PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

It was great to hear the achievement awards at Monday morning’s assembly. Achievement is not just being the best but it’s about trying your best to do better. In fact our definition of achievement is about achieving growth regardless of your starting point. So, all students can achieve with a positive growth mindset, coupled with the purposeful and differentiated learning tasks and instruction given by the teachers, and the support of their parents/carers.

It’s hard to believe we have only been back at school for three and a bit weeks. Walking through classes it is obvious the teaching staff have been laying the foundations of strong learning and achievement in 2016. The preps were working hard to recognise, write and learn about the letter M. They were trying so hard to keep ‘on the road’ as they traced an M. What was even more pleasing to note was how they were task orientated, managed their learning and tried their best. I hear they are also doing a great job practising their Stuart’s Cup tabloid sports.

Despite a very miserable day weather wise last Thursday, our students proudly represented our school at the Corner Inlet District Swimming Meet. Congratulations to Lucas and Bodhi who will progress through to Division level. Lucas came first in backstroke and Bodhi came first in breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly.

Emergency Management

During the year we update and practise our various emergency procedures in case there is an emergency. If you have been following the news you will be aware that schools have had to hasten their emergency practices due to the actions of thoughtless others. We have been practising our procedures by walking through the steps, activating practice drills and ensuring that we can provide a safe and caring place if the need arises. Thank you to the staff who have been sensitive to their students whilst achieving the goal of safety and to the students who have cooperated during such activities. We also seek your assistance and cooperation in the following ways when an emergency occurs.

- **Keep our phone lines free.** When all the staff and students are safe and emergency service communications have been completed, we will send out communications to parents through Compass and text.
- **Download Compass.**
- **If there is a lockdown, don’t come to the school.** We are in lockdown for a reason- there is an issue in the yard. All students and staff will be securely away in classrooms and buildings and emergency services will be in attendance. We can’t release students during a lockdown and emergency services will probably turn you away.

*If you have any questions or concerns, let me know.*

Brett Smith
RELAY FOR LIFE CASUAL DRESS DAY
Students are invited to wear purple, white and/or yellow on Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} March to support the local Relay for Life. A gold coin donation is required and will be forwarded onto this year’s local Relay for Life Committee.

MACS
Thank you to our mighty MACS workers who have earned the school $1337.20. Thanks to those parents who have offered to work in MACS, however the majority of our contributors are parents of past students. Good news is MACS is successfully open on Sundays.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – Wednesday March 9\textsuperscript{th}
Each child has been given a photo order envelope today in preparation for our school photo day on Wednesday March 9\textsuperscript{th}. Envelopes need to be returned with payment by 9am on photo day. Children who do not return their envelope will still have their photo taken for inclusion in class photos. Please ensure all children are in correct uniform on this day. Family group photos can be taken at your request. Family order envelopes are available from the office and should be returned separately to individual packs (but money can be all together – please see envelope for details). Our school photos will be taken by Foons Photographics, Wonthaggi.

HEAD LICE
A case of head lice has been reported to us. Please check your children’s hair regularly. Thank you for informing us.

PST INTERVIEWS
PST Interviews will be on Thursday 3\textsuperscript{rd} March. This is an opportunity for parents, students and teachers to meet and discuss student progress and goals. Classes run as usual on this day. Bookings can be made at www.schoolinterviews.com.au

For parents who don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, a computer kiosk is available in the Rainbow Room, so parents can still make their own bookings. (Next semester Compass will be used for PST bookings)

Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing time, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents needing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 5664 7382.

If parents/caregivers need guidance please ring the school.

BOOK CLUB
Issue 2 Book Club catalogue will be distributed in the next few days. We encourage orders to be placed online through the new LOOP system where possible. Order forms and payment are to be placed in an envelope with student’s name and ‘BOOK CLUB’ written on the front. All orders, either online or paper, must be completed/returned by COB Wednesday 9\textsuperscript{th} March.

As from Issue 3 (early next term) all book club orders will need to be completed through the LOOP system. This can be done via the website or download the app for use on phones and tablets. A computer is available to for parent use in the Rainbow room at school if you don’t have access to the internet at home. Paper orders and money will no longer be accepted at school from Issue 3 (Term 2) onwards.
KITCHEN GARDEN & COOKING VOLUNTEERS
I've been working hard on the planning for our kitchen garden this year and it's got me thinking about how I grew up gardening alongside my dad in the veggie patch and being fascinated by my Polish grandparents and their amazing skills with gardening too! Since talking with many people lately about their gardening knowledge, I have come to realize that gardening is a wonderful way to relax, de-stress and maintain our wellbeing and resilience in life when we are going through stressful times! People garden to keep focused, give purpose and meaning to life and it's also been proven that people age better if they garden too! Less dementia and longer healthier happier lives, stronger community connections, friends, etc.. So on that note, I'm putting a call out for any of parents or grandparents who love to garden and would like to volunteer and help out in anyway. It can be either helping with the garden or cooking with the students using produce from the garden. Thank you to those who have returned their Parent Participation sheets and already indicated their willingness to help with the garden & cooking – I'll be in touch soon. If you are keen to help and have not yet returned your Parent Participation sheet (attached to previous newsletters) please do so this week. We would really love to have you here to pass on some of your knowledge and skills that are so very vital to our community and the future! Here’s to green thumbs everywhere becoming the next big trend to hit!
Tania Niziorski - Chaplain

Making Pancakes with 1GH

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
😊 Lucas M for demonstrating confidence and thoughtful reasoning when asked “Why do you think that?” during a mathematical discussion.
😊 Kayla S for her concentration when counting and grouping icy pole sticks while comparing large numbers.
😊 Emily EB for using known strategies to decide whether given counting patterns increased or decreased by 2s, 5s or 10s from a variety of starting points.
😊 Meesha P for genuine effort with her learning.
😊 Jada D for her ability to self-manage and communicate during General Studies.
😊 Alena C for the persistent and thorough attitude she demonstrates to finish all learning before going to play.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARD
😊 Kiarrah M for being a friendly and confident student.

CHAPLAIN’S AWARD
😊 Zara J for her amazing leadership skills in group work putting together her diagram. Well done!

YARD DRAW: Brayden S for getting the bin.

HOUSE POINTS Last Week’s Winner: Bluegum Overall Winner: Waratah
The following Community News articles promote community connections and communications.

They are not considered school activities

**South Gippsland Shire Council – Early Years Survey:**
Families are invited to complete an online survey via Council’s website to help inform our Municipal Early Years Plan 2016-2021. We’d like to hear from children too! A survey tailored towards children can be printed from Council’s website. Both can be found at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/earlyyears-survey

The survey will take between 5 – 10 minutes to complete and is designed to assess the child friendliness of a community from the family’s perspective and from those interested in the wellbeing of children aged 8 years of age or younger.

**Please complete the survey by 17th March.** The children’s survey can be posted to South Gippsland Shire Council, Private Bag 4, Leongatha, 3953.

**Foster Family Fete:**
Sunday 27th March, Foster Primary School will be hosting the **Foster Family Fete** with an aim to raise funds to support the improvement of resources and facilities across all departments within the school.

What a better way to spend an Easter Sunday with the family enjoying;

**Activities & Attractions include:** Ripper Rides, Fabulous Foods, Creative Cakes, Marvellous Music, Adventurous Activities, Photo Booth, Graffiti Wall, Spinning Wheel, Monster Garage Sale, Competitions

**Shave for a Cure – Fundraiser:**
Irene Thorson and Maddie Brew, Year 9 students at Leongatha Secondary College are shaving off their long locks to raise money for Cancer. The girls are teaming up with Jayne Scott of Avonleigh Farm Fine Food to host a “Shave for a Cure” Afternoon Tea. They will be offering a range of delectable treats on Saturday 5th March from 2-5pm. The cost of the Afternoon Tea is $35 per person, with all profits supporting the girls. A little live music will be provided by the college students and home-made biscuits and cakes will also be for sale. Avonleigh is located at 42 Thorsons Road, Tarwin. Bookings essential - 5664 7264.

**Old Gippstown Easter Fair:**
Easter Fair at Old Gippstown, 211 Lloyd St, Moe, Saturday 26th March, 10am-2pm .Tickets on sale at Old Gippstown, phone 5127 3082 for enquiries and bookings. Cost of entry is $5 per child, gold coin for adults.

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