Dear Parents,

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

There are four long serving parent School Councillors who will be completing their terms of office next Tuesday with our Annual General Meeting: Neil Searle, Rebecca Smith, Andrea Hoogwerth and Karen Knight. These four parents have given unswerving support and commitment to the school in many roles for many years. Neil has been President of the School Council for six years and served as Vice President prior to that. Rebecca has been Vice President of the Council for the last six years. Andrea and Karen have both been stalwart members of our Parents and Friends group as well as School Councillors. Andrea was President of Parents and Friends while Karen was the Treasurer. All four of these people are leaving the school because their youngest children graduated last December and are just beginning their secondary school education. As School Councillors they have helped guide the school through the transition between Principals that included an extended time when the school had an Acting Principal. This is never easy for a school and needs people of great integrity and dedication to help create the right direction. This same period has also included two school reviews when the Education Department and school came together to write a new development plan for the next four years. Neil, Rebecca, Andrea and Karen are four of the most impressive School Councillors and people I have worked with during my twenty plus years of being a Principal. On behalf of the school and personally, I would like to thank them most sincerely for the countless hours they have voluntarily devoted to the school and for their very wise advice and guidance.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Each year the school holds an Annual General Meeting at which it reports on the school’s progress over the previous school year. This meeting is on the second Tuesday in March which this year is next week, March 10th, beginning at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting as observers. The Annual General Meeting is followed by the March meeting of the School Council.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

The 2015 School Council elections close at 4pm this evening. The ballot box is in the foyer near the office. Results will be available on the school website tomorrow and in the Link next Tuesday.

**KIDS MATTER**

Thank you to everyone who took time to attend the year group presentations giving information about Kids Matter. Kids Matter helps a school focus on developing the connection of every student at the school and the personal well being of every student. Developing the personal well being of students has been an outstanding feature of Drysdale Primary for many years. What we are seeking to do by engaging in the Kids Matter program, is to ensure that this reaches every student and not just every student. We are striving to be the best we can be in everything we do. This means paying attention to all areas where we can raise the standards even when the bar is already almost at the top.

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

Our School Council has been considering ways of improving the delivery of information to parents and has agreed to use a smart phone App called School Stream which will deliver information such as the Link electronically to your phone or tablet. You will receive information about this free App before the end of this term, how to sign up to it and how to use it to receive letters and alerts. We are intending to be sparing in the use of alerts so parents know that when they receive one, it is important. An example would be to let parents know that their very wise school bus driver needs to attend to the excursion bus. We are intending to produce the Link only in an electronic version by the end of this year. We will give you plenty of advance notice of when this switch will be made.

Regards,  
Phil Dunlop-Moore, Principal

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**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>Family Dance &amp; BBQ 6pm-9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>Division Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fresh Fruit Duty: 5B,5CH,5CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>School Council Meeting, AGM 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Camp Deposits Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit Duty: 6C,6P,6S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Drysdale Market</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>PSW Uniform Shop, 8:45-9:30/2:30-4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends A.G.M. in the Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Room, 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Yrs.3-6 Cross Country, 9am-12noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit Duty: Prep H, Prep M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 March</td>
<td>PSW Uniform Shop, 8:45-9:30/2:30-4:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit Duty: Prep H, Prep M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>End of Term 1, 2:30pm finish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**SCHOOL EXCURSIONS & REMINDERS**

Students who don’t attend an excursion are expected to attend school as normal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/Group</th>
<th>Excursion</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Permission Slips/ Payment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yrs.3,4,5,6</td>
<td>Camp Deposits</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>10th March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**DON’T FORGET OUR BBQ & FAMILY DANCE NIGHT**

THIS THURSDAY 5TH MARCH—6PM BBQ/7PM DANCE  
($10 PAYMENT ON THE NIGHT FOR BBQ)

*LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY MONDAY 9TH MARCH, NO SCHOOL ON THIS DAY*
**PSW operates from a room situated opposite the infant sand pit at the back of the hall. There are three options available: at school, internet or parent orders. For more details, please see sign on Uniform Shop window. If you cannot get to the Uniform Shop during opening hours, please collect an order form from the school office or request that one be sent home with your child.

For any queries regarding orders placed for home delivery phone 9768 0308 direct.**

**OPERATING HOURS: MONDAYS: 8:45-9:30am and 2:30-4:00pm (approximately).**

**PAYMENT:** Payment is by cash or Credit Card and EFTPOS facilities are available.

**GEELONG STORE**

PSW has a store at 164 Malop Street, Geelong. Ph: 5224 2229 and they stock Drysdale Primary School Uniform. Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Friday and 9:00am-1:00pm Saturday. - Kathleen, Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

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**NEW: Packet Ovalteenies $1.00**

Reminder: Please check for new pricings on the Summer Menu, available from the school office. Thank you, Di Ward—Canteen Manageress

**FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY**

We are in need of parents to help cut up the fruit for our Fresh Fruit Fridays. This Friday 6th March we are asking for volunteers from 5B, 5CH, and 5CR. If you can assist, please come to the staff room at 9 a.m. We need about 8 helpers each Friday. Thank you.

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**CANTEEN**

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**KIDS MATTER**

Please read the introduction flyer included with today’s Link that explains what Kids Matter is all about.

How will Kids Matter work at Drysdale Primary?

We will be having a group of Kids Matter Kids working in the yard and the classroom to support all students.

A team of Kids Matter Staff will be looking at the best way of teaching our students social and emotional skills that will help them in building resilience, making friends, managing feelings and dealing with life’s setbacks.

We will also be getting together a group of Kids Matter Parents – as an informal networking group – a chance to chat with other families and be involved in our school community. Please contact the office and register your name if you are interested.

For more information please check out the Kids Matter website. If you have any questions about Kids Matter please feel free to contact Selma Tron our Wellbeing Coordinator at the school, or our Action Team Coordinator at tammygburke@gmail.com

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**GENERAL REMINDERS**

**SCHOOL FEES—INSTALLMENTS**

Parents that have elected to pay their school fees by instalments, please note that the second instalment is due by TUESDAY 24TH MARCH.

**TISSUES**

Each family is to provide a box of tissues at the start of the school year. If you have not done so, please send a box of tissues to your class teacher. Thank you.

**SUPERVISION**

Parents, please be advised that students are supervised in the school grounds from 8.45a.m. Do not drop your child off prior to this time as they will not be supervised.

**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.

**NAME CLOTHING**

Parents please check names on clothing to ensure you have your child’s/children’s clothing. Please make sure all clothing is clearly named with your child’s name. It is difficult to find the owners of clothing that is found if it is not named. Thank you.

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**TERM DATES**

**TERM 1: 29 JANUARY—27 MARCH**

**TERM 2: 13 APRIL—26 JUNE**

**TERM 3: 13 JULY—18 SEPTEMBER**

**TERM 4: 5 OCTOBER—18 DECEMBER**

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**LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY**

**MONDAY 9TH MARCH**

**NO SCHOOL ON THIS DAY**

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Our Newsletter is available to view on line. If you would prefer to view it in 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
Congratulations to the following students:

Back L to R: Jalen PT, Holly PM, Haylee PT, Owen 1D, Hollie 2S.
Front L to R: Emily 3N, Elisabeth 4V, Ruby 5B, Layla 5B, Sophie 6S.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**HOT SHOTS TENNIS**

Our school is an official venue of Tennis Australia’s National School Partnership Program (NSPP) which means students will participate in the ANZ Tennis Hot Shots program in P.E. As a valued supporter of the NSPP, all children within the school are able to register to claim their free T-shirt as well as be supported by a $2 rebate to put towards tennis equipment at the school.

Could you please fill out the form that was enclosed with last week’s Link by this **THURSDAY 5TH MARCH**. Students who return the form after this date will not be able to claim their free shirt.

- Miss Andrea Laing, Physical Education

**COLOURING COMPETITION, PUMPKIN FAIR**

Encompass Colouring Competition sheets available from school office. To be returned before Wed.25th March. Pumpkin Fair at The Paddock 21-29 O’Halloran Rd, Leopold 10am-3pm Sat.26th March.

**HOOKIN2HOCKEY**

All ages welcome. 4pm-4:45pm Fri. March 6, 13, 20 at St Ignatius Hockey pitch (enter off Gillies Rd). $10 for 3 weeks, bring long socks, mouthguard—all other equipment supplied. Contact Rachel Ph:0407 933 811.

**BAKERS DELIGHT, DRYSDALE**

Will donate 5% of your purchases to Drysdale Primary School, if you nominate us. If you purchase Bakers Delight bread/products, please nominate our school to earn some cash for the school. Thank you.

**2016 YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING**

Accelerated Learning Program, Wed. March 18, 7:00pm, Multipurpose Room, Fenwick St, Geelong. Details from Stuart Myers or Robyn Myers Ph: 4243 5000 or matthew.flinders.girls.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

**PORTARLINGTON SCOUTS**

Free—3 week trial for boys and girls 7-15 years. Tuesdays 6:30-8:00 for Cubs (7.5-11yrs) and 6:30-8:30pm for Scouts (10.5-15yrs) at Parks Hall, Newcombe St, Portarlington. Leader in Charge Ph:0448 837 826 or email: gl@portscouts.com.au

**FAMILY DANCE & BBQ—THURSDAY 5TH MARCH**

The Parents & Friends group will be selling drinks and snacks on the night. We would appreciate any help from parents to assist us. Drinks $2, Chips $2, Pythons, Giant Freddos $1 and Zappos .50¢.

**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 17th March, Annual General Meeting, in the Meeting Room, 9am. All welcome.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST!**

The local Aldi Supermarket is offering us the opportunity to fundraise for the school through a regular BBQ. We are looking for expressions of interest from parents who would be able to assist on a Saturday morning with this. Please leave your name and phone number at the office if you are able to help in any way.

**SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL SHOP**

Buy and sell secondhand uniforms. Brochure is available from the school or visit: www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

**NUDE FOOD**

Tuesdays are our rubbish free lunch days. Please send your child to school with a rubbish free lunch.

The winners for the **Year Level Awards** (from Prep-Year 2) is 2S and (from Years 3-6) is 3A. **Individual Winners** (from Prep-Year 2) is Harry PT and (from Years 3-6) is Curtis 4T. Well done!
Do you need to make a Will or Power of Attorney?

For Legal Advice call
52 513 453

SPRINGDALE
$2+ SHOP
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Shop 8/12 Hancock Street Drysdale
Phone: 5251 1011
Friendly service to the community

It is important for young families to be aware of Orthodontic problems that are often apparent from about the age of seven. Early orthodontic treatment can help correct dental problems and also help minimize extensive treatment at an older age. All our consultations are free and no referral from a dentist is required.

Tasweld Geelong
45 Sun St, Moolap
Phone Charlie Benson 0401 036 992
‘for all of your welding needs’

D & C
CONCRETE
CONSTRUCTIONS
DANIEL 0403 693 794

Fears

For ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS
- Flights
- Accommodation
- Group tours & escorted groups
- Cruises
- Ski
- Car hire
- Honeyymoon & travel gifts
- Package holidays
- Specialising in travel insurance
- Gift vouchers
- Passport & foreign cash
- Friendly, professional staff

Portz Kebab Arama
COFFEE HOUSE
38 Newcombe Street Portarlington
52591115
facebook

Core Financial Planning
FINANCIAL ADVISERS
Julie Penfold CFP (PRINCIPAL)
Jo Newton CFP (PRINCIPAL)
Kevin McCoughtry
Phone: 0352559555    Fax: 52559533
E-mail: office@corefinancialplanning.com.au
www.corefinancialplanning.com.au
Corporate Authorised Representative of Magnitude Group P/L
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Cinnabar Bakery
PIES, CAKES & MORE
(03) 5251 3139
Shop 2-3 Wyndham Street Drysdale.
Introducing KidsMatter Primary

Good mental health is vital for life. Children who are mentally healthy are better able to meet life’s challenges and have stronger relationships with the people around them. They are also better learners who are more likely to succeed at school. Good mental health in childhood provides a solid basis for managing changes as they grow.

On the other hand, children who are exposed to multiple stressors – such as a family breakdown, poverty, abuse, racism, bullying, or the mental illness of a parent – are at a higher risk of developing emotional or behavioural problems that can continue into adulthood.

It’s not always possible to tell which children will develop difficulties, so it’s important to consider the wellbeing of all children.

The good news is that KidsMatter Primary is all about growing healthy minds. KidsMatter is a mental health and wellbeing framework that helps schools focus on the development of all their students in partnership with families. It was developed by mental health and education experts and has already made a big difference to the lives of Australian children.

Does KidsMatter Primary work?

KidsMatter Primary works because it unites all the people that influence children’s mental health most — families, school staff and the wider community.

KidsMatter Primary can help improve:
- the mental health and wellbeing of students
- the quality of their school work
- the ability of parents, carers and teaching staff to help children deal with problems
- NAPLAN results — when schools implement KidsMatter Primary well.

KidsMatter Primary was developed in collaboration with beyondblue, the Australian Psychological Society, and the Principals Australia Institute, with funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and beyondblue.

How does KidsMatter Primary work?

When schools take on KidsMatter Primary, they build on the work they are already doing to support students’ mental health and wellbeing.

Firstly, they form an Action Team to represent the whole-school community and to coordinate and lead the implementation of the initiative. The Action Team reviews the schools’ current efforts across four focus areas (or ‘components’). They look for ways they can strengthen these efforts, and then take action using a step-by-step planning process.

Every school is different, with different needs for their students and families. The KidsMatter Primary framework covers four components that have shown to be highly successful in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children.
Positive school community
Positive and respectful relationships at school help children and families feel that they belong and that their contributions are valued. A positive school community also gives children a sense of security that their needs will be met. Research shows that when children and families feel connected to school, children are less likely to develop mental health difficulties and are more likely to succeed academically.

How can families help?
Families are the biggest influence on children’s mental health and play a very important role in KidsMatter. Children benefit when the important people in their lives work together and have a shared understanding of their development and their needs.

KidsMatter Primary has developed a range of information sheets with parenting tips and strategies to help all Australian families support the wellbeing of their children. View them online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

If your child’s school is participating in KidsMatter Primary, there are many things you can do to help make it a success:

1. Read the KidsMatter Primary information sheets to further your understanding about children’s mental health.
2. Develop relationships with staff, so you can share knowledge and information about how they can support your child.
3. Get involved in the Action Team.
4. Ask staff how KidsMatter Primary is being implemented.
5. Participate in school activities to build a sense of community.
6. Respond to any school requests for ideas or information.
7. Talk to other parents and carers about ways the school can support your needs.
8. Let the school know what skills or talents you are happy to share.

Social and emotional learning for students
Learning how to manage feelings and get on with others is an important part of children’s development. It helps them become better learners and feel good about themselves. Teaching children social and emotional skills as part of the school curriculum gives them tools for coping with emotions, solving problems and learning more effectively.

Working with parents and carers
In order to promote children’s mental health and wellbeing, it makes sense for families and schools to work closely together. Schools can support parents and carers by providing useful parenting information and resources, and by connecting them with further assistance if required.

Helping children with mental health difficulties
It can make a significant difference when children and families are able to access mental health intervention early. KidsMatter primary schools learn to respond more effectively to children’s mental health difficulties by recognising and responding to concerns that may need following-up. They can provide information to families and develop links with health and community agencies in their local area.