We were delighted to welcome this year’s Prep students to their first Monday Assembly this week. Some were a little overawed by the size of the group, the National Anthem and presentations, but enjoyed and interacted with the formalities. We look forward to the next assembly when Prep students will be presented with Pupil of the Week awards.

Following the close of the nomination process, there are 5 nominations for the School Council:
current members
Robbie Allen – father of Tom Grade 5
Justin Lucas - father of Boyd, Oliver & James Grades 5, 4 & 1
Melissa Elliott – Mother of Zach & Cooper in Prep
Richard Hann – father of Claire & Angus, Grade 3 and Prep
Peter Horman – father of Thomas Grade 2

As there are 4 vacancies, an election is required to be held. Ballot materials will be distributed to all families on Tuesday March 10th with the voting process closing on Tuesday 17th March at 4pm.

This year, we are again fortunate to have the services of the trainee Speech Therapists from ACU based at our school. They attend on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and are conducting language assessments on students in Prep whose parents have completed the permission form. The assessments are supervised by experienced Speech Therapists {Julie or Sana} and if any concerns are identified, parents will be notified.

During Terms 2 and 3, therapy will be provided if required.

Any parents who have not completed a permission form and would like to have their child’s speech and language assessed are asked to speak to Mollie McMahon, the Prep Coordinator. Any parent of a child in Grade 1 or 2 who did not authorise an assessment in 2014, and would like an assessment is encouraged to speak to Sarah Nightingale, Grade ½ Coordinator. This is a free service which may assist in language acquisition.
**Pupil of the Week**  
Week beginning March 2nd 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PF</td>
<td>Eliza L.</td>
<td>For being kind &amp; sharing with other children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Zach M.</td>
<td>For making a big effort to be ready to learn by making good choices &amp; listening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMC</td>
<td>Juwana A.</td>
<td>For being ready for learning &amp; a good friend in Prep MC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PW</td>
<td>Marie K.</td>
<td>For putting up her hand &amp; being patient - waiting to speak.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Atticus B.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn. Atticus gets started to work quickly to complete his work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Mert T.</td>
<td>For showing an enthusiastic &amp; happy attitude to his learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Adam L.G.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn and showing initiative - reading to the whole class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Y</td>
<td>Umair S.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn by keeping his learning materials organised &amp; ready for use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2I</td>
<td>Chris K.</td>
<td>For being respectful - being a good listener during class discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2N</td>
<td>Noah P.</td>
<td>For being respectful, making good choices &amp; ready to learn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2T</td>
<td>Rayan M.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn and starting his work promptly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Olivia W.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn by joining in &amp; trying her best during the footy clinic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3P</td>
<td>Imogen L.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn in maths &amp; participating enthusiastically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4D</td>
<td>James R.</td>
<td>For always displaying a kind &amp; caring attitude towards his peers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Lensa A.</td>
<td>For her positive attitude to learning &amp; always respecting &amp; listening to other view points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4V</td>
<td>Holly N.</td>
<td>For always being kind and respectful to her class mates and teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Clair H.</td>
<td>For being respectful by always being polite to others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Antonio C.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn by being organised and always trying his best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Tiffany L.</td>
<td>For her positive &amp; hard working approach to all learning tasks at school and home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6K</td>
<td>Khalide A.</td>
<td>For his strong concentration when writing his explanation text about the life cycle of a frog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6T</td>
<td>Nasreen H.</td>
<td>For being ready to learn in class and participating enthusiastically.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Office News**  
**Office Hours, 8.30am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday**

All visitors, including parents, need to sign into the school and collect & wear a badge when visiting the school at any time. This includes Classroom Helpers, incursions and excursions, PMP, swimming and Interschool sport.

**Online Newsletter Subscription**

If you would like to subscribe to receive our weekly newsletters, and other important announcements, please visit our website [http://www.flemingtonps.vic.edu.au](http://www.flemingtonps.vic.edu.au), click on ‘subscribe to newsletter’ and enter your details.

We are not permitted under the Information Privacy Act to do this for you, nor do we have the resources to update information for all our families.

We also use the Konnective APP

To access Konnective, please visit [www.konnective.com.au](http://www.konnective.com.au) and join up using your email address and name. You will then need to verify a verification email sent to the email you have joined with. Or see the link on the school website.

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**Scholastic Book Club**

Issue 1 order forms that were sent home recently are due back to the office by MONDAY 16th February by 9.00am.

*No late orders will be accepted*

Please note, that orders sent before this date will now be sent to Scholastic as received (except cash which will be processed on the final day). The office will now process orders a couple times a week (for credit and cheque payments only) so the earlier the order, the earlier the children will get their book.

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**OSHC Program**

Camp Australia manages the Before & After School Care program. All bookings, absences and payments need to be made through the Camp Australia website.

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**Do not leave messages on the school answering machine.**

**Customer Service**  
8.00am - 6.00pm  
Monday to Friday  
1300 105 343

**Website**  
We have had a number of parents contact us to say that they were unable to attend the Classroom Helpers morning last week. We will be running another session early term two to try to accommodate you.

Sarah Nightingale & Sandra McOrist

Assistant Principal's Report
Sandra McOrist

CLASSROOM HELPERS

Drop off and Pick up Safety

I am extremely concerned with the current practises that are happening around the school when children are being dropped off and collected.

I had a very impatient parent overtake another parent in the lane way because they ‘took too long’. Please remember that it is usually 10 km in the lane and as children are there we need to ensure that everyone is safe. That 1 sec irrational decision can impact on the rest of our lives.

I have also noticed that we have parents double parking behind staff cars from 3:15 onwards. This is not an appropriate place to park, I would appreciate it if parents parked in the street or walked to collect their children.

Please ensure that you drive safely in the laneway.

Parking

Yesterday we had the parking inspectors book a number of parents who were either illegally parked in a parking zone or double parked, or had over stayed the time in a parking bay. Below are all of the signs around the school. Please make yourself aware of where you can park or for how long.

It is difficult for all of us and although Mrs McCarthy and I have rung and written to the council I cannot see things changing soon. Please obey the signs.

Parking Signs along Flemington Street

This sign is outside the school above the parking bays between the hours of 8:30am and 3:45pm you can only park there for 15 min only.

This sign is directly outside the school it is for a quick 2 min pick up and you cannot leave the car (just like at the airport).

This sign is above the first few bays on the school side of the finder. It is for Permit holders only. Not for parent pick up. unless you have a permit.

These signs are directly outside the kinder. It is 15 minute parking only between 7:30am and 4:30pm. You can park for 2 hours outside these times.

This sign is on Flemington Street opposite the school. During the hours between 9am-6pm you can park there for 1 hour.
**SRC News**

*Alex Taylor – SRC Coordinator*

Student Leader Conference

On Friday March 13th 10 SRC representatives and myself will be attending the National Young Leaders Conference at the Exhibition Centre. This conference will include influential people taking to the stage to share their stories and leadership insights with students.

World's Greatest Shave and Crazy Hair Day

On Thursday March 12th we are celebrating The World’s Greatest Shave and Crazy Hair Day. A number of grade 5/6 students are cutting and shaving their hair off! All other students and teachers are encouraged to come to school with CRAZY hair. You can use hair spray, hair gel or just come with messy hair. We are asking for a gold coin donation on the day. If you want to watch the grade 5/6 students cut and shave their hair bring an extra gold coin to donate. The cut/shave will be happening at lunchtime. All money raised on the day will go to the research of blood cancer. If you wish to make a personal donation to one of the student’s involved please see myself for extra information.

Ride to School Day

On Friday March 13th it is National Ride to School Day. You can ride, walk, scoot or skate to school. SRC and student leaders will be counting and giving stickers out to all participants. We are aiming for a 100% participation effort! The class with the most participants will win a prize. The most creative and decorated bike will also win a prize, so start decorating! Don’t forget to wear your helmet 😊

Name the Bike Shed Competition

Congratulations to Tim VD in 5/6A for his winning name: **The Bicycle Hospital**.

This will be the new name for the bike shed next to the science room. Peter and Bart are in the process of getting the sign made. Well Done Tim!

Return to Royal Park

The City of Melbourne has worked in partnership with the Victorian Government to establish parkland on the site of the former Royal Children’s Hospital and return this to Royal Park.

The ‘Return to Royal Park’ project commenced in 2011, and the community contributed to the design of the park through an extensive engagement process in 2012 and 2013. Construction commenced in late 2013.

The reinstated parkland reflects the broader landscape of Royal Park, with gullies, grasslands and woodlands. The features of the new park, such as plants and play elements, represent the seven Wurunjderi seasons, as a way to encourage discovery and understanding of indigenous Melbourne.

Features of the parkland include open grassy lawns, natural vegetation, a nature based play space, and amenities to support the park visitor such as seating, drink fountains, picnic tables and BBQs. Networks of paths invite the visitor to explore further into Royal Park.

Key features in the accessible, nature-based play space include a climbing forest, a rocky escarpment with slides, swings, and water play elements.

We would like to thank you for your participation in the development of this parkland and we are pleased to inform you that the park is now open.

To find out more, visit [http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ParksandActivities/Parks/ReturnToRoyalPark/Pages/ReturntoRoyalPark.aspx](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ParksandActivities/Parks/ReturnToRoyalPark/Pages/ReturntoRoyalPark.aspx)
Curriculum News
Mark Catterson, Literacy Coordinator

An important part of developing our students’ literacy skills is encouraging them to read independently, both at school and at home.

At school, all students are given support in choosing ‘just right’ texts that they are able to read without assistance. When working in a guided group with a teacher, students will read more challenging texts however when working independently, it is important to have a text that they can read and understand without support. This gives students the chance to practise their reading strategies and develop both their comprehension and fluency.

To assist their reading at home, we provide a range of different texts for students to choose from. The texts they bring home should be easy for them to read. Being able to work out every word on the page is only one of the skills an effective reader has to master – understanding how they fit together and what the text means is at the heart of what a reader does.

Texts where they have to stop frequently to work out unfamiliar words interrupt this and make it more challenging for the reader to maintain the meaning when they read. This may go against the experiences we had when we were at school when books that were sent home were often challenging. However the current research about what it takes to become an effective reader support the idea that reading for understanding is the most important goal and this is best practised through texts children can read.

Most of all, reading at home should be enjoyable for your child. They will usually bring home a ‘just right’ book for them which they should be able to read with minimal or no errors. Help them by talking about the book and their understanding of it and praising them for their fluency when reading. Occasionally they may choose to bring home a more challenging book which gives you an opportunity to read it with or to them so that they can hear what a fluent reader sounds like.

Curriculum News
Fiona Themann, Numeracy Coordinator

Numeracy is an essential skill that children need to succeed in their everyday lives. As a parent or carer, you will have already made a significant contribution to supporting your child’s learning from an early age. Through regular and simple activities such as counting the number of basketball throws they do, talking about saving pocket money, having a budget for shopping and estimating time it will take to travel from one place to another.

Improving your child’s understanding and the use of these skills will help to increase their enthusiasm to actively participate in the classroom. You may feel that the maths your child is doing at school is different from how you were taught, but you will still be able to support your child in many ways.

Activities to do with your child

*Here are some simple yet effective activities you can do with your child to help apply the numeracy skills they learn at school:*

- Play card and board games together.
- Use numeracy decision-making opportunities in everyday life, such as a car trip – calculating how much fuel is required, estimating travel times and distance travelled/remaining, interpreting maps to calculate distances and the shortest route to take in planning a trip.
- Involve students in the kitchen and encourage your child to make accurate measurements using measuring cups and spoons.
- Discuss their favourite sport. How long is the game played for? Is it divided into halves? quarters? What was the score at half time? How many more goals did Team A score compared to Team B?
- When out shopping, ask them to estimate the change you will receive, or estimate the final cost of discounted items, for example, the cost of an item with the 20% discount.
**Sport News**

**Mitchel Marley**

**Ascot Vale District Swimming Carnival.**

Last Wednesday the 25th of February the District held its annual swimming carnival at Queens Park Pool.

As with previous years the event was well attended with all Schools from the area putting forward strong Swim Squads. We at Flemington again put together a strong team and had swimmers from all age groups competing in every individual event and the relays.

The perfect weather on the day heralded the perfect result with a 6th successive title for Flemington Primary School and came with the added bonus of a large proportion of our swim squad and the relays placing either in first or second place and being put forward to the next round of the Western Metro Regional.

It demonstrated again to the pupils that the hard work in training pays off in competition.

Congratulations Swimmers.

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**Helping People to Understand Suicide**

A workshop on understanding why people suicide, the effect on other people and how to know if someone is suicidal. Also covers what someone can do if they feel suicidal or if they know someone who is suicidal.

**When:** Wednesday 18th of March

**Where:** Flemington Primary School in the Multipurpose Room.

Corner of Mount Alexander Road and Padman Lane, Flemington

Time: 9.30-11.30am

Session will be conducted by Annie Giljohannes from Assistance after Suicide.

Organised by Safe from Harm, a project of Flemington Kensington Community Legal Centre and Moonee Valley Legal Service. Funded by the Legal Services Board.
Helping kids deal with rejection

by Michael Grose - Australia’s No 1 parenting educator

One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection.

Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Paradoxically, children’s experience of rejection and disappointment at school is good for them, as long as it’s balanced with successful experiences too. They learn that they can cope and solve problems in their own way and that bad experiences don’t last forever.

And they learn that sadness and disappointment can be managed too, which is an important lesson to learn to take into adolescence and beyond, when life is full of ups and downs.

Helping them move on

Most children recover from such rejection. They move on and form constructive, worthwhile relationships but some children need help. They often take rejection personally, blaming themselves. As a parent it is useful to challenge children’s unhelpful thinking and encourage them to look for new friendship opportunities. Parents can help children understand that rejection may happen for any number of reasons that are unrelated to them.

In the course of a school day children will meet with a number of challenges and even setbacks. They may struggle with some schoolwork. They may not do well in a test and they may not be picked for a game that they wanted to play. Children grow stronger when they overcome their difficulties. The challenge for parents is to build and maintain children’s confidence levels to help them get through the rough times.

One way to help children deal with rejection and disappointment is to talk through problems or difficulties, recognising and accepting their feelings. Talk about various scenarios, discussing possible outcomes. The age of your child will determine the amount of detail. Keep things simple and avoid burdening a younger child with concepts he or she doesn’t understand.

Your attitude as a parent can make a huge difference to how a child reacts. If you see rejection or disappointments as problems then your child will be hamstrung by this view. See them as challenges then your child, in all likelihood, will pick up your upbeat view and deal with disappointments easily. After all, confidence is catching!

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

1. Model optimism.
   Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.

2. Tell children how you handle disappointment and rejection.
   Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.

3. Help children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment.
   Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.

4. Laugh together.
   Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The stronger the wind the stronger the trees is the notion here. Supporting kids to handle life’s hurdles helps them to develop a lasting sense of resilience, which is essential for good mental and emotional health.


Flemington Primary is a Parenting Ideas School.

Reminder: School banking is every Thursday

Rewarding good savings:

To help reward individual savings efforts, every time a student deposits into their Youthsaver account through School Banking, regardless of the amount, they’ll receive a Dollarmites token.

Once they’ve collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a variety of exciting reward items. They’ll also receive a certificate when they reach certain savings milestones.

Available in Term 1 when you have collected 10 tokens are:
Library News
Vanessa Griffin

2015 is off to a flying start with our students and staff borrowing 2,359 books in the month of February. Wow, a great start to the year, well done everyone!

In addition to the frenzied pace of new year borrowing, I have also been busy processing over 300 books donated to our school. The library has gained 113 of the books, with the rest going to our classroom libraries and take home reader tubs. Many thanks to the families and friends who have made these lovely donations to us:

- The Boyce Family
- The Haskell Family
- The Murphy-Schneider Family
- The Dahir Family
- The Griffin-D’Arcy Family
- Katia Scicluna
- The Adrian Pereira Fund
- The Victorian RSL

We are always welcoming of donations, and at the moment we are particularly looking for non-fiction books in excellent condition to bolster our classroom libraries. If you are leaving a donation at the office, don’t forget to leave your name so a thank-you sticker can be placed in the book.

My favourite donation of the month is from four very talented young authors. Last year Mia, Josh, Darcy and Olivia from 3/4D self published their original work – Four Suspects, One Murder. I really enjoyed reading this masterpiece of mystery and intrigue and I’m so happy now it has its place in our library amongst our favourite local and international authors! Well done to our young writers, I’m sure this book will inspire many of our students to publish their work in the future.

The first overdue notices for the year have been issued to 44 students this week. If an overdue notice comes home please help your child take action! to locate the book and return it ASAP as borrowing is restricted for students with any overdue loans.

 FPS Bicycle Recycle – Volunteers Please

With the grateful efforts of parents Bart, Geoff and Chris another 4 bikes were fixed and 2 more given away last Friday. Thank you also to all the students who turned up to help out. Ride to School day is next Friday (13-Mar) and hopefully we can repair and give away some more bikes before then.

We are in particular need of bikes suitable for grades 4/5 (typically 24-inch sized wheels). If you, your neighbours, friends or family have such bikes to donate please bring them in before or after school to “The Bicycle Hospital” (shed near the music room) on Fridays. Financial donations are also welcomed. If you would like a bike, or know someone who needs a bike, please contact me by email, the phone number below or visit the bike shed on Fridays. Trade-ins of smaller bikes for larger bikes are also possible.

PLEASE HELP: As always we need volunteer parents and students to help with fixing bikes on Friday mornings 8am to 9am and afternoons from 3.30pm including this Friday (March 6th). There’s no need for any specific skills, just a willingness to give things a go and get your hands a little dirty for an hour or so.

The Bendigo Bank is a generous financial supporter of the 2015 FPS Bicycle Recycle initiative.

Is your child a regular saver? Why not open a Bendigo Piggy Bank Passbook Account that encourages children under 13 to save in a fun & rewarding way.

325 Racecourse Road, Flemington 3031,
Open: Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm, Sat 9am to 12pm
www.bendigobank.com.au

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.
Do you still have Grade 6 Students who have not enrolled for Secondary School next year?

If you have girls in Grade 6 that are yet to enrol for 2016, I encourage you to make contact with our College this week, as enrolments closed on Friday 27th February. I am happy to speak with families about the opportunities available. I can be contacted on 9329 0411 or mcleodj@aloysius.vic.edu.au

I also suggest Grade 5 families to submit their applications for 2017 to avoid disappointment.

Hub News (FPS Parent’s Association)
Rochelle Carland (HUB President) carlandr@bigpond.net.au - 0416 177 219

HUB EXTRAORDINARY AGM – TUESDAY 17TH MARCH 2015

Further to last week’s InTouch, we do not have a new HUB President. If we do not elect a new President by the next School Council meeting on Monday 23rd March, the HUB, as we know it, will cease to exist. In line with this, an extraordinary AGM will be held on Tuesday 17th March at 7:30pm in the Staffroom to consider any new nominations for President (or co-Presidents).

It would be such a shame to lose this valuable FPS resource – please consider assisting where you can. Please note that, as a non-Fete year, the HUB calendar is not busy and Lesley is happy for us to solely focus on icy poles and Mothers/Fathers Day stalls if need be.

It’s been encouraging to hear of parents who have signaled their intention to join the HUB and we look forward to seeing them at our next meeting.

Icy Poles

Now the hot weather is here, icy poles are back on sale Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the rest of term. Icy Poles are $1.

Annette Williams (mum of Imogen in Gr 3 and Chris in Gr 1) is co-ordinating icy-poles this term. If you’d like to help out with selling, please contact Annette (annette_andrew@hotmail.com) to get your name on the roster.
Community News

Volunteers needed for BBQ
If cooking snags is your speciality, we’d love to hear from you. Our Bunnings BBQ is on Sunday 15th March at the Maribyrnong store and we require volunteers for 3 hour shifts, starting at 8am.

We require one coordinator per session, plus 3 member volunteers.