**Dates to Remember**

**Today - May**  
Sun Smart Months – all students wear a broad brimmed hat to play outside

**March**

- **Mon 12 Mar**  
  Grade 1 & 2 Parents Literacy Information Session
- **Mon 16 Mar**  
  1st School Tour 9-10am – book through the office
- **Fri 20 Mar**  
  Assembly Grade Foundation - 2
- **Fri 20 Mar**  
  Trivia Night – bookings opens
- **24 – 25 Mar**  
  Parent/Teacher Meetings – Years 1-6
- **27 Mar**  
  Last Day Term 1 - 1.30pm dismissal
- **28 Mar – 13 Apr**  
  Term 1 holidays incl. Easter

**April**

- **Mon 13 Apr**  
  Pupil Free Day
- **Tue 14 Apr**  
  First day Term 2
- **Mon 20 Apr**  
  School Tour 9-10am – book through the office

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**We need your help**

Crafty people required to make gifts for the Mother's Day Stall at Craft Addict Day in in April.

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In August we have our school Arts Festival. Foody or food-industry Parents and Friends are required to arrange food and beverage tents for the evening.

A volunteer is needed to coordinate second hand school uniforms.

If you are inspired by any of these areas to support your school please contact Meg on m: 0411 755 421

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**Message from Sally**

Term one is nearly concluded and it has been a very positive start to the 2015 school year. Work on our ‘FLEX-ABLE’ relocatable has begun with great gusto! The site area has been fenced off and is now out of bounds to all but the builders; please don’t try and go on site for a little sneak preview as it is currently not our site. Next week we hope the buildings will start to arrive.

We have been very busy hosting events and visiting ‘important’ people lately; Matt Dunkley – South western Regional Director (not Superintendent Chalmers as Mark told his Year 3’s!) visited last Wednesday; he was very impressed with our wonderful school, staff and students. He commented as he left how similar it is to some of the inner-London schools; which is what I said when I first got the Assistant Principal position here; we then realised that we had both worked in Wandsworth.

On Friday, Stephanie Alexander came and launched a new component to the SAKGP; the students and staff once again stood out as exemplary models of great teaching and learning.

Today my Senior Advisor visited to conduct the final aspect of my performance review; she was favourably impressed by all our data and as this is her second visit to the school reiterated how wonderful it ‘feels’ to be here.

Our next opportunity to ‘show off’ will be next week when three Victorian Government Ministers will visit to launch the anti-smoking in and around educational facilities policy.

Our final school council meeting for retiring school councilors and the first meeting for new school councilors will be held Wednesday evening; in the next newsletter we will provide up-to-date information on roles and contacts for our new school councilors.
Stephanie Alexander & SAKGP VIPs visit our school
Robyn Phelan, attending the morning
A major achievement for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program announced in our garden on Friday 13 March. Stephanie Alexander, Ange Barry, SAKGP CEO, George Savvides, Medibank Managing Director and our Principal Sally made speeches in our glorious vegetable garden. These VIPs then joined, students, staff, volunteers, previous SAKG teachers such as Tarsh, Mel & Cathy to chat and eat wonderful healthy food prepared and served by Sam, staff and grade six students.

What's so special?
Word from the SAKG Media Release
The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation is incredibly proud and grateful to officially announce that there are now 800 schools delivering the Kitchen Garden National Program! This means 10% of all Australian schools with a primary curriculum are running this successful, proven, Australian-made pleasurable food education program.
To this end we’re opening up the toolkit and are proud to announce a new Membership service accessible to any Early Learning Centre, Primary School and Secondary School. Get all the details and get involved.

Highlights of Sally’s speech:
Our principal gave an overview of the eight years the program has been part of our school. She remembered Tarsh who set out the first garden defying the odds of the small space to grow produce for the kitchen, Cathy our first Kitchen Specialist and the successful Italian Chickens program. our current Kitchen & Garden Specialists Sam & Joanna nurture a student led curriculum recipes from home countries and family favorites.
At our school the SAKGP is a part of our main curriculum, it is not an add on. All children across the school are taught to respect and enjoy the garden and the cooking is integrated across the year for all year 3-6 children; however the kitchen also becomes a ‘place of research and science’ when the year Prep, Ones or Twos are studying food or nutrition or kitchen chemistry! We have families who constantly discuss what their children bring home from the kitchen or garden; we grew this, I ate or I cooked this. Literacy and numeracy skills are included and explicitly taught through the program.
There is a sense of engagement and interest that spreads across the whole school because of our SAKGP.
For more images click on the News Page on our website.

Robogals Workshop
Julia, Grade 4C teacher
23 students from Years 2-6 participated in a Robogals workshop at the University of Melbourne on Saturday March 14.

The students learnt the different disciplines of engineering and spent most of the morning programming NXT robots. Students and parents were involved in a series of programming activities. The workshop was a huge success - thank-you to the parents that participated in the workshop.

We were blown away with the amount of interest from students (and parents) to attend the workshop and as a result there were a number of students who missed out on this opportunity. NEVER FEAR...in Term 2 we hope to arrange more activities and sessions with Robogals so stay tuned!
Grade 6 Camp Adventures in Canberra
Sophie & Mimi, Grade 6 students
The grade sixes this year went on an amazing camp to Canberra from the 2nd of March to the 6th. Six teachers, Bryony, Catherine, Craig, Luke, Tom and Amanda came to all of the activities with us to make sure that everything and everyone was okay.

We had a nine-hour bus drive to get to our destination. The bus ride was an unexpected way to make great new friends. Once we finally arrived at Eaglehawk Holiday Park we were all very relieved to see the place we were going to be staying for the next four days. After a delicious dinner we settled into our cabins for the night.

The grade sixes were split into two groups. We took a bus out to Anzac Parade and The Reconciliation Place. At both places we learned amazing things about Australia. Later that day group 1 went to Parliament house and we were really lucky because we were able to watch and listen to some of question time in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. We also got to meet Adam Bandt. Group 2 went on a bike ride around Lake Burley Griffin and to the Australian Institute of sport. After dinner we went to the International Sports and Aquatic Center where we swam and went down the waterslide.

This is a tribute to Jagera man Senator Neville Bonner, the first indigenous member of Federal Parliament.

Towards the end of our trip we went to the Electoral Education Center and the Museum of Australian Democracy. We learned a lot about how to vote and about the history of Australia’s government system. After that we went to Questacon. At Questacon we went down a gravity-defying slide, were taught about wind and lightning, shown optical illusions, looked through microscopes and watching the greatest new robots all in a really cool way.

On the final day of camp we got woken up at 5:30am, had breakfast at 6:00 and left for Melbourne at 6:30. The bus drive back was a lot calmer than the bus ride to Canberra. Once we arrived back home we took our bags off the bus and went straight to the FLEX, where we were picked up by our parents.

We acknowledge the funding and support of the Australian government through the PACER contribution, which allowed us to be apart of this amazing experience.

News From Our SRC-Paper Plane Competition Fundraiser
The SRC is assisted by teachers Matt & Lucy

This event was organised by the student council to raise money to send to a remote island school in Kosrae, which is in the Federated States of Micronesia. NMPS’s connection to this island is that teacher Julie Spencer is currently on leave and is teaching on Kosrae. They don't have many books at her school, so the council decided the money raised would make a good start at building up their library reserves.

We raised $260, via gold coin donation, and there were 3 categories for each grade - Longest Distance, Best Design and Best Tricks. The student councilors judged each category and winners were announced at Friday’s assembly.

Longest Distance Winners:
Ben-F-Alicia, Jayden-1 Amanda, Charlie-2 Katie, Toby-3B, Amelia-4 Anna-Marie, Oskar-5B, Asmaa-6 Cat

Best Trick Winners:
Max-F-Annelise, Austin-1 Amanda, Oscar-2 Katie, Archie-3D, Caleb & Charley-4 Anna-Marie, Hugo-5 Eve, Jade-6 Cat.

Best Design:

Overall Distance Winners:
Charlie-2 Katie & Oskar -Grade 5
NEW Online Bookings for Parent Teacher Conferences

Grades 1 – 3 conferences will be on Tuesday 24th March and Grades 4 – 6 will occur on Wednesday 25th March. Foundation students have already had their interviews.

This year, times can be booked online. Each teacher has a range of times available. Just click on a 10-minute block and your booking will be emailed to you.

Enter the event code: ATG7T
If you need assistance with this please see your classroom teacher.

Our New Whole School Communication App: tiqbiz

If you are yet to upload tiqbiz, full instructions are available in Errol Street News #3. [Click here](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au).

Email any staff member
Follow the instructions 1-2 above.
3. Tap on contact
4. Fill out your contact details
5. Fill out your message.
6. Be sure to use the pull-down menu to direct the email to the required staff member.

Fundraising News
Meg Moorhouse, Parents & Friends Committee

NMPS Trivia Night this Friday 20th March starts 7pm – Full House (nearly)
As of 9am Tuesday morning there are 2 full table left and a few spaces available on some tables, why not jump on with others and make some new friends?
Final payment (and numbers) need to be done by end of Wednesday please - any problems, give me (Meg) a call on 0411 755 421.
Any dietary requirements - gluten free or vegetarian - email me by end of Wednesday please.

Details for those lucky dudes & dudettes who are going:
Meal delivered by “the Dude Food Van Man”. Dinner begins 7pm sharp.
Sangria Saloon will be serving throughout the night.
Loads of prizes awarded on the night.

Tips for Green Horns:
Get your creative thinking caps on.
Costumes are a must, theme your table decorations.
Bring loads of gold coins for mini-challenges & competitions throughout the evening.
Get ready for the Craft Challenge.
Watch for the roaming Sheriffs!

BYO nibbles & drinks. Takeaway your rubbish.
**Biz-E-Kidz News**

**Sharon Goodwin, Biz-e-Kidz Coordinator**

**Autumn Holiday Program and Pupil free day**
Most of the holiday program is currently booked out, if you require a booking, please see Sharon, Lea or Eva at Biz – E – Kidz to see what days are still available.

**If your child is not attending a session of aftercare**
If you temporarily don’t require you child to a booked session or more of afterschool care, please ensure you give Biz – E – Kidz a quick call to let us know. Due to the sheer amount of students in the school, they are unable to let us know if a child is away. We follow up each ‘no show’ to ensure the child is safe, which can be a very time consuming and worrying undertaking.

To cancel your child, please call 9329 5529 and speak to one of the Biz – E – Kidz staff or leave a voice mail. This is very much appreciated and ensures the smooth running of aftercare.

**Biz – E – Kidz will be on the school website!**
At Biz – E – Kidz we are working towards getting our most important information on the school website by the end of term. In addition to our regular addition in the school newsletter, we will begin to use tibitz to relay information to Biz – E – Kidz families. We are looking for feedback; how can we best communicate to you? What information would you like to get and how? If you have any suggestions, please email us on ohsc@netspace.net.au

If you have any feedback or question on the above or anything else Biz – E – Kidz or child care related, please contact us on the below.

Biz - E - Kidz  
ph (03)9329 5529  
Mob 0400 838 448  
ohsc@netspace.net.au

Sharon’s office hours are Monday-Wednesday, 10am-1pm. (except on school holidays) If your email is urgent or regarding a booking or cancellation for the same day, please call 9329 5529 to speak to a staff member or leave a message. Thank you.

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**Opportunities**

**University High School Dates**
Open Day @ UHS is Thursday 30th April 2-3 pm or 7-8 pm. SEAL Program application are due Friday 1st May 2015. For more information: [www.unihigh.vic.gov.edu](http://www.unihigh.vic.gov.edu)

**Essendon Keilor College, Year 6-7 Transition**

The Essendon Keilor College Community would like to invite all your Year 4, 5 and 6 students to tour our facilities. Junior Campus Tours are conducted every Wednesday and Friday at 9:20am By Appointment. Our Open Days will be on April 23rd (East Keilor) and April 28th (Niddrie): This will be a chance to see the Campus and Students in action and to talk with the leadership team. Observe the science class in action or talk with some of our Year 8 and 9 Leadership Students. There will be tours at 9:30, 11:30, 1:45 and 6:00pm. Hear about the Essendon East Keilor District College and our Vision for your child’s success at the Principals Address at 7:00pm on each of the Open Days.

Niddrie Campus  
Peters Street, Airport West  
Ph: 9375 8400  
East Keilor Campus  
Quinn Grove, East Keilor  
Ph: 8331 0109
NORTH MELBOURNE AUSKICK
Conducted at Arden Street by Flemington Junior Football Club

NTH MELB AUSKICK STARTS SOON – REGISTER NOW

HOW TO REGISTER:

START UP DATE:  Saturday 18th April 9:00am -10:15am

MORE INFO:  Rob Green 0404 602 604

FEATURES:
All GIRLS GROUP is run by female PE teacher
Children grouped by grade prep – grade 6.
Training at Arden St - best Auskick ground in Melbourne.
Visits by North Melbourne Players. Canteen with real coffee & muffins

These school holidays a bunch of kids from rural Victoria (Yackandandah) are set to take the Melbourne International Comedy Festival by storm by performing their original children's show at the Famous Spiegeltent outside the Arts Centre. We would love it if you could help promote this event through your newsletter, leading up to the Victorian school holidays. A flyer is attached.

More information can be found at www.yackandandahyoungplayers.com
PRE-EASTER / SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINIC
Monday March 30 - Thursday April 2
(1st week of school holidays - Mon-Thurs)

1st school term finishes Friday March 27. Parents, this clinic is the perfect pre-Easter activity. Please note, no fees are payable until March 30. The clinic is available for all ages and playing standards.

Format 1  9am - 12.30pm (Mon to Thurs)  $190
Format 2  9am - 3.00pm (Mon to Thurs)  $290

8.30 am drop-off available.

All bookings, call or text 0408 991 700

Bookings for 2nd term Tennis Coaching Programs now being taken
(Pee Wee Tennis / Junior Coaching / Adult Coaching)

Check out the new website!
www.dandonnellytennis.com

Wishing all families a Happy Easter.

Regards
Dan Donnelly,
Club Coach Royal Park T.C.