EDUCATION STATE—Reforms

Yesterday I attended one of the first Principal forums in Berwick on the ‘State Education’ to be briefed on the Victorian Government recently announced series of landmark reforms to build and define Victoria as the Education State.

The announcements included a focus on strong school leadership, better teaching, more collaboration between teachers and schools and resources targeted at student need.

Next year all government schools – including ours – will receive extra needs-based funding for to better respond to every student’s needs.

Our teachers will receive training to implement the new Victorian Curriculum, which will include new subjects like digital coding and respectful relationships.

The government also set new state-wide education targets – goals for our students in areas like maths, reading, science, the arts, resilience and critical and creative thinking.

This is an exciting time for Victorian schools, and these new initiatives will inform our planning for 2016.

I felt the changes were a very positive step towards education in the future and came away feeling that the reforms now recognise what community stakeholders have suggested in past.

I look forward to sharing more with the community in the future and working towards implementing these changes to curriculum and programs beginning next year.

More Information on pages 4 & 5

I encourage you to visit the Department’s website to find out more about the Education State initiatives: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationstate

BOOK FAIR

At the Book Fair, we have sold a lot of books, novelty items and posters. So far it has been a busy group of people serving customers. We have sold $700 worth of books already. We are extending our Book Fair to next Monday, this will be your last chance to buy a book. The school earns a commission from our sales to buy books for our library. Thanks to everyone who has bought a book.

GARDIVALIA 2015

The Festival of Gardens will be held later this month. Nilma PS will participating in this year’s Gardivalia Festival on Saturday 24th October from 10.00am until 4.00pm.

Ms McLennan has coordinated the involvement in the community event to showcase some of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden at school. This will be a fundraiser for the school too.

For the day to be successful, we will need some parent and family support on the day.

More information is on page 7.

HOOPTIME BASKETBALL

On Monday, Meg Griggs, Ella Perry, Kiara Perry, Lachlan Axford, Angus Mulconry, Riley Kleeven, Deakin Santo & Max Chesterfield represented Nilma PS at the Hoop Time finals in Dandenong.

All students played extremely well and demonstrated top sportsmanship. Thankyou to Ms Matarczyk and Mrs Perry and Mr Santo for providing the transport and helping with the coaching.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th October at 6.00pm at the school.

TOUGH MUDDER FUNDRAISER—It’s back...

Year 6 leaders at Nilma will be organising a ‘Tough Mudder’ and Walk on Friday 20th November 2015.

Students will be placed into groups according to their year level and given allocated time to complete the course as many times and as fast or slow as they like!

Students will bring home a sponsorship form 2 weeks prior to the Tough Mudder. You can ask your family and friends to sponsor you. Money raised is then due back on Friday 4th December.

Parents are welcome to come along on the day and watch students participate!

SCHOOL UNIFORM DISPLAY

Samples of the school jacket are on display in Art Room where Book Fair is being held. Parents please take time to look and provide feedback on page 6.
R.E.A.L
STUDENTS@NILMA
Student of the Week
Recognitions
Homegroup F Red

Ty Kindermann
For volunteering to read “What can Jigarees Do?” in front of the class. You decided to practise and read the book in front of everyone. You did a wonderful job!
Well done Ty

Homegroup 2/1 Green

William Cane
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!

Homegroup 5/4/3 Blue

Daniel Axford
For such a brilliant effort with your first attempts at writing Quatrain, Emotive and Descriptive poems. Your work sets a fine example of accepting a challenge for all students at Nilma.
Congratulations Daniel!

Homegroup 6/5 Yellow

Jamie Garten
For looking out for our new student and making him feel welcome. Thank you.

L.A.U.G.H Program
Learning Activities Under Guidance of Home
NIGHTLY READING
100 Nights
Mia Wood
150 Nights
Lachlan Axford
175 Nights
Emma Brown  Thomas Buckler
225 Nights
Nick Addison

PLAYGROUND AWARDS
Winners
- Tari Booth
- Bailey Stephens
- Shelby McGrath
- Kael Mason

Happy Birthday
Mr Bucknall
Mrs Krygger
**HOMEGROUP HAPPENINGS!**

**Poetry**

We have been looking at lots of different poems and talking about what poems can look like. Ruby Red’s figured out that some Nursery Rhymes are poems too! Yesterday one of the poems we read was ‘Five Little Speckled Frogs’. We spoke about how some poems we can sing. We practiced the actions and had a lot of fun singing it with everyone.

An animal I know a lot about is a goldfish. A goldfish eats goldfish flakes. The goldfish lives in a tank with water or in the sea. Goldfish are friendly. They like swimming together. The goldfish special features are its fins. Its fins help the goldfish to swim. Goldfish have to be careful of stonefish if they live in the sea.

By Oliver

An animal I know a lot about is a lion. A lion eats meat. A lion has claws. A lion’s teeth are sharp so they can catch animals. A lion lives in the wild.

By Levi

**Book Fair Update**

Book Fair will be open till Monday 19th of October. So far we have made $650 altogether. You are welcome to come in before and after school and purchase one or more of the items. A reminder to all students that if there is only one of the copy left that you would like come to the desk and we will put your name on the book and order some more then you get the book at the end of Book Fair. You are also allowed to layby items if you don’t have the money but you have to have your parent or guardian. Every book we sell, the school get a commission. Thank you to the people that have already brought a item to help us raise money for books for our library.

Thanks from Charlotte, Meg, Kiara and Ella.

**Poetry**

Midnight

Her fur as dark as night
Her eyes as bright as bright
Shining in the moonlight
Late at night

Fear

I felt a slither up my spine
I turned to see standing there with me
A figure as dark as night
Its eyes as bright as bright
Creeping through the darkness
Opening my eyes I realise it was just a dream
OR WAS IT?

By Sine Salt

**Friends Forever**

When I’m sad and feeling lonely you'll be there beside me,
every step we take together will always be mighty,
as you take hand for another hug
I’ll always be here no matter how much you shrug.

By Rose-Ann Scott
EDUCATION STATE

OUR PROMISE TO VICTORIAN PARENTS

Our 2015-16 Victorian Budget was the single biggest injection of education funding in Victoria’s history, providing almost $4 billion in additional funding to early childhood, schools and training. We are building and upgrading schools and helping families with the costs of uniforms, glasses, camps, excursions and more.

We’ve spoken with teachers and principals, kids and families from across Victoria. The message has been clear: our schools are good, but we can make them even better.

The next step is all about helping our kids learn and achieve, giving parents confidence, and giving teachers the resources and skills they need to do what they do best.

Our kids deserve the best education system in Australia. Under our plan, every single student in every single government school will be better off.

The Andrews Labor Government is providing $747 million in extra funds to deliver great schools for every community and great teaching in every classroom.

We know there’s a link between a child’s social and economic background and how well they do at school — and we want that to change. We are making sure that funding is better targeted to where it’s needed most, to ensure every child gets the support they need to be their best.

In a world-leading initiative, Victorian students who are falling behind will get additional support in secondary school, giving them the individual, tailored attention they need to overcome persistent learning challenges.

We are holding ourselves to account by setting ambitious targets for the Education State. Over the next 10 years, we want to see significant improvements in what and how our kids are learning. Not just in their academic pursuits, but in their resilience, in their creativity and in their health and wellbeing.

Parents can have confidence that every child will get every chance to achieve their potential and learn the skills they need for their future.

We will make sure we are giving our kids the education that industries will need, and the skills that employers will expect them to have.

The jobs of the future will come from ideas and knowledge, and we need to support our kids to be smarter, more creative and well-rounded than ever before.

Lifting student achievement also means letting our passionate and talented principals, teachers and education support staff do the job they are best qualified for — teaching our students and leading our schools. We’ll ensure they get the resources, tools and networks they need to improve their teaching and support our students to be their best.

We’re not stopping here. We have the reviews into school funding and the Program for Students with Disabilities as well as significant work underway in the early childhood and skills and training sectors.

We promised to make Victoria the Education State and with ambitious targets, new funding and a state-wide reform agenda, we’re getting on with it.

The Hon James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier Minister for Education
WHAT YOU TOLD US

In developing our vision for the Education State, we conducted a two-month consultation to seek the views of students, parents, carers, teachers, principals, school council members, businesses and community groups about our schools.

The consultation also tested the development of specific targets for the improvement of our education system.

The consultation included:

- 498 participants in face-to-face discussion groups in 51 sessions
- state-wide forums led by local MPs
- over 13,000 visits to the Education State website and over 2,700 downloads of the consultation papers
- 64 online contributions
- 194 written submissions.

Thousands of Victorians have told us that our schools are ‘good’. Ours is a system made strong by the expertise and dedication of our teachers, principals, parents and carers and we have much to be proud of. The system isn’t broken but we need to do more to take our schools from good to great.

Victorians emphasised that success for students today and tomorrow looks different to the success of yesterday; that more than ever before, the rapid pace of change in our world means that standing still is falling behind.

Key themes that emerged from the Education State consultation included:

- improving the quality of teaching is the single biggest thing we can do to improve outcomes for children and young people
- the need to ensure the overall wellbeing of children and young people is as high a priority as numeracy and literacy, and that the characteristics of a good educator are broader than the capacity to teach literacy and numeracy in a mainstream setting
- the need for all students to have access to quality education regardless of their location, learning needs or backgrounds
- the importance of ensuring students see clear learning and career pathways and have access to appropriate and timely information to make informed choices
- partnerships with communities and businesses help schools to broaden learning experience and develop localised responses to student needs
- the need to consistently monitor student learning progress and school improvement.

If you would like to know more

We encourage you to visit the Department's website to find out more about the Education State initiatives: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationstate
SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have three samples of new tops for 2016 onwards.
1. Piper has a black polyester top with hood and zip
2. Plain Black windcheater

Please note parents—the old tops are suitable to continue to wear to school. We will be transferring to new tops over time. PARENT FEEDBACK—have your say ....What do you think? (Return to school by next Tuesday 20th October)

DISPLAY
We will have these items on display in Art Room (with Book Fair) for parents to see and comment on before we make final decision at School Council on October 20th

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JAZZ WEST GIPPSLAND
A ONE DAY JAZZ MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA AT WARRAGUL
TRAD, SWING & JIVE TO NON-STOP MUSIC
FIVE TOP BANDS PLAYING
DANCE AWAY THE DAY
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1
10.30AM - 5.30PM
$25 ALL DAY ENTRY
WARRAGUL SPORTING & SOCIAL CLUB (DOWNTOWNER)

MEMORIAL Fun Run
25.10.2015
2.5k Walk/Run, 5k & 10k Walk/Run, Half Marathon
Geoff Watt Memorial Athletics Track, Burke Street, Warragul
Make it a Big Day Out with Friends and Family with a BBQ after the run. Every participant will receive a FREE T-Shirt in their race pack.

Event Times
8am Collection of no.s & Race Packs
9.20am Geoff Watt Memorial Half Marathon
9.50am Kathy Watt Cycles 10k
9.50am Australian Clothing Company 5k and 10am Raw Baw Shire & Warragul Gazette 2.5k
www.geoffwattrun.com.au
enquiries - 03 9589 4544

SPOT PRIZES
DANCE DRESS PRIZES

Young Athletes Scholarship
Nilma Primary School will be including a personalised student diary as part of our school communication in 2016. In these diaries the school has chosen to include 16 pages of school information at the beginning of the diary.

As part of the diary inclusion, Nilma Primary is offering local businesses that have supported Nilma, an opportunity to advertise in these diaries for a fee of $100 for the year.

These diaries are distributed to all our students and with an anticipated enrolment of over 70 students for 2016, this gives businesses a valuable opportunity to increase awareness to our families and our wider school community.

Businesses who choose to advertise in our diary will also be included on a rotating basis in our school newsletter, on our website and on display at school.

Should you wish to advertise your business in our diary for 2016, please fill out the slip below and return it to the office with your business card and payment for $100.

______________________________
DIARY SPONSORSHIP FORM

Name of Sponsor:

Please enclose a copy of your Business card and payment for $100.

The due date for sponsorships is Monday 26th October 2015.
‘Spring has sprung and the grass has riz..’ as the old saying goes. We welcome the canopy of leaves that give shade from the sun as we potter around the garden working to the endless drone of lawn mowers in the distance.

I trust you had a bit of fun trying to work out who in your family or friends.. had a ‘Sergeant Major’ style of parenting. Just to recap: Sergeant Majorcus: is grumpy, controlling and bossy and have a ‘win at all costs’ attitude and prefer to lecture.

Today we are looking at the second style – that of the ‘Jelly-fish-icus’. This type of parent backs down whenever confronted and gives away any authority they may have had to others. They often feel powerless and go into rescue mode by default. They lack rules and will plead and whine to bring about their desired result. If they are pushed too far they explode. This style of parenting leaves the adult open to being bullied by the child. Not you? Perhaps some traits are apparent but not too badly? Not sure?

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

BULN BULN T20 BLAST SCHOOL’S CRICKET CUP
The Cricket T20 will be held at Buln Buln Reserve on Wednesday 21st October. Nilma PS will have 20 students attending. Permission forms were sent home with the newsletter last week. Parents will be required to drop students at the Buln Buln Reserve on this day. Ms Matarczyk will be attending the event. Rob Wood from Cricket Victoria will be coming to Nilma PS on Monday 19th for a practice cricket session.

WOORABINDA CAMP
Year 4 and 5 students from Nilma PS have elected to attend the Regional Woorabinda Camp on Monday 23rd November until Friday 27th November. Permission forms and parent information is attached to the newsletter. All forms with payment must be returned to the Office by Wednesday 4th November. Students attending this camp are: Daniel Axford, Bailey-Jack Christoph, Meg Devlin, Ashton Kimm, Aiden Olsson, Ella Perry, Kiara Perry, Kiandra Polglaze, Charlotte Brown, Mitchell Gilmore & Riley Kleeven.

SUMMIT CAMP
The Year 6 students will be attending a Mount Worth Cluster Transition Day at the Summit Camp on Friday 27th November, which will be held at Trafalgar East. The cost for this camp will be $66.00 and will include all activities and an evening meal. Permission and consent forms are attached to the newsletter. Payment and forms are due back at the office by Wednesday 4th November 2015.

FAMILY STATEMENTS
Family statements are attached to the newsletter. Could all school fees please be finalised by the end of October 2015. Payment for the Summit and Woorabinda Camp is due in November.

TRADIE FOR A DAY
West Gippsland Trade Training Alliance (Wills Street Warragul) has developed a Year 6 Tradie Day Program to showcase what is available in our area. The Baw Baw Skills Centre will allow Year 6 students to see a range of training programs and facilities available to them in the future. Selected Year 6 students will be attending an all day program in early December. Students will rotate through activity studies: Carpentry, plumbing, automotive, agriculture and other programs. A date in December will be confirmed soon. If you would like your child to have this experience please let the Office know ASAP.

BOOKCLUB
Attached to the newsletter are Bookclub Orders. All orders with payment are due back at the office by next Thursday 22nd October 2015. Late orders cannot be accepted.
Mansfield Horse Ride

Once again, we are doing a weekend horse ride as a fundraiser for Nilma Primary School.
It is a fantastic weekend for those who enjoy the outdoors, horses and having fun.
When: 6th-8th of November 2015.
Where: We all need to be in Meerijig, (just out of Mansfield) by Friday night. I will be arriving earlier in the day to sort a few things out. People are welcome to start arriving from 3pm onwards.
We start the ride, early on the Saturday, ride for the day through the beautiful bush, to our camp. On Sunday morning we head off back to Base camp (where we leave our cars).
All in all we ride for about 6 hours on day one and 4 hours on day two.
Cost: $350 per person including all of your food and accommodation.
(Although it is recommended that you bring some lollies for along the way.)
RSVP and money due by October 8th. We have limited spots so will the quicker you contact me the best chance you have of a spot. If anyone would like any further information, please don’t hesitate to give me a call. Nicki 0427 563 009

GARDIVALIA

Created and maintained by students this garden provides seasonal produce for their cooking classes. They harvest, prepare and share the food as part of the inspiring Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. The garden boasts compost, chooks, worm farm, fruit trees, herbs Take Nilma exit off M1. Turn right into Bloomfield Road

Nilma Primary School will be participating in this years Gardivalia festival on Saturday 24th October from 10.00am until 4.00pm. Our school will be open to the public to come and see our students hard work in developing the garden with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. We are asking for volunteers to help on the day with tea & scones. and various other jobs. Children are welcome to come along and help on the day too!
If you can help out on the day, please fill out the form below and return to the office by next Wednesday 14th October.

PARENT HELPERS – GARDIVALIA

Name of family:__________________________________________

Time available to help: (please circle): 10.00am-12pm, 12.00pm -2.00pm, 2.00pm -4.00pm

Signed by Parent:__________________________________________
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