Dear Parents and Carers

The end of term is near. The four term structure means that each term goes very quickly! This means that teachers have to work hard to cover the necessary work in classes. This term we have had a very settled start to the year. Our Kinders have settled in well and our LIL program is thriving! Older students are working hard to reach their potential in all curriculum areas. Naplan testing will be in the second week back after the holidays and all students will be tested in other ways to assist in monitoring progress. Reports will go out at Parent Teacher interviews the second week of term 3.

The AGM for the School Association is on Tuesday the 15th April at 7pm. At this meeting the new office bearers will be elected. The school community will be informed about future meeting times and contacts asap. We are looking forward to a year where parent/carer input is valued and the engagement of parents in their child’s education is encouraged and facilitated.

Could parents be vigilant about their child wearing school uniform. There are sometimes good reasons for students being out of uniform but these are rare. From experience it does not take long for students to copy others who are out of uniform. Most families are making sure their child is in uniform which is great. They look very smart when they are in school uniform!

The morning bell next term will be at 8.50am and this is when classes will commence. This is in keeping with the number of hours students should be at school. Please have your child here on time so they do not miss out on important instructions for the day. We will only have one bell in the morning from now on. Hopefully people will not find it too difficult to be here 10 minutes earlier.

Once again I would like to stress that I am available to parents who wish to discuss issues or share good news. I try to make myself available at most times unless I am in a meeting or out of the school. It is also possible for the office to make an appointment if you are working
Student Free Day (Moderation Day) — Thursday 17 April

Due to the student free day on Thursday, BANKING this week will be on Wednesday.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2014

In 2008, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools. The program is scheduled to continue in 2014 with all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 to be assessed using common national tests in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Tasmania have been participating in literacy and numeracy tests for a number of years, so there is familiarity with the test formats and the types of questions.

The scheduled dates for the tests in 2014 are Tuesday 13 May, Wednesday 14 May and Thursday 15 May.

These national tests will provide information on how students are progressing against national minimum standards of literacy and numeracy skills expected for each year level, as well as performance across the whole range of student abilities. The results will support improvements in teaching and learning for students.

Parents will receive an individual report that shows their child's results and a comparison of their child’s performance against all other Australian students in their year level. The report will also indicate how their child performed in comparison to the national average and the levels of achievement expected at that year level.

For students in Years 5, 7 and 9, the results from the 2014 tests will provide parents and schools with important information on progress made since they last participated in NAPLAN testing in 2012.

The best way you can assist your child is by making them feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests, and assure them that the tests will give them an opportunity to show what they have learned in class.

For more information about the national tests, including test samples, frequently asked questions, the test schedule and a parent information brochure, please visit the national NAPLAN website at: http://www.nap.edu.au

Focus on:

NAPLAN 2014

Year 3 and 5 students

or have commitments that make it difficult for you to catch up without an appointment. Other senior staff are also available for this purpose.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Anne Douglas,
Principal
Southern Tasmanian Netball Association invites students from Grade 3 to Grade 7 to participate in the Netball Holiday Clinics for 2014.

Clinic Dates: Autumn School Holidays: Wed 30 April and Thurs and Fri 1 and 2 May
Location: Creek Road Netball Centre
Time: 9am—12pm  Cost: $25 per session or $60 for 3 sessions of one clinic.
Forms and further information available at the office.

CHAMPIONS CARNIVAL

Congratulations to the following students who, through their sporting abilities, were selected to represent the school at the Champions Carnival.

Jack Willmott, Jack Underwood, Rhys Burr, Alex Flack, Phoebe Jablonski, Jesse Willmott, Jack West, Jirra Bell, Emily Self, Ashlee Green, Tayla Pregnell, Alexa Sayer, Grace Dawson, Bianca Morris.

*Taken from The Mercury, Wednesday April 2, 2014*

“Jack Willmott, of Austins Ferry Primary School, was a star in middle distance races, finishing first in the grade six, 800m and 1500m events”

Jack Underwood also excelled in his event, coming first in the Long Jump.

Congratulations also to Phoebe Jablonski who came third in the Long Jump.
First Steps

for young parents

WORKING WITH YOUNG PARENTS

A training program for health & community service workers
- get information about young parents aged 15 to 25
- find out about health and community services for young parents
- connect with other healthcare and community service workers
- be part of a passionate and informed workforce

A ONE DAY SESSION

Friday 9 May, 9am—3pm
Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Riverview Room

OR TWO EVENING SESSIONS

Wednesdays, 7 & 14 May, 5—8 pm at the Baha’I Centre of Learning for Tasmania

To register or to find out more contact Liz at elizabethb@anglicare-tas.org.au

Catering provided. CPD points: 6
This is a Tasmanian Medicare Local Healthcare Access pilot Project funded by the Australian Government.
**Cool Little Kids® Anxiety Prevention Program**

Is your child shy?
Are they slow to warm up to others?
Do they have trouble separating from you?
Is your child a bit of a worrier?
Would you describe your child as fearful or sensitive?

The University Psychology Clinic is offering a FREE 6-session Anxiety Prevention Program.

Sessions will be held at the Child & Family Centre, Chigwell.

Session times and more information is on the flyer which is available from the office.

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**Holiday Clinics for Cross Country Runners**

During the first term holidays, the Northern Suburbs Athletic Club will run three free sessions on cross country running for primary school children grades 4 to 6.

We hope to get a squad of about 24 to attend these sessions. We will consider grade 3 children if places are available. One of our aims is to help children prepare for the various school cross country competitions which will be held this year and to pass on information on events that may interest them.

The practice sessions will focus on skills, tactics and knowing how to run your best. The program is for children of all abilities who have an interest in improving their running. While it is not overly demanding, children will need to be fit enough to enjoy physical activity for an hour and a quarter.

The sessions will be organized by Jim Court, a registered teacher and level 2 athletics coach, with the able assistance of members of the Northern Suburbs Athletic Club.

All sessions will start at the Cross Roads Sports Grounds on the Domain starting at 10:00am and finishing at 11:15am. Sessions will be held on Thursday 24th April, Monday 28th April and Wednesday 30th April.

To register for these sessions and for more information:
Contact Jim Court: phone 61079251 or 0417 348 832
Email: jcourt43@gmail.com

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**Get away for a weekend of fun in the sun on the Anzac long weekend!**

Marine Discoveries Tasmania invites you to a weekend of coastal fun supported by local experts at Bicheno on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27th April.

One of Tasmania's most amazing marine reserves is on Bicheno's doorstep, and the area is home to incredible marine life including large schools of fish, rays and dolphins, making it an excellent playground for snorkeling. If you'd rather a view from a distance, you can ride the Glass Bottom Boat, ramble across the rockpools, watch the penguins, and learn about citizen science.

Weekend tickets include BBQ lunches, a film night, and all coastal activities for just half the commercial value.

For more info and to buy early bird tickets before 18th April go to www.marinediscover.com or call 0488991254.

Coordinated by Environment Tasmania and supported by Events Tasmania and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

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**Run to CASINO**

Sunday 18 May 2014
All events start 9am

If you can walk, skip or run, put a team together—and help beat diabetes!

Register online for the 11km run, 7km run, 7km walk & 2.7km kids run.

Put a team together and start training and fundraising today!

Register at: citytocasino.com.au
Together we can turn diabetes around!
IMPORTANT DATES:

Assembly: Wednesday 16 April @ 1.45pm

Blue Pod – GLA 3 RS, GLA 5 RQ, GLA 6 JO
Red Pod – GLA 1 EL, GLA 3 VNB, GLA 6 PK
Green Pod – GLA 1 Casey/Fay, GLA 3 GCG, GLA 5 BF

Term 1 ends for students: 16 April
Student Free day: 17 April
Easter: Friday 18 April to Tuesday 22 April
Term 2 commences: Monday 5 May
Assembly: Wednesday 14 May @ 1.45pm

Blue Pod – GLA 1 EF, GLA 2 JC, GLA 4 HW,
Red Pod – GLA 2 DM, GLA 4 LM, GLA 5 KB
Green Pod – GLA 2 RH, GLA 4 AP, GLA 6 DW

Assembly: Wednesday 28 May @ 1.45pm

Blue Pod – GLA 3 RS, GLA 5 RQ, GLA 6 JO
Red Pod – GLA 1 EL, GLA 3 VNB, GLA 6 PK
Green Pod – GLA 1 Casey/Fay, GLA 3 GCG, GLA 5 BF

Assembly: Wednesday 11 June @ 1.45pm

Blue Pod – GLA 1 EF, GLA 2 JC, GLA 4 HW,
Red Pod – GLA 2 DM, GLA 4 LM, GLA 5 KB
Green Pod – GLA 2 RH, GLA 4 AP, GLA 6 DW

Assembly: Wednesday 25 June @ 1.45pm

Blue Pod – GLA 3 RS, GLA 5 RQ, GLA 6 JO
Red Pod – GLA 1 EL, GLA 3 VNB, GLA 6 PK
Green Pod – GLA 1 Casey/Fay, GLA 3 GCG, GLA 5 BF

Term 2 ends: Friday 4 July
Student Free Day: Monday 21 July
Term 3 commences: Tuesday 22 July
Parent/Teacher Interviews— 28 July to 1 August
ECE Swimming Program: 3 to 7 November

Contact details

PRINCIPAL: Anne Douglas
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Kerrie Riewoldt
ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER: Aaron Guilliamse
ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER: Carolyn Murray

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