**SCHOOL REVIEW**

The Department (DEECD) has a focus on continuous improvement, ensuring that high standards of education are maintained and shared across the education system. DEECD is improving how school performance is measured and monitored and introducing a system of review that draws on the expertise of professionals throughout our system to support each school to reflect on their performance through self-evaluation and review.

Nilma is due to conduct a review in 2014 to support the development of a new Strategic Plan. With the introduction of the new School Performance Framework this year, reviews will be differentiated into two types: peer and priority.

Nilma Primary school will participate in a peer review, to be conducted this term. More information, plan and opportunity for feedback will be provided this term.

**JAPANESE INTERN**

Ayaka Soejima arrived safely last Friday. Ayaka will be staying with Darnum Host families this term and then Nilma PS will provide some host families in either term 3 or 4. If you would be interested in supporting our Japanese program please don’t hesitate to talk to me.

**YEAR 6 STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

This week we commenced our Civics and Citizenship program for year 6 students. The students will be participating in the program in small groups—students will share their information and experiences through the newsletter. See page 5 for information.

**ANZAC SERVICE**

Last Friday, 25th April, six of our students attended the ANZAC Day ceremony in Warragul to represent our school and lay a wreath in memory of those who have died, been injured or served Australia during the wars.

Thanks to Kylie Griggs, Shakira Kimm, James Dungey, Jack McGrath, Harrison Perry and Patrick Smythe for representing our school.

**PARENT HELPERS**

If you would like to support the school could you please let your classroom teacher know—of times of the week you may be available—we will schedule you in. Helpers must have a Working With Children Certificate.

We will be offering two parent information sessions that will help with being a classroom Helper and understanding some of the expectations of a helper. THRASS for parents and Understanding Reading process as a classroom helper will be the two sessions on offer this term.

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY—Friday 2nd May**

Last year Buln Buln and Nilma combined to apply for a grant through Partnership for Learning Initiative. This will include two school closure days—Staff will be attending a Professional Development Day tomorrow, Friday 2nd May and Monday 16th June.
**Student of the Week**

**Recognitions**

**Homegroup 1/F Red**

**Cody Ward**
This week you have been so determined to complete all your learning tasks and you have done this with a great attitude and smile as well. Fantastic work Cody!

**Homegroup 3/2/1/ Green**

**Ashton Kimm**
for having a positive attitude towards his learning and putting a fantastic effort in his mathematics.

**Homegroup 5/4/3 Blue**

**Lane Ward**
for your positive attitude, approaching your learning so enthusiastically and being willing to challenge yourself and “have a go”. Well done mate!

**Homegroup 6/5 Yellow**

**Lachlan Axford**
For consistently demonstrating the REAL values in all areas of your learning. You are a great role model!!

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**L.A.U.G.H Program**

Learning Activities Under Guidance of Home

**NIGHTLY READING**

**25 nights**
Charlotte Brown

**50 nights**
Jessie McCabe
Charlotte Brown
Beth Axford
Brianna Burnett
Oliver Turner

**75 nights**
Jessie McCabe

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**Happy Birthday**

Monica Berkelmans
Belinda Smythe
Home Group Happenings!

My opinion!
This week for persuasive writing the students talked about their opinion ‘something that they think’ and had to develop one about the topic, TOYS vs PETS.
The students chose which they preferred and together we brainstormed some reasons about why their topic was better than the other one.
They came up with some fantastic reasons…
That pets love me back
They can do tricks (we summarised that TOYS and PETS could both do this)
They are fun (both)
They can go anywhere (Toys)
You can own them (both)
They wont hurt me (TOYS)

Excursion
My favourite part of the excursion was the 13 storey tree house. I liked how they have a the big banana. It was huge. I liked going to the police station. We got to try on a vest. The vests were heavy. I enjoy the day. By Olivia.

The best part about the excursion was the 13th storey tree house. It had a giant gorillas eye. We got to go into the Coles freezer. It was cool. My mum came on the excursion with us. The excursion was good fun. By Aiden S

It was funny in the 13 storey tree house when the gorilla eye was in the curtains. The foot stood on bark the dog. It almost killed Barky. I like it when we got free fruit at Coles. By Ashley and Matilda

Last Wednesday we went on an excursion to Warragul. We went to the RSL, Museum and the whole school went to the Arts Centre to see “The Thirteen Story Treehouse”. I think that the day in Warragul was Amazing and Awesome!
By Meg Devlin.

Last Wednesday we went to Warragul for an excursion. We went to the RSL, Museum and “The 13 Story Treehouse”. It was a really good day. My favourite bit was the whole lot! We walked everywhere, it was tiring. I was so tired when I got home. By Bailey Dent.

Last Wednesday we went for an excursion around Warragul First the grade 4,5,6’s went to the RSL. Then we were off to the museum. I thought it was a dinosaur museum but I was mistaking it with the one in Melbourne! Finally we went to the Arts Centre to see “The Thirteen Story Treehouse” play, it was so so funny.
By Sine Salt.

Homegroup Happenings
Visiting the Historical Society I have learnt who discovered Gippsland and surroundings. Learning about the aboriginals who lived on this land.

Lachlan Axford.

I walked, I talked and I laughed with my friends but that’s not all. I also did some other stuff like visit The RSL(Returned Services League). Also we visited Ms And Mr Dickson at the Warragul Museum. The best bit was Andy Grithis play The 13 Story Tree House. It had nothing to do with the book. I know because I have read all 3 of them. I didn’t like the play that much because I’m not that person but it was alright I suppose at least we were away from school. So we are at school now and tomorrow’s another day.

Jack McGrath.
This year our school will again be participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Students from year Foundation to 6 are able to participate in the challenge which involves students reading a set number of books by 31st August. Last year 67 students from Nilma successfully completed the challenge. This year we expect **ALL** students to participate in the Challenge as part of our classroom reading and literature enrichment program. Years 3-6 will read a total of 15 books, at least 10 of which must be from the Challenge booklist and 5 of their own choice. Years Foundation -2 will read or “experience” 30 books with 20 or more coming from the Challenge list and the remaining can be their own choice. “Experiencing” a book for Foundation -2 can include a range of class or home activities such as sharing of a Big Book, shared reading at school and home, reading along with a text and being read to with parents, siblings and others.

To participate in the Premier's Reader’s Challenge students will need to have parents complete the Registration and Consent form and return to school. **A copy of this form was attached to this last week’s newsletter.** Upon completion of the Premier’s Reading Challenge students will receive a certificate from the Premier and have their names published on the Reading Challenge Website. Students can borrow many of the titles on the Challenge Reading List from our library. The Warragul Library will also be an excellent source of books for the Challenge.

The Challenge provides students with a great opportunity to read a range of literature and a real focus for their own reading for pleasure. **Thanks for your support.** Good reading!

Kerry Williams

**SOMERS CAMP**

This year, from 7th until the 14th October students in years 5 & 6 have the opportunity to attend Somers Camp. The 9 day camp is based in Somers and gives students a chance to engage with other students from other regions and to develop students’ independence and confidence.

Interested students are asked to return the expression of interest form below and return to school. Further information will be available at a later date. The cost of the camp is $210 per student. For any more information please contact the Office. Many of our past students have attended this camp and have had a great experience.

**SOMERS CAMP 2014 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

My child ____________________________ in year ____________________________ would like the opportunity to attend Somers Camp 2014.

Signed __________________________________________

Date ____________________________
SCHOOL ORGANISATION

WINTER SPORT - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Students—IMPORTANT!
Permission forms for the Winter Sport were sent home with students on Monday 28th April. Students were also given a list of sports to choose from, some of these activities will incur a small weekly cost. The Winter Sport program will be held every Friday starting Friday 9th May and will continue for 6 weeks. Students will be participating in these activities with other schools in the Mt Worth Cluster. Students will be taken by school bus at 12.30pm to Burke St in Warragul and will return by bus to Nilma PS at 3.00pm. Some students will also travel by bus to selected venues.
The activities are; Snorkelling ($5 p/w), 10 Pin Bowling ($6 p/w), Basketball no cost, Minor Games no cost, Croquet ($2 p/w), Tee Ball no cost, Tennis ($1 pw) and Badminton ($2 p/w). Students will participate in their selected activities in two 3 week blocks. Please note that due to popularity that students may not get to do their first preference. Forms should have been returned by Wednesday 30th April. Some students have not returned forms—so today these students have been issued with a second form. Please return by Monday 5th May. Students who have returned forms have had their preferences forwarded for processing today.

YEAR 7 TRANSITION
Transition forms for our Year 6 students were sent home last week, these forms need to be signed and returned to the school by today, Thursday 1st May. If you have any questions regarding this please ask at the office.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS
Book Club orders are due in today, Thursday 1st May. Late orders cannot be accepted.

URBAN CAMP—YEARS 4, 5 & 6
Urban Camp will be held on Monday 2nd June until Wednesday 4th June 2014. The cost of this camp is $210 per student. Payment can be made in instalments using our payment plan, or paid as a lump sum. Full payment for the camp is due by Monday 26th May. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Office or speak to Annette.
Students will be visiting the Immigration Museum, Skydeck, MSAC Wipeout, MCG, Scienceworks and the Queen Vic Market. Students will be travelling to and from this camp by train. Children must be at the train station by 10.30am on Monday 2nd June, and parents must pick up children from the station at 2.00pm on Wednesday 4th June. More details will be provided in the coming weeks.

YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP GROUP—NOTES
Hi guys, it’s us, Nilma Primary Schools Leadership team for 2014. We are team B. On Tuesday we had our first leadership meeting with Glenda. Our team includes: Harrison, Lachlan C, Shelly, Lachlan B, Jack, Bailey, Shakira and Patrick. We had a great start to the term with our excursion around Warragul. Miss Closter and Miss Berkelmans classes visited the Police station, the Post Office and supermarket. Mr Williams and Miss Matarczyk’s grades visited the Warragul RSL and Historical Museum and then all went to the show “The 13th storey tree house” together in the afternoon.
We have been playing games with Glenda to help learn things about ourselves, each other and what leadership is, such as good listening and confidence. Some things we will be focusing on are practising leadership skills such as public speaking, for example at assembly. Also contributing to the newsletter, and fundraising for worthy causes. Today we brain–stormed some ideas for fundraising for this term.
Welcome back to term 2! I hope you all had an enjoyable holidays and got lots of chocolates off the Easter Bunny!

Term 2’s activities will begin on Wednesday 14th May with AFL on Wednesday afternoons, 3.30pm - 4.30pm, here at school. This is open to all students with a maximum of 20 participants.

On Fridays we will be Swimming!! This activity is only available for students in years 4 - 6 who have water confidence and is limited to 10 places. These sessions will be held at the Warragul Leisure Centre from 4pm - 5pm. Students are to have their healthy snack at home and then be brought to and from the venue. Parents are most welcome to stay and watch these sessions.

Please fill out the expression of interest form below and return to school by Wednesday 7th May. A full list of participants and dates will be in next weeks newsletter.

If you have not filled out and returned a consent and behaviour form please see Belinda before the 14th May.

Thanks

Belinda.

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**ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES**

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Please indicate your preference by using 1 or 2.

Signed

Date
At Nilma Primary we are introducing new procedures to ensure a more efficient way of communication between school and home.

**ABSENCES**
Each month ‘Student Absentee Letters’ are sent home with students who have had an unexplained absence or late arrival. These letters are required to be filled out and returned to school so records can be updated and maintained. If these letters are not returned within a week of being sent home a phone call will be made to parents to allow us to follow this up. Absences need to be recorded correctly to ensure our school data is maintained correctly.
A courtesy phone call is still appreciated if your child is absent but a note must still be sent to school to be filed in our confidential records.

**CORRESPONDENCE**
We are encouraging all parents to send correspondence, eg. Permission notices, letters, payments, Book Club etc to be given to students to hand in to their classroom teachers. Correspondence is collected by classroom teachers and then sent to the office every morning. This enables teachers to check that required forms have been returned and gives students a sense of responsibility.

**NEWSLETTER ATTACHMENTS**
Attached to the newsletter are Student Absentee Letters, Attendance Slips and Statements for families.
Absentee letters are to be returned by Friday 9th May. Attendance slips are to be returned to school explaining an absence, more of these are available from the Office.
Statements include any outstanding subject contributions, excursion levy and camp fees. Camp Fees show up on the statement as two charges, one being for the food component and the other for camp charges. The reason these come up separately is due to GST charges. If you have any queries regarding this please speak to the Office or Annette. A payment plan for camp has already been sent home.
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ATTENDANCE SLIP

Name of student:______________________________________________________________

Date of Absence:______________________________________________________________

Reason for Absence:___________________________________________________________

Signed by Parent:_______________________________________________________________

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