Dear Parents,

My apologies that this newsletter reaches you a day late. Once again we have had a busy fortnight now that regular programs have begun.

**P&C**

Last week we held the P&C AGM. Unfortunately we were unable to fill our executive positions at that time. We have organised another meeting for Wednesday 13th March at 2pm in the staffroom. If anyone is interested in being an executive on the P&C or in being a member, please feel free to join us next week.

The school will be taking over the majority of fundraising this year and will be looking for parent volunteers to assist at these events. Please keep an eye out in the newsletter throughout the year for information regarding these fundraising occasions.

The P&C is a vital part of the school community and meetings this year will focus on the sharing of information with parents and is also the best option for

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**Next P&C meeting**

**Wednesday 13th March 2013 at 2pm**
parents who would like to be a part of the school decision making process.

Parent Information Afternoon

We also held our Parent Information afternoon last Wednesday. On behalf of the school, I’d like to thank the parents who were able to join us and find out about all of the interesting activities that our students will be participating in this year.

Uniform Shop

As I mentioned earlier, as we currently do not have a P&C, the school has had to take over the running of the Uniform Shop until further notice.

Uniforms can be ordered using the order form located in the front office. Please pay when ordering. Uniforms will be available for pick up, or will be sent home with students the following day.

Student assistance is also available for any parent or family who may be experiencing financial difficulty. Guidelines for student assistance are as follows

Uniforms: School will pay 50% of cost (up to $50) once a year.
Excursions: School will pay 40% of cost (up to $10) once a year.
Camp: School will pay $50 towards cost of camp.

Student Assistance is not usually available for optional activities such as PSSA, visiting performers etc.

However decisions to provide assistance may also be issued at the discretion of the school assistance committee. Forms are available on the note shelf in the front office and can be returned to Ms Perrin.

Head Lice

Head lice is a common occurrence in school age children. We ask that all parents check their children’s hair regularly and take appropriate action if any head lice is found. Students are not excluded if they have head lice but we ask that parents treat it promptly so that it is not spread amongst classmates. I have included
some facts about headlice and its treatment.

The facts
- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of age, sex, or how clean hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

Treatment
- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)
- wash and treat towels and bed clothes
- school communities may need to hold 'check and treat' or Nitbuster days where everyone learns about and starts treatment on the same day.

Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice
As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time.

- regularly check your children's hair
- tie back long hair

Best Start
Reports on the Kinder Best Start Assessments went home last week. They provide an overview of the starting point for your child's learning during the first few weeks of school. These are then continually updated throughout the teaching and learning process. If anyone
has any questions, please see the class teacher or feel free to make an appointment with myself.

**Attendance and Punctuality**

This is a reminder that all students are expected to attend school EVERY day. Any student who is sick, is attending a medical appointment or has a family activity that cannot be held at another time should bring a note explaining their time off on the first day they return to school. Minding brothers or sisters or not wanting to attend excursions or sports days are not acceptable reasons for having time off school.

At Prairievale PS. School begins at 8:55am and rolls are marked at 9:00am. Anyone arriving after this time will need to get a late note from the office BEFORE going to class. We have a number of students who are arriving late every day. Just remember, that even if you are only 10 minutes late each day, you may be missing as much as 50 minutes literacy time a week. *That’s 33 hours of missed literacy time each year!*

Some suggestions to assist in getting to school on time include:

- packing bags the night before
- laying out uniforms the night before
- setting alarms 10 minutes earlier
- not watching TV or playing electronic games before school.

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**STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS**

I **DO NOT** wish for my child’s photograph to be used in the following:

- [ ] School Newsletter
- [ ] School Website
- [ ] School Promotional Pictures (Eg uniform posters)

Child's name __________________________________ Class ___________

Signed _________________________________ Date ____________________

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Have a terrific week.

Nikki Perrin
Principal
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<th>Size</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>V Neck Jumper</td>
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<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
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Total: ____________________________

Child’s name: ____________________________

Class: ____________________________
Zone Swimming

Congratulations to all of the students who participated yesterday in the Zone Swimming Carnival at Prairiewood Leisure Centre. Mrs Allum was extremely proud of all of our competitors and said that nearly everyone was able to swim their Personal Best Times.

A huge effort from Desmond has meant that he is now off to the Regional Carnival on Tuesday 19th March to represent both Prairievale PS and the Horsley Zone. What a fantastic effort from a very talented swimmer. On behalf of the school community we would like to wish him all the best for the day.

Well done Desmond!
It has been a very busy and enjoyable start to 2013 for 6A. We have all settled into class well and are taking our responsibilities as school leaders very seriously, trying to always be good role models in the playground, during assemblies and when visiting other classes. One of our responsibilities is to collect the recycling from all classes every week. We all feel privileged to be a part of this wonderful school.

In first term we are learning about Rainforests in HSIE. We are creating a large diorama about Rainforests which covers almost the whole of the back wall in the classroom. Our Science unit is about Inheritance and the Environment. We are learning about how animals and humans adapt to their surroundings, and how characteristics can be inherited from generation to generation. This promises to be a very busy year and we are looking forward to camp, the mini fete and of course the Year Six Farewell.
March
Thursday 7  K-6 Assembly
Friday 8  Speech therapist parent workshop @ 9am
Wednesday 13  P&C Meeting
Monday 18  Harmony Day
Wednesday 27  Stage 3 Excursion
Thursday 28  Easter Hat Parade

April
Wednesday 3  Stage 2 Excursion
Thursday 4  K-6 Assembly
Friday 12  ANZAC Ceremony
  Last Day of Term 1

May
Wednesday 1  Students return to school
  Stage 2 and 3 Gymnastics begins
Thursday 9  Cross Country carnival
Tuesday 14  NAPLAN starts