President's Report

School Strategic Plan Draft 2015-2018
Education Committee has been working on our draft School Strategic Plan for several months and their document will be discussed at next Tuesday’s Council meeting. Once ratified, the document will be available on the school website.

Annual Implementation Plan 2015
This document sets out what the school will be doing in 2015 in four key areas: Curriculum, Productivity, Student Engagement and Student Well-being. A draft will be discussed at the Education Committee meeting on Tuesday 3rd March at 5.15pm.

Working Bee Sunday March 15th
Our first working bee for the year will be on Sunday March 15th, from 10am to 2pm, with a particular focus on tasks in areas such as the Prep playground. More details of the tasks will be published closer to the day. Prep parents are particularly welcome to assist and our “older” parents will welcome our Prep parents with a BBQ lunch.

Parking and Road Safety
Please observe the 40km/hr speed limit in Graham St at pick-up and drop-off times, as well as the 40km speed limit in Poolman St at the rear of the school.

Please also note that the kiss and go parking spaces are for exactly that - kiss your child and GO! Please do not park your car in these spaces and leave your car - enforcement officers will be monitoring the area and you will incur a fine if caught. It is ILLEGAL to park across the driveway of the school.

With the increased numbers the traffic issue is getting more severe - if you can, ride or walk to school. If you need to drive, try to park a short distance away from the school and walk.

There are often spaces around the corner from Poolman/Clark St by Garden City Reserve.

Do not leave young children alone in a parked car, even for a minute as this is both dangerous and illegal.

Voluntary Contributions
Thank-you to the families that have already made voluntary contributions for the 2015 school year. I will write to all other families requesting that they contribute either $375 (one child), $550 (two children) or $600 (family) to the school in order to support our curriculum programs. It is very difficult for the school to provide your children with all necessary educational resources without your financial assistance.

The Federal government is again providing all families in receipt of Family Tax Benefit A with a $422 per child “Schoolkids Bonus”. You should have received your first instalment of $211 two weeks ago. You may wish to use this payment to assist you in meeting uniform and booklist requirements or in making a Voluntary Contribution to the school.

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) has been discontinued.

Telstra Employees Wanted
Telstra offers employees a grant that is to be used by the school their children attend. Please contact the office if you work for Telstra so we can access the grant.

If you work for a company/corporation that offers similar grants, no matter how small, the school can always find something to use them for.
Grants Committee
Please consider joining our Grants Committee. This involves keeping an eye out for all available grants, assisting in writing the grants and submitting them.

Local Road Safety Committee
We are looking for more members for this sub-committee which liaises with the local Council to ensure that all traffic issues are raised and discussed with a view to finding workable solutions for the whole community.

Michele Williams

Information Evenings
Information evenings will be held next week for parents/guardians in each Year level.

Preps: 6pm on Wednesday 11th Feb in A Block, followed by a BBQ at 6.45pm
Year 1: 6pm on Tuesday 10th Feb commencing in the Hall
Year 2: 6pm on Tuesday 10th Feb in the Graham St end of A Block (2DE classroom)
Year 3: 6pm on Monday 9th Feb in 3AB (downstairs) classroom
Year 4: 6pm on Monday 9th Feb in the 4CD (upstairs) classrooms
Year 5/6: 7pm on Monday 9th Feb commencing in the Hall

Each session will start with a short presentation. Parents will then move to their child's classroom where the class teachers will provide more details of their class program.

Booklist and Excursions Levy
All families were asked to pay for their child/ren’s excursions and Water Safety program (swimming) upfront this year. If you have not yet done so, please pay $110 per child for excursions and $65 per child for Water Safety. If a family has not paid for school excursions, then their children will not be able to participate in those excursions.

Visitors to School
If a parent/guardian wishes to see a child at recess or lunchtime, he/she MUST come to the office first. All adults in the schoolyard MUST be wearing a pass issued by the office or they will be asked to leave the school by the yard duty teacher.

School Photos
Our school photos will be taken on Friday 27th February. All students should be at school punctually in school uniform that day. If your child is a little “off colour”, you may wish to bring him/her along just for the photographs. Class teachers can advise you of the approximate time for your class photo.

Riding to School
Please make sure that your child walks his/her bike across the school crossing and in the schoolyard. Only children with a school issued “bike licence” should ride to school unaccompanied by an adult. All Year 4 and 5 students will participate in Bike Ed later this term in order to gain their bike licences.

No children or adults are permitted to ride or scoot in the school grounds between 7am and 6.15pm on school days.

Council Elections 2015
Nomination forms for parent positions on School Council will be available from the office from Feb 13th, with the election timetable being:
- call for nominations: Friday Feb 13th
- nominations close: Friday Feb 20th
- ballot papers circulated: Friday Feb 27th
- ballot closes: March 6th at 4pm
- poll declared (5pm): Friday March 6th

The Annual Reporting Meeting of Council will be on Tuesday 10th March and the new Council will take office from that date.

No Hat, No Play
We are a SunSmart school and children not wearing an approved hat will be required to remain in a designated shaded area at recess, lunchtime and during outdoor class activities.
Bully Stoppers
Students achieve their best at school in safe and supportive environments, where they are free from bullying and disruptive behaviour. We put a big emphasis on making sure we provide a great environment for our students – one that promotes tolerance and is inclusive, harmonious and free from bullying. We can work towards this goal through education in the classroom, intervention in the playground and a focus on promoting positive behaviour.

However, with the rise of social media, bullying now occurs online, as well as in person. Cyberbullying is just as harmful as face-to-face bullying, and online actions can have real life consequences.

Cyberbullying is an increasing issue in the wider community – and the best way to tackle it is for schools, students and parents to work in partnership.

Port Melbourne PS is supporting the Victorian Government’s Bully Stoppers campaign – which has just launched a new series of tools and resources for parents and students to support students in preventing cyberbullying and how to practice Netiquette. Available from 10th February, students in Years 3 – 12 are encouraged to participate in an online quiz available on the Bully Stoppers website, where they will learn more about how to be good net citizens, go into the draw to win an iPad, as well as other prizes for our school.

These resources, called “Bully Stoppers: Being Cool Online”, are available on the Bully Stoppers website, at www.education.vic.gov.au/bulystoppers - visit the site to find out more.

Weekly Staff Profile
This week, we profile our Prep Team Leader, Michelle Sneddon and our Prep B teacher, Sophie Gero, who both joined our Prep team three years ago.

Michelle was born in Kent, England. She left to go to university in South Wales before travelling around America, New Zealand and Australia. Upon her return she lived in Bristol and worked in retail management before training to become a primary school teacher, specialising in the Early Years where she has taught throughout her teaching career. Before moving to Australia, Michelle built a campervan with her husband and travelled around Europe for three months.

Outside of school Michelle enjoys camping, hiking and boogie boarding. She is an active person who enjoys listening to live music and watching the rugby.

Sophie grew up on NSW’s Central Coast, and after finishing school, moved to Newcastle to study sociology. After graduating, she worked as a disability support worker, working in group homes, and day programs with young to older adults with mild to severe physical and intellectual disabilities.

In 2008 she travelled overseas with her partner Jonno, travelling and working across Europe for 14 months. After returning to Australia Sophie worked as a youth worker, and a gym membership consultant, before deciding to study teaching. She graduated from the University of Newcastle with a Master of Teaching in 2011 and then taught in Newcastle, before moving to Melbourne.

When she isn’t working, Sophie enjoys camping, running, seeing live music, reading, watching films and walking her five month old puppy Maybie.
Welcome Back
For those of you who missed the newsletter last week, a very warm welcome to 2015. We hope you enjoyed the break and we look forward to another great year.

The Parents and Friends Association encourages social interaction and improved communication within the school as well as raising much needed funds. We are planning some great events and activities this year and there are many ways to get involved. Please contact either of us to find out more. You will not be “roped in” to do things that don’t suit your skill set or interests!!

Prep Morning Tea
A very big thanks to those who were able to host the new Prep parents on Monday, and particularly the bakers of the delicious cakes and slices. We hope that the new parents had an opportunity to get a feel for the school community, and that their kids have had a happy start to school.

Prep Welcome BBQ – Wednesday 11th Feb
A welcome BBQ and information night will be held on Wednesday 11 February. This is a great opportunity for the new prep families to meet and also for existing families to welcome some new ones. We would really appreciate some help on the BBQ with setting up commencing at 5.30pm.

Please see your Konnective feed or class email for the link to the roster, or click on the link below:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1c7jU3yB6i0jzv10NDOjS0hvBhFJtLOcvr63J1HNEaYeJ5di#gid=0
An hour of your time would be great.

PFA Meeting Wednesday 18th Feb
The first PFA meeting for the year will be held at Mardo’s (formally the Sloany Pony)
1 Crockford Street, Port Melbourne at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 18th February. We will be getting the ball rolling for our fete preparations as well as looking at the PFA calendar of events for the year.

Please join us. You can sit and listen or you can put your hand up to run an event. You will have a skill that is useful so don’t hold back! Your support is greatly valued and we need you.

PFA Email Address
We have updated our email address for all future PFA correspondence. Please contact the PFA at: PMPSparentsandfriends@gmail.com
If you have any questions regarding the PFA pleased don’t hesitate to contact us.

Have a great week (now that Summer has finally decided to arrive)...

Thea and Sim
Thea: 0438 084 186
Simone: 0419 559 410
Email: PMPSparentsandfriends@gmail.com

Peter Martin
GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Hi All,

Welcome back! I just wanted to introduce myself to new staff and cover a few dot points. Garden Club will be running on THURSDAYS again this year. I am only able to cater for grade 3-6 due to the amount of students we can handle and the amount of jobs that can be completed in the lunch period. I will try and accommodate everyone as I understand children want to come with friends. Also if you have a student who is struggling in the school yard feel free to send them to me, but just give me a heads up so I don’t send them away if I have too many. I am on the look out for some lunchtime volunteers as Jennifer has moved to volunteer at APC and Karen has a skiing injury.

- WATER WARRIORS - During this term I would really like (actually I NEED) to have a Class volunteer to be our Water Warriors to water the apple crates and pots once a week preferably early in the week (the rest is on a watering system). If you think this is something you could do, please contact me.
- COMPOST - if your class would like to compost their fruit scraps, please let me know. There is a purple wheelie bin at the entrance of the garden where students can drop off their scraps and we'll deposit it into various bins in the garden. It also saves us having to buy bags of mulch.
- GARDEN TOUR - if your class would like to have a tour of the Garden I can arrange to give your class a tour on a Thursday afternoon where they can smell and taste the plants. Please feel free to enjoy the Garden for classes or to eat lunch, however please ensure that children are aware that they are not allowed to go there unless supervised by a parent or teacher. Unfortunately some younger kids were having strawberry fights after school last year.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Hoo Roo Prue 😊
0417 015 383
Hi Everyone and welcome back, we hope you had a great holiday and are as pumped for 2015 as we are!!

We had a great vacation care with action packed days. It was really wonderful to see all of our regular students and get to know some of the new students too.

As a reminder our open times for the term are from 7am to start of school in the morning and end of school to 6:15pm in the afternoon.

For the preps, we will be dropping them off in the mornings to their teacher and picking them up in the afternoons. For the first week we will be supervising the grade 1s to and from their classrooms until they are comfortable doing it themselves.

We would like to thank the Port Melbourne community in helping to raise $57,000 for the Smith Families Back to School Fundraiser.

As a school, we also donated over 100kg of food to the FoodBank over the year, helping to provide over 200 meals for people facing hardship.

I would really appreciate it if you could let me know if you will be picking up your child from school when they are booked in for after care. My number is 0431 682 747, you can reach me anytime between 7am and 6:15pm every weekday. Alternatively, you can email me on portmelb@oshccampaustralia.com.au

We hope to see you all soon, have a fantastic week!

James and the OSHC Team

HOW TO GET STARTED

Before using our programs register online for an account. This enables you to make bookings, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day. Registering is quick and easy. Visit www.campaustralia.com.au/newparents
Tennis lessons here at school

Techno Tennis is an action packed way for all 4-12 year old children to learn and play tennis! Using music, modified equipment and professional coaching, our fast paced Hot Shots program is a FUN way for children to keep active and learn a skill for life!

Get tennis coaching here at
Port Melbourne PS Term 1 2015

Date: Friday 13th February - Friday 20th March (6 Weeks)
(No Coaching on Public Holidays or Pupil Free Days)

Time: Friday morning from 8:00am - 8:40am (40 minute session)

Price: $126 - 40 minute session x 6 weeks!

Student Information

** Please Note ** Return / Repeat students can simply TEXT 'Rebook w/ students name, term, school & timeslot' to 0400 217 744

☐ New Enrolment ☐ Rebook

Student Name .................................................................
DOB ........../......./...... Age ........... Yr Level ............
Address ............................................................................
...................................................................................
Parent/Guardian Names ..................................................
Mobile ..............................................................................
Email ............................................................................... 
Medical Conditions .........................................................
....................................................................................

Payment Information

Simply fill out your details here and email, scan, text or send to info@technotennis.com.au

Method of Payment
(Payment must be made online unless stated otherwise)

☐ EFT
Account Name: Techno Tennis
BSB: 063115
Account Number: 1032 1267
Reference: Student Name + PMPS + T1
Eg. AJones PMPST1

☐ $15 Junior Tennis Racquet

Total $........................................Due 6.02.15

☐ I hereby declare that I have read and agree to the terms and conditions

For more information please call
Jason at the office on 0400 217 744
or email info@technotennis.com.au
Techno Tennis
Terms & Conditions

By signing up/registering or enrolling into the 'Techno Tennis Program' it is understood that you have read and agreed to the conditions stated below:

Payment
Techno Tennis requires term fees to be paid in full prior to the day of the first scheduled lesson. If fees are not paid, the student will not be eligible to join into the session.

Refunds
Techno Tennis does not give refunds or discounts on missed sessions. If a student is absent due to illness a credit will be provided on proof of a medical certificate.

Promotional Material
Techno Tennis reserves the right to use any images, photographs, videos taken at any given Techno Tennis session. This material may be used for marketing, advertising or promotion unless formally requested by a parent or guardian in writing to Techno Tennis.

Liability
Techno Tennis accepts no liability for injury, damages or losses sustained through the involvement in the Techno Tennis Program. It is understood that participants engage in the program as a 'sport' in particular tennis, tennis lessons and tennis training. The activity of playing this 'sport' involves general risk outside the control of Techno Tennis. Techno Tennis will take all necessary steps in order to ensure the safety of all participants to the best of its ability.

Weather
All lessons will be presumed on unless otherwise stated by a coach or supervisor. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to confirm a 'wash out' or 'other weather condition' by either phone or to arrive at a given venue. Lessons may often go ahead even after excessive rain or high temperatures. No lessons will go ahead if temperatures exceed 35 degrees.

Make Up Lesson Policy
Techno Tennis will not provide make up lessons for classes missed, unless a legitimate reason is given i.e. health or illness related. If a student has missed a lesson due to illness or unforeseen circumstance (up to the discretion of Techno Tennis), Techno Tennis may provide a 'credit' deemed by Techno Tennis to be of the same value to the sessions missed.

Important
Students are required to bring their tennis racquets to every session.

For more information, please call Jason at the office on 0400 217 744 or email info@technotennis.com.au
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Spray tans (2 hour) $40
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Warm Power Flow

10:15AM
Kids Yoga

11AM - 2PM
Open House

2:30PM
Warm Power Flow

3:30PM
Meditation & Relaxation

FREE Yoga Classes
Mini Massage & Natural Therapies
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