FAMILY BBQ, Concert & Year 6 Graduation
On Tuesday 15th December at 5.30pm we will be having a wonderful celebration evening for the whole school community. Something for everyone on this evening! We will commence with a BBQ, Mini concert—with all home groups performing and then onto the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony. Cooking will commence at 5.30pm. For catering purposes, please return the attendance slip on page 6. The BBQ is free, however drinks will be sold for $1.00 each.

GRADUATION
This year we have sixteen students graduating from Nilma Primary School being: Lachlan Axford, Andrew Burdett, Max Chesterfield, Holly Farnham, Jamie Garten, Megan Griggs, Kael Mason, Shelby McGrath, Angus Mulconry, Sine Salt, Deakin Santo, Anthony Scott, Rose-Ann Scott, Astrid Smith, Tahlia Witney, & Kirsty Wooster.

STAFF FAREWELLS.....
Mrs. Krygger has been our Art teacher at Nilma PS, and will be leaving us at the end of the year to work at Bona Vista PS as acting Principal.

Ms., Jessie McLennan has established the Kitchen Garden Program at our school, but will be leaving to teach sculpture with adults. Yuuka—our Japanese intern, will be returning to Japan to pursue her new career. Mr Simon Brock, our computer technician, is leaving the small schools and will take up a full time position at Drouin Secondary School.

We wish all our staff all the best for the future and hope to see them again soon!

STAFF CHANGES
At this stage Amanda Buckler will be our Arts Teacher, both performing & Visual Arts.

We are currently advertising for staff for next year.

REPORTING TO PARENTS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS—Student Reports/Portfolios
Student reports will be completed and sent out at the end of the year with student portfolios in the last week of school—Tuesday 15th December 2015.

SCHOOL DISCO
The Year 6 students are organising a Disco to be held at Nilma PS on Thursday 10th December. The cost is $5.00 (bring money on the night!)

TRADIE FOR A DAY
Our Year 6 students recently attended the ‘Tradie for a Day’ excursion which was held at the Baw Baw skills centre in Warragul. Students rotated through activities such as carpentry, plumbing, automotive, agriculture and other programs.
R.E.A.L STUDENTS @ NILMA

Student of the Week
Recognitions
Homegroup F Red
Lewis Devlin
For your persistence throughout your learning. You are developing into a determined learner. Well done Lewis, you are a great role model towards others.

Homegroup 2/1 Green
Jessie McCabe
For your cheerful approach to your learning and willingness to challenge yourself and always do your best.

Homegroup 5/4/3 Blue
Kiandra Polglaze, Teagan George, Ashton Kimm
For being prepared to co-operate so well throughout the year, considering and respecting others. Thanks for demonstrating the REAL@Nilma values. Well done!

Homegroup 6/5 Yellow
Astrid Smith
For being a REAL@ Nilma Visible Learner throughout the year. Well done Astrid! Best wishes for Secondary School.

L.A.U.G.H Program
Learning Activities Under Guidance of Home
NIGHTLY READING

100 Nights
Shila Bundle

200 Nights
Elizabeth Dalrymple

225 Nights
Jessie McCabe
Lewis Devlin

PLAYGROUND AWARDS
Winners

- Savannah Farmer
- Alex Chesterfield
- Lewis Devlin
- Charlotte Goodchild

Happy Birthday

No Birthdays this week!
**HOMEGROUP HAPPENINGS!**

**ACROSTIC POEM**

C is for cheerleading
H is for huddling all over the cheer mat
A is for an amazing family
R is for running away from my brother
L is for learning how to fly in cheerleading
O is for overcoming my fear
T is for tumbling all over the place
T is for teaching my sister Minecraft
E is for enjoying cheerleading
B is for bubbly all the time
R is for reaching over to Meg
O is for over the top annoying
W is for weirdly amazing
N is for never being naughty

**POEMS**

**HALLOWEEN**

It is Halloween..
I can’t believe it!!
I ate all my dinner fast.
I was very joyful.
I got into my costume.
With joy I went outside and started trick or treating for lollies. By Oliver.

**KELPIE**

I HAVE A Kelpie.
He is fast.
He can catch a ball in the air.
In a blast. By Beth

**HUNTSMAN**

Huntsman are not venomous.
They are really fast.
Huntsman are hairy.
They kill their prey in a blast

**CHRISTMAS**

It’s Christmas Day,
I was so joyful
I was jumping up and down
I run to the tree but I waited for my family to wake up
I first open an awesome cricket bat.
I was happy. By Zavier.

Children
Having fun
Raining or not
Including other family members
Santa will come
Trees everywhere
Making the most of it
Always having a good time
Singing Christmas Songs

By Sheree

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**Home Group - 543 - Aqua Blue**
Mr Williams

**Home Group - 65 - Lemon Yellow**
Miss Matarczyk

**Home Group - F - Ruby Red**
Mrs Evans

---

**Home Group - 21 - Emerald Green**
Miss Berkelmans
REAL Nilma RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS – December Calendar
As we are all getting busy and we are heading towards the end of the year and lots of families celebrating Christmas – students at Nilma have designed an December calendar with a difference. This can be used as your family ‘Advent Calendar’ or the month of December Calendar.
Traditionally there is something you may open, eat or gain from each day of December leading up to Christmas, something you may receive or is tangible. The gift of GIVING is the focus of our Calendar for December.
The students across the school have chosen some acts of kindness and can colour in each day or mark in some way when they have completed. There is also a blank calendar on back for you to copy and use at home if you wish.
We will be talking about kindness and ways you can show this during the month of December. Acts of kindness can boost self-esteem, let others know that they are appreciated and builds confidence, just to name a few benefits.
You will be surprised at how everyone feels at this busy time of year. Take the challenge and see how you go!

TOUGHMUDDER
The current total of money raised is $1107.55!! Well done to everyone, special mentions to Charlotte Goodchild for raising $200 and Cohen Cogo raised $105, such a fantastic effort!

JAPAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM 2016
Attached to the newsletter is information regarding our Japanese Exchange Program. This program is for current Year 4 & 5 students (Yr 5 & 6 for 2016) to attend. Please fill out the Expression of Interest Form and send back to the office by next Tuesday 15th December.

HONOUR BOARD CERTIFICATES
All families will be receiving a certificate today from Parliament in recognition of our re-dedication to the Honour Board. The re-dedication was held at Nilma PS on Monday 9th November and was a special event for our school and community.
Home as a Haven by Nigel Lane is our topic this week. Living life as a child or young person in school is not necessarily easy. I am sure if you think back to your own time in school you will recall that it isn’t always a good place to be. It isn’t necessarily about bullying – although that can occur – but just the general atmosphere created when you put a group of children together can be quite negative. This school has a no bullying policy and that’s terrific and we actively seek to implement it when necessary. But what happens when all the kids are home for the holidays?

Remember the old saying – we used to sing it sometimes – ‘sticks and stone may break my bones, but names will never hurt me.’ That was encouraged because it gave a strong feedback to the bully as you walked away. But just quietly, you and I know that actually it does hurt. When it happens in the home, as parents, we need to create a ‘no put down’ (a safe place) zone. Talk around where that area might be (bedrooms are automatically ‘no put down’ areas) remembering that it needs to be an area where they gather socially. When you decide on this area ask the kids to talk about what that means for them and design posters for the house and bedrooms ie ‘Only speak positively’, ‘If you have nothing nice to say, say nothing’, ‘Be kind – no cutting’. When that’s done and they are put up high out of reach, it should only take one or two reminders – either point to the sign with gesture or look at the person then the sign meaningfully. If your home is a safe zone it will encourage your children to open up to you and let you know if they are being bullied or pressured in any way. If your home is less than safe and the atmosphere is already established where the kids shriek, blame, shove, pinch, scratch or swear at each other there will be a tendency to drag the parents into the blame game in the confusion. If there is any truth in this for your family then it’s time for the parent/s take stock.

Firstly, think about a set of rules which both parent and children must live by; Respect each other – no put downs, use inside voices, take turns at computer (use an alarm clock) respect each other’s space (communal areas sometimes have seats allocated to each member to save hassles. If not then when you leave a seat for more than 2 minutes don’t expect to get it back.) ‘Sneaky niceness’ is not acceptable. Glaring and snearing is OUT. Parents – it is helpful to write these down leaving space on the list for more ideas, before the next step.

Secondly, have a round table conversation with all members and explain why you’re feeling the way you are use words to highlight the problem by saying ‘I feel …’ Give them an opportunity to add their ideas to the problem solving. Kids often know how to fix things and what is fair and acceptable, they just don’t have the skills yet. Adopt the new understandings and trial them for a couple of days then have another round table conference to tweak them. Trial again. If you have a family of strong minded kids who talk over the top of everyone then have a toy or object handy suggesting that each person is important and we need to listen quietly for them to have a say. The time for their ‘say’ is limited to 2 minutes. Listen carefully. Put a tick beside the things already mentioned or make a note of something new. If the words ‘it’s not fair’ keep coming up then explain that that is why we’re doing it this way – so things will be fair. To illustrate how you expect things to be done differently use the TV guide and circle the shows of interest for each child and allocate fairly. Make good use of the stove timer. Remember to chastise a child in private – this is being respectful, and use a quiet voice finding words that explain your feelings as well as addressing the problem.

END OF YEAR RAFFLE

The Nilma PS raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 15th December at the BBQ/Graduation evening. Raffle tickets will be sent home today with the newsletter. Could parents please donate something small for our raffle. Items may be left at the office. Raffle tickets are attached to the newsletter. More tickets are available from the office if needed. Raffle tickets will also be available on the night to purchase. The raffle tickets are 50 cents each or 3 for $1.00.
WATERING ROSTER

Watering Roster for Summer Holidays

Are you able to help out with watering our garden over the school holidays? If you are able to help please put your name beside the week you are available along with your contact number and we will add you to the roster. (Contact numbers will not be published in the newsletter)

The garden only needs to be watered on the days that it doesn’t rain. Volunteers will be shown where the hoses and other accessories needed are kept prior to their watering week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>December 21st - December 27th</td>
<td>(please note that we do not expect you to water the garden on Christmas Day &amp; Boxing Day!)</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>December 28th - 3rd January 2016</td>
<td>(please note that we do not expect you to water the garden on New Years Day!)</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>January 4th - January 10th</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>January 11th - January 17th</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>January 18th—January 24th</td>
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WHOLE SCHOOL BBQ/GRADUATION

For catering purposes, please return the attendance slip below. This will support the Parent Club in providing enough food for everyone. The BBQ is free, however drinks will be sold for $1.00 each. We will also require some helpers on the night, to help with the BBQ, selling raffle tickets, setting up, selling drinks and packing up. If you are able to help, please return the reply slip below.

______________________________________________________________________________________________

End of Year Family BBQ—Year 6 Graduation

Family Name:________________________________________________________________________________

I can/cannot help out at the BBQ on Tuesday 15th Dec (please circle)

For catering purposes, how many people attending:__________________________________________
### NILMA PRIMARY SCHOOL CALENDAR

### DECEMBER 2015

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<td>Year 3-6 Bike Ed</td>
<td>Statewide Orientation Day Year 3-6 Bike Ed</td>
<td>Yr 6 Excursion ‘Tradie for a Day’ Year 3-6 Bike Ed</td>
<td>Sporting Schools - Hockey School Disco Year 3-6 Bike Ed</td>
<td>School Banking Year 3-6 Bike Ed</td>
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<td>End of Year BBQ Reports / Portfolios home</td>
<td>Year 6 Dinner</td>
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<td>Last Day Term Early finish 1.15pm</td>
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### 2016 TERM DATES

Teachers start: Wednesday 27th January 2016

Students start: Friday 29th January 2016

Term 1 finishes: Thursday 24th March 2016