1. I feel very privileged to lead such a fantastic school and look forward to the exciting challenges that lay ahead.

New Staff
I would like to welcome Nick Graham and Fraser Selby to our teaching ranks for this year. Nick was the successful applicant in picking up a position in Year 6 and Fraser will be teaching a Year 1 class. I wish these two the best of luck as they begin their careers in education.

Our school has grown to 253 students this year which means we are now running with 11 classes which are split into a Junior, Middle and Senior School. Sharon Barker will be leading the Junior School, Pattie Chester the Middle School and Tegan Sanderson the Senior School. Doug Pumpa and Tegan Sanderson have been appointed as Leading Teachers for this term supporting me as the Acting Principal.

Sharon, Pattie and Tegan will be writing regular updates for the newsletter providing information about their designated area of the school. These updates will begin shortly. Hayley Taylor will continue to look after Student Welfare and she will also be keeping the community informed of current initiatives through the school newsletter.
Parking
Can parents please be extra careful when parking at the front of the school. The local council have installed new drainage which has altered the height of the curb. Please park your cars slowly to avoid damage.

School Council/School Council Elections
Our first School Council meeting will be held on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} February at 6.00pm. The following meeting will be held on Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} March which will include the AGM also beginning at 6.00pm. There are a number of positions available for School Council in 2015, please refer to further information in this newsletter if you are interested.

Canteen
Canteen resumes this Friday 6\textsuperscript{th} February, a special thank you to all of our volunteers who enable this to happen.

Professional Development
Staff will be participating in First Aid, Anaphylaxis and Asthma training over the next couple of weeks. This will be particularly beneficial as the training will be completed before school camp begins. I thank the teachers for giving their time after hours, to complete this important training.

Nick Schneider (Acting Principal)

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School Council Elections 2015 – Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide 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?
For most school councils, 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 engaged in work 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 – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires 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?
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
• 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 will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.
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 engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school. 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. Generally, 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

School Council Members with a remaining year are as follows:

Parents
Shane Smith
Lisa Keppel
Trent Lawrence
Jo Sturgeon

4 positions up for election and (1 elected community representative once School Council has been formed)

DEECD Staff
Tegan Sanderson
Nick Schneider

2 positions up for election

Self-nomination forms and nomination forms for the parent category are available from the office on Wednesday 4th February 2015.
The nomination forms must be lodged in the ballot box in the office by 4pm on the 11th of February 2015. You will receive a nomination receipt when you hand in your nomination form. If an election is required, a ballot will be held and this will close on 18th, February, 2015. All parents can vote for the parent vacancies if a ballot is required.

Contact Nick Schneider (Acting Principal) for further information.
The 2014 library stock take has been completed. We still have many books that have not been returned to the library by students. If students could please have a look at home for their missing books and return them to the library as soon as possible. Thank you.

Please do not repair any school books at home. Bring them to the library so they can be repaired with the proper equipment, sticky tape yellows over time and staples are dangerous.

Mrs Diveney – Library Technician

Premier Reading Challenge 2015
More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Scholastic Book Club 2015
A new and exciting ‘Scholastic Book Club’ has arrived.
Scholastic Book Club is issued 8 times a school year. All club benefits will be redirected back to purchasing library books and resources for our school. Thank you for your support.

If you wish to make a purchase from the catalogue, please complete the order form on the back of the catalogue and return them before the due date to your child’s classroom teacher, in an envelope clearly marked ‘Scholastic Book Club attention Mrs Diveney.’ Delivery will be approximately 2 weeks later.

Alternatively you can now use the new ‘LOOP’ (Link Online Ordering Payment) for parents at www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP and follow the online direction.

All orders are given to your child to take home. So if the order is a gift please make a note on the envelope including your contact number and I will ring you to make arrangements for collection.

If you have any questions regarding Scholastic Book Club, please see Mrs Diveney – Book Club Coordinator
SCHOOL BANKING!

Student Banking has commenced for 2015. Banking is every Tuesday morning and forms are available from the office if your child doesn’t have a Commonwealth Dollarmite account.

CAMP AUSTRALIA

You can register if or when you find yourself in a position where your need to drop your child/ren off early or pick them up late. Don’t forget you can join on a casual basis for those unavoidable emergencies.

Ph: 1300 105 343
Email: OSHC@campaustralia.com.au
Website: www.campaustralia.com.au

BIRTHDAYS!!!

FEBRUARY

1st
Zara M 00A

4th
Annabel K 00B

6th
Cale W 23A
Blake F 23A

9th
Jet G 01B

12th
Noah C 02A

14th
Brendan V 02A
Kyra F 43A
Mia B 01A
Shae C 03A

15th
Pete N 56A
Welcome back for 2015! The first PFA meeting for this year will be held on Monday 9th February 2015 at 2.45pm in the Dew Drop Inn. The Parents and Friends Association is always happy to welcome new members and extends this invitation to all but especially to our new families joining the school. This is a great way to meet other parents and make some great friendships while fundraising to for resources for our school.

Easter Raffle
The PFA would like to ask families to please donate something for our upcoming Easter Raffle such as an egg/s, stuffed rabbit, basket or cello wrap etc. All donations can be given to the front Office and are greatly appreciated.

Cranbourne Cash
Cranbourne Good Guys kindly donates "Cranbourne Cash" for each purchase made. If you purchase an item there please ask for "Cranbourne Cash" for Clyde Primary School no matter how small or large your purchase is. All you need to do is bring it into the front office once you have been given the voucher. These vouchers are used to purchase raffle items and help replace electrical items within the school when they stop working.

Thank you and we look forward to welcoming new members to assist with all our fundraising efforts for 2015.

Canteen
Our school canteen will open this Friday. If you are able to assist in the canteen could you please complete the form below and return it to the white PFA box in the front office. A current Working with Children check is required.

I am able to help in the Canteen:
(Please Circle)
Once per Term
More than once per Term - Please Specify ..................................................
Your Name........................................................................................................
Your Phone Number........................................................................................

*A roster will be sent home with your child. Thank you.