Dear Parents

**Orientation Day - December 8th**
This is a state wide orientation day where all new prep students visit their school for next year and our grade 6 students head off to secondary school for a whole day. All students within the school will spend time in their 2016 classroom with their teacher and classmates.

As a part of the transition for our new preps we have held a number of afternoon sessions for them to come and try school out. Our Grade 5 students (next year’s big buddies) will visit the pre-school to spend time getting to know them before they start.

**Logo**
Please have your say on the new school logo. School Council are looking for feedback by their next meeting [8th of December] The shortlisted logos are on display in the Office Foyer.

**Swimming**
Our Grade 3 – 6 Water Safety program will run this year from Monday the 30th November to the 4th of December. We will be able to run this for all students across the one week. The more parents we have the smaller the groups and the more effective our program will be. You do not need to be a “swimmer” to help as the water safety program includes “on land” activities as well.

**Teddy Bars Picnic**
On Tuesday we were invaded by Teddy Bears as they came to school for their annual picnic. The Teddy Bears certainly enjoyed the day out. Thank you to our level 1 and 2 teachers for creating the day for them and to the children for bringing not only their Teddy to school but parents and grandparents as well.

**Raffle**
Our Christmas Cubby House raffle is up and going. Please return books [and money] as you sell them. We will be selling tickets at the Rochester Community Market on the 28th of November. Extra help is needed on the day. If you can give the school an hour to sit at a table and help please let me know.

**Final Assembly**
Make sure you have the date for our final assembly marked on your calendar. Thursday the 17th of December at the CVCC for a 1.30 start.

Graeme
**Student of the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade/Class</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Collins, Hayden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1/2</td>
<td>Ellis, Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1/2</td>
<td>Wright, Lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3/4</td>
<td>Picone, Hope</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gr 4/5</td>
<td>Trickey, Kylie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5/6</td>
<td>Ross, Ben</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5/6</td>
<td>Rasmussen, Katrina</td>
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**Curriculum News**

**Literacy**

**Library Books and Take Home Readers**

The end of the year is fast approaching so this is a good time to check whether you have any library books or take home readers that have been misplaced or put in cupboards over the year. If you do discover any books it would be appreciated if these can be return to school.

It is important that over the January holiday period students are still involved in literacy activities such as reading as it is evident at the beginning of each school year many students slip back with literacy skills. Here are some ideas, which are fun and involve the whole family.

**Reading** – can be a good relaxing time just before bedtime, on days when it is too hot to be outdoors and just to spend time together.

Some ideas are
- Books make great gifts or stocking fillers.
- Reading a book series together.
- Reading aloud to your child.
- Read the instructions for a new toy or item that they may receive, together to find out how it works.
- Browse a library or bookshop together.
- Follow a map or brochure on an outing including transport timetables and information signs.
- Doing some cooking and reading the recipe.
- Read the newspaper together. (Maybe the Sports page or cartoons)
- Discuss movies that you might see such as how characters are represented, why the filmmaker created a movie in a certain way.

**Spelling and Writing**

Projects could include
- Email friends and family.
- Record family events or travel in a journal or an online blog.
- Send postcards or letters to family members if away.
- Solve crosswords, word puzzles or brain teasers.
- Talking about interesting/new vocabulary that might be on signs, computer or newspapers and magazines.
- Have pencils and blank paper handy for writing activities.
**Level 4 Update.**

**Science.**
This term we have been focusing on the topic of Microorganisms! Students have had a great deal of fun learning a lot about these microscopic organisms. Each week we have excitedly participated in hands on experiments such as –
* Making Bread (focusing particularly on the yeast component).
* Testing for germs on different surfaces around the school - you would be amazed or horrified to find out how many we found!!
* Making super slimy snot with borax powder, food dye and glue (to demonstrate how microbes need to be trapped in this to prevent further spreading).
* Observing mould on different foods.
Check out many of the experiments we had fun participating in as below:

![Image of students making bread](image1.jpg)

![Image of students testing for germs](image2.jpg)

![Image of students making slimy snot](image3.jpg)

![Image of students observing mould](image4.jpg)

**Literacy:**
In Literacy, students continued focusing on the Microorganism theme and put their research skills into action, to research a chosen Virus. These had to be presented in a Poster format and the final results looked fantastic. We have all learnt a lot about aspects such as Chicken Pox, Measles and the Common Cold!! See some of the amazing posters produced as below:

![Image of poster on microorganisms](image5.jpg)

![Image of poster on Chicken Pox](image6.jpg)
CANTEEN NEWS
Roster for November/December

Friday 20th
Monday 23rd
Tuesday 24th
Wednesday 25th
Thursday 26th
Friday 27th
Monday 30th
Tuesday 1st December
Wednesday 2nd
Thursday 3rd
Friday 4th
Monday 7th
Tuesday 8th
Wednesday 9th
Thursday 10th
Friday 11th

Leisa Evans/Sausage Sizzle
CLOSED
Vanessa Fitzgerald
Di Milgate
Dani Wells
Elizabeth Read
CLOSED
CLOSED
Tara Harris
Leisa Evans
Carli Honey & Shae Locke
CLOSED
CLOSED
Sam Bywaters
Dani Wells
Leesa Purdy

CLOSED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.

OUR 150th SOUVENIRS

Souvenirs are still available to purchase. 150th Book $25 (limited number), Glasses $12, Stubby Holders $5, Teaspoons $5, 125th Anniversary book $5.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Rochester Netball Association AGM
Tuesday 24th November 2015
7pm at Clubrooms.
Apologies to rochesternetball@gmail.com
All welcome

Summer Cricket Camp
Ages 7 – 16
January 21st & 22nd 2016
Echuca
Phone 1800 35 1415
FOR MORE INFORMATION