Congratulations
It is great to see our students taking action! Liam Dempsey has been nominated as a finalist in the Earth Hour Young Panda Award and he is in the running for the People’s Choice award. If you would like to vote for Liam you can do so at www.earthhour.org.au/wwf-earthhour-awards/peoples-choice

BER Building
This week we have the final part of our new building being installed. The fences to keep students safe around the basketball/netball court are being put in this week and this will greatly improve the look and feel of this area of the school. I would like to thank you all for your patience with the building process, but I am sure it is all worth while in the long run. The classrooms are working really well with a lovely quiet working atmosphere in all the rooms. We have a gentleman from the Education Department coming out to look at how well we are using the building which is a great chance to show off all the fantastic students in our school.

International Baccalaureate
Today Jenni Garland and Jane Stewart are at an IB workshop to extend their knowledge of Information Technology.

New Zealand Study Tour
Last week a group of 20 local principals were involved in a study tour to Auckland in New Zealand. We visited 6 schools over the 3 days and learned about their leadership processes and the teaching/learning in their schools. One of the schools was an International Baccalaureate school and it was interesting for me to see the similarities and differences between our two schools. They have considerably more autonomy in the way they run their schools than we do and the support in terms of facilities maintenance is high. Class sizes were generally larger with less emphasis on computer technology than we have. It was interesting to see that New Zealand performs very well in international studies of schools and their curriculum is very much driven by concepts not by content to be taught. I will be writing up a piece about my tour in the next few weeks. As with all professional learning at Highton, travel and accommodation were not paid for by the school.

Mosquitos
I have been asked to pass on this information to parents. Regarding mosquitoes. Due to the wet weather we have had more mosquitoes than usual. And parents are advised to use repellent where necessary.

what to look out for and what to do
It is important that parents are alert to the possibility of an illness as a result of a mosquito bite in students or children. A child may shows signs of a high temperature, feeling unwell or lethargic and may also experience nausea, vomiting and dizziness.. Parents or guardian who notice these symptoms in their child should take the child to a general practitioner for further advice and care.

Have a great week.
Tessa Calder
Mother’s Day

Our Mother’s Day group wants to make heat bags for the stall. If you or anyone you know can supply some wheat and/or lavender, we would like to hear from you. Please leave your name and details with Lyn or Gaylene in the office. We would also like to hear from any knitters who are able to make some scarves. **Next Meeting of willing helpers and ideas people is on Wednesday March 23rd. at 2.30 in the staffroom.** Thank you from the Mother’s Day Group.

Thank You From Ms Johanna

Hi everyone. I want to say a huge ‘thank-you’ to everyone in the Highton PS community for their kind wishes on my retirement. I am enjoying having a rest and sleeping in (sometimes past 9am!). Here I am sitting on my sundeck enjoying a cup of tea. Thanks to the Parents Club for my Bunnings gift voucher which I put towards buying this outdoor café setting. Now, when I am relaxing outside, I think of all my friends at HPS.

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**For your Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Mon 21st</td>
<td>School Council AGM 7 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Sat 2nd</td>
<td>Car Boot Sale, Cake Stall, Sausage Sizzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 6th</td>
<td>Parents Club Meeting - 9AM Staffroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Week commencing 21st March**

**CANTEEN ROSTER**
- 9.00– 11.30
  - Aleisha Johnson
  - 11.30-1.45
  - Bernadette Stevenson

**SICKBAY ROSTER**
- Kylie Davies
**Community News**

**For More Details See the Noticeboard Outside The Office**

- **South Barwon Football Club AUSKICK** Registration dates will be on **Sunday April 3rd 9:30-11:00am and Monday 4th April 6:30-8:00pm** at the South Barwon Football Club rooms. Please register and pay online at www.aflauskick.com.au if possible and bring signed form to registration. The sessions will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00am at McDonald Reserve Belmont. Starting date will be May 1st. For enquiries about Auskick contact Darren Meadows - 0421 873 113

- **Saint Ignatius College** Open Day 2011Sunday March 20th 2011. 11:00am-2:00pm. Information session: 11:00am & see the college at work, Wednesday 4th May 2011 9:00am-12noon.
  www.ignatius.vic.edu.au

- **Grovedale College Year 7 2012** -Parents, prospective students and friends are warmly invited to participate in a tour of Grovedale College. Scheduled tours occur every Tuesday and Thursday at 9.30am. Please contact Mr Davin Reid, Assistant Principal on 5245 4545 to make a booking.

- **Geelong Netball Association**—New season starting Term 2 Mondays net set go – Juniors and ladies Ph Jodie 0429401413 Wednesday ladies and mixed Ph Lisa 52761134

**Netball and Basketball**

For all interested Prep, Year 1 & 2 children. We will be practising our basketball skills at Monday lunchtime and our netball skills on Friday lunchtime (for 20 mins not the whole break). Next season runs over term two and three. To join one of our Highton P.S. teams please return the form from the last page of this newsletter to the office ASAP.

**Sausage Sizzle**

We are looking for helpers to cook and serve at our sausage sizzle for April 2nd. which will be held in conjunction with the car boot sale and cake stall. Leave your name and time you will help with the office staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Available</th>
<th>Help on Sausage Sizzle</th>
<th>Help on Cake Stall</th>
<th>Contact name and phone number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7AM - 9AM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9AM - 11AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>11AM - 1PM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Car Boot Sale and Cake Stall

Parent’s Club are holding a Car Boot Sale in the car park on Saturday, 2 April 2011. A site will cost $20. Thank you to those many people who have already noted their interest. There are some sites left so if you are interested in having a stall please see Lyn or Gaylene in the office as soon as possible so sites can be allocated and details confirmed. Thank you

Wanted Goods

Parents Club hope to hold a stall at the car boot sale. We are looking for donations of books, games, puzzles and toys. Obviously all items need to be in good resalable condition. Please leave donations with Gaylene in the school office.

A note will be going home shortly asking for home baked goods to be donated for the cake stall.

Enrolment 2012

Our places for 2012 are filling rapidly. If you have a child wishing to commence school at Highton Primary in 2012 please collect an enrolment form from the office and return promptly. We believe we have quite a few siblings due to start school next year and wish to process their enrolments so no one is disappointed.

Fantastic Student Initiative

ShAVE for THE PLANET

On Friday 25th March, at assembly, I will be shaving off all my hair to raise money for World Wildlife Fund and to promote Earth Hour.

If you would like to sponsor me, you can donate online at http://www.everydayhero.com.au/shave4theplanet or you can give money at the office. Donations of $2 or more are tax-deductible.

Make sure you sign up for Earth Hour 2011 at http://earthhour.org.au/ and Switch Off! at 8:30pm on Saturday 26th March.

Liam Dempsey

Student Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRC</td>
<td>Seth Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRD</td>
<td>Elsie Langmaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JKS</td>
<td>Lara Cristofani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRC</td>
<td>Georgie H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRP</td>
<td>Georgia Kiddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDK</td>
<td>Lachy Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDR</td>
<td>Noah Bateup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDS</td>
<td>Daniel Bunker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNG</td>
<td>Jai Nelis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNK</td>
<td>Jacob Watts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Math News

MATHLETICS IS LIVE!
We are back on! Mathletics is back up and running at Highton Primary School. If you haven’t already been accessing your Mathletics account, you can now get started. Every child has their own username and password, which their teacher has a copy of. Students can access their account at school and at home. Mathletics has proven to be an excellent online resource for our students and for over 7000 schools and over 3 million students worldwide. It has 750 learning activities for students aged from 5-18 years old. There are step by step animated support tutorials that students can access on a range of topic areas and the Live Mathletics has proven to be very popular with our students. We have noticed a significant improvement in students’ quick recall of number facts and a keen interest to acquire knowledge through technology. The web address is: http://www.mathletics.com.au/

PYP

What are the essential elements of the PYP?

In the PYP balance is sought between acquisition of essential knowledge and skills, development of conceptual understanding, demonstration of positive attitudes and taking of responsible action.

In terms of achieving this balance, the five essential elements of the written curriculum are emphasized:

Knowledge
Concepts
Skills
Attitudes
Action

We will explore a different one each week in the newsletter.
Plants, cuttings, bags of mulch or pinebark to replenish gardens destroyed by floods in Charlton

A group from Highton PS are spending the weekend of 19/20 March in Charlton, in NW Victoria, to help with the flood recovery.

We have been asked to help restore people’s gardens, to bring some hope and new life into such a difficult time.

If you can help with donations of plants or mulch, please speak to Helen Perry (0448 951 132) or Heather Dempsey (0407 098 303) by Wed 16th March
Basketball and Netball teams for Winter season (term 2 and term 3)

Time is flying by and it is time to sign up for a team for next season. All children are welcome to join a team even if they have not played before. The available options are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Netball</th>
<th>Basketball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Monday Grade 3/4</td>
<td>□ Tuesday Grade Prep/1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Monday Grade 5/6</td>
<td>□ Tuesday Grade 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Wednesday Grade 3/4</td>
<td>□ Wednesday Grade Prep/1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Wednesday Grade 5/6</td>
<td>□ Wednesday Grade 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Thursday Grade Prep/1/2</td>
<td>□ Thursday Grade 3/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate costs:
- Team entry $25 - split between players
- VNA membership - new players only
- $30 if born 1999 or after, $40 born 1998 or before
- Weekly match fee $5 per player

Approximate costs:
- Team entry $25 - split between players
- CBBA membership - new players only - $45
- Weekly match fee $5-$7 per player
- Top levy $10 per player

Other information: Grade prep/1/2 competitions are very much about teaching the children to play the game. For basketball rules are modified (and not always strictly enforced eg travel) and the referee is called a court coach and as such should be helping the children to understand the game. Netball at this level is similar and the umpires will assist the children to play the game rather than just enforcing the rules. As children progress up the levels rules are more strictly enforced.

Basketball tops: this season we introduced a $10 levy to cover the cost of replacing tops as they become worn. Tops currently cost $38 each and a minimum of 10 must be ordered. It is therefore necessary to build up funds in order to be able to buy tops when needed. Money will be held in a dedicated account by the school. We appreciate your assistance in paying the levy at the start of each season so we can continue to provide tops for our teams.

Coaching a team: We have been fortunate to have parents volunteer each season to be a ‘coach’. The position involves putting the teams on the court. If we don’t have parents to co-ordinate who is playing which positions (netball) and how long players get on the court (basketball) then the children cannot play. You do not need to be an expert - rules can be learned. You just need a sense of good sportsmanship and fairness to all players regardless of ability. If you can arrange a time practice as a team that is great but not essential. A ‘volunteer working with children check’ is necessary but this does not cost anything. If you would be willing to give it a go please check the box below and thank you for helping our children experience the wonder of team sport.

□ Yes I will give coaching a go! Please contact me on the number below.

Name ............................................. Grade ...........................................
Team (current players only) ...........................................................
Sport: NETBALL or BASKETBALL (circle)
Preferred nights: 1st .............................................
                          2nd .............................................
Parents name ..........................................................
Signature ..........................................................
Contact ..........................................................

For more information please contact me on 0407 826504 or catch me in the courtyard on most afternoons.

Carolyn Hall
Co-ordinator.