Dear parents and guardians,

2014 School Survey Results:

At the October school Council meeting I presented Council with a summary of our 2014 surveys and data results. As you may be aware the Department of Education conduct three surveys each year. Our Grade 5 and 6 students, our staff, and a random selection of our parents are asked to complete a survey in relation to their perceptions, feelings and attitudes to our school. These responses are confidential and are returned to the Department for analysis. Each school receives a report detailing their results of the various surveys. The reports compare our school’s responses to all schools in the State of Victoria. It also illustrates a three to five year trend of our results.

In summary the following facts are present:

Our Grade 5/6 Attitude to School Results:

- All eleven areas surveyed for the fourth year in a row are above the State average.
- In 9 of the 11 areas the school is in the 90th to 100th percentile of State performance. The other two areas scored in the high 80th percentile.
- Our greatest improvement areas are “stimulating learning”, and “teacher empathy.”

I thanked our Grade 5 / 6 students for their maturity and participation in completing the survey. I was amazed at the level of discussion that occurred when the results of the survey were shared with our student body.

Our Grade 5/6 Opinion Survey:

- Of the eighteen areas surveyed fifteen areas were above the State average.
- Our greatest improvement area was “student motivation.”
- The area that our Parents feel that we should focus on more is “Student Connectedness to their Peers.” At present we have a number of Programs within the school trying to address these areas. S.T.R.V.E. our social skills program, peer mediation program, student leadership program and our buddy program are all aimed at increasing our student body’s social skills.
and interaction with each other. In 2015 the school will continue to investigate opportunities whereby we attempt to engage with our families within the school setting in order to develop stronger links between student family friendship groups.

Staff Opinion Survey:
- All eleven areas surveyed were above State average. The State score was 534 compared to Westbreen Primary School’s score of 609.

2014 NAPLAN Results:
- Grade 3 results.
  - In all areas (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy) we performed lower than in 2013, however over a five year period the trend was stable.
- Grade 5 results.
  - In all areas (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy) we performed higher than the State average. All areas showed substantial improvement than 2013.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all families, students and staff who participated in completing and/or administering the surveys/tests. If you would like to view the data sets, please feel free to make an appointment at the School Office and I would be more than happy to discuss the surveys/results with you. Staff have commenced discussing the data gained from the survey’s/test and are investigating Programs that will engage our Students and Families in the “life” of our school in order to maintain and continue the gains made this year.

Have a wonderful week

Tony Cerra
Principal

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK ENDING 12th November, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PA</th>
<th>Anthony M</th>
<th>For putting lots of effort into his learning.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PD</td>
<td>Musa K</td>
<td>For cooperating so well during Maths groups. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2B</td>
<td>Barni M</td>
<td>For being a responsible learner by always trying her best in all her class work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2M</td>
<td>Saja A</td>
<td>For completing all tasks well! Great effort Saja.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2T</td>
<td>Funaki N</td>
<td>For making a fantastic effort to improve his reading. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4K</td>
<td>Lilly I</td>
<td>For making great progress with her reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 4O</td>
<td>Amina M</td>
<td>For writing an excellent recount about our excursion to CERES. Great job!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 6A</td>
<td>Ryan B</td>
<td>For being a responsible and respectful class member.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 6C</td>
<td>Mia H</td>
<td>For completing 12 interesting compound sentences. Well done!</td>
</tr>
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Spring Working Bee
Friday 21 November
3:30pm – 5:30pm

Our final Working Bee for 2014 is happening next week and we would love to catch up with any parents who can spare a couple of hours to assist us in making our school environment safe and eye-catching.

We need to place more soft fall mulch under playgrounds, spread mulch in garden beds, plant more shrubs/plants, general weeding and sweeping of walkways, and finish off with a Sausage Sizzle BBQ.

If you can spare the time, please fill in the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SPRING WORKING BEE</th>
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We are able to attend the Working Bee on Friday 21 November:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Family Members attending</th>
<th>BBQ</th>
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Food
- Sausages
- Halal Sausages
- Soft Drink

(If you live close by and you have a wheelbarrow, rake or broom, please bring them along as they are very useful with the transporting and spreading of mulch!!)

I am able to bring (circle): wheelbarrow / whipper snipper / rake / broom / shovel / secateurs / other: ________________________________________________
Remembrance Day Ceremony
Tuesday November 11

A group of students representing our Student Leadership team attended the Pascoe Vale R.S.L.’s Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Cenotaph in Cumberland Road, Pascoe Vale. Along with people representing other local schools, our students laid a wreath on behalf of our school community members. They proudly represented our school and showed great respect during the ceremony especially as they laid the wreath.

Mr. Cerra and I were very proud of Lilly, Matisse, Jordi, Reuel, Julian, Christopher, Kartika and Rocky.

Many thanks to Mrs. Irvine for helping us transport our students to this community special event.

Karen Wileman
Gingerbread Men

**Ingredients**

- 125g unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 firmly packed cup (100g) brown sugar
- 1/2 cup (115g) golden syrup
- 1 egg yolk
- 2 1/2 cups (450g) plain flour
- 1 tablespoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1 cup (150g) icing sugar, sifted

Silver cachous, to decorate (optional)

**Method**

Preheat oven to 180°C. Line 2 large baking trays. In a large bowl, beat butter and sugar using electric beaters until thick. Beat in syrup and yolk, then use a spoon to fold in flour, ginger, spice and soda until a smooth dough. Form into a disc and cover in plastic wrap. Chill for 30 minutes.

Bring dough to room temperature, then divide in 2. Roll out pieces between baking paper to 5mm thick. Use a gingerbread man cutter (we used a 7cm and a 12cm) to cut shapes. Space out on trays (you may need to bake in batches). Bake for 10 minutes or until golden. Using a skewer, quickly make 5mm holes at the top of the warm biscuits to thread ribbon. Cool completely on a rack.

Stir icing sugar with 2-3 teaspoons warm water to make a stiff icing. Transfer to a piping bag with a small plain nozzle. (Or place mixture in a snap-lock bag, push icing into a corner, then snip off corner). Pipe 3 small dots down each biscuit, then press in cachous and thread ribbon in holes. The biscuits will keep in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.
On the 6th of Movember 3/4O went to CERES. The bus trip felt like 2 minutes even though it was about half an hour. I sat next to Danyella.

When we made it to CERES we met a lady named Kat. She told us a story about how CERES used to belong to the Wurundjeri people.

Kat took us to our first activity. It was called Compost and Worms. We got to hold worms. They were very slimy and sticky.

Then it was time for lunch.

After lunch we made paper with Kat. I learnt that you can make paper out of weed and animal poo.

Then we had recess.

Next we went with a guy named Subik. We played a game called In The Bin.

After that it was time to go back to school.

The bus trip was really fun. I sat next to Danyella again. We told jokes and took funny photos. Then we made it to school. It was a really fun excursion.
Weekly recap

This week at After School Care the kids got to be adventurous with their sport games and activities. The weather has been pretty hot and sunny lately so don’t forget to bring your hats kids! We have started off making some cool Christmas cards and decorations already and will be doing this more in the upcoming weeks. The kids love getting messy and making paintings for the OSHC room and for themselves to take home. Sport is popular and we always have a good laugh and kick with the boys. UNO has been played a lot lately and the kids are very competitive at winning.

Looking forward to seeing you all next week and continuing the fun! – Aysun

Our Extend Superstar is…………….. Kayla L for being so excited to be back at ASC as well as having good manners.

Next week’s activities
Monday 17th November: Indoor sports & Activities
Tuesday 18th November: Outdoor Playground and games
Wednesday 19th November: Art & Craft Creations
Thursday 20th November: Master-Chef Cooking Activities
Friday 21st November: Fun Free Fridays!

ONLINE BOOKINGS: extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437
**THE EASTER EVENT**

The 2015 grade 3/4 students will have the opportunity to participate in The Easter Event in March next year which is organised by the Strathmore Interchurch Council. The event is held at the Strathmore Uniting Church. The event comprises of four activities including:

- **The Caves** – Students walk through a series of caves linked by tunnels and discover what Easter is all about and what Easter means to them?
- **Story Telling** – Various Easter customs are discussed from all over the world.
- **Egg Decorating** – Decorating of polystyrene eggs to take home.
- **Drama** – An enactment of the Easter story and events in the form of a live drama performance.

Each student will be given a take home booklet about Easter. The cost of the excursion is $4.00.

*No payment is required* this year and a note with further information will be given out closer to the date in 2015.

If you have any questions about this event please speak to your child’s teacher.

A note has been sent out in regards to an expression of interest. No money is required. Thankyou

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**It’s Never too late to start!!!!**

In last week’s Newsletter we told you about an Awesome Competition where our students can win some cool prizes for the Summer Holidays!

There are **40 Go Pro Camera’s and 150 Dual Lane waterslides** to be Won!!!!

All you need to do is make a deposit in the next 3 weeks to get entered into the draw (3 deposits in 3 weeks = 3 entries!)

*If you have lost your Yellow Book don’t worry 😊*

Just send along your deposit in an envelope with your name and student number/Account number on it and we can send back a brand new Yellow Wallet.

**EASY!**

OFFICE NEWS

We have finally got EFTPOS facility in the office so if you are wishing to pay for any excursions, uniform book list and fees just drop into the office. Also you can pay Direct Deposit into the Schools bank account. Details are as follows

BSB: 063 450
Account No: 10003153
Account Name: Westbreen Primary School

Just remember to please make sure you put what you are paying for and your child’s name on the description.

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

Raffle tickets go out today for the End of Year Raffle tickets are $1.00 each and if you can clearly put you name and phone number on the butt of the ticket.

P & F are still looking for donations for our end of year raffle. Thank you to the parents and guardians who have already donated. If you can assist with a donation that would be greatly appreciated.

Any family with outstanding money from Cadbury Chocolate Drive could you please send your money back to school ASAP. NO CHOCOLATES CAN BE RETURNED

Looking for mums or dads of Grade 6 children to help out with the Grade 6 Graduation Lunch. Please contact Bridget via the office if you can help.

Thanks Bridget.
# November & December 2014

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<thead>
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<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<td>9 Nov</td>
<td>10 Nov</td>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>12 Nov Prep Transitions 9:45 to 11:00am Family time 3:15 to 4:15</td>
<td>13 Nov</td>
<td>14 Nov Playgroup</td>
<td>15 Nov</td>
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<td>16 Nov</td>
<td>17 Nov</td>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>19 Nov Prep Transitions 9:45 to 11:00am Family time 3:15 to 4:15</td>
<td>20 Nov</td>
<td>21 Nov Playgroup Twilight Working Bee 4:00 to 6:00</td>
<td>22 Nov</td>
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<td>23 Nov</td>
<td>24 Nov</td>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>26 Nov Prep Transitions 9:45 to 11:00am Family time 3:15 to 4:15</td>
<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>28 Nov Playgroup</td>
<td>29 Nov</td>
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<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>1 Dec</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>3 Dec Family time 3:15 to 4:15 2015 Prep Information night 7:30pm to 8:30pm</td>
<td>4 Dec</td>
<td>5 Dec Playgroup</td>
<td>6 Dec</td>
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<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>10 Dec Family time 3:15 to 4:15 Latrobe Wildlife excursion Prep to 2</td>
<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>12 Dec Playgroup</td>
<td>13 Dec</td>
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<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>17 Dec Class Parties Prep to 4 Graduation Luncheon</td>
<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>19 Dec Class parties Grade 5/6 LAST DAY OF TERM 4 FINISHING AT 1:15PM</td>
<td>20 Dec</td>
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<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>22 Dec</td>
<td>23 Dec</td>
<td>24 Dec Xmas Day</td>
<td>25 Dec</td>
<td>26 Dec Boxing day</td>
<td>27 Dec</td>
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## School Holidays
- **2015 Grade 6 windcheater order**
- **Payment Fees for 2015**

### Other Information
- **NOTICES SENT HOME**
- **WESTBREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**
  - 2-10 Pascoe Street
  - Pascoe Vale 3044
  - Phone: 9306 9481
  - Fax: 9304 1391
  - E-mail: westbreen.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
  - Website: www.westbreenps.vic.edu.au
- **OSHC: Extend**
- **ONLINE BOOKINGS: extend.com.au**
- **CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437**

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