Dear Parents and Carers

What a fantastic day we had at the athletics carnival. Thank you to parents and staff who helped make the day a success and to students who all did their best and showed wonderful sportsmanship. Also a big thank you to Mr G. who organised the event. It is a huge job and all went very well despite the fact that Mr G. was VERY unwell!

Our School Association meeting was a huge success. It was great to see so many new faces. We hope this can continue. Our AGM will be held on the 15th of April at 7pm. At this meeting we will elect office bearers for 2014 and confirm times for future meetings catering for the majority of people interested in being a part of the School Association. It is so important to have input from parents on a range of educational and general school issues that arise.

All teachers are working hard to engage our students in learning and to differentiate the learning to suit individual needs. We want our students to be as keen to learn as they were when they first arrived at school. It is important that we communicate openly with families so we can work together to find ways to keep children motivated to learn! There are studies that show that when schools and families work together children have higher achievement and they are more likely to continue with schooling. As a school we want to strive for the best outcomes for all students.

Our school progress report is due to go out soon. This report is to indicate to parents how their child is settling into their new class (or school in some cases). It is a tick a box style and teachers are happy to follow up with parent/carers if they have any questions or want clarification. Most parents will have already found out information about their child from teachers informally or at the parent information night. I am also available to discuss any issues with parents when needed.

Anne Douglas, Principal
Hi my name is Jessica Fulton; I am the new Aboriginal Education Worker for the school.

A little bit about me is that I have a partner and two aboriginal children. I am a descendant from Fanny Cochrane Smith. I am a proud Palawa woman, I am actively involved in the Aboriginal Community, both my children have been through the Aboriginal Children’s centre and now continuing their education here at Austins Ferry Primary.

My role here will be to provide assistance with programs that support Aboriginal Students throughout the school in literacy and numeracy, Aboriginal student identity, raise awareness about Aboriginal culture history using general classroom activities and to work with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students and school communities to extend the knowledge of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community and Aboriginal culture both traditional and contemporary.

I am looking forward to working within the school.

My working hours will be:

Monday 9-2.30  Wednesday 9-2.30  Friday 9-2.30

Looking forward to a fun filled year.

Miss Fulton

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday the 28th of February, students from grades 3 to 6 competed for their respective houses in the 2014 Athletics Carnival. The day began with the heats for the 100, 200 and 400m races before moving onto the finals and finally the relay events.

The carnival was hotly contested throughout the whole day with less than 40 points separating the teams by the final events. In the end Ruby was victorious with 599 points, followed by Sapphire on 572 and Emerald on 560.

Thank you to all the teachers, parents and volunteers who helped out and well done to all the competitors for doing their best on the day and displaying great sportsmanship.

Good luck to those students competing in the Interschool carnival on Monday the 17th of March.
SIGNING STUDENT IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL

It has come to our attention that parents/carers are not signing their children in at the office if they are late and also collecting students early but are not signing them out.

This makes the information recorded in their absences incorrect. Also if there is an emergency or fire drill we are unable to verify whether a student is here or not as absences are all recorded electronically. We therefore need to have a central area where the late arrival and early departures are recorded.

Your help in this area would be appreciated.

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SCHOOL PHOTOS

Sent home today are the prepaid personalised photo envelopes for your child’s school photos. **As no change will be given it is vital that the correct money is enclosed.** Each child needs his/her own envelope if ordering.

Credit card payments are to be made online only using the personalised student name and unique ordering code (Shoot Key) at the top of your order form.

If a child loses their envelope the opportunity to order online will be lost. They will need to place their order by handing in the envelope on the photo day. Envelopes for parents requesting family photos are available from the office.

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OSHC:

Welcome back to After School Care for 2014. There are a few changes that most of you would already be aware of. Robyn has decided to leave us but will return as a casual when needed. I have taken over from Robyn and I hope to have a long and friendly relationship with all the families that use our service. Congratulations to Nikki as she has now passed her Cert 111 in Childcare.

The children have been working on “All About Me”. This gives us a chance to know the children beyond the After School Care and a survey form has gone home to each family. There is a chocolate for each child that brings his or hers back. It is important that we understand and know your child and your opinions so that we can plan our activities around them.

There may be times when your child/ren need emergency care in After School Care. In order for us to do this we require a completed enrolment form. Please don’t hesitate to see us for one. We may never need it, but it’s there just in case.

The Vacation Care program is being worked on and already it looks great.

Yvonne.

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CLAREMONT GIRL GUIDES

Craft and Produce Market
Sunday 30 March
9am—1pm
Claremont Girl Guide Car Park
(opposite Claremont Village, Boxhill Road) and in the hall.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Assembly: Wednesday 19 March @ 1.45pm
- Blue Pod – GLA 3 RS, GLA 5 RO, 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

School Photos: Tuesday 1 April
- Wednesday 2 April

Assembly: Wednesday 2 April @ 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 16 April @ 1.45pm (same group as for Wednesday 19 March)

Student Free day: 17 April
Easter: Friday 18 April to Tuesday 22 April
Term 1 ends: 16 April
Term 2 commences: Monday 5 May
Term 2 ends: Friday 4 July

SCHOOL HATS

All students should have now received a school hat.
These hats are to be left at school and will be washed here.

Contact details

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

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Fax 03 6249 2349

Austins Ferry Primary School