Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Having neared the end of term 1 with only 2 weeks to go is an indication as to how fast this term has gone by.

We have achieved and started to implement the programs that we had planned and work is underway with new programs for next term.

We anticipate that our students are achieving good results and are studying hard for the tests that are set towards the end of the term.

It is expected by all teaching staff that students remain focused and gear towards gaining and achieving great results.

As discussed in previous newsletters it would seem apparent that our focus is not just on academic excellence.

In order for our students to excel throughout their schooling one must remember to have the complete picture in mind. That is that our expectations extend particularly to the areas of model like behavior, which is respect towards people and community and displaying fine skills in self discipline and attitude.

You will all recall that we have touched upon those fine points in the past. It is our duty to remind and revisit areas which still need to be reinforced.

We hope that by the end of this term that minor issues of adjustment that some new students and existing students are facing will be diminished.

We are very understanding of situations that arise from adjusting to a new school but are also expecting to see efforts to be made by student and family in help support the student to adjust to this new environment by focusing on positive behavior when we see it and congratulating students for being good. This will help gain our students and share their thoughts on matters that are a concern to them.

In addition to this, a reminder that the new handbook has been distributed to students and it is recommended that parents and students to go through this book and familiarize themselves with expectations and policies.

You all will respect that bringing up children in today’s world is very different from our time. Sometimes we must repeat ourselves in order to have our requests understood. Expectations on students have changed and weight is placed upon their shoulders that they must be proficient in a multitude of areas especially where technology is concerned. Therefore we can say that we must all acquire patience but persistent in our approach as the times are totally different.

As a school we are trying to ensure that our students are all able to access this technology. The VCE classes currently all have smart boards and other technologies are being looked into in order to offer a comprehensive curriculum for our students.

We thank you for your support and assistance always and hope that we together will attain the multitude of benefits for our students by working in a caring and supportive manner. Our children are our investments for the future of our communities.

Wishing you all a pleasant, safe and patient long weekend.

Regards,

Erdal Kocak

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<td>Primary Parent Information Night</td>
<td>17th March</td>
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“QUOTATION”

Patience is power; with time and patience the mulberry leaf becomes silk.

-- Chinese Proverb
"The only way to have a friend is to be one."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Grade two and three have been exploring under the sea as our integrated topic for term 1. It has allowed us to participate in a broad range of experiences to support diving into and making discoveries about why the ocean is salty, how sea creatures use camouflage and protection, the differences between living and non-living things, the effects of pollution on marine life and why the sky is blue.

Building trusting and open relationships within the class has been in focus as the children settle. Students participated in Origami whale making, wrote a procedure using numbered steps, mathematical vocabulary and diagrams to illustrate and assist in teaching a partner, experiments into understanding how blubber maintains a whale's body temperature, floating, sinking, protecting birds from oil spills, observational drawing of crabs, oil pastel and ink painting and threading jelly fish or fine motor development.

Building skills of independence and self management are important in transition into middle primary. Organising, caring for the classroom and equipment is the responsibility of each member of the group. Speaking and listening guidelines have been established to support sharing of ideas, encourage positive interactions and communication between students, teachers and

BE KIND

Be kind to others, take a good look around, although we are different, similarities abound.

Try not to judge, pick on, or tease, treat each other fairly, with kindness and ease.

Wait until you know what's deep down inside, you might find a friend standing right by your side.

Patricia Gatto
MOTHERS’ SUPPORT GROUP

CRUISE on the YARRA

Mothers are the ones tirelessly do their best to catch up with so many commitments. They keep giving so much without getting anything back for themselves. To pamper our precious mothers and show our appreciation, MSG has organised a 90 minutes Cruise on the Yarra River. The details of the activity are as follows:

Date: Friday, 14th March
Departure: 9.00am from the school
Arrival: 3.00 pm to school
Transport: School Bus
Fee: $20(including transport &cruise)
Nature of the Activity:
10.00-12.30-Sightseeing
12.30-2.00-River Cruise

Notes:
- You are required to bring your own lunch.
- The tickets can be bought from the MSG members.
For details you can contact to Mrs. A.Koca on 9701 5425.

MSG’s FIRST PROJECT FOR 2008

MSG is planning to donate 2 sets of projector& laptop to school for a better technology supported education. We would like to thank our school community for supporting us through “Gozleme” and “ISIK Café “ activities. We have raised:
$737 from Gozleme Activity
$58 from ISIK Café Donations

We are very proud of having such a supportive school community. Hope to see you in future activities.

THROUGH BETTER PARENTING

Why consistency is important but makes parents feel bad - By Michael Grose

Being consistent when children are less than perfect can make you feel dreadful. However consistency is one of the most important elements in the relationship with your children, but it is the one most frequently overlooked.

Consistency means dealing with the little misbehaviours and not letting them grow into bigger behaviours. It means saying no to children's constant requests for five more minutes of television at night or a third serve of ice cream. It means following through and allowing children to experience a consequence when they misbehave every time. It doesn't mean if children arrive home after dark from a friend's place you ground them sometimes but at other times you just voice your disapproval. That type of inconsistency makes you responsible for children's misbehaviour and teaches children nothing about accountability.
Consistency also means that both parents have a similar approach to behaviours. If mum is too strict and dad is too lenient children will know who to go to if they wish to take advantage. They will soon play one parent off against each other. If a child wants to get away without doing a job or stay an extra hour at a friend's place just ask dad because he is easy-going. Even if you are separated, talk about your approaches to discipline and find some common ground. Agree on such issues as family rules, pocket money, and guidelines for going out and suitable consequences for misbehaviour.

If you disagree with a partner's approach do so behind closed doors. When unplanned situations occur don't be afraid to tell your children that you need to consult with your partner before making a decision. Children will realise that you are working as a team and that you are making a considered approach to their behaviour or request.

Consistency, like routines, are often sacrificed by busy working parents and put in the "too hard basket". When we are tired, stretched and overworked the last thing we want to do is engage in a battle with children over what are sometimes petty issues. You may have spent the whole day dealing with difficult customers or colleagues only to come home and find that you have another battle on your hands with equally belligerent children. So to avoid an argument, a tantrum or tears you give in to your child's unruly behaviour or unreasonable request.

But being consistent and holding your ground is a smart long-term strategy. Kids learn quickly how far they can push a parent before they give in. If you give in occasionally they will learn that if they push you hard enough and long enough you will cave in. So consistency is about being strong and holding your ground. That is hard work because the average child will push parental boundaries about 30 per cent of the time and more difficult kids push your boundaries twice that much. It is hard work being consistent but good parenting demands it.

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**My Goal is to...**

**Be accountable**

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**Hedefim...**

**Sözümde durmak**

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**Students of the Week 5**

Grade 1  Berkan Karsioglu
Grade 2  Bilaal Abdulkadir
Grade 2/3  Sakina Begg
Grade 4  Dilara Cetiner
Grade 5  Aysenur Yesildag
Grade 5/6  Betul Yaydemin
Grade 6  Cemre Akalan

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Our first Book Fair for 2008 is almost here - March 17th to 20th in our wonderful library. The more you buy the more books are given to our library so please put the date in your diary! Loose change donations can be made at the front office or library and books will be bought.

We look forward to seeing you at the Fair.