Our Vision
Our school learning community strives to prepare students for their future.

Values
We believe in developing respect, responsibility and resilience through a challenging and diverse learning environment.

Issue No. 6
29th April, 2015

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

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<td>Laptop Payments Due</td>
<td>Wednesday May 6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAPLAN Years 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Tuesday May 12th – Thursday May 14th</td>
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<td>Curriculum Day – Student Free Day</td>
<td>Friday June 5th</td>
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<td>Queens Birthday - Public Holiday</td>
<td>Monday June 8th</td>
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Principal’s Report

Leave
Sharon Barker begins her long service leave this Wednesday, she will be returning to work on Monday 1st June. Miss Amy Hobson will be replacing Sharon in her absence.

Transition
We have finalised the transition dates for our 2016 preps. These are outlined below:

- Monday 10th August – 1.30pm – 3.00pm
- Thursday 26th August – 11.30am – 1.00pm
- Wednesday 9th September – 9.30am – 11.00am
- Tuesday 26th October – 11.30am – 1.00pm

Meet the Principal Morning Tea, Tuesday 26th October 11.45am – 12.30pm
Prep Orientation Morning, Tuesday 8th December 9.30am – 1.00pm

Professional Development
The school has purchased a new benchmarking program to help assess reading throughout the school. The new program will ensure continuity when assessing reading outcomes across all year levels. A representative from Pearson Education recently visited the school for a PD session for staff.

Curriculum
Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews were conducted at the end of last term. I would like to thank both parents and teachers for their time.

NAPLAN – Preparation for NAPLAN testing is in full swing. Students from Years 3 & 5 will be participating in the testing regime in mid-May.

Attitude to School Survey – This survey will be conducted with our Year 5 & 6 students this week.
PFA
The Clyde Primary School Parents and Friends Association is looking for new members. The PFA meets once a month on a Monday afternoon and organises fundraisers for our school. Special lunch days, Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, the Bunnings BBQ and chocolate drives are examples of the fundraising activities conducted. Any assistance that can be offered would be greatly appreciated.

Laptop payments
Can parents/guardians with students in the laptop program please ensure that all laptop payments are up to date. Thank you.

Nick Schneider (Acting Principal)
Helping students get ready for the NAPLAN tests

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

During the second week of May Australian children in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels to assist education policy and decision-making.

The program first implemented in 2008 has drawn some criticism from a number of different quarters, particularly in regards to the use of the information gained through the NAPLAN tests. You’ve probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media over the last few weeks.

One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them.

Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children and young people take their cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. American psychologist Martin Seligman discovered more than a decade ago, through his research into children’s thinking styles, how closely a child’s explanatory style mimics that of the parent they spend most time around. Optimistic parents beget optimistic kids. Just as anxious parents can beget anxious kids. The impact of a parent’s explanatory style seems to be magnified somehow in small families where there are fewer voices to be heard.

As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes them in his stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1. **Listen to any concerns they have:**
   If your child confides in you or someone else, try to understand their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. ‘Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.’ Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognizing how kids feel.

2. **Give them some relaxation ideas:**
   Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

3. **Help them retain their perspective:**
   One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask ‘what’s the worst thing that could happen?’ Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will still rise tomorrow, regardless of how well they do. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practice.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.
The children have settled in very quickly to the new term and should be very proud of their work and behaviour in the classroom. They should also be proud of their efforts in the house cross-country last week. Most children completed the two-kilometre course around the school. Congratulations to the children who qualified to represent our school at the District Cross Country on Friday May 1. A big thank-you goes to Mr Pumpa for organizing the event.

We are continuing with our theme of Australia this term, studying the early history of our country. An excursion to Coal Creek has been planned for Thursday June 4. Details, costs and permission forms will be online in the next few weeks.

In Science, with Mrs Campbell, the children have planted seeds to care for and eventually plant in the school garden. The children will be able to watch the progress of their seed as they tend it on a daily basis.

Next week is the Scholastic Book Fair and as part of it, there will be a Kingdom of Clyde Day on Thursday May 7 where the children can dress up as a Royal character such as a King, Queen, Princess, Prince, court jester, dragon etc.

Big Write talk homework will now be going home fortnightly so please find time to talk about ideas and opinions to help your child with their writing on the given topic. The next one will be on Tuesday May 5.

It was wonderful to see the children and teachers smiling for their school photos on Tuesday. What a great way to remember their 2015 year at Clyde Primary School.

**SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE**

**Senior School Excursion - The Shrine of Remembrance and Old Melbourne Gaol**
The excursion offers students the opportunity to explore the history of the Old Melbourne Gaol including: crime punishment, The Ned Kelly story and the living conditions in Gaol. The Shrine of Remembrance allows students to commemorate the First World War, focusing on the legend of ANZAC, the values it embodies and its contemporary relevance to ideas of national identity. Students explore the daily life of an Australian soldier and nurse in the First World War including a tour, a service of commemoration and a visit to the Gallipoli Landing Boat in the Galleries of Remembrance. The excursion is on Thursday, 11th June at a cost of $25 (due by Monday 1st, June 2014).

**Cross Country**
Cross Country is occurring this Friday (1st May). Parents are welcome to come and cheer our students on. Races commence from 11am. Good luck to all our students participating.

**Reading Adventure**
We held a Reading Adventure information evening on Monday to present helpful hints to parents and answer any questions. If you would like a copy of the handouts please see Mrs. Schembri. We still require parent helpers, please speak to any senior school staff member if you are free to help out. Due to rearranging of groups the students were given their books on the Wednesday not the Monday this week, students are required to have this book finished by Monday 11th May. These books are designed to be challenging if your child requires assistance please feel free to read the text with them. It is extremely important that students are finishing and returning their Reading Adventure books.

**VCOP and Big Write**
The senior school is continuing to complete a Big Write session once a fortnight. Students are given the topic along with a letter to be signed the day before each Big Write. We would appreciate if you would discuss the topic with them and help your child come up with ideas and vocabulary words.
NAPLAN
The year 3 and 5 students will be completing NAPLAN in week 5 of this term.

Homework
Homework is due on Tuesdays, students are expected to have completed 5 nights of reading (recorded in their diary), spelling and numeracy. Students who do not hand this in on time will be attending lunchtime homework club.

Please don’t hesitate to speak to myself or any of the senior team if you have any questions.

Tegan Sanderson

ICT/eSmart Report

Using ICT and the Internet at Home to Support Learning.
There are heaps of ways you can use ICT and the internet at home to support your child’s learning. There are hundreds of great educational iPad apps, programs and websites. Two of these websites are Reading Eggs (Reading Eggpress- for the senior students) and Mathletics. Each child at Clyde has a subscription to these which is paid for by the school. They should have a username and password (speak to your child’s homeroom teacher if you’re unsure of this). The sites have fabulous activities to help improve reading and numeracy across all year levels.

Some other helpful sites include:
www.multiplication.com
www.studyladder.com.au
www.spellingcity.com
http://www.cbeebies.com/australia/
http://www.starfall.com/
and, these are just to name a few to help get you started.
I will include some iPad apps in a future newsletter item.

eSmart Information Night
We will be holding an eSmart information night on Thursday 21st May. Stay tuned for more information regarding this.

Techmo’s Talk!

Techmo is going be including some helpful tip sheets from CommonSenseMedia.org in newsletters this year. This week he has included a tip sheet on Common Sense In Digital Life. It has some handy tips on how to be safe and smart online.
Common Sense on Digital Life

What's the Issue?
We may think of our kids' online, mobile, and technological activities as "digital life," but to them it's just life. In their world, being able to connect and communicate 24/7 from just about anywhere is normal—and expected! Between kindergarten and fifth grade, kids go through rapid growth in learning about many topics, including digital media technologies. From playing games on their mom or dad's cell phone, to learning how to point and click a mouse, to navigating online by themselves, kids this age are participating in a connected culture.

Why Does It Matter?
Young children need to learn early how to make good choices so they can take advantage of the powerful technologies available to them. And to make these good choices, kids need parental guidance.

The stakes are high because our kids' technological abilities can be greater than their maturity and judgment. Having unrestricted access to information and people can result in gaining a wealth of information and experiences. But it can also mean accessing inappropriate content and making inappropriate contact with others. The difference between a great experience and an iffy one lies in the decisions kids make. Just as kids learn to eat properly, swim safely, or drive a car carefully, they need to know how to live in the digital world responsibly and respectfully. Their ultimate success depends on their abilities to use digital media to create, collaborate, and communicate well with others. Those who master these skills in using digital tools will benefit from the digital world's awesome power.

common sense says
Use bookmarks and safe search. Teach your child to bookmark his or her favorite sites. This way, your child is less likely to go somewhere online you don't want. Use safe search options on Web browsers, such as Google or Bing, to make sure your child can search safely.

Consider using filtering and blocking software. Some parents find these tools to be useful to help protect younger children from accessing inappropriate content.

Have older siblings help. Have your older children help teach your younger children how to be responsible and safe online. Let the older ones know that you want them to help you protect their little brothers or sisters online.

Share wisdom. Kids often don't understand the implications of their actions. But we do. So we have to remember to extend our basic parenting wisdom to the digital world. We teach kids to choose their words carefully, play nicely with others, and respect their teachers. Now we have to extend those lessons to a vast, invisible world.

Pass along your values. As a parent, you can translate your values into the digital world and help kids understand the implications of their actions. Oftentimes the same rules that apply in the real world apply online, such as "be nice to others," "don't say mean things," and "think critically about information."
**Library News**

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

We will be holding the ‘Scholastic Book Fair’, starting Monday 4\(^{th}\) of May until Thursday the 7\(^{th}\) of May. Books will be on sale in the school library. Before school (8.50am to 9.15am approx.) and after school (3.30pm to 4.00pm approx.) on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday ONLY.

In the past we have had parents and friends of the school participate in creating fond memories by donating a book, purchased from the book fair. Decorative certificates have been inserted in these books, with the purchaser’s details. It’s amazing the appreciation the students have for these donated books when they see the certificates.

‘Kings, Queens & Castles – Enter the Kingdom of Books!

Items for sale at book fair are-
- Variety Tray (stationary): $1.00 to $6.00
- Posters: Small $2.00 and Large $4.00
- Books – starting price $6.00

Payments can be made using CASH or EFTPOS Machine.

Mrs Diveney
(Coordinator)

**PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?**

Are you able to help in our school library? We are seeking volunteers to re-shelf books, do displays and help with the general up keep of our school library. If you are able to lend a hand, please drop in on Thursday mornings. All help is greatly appreciated.

Library helpers need to hold a current ‘Working with Children Check’.

Mrs Diveney – Library Technician
‘Kingdom of Clyde Day’

‘Royal Gold Coin Donation’

On Thursday 7th of May during the ‘Scholastic Book fair’, we will be holding a ‘Kingdom of Clyde Day’.

Students are encouraged to dress up in the theme of ‘The Kingdom’. Weather permitting, there will be a parade in the morning at 9.15am, so students can model their creations.

Students that choose to only make a hat must wear their school uniform. This is not a free dress day. All students that do not dress up in the theme must wear their school uniform.

All money raised will be used to purchase books from the scholastic book fair for our school library.

Dress Up Ideas:
King, Queen, Knight, Jester, Royal Horse, Castle, Dragon, Draw Bridge and Cannon.

Kingdom Hat Ideas:
Crown, Tierra, Jesters Hat and Knights Helmet.

Any questions see Mrs Divney - Coordinator
BIRTHDAYS!!!

APRIL

29th  Elle C  00B
      Courtney D  56A

MAY

1st  Saxon S  00A
     Chloe H  06A
6th  Riley P  00B
8th  Chloe C  23A
12th  Kane M  04A
      Austin L  23A

DO YOU HAVE THE TIQBIZ APP?

Download now so you don’t miss out on any school notifications!

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
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.

**Mother’s Day Stall**
The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday 7th May. Children will be able to purchase gifts ranging in price from 50c to $5. If you are able to help on the day could you please leave your details at the office.

**Cookie Dough**
Our next fundraiser is with Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie and Biscuit Dough. Order forms are due back to school by Friday 15th May.

**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 to 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.

**Canteen**
Our school canteen is open every Friday. We are always looking for helpers so 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.

**Canteen Roster – Term 2**

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<th>Naomi Batty</th>
<th>Tracey Martin</th>
<th>Sonya Robinson</th>
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