We are half way through Term 1 already. The students and teachers have been busy and very productive. This was evident at Tuesday’s Open Classroom evening when we had the majority of our students show their parents and families what they have been doing so far in 2014.

Thankyou to everyone who came along on Tuesday night. It was fantastic to see so many enthusiastic students showing their families around their classrooms and other learning spaces around the school. There was a very excited buzz happening in all learning areas.

Thanks to the families who have answered the questions that were sent out last week. Your insights into your child are valuable and we appreciate the time and effort you have put into them. We would like to know;

What do you think we should know about your child?
What are your hopes and expectations for your child this year?

If you haven’t already sent back your answers it is not too late! Fill in the letter from last week or email your child’s teacher.

We would also like to know your thoughts about our ‘Open Classroom’ evening. You can email or give the school a call.

Thanks again to those who attended the ‘Open Classroom’. We enjoyed meeting and catching up with everyone!
**Preps**
The Preps will begin attending school full time as of next week. Yesterday was their last ‘rest day’ and we look forward to seeing them every day of the week from now on.

**Cricket**
Yesterday our interschool Cricket team participated in the Irymple District competition. They batted and bowled incredibly well and won all their games for the day. This means that they progress to the next level of competition. More details about the matches and some photos can be found further on in the newsletter.

**Media**
Our school has been highlighted in the media (WIN News on Tuesday and Thursday and the Midweek) a number of times over the past week. It is great to be able to proudly show what we are doing to the broader community.

**EMA**
All applications for EMA need to be received at the office by **TOMORROW** morning. **NO** late applications can be accepted.

**Schools Clean Up Day**
Tomorrow all students will be involved in cleaning and tidying a part of our school grounds as part of ‘Schools Clean Up Day’. Just before lunch all classes will be armed with plastic bags and bins and clean up a designated part of the school and surrounding grounds.

**Farmers’ Market**
Our first Farmers’ Market for 2014 will be held on Wednesday 19th March from 2:45pm to 3:45pm. We hope to have lots of fresh produce to sell. We will be setting up the stall outside the Staff Room on the step. If you have any produce that you would like to donate please contact Mrs Warn at school or via email warn.tammy.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

**Somers Camp**
Next week nine students from Irymple South will be travelling to Somers Camp. They will be joined by other grade 5 and 6 students from across the district for a week long camp of outdoor activities and personal challenges. The students who will be attending are; Jordan Stephen, Jessica Scott, Eliza Banks-Purcell, Lily Adams, Tyson Giles, Jack Chiswell, Caleb Davis, Jaye Surgey and Tom Jaensch. We look forward to hearing about their adventures!

**Student Leadership**
On Monday morning our Junior School Council representatives and Environmental Leaders were presented with their badges and certificates. We hope that they enjoy their leadership role and make a difference within our school.
DEWRY

Dewry House Captain
- Role models for the class
- Showing good skills to the little kids
- Good leadership to everyone
- Show we can lead our team to have fun
- Winning is nothing as long as you have fun and take part
- Having fun winning
- Show good examples for little kids
- Encourage everyone to take part
- Give 110%
- Great team spirit

Isabella Piscioneri & Eilish Zappia

MCCracken

Being McCracken House Captain means we will be:
- Great leaders
- Role models to the younger students.
- Encourage all students
- Have great team spirit
- We will give 200%
- Encourage sportsmanship

It doesn’t matter if we win or lose, just try our hardest.

Jett Garraway and Sharni Robinson

2014 House Captains

CAMPBELL

Being Campbell House Captain means that we will lead our team on sports days. We will represent our house with great pride and respect. We will encourage everyone to put in more than 100%. We both think that participation is everything and winning is just like a reward for putting in all that you can. We both have great leadership and can’t wait to put Campbell house on the shield.

Anthony Cua and Jorja Arthur

NEWTON

Being Newton House Captain means that we have to be role models for younger students, and we need to be responsible role models. We also need to be doing the right thing around other students. We will make things fun, and we will make sure that everyone will take part.

Frank Zaccone and Claudia Forrest
THE BIG RUN

Last Saturday Ben Milsom and Katelyn Thompson undertook a run from Irymple Swimming pool to the Milsom house in Belar Avenue. It started off as a bet between the two as to who could win a 3km race and it then turned into a ‘race for a purpose’. This purpose being to celebrate friendship and how friends can help during difficult times. The Milsom family has faced a very difficult time recently with Laura Milsom’s father succumbing to liver cancer. They have valued the friendship and support that many people have shown them. Ben and Katelyn ran in green t-shirts which symbolise liver cancer. The run was a great success and strengthened some already very strong friendships.

LEGO CLUB

Lego club is on again this Saturday (1st of March) from 10:30am to 11:30am, 110 Pine Ave Mildura.

All Welcome

PERFORMING ARTS with Mrs Milne

In Performing Arts we have turned the classroom into a drama room. We began the year by exploring ‘frozen images’. In a group, students worked together to come up with a pose that could be used instead of the illustrations in a storybook. Then we moved on to acting using our arms and legs. The infant students practiced acting by listening to what their character did in the story and then used their imagination to act it out.

The senior students have begun to use what they learnt about ‘frozen images’ and have put that to good use to make an anti-bullying poster. These posters will be used around the school.

It has been great to see the students use their imaginations and step out of their comfort zone in the drama classroom.

FEBRUARY
Hunter Stanbrook (24th)
Tammy Warn (25th)
Tom McGlashan (26th)
Eve Kellett (26th)
Patrick McWilliams (27th)
Tiah Barone (27th)
Will Kennedy (28th)

MARCH
Kane Woolfrey (2nd)

Happy Birthday
### CALENDAR 2014

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On Wednesday our Boys Cricket team competed in the Irymple District Cricket competition. We had an extremely successful day winning all of our matches. We now progress to the next stage against other Sunraysia schools. The team included: Tyson Giles, Lachlan Scott, Billy Phelan, Bailey Anderson, Paddy Hamilton, Levi Stanbrook, Anthony Cua, Chris D’Amico, Brodie Dalla Santa, Angus Cooper, Jaye Surgey and Oskar Faulkhead.

Results:
Game 1
Irymple South PS VS Nichols Point PS B
We won the toss and bowled restricting NPPS B to 6/17. Bailey and Billy taking 2 wickets each.
We then made 2/66 off our 12 overs. Billy top scoring with 14 runs not out.

Game 2
Irymple South PS VS Irymple PS
We lost the toss and batted first making 4/60. Billy top scored with 20 not out.
We then kept Irymple to 4/44. One wicket each to Billy, Bailey, Oskar and Levi.

Game 3
Irymple South PS VS Nichols Point A
We won the toss and bowled keeping Nichols Point to 3/69. Wickets were shared between Bailey, Oskar and Tyson.
We then batted finishing our 12 overs 2/70 with the winning run being scored off the last ball. Tyson retired 22 no and Anthony made 18.

Results can be found on the following website.
EASTER RAFFLE

Our major fundraiser for this term will be an Easter Raffle.

We are asking all families to donate an item to make up our prizes. Donations could include chocolate eggs, Easter stickers or even some bunny ears! It doesn’t have to be an Easter Egg but anything that you think would be appropriate for an Easter Raffle prize.

Each class will have its own raffle draw.

Each class has containers for the donations. Collection tubs for each room will be in the office foyer. We need as many donations as possible for each tub. All donations no matter how big or small will be gratefully received.

Raffle tickets for our major fundraiser were handed out today to EVERY student in the school today.
Extra raffle books are available at the front office. Tickets are $1.00 each or $10.00 for a book.

There will also be a prize for the highest ticket seller in each class.

All proceeds from the Easter Raffle will go towards the construction of a new assembly area and shade sails for the playground equipment.

Please return tickets and money to the office by Wednesday 2nd April.

The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term, Friday 4th April at assembly.

EASTER RAFFLE HELP

YES I can help wrap the Easter Raffles on Thursday 3rd April at 9:00am.

Or contact Jolene Finch on 0400109695 or jfinch@schs.com.au

Name_________________________

Contact phone number _____________________________

Child/ren _______________________

Grade __________________________

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Catholic Religious Education will begin on Monday March 17th. This program is offered to children in Grades 1 to 6 only. Please fill in the permission form at the end of the newsletter if you would like your child to participate. Di Eagle and Mrs Puku will run the program in the MPR.

Yes, I would like my child/children to receive Catholic Religious Instruction this year 2014. (Grades 1-6 only)

Child’s Name ___________________________ Grade_______

Child’s Name ___________________________ Grade_______

Child’s Name ___________________________ Grade_______

Signature ___________________________ Date _________
Keep up to date with what is happening!

1. Like our Facebook page:

2. Download our School app:

3. Look at our website:
   http://www.irymplesouthps.vic.edu.au

4. Read our newsletter:
   Distributed every Thursday and can be found on our website.
In primary school, some students **miss** on average 3 weeks of school per year. That's half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Every Day Counts

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

**Why it’s important**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

**Getting in early**

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

**What we can do**

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.
- Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.
- Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.
- If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: 

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development