WELCOME BACK
At our first assembly of the year it was immediately apparent that children are ready for another year. Our school captains were equipped to tackle their new roles, children were seated and ready for the challenges of another year and teachers were organised and ready to optimise every learning opportunity. Schools are complex environments where children have so many people to deal with. This can cause them issues at times and it is imperative that we support them through this. We as adults need to be there to support them rather than rescue them so that each experience is a learning experience which empowers them to be an individual who can deal with disputes. I ask that if you have problems please raise them with us so that we have an opportunity to resolve them.

ISN’T IT GREAT WHEN........... we watch another group of preps begin their educational journey. For most of the children this journey started last year through our Step into Prep program followed by our transition program. This gave both teachers and children a wonderful opportunity to develop relationships which is the corner stone of everything we do. We have had an extremely smooth start to the year which proves that our transition program is working very well. To our new preps and children at each grade level I hope that you make the most out of every opportunity.

Angel PrepH8 - I like playing with my friends outside and working with numbers.
Adam PrepM12 - I like sliding down the slides in the playground and working with money.
Isabelle PrepT11 - I like swinging on the monkey bars and pasting work in my book after I have worked it out.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS
The beginning of another school year provides an opportunity for timely reminders about personal belongings coming to school. The school is not responsible for the loss of or damage to personal belongings of students, teachers or visitors to the school. It is your responsibility to keep them safe and secure. This is why we recommend that valuables do not come to school, as we cannot guarantee their safekeeping. The last thing we want to see is the disappointment of a young child who has lost their valued possession so please support us with this. We understand that some parents would like their children to have a mobile phone for safety reasons, so these can be stored with their teacher and collected at the end of the day.

CHILDREN INJURED AT SCHOOL
Further to the school’s position with personal belongings, the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for their injured children and student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers.

EXCURSION AND INCURSIONS
Excursions and incursions are an important part of your child’s educational program. They are chosen to support particular units of work or develop social skills. To ensure maximum participation we will provide four weeks notice so that you have the opportunity to budget for these activities. All excursions and incursions will have a closing date for payment so that we can organize supervision, buses and other matters that directly affect the safety of all children. In the past, this closing date has been extended which has created issues. With incursions, the closing date can be the day of the incursion as we don’t have to make arrangements regarding safe travel and supervision. There will only be exceptional circumstances, which will be taken into consideration such as illness, to waive the closing date. These dates are in the newsletter and on the website where you can also find the relevant notice to print. We, as a school, have provided everyone with ample opportunity to pay before the closing date, so we know that you will understand why this needs to be enforced consistently. I trust you appreciate our position with this and look forward to your support with this matter.

Andrew Groh
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome back everyone after the holidays. It has been great to see how well the students have settled back into school and all the classrooms have a purposeful buzz about them. We look forward to an exciting term of learning.

Isn’t it great when….our Grade 3&4 students can make two massive Chinese dragons in just 2 days? Each class made a number of colourful panels, attached streamers and then they glued them all together behind scary looking heads! This was an enjoyable way to begin the school year, whilst learning about other cultures and customs as outlined in our Geography and History curriculum.

Alex – The Chinese New Year celebration is as big as Christmas for us. They believe that the dragon gets rid of the bad spirits and brings them good luck for the New Year.

Reeana – Chinese New Year moves around the calendar each year and so is on a different date. Red is the colour of good luck.

Rovinho - It’s the Chinese Year of the Horse. My grandma has a calendar that has all the different years on it.

Connor - They give money as presents in red envelopes called hongbao. We had really good fun banging the drums to scare away the evil spirits.

Hats – All students must wear a navy blue broad brimmed hat in order to play outside. Unfortunately the uniform shop in Hallam has no hats because their supplier is out of stock and this will be the situation for another three weeks. Hats without the school logo are available at stores like Target, Kmart and Big W. If you are having difficulty providing a school hat for your child, we will accept any kind of hat as long as you send a note to your child’s teacher explaining the situation.

Sue Peterken

2014 SCHOOL TERM DATES

TERM 1 - JANUARY 28 - APRIL 4
TERM 2 - APRIL 22 - JUNE 27
TERM 3 - JULY 14 - SEPTEMBER 19
TERM 4 - OCTOBER 6 - DECEMBER 19
NOTICES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>NOTICE</th>
<th>NOTICE DISTRIBUTED</th>
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<th>PAYMENY DUE BY</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Melbourne Zoo</td>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>Feb 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Term One Newsletter</td>
<td>Jan 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 - 6</td>
<td>2014 Swimming Carnival Trials</td>
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<td>Feb 7</td>
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<td>1P6</td>
<td>School Interviews Online</td>
<td>Feb 3</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>School Interviews Online</td>
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<td>4M25</td>
<td>Mrs Gemma McCormick Family Leave</td>
<td>Feb 5</td>
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Students will not be able to participate in the activities if payment has not been received by the due date.

Notices also available on our website www.maramba-ps.vic.edu.au

The AGM will be held on Monday 17th February 2014 in the staff room after assembly. All positions will be declared vacant and everyone is invited to consider nominating for a position at the meeting. All executive roles are well supported by the general committee. The support of many makes our job of fundraising for the school easier, and of course, lots of fun.

The positions available are:

- Chairperson
- Vice - Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- General Committee

Everyone is invited to attend this meeting. Why not come along and have some morning tea and hear what FOM is all about? We are hoping to see lots of new faces to join our friendly, hard working and fun loving group.

The school canteen will be opening next Wednesday 12th February and will be open Wednesdays and Fridays from then on.

A sliver and black helmet has been handed into the office. If your child has lost their helmet please come and see the office staff.
**INSTRUMENTAL TUITION P-6**

**KEYBOARD/PIANO**
Joanne Clark is an experienced keyboard teacher and conducts group lessons every Friday at Maramba.

**GUITAR / BASS GUITAR / DRUMS / SINGING**

**Pony Music** conduct lessons during the day at Maramba with provisions for lessons at the Pony Studios as well.

Based in Hallam, Pony Music provide a retail store, rehearsal studios, recording studios and production hire. The staff are musicians, audio engineers, performers, producers, teachers and band members...and very passionate about music.

See Mr Davies for more information and enrolment forms.

*Lessons begin 10th*
Maramba Primary School & DEECD does not endorse any of the above advertising.
Maramba Primary School | 3rd of February, 2014

Get ready for 2014

Welcome back, our family at Before and After School Care is having fun, listening to stories from the kids and meeting new faces has been astonishing.

Kids enjoyed amazing activities set out to create their name badges and their portfolios and shared each other’s hobbies and interests. We had lots of laughter and learning from each other.

This term our OSHC family has been even more determined to provide more fun, caring, supportive, enjoyable program and most of all determined to make more kids smile.

Remember this is Term 1, which means SunSmart term. Please provide your child/children with hats so we can go out and smile a lot.

Save on Care
Save 50% or more on Before and After School Care with the Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 106 343

Holiday Clubs
Don't forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs these school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program: www.campaustralia.com.au/
holidayclubs

Healthy Snacks
Afternoon tea is served daily. Menus are tailored to children’s tastes, developmental and nutritional needs. Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and fruit. Children may also engage in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile
www.campaustralia.com.au

Become A Volunteer Host Family

Make Your Place Their Second Home
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming Volunteer Host Families. Choose a family from another country and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian Family.

Arriving in July:
Nicola (17) from Italy is sporting, representing his region in tennis. He is a member of the scouts and plays the guitar and drums.

Celine (14) from France is in deaf education, in both classical and jazz. She is also an excellent cheer and enjoys the smaller, non-materialistic things in life.

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sydney Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 885 768
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

Open your home and hearts to an international exchange student! It’s easier than you think and a fantastic opportunity for all!

IT’S TIME TO GET EXCITED!
NARRE NORTH FOXES
FOOTBALL CLUB

THE PLACE TO BE
JUNIOR REGISTRATION U9’S TO U17’S
SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2014 9.00 am to 12.30 pm
203 Belgrave-Hallam Rd Narre Warren North

ALL PLAYERS WELCOME
COME AND JOIN THE MOST ENJOYABLE FAMILY CLUB ANYWHERE, WHERE EVERY PLAYER RUNS OUT TO TRAIN WITH A FOOTY IN THEIR HANDS.
GET IN EARLY AS THERE ARE LIMITED PLACES IN SOME AGE GROUPS

CONTACT:
REGISTRAR: barryallison@gmail.com
SECRETARY: cgbrittain@hotmail.com

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?

Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills.

Hosting – An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students to their homes.

www.studentexchange.org.au
1300 136 331 (cost of local call)

Maramba Primary School & DEECD does not endorse any of the above advertising.