Dear Parents

Orientation Day
On Tuesday we welcomed our Preps for next year into our school. Under the watchful eye of Mrs Collins they spent their first time at school as students. Whilst they were happily working away their parents worked with staff and parents from the school to help smooth the transition from pre-school to school. The big “buddies” spent time with them and brought their new friends back to their parents to share in morning tea. At the same time across the school all students moved into their new classes and rooms for next year.

Volunteers Pancake Breakfast
Today we held our first ever pancake breakfast for volunteers. We have found that the numbers at the volunteer’s morning tea had dropped off so we thought we would make a change! Many volunteers either cannot make it to this type of event or choose not to as they are happy to play their role and accept the thanks as they go.

If you have helped at the school in any way, from hearing readers to laying concrete, fund raising, attending camps or any one of a host of different roles that volunteers play – THANK YOU! It is all about making this school the best we can for the students that attend.

Classes in 2016
The school will run with the following classes in 2016
Prep  Mrs Collins and Mrs Coughlin
Grade 1&2 – Mrs Ellis and Mrs McPhee
Grade 1&2 – Mrs Wright
Grade 3&4 – Mrs May [our exchange teacher from Canada replacing Ms Trickey
Grade 3&4 – Mr Irwin
Grade 5&6 – Miss Ross and Mrs McPhee
Grade 5&6 – Mr Rasmussen
Mrs Picone will be working in a specialist role.
Mrs Pascoe returns from Family Leave and will be taking Art.
Mrs Borger will take Indonesian at the grade Prep, 1 and 2 levels. [Mrs Borger teaches Indonesian at the Rochester Secondary College and we are very pleased to have her working with us as well.
Wendy Foott – Integration Aide
Miss Ross will be providing support as our Welfare Teacher the equivalent of two days per week.
The school Management will continue with Mr Hodgens as Principal and Mrs Povey as the Office Manager.
Additional staff will be named as Education Support Staff when some current vacancies are filled.

Final Assembly next Thursday – 1.30pm. CVCC

Graeme
Student of the Week

Prep Collins  Zac McInnes
Gr 1/2 Ellis  Rylan Chamberlain
Gr 1/2 Wright  Jayde Ballinger
Gr 3/4 Picone  Clare Bloomfield
Gr 4/5 Trickey  Cameron Keenan
Gr 5/6 Ross
Gr 5/6 Rasmussen

Curriculum News

Grade 3/4 News.

A ROUNDUP OF OUR THOUGHTS

Orientation Day

- All of the activities were so much fun. We made little Santas. (Hope)
- It was really good and I’m really happy with my class for next year. (Nate)
- I like Orientation Day. We got to write letters to our new teacher Mrs May. (Jasmin)
- I’m looking forward to meeting our Canadian teacher Mrs May because I lived in Canada for 3 years. (Brodie)
- I was a bit afraid of orientation day because I didn’t know which teacher I would be with. I was excited to meet my new classmates. (Lily)
- It was fun meeting my new class and the activities were very much fun and interesting. (Brooklyn)
- The thing I liked about it was meeting and seeing who will be in my class next year. I’m excited to meet Mrs May and her daughter Willow. (Blake)
- I was anxious that I wouldn’t have any of my friends in my new grade but I have two of my friends there.

Our Year in Grade 3/4

- It has been a fantastic year. I have really enjoyed it. (Nate)
- It was really fun because we got to do Maths and maths is my favourite. (Jasmin)
- P.E was great this year. We got to run around and play board games. (Cohan)
- My favourite thing has been all the exciting things we done over the year. (Brodie)
- I have had great friends in Grade 3/4. We giggle and have fun together. (Jasmine J)
- We had a really good teacher in 3/4P and did lots of fun things. (Lily)
- I liked being in Grade 3/4P with the best teacher. I’ve learnt lots of new stuff. (Maddie)
- I like doing Maths in my class this year. It was fun to add and take-away. (Zhi)
- I made lots of new friends this year. My favourite subject was integrated studies especially learning about our place in space. (Denis)
- This year I made new friends and we work together in groups. (Jude)
- This year I was very happy because I had great classmates and my best friend Lauren & Lily. (Jayde)
Reports

Students’ reports will be sent home on Thursday 17th December. The Reports will contain comments about what your child is able to do and some dot points about what your child needs to improve in and their future learning. On the first page is a graph showing the level that students are working at.

The students will get A-E rating. Most students will get a ‘C’ and this says they are working at the expected level for their Year so don’t be concerned that they are not doing well. For a child to get an “A” they need to be 12months ahead of their expected level. A “B” is 6 months ahead of their expected level. Only a few students achieve this. If they get a “D” or “E” this means they are below their level.

You are able to see your child’s progress from the previous year to the current year by the dot and line. In some cases students will not have shown progress but this is sometimes because students often will have a steep learning curve especially in the lower grades and are consolidating their learning as they move up through the school.

Prep Students at the Christmas Carols

Our Prep Students, aided by some Grade 6 students attended the Carols on Sunday night in the Shire Hall. Thank you to them for their participation (and their parents). The costumes were made by Lorraine King

GRADE 6 GRADUATION LUNCH

Will be held on Tuesday 15th December at the Lawn Tennis Court Pavilion. Parents, and family members, are invited to attend at 1.30p.m. (this is when the students will be presented with their Graduation Certificates). A opportunity to take a photograph of your children will be available so don’t forget to bring your camera.

CANTEEN NEWS

Please note that the Canteen is closed for the remainder of the year. A special thanks to all those parents and family members who have assisted over the year. The Canteen could not continue without such great support. Looking forward to 2016! Special thanks to Dani for her help in co-ordinating the Canteen this year. Janis

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is closed for the remainder of the year. It will re-open when school resumes on Friday 29th January. Orders may be left at the office prior to this but they will not be filled until January.
**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

Where is Santa and his elves?
The Rochester District Planning Group and the Rochester Business Network has hidden around the town of Rochester a number of Santas and Elves for the children to find. They could be hiding anywhere, in shops, in businesses or just on the street.

A competition challenging children to find as many of these little creatures as they can is to start on the 1st December and prizes will be given to the three children who find the most of these little folk.

Children need to write their name, age and address on a piece of paper, along with the locations they have found Santas or elves – any they must specify which one they have found.

When you think you have found all that is possible, put your entry in a box on the bench at the front of Majors IGA Store. Entries closed Sunday 20th December, and the winner will be announced on Tuesday 22nd December in the Campaspe News so that you can collect your prize before Christmas.

**Situation Vacant**

CAMP CURUMBENE IS LOOKING FOR AN ACTIVITY STAFF MEMBER TO JOIN THEIR TEAM! ! THIS IS A CASUAL POSITION THAT WOULD SUIT PEOPLE WITH SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN! ! FULL TRAINING IS PROVIDED, NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE INTERESTED PLEASE PHONE IAN ON 0409 548482

**SHIRE OF CAMPASPE – ROCHESTER LIBRARY SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

Lots of activities over January with Make your own tote bag, Free Craft, Balloon sculpting with Kebab the Clown, Lego, Board Games, Live Show- Jim the Magician- a magic show for the whole family.


Our Summer Reading Club program is also running, to encourage children to read over the holidays, lots of prizes to win —join at the Rochester Library.

**Bookings are ESSENTIAL**

7th January 2016
2.30pm to 3.30pm  Lost Worlds Rock Painting  CRAFT  Cost – FREE

Wednesday 13th January
10.30a.m.  Jim the Magician
A Magic show the whole family will enjoy.  Cost - $2 per entry

Thursday 14th January
2.30pm to 4.00pm  ART with Shelley Make your own Tote bag.
You will need to bring a 4 litre ice cream container.
The tote bag is supplied.  Cost - $5 per child

Thursday 21st January
2.00pm to 3.oopm  National Gallery of Victoria Activity.  Free craft  Cost – FREE

Friday 22nd January
10.30 am. To 12 noon  Kebab the Clown.  For some clowning around fun with balloon animals, dress ups & photo booth.  Age 7 plus  Cost $2 per child. Please bring your own camera

Saturday 23 January
10.00am to 11.00am  Celebrating Summer Reading Club Party  Golden ticket holders only.