Dear Columba Families;

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and relaxing holiday. Whilst I missed everyone and all the exciting events at the end of last term, it was a wonderful experience and such a privilege to travel to other countries to be immersed in different culture and traditions. There were many highlights throughout my travels in Italy, Belgium, Ireland and the UK but one of the most powerful moments was a ‘Last Post’ tour of Flanders Fields which commemorates the many Australian Soldiers who were killed in Belgium during World War One. It was a very emotional experience to see the endless rows of white crosses in the cemeteries, all so beautifully and respectfully maintained and to read on each the ages of the young men who gave their life for their families, friends and country. It was impossible not to be moved by each inscription, especially those for the unknown soldiers. The finale of the tour was to stand at the Menin Gates in Ypes to hear the Last Post being played. The Last Post is played there every night and will continue to be played until every single soldier who died has been recognized and remembered.

My very special thanks to Leonie Hester who so capably and ably filled in as Acting Principal in my absence and the entire staff for their outstanding work throughout the term. We are all looking forward to ensuring that this term provides even greater learning opportunities for the students at Columba!

Welcome to Mairead and Stephen Cuckson, son and daughter to Kelly and Simon. Mum and Dad both doing well! God Bless!

Please note that Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th November are school closure days for Columba.
Assembly

The next Assembly is scheduled for Friday 18th October at 2:30pm. The Prayer will be lead by students from Grade 1. Please come along and help celebrate the achievements of the students. All families are welcome to attend each Assembly.

Grade 4 Camp

All Grade 4 students are looking forward to two sunny days at Phillip Island. Students will participate in a variety of adventure activities as part of Columba’s Camps and Excursions Program.

Walktober

Our annual WALKtober Day is scheduled for Tuesday, 15th October at 9:15 am (weather permitting). Because many of our families live at some distance from the school it is impractical to hold a Walk /Ride To School activity which is a state wide initiative. As an alternative we walk around the local area. Preps, Grade 1 & 2 do a short loop whilst Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 take a longer route. Families are most welcome to join in the fun which aims to remind students that fitness and healthy life choices assist with learning in all areas of the curriculum!

Diocesan Photography Project.

Thank you to the many parents who gave permission for their child/children to participate in the Diocesan Photography Project.

Unfortunately the photographer was unable to squeeze us in on Tuesday afternoon and she will return tomorrow to complete the photographs.

Our Amazing Students

Hooptime

Next Monday the Senior Future Stars Team is competing in the Finals of Hooptime. We wish them the best of luck—have a great tournament!

PIP’s Summer Sports

Next Friday the students from Grades 4, 5 & 6 will travel to the Nar Nar Goon Reserve for the PIP’s Summer Sports Day. We will join with St James & St John’s for what is sure to be a fun-filled event. The aim of the day is to encourage students to develop team and communication skills by mixing with students from the other schools.

State Championships

After an outstanding Regional competition the following students are heading off to the State Athletic Championships on Monday 28th October:

- Natalia 200 m.
- Jake High Jump
- Georgia Shot Put

Well done on an amazing achievement!

Data Collection

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on Students with Disability

Our school has been selected to participate in the 2013 Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on Students with Disability (Data Collection). This national Data Collection is taking place in schools across Australia and will provide information about the number of students with disability in schools, where they are located and the adjustments they receive.

The information provided by this new data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources. This will assist students with disability in government and non-government schools across Australia to complete school and go on to further education or find employment.

Inclusion in the Data Collection is voluntary. If you wish your child to be excluded from this, you can choose to opt-out of the data collection by informing us in writing. (Opt-out proforma and fact sheet attached) or collect from office. For further information about the Data Collection, please contact the Principal or visit Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website:

Parents & Friends Meeting

The P&F is scheduled to meet on Friday the 18th October at 9:15 am. All are welcome. We would love to see you there!

Billy Cart Teams Grade 4/5/6

The Billy Cart Derby will be held next Thursday, 17th October with a start time of 2:00 pm. Billy Carts should arrive by 1:30 pm. Special thanks to all the parents who donated hay bales and old tyres for the course. Barbecue sausages and soft drink are available for purchase and all money raised will be given to St Vinnies. All Columba families are welcome to come along to watch the races.

By Xavier Kinder

Please note: Car parking at the end of the day could be a problem with many extra vehicles at school.

Mary Immaculate Church
St Mary’s Parish Bairnsdale
19th October 1913 – 19th October 2013
St Mary’s Parish Bairnsdale / Omeo invites parishioners present and past, and friends of Bairnsdale to the Mass of Thanksgiving. Celebrating the Centenary of the iconic Mary Immaculate Church. We will attempt to take a group photo on the day.

Principal Celebrant – Bishop Christopher Prowse
10:30 am, 20th October 2013.
Mass will be followed by refreshments and the cutting of the centenary cake in St Mary’s Parish Centre. For catering purposes – please phone Pattie at the Parish Office – 5152 2942 or Fr. Peter 0408 517 073.

Writing Awards

Many, many congratulations to all our creative and talented writers at Columba. I know the staff were delighted with the number and quality of the entries and had a very difficult time selecting two award recipients from each class.

Special congratulations to Jaimie Pullin who was chosen as the over-all winner with her story: “Sword of Azaroth”. Jaimie’s name will be inscribed on the Perpetual Trophy which is displayed in the office and all winning entries will have their story included in a book being compiled by Ms Websdale.

Writing Awards 2013

Prep
Lucy Reid
Prep/One
Will Payne
Grade One
Amelia Mills
Grade Two
Wil Grummsch
Grade Three
Ben Brasier
Grade Four/Five
Willow Denny
Grade Five/Six
Jaimie Pullin
( Highly Commended)
Phoebe Bracken
Logan Polderman
Leilani Jenkins
Sophie Miller
Madeline A’Herne
Ethan Miller
Georgia King

Winter Appeal for St Vincent de Paul

Hank Dortmans, our local representative for St Vincent de Paul was extremely grateful for the donation of canned and packaged goods and personal care products. At our final assembly last term we presented to him, at least eight baskets and three boxes of items.

Hank explained how some of these items would be given to assist migrants, who have no way of providing for themselves. He also spoke a little about the practical work, he and his wife do to help these people in need.

Thank you to all the families who contributed so much in such a short amount of time. Your generosity is outstanding.

Bunyip Cricket Club Milo Cricket

Boys & Girls aged 5-10 years
Registration day
Dates: Sunday 13th October
Sunday 20th October
Venue: Bunyip Football Ground
Time: 10am to 11am
MILO PROGRAM RUNS FOR 8 WEEKS
STARTING ON Sunday 27th OCTOBER
TO Sunday 15th DECEMBER FROM 10am-11am
$70 per child includes registration and milo cricket kit Which includes Bag, Hat, Bat, T-Shirt, Drink bottle and Ball
Inquiries Contact Greg Hogben 0409 596 389
## October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10</td>
<td>Grade 4 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11</td>
<td>Grade 4 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14</td>
<td>Hooptime: Senior Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15</td>
<td>Walktober</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16</td>
<td>School Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>Billy Cart Derby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>Assembly Prayer: Grade 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 19</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Winery Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28</td>
<td>State Championships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31</td>
<td>Hooptime: Junior Final</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1</td>
<td>Lucky Bottles: ‘Op Shop’ Theme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1</td>
<td>Assembly Prayer: Grade 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 4</td>
<td>School Closure: Curriculum Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5</td>
<td>School Closure: Cup Day</td>
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<td>Thursday 7</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8</td>
<td>Whole school Mass (MPR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Presentation: Grade 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13</td>
<td>School Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 14</td>
<td>Prep Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 15</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 15</td>
<td>Assembly Prayer Grade 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20</td>
<td>Prep Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>Lucky Bottles ‘Summer’ Theme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>Assembly Prayer: Grade 4/5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Website

Please make sure you have a look at the school website which can be accessed at:
http://www.bunyip.catholic.edu.au

### HATS!!-Term 4

**Don’t Forget**

As warmer weather approaches, children have been reminded to seek, search and find their school hats.

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**Sick Bay Linen**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Family</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th Oct</td>
<td>McDonagh Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Oct</td>
<td>McNamara Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Oct</td>
<td>Stewart Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal:** To ensure that the sick bay linen is clean and hygienic.

**Task:** Stripping the sick bay bed of linen and making it up again with fresh linen, which is usually done on a Friday. The linen from the bed needs to be laundered and returned by the following Thursday.

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**Tan Bark**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Family</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th/13th Oct</td>
<td>Gation Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th/20th Oct</td>
<td>Eveleens Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th/27th Oct</td>
<td>Makai Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal:** To ensure there is a consistent and even coverage of Tan Bark throughout the adventure playground.

**You will need to bring a rake with you.** This task can be completed anytime between 3:30pm Friday and 8:00am Monday.

---

**Rosters**

With kindest regards,

Jan Gubbins
Principal

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**Congratulations to Joseph, Natalia, Olivia & Lilly who have been selected as school leaders for the next fortnight. I am sure they will set a great example for all our students to follow.**

**Well done and thank you to Jaimie, Jason, Leon and Angelina who worked hard as school leaders in the last two weeks of Term Three.**