DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 11(^{th}) March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY – No students to attend Preps first full week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Preps at school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Casey Cup Soccer Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28(^{th}) March</td>
<td>House Cross Country – All grade 4 – 6 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28(^{th}) March</td>
<td>END OF TERM 1 – Students dismissed at 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15(^{th}) April</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEYBOARD, GUITAR AND SINGING LESSONS

*Please check that singing or guitar lessons are offered at your school.

Prep’s and Grade 1’s

*Please check that Prep lessons are offered at your school.

Enrolments are NOW being taken for Prep* & Grade 1 keyboard lessons to commence in Term 2, 2013!

Grade 2-6’s

This is your last chance to enrol for keyboard, guitar or singing* lessons commencing Term 2, 2013!

Enrol online at:

To save disappointment, please enrol before Friday the 15\(^{th}\) of March

Mad On Music do not take enrolments in Term 3 & 4.
Dear Parents,

**Maths**

Children are born with the ability to sense how many objects there are in small groups up to six. How many dots are there in this picture?

[Image of dots]

If you knew that there were five without counting, you have used the visual part of your brain. This ability is very important for children to practise. It helps them to make visual images of numbers. Later on, it will help them to be able to do mental calculations without having to count one by one. Counting one by one is a very inefficient strategy.

Being able to sense how many objects are in small collections is called **subitising**.

For collections between 6-10 it is helpful for children to visually group the objects and add them together. Here’s one for you to try:

[Image of dots]

Did you see a three and a four or did you count them one by one? Having flexible mental models of numbers up to ten is really important. Our whole number system is based on ten.

If you are interested in whether your child can see small collections you can easily draw some dots on a piece of paper and see if they know how many there are without counting. You can only show them for a maximum of 2 seconds. If you do this, make sure you give them some that they are able to do easily. If they can do small numbers, this can be extended to ten, using the grouping strategy. The faster children are able to do this, the more brain space they have left over for other aspects of maths tasks!

P.S. One answer for last week’s maths challenge:

$$99 + (9 \div 9) = 100$$

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**School Council**

Congratulations and **thank you** to the following people who have been elected as office bearers on School Council.

- **President**: Lucia Gusenikov
- **Vice President**: Edwin Pillay
- **Secretary**: Rhonda Collins
- **Treasurer**: Leanne Sammut

Our next meeting will be Wednesday 27th March, 7pm in the staff room. **All welcome.**

**Parents and Friends AGM Wed 13th March 2.30 in staff room. All welcome**

**Please be on time in the morning**

Please ensure your child is here by 8.55am when the first bell goes. Children who come late frequently miss vital instructions and discussions that happen first thing in the morning. This can put them at a disadvantage for the whole day.

Kind Regards,

Jenny Duggan
### STUDENT OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Sahill Kakar</td>
<td>For completing his name collage without giving up. Fantastic achievement.</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Colin Vu</td>
<td>Being an expert in the timestable challenges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep D</td>
<td>Tiffany Joachim</td>
<td>Working on holding her pencil correctly.</td>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Britney Jong</td>
<td>Trying her hardest and having a go at all tasks. Keep it up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep R</td>
<td>Darragh Kirkpatrick</td>
<td>Learning how to write his name so well.</td>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Tyreece Heeman</td>
<td>Concentrating very hard when answering his timestables challenge questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Gaby Djumic</td>
<td>Her excellent ability to identify sounds in words. Well done.</td>
<td>4D</td>
<td>Ruby Jawlan</td>
<td>Participating in class discussions and providing some fantastic input. Well done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Audrey Wiseno</td>
<td>Writing some interesting numbers.</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Kyle Grech</td>
<td>Thinking outside the box during maths by going beyond giving the easy answer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Divya Singh</td>
<td>Being a very friendly member of our class and helping others.</td>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Bradley Waixel</td>
<td>Being a responsible learner by acting upon feedback about his work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Jasoneep Singh</td>
<td>Working hard and showing great improvements with his writing. Well done.</td>
<td>5H</td>
<td>Mahmooda Haidari</td>
<td>Always trying her best and for a great start at Fountain Gate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>David Rogers</td>
<td>Teaching us amazing origami and for a great start at Fountain Gate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>Ataylia Melkic</td>
<td>Always staying focussed on class tasks and her organisational skills.</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Alysha Smith</td>
<td>For being an excellent role model to all other students in our class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2W</td>
<td>Jayden Hang</td>
<td>For being considerate of others and helping out.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notices sent home during the week

- Community Incursion - Preps

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**WOULD YOU LIKE THE NEWSLETTER IN COLOUR???
and SAVE the School Money.**

Why not subscribe to our newsletter on line and receive it by email.

Go to the Fountain Gate Primary School website (http://www.fountaingateps.vic.edu.au)
Enter your full name and e-mail address then click on ‘subscribe’.
ATTENTION JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENTS

Dear Junior School Parents,

Over the last couple of weeks the children in Prep have been learning “Advance Australia Fair” (our national anthem). This is sung at Assembly every Friday, so it is important that they feel part of the group. All Preps have been given a copy of the anthem and I hope the rest of the family can help them to learn it as well. The children in grades 1 and 2 have been revising the anthem and a copy is below. Hopefully all the family can work together to learn the anthem.

Meredith Dinsdale
Performing Arts

Advance
Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free.
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea.
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts,
Of beauty rich and rare.
In history’s page let every stage,
Advance Australia fair.

In joyful strains then let us sing
Advance Australia fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We’ll toil with heart and hands,
To make this Commonwealth of ours,
Renowned of all the lands.
For those who’ve come across the seas,
We’ve boundless plains to share.
With courage let us all combine
To advance Australia fair.

In joyful strains then let us sing
Advance Australia fair.
Why is it important for my child to learn Mathematics?

Maths skills are important to a child's success – both at school and in everyday life. Understanding maths also builds confidence and opens the door to a range of career options.

In our everyday lives, understanding maths enables us to:

- manage time and money, and handle everyday situations that involve numbers (for example, calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need in order to feed our families, and how much money that food will cost);
- understand patterns in the world around us and make predictions based on patterns (for example, predict traffic patterns to decide on the best time to travel);
- solve problems and make sound decisions;
- explain how we solved a problem and why we made a particular decision;
- use technology (for example, calculators and computers) to help solve problems.

Knowing how to do maths makes our day-to-day lives easier!

How will my child learn maths?

Children learn maths best through activities that encourage them to:

- explore;
- think about what they are exploring;
- solve problems using information they have gathered themselves;
- explain how they reached their solutions.

Children learn easily when they can connect maths concepts and procedures to their own experience. By using common household objects (such as measuring cups and spoons in the kitchen) and observing everyday events (such as weather patterns over the course of a week), they can "see" the ideas that are being taught.

An important part of learning maths is learning how to solve problems. Children are encouraged to use trial and error to develop their ability to reason and to learn how to go about problem solving. They learn that there may be more than one way to solve a problem and more than one answer. They also learn to express themselves clearly as they explain their solutions.

In next week’s newsletter there will be some suggestions about maths activities you can do with your child.

Mary Hutchinson  Numeracy Coordinator
Moonlit Sanctuary Easter School Holidays
Young Ranger Program

Environmental Activities, Native Animal Care,
Fun and Games during Autumn 2013.

Wednesday 3rd, Friday 5th April
Monday 8th, Wednesday 10th, Friday 12th April
Cost: $39.00 per day, or $105 for 3 days.
Bookings essential - suitable 7-14 years.
Hours: 10AM – 3PM
Wear closed-toe shoes and long pants and remember your hat.
Lunches: BYO or available for $7.50
Moonlit Sanctuary
550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale
Ph. 5978-7935
Web: www.moonlit-sanctuary.com
Open daily between 10am and 5pm