Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

School Council Elections: School Councils comprise parents, the principal, staff and sometimes community members. School council elections are held in February or March each year. All parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school are eligible to nominate for positions and to vote for parents members. A timeline for 2013 School Council Elections accompanies this newsletter. There are four two year parent positions to be filled. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office or forwarded to parents at their request. Nominations open Monday, 18th February, and must be lodged by Monday, 25th February. The ballot papers will be available on Friday 1st March, 2013 and the ballot will close at 4 pm on Friday, 8th March, 2013. New Council will sit at their first meeting on 25th March, 2013 at 7.00 pm. We will set the date and time of our Annual General Meeting at this month’s School Council and advise our community. All members of our community are welcome and invited to the AGM. Information for prospective members can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au. If you are interested in nominating for School Council please contact me.

Buildings and Grounds and Education sub-committees: Both of these committees are open to our school community members. If you are not able to join school council, you may like to take part in the decisions made by these active committees that support our grounds and programs at the school. At this stage, B&G meets at 6.00 pm every third Wednesday and Education meets at 3.45 pm every third Tuesday. Please let me if you are interested.

Overport Primary School Parents Club: Last year our Parents Club raised an amazing amount of $17,561.13. This was used to offset the cost of our school sails. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them and those that assisted them for this wonderful effort. Parents club do an amazing amount for our school. We welcome any new parents who may like to be part of the group or just assist at various times throughout the year. If you are interested, please tell your teacher or give me call.

South East Water Presentation: On Monday Sophie Pritchard from South East Water presented a mural completed by past student Sara Joseph whose design won the National Water Poster Competition in 2010. The mural has been on display for the last 12 months but will now have a permanent place at Overport as a reminder of our commitment to water saving.

Parking – School Drop off and Pick up: Please note that we have been advised by police that many parents are not obeying the parking restrictions at the front of the school and, therefore, they will be in attendance at some stage in the near future. It is in your interest and in the interest of student safety, that you obey all restrictions. Please note the Kiss and Go area immediately opposite the school is a 2 minute drop off and the school car park and western end double gates are strictly for staff only to ensure your child is safe. Parents are NOT permitted to drive vehicles onto the school grounds for any reason. Thank you for your support in this area.

…..Continued overleaf
Dogs in the School Grounds
Please note that we have several children who are frightened of dogs and two new student who are allergic. While we encourage the practice of walking your children and the family dog to school, please leave your children at the gate and do not bring dogs into the grounds. Thank you for your consideration in this area.

Working With Children Checks
While we have not yet commenced our parent helpers program, please note that parents are required to have a working with children check. As this is a volunteer capacity, there is no cost involved. Application forms are available from the Post Office.

Arrival and School Pick-up
Our teaching staff are on duty in the yard from 8.45 am and after school until 3.45 pm. Please be advised that children arriving prior to this time are unsupervised in the yard. The grounds in the early morning are not a suitable place for children to be alone. If your child needs to be at school before 8.30 am, or if you are unable to collect them at 3.30 pm, please be aware that “Extend” offers before and after school care in our facilities. Contact our office should you require an application. It is vital that parents are here on time to collect their children to avoid them being distressed.

Bikes and Scooters
Please note that our School Council policy permits the riding of bikes and scooters only. Other items such as skate boards are not permitted to be ridden to school. Helmets must be worn and children must be in grade 4 or above unless accompanied by an adult. For student safety all children including toddlers, must walk bikes or scooters in the grounds. Also our bike shed will be erected as soon as we are able to arrange it. Currently bikes are being left just near our staffroom. Thank you.

Year 6 Leadership Assembly
Tomorrow our Year 6 leaders will be presented with their badges by the Mayor of Frankston, Sandra Mayer. Our community is welcome to attend this special ceremony. The students and their families will remain for morning tea and photo opportunities. We are very proud of our student leaders and know that they will be a wonderful support to their fellow students at OPS.

Kind Regards,
Julie Gleeson   Principal

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CANTEEN NEWS
A new price list comes with this newsletter, there are some price changes so please check menu before ordering.

We are always looking at ways to improve the nutritional content of products on our menu, so we have some great new lines, for summer.

The popular Build a Burger is back; with a delicious chicken breast meat patty.

A refreshing Mix & Match Salad for those hot days. A Crunchy Salad will be included with the Chicken Dips; at the end of term we will seek your opinion and decide if to make the salad a permanent addition.

Fruit Smoothies $2.00
These will be available as a counter sale only during the summer, fruit base and low fat milk makes a refreshing recess snack.

Milk & Cookie Day Friday February 22nd
Orders must be returned by 3.30pm
Tuesday 19th February no late orders accepted after this date.

Lunch orders and counter sales are not available on cookie day.

The following is the current counter sales list;

- Teddies 5c
- Shapes 5c
- Mini Wheats 5c
- Oreos 30c
- Noodles 90c
- Delites $1.00
- JJ’s $1.40
- *Deli Chips $1.50
- Grain waves $1.50
- *Popcorn $1.60
- Gingerbread $1.70
- ½ Tube 30c
- Full Tube 60c
- Callipo $1.00
- Icy Twist $1.20
- Paddle pop $1.50
- Yoghurt $2.00
- Fruit Smoothie $2.00
- Spring Water $1.00
- Up N Go $2.30
- Big M $2.35
- Just Juice $1.60
- Mineral Water $2.20
*Gluten free
As you will be aware, our weekly whole school assembly now takes place on Monday afternoon, from 2.40pm. Our parent community are most welcome to attend these assemblies. Mr Freeman, Miss Yanni and our SRC have made some changes to the format, which have been very well received. This week a powerpoint presentation of all our new preps was shown. They all certainly look like they have had a smooth transition into school life, and are definitely making themselves at home!

Next Monday 18th February is a pupil free day. Students are not required at school. Staff will be participating in workshops relating to student wellbeing, and looking at the resources and programs we have at Overport, with a focus on improving student engagement.

Our education subcommittee will meet for the first time next Tuesday 19th February at 3.45pm in our new conference room. This meeting is open to any interested parents. Items on the agenda will include a brief curriculum related report and a look at our policies needing to be reviewed this year. There have been some questions asked about children’s footwear, so we will use this forum to resolve questions that have been posed by looking through our Uniform policy. It’s great to have parent input into these discussions, so if you have the time we would love to see you there.

We all know that unfortunately, headlice can be a common occurrence once children have returned to school. We strongly advise that you check your children’s hair on a very regular basis.

Headlice don’t discriminate when it comes to hair. They will choose any head they like! If a case of headlice is found in your child’s grade, a note will be sent home. It is then particularly important to thoroughly check your child’s hair. If you do find live lice, the easiest treatment is to smother the hair with cheap hair conditioner, then comb through the hair with a fine-toothed comb. If you have any questions or need some more information, please contact me at the school office.

Our year 6 students will be heading off to camp at Wilson’s Prom in just over a week. Parents are encouraged to ensure final payment is made by the due date.

I am looking forward to seeing our current school captains recognised in their roles with the presentation of their badges at our special assembly tomorrow. We invite members of our school community to come along to this special event. It will be held at 9.00am in our school hall.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Deborah Madder
Assistant Principal
Extend OSHC at Overport Primary School

Our weekly recap

We hope everyone had a fantastic holiday and have returned nice and refreshed, ready for the new school year. We would also like to welcome all of our new families who have decided to join us at Extend. We have an action packed year planned with lots of fun activities to do.

Over the past week we have been getting to know each other and building our Extend community spirit.

Please feel free at anytime, to speak to us about your children as we understand that they are very precious to you and we want them to enjoy coming to before or after school care.

Our activities in the coming week are related to the children, as we want to get to know them better. We will be doing a variety of activities so that we can gauge what your children’s preferences are. - Lori

ONLINE BOOKINGS: extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437

FRANKSTON CITY NEWS

Want to apply for a Community Grant?
Frankston City Council’s Community Grants Program for 2013/2014 is now open for applications from not-for-profit and incorporated community groups and organisations. Applications for funding are being accepted until Thursday 28 February 2013. Applications and guidelines are available from Council’s website www.frankston.vic.gov.au or from any of Council’s Customer Service Centres, or by contacting Community Grants Program Officer, Jenny Addison on 03 9784 1015 or email jenny.addison@frankston.vic.gov.au

Have your say in the future of Frankston and win some great prizes!
Join an important conversation to help shape the future of Frankston City. If you live, work or play in the Frankston municipality, Council wants you to be involved in creating the new Community Plan. Visit Council’s website www.frankston.vic.gov.au or Council’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FrankstonCityCouncil and have your say! Hardcopies of the survey are available from Council’s Customer Service Centres or by contacting the Community Planning Officer on 9784 1778. Additionally, there will be a Community Conversation Forum on Saturday 2 March 2013 to expand on these responses. Please be involved and have your say! To register your interest for the Forum, please contact Eleanor, Capire Consulting Group on 03 9285 9012 or email elanor@capire.com.au.

MURDOCH CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Participants needed: FREE study for overweight teens looking for help!

Murdoch Childrens Research Institute at The Royal Children’s Hospital is doing a study to find a better way to support overweight young people aged 12 to 17 years to make healthier choices about weight management. Participation involves completing online questionnaires and having height, weight, blood pressure and waist circumference measured at the beginning and then at 3, 6 and 12 month follow-ups. Parents are also invited to take part. Every 3 months there will be a draw for a $100 gift voucher for those who have kept their appointments. The results will help us to find out a helpful way to teach young people about weight-related behaviours during adolescence. We need overweight young people aged 12-17 living in metropolitan Melbourne to join in!

Enquiries: Karly Cini 03 9345 6954 or stayingfit@mcri.edu.au
For more info: www.rch.org.au/cah/research/The_Staying_Fit_Project/