DIARY DATES

Thursday, 25th February
Last day for Grades 5 & 6 Family Life Payments

Friday, 26th February
Relay for Life Casual Dress Day – Gold coin donation
Prep 2016 Family Barbecue
6.30 to 8.00 p.m.

Monday, 29th February
Grade Prep will be full time
Parent/Teacher Interviews this week

Thursday, 3rd March
Parents’ & Friends’ Club meeting at 9.00 a.m.

Last day for the Prep to 6 - Cool Calm Kids incursion payments

3rd, 10th & 17th March
Family Life Program for Grades 5 & 6

Friday, 4th March
Open Water Swimming Excursion for Grades 4 to 6

No Assembly

Wednesday, 9th March
Divisional Swimming

Our Public Meeting to present the 2015 Annual Report is on Wednesday 9th March at 6.30pm in the Staffroom. All welcome

School Council – 7.00 p.m.

10th, 11th & 14th March
Cool Calm Kids Incursion

Friday, 11th March
Assembly at 9.00 a.m.

Tuesday, 15th March
School Photos

Principal’s Pen

Our 2016 student leaders at the GRIP (Generosity, Responsibility, Integrity, People) Conference last week. From this conference the student leadership team will be putting some of the actions they came up with during the day into practice.

Parents’ and Friends’ Club

Thank you to the Parents’ and Friends’ Club for their work in 2015. We are very lucky to have wonderful parents who have worked tirelessly to fundraise for our school. Last year the work our Parents’ and Friends’ Club organised resulted in approximately $31000 being raised through our parents. This included our very successful Fete and Car Show.

Thank you to the outgoing committee for your support of our school - Jackie Heib (President), Jodie Becker (Treasurer) and Nicole Ware (Secretary) and welcome to our new committee: Emma Donaldson (President), Lucinda Jones (Vice president), Amy Krause (Treasurer) and Nic Ware (Secretary).

A HUGE THANKYOU to all our wonderful parents who assisted at school or at home to help laminate, cut and label the spelling words ready for Term 2. It is very much appreciated. If you are able to assist with cutting or numbering there are still some left to do at the office.

Connie vanderVoort, Principal

Working with Children Check

To assist in the classroom, all parents, helpers or visitors must have a current Working with Children Check. To obtain this document, please visit the website: justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren to apply for the volunteer Working with Children Check. Complete the application and take the print out with the required identification to the post office. It does cost anything for this check unless you require a photo to be taken.
Parents’ and Friends’ Club News

Easter Raffle
Our Easter raffle tickets will be distributed to each family tomorrow. There are 10 tickets at 50 cents each per family. Extra tickets are available from our school office. Please return all tickets and money by Monday, 21st March. The raffle will be drawn at our final assembly for the term on Thursday, 24th March. Please ensure that the tickets have a name and phone number or child’s name and grade on them.

Icy poles
Lemonade icy poles will be sold at lunch time on Wednesdays during Term 1. Due to our no food sharing policy, students are not permitted to buy icy poles for other students. The cost is $1.00. On hot days we will also sell them after school when we can.

Next Meeting
Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd March at 9.00 a.m. in the staff room. All welcome.

Financial Assistance – Information for Parents
Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Little Possums Program
The Little Possums Playgroup will be running again this year every Wednesday during Terms 2 and 3. Little Possums program offers 3 year old children the opportunity to participate in a range of developmentally appropriate activities in a school environment. Activities may include story time, painting, puzzles, dramatic play and activities to increase children’s fine motor skills. Parents are required to stay with their children during the sessions and a cost of $15 per term is required, upon enrolment, to provide supplies for the program. The playgroup will run from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. on a Wednesday. Enrolment forms are available at the office. If you are planning on participating with your child in the program during Term 2, please enrol by the end of this term. If you have any questions please speak to Miss Laura Smith, who will be co-ordinating the program again.

Casey 2016 – Relay for Life Fundraiser

Casual Dress Day
Friday 26th February – Gold Coin Donation
This event is to raise money for the Cancer Council. If you would like to make a larger donation towards this worthy cause please come and see me or drop the money in an envelope to the office. I am able to provide receipts for tax purposes on request.

Thank You, Mrs Shannon Anderson, Grade 3A Teacher

2015 Earn and Learn Program
A big thank you to everyone who supported the Earn and Learn Program in 2015. We have received some construction sets and books for our school. The students are already using and enjoying them.

Michelle Findlay and 2015 Junior School Council

Narre Warren North Uniting Church Op shop has been selling our pre-loved uniforms with the proceeds being given to our school.

If your children have grown out of their uniforms over the holidays, please consider donating them to our school to be sold at the Op shop. They can either be dropped off at our school office or at the church during the Op shop hours only.
Opening hours are:
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Saturday – 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Student Wellbeing

Learning and wellbeing are inextricably linked - students learn best when their wellbeing is optimised, and they develop a strong sense of wellbeing when they experience success in learning. At Narre Warren North Primary School we have a very firm and clear commitment to improving student learning and wellbeing and in creating socially responsible citizens. Through our restorative practices approach to student management and our many and varied welfare programs, we have been able to consistently support and educate our students in achieving our goal.

At times it is important to engage with experts in a certain field to provide resources and research based practices to further support the amazing work classroom teachers do. We have been fortunate and skilful over the past 4 years in that we have been able to procure grants to subsidise many of these programs (eg. Bullystoppers, eSmart and Chaplaincy).

Below is a list of some of the programs and services we have run over the past 3 years to support teachers and students in development of positive social behaviours:

- **Cool Calm Kids** (develops resilience, ability to stand up for oneself and others)
- **Cyber safe program** (school developed program implemented at the beginning of each year)
- **Project Rockit** (Grade 5-6 program that promotes positive online behaviour)
- **Reducing Anxiety** (program run by Futures in Mind to increase emotional regulation)
- **onPsych** (psychology service to support students in need)
- **Chaplaincy** (welfare based program that increases connectedness to school and social skills)
- **Bullystoppers** (Education Department initiative to promote a positive school climate)
- **Body and Mind** Grade 5-6 girls (builds skills to enhance their confidence, problem solving skills, self-esteem and body image)
- **Hear Me Roar** Grade 5-6 boys (teamwork, confidence, respecting and understanding differences, personal strengths; and positive through patterns, emotional awareness, social skills, relaxation & mindfulness).

This year we will be beginning our journey with Kids Matter. Kids Matter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children. This is an exciting step in linking these wonderful programs and confirming our commitment. We are very lucky to live, work and learn in a community with such a commitment to student wellbeing.

Below are links to a number of these nationally and
internationally recognised programs if you would like to read more about the wonderful work they do.

Restorative Practices  

Cool Calm Kids  

Chaplaincy  
http://chips.org.au/

onPsych  

Project Rockit  

KidsMatter  
https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/

Adam Wight,  
Assistant Principal