Dear Parents/Caregivers,

**PUPIL-FREE DAY – Friday April 26th**
On Friday 26th April, the students will not be required at school.

**CROSS COUNTRY**
Last Friday our grade 3-6 students participated in the interschool cross country. They had been training hard in the lead up to the event and it certainly paid off.

Congratulations to all the students who participated-you all put in a great effort.

As well as four students who qualified for the Regional Cross Country event, we had several other students placed in the top 10 including Theresa Buchanan (7th), Flinders Greentree (7th) and Himal Gautam (9th).

The following students will be heading to the Loddon Campaspe Regional Cross Country this Wednesday 24th at Bendigo Racecourse.

Lily Gautam (2nd) Grade 5
Darcy Leivers (2nd) Grade 4
Grace Alford-Koolen (3rd) Grade 3
Austin Peace (4th) Grade 3

**ANZAC DAY SERVICE**
All students are invited by the R.S.L to attend the Anzac Day March on Thursday 25th April.

The March begins at the school at 10:45am and the service begins at 11:00am at the Centotaph. It would be great to see some children participating and representing the school.

**WEDNESDAY FUNdraiser**
Due to the pupil free day on Friday, COIL will be having their Friday FUNdraiser this Wednesday 24th April to raise funds to support the Wildlife Rescue Emergency Service.

**DISCO**
Last Friday was the family Disco at the local community centre and lots of fun and dancing was had by all. Well done to all the families who participated and thank you to everyone who offered assistance on the night. Here are some student comments about the night:

**Ned**- It was good. I loved the loud music and the food.

**Holly**- It was loud but I had lots of fun.

**Darcy**- It was fun because I got to see my friends.

**Emily**- I liked the music. My favorite dance was to One Direction.

**Genevieve**- The food was good but the music was a bit too loud.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**
School Council is on this Wednesday 6:30pm – 8:00pm in the staff room.
SPIRIT OF ANZAC WRITING COMPETITION

Last Wednesday some members of the RSL came to the school to listen to grade 4/5/6 students read their writing based on the ‘Spirit of Anzac’. Glenn Miller, Kevin Moschetti, Gordon Tigg and Ray Stevenson were very impressed with the effort that all the students had put in.

Congratulations go to Ethan Mott whose writing was selected as the winner. His name will now go on the plaque and he will be attending the ANZAC day service to read his poem. Ethan’s poem follows:

The Spirit of ANZAC
Slowly moving forward. I don’t want the boat to stop but it will. Fear overwhelms us all. Then I remember the letter from my wife saying be brave, strong and never give up – that is the spirit of ANZAC. “Men this is it, the spirit of ANZAC remember it”. The crack of gun fire is terrifying I closed my eyes and ran.

Countless dead there were piles of dead bodies. The war was over but the pain the families will feel has only just began. The pain and horror I witnessed that day was too much some go insane. The spirit of ANZAC is demonstrated everywhere by random acts of bravery, courage, putting others before you and working as a team.

By Ethan

WORKING BEE

What a difference a day makes! On Sunday a small but enthusiastic band of workers shoveled bark, weeded garden beds, swept and pruned their way to a much neater school yard. Thanks to their efforts the children now have a safe and clean environment in which to play.

Brad and Emily hard at work at Sunday’s Working Bee

JAPANESE CULTURAL DAY

In August we have a visit from our friends in Japan and each year the 60 students that visit are billeted out to families from our local primary and secondary schools. More information is included with the newsletter. If you are interested in being a host family please contact Jodie or Liz for more information.

STUDENT TEACHER-1/2 room

A warm welcome to Nicole McCallum who will be working with Brett and his class for the next three weeks.

VALUES AWARDS for happiness

Zara Paul- Zara was away for a couple of weeks but she has shown great effort since coming back and is always happy with her effort.

Aja Sewell- Aja brightens up our room with her cheeky smile.

Lachlan Cameron- Lochie always comes to school with a smile on his face. He always tries to see the best in others and is always making others laugh.

Ned Cameron- Ned, your wonderful sense of humour brings happiness to everyone in our classroom!

WOODWIND STUDENTS-change of lesson day

Due to the Anzac Day holiday there will be no Woodwind lessons this week. Students will be required to bring their instruments on Monday 29th April for a catch up lesson.

L to R: Zara, Ned, Aja and Lochie displaying their value awards
ARTIST of the WEEK: Liam Fothergill

LEAF RUBBINGS

After having a discussion about autumn we looked at some images of autumn leaves and trees. We discussed the colours and how the colours blend together. The students did some rubbings of autumn leaves and we painted them with food dye.

THANK YOUS:
*Thank you to Carolynne Lizzul and her team of helpers, Felicity, Lauren, Andrew and Livio, for their work in organizing and running the disco.
*Thank you to Brad for organizing the working bee and to Simon, Paul, Bec H, Carolynne, Russell H, Russell M, Felicity, Brad and Jodie for their hard work on the day.
*Thank you to Bec Buchanan for assisting at the Cross Country event.

With best wishes,
Jodie Mengler and Liz Grainger

POETRY CLUB thank you

Once again our Poetry Club gave an excellent performance on Easter Saturday morning. I am really proud of you all. Kirstdey, Abby and Mercy you couldn’t be there on the day, but I thank you for your work during term one. Alexander Beetle was better than ever. We’ll have term two off, and I look forward to working with you all again in term three.

Thank you again, Skreitch

LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents/Caregivers,
Please note that the children will not have library this week due to the ANZAC Day holiday.

COMING SOON!

We will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair during Education Week. Keep watching this space for more news on this exciting event including a chance to win prizes.

May is also National Family Reading Month and a great time to share books with family and friends.

BASIC INDONESIAN FOR PARENTS

Thursdays at 2.45pm in the Indonesian room

PARENTS’ CLUB NEWS

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Friday is curriculum day so there is no “Fresh Fruit Friday”.

So the next Fresh Fruit Friday is 3rd May.
Volunteers for 3rd May: Jackie Gautam and Lauren Stevens.
Volunteers for 10th May: Felicity McGoldrick and Libby Paul.

POP CORN ROSTER

The volunteer for Friday 3rd May is Nicole Funston
The volunteer for Friday 10th May is Carolynne Spencer–Lizzul

FAMILY DISCO NIGHT

Last Friday, there was a lot of “a ’moving & a ’shaking” going on, and the Community Centre was “boppin’ to the beat” of the family disco!

It was great to see so many families enjoying the event, and the range on offer at supper was amazing!
A big thank you to Carolynne Spencer-Lizzul for organizing this event.

TAKE A STAND TOGETHER
Bullying: No Way!

COIL FUNdraiser

This Wednesday we are holding a fundraiser to support the Wildlife Rescue Emergency Service, a local volunteer group who rescue injured wildlife. Last year a group of students from our school worked with these people and raised money to buy special animal food and a vacuum cleaner for them. Our fundraiser will be a coin ‘Snail Trail’ event. We would like members of the school community to bring along as many coins as possible, as we would like to line the basketball court with them.

The proceeds from this day will help to fund the Wildlife Rescue Emergency Service (W.R.E.S.)

Riley & Ethan

As Friday is a pupil free day, on Wednesday we will be offering

**Sausage Rolls $2 each, Juice Box $1.50, Popcorn $1**

Please leave orders with classroom teachers.
*** Any plates and/or platters that were left at the Community Centre on Friday night can be collected from the kitchen at the school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 10th May  Mother’s Day Celebration, 2.00 – 3.00 p.m., in the Art Room.
Monday May 14th  Meeting 3, 9.30am

COMMUNITY NEWS

Maldon Football / Netball Club’s ‘PARTY NIGHT’

Maldon Football / Netball Club’s ‘PARTY NIGHT’ will be held at the clubrooms in Francis Street on Friday, May 3rd, 7pm. start. On the night we will have Tupperware, Lorraine Lea Linen and Phoenix Trading Gift Cards demonstrators showing off their wares. You know that you love a good party – so come along. See you there.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

TEA TOWEL – APRON Fundraiser

All staff and students from Maldon P.S. have drawn a picture of themselves and this artwork will be featured on tea towels and aprons which the school are selling as a fundraiser. Tea towels are available for $12 and aprons will be $20. If you would like to purchase one or more items please complete the slip below and return it, together with payment, to the office by 29th April. These items make great gifts for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day etc so don’t miss out on a lasting memento of your child’s education.

Tea Towel – Apron Fundraiser 2013

Name:
Contact phone number:
I would like to purchase ____ tea towels at $12 each
____ aprons at $20 each

I have enclosed payment of $____
INVITATION TO FAMILIES
TO HOST JAPANESE STUDENTS

This year students from Shizuoka in Japan will visit the Shire of Mount Alexander for the fifteenth time. This year we will be back to our normal program. A group of about 60 students will be visiting us from Wednesday 7 August to Sunday 11 August. The main purpose of the visit is to share culture and friendship. The students’ school levels will range from Year 5 to Year 9. They will be billeted by families of students from Castlemaine Secondary College and a number of primary schools in the shire. Highlights of their stay will include experiencing family life with their host families, joining in with our students in school activities and visiting a range of local tourism attractions.

Organization for our first group of students to visit Japan in September is well under way. This would involve a small group of secondary students but would hopefully lead to more such reciprocation in the future, including primary students. The respective communities of Shizuoka and the Shire of Mount Alexander continue to value this program very highly and the continued support of our school communities is integral to the continuation of its success.

So if you are thinking of taking part in the program this year, that’s great. We would be very grateful if you could you also encourage other families to be involved too. Thanks for that.

Host families will provide accommodation, meals, transport and friendly hospitality for our Japanese guests from the Wednesday evening to the Sunday morning. During the weekdays the students will be involved with school and other activities in the local area. Saturday will be an individual family day with a community farewell party in the evening. To help ensure that the experience is as rewarding as possible for both hosts and guests, appropriate information and support will be available. Host families will also receive payment for their service.

Students and families who may be interested in being involved in the billeting program can obtain more detailed information and a host family profile from the school office. These are also available by email request to Peter Nunan (peter Nunan@hotmail.com). The completed forms should be returned to the school office by Friday 17 May. Any one over the age of 18 years in a host family is required by the Department of Education to complete a ‘Working with Children Check’ (WWCC). This is a simple procedure, cost free to volunteers. Forms are available from your school or local Post Office. Your information pack will contain a sheet outlining the application procedure. WWCCs remain current for three years. If you have a current WWC card from a school, your work or other community organisation, we simply require a photocopy with your completed host family profile.

The pairs of Japanese students will be matched as well as possible with our families according to ages, gender and interests.

For further information please contact Peter Nunan on 0459362158 or email as above.
2013 District Cross Country

Family Disco Night