**Principal Notes**

**NAPLAN ASSESSMENTS**
Students in year 3 and 5 have completed the NAPLAN assessments for 2012. Thank you to all students who participated and worked hard to challenge themselves. We will take some time to have a look at the assessments and work through the questions to provide feedback to students next week. Parents will wait until August/September to receive results of their child’s work.

**BALLARAT CAMP**
Students in year 4 to 6 will be leaving bright and early on Monday morning. The bus leaves from Burke Street at 8.15. Students to have lunch in hand. We do hope they bring back a little GOLD for us all! And have lots of FUN!!

**CASEA PROGRAM**
I’m pleased to say we have been accepted to participate in new exciting program CASEA— CYMHS (Child &Youth Mental Health Services). ACASE is a Victoria wide school Program which promotes young children’s social and emotional skills so that they can better manage emotions. Students from year Prep to year 3 will be surveyed as part of the process.

Please read attached information.

Could parents please return consent forms by Wednesday 23rd May—so we can commence the questionnaires and program. Teachers are looking forward to developing more skills to support students at Nilma.

**PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE**
Next week, Thursday and Friday I will be away at the Principal conference in Melbourne. On these days, if you need support, please speak to Mr Kerry Williams.

**PARKING AROUND SCHOOL**
School Council members have been actively seeking support from Baw Baw Shire, VicRoads and Department of Education, Early Childhood Development to come up with solutions to assist with our parking concerns. Some short term solutions—Firstly teachers will be parking in the centre bays—to reduce the need for students to cross the crossing and two lots of traffic to have to reverse out of parking bays at once.

We are investigating what can also be done about the pathway from the Bus stop to school—this may provide another avenue for de-cluttering the car park.

Finally if there are some parents that are able to pick up their children 10 minutes later—just before 3.30pm this would also assist. Please talk to me if your family would like the late pick up.

Police have also been actively patrolling the schools to support with safe practices. Parents please note—do not park in front of the school please—it effects visibility and safety of all others—and police will have to book parents if they are breaking the law. Let’s keep the entry and exit clear for safety of all. Thank you.

With the Queen Street closure you will have noticed more traffic so if we can be extra careful and attentive—it would be beneficial to all.

We did ask VICROADs if Bloomfield road could be reduced to 40km/h however VICROADS did not see a need.

**PARENT TEACHER DISCUSSIONS**
The Parent Teacher Discussions will be held in last week of this term as part of our reporting to parents on student achievement. Information forms will be sent out next week—after camp.

These forms will need to be returned to school by Wednesday 6th June. The confirmation of times will be sent out after this date. The date for the Parent Teacher discussions is Thursday 28th June between 9.00am and 5.00pm. All children will be required to attend school on this day.
WOOLWORTHS STICKERS
Don’t forget to collect your Woolworths sticker. All cards can be placed in the box near the office. Cards were attached to the newsletter last week, and more are available from the office if needed.

BALLARAT CAMP NEWS
The Mt Worth Cluster Camp will be held on Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd May. This camp is for Grade 4, 5 & 6 students. The bus leaves at 8.15am at Burke St on Monday morning and will return at 5.00pm Wednesday afternoon. Any Concerns during the time—call school or Annette’s Mobile 0407231804

BOOKCLUB ORDERS
Attached to the newsletter are Bookclub orders. All orders and payment are due at the office by Thursday 24th May.

STUDENT LEARNING @ NILMA

R.E.A.L STUDENTS @ NILMA

Student of the Week

Recognitions

Homegroup 1 / Prep

**Daniel Axford**
For doing a great job with measurement and challenging himself in Mathematics.

Homegroup 3/2

**Tahlia Witney**
For being such a great learner and role model for others. Your positive attitude to learning is something you should be very proud of.

Homegroup 4/3

**Kiara Warenycia**
For her willingness to take on responsibility in the grade and challenge herself in her own learning.

Homegroup 6/5

**Rachael Lawry**
For challenging herself and putting a great effort into her work.

R.E.A.L STUDENTS @ NILMA

NIGHTLY READING

Recognition certificates

**25 nights**
Michael Farnham Bayley Gunton

**50 nights**
Justin Axford Tayla Lochki Zavier Allsupp Anthony Scott

**75 Nights**
Aiden Olsson

**100 Nights**
Jessica Gilbertson Harrison Perry Kiara Warenycia Dominick Johnstone-Witney

Summary
The Gippsland Region website has now been upgraded. Access to the upgraded website is available on the following link: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/region/gippsland/

We made pet echidnas using a potato and match sticks. By Meg

In Science we used a mirror to look at the clouds move. By Emma

We read Possum Magic and pasted the food that he ate on the map of Australia. By Sheree

Happy 6th Birthday to Zavier. From the Grade One/Prep Room

On Monday it was my brother’s birthday. Blake turned 10 years old. On Saturday I played netball and my team won. The score was 10-0. I was the GS and I shot 6 goals. Holly and Kirsty from my grade are in my netball team. We are called The Aztecs. After netball I am going to the swimming pool for Blake’s birthday party. This week I have been doing NAPLAN tests. They are pretty hard and challenging, but I enjoyed them a little bit. We had to sit at a desk by ourselves. By Tahlia Witney

Last week at Winter Sports I did snorkelling. We got to pick out our flippers & snorkel. After that we had a swim around to see what it was like and Mr Eeles showed us how to get the water out without taking off the mask. It was so fun! By Kiara

Last Friday all the Mount Worth schools went to the Geoff Watt track to do the Winter Sports. Some groups went in different areas around the town to do different sports. These are some of the sports: ten pin bowing, netball, snorkelling, basketball and croquet. I played netball and it was fun. In the middle of the games we stopped to learn more things about netball. By Kylie

I can’t wait to go to Japan. By Jessica
I can’t wait to go to camp. It is going to be so much fun. By Savanna
We had Japanese. It is fun. By Laura
Japanese is awesome. By Olivia
Can’t wait to find gold on camp. By Bailey
NAPLAN was hard work. By Corey
Japanese class was fun. By Rachael
We had Japanese. Our teacher’s name is Arisa. She is really nice. By Mckayla
HOT LUNCH DAY— The Hot Lunch day was held today, and raised approx $100 for the school.

SWAP MEET: This will be now be held on Sunday 1st July. (please note this date has been changed!) If you are able to help out on the day, please fill out a form at the office.

PARENTS CLUB MEETINGS: There will be a meeting tomorrow, Friday 18th May at 9.00am at the school to discuss the new uniforms. All parents are welcome to attend.

NEW SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Parents Club, on behalf of School Council have been making enquiries into new uniform options for the school, which will come into effect in 2013/14. At this stage only the polo shirt is changing. A meeting on Friday 18th at 9.00am will be held at the school to discuss the uniform changes in more detail and all parents are invited to attend. A sample polo top is available to view in the staff room.

Family Name

Type of Material: EASY BREATHE POLO
Colour: RED BLACK RED/BLACK
Logo: EMBROIDED (Sewn) SCREEN PRINTED
Hat Style: BROAD RIMMED BUCKET
Hat with Logo: YES NO

Please circle preferences and return to school by Friday 18th May. Thankyou, The Parents Club
DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY
The cross country races will be held at Chairo Christian School on Tuesday 5th June—Students in years 4-6 will be selected to participate. Students should be able to run for the 2/3 kilometre course. Tomorrow we will be having a trial run at school—to give us good indication of students who are able to sustain the 2 or 3 kilometre course.

WGRSSA FOOTBALL / NETBALL Competitions (TRAINING)
This local competition will be held on Wednesday June 13th—Nilma?Darnum against Buln Buln Primary School. The winner of this event will then attend the Regional Round Robin competition held Friday June 22nd.
Students in Years 5 and 6 can nominate for participation in these events—Trials and training will be held at Nilma Primary School on Monday 28th May and 4th June after school—4.00pm to 5.00pm.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS TO NILMA
All visitors and volunteers will be required to sign in the Visitors/Volunteers book located in the office. Visitors/Volunteers will also be required to wear a badge so student/staff are aware of following this school procedure.

STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Nilma Primary School has been selected to participate in the CYMHS And Schools Early Action (CASEA) Program later this year!

The CASEA Program works with schools, kids and parents. We help kids to develop skills in making friends, getting along with others, solving problems, and to understand & manage feelings and behaviours. We know that with these skills students will be happier and have better learning outcomes.

CASEA also assists parents to develop understanding and skills to support their kids with making change. We try to help kids who are having some problems with feelings and behaviour to prevent these difficulties from getting bigger in the future.

The CASEA team will be spending a bit of time in the school to get to know some of the staff and students. All parents with kids in Prep-Grade 3 will soon be receiving a letter and consent form about the CASEA program.

If kids or parent would like more information about CASEA please speak with Annette Sutherland, or your classroom teacher, who can contact us. We look forward to better getting to know you and your school later on this year!
ITEMS FOR SALE

We will be having a Silent Auction on the items pictured below.

Parents who are interested in bidding for these items, can place a bid at the office.

The winning bidding must collect the items over the school holidays. (at own expense).

Come and see Ms Sutherland for more detail.
**All bids to be put in by Friday 8th June 2012.**

**AIR CONDITIONER—**
Panasonic
Inverter Cooling/Heating
3.2KW-14.6 A

**STEPS**
When your child starts school, they enter the wider social world. This means building on the social skills they learnt in their pre-school years while finding their own place in the world and feeling part of a social group.

A natural part of development is learning to deal with conflict. Normally, conflict is short-lived, but sometimes it may turn into bullying.

So what is bullying?

It appears much like teasing. But when such behaviour occurs repeatedly, that’s when it becomes bullying.

Examples include repeated pushing, tripping, name-calling or excluding a child from joining in play or sitting somewhere. Having an argument or disagreement with a friend is not bullying. Teasing, being pointed at or called names as a one-off occurrence, while not nice, is not bullying. These behaviours are a normal part of children interacting with each other and learning respectful relationships.

Bullying can be devastating for a child’s confidence and self-esteem so it is important to act immediately once you suspect your child is being bullied.

**How to know when my child is being bullied**

There is no single way of knowing if your child is being bullied.

You'll need to use your judgment, together with your knowledge of your child’s personality. You know your child and you know how well they are adjusting to school. You know when something is worrying them or when something just doesn’t quite feel right.

Apart from physical signs, things that may signal bullying include:

- not wanting to go to school or participate in school activities
- missing belongings or having torn clothing
- not wanting to answer questions or talk about what’s been happening at school
- talking about being teased, made fun of or ridiculed
- being overly anxious, nervous, withdrawn, secretive, quick to become angry or tearful
- not sleeping well and bed wetting
- not eating properly.

**So what to do?**

The most important thing is for your child to know that it’s OK to talk about bullying.

Reassure them that they are safe and loved, and that they will not be left to sort out the bullying on their own.

Let your child know that the situation is not their fault, and it can be fixed.

Stay calm, as your child will take a cue from your response as to how they should react to this problem, and indeed to problems generally.

Praise your child for telling you about the problem.

Talk to your child’s teacher or school principal as soon as possible. Your school takes bullying very seriously. Every school has a policy for dealing with bullying. When discussing the problem with the school, be assertive, but not angry. Try to avoid making accusations. Ask the teacher or principal for their view and discuss how the situation will be managed, and then keep in touch with the school.

Tell your child you will talk to the school. They might initially be concerned that this will exacerbate the problem, and that they might be labelled as a ‘dobber’ or a ‘wooz’.

Again, remind them that bullying is something that needs to be openly talked about by everyone and that they won’t suffer recriminations.

Don’t encourage your child to retaliate. This will only make the situation worse.

Contacting the bully or their parents, tempting as it might seem, is also likely to make the situation worse. It is best to work with the school to fix the problem rather than try and solve it yourself.

Remember, that it usually takes time to change behaviour and that you might not see immediate results. Help your child feel more confident by talking about ways of dealing with the behaviour; things like walking away or ignoring the behaviour; firmly telling the bully to stop; avoiding places where bullying is likely to occur – as long as that doesn’t mean your child will miss out on activities or being with friends; use deflecting strategies like providing an offhand or humorous response when the bully says offensive or negative things; and asking friends to help.

It is also useful to talk to your child about why children bully. For example, they have a problem and they are taking it out on others or they are copying others and don’t know this is wrong.

Remember, it may take some time and some adjustment at school and at home to get things back on an even keel. If you are concerned that the problem is not going away, raise it again with your child’s teacher or school principal.
## MAY 2012

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**Term 3 commences**

**July 16th**