Dear Parents,

**NAPLAN 2013**

The school recently received the results from the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests taken by our Year 3 and Year 5 children last May. Our results are very pleasing, for which I would like to congratulate the children who took the tests, the teachers who have taught them over the last couple of years and their parents who have supported them at home. The outcomes are a combination of hard work by all three of these groups.

As a school we look at the results in comparison to the standards expected by the country as a whole and by the state. Once the results of similar schools are available early next year, we also look at that comparison. The results we have just received show that our results in Year 3 continue to sit above the averages nationally and for the state. This is particularly pleasing in numeracy which has improved from just below to just above the state average. In Year 5 it is our writing which has now risen above the state average. However the other results continue to hover a little below the state averages even though we have narrowed the gap between our performance and the state average.

**GRADE LOCATIONS FOR 2014**

There is a separate sheet outlining where each grade will be next year and a more detailed explanation of the reasons for relocating them. Throughout Term 3 we have been wrestling as a teaching team with how we cope with an additional grade in 2014 and subsequent years. An extra grade is necessary because we have too many children going into Year 3 next year to run just three grades in that year group. The arrangement set out is the teachers’ solution. There are many additional benefits to this solution such as allowing all grades in a year group to be physically close to each other, bringing the older children closer to the IT hub and better Wi-Fi as well as creating an arrangement that will not need further movement over the next few years.

**WORKING BEE - THANK YOU**

I would like to acknowledge and thank the families who attended the Working Bee last Sunday. The Benson, Milne, Searle and Redmond families supported by our grounds person John Gowlett braved some atrocious weather to make further improvements to our school grounds. These are looking much improved since John started work and with the support of these families. Thank you.

**GEELONG SHOW ART**

Please can I draw your attention to the schools’ art exhibition at the Geelong Show which runs from this Thursday until Sunday. Many of our students submitted work to our art teachers, Mrs Miles and Mrs Henderson, who have selected pieces to be put on display at the show to represent the great artistic talent we have at Drysdale. The children whose work is on display will be informed by Mrs Henderson and Mrs Miles during the week.

**CYBER SAFETY INFORMATION EVENING**

We are running a Cyber Safety Information Session for parents of children in Years 4 to 6 this evening, between 6 and 7pm in the Year 5/6 building. The purpose of the session is to help parents of children with netbooks to become aware of cyber safety at home. With children’s increasing access to digital technology this is a very important part of helping our children manage the challenges of growing up. We are delighted that Robert Noggler, Leading Senior Constable, Youth Resource Officer with Victoria Police will be leading the session.

Regards,  
Phil Dunlop-Moore, Principal

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**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

- **15 Oct.** CyberSafety Yrs. 4-6 parents, 6 - 7pm  
  School Council Meeting
- **16-17 Oct.** Yr. 3 Sovereign Hill Camp
- **16 Oct.** PSW Uniform Shop 8:30am & 2:45pm  
  Bellarine Div.Basketball Championship
- **18 Oct.** Fresh Fruit Duty: 2A,2B,2S,2V
- **20 Oct.** Drysdale Market
- **21 Oct.** Parents & Friends Meeting 9:30am  
  Whole School & Yr. 6 Graduation
- **23 Oct.** Photo (wear full school uniform)
- **25 Oct.** Book Club Orders due back today
- **25 Oct.** Fresh Fruit Duty: 3C, 3F, 3S
- **28 Oct.** State Athletics
- **28 Oct.** Yr.5 Maldon Camp
- **28 Oct.** Yr.6 Canberra Camp
- **29 Oct.** Prep Special Canteen Lunch Order
- **30 Oct.** Yr.1 & 2 Special Canteen Lunch Order
- **30 Oct.** PSW Uniform Shop 8:30am & 2:45pm
- **31 Oct.** Yr.3 & 4 Special Canteen Lunch Order
- **1 Nov.** Fresh Fruit Duty: 4D, 4H, 4V
- **4-15 Nov.** Yrs.1/2 Swimming
- **6 Nov.** PSW Uniform Shop 8:30am & 2:45pm
  Preps to Werribee Zoo

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**REMINDERS**

**TUESDAY 15TH OCTOBER—TONIGHT**

**CYBER SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF YRS.4-6, 6-7 P.M.**

**MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER**

**WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO (WEAR FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM) & YR. 6 GRADUATION PHOTO**

**WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER**

**GEELONG CUP HOLIDAY**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- **President:** Neil Searle  
  - **Vice President:** Rebecca Smith  
  - **Treasurer:** Phil Dunlop-Moore  
  - **Secretary:** Michelle Powell  
  - **Members:** Joanne Black, Mitchell Sinnott, Clare Goodier, Andrea Hoogwerf, Felicity James, Karen Knight, Scott Pearson, Paul Rawson, Selma Tron, Stephen Barry, Samantha Schepli.

**Our Newsletter is available to view on line. If you would prefer to view it this way, please notify the office so that we can reduce the amount we print and be more sustainable. The Website is:**

**www.drysdaleps.vic.edu.au**
Josh in 4H is walking 70kms through the Otways over four days to raise money for the Special Care Nursery at Geelong Hospital from 17th October to 20th October. This is a serious challenge for adults never mind children. Josh has been training for a couple of months now. We would like to wish him well. The simplest way for anyone who wants to donate to the fund raising, is to go to the web site: www.mycause.com.au/page/joshandjackiesbigadventure

MOWING ROSTER

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NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM PURCHASES/ORDERS

PRIMARY SCHOOL WEAR
PSW operates from a room situated opposite the infant sand pit at the back of the hall. A full range of winter and summer uniforms are available for purchasing.

TERM 4
PSW will be introducing a new ordering procedure. Customers will be able to order and pay for items at the Uniform Shop and the stock will be delivered to your home. Please note, this is different from an internet order.

OPERATING HOURS: Wednesdays: 8:30-9:15am and 2:45-3:45pm (approximately). It is strongly suggested that you do not order stock online, as no extra stock is sent to me. If I don't have the item in store it is not available. If you can't get to the Uniform Shop, please request an order form from the office. If the stock is available I will send it home with your child. You will not be charged for any item that is not available.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS
I have an EFTPOS machine, so payment can be made at the time of purchase.
-Kathleen, Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE PROGRAM

Permanent Vacancies for After School Care
We are licenced to provide care for 55 children. There are 18 vacancies for Monday, 22 for Tuesday, 26 for Wednesday, 24 for Thursday and 34 for Friday. Call 0417 379 655 for casual vacancies.

Before School Care
Don’t forget that care is available before school from 7:15am. At the moment you do not need to book in, as long as I have a completed enrolment form and direct debit form for each child attending the program.

Casual Vacancies
Even if the permanent roll is full, there may still be casual vacancies. If you would like to use casual care, please call 0417 379 655 to book a place. If your child/ren is/are not already enrolled, you will need to get an enrolment form and a direct debit form before you can book in. It is always worth calling, even if this table is showing no vacancies. There is always a range of other activities available and children can request individual art and craft activities.

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STUDENT BANKING
The Banking Co-ordinator, Michelle Powell will be retiring from her position at the end of this year. We are in need of two parent volunteers to assist with student banking every Tuesday morning in the staff room. Approximately one hour is required to process the children’s money and inputting information to the Commonwealth Bank’s website. If you are interested in helping out and are committed to assisting the children achieve great saving habits, then please don’t hesitate to leave your name and contact number at the office.

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY
We are in need of parents to help cut up the fruit for our Fresh Fruit Fridays. We are rostering year levels on each week.
On Friday 18th October, we are asking for volunteers from Year 2A, 2B, 2S and 2V. If you can assist, please come to the staff room at 9 a.m. We need about 8 helpers each Friday. Thank you.

SCHOOL HATS
Our school has adopted the policy of broad brimmed hats to be worn during Terms 1 and 4. The wearing of hats is compulsory in Term 4. The children are required to wear hats during recess, lunchtime and other outdoor activities.

GENERAL REMINDERS

ARE YOU MOVING?
If you are moving in 2014, please advise the school office. If your child is not attending Drysdale Primary School in 2014, please advise the office as soon as possible. Also, if any students will be transferring out of the school this term, please advise us.

ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL DETAILS?
Please advise the office if you have had any changes to your details so that we can update our records. Thank you.

COMPULSORY PARENT PAYMENT SCHOOL FEES
If you have not paid your child’s compulsory school fees or made an arrangement to pay these fees, could you please organise payment as soon as possible. This compulsory payment covers your child’s essential education items.

TELEPHONE MESSAGES
If there are telephone messages for students, please advise the office BEFORE 3:10pm so that the message can be delivered to your child in time.

YEAR 6
Blue Light Disco on 20th November, payment is due by 15th November. Adventure Park excursion on 11th December, payment is due by 2nd December.

REMINDEERS:

• CYBER SAFETY INFORMATION
FOR PARENTS OF YRS.4-6 IN THE NEW BUILDING
TONIGHT 6-7PM.

• GEELONG CUP HOLIDAY
WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER
COMMUNITY NEWS

MYGOLF NATIONAL SKILLS CHALLENGE PROGRAM

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY—POTATO SHED

PORTARLINGTON CRICKET CLUB
Milo Cricket registration Thurs.24th Oct. at 4:30pm. The Milo In2 Cricket program is designed for girls and boys from 5 to 10 yrs. Co-ordinator James Harvey Ph:0404 800 384. For more details contact Hayden: 0409 568 585 or Email: polokingstar@hotmail.com

Cystic Fibrosis—Great Strides Walk/Run, October
To register: http://www.cysticfibrosis.org.au/vic/great-strides-event. Set yourself a fitness challenge whilst supporting a great cause. This will take place on Sunday 27th October.

Walking in Autistic Shoes
An autism presentation and question-answer forum with Donna Williams, BA Hons, Dip Ed. Mon.28th October 7pm-8:30pm at Springdale Neighbourhood Centre, Drysdale. Details: Anne Brackley 5253 1960 or 0407 529 205 or email coordinator@springdale.org.au

CAR Boot Sale—The Bellarine Railway, Drysdale Station
Sun.10th November 8am—2pm. Free admission. Family Goods Train Rides, Lions BBQ and more. Stall Holders Wanted: Book Your Space—contact Geoff 0418 379 245 or Don 0417 100 561.

WANTED—Basketball Player for U14 Boy’s Team
Local Team, Cougars—contact Aly Ph: 0458 885 228.

Relay for Life Fundraising Shopping Trip
Sat.16th November. Details from Tracy 5251 5308 or Curves Drysdale. Payment due by 30th October.

REBEL SPORT
Drysdale Primary School is registered at Rebel Sport with a “Season Pass”. If you purchase something from Rebel Sport, please mention Drysdale Primary School. Our school then receives points towards sporting equipment for the school.

Bakers Delight Drysdale
Mention Drysdale Primary School at Drysdale Bakers Delight and the school will receive 5%. We have recently received funds as a result of this from Bakers Delight which will be put toward our Integration Life Skills Program. Thank you.

NUDE FOOD
At the back of the oval near the cricket pitch there is some rubbish, so please pick up any rubbish that you may find. Thank you.

Our Nude Food Winners for this week are: Will 2A and Penny 3C. Congratulations! The Bob and Sarah Awards go to Year 2A and Year 6C. 6C is the first Year 6 class to win this year. Well done!

Now for our Nude Food Joke:
Q: What do you call cheese that isn’t yours?
A: Nacho cheese
- The Nude Food Dudettes & Gabbi the Mango Elf

- Karen Lydom from the Commonwealth Bank, School Banking, presents Rhiana with her Mini Ipad

STUDENT MEDICATION AUTHORITY

A recent Department of Education policy is that parents need to bring the student medication to the office and complete a school medical authority form for any student who requires medication whilst at school.

Any student medication needs to be in the original packaging. Prescribed medication must have the pharmacy label with the student’s name.

ART ROOM NEWS

Geelong Show—October 17th—20th
Drysdale Primary School’s Art display can be found in the Education Pavilion, showcasing the amazing talent we have at our school.

We would like to congratulate the students who’s art work was chosen to be a part of our art display. It was a very difficult task in choosing art work, as many students have produced some outstanding pieces throughout this year.

Well done!
Liz & Melinda, Art Teachers

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Crazy Calendar Orders
Order Forms and payments are due back NO LATER THAN THIS FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER. This will allow us time to place the final order and have them distributed to parents in time for Christmas. Thank you.

SCHOOL BANKING WINNER

Over the last term the Commonwealth Bank ran a competition that the school with the most student’s banking would win a Marquee and a lucky student in the school that banked each week would win a Mini IPad. Well guess what folks, we won! The Marquee was presented to Mr Dunlop-Moore at last week’s assembly alongside a very proud young student, Rhiana from Prep V winning her very own Mini IPad.

A big thanks to all of the students that bank on a Tuesday morning, and an even bigger thanks to the mums that volunteer their time each and every Tuesday to do the banking. Well done Drysdale Primary School!
Do you need to make a Will or Power of Attorney?

For Legal Advice call 52 513 453

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YEAR 3C—21ST CENTURY RULES! OR DOES IT?

On Thursday 10th October our class operated like an 1850's classroom. We did this because our class is learning about Australia’s Gold Rush in the 1850’s. Our issue is whether we like school better now or in the 1850’s.

FOR:
One thing that we really liked about the 1850’s was writing with an ink pen. We think that it was a great experience. The writing looked neat if you could do it properly.

The games were really fun and so different from what we do in the 21st Century. There were games that were for all kids and not just a few. They were all played out in the fresh air.

AGAINST:
The thing we hated most was the punishment because it was too severe! Children got the cane for minor reasons like talking when not spoken to.

We didn’t like that girls and boys had to cover their legs and arms. They couldn’t have bare arms or exposed ankles!

Most of our class think that school in the 21st Century is better than school in the 1850’s.

YEAR 3F—1850’S STORIES

On Thursday the Year 3’s had a Gold Fields Dress Up Day. I dressed up as a farmer. There were lots of school kids. We had to call Mrs Faithfull “Mam”.—Harry

Dress up day was awesome. You couldn’t use your left hand like these days. You could get caned if you smudged ink.—Coby

On Thursday we had a 1850’s Dress Up Day. I was wearing a flat cap, some suspenders, old jeans and a rolled up t-shirt. I had lots of fun.—Lachlan G.

On Thursday all the Year 3’s dressed up as children in the 1850’s. It was fantastic and fun. First we had a parade and walked around the oval collecting things. We then drew them on paper. After that we wrote with ink pens. It was a great day.—Rose

On Thursday last week it was the dress up day for Year 3’s. We got to dress up in old fashioned clothes. It was so awesome. We used ink. All the teacher’s were strict. We played games with Sir and Mam! - Lehela

On Thursday we had an olden days dress up day. We also did some fun olden day games like marbles, skipping and jacks. Whilst we did some games, we had some damper too.—Noa
GRADE RELOCATION – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **Why do we need a 25th grade?**
   The school has generally compressed the four grades operating in year 2 into three larger grades for year 3. There are currently 93 children in year 2 averaging 23 children in each of four grades. There are currently just 69 children in year 3 averaging 23 children in each grade. Next year when the 93 children enter year 3, continuing with three grades would mean each grade averages 31 children. This is too large when set against a recommended average across years 3 to 6 of 26 students per grade. Therefore we need to open a fourth grade in year 3. This extra grade will then become a year 4 grade in 2015 etc.

2. **Why does the school keep growing when we are short of space?**
   We are a very popular school for the simple reason we offer we a very good quality of education. The current total of 550 children is about right and we would prefer the school remains at this size. However, regardless of available teaching spaces, we are required by education department policy to accept enrolments from students for whom we are the closest school to their permanent home address.

3. **Why does any grade have to move?**
   The school is faced with the challenge of finding a 25th teaching space for each of the next four years. This year we are using the 23 traditional classrooms plus the smaller classroom in the oldest part of the school. We are also expected to run a LOTE (Language Other than English) program starting no later than 2015 as well as needing space for our music tuition program. The education department designates the library and the open spaces at either end of the BER building as teaching spaces. Year groups are more effective and the children learn better when children from the same year group are in adjacent classrooms. We are arranging to make some changes before February to rooms so they best suit their new year group.

4. **Why is every grade having to move?**
   We were unable to construct a solution to the 25th classroom problem without needing up to eight grades to move each year for each of the four years it will take our large year group to move through from year 3 to year 6. If every grade moves for 2014 we only then need to redesignate the extra year 3 grade each year. All the 24 other grades will have a base that does not require further change in subsequent years. The new locations mean that grades are much better placed to work collaboratively.

5. **How did you arrive at this solution?**
   The teachers have been working through possible solutions since the beginning of term 3. This solution is the agreed response of the teachers to an unavoidable problem.

6. **Why is the BER building now going to be used by Years 1 and 2?**
   Including the open spaces at either end, the BER has two groups of four classrooms. The block of portables next to it is also organised into a group of four classrooms. Our school structure has groups of four grades in the younger year groups (Prep to Year 2) which fit naturally with the organisation of the BER and adjacent portables into groups of four classrooms.

7. **What other solutions were considered?**
   We looked seriously at remodelling the library area to create separate teaching spaces there and relocate the library into the open spaces in the BER. Ultimately the cost of this option and the loss of a single library space made this a less attractive option. We also investigated the potential of placing additional portable classrooms on site. We would not be entitled to these as we have designated teaching spaces (BER and library) unoccupied. The cost would be prohibitive as we would only want them as a four year temporary solution.

8. **What about room sizes, toilets and play equipment?**
   We were surprised to find that there is little difference in the floor area of all the classrooms and even more surprised to find that the lowest toilets in the school are actually in the BER building. The biggest toilets are those near the current year 2 classrooms. We expect that the children will continue to play in their current play areas. There may be some changes to where the children line up.

9. **When will this move happen?**
   We have booked Drysdale Removers to move everything over the last weekend of term. This will minimise the disruption to the school and will mean the children can continue working in their current classrooms for as long as possible.