Welcome

Dear Parents & Carers

I would like to thank parents/carers who attended the “Star Gazing” night in Kinder Parker last week. It is fantastic to chat to the Kindergarten children and find out how much learning they have done while participating in this exciting unit. When parents/carers are working alongside their children learning is enhanced by conversations at home. Some classes have also gone on excursions to Elizabeth College to participate in science week activities. The feedback from students has been positive and learning from older students can be inspiring for younger students.

We have had issues with students who have had poor attendance over the winter months. We do appreciate that children are often more inclined to be sick at this time of the year. Please call the school if this is the case. If, however, this is not the case I would like to encourage parents to make sure that students attend everyday as continuity in learning is vital. Irregular attendance can impact on the students’ confidence if they are missing out on important aspects of their learning. Teachers are working hard to make sure all students reach their potential and this is made difficult when students have ongoing attendance issues.

Organisation for the Spring Festival is going well. There are some great activities which will be advertised soon as well as items which will showcase student achievement in Art, Music and Dance. We are hoping all families, grandparents and friends will attend. There will be food available so families will not have to worry about tea when they go home! It will be a chance for us to enjoy a school event together in an informal setting.

Let us hope the cold weather stops soon so we can, once again, enjoy our outdoor environment at school and enjoy the spring bulbs that will brighten up our garden!

Anne Douglas
Principal

HATS FOR THE HOMELESS

This year, Austins Ferry SRC decided to do Hats for the Homeless which helped Colony 47 who are trying to help kids that live on the streets and also parents who don’t have food and drink.

Austins Ferry ended up raising $272. Thanks to everyone who donated.

Hamish McNamara and SRC
Banking is on every Thursday.

Parents and Carers are advised that there is approximately a three week wait between handing in the 10 tokens and receiving the reward.

The School Association at the bbq on 26th July was a grand total of $1490. Unfortunately it was left to a few, very hard workers.

Woolworths Earn & Learn started on Wednesday 15th July. There will be a collection box in the school office for sticker cards to be placed in. Program closes on Tuesday 8th September.

The Book Week Parade will be held on 26th August in the GP Hall.

This parade will commence at 9.15am and will be in Assembly groups. The parade is for Kinders to Year 6 students.

There will be 2 prizes per class. The prizes have been kindly donated by the School Association.

The next meeting of the School Association will be on Tuesday 1st September in the Conference Room, School Admin block, commencing at 6.30pm.
The Scholastic Book Fair will be held from 17th to 21st August. The event will be held in the Red Pod Discovery Room from 2.30pm to 4.00pm each day. There will be a huge selection of books, posters and stationery on offer.

The School Association is having a Car Boot Sale at the Spring Festival on 11th September. Anyone wishing to have a site please leave details at the office. ($10 site)

MADDIE DAY
On the last day of term we are raising funds for Maddie Riewoldt’s Vision. Funds raised to go towards raising awareness of Bone Marrow Failure Syndrome.

Maddie Riewoldt’s Vision has been established to help adolescents and young adults suffering from Bone Marrow Failure Syndrome through research and providing support into treatments prevention and with an aim to finding a cure.

Last day of term is Friday 26th September
Donation is a gold coin.

Students will be able to wear a variety of things purple on the day.

Students can also wear their football gear.

GLENORCHY CITY TENNIS CLUB
LADIES AND MUMS TENNIS GROUP
$15 per person in group of 4
Drop off children at 9am
Lesson at 9.15am—10.15am at the Glenorchy City Tennis Club opposite The Granada Hotel
Lessons start on Monday 31st August
Phone: 6228 5812 or 0429409870 Ask for Paul

CLAREMONT GIRL GUIDES
CRAFT AND PRODUCE MARKET
Guides Hall from 10 till 2 in car park
30th August 2015
Come and support guiding in Claremont
Boom Gate Reminder

Parents are reminded that the Kiss and Drop area is for dropping off children only. Cars are not to be left unattended or with the driver of the vehicle missing.

It is very difficult for parents to drop off students when that area is parked out.

If you need to walk your child to class the best option is to park your vehicle in the top car park. Disabled parking is provided in the school car park.

Parents are also asked to follow the turn left sign when exiting school grounds.

Uniform Shop Hours

The Uniform Shop is now open for business at the following times. If the shop is unable to open on a certain day a notice will be placed on the shop door.

- Monday: 8.30 to 9.00am
- Tuesday: 8.30 to 9.00am
- Wednesday: 2.30 to 3.00pm
- Thursday: 2.30 to 3.00pm
- Friday: 8.30 to 9.00am

The uniform shop will only be open outside of those times for an emergency uniform (eg torn pants etc)

Boom gate closes at 2.20pm and reopens at 3.15pm, even on Assembly days. For the Health and Safety of our Staff and Students, please do not park in front of the boom gate as clear access is required for Emergency vehicles.

Kiss and Drop

Parents are reminded that the Kiss and Drop area is for dropping off children only. Cars are not to be left unattended or with the driver of the vehicle missing.

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If you need to walk your child to class the best option is to park your vehicle in the top car park. Disabled parking is provided in the school car park.

Parents are also asked to follow the turn left sign when exiting school grounds.

No Bars on Books

"Every bit of community kindness makes a difference in the lives of families experiencing stigma and disadvantage."

No Bars on Books is an initiative of Tasmanian Speech Pathologists for Speech Pathology Week – 21st to 30th August

Bringing books to children separated from mummy or daddy because of imprisonment.

No Bars on Books will supply donated new or second-hand picture books to the Risdon (UNC) Books-on-CD program. Parents in prison can record a story for their children – and the child receives the CD, the book, and the irreplaceable experience of hearing mummy or daddy’s voice recorded just for them.

No Bars on Books runs until Saturday August 22nd

Drop-off points:
- Main schools across the state – ask if your school is participating.
- ABC Radio
- Tasmanian Health Care
- Adventist Book Centre
- School Book Shops
- Early Learning Centres
- Child Care Centres
- Public Libraries
- Disabled Carers
- Child Care Services

Check the benefits:
- Language stimulation for vulnerable children
- Literacy awareness and development
- Parent–child relationship support
- Family interconnectedness
- And... wait for it... WE are benefit too...
- Increased community compassion through giving
- These are all essential hardwiring roots of disadvantage and crime

Would you like to donate a children’s book to the No Bars on Books project? The Tasmanian branch of Speech Pathology Australia together with 936 ABC is coordinating the gathering of donations of second-hand picture books to be provided to a program at Risdon Prison in which parents record stories for their children. Books are so incredibly important for children’s language development, and so incredibly important for emotional interconnectedness within families.

The Books-on-CD program helps incarcerated parents and their children maintain positive emotional connectivity with each other. The children receive the gift of a book and a CD of mummy’s or daddy’s voice as s/he reads the story. The purpose of this project is to replenish the book stocks and to give community a part in assisting such a wholehearted program to continue. If you would like to support this initiative, good quality picture books which are suitable for children up to 10 years of age, can be left at the collection box at the school office until Speech Pathology Week which starts August 22nd.

Thank you!
DOGS

A reminder that dogs are not permitted on school property.

NETBALL NEWS

Netball training will commence Monday 24th August.

We need all players to be present that afternoon so that players can be allocated to teams.

Training time is from 3 to 4 pm. Please check Skoolbag for notification as well.

Late Arrivals

There have been several instances of students who are arriving late not being signed in at the office. This generally means you will be receiving a call advising that your child has an unexplained absence. This can sometimes make a parent feel very anxious.

Children often forget to come to the office to tell us that they have arrived so it is preferable for parents to come and sign their child in.

School commences at 8.50am.

ASSEMBLY DAYS AND EARLY COLLECTION OF STUDENTS

If your child is in one of the classes that is listed for Assembly, they will need to be picked up before 1.45pm.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to locate students on these days. Please check either the newsletter, web page or Skoolbag app to check for classes involved.

DOGS

A reminder that dogs are not permitted on school property.

Nut Aware School

Just a reminder that Austins Ferry Primary School is a Nut Aware School. A number of our students have a severe allergy to nuts and products containing nuts. Please do not send nuts or nut related products to school in your child’s lunch box.

Metro is planning to make changes to our fare structure from 1 October 2015. Greencards are cheaper, easier, and help us run more efficient services so we are:

- Making standard daily caps even lower
- Discontinuing Day Tripper and Day Rover all-day tickets
- Ceasing 90-minute transfers on cash tickets

With free Greencards between 2 August and 30 September 2015, low daily caps and discounted fares, there’s never been a better time to get on-board.

For more information on these changes get in touch with our customer service team by emailing correspondence@metrotas.com.au or calling 13 22 01.
Make a note in your diary. Austins Ferry Primary is having a SPRING FESTIVAL on Friday 11 September. There will be lots of activities.

- Art Exhibition
- Games
- Aboriginal Display
- Music
- Cake Stall
- Recipe Books
- Dance
- Indian Community
- Garden Stall
- Activities in the garden
- Buskers
- Muffins, Coffee & Tea
- Slot Cars
- Second hand books/white elephant stall
- Bar-b-que
- Fire Engine
- Car Boot Sale
- Jacket Potatoes
- Face Painting

A representative from the Claremont Fire Station will also be in attendance and accepting donations of lollies for the Santa Lolly Run.

This run is conducted through the suburbs of Chigwell, Claremont, Austins Ferry and Granton just before Christmas day.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2016

We are now accepting enrolments for Kinder for 2016.

If you live in the local area and are considering enrolling your child, could you please either give us a call or come into the office and pick up an enrolment form. This will enable us to look at numbers and see what availability we have for out of area enrolments.
School Satisfaction Survey

This year, school satisfaction surveys for students, parents and staff will be conducted during August/September. These surveys contain questions on a range of matters about our school.

This survey provides an opportunity for students, parents and staff to provide important feedback. This feedback is valued by our school as a means of identifying what the school does well and opportunities for the school to make improvements.

Students (from Year 5 and above), parents and staff will be invited to participate. Those students who are selected to undertake the survey will do so during school time.

You will receive a letter in coming days if you have been selected to participate in the parent survey.

Your responses will be secure and anonymous.

We encourage you to participate and complete the survey so that the school has a clear direction when planning for future programs and services for students.

Please contact the office if you wish to use a school computer to complete the survey.

limit the TV and other screens!

Sometimes watching TV or DVDs and playing electronic computer games can mean less time for active play so why not:

- Have a TV free night - think of some active games to play instead
- Keep bedrooms screen free
- Switch off the TV at meal times

Turn off the screen and switch to play!

For more information and for family ideas on healthy eating and physical activity visit:

www.movewelleatwell.tas.gov.au

An interesting fact is that children that have TV’s in their bedrooms score an average of 30 points lower on Naplan.

Lost and Found

These articles have been found and at present are in the office. If you own any of these articles could you please call into the office and collect. We will keep them for a week and then they will either be given to one of the opportunity shops or disposed of.
NEW COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR PARENTS

The Skoolbag app is now available. There are currently over 100 parents and carers phones with this facility downloaded. This app is now being used to advise parents of current events happening at the school. This app is also very valuable for parents whose children catch the bus.

This app provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know, and it provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications.

Skoolbag is a school Mobile App that communicates directly with iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows Phones devices. The test app initially will be available on iPhones and iPads. The Skoolbag app will be free from the App Store. Skoolbag is made primarily for iPhones so when searching the App Store on an iPad make sure you search for iPhone apps. It will still run on your iPad.

Skoolbag offers:

- Alerts
- Events
- News
- Newsletters
- Free Skoolbag Website which syncs seamlessly with the app!
- Parent eForms for Sick Note/Absent and Change of details.
- Information pages

Skoolbag is published school by school, and is branded for the school. Parents and carers can find the school app in the App Store by searching for Austins Ferry Primary Skoolbag.

Newsletters will be uploaded for viewing.

**There has been a Bus Group set up** so that parents can be notified if a bus is running late. To register for this notification open the Skoolbag app. At the bottom of the app is (Home—Alerts—Newsletters—Calendar and More). Click on More and a selection will come up. Call School, Email School, Visit Website, Setup Push Notifications. Select Setup Push Notifications.

Once the Austins Ferry app has been loaded onto your iPhone you will receive any notification that is sent to parents/carers from the school.

There are also two eforms set up. One is for absences and the other is for change of address. Parents/Carers will need to place as much information as possible on the forms so that students can be easily identified. These forms will be kept by the school as documented evidence of student absence and also change of address/phone number.

Some parents have been having issues using the absentee eform. If that is the case our absence line is still operational (6275 7272).

There is further information available at the office regarding installation of the app.
All Assemblies commence at 1.45pm

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>17th to 21st August</td>
<td>Scholastic Book Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>Book Parade @ 9.15am</td>
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<td>1 September</td>
<td>School Association Meeting at 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd September</td>
<td>Blue Pod – GLA 1 JC, GLA 3 RS, GLA 5 RQ,</td>
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<td>Red Pod – GLA 2 DM, GLA 4 LM, GLA 6 PK</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Green Pod – GLA 1 SF/CM, GLA 3 GCG, GLA 5 AC</td>
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<td>HOST CLASS—1/2 KIDDLE</td>
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<td>Friday 11 September</td>
<td>Spring Festival</td>
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<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th September</td>
<td>Blue Pod – GLA 2 KB, GLA 4 HW, GLA 6 EL</td>
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<td>Red Pod – GLA 1 JO, GLA 3 VNB, GLA 5 CR/JT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Green Pod – GLA 2 RH, GLA 4 AP, GLA 6 DW</td>
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<td></td>
<td>HOST CLASS—P/1 HUIZING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26 September</td>
<td>Last day of term 3</td>
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Next week is Book Week in Australia.

The Children’s Book Council of Australia will announce the winner of the book of the year award for 2015.

Teachers will share the short-listed picture books and books for young readers with their classes.

A book parade will be held on Wednesday 26th August at 9.15 when students and teachers can dress up as a character from a book.

Parade is for Kinder to Year 6 students and will be in Assembly Groups.

Contact details

PRINCIPAL: Anne Douglas
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Kerrie Riewoldt
ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER: Aaron Guilliamse
ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER: Carolyn Murray
ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER: Chris Raspin
SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER: Graham Hyde

Address 13 Brodie Street, Claremont, 7011
Ph 03 6275 7222 - Fax 03 6249 2349