OPEN LEARNING EXPERIENCE
Students have slowly settled into the new building—we have discussed learning expectations with all students and ways we function in the open area. In the short time—it has been pleasing to see the students being respectful and responsible towards one another. Both students and teachers are adjusting to the environment well. Thank you to parents who have been giving us feedback to modify our programs and the way we do things to best suit the student learning needs in this new environment.

Over the next few weeks we will spend time reviewing our school values and school expectations with students—given that we have around 20 new students it is important to support and revisit our practices with all students so we are clear on how we learn, share and act at Nilma. We will send home information to parents once all classrooms have had input into reviewing our REAL Values—Respect and Responsibility, Environment, Achievement and Learning.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
The School Council is looking for new members for 2012. We have four parent vacancies. School Council AGM and Meeting will be held next Monday 13th February at 7.00pm at the school.

PARENT TEACHER DISCUSSIONS
Thursday 16th February 11.00am to 5.30pm—times will be available for Parent—Teacher Discussions. This time provides an opportunity for parents to have a ‘Get to Know You’ meeting with teachers. Forms will be sent home on the newsletter today, to be returned by next Monday.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION
All students will have both, a student diary and satchel. Please encourage students to bring both items daily, classrooms will establish morning and end of day routines to support the communication between home and school. New satchels will be available in few weeks.

Parents—Keep up the open communication via just touching base with teachers before or after school—We are working together to build the best students we can and if you have concerns the sooner they are addressed with the appropriate staff the better the learning environment is for the students at Nilma.

PARENTS CLUB
A meeting for the Parents Club will be held next Friday 17th February at 9.00am in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend. Please feel free to come along and have a cuppa—this is also an avenue to get to know other parents at Nilma and build new relationships. The more the merrier!

WHOLE EXCURSION—HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON—to be held at HISENSE ARENA in Melbourne.
The cost of this excursion is quite expensive but this will be an opportunity of a life time for some. Parent Club will subsidise some of the expense.

We have opportunity for about 5 parents to come—please let the Office know by Tuesday 14th February if you are interested in attending—the cost for each parent will be $60. Student cost will be $20. More information next week.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
The school photos will be held on Tuesday 28th February at 9.00am. Forms are attached to the newsletter and must be brought back on photo day. The correct money must be enclosed in the envelopes. Family photo forms are available from the office if needed.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS
See information attached to Newsletter. This is optional—provides an opportunity for students to challenge themselves and compete in competitions in various subjects.

Working Bee
Family BBQ
21 February - 4.30pm-7.30pm
Teaching and Learning Programs

SPECIALIST TEACHERS / TIMETABLES
This year to date we have coordinated specialists as follows:

Visual Arts— Thursdays
Science—Thursdays
MARC VAN/Music—Thursdays (fortnightly)
Japanese— Wednesdays— Commencing term 2

Instrumental Music—Friday mornings—we will notify parents of groupings next Monday—payments will need to be made prior to commencing the lessons—on a term by term basis.

Mobile Area Resource Centre (MARC) VAN
INFORMATION—please see attached

EMA FORMS
Attached to the newsletter last week were EMA Forms. These forms must be signed and returned to the school by the end of February. A photocopy of the Concession Card must also be attached. Late forms cannot be accepted.

CONVEYANCE FORMS
Private Conveyance Forms were attached to the newsletter last week. These forms must be returned by the end of February for those families who are eligible.

SCHOOL FEES
School Council to discuss school fees for 2012. Fees will be approximately $120 per child.

BOOK CLUB
Book Club is due next Thursday—16th February. Please hand envelops to the Office.

FOR SALE
The most adorable black and white mice. $5.00 each. Please contact Bailey Kleeven, on 56 235501.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL
The Active After School Program will begin in week 3 on Tuesday (Feb 14th and Thursday Feb 16th) from 3.15 to 4.30pm.

Participants are;

Triathlon: Tuesday Nights
Ashley Griggs, Max Chesterfield, Megan Griggs, Riley Kleeven, Sine Salt, Andrew Burdett, Jack Chesterfield, Kylie Griggs, Patrick Smythe, Bailey Kleeven, Bayley Gunton, Rieley Gunton, Tayla Lochki

Athletics: Thursday Nights

There will be no Active After School on Thursday 8th March as we have a school excursion that day.

There are still positions available for Triathlon on Tuesday nights. All students must have a signed consent form prior to participating, one for each student, more forms are available from the office.

SUNSMART SCHOOL
Student health and well-being
Reminder for all students to bring to school their school hats, a drink bottle (can be refilled during the day), healthy lunch and snack and sunglasses (optional).
PS Don't forget to put on
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS 2012

Norm Cottrell would be interested in teaching music lessons to individual and small group in 2012. Ukulele and recorder lessons will be available for the junior students, and clarinet and flute for the senior students. Guitar will also be available to all students. Lessons will be conducted during school hours, and there will be a small cost to families for the lessons. If your child would like to participate in music lessons next year, then please sign and return the form below by next Friday 10th February 2012.

P-1: Small group (approx 5) @$4 if paid for term in advance. (approx 20 mins)

covers: Recorder.. Learning the first five notes, finger motor skills and call and response rhythms.
   Ukulele.... Learn two chords and how to accompany an extended medley of two-chord songs.
   Drums..... Simple rhythms and patterns based on call and response method.

P1/2/3: @ $4 pw if paid in advance for term. (approx 25 mins)
(up to 5) Same as above, except that recorder will extend into learning a small repertoire of easy tunes based on eight recorder notes.
   Ukulele: Also will learn three and four chord songs which use repeated chord patterns.
   Drums: Same as above, except that pro drum kit is available to add to this mix if sufficient interest.

Instrumental woodwind: (approx 20 mins)
   Flute: Up to AMEB Grade One Level. $12 per individual 20 minute session if paid in advance for the term. $15 pw otherwise. The students will learn to sight-read and not rely on letter notes written above the music notes. Available for Grade 3 onwards. Hire/ buy plan available. $50 up-front for flute to take home and practise, if decide to buy at end of year, $100 final payment. Also comes with CD and book of 50 tunes which includes a sight-reading program.
   Clarinet: (approx 20 mins)
Up to AMEB Grade Five level. $12 per individual 20 minute session if paid in advance for the term. $15 pw otherwise. The students will learn to sight-read and not rely on letter notes written above the music notes. Available for Grade 3 onwards. Hire/ buy plan available. $50 up-front for clarinet to take home and practise, if decide to buy at end of year, $100 final payment. Also comes with CD and book of 50 tunes which includes a sight-reading program.
   Saxophone: Same as above. (approx 20 mins)
Available to Grade 5 AMEB level. Saxophone hire/ buy by arrangement. * Due to the investment involved in purchasing this instrument, would only be available to a suitably motivated student with a strong practise ethic, from Gr 5/6.
   Guitar: In small group of 3/4. $4pw if paid for term in advance. Students will learn to play a medley of songs using simple chord progressions.

Other notes.
• Students will need to have their own instruments. Some instruments are available for hire/ buy.
• These instruments can be taken home, but any damage caused will have to be re-imbursed. Recorders are available for approx $7. Ukuleles are approx $25 (these can be loaned on the day either from myself or the school. Padded ukulele bags are also available at approx. $25. Guitars can be purchased through me starting at approx $90 for a 3/4 size guitar.

AMEB refers to the Australian Music Examination Board.

Students Name:_________________________________________________

Name of instrument/s:____________________________________________

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### NILMA PRIMARY
### SCHOOL CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY 2012**

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