Welcome back to what has been a very eventful start to the 2011 school year. The rains of Friday and Saturday certainly left a mark on Sunraysia. Our thoughts are with those school families who have been affected by floodwaters. I know we have several families who have had their houses completely flooded and many others who have experienced varying degrees of damage from the rains. Irymple South experienced substantial flooding of our ovals with damage to room 7 (grade 1E) which was immersed in water and damage to the ceiling in the multipurpose room. Miss Emmett’s grade one class have been relocated to the library and work is well under way preparing the room to be used again. Irymple South has always been proud of the amazing community support and the events of the weekend certainly stand as testament to this. We’ve had many, many offers of help and I thank you for your support. Thank you to Inger and Mark Scott who helped for many hours on Saturday as we sandbagged and tried to save Room 7 from flooding. Thank you to Shannon Dalla Santa and Michael Rowett who came to the rescue on Sunday to start the pumping process. Thank you to the amazing work of Adrian Adams and Scott Jaensch (and his team) who spent hours on Sunday, Monday & Tuesday pumping the water from the oval. Thank you to Ross Morey for moving all the equipment out of the sports shed. And a big thank you to everyone who has offered to help or who have helped in any way. Fortunately we have been able to keep functioning as normal, unlike several school who have had to close during the past week. Yesterday we hosted the teachers from Red Cliffs East who came along to observe our teachers in action and used the day for professional learning.

Sarah Gladman

This year we welcome Miss Sarah Gladman to our school. Sarah has recently graduated from Deakin University, Geelong and is teaching grade 2/3G.

New students and families

Welcome to all our new Preps and their families. Take a look at the Preps drawings in the centre of this week’s newsletter.
Welcome also to Alana Knight (1E), Will Follett (1E), Eliza Congress (1E), Grace Congress (5/6M) and Julia Sherry (2/3C).

Congratulations
We congratulate Ben & Laura Milsom on the birth of Jimmy Kye, on Monday 17th January. Jimmy is a brother for Lily (2/3G), Cooper and Harper.

Portsea Camp
We were fortunate to be offered four places for the newly resurrected Portsea Camp over the Christmas holidays. Georgia Stephen, Tahlia Cua, Caleb McGlashan and Jake Giles attended the week long camp at Portsea, south of Melbourne.

Catholic RE
Any parents interested in CONFIRMATION for children in Year 4 and above, will there be an information session on Monday 14th February at 7:30pm at St Joseph’s Primary School, Red Cliffs, in the Library. Please contact Father Pat if interested. Phone 50241966.

Parking
Due to the flooding we have limited parking spaces. Please be aware that there are lots of people who need to pick their children up so vacate parking spaces as soon as you can.

School Council
The next meeting for School Council will be held on Wednesday 16th February at 7.30pm.

Staff Professional Development
All staff were involved in professional learning and planning from Tuesday February 1st to Thursday February 3rd. Staff were involved in anaphylaxis training and are all able to administer an EpiPen if required.

School photos will be taken on Thursday 24th February. Envelopes for ordering photos, were handed out to all children last week. If you wish to have a family photo taken, order forms are available from the office. All envelopes and money are due back by Monday 21st February.

Students of the Week

Prep M
Will Mitchem

Prep R
James Puleio

1E
Maria Petrolo

2/3C
Bailey Anderson

2/3G
Shakaiah Farley

3/4D
Jack Chiswell

4/5P
Daniel Burrows

5/6M
Mikele Cirillo

5/6S
Ryan Thomson

Art
Darcie Peters

Italian
Tanner Deckert

Principal
Lily Bruhn
Brandi Mulder

Prep/1 BBQ Tea
The Prep and Grade 1 students and their families are invited to a BBQ tea on Tuesday 22nd February. More details will follow shortly.

Happy Birthday
Caitlin D’Amico (4th)
Charlie Bambrick-
Cameron (4th)

Ethan Norris (8th)
Brayden McGregor (10th)

Oskar Faulkhead (11th)
Alana Knight (11th)

Anna Zappia (11th)
Kandice Kerr (13th)
All students require an art smock to wear to art lessons. An art smock helps protect your child’s school uniform from paint, food dye, paste and other equipment in the art room. Art smocks can be purchased from a variety of stores for a reasonable cost. Otherwise an old t-shirt or business shirt will be great. Please name your child’s art smock clearly. The best place is on the front of the smock. All classes have had their first art lesson and the importance of an art smock has been explained to them.

“Off this Planet” is a mobile Earth and Space Education incursion which will be at our school on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th February.

Our students will experience different programs dependent upon their age. All students will be involved.

Sessions are designed and presented by a secondary science teacher with over 15 years experience teaching in Planetariums.

This week each class will be holding elections for their Junior School Council representatives. Students who are nominated will speak to their class about why they would make a great JSC representative.

The Junior School Council provides student input into decision making process within the school. Each class has two elected representatives who take ideas and concerns raised from their class meetings to the JSC meeting.

The 2011 Junior School Council Representatives will be presented with badges and certificates at assembly on Friday 18th February.

Welcome back! We’ve got lots of exciting plans for our school environment in 2011…..

Next week will see our 2011 Environmental Leaders from each classroom chosen. These new leaders will be responsible for teaching and informing their class about current environmental issues within the school, upkeep of the vegie gardens and worm farms and working with me on Wednesdays. I look forward to introducing our new leaders to you in next week’s newsletter. The Environmental Leaders will be presented with their badges and certificates at assembly on Friday 18th February.

Amber Morgan
Environmental Co-ordinator

Food Scraps for our Chooks!

Soon we will be asking for one classroom per week to bring along some vegie and table scraps for our chooks to eat. Although the children’s food scraps are being fed to the chooks, we feel they may need a bit more variety in their diet!

Can you help?

Each classroom is looking for plastic shopping bags to line their rubbish bins. This will keep the bins cleaner and make it easier for them to be emptied.

ALSO…. If anyone has access to pumpkins, our worms would love some to munch on!

Mobile Muster

We are currently collecting old and disused mobile phones. These will be sent off for recycling. Please send your old mobile phones along to school to be placed in the special box at the front office. The more phones we can collect, the better it is for our environment!! You may collect phones from aunts, uncles, grandparents or even family friends!

Irymple South Primary School Newsletter, Issue 2, Week 2, Term 1, 2011
Introducing Prep R
Introducing Prep M
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

* Be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and

* Be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (1 February 2011) which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (18 July 2011).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 28 February 2011 for the first installment and 5 August 2011 for the second installment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $230 for primary students and is paid in two installments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

### Payment Amounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instalment</th>
<th>Portion</th>
<th>Primary school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>$ 80.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>$ 34.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first installment of 2011 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second installment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 28 February 2011 and prior to or on 5th August 2011, must reapply at the new school for the second installment.

**Contact:** School Office for application form and further information.

---

**Farmer’s Market News**

**Our Friday Farmer’s Market will return to school soon!** Currently, eggs and Worm Whiz can be purchased through the front office before or after school. We are currently in the process of registering our school at the Sunraysia Farmer’s Market. We will sell our Worm Whiz and any extra produce that we have, and put this money towards our environmental projects. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the front office.

---

**After School Care**

YMCA runs our After School Care Program every afternoon from 3:15pm to 6:00pm each day. If you require a place in the After School Care program please contact;

Leah Bottams
Irymple South OSHC
YMCA Person in Charge - Outside School Hours Care
PH: 0457 593 249
e-mail: irymplesouth.oshc@ymca.org.au
http://www.ballarat.ymca.org.au

---
Red Cliffs Junior Football Netball Club

Netball Tryouts

Tuesday February 15th, 22nd and March 1st, 2011

U13’s 4.30pm – 5.30pm must be 13 at 31st Dec 2011
U15’s 5.30pm – 6.30pm must be 15 at 31st Dec 2011

Teams will be selected and advised before registration day. Then training will commence the week after registration.

REGISTRATION DAY
March 6th 2011 10am to 2pm All Grades

U11’s we now have 2x teams. Div 1 and Div 2 – These girls will start training after registration day.
No tryouts for U11’s.
For information please contact Bridie Old 0439 838 185 or rbold@bigpond.net.au

Portsea Camp Reports

A couple of people from school were chosen to go to Portsea camp. It was so FUN! We all loved it. There was so much to do! It took 11 hours to get there and 12 to get back.

Georgia Stephen

Jake, Georgia, Caleb, and I went to Portsea camp. There were loads of things to do! We had to get up at 3.30am, I was so tired.

Tahlia Cua

On the way to Portsea it was a long and tiring trip. But when we got there it was so worth it. I had heaps of fun in the first 40 minutes. Caleb and I did most of the activities together, like bike riding, flying fox and swimming. But my favourite thing was the high rope course. My last highlight was going through the floods on the way back.

Caleb McGlashan

We need your help!
We would like to set up a Parent Library Group to help us keep the library running smoothly and looking great. Jobs would include:

- Book returns
- Sorting and putting away books
- Contacting new book
- Sorting of Book Club

If you are able to help in any way could you please return the slip below to the office as soon as possible.

I will then contact you and we will arrange a meeting together for a rundown of our library needs.

Library

I am able to be involved in the Parent Library Group.

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________

Please indicate which area/s you can help in:

- Book returns
- Sorting and putting away books
- Contacting new books
- Sorting of Book Club

Thankyou,
Penni Williams
Newsletter Advertising 2011

Newsletter advertising for 2011 (ie. Business cards on the back of the newsletter) will now be $80 for 6 months or $150 for 12 months. Anyone interested in securing a place on the back page of our newsletter should bring in a business card and payment to the office staff.

Joe Piscioneri
Depot Manager

For all your

Industrial Bins, Cardboard & Plastic Recycling
Clean up bins (all sizes), Grease Trap & Hygiene Services

93-95 Cureton Ave East, Phone 0350229544
mildura@ellwaste.com.au