**Diary Dates:**

- Labour Day 12 Mar
- Curriculum Day 13 Mar
- Family Life-Grades 5 & 6 15, 22 Mar
- Working Bee 4pm-7pm All welcome 16 Mar
- Prep-Grade 2 Excursion Don't forget to hand back notes 21 Mar
- Book Fair 22 & 23 Mar
- Book Fair Dress Up Day 23 Mar
- Last Day of Term 29 Mar
- First Day of Term 2 16 Apr
- Grade 3-6 Camp 1-4 May

Dates are subject to change

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From Glenn......

We have had some visitors into our school this week. We had a presentation from "Responsible Pet Ownership" on Wednesday for all grades, so I hope there were discussions at home about pets and how they aren’t just “for Christmas”. We also looked at how to approach animals we don’t know and how to be safe around animals of all types but particularly dogs. Between now and next term the children and I will develop a ‘Pets Visiting School Policy’ which we will present to school council for ratification. We love to see pets visiting and the infant grades are like a ‘Lizard Holiday Resort’, BUT if a child is injured by a pet, it always ends in tears. We need to get this right, as a pet for ‘Show and Tell’ is a real highlight for all the children in the grade, not just the owner.

On Thursday we had the Family Life Program presented to the grade 5&6’s (with Ben and I in the room) via Interrelationships Australia, the accredited presenters. Simone is a qualified presenter and did an excellent job, this week focussing on bodies and moving towards puberty. There were giggles - not Mr Miller this year - but when it was question time, lots were asked and many were written down privately to be answered next week. It was a great "start" to what is often a very difficult subject to approach at home if parents want to follow up on what is done. It is not the “Safe Schools” program so badly presented in the media but a program designed to explain the changes puberty brings, why they happen and where they come from. The idea that we are all different and that is ok, is prevalent in the program. Also an underlying message is that mums, dads and carers are experts in this as well, as they went through it. Children are asked to share and talk to you about what they learn......hopefully “that talk” happens with knowledge rather than myths as the basis for facts. Any queries, please contact me.

Today we had a visit from Ian Hunter, a local member of the Wurundjeri Tribe (Wurun stands for what they call the big gum trees and djeri—the moths that start life as a larva on the leaves of the trees and then drop to live in holes around the tree before emerging as moths). He showed us how to make fire - with help from 4 parents - at assembly using traditional methods and impressed everyone! Ian also talked about traditions, music and had them throwing boomerangs. Ian came here when we had the children from Guangzhou and after the popularity of the boomerang throwing, made them one each to send over.

We are receiving payments through the bank account with no names attached or the bank account is in another persons name. It is very difficult to allocate payments if we do not have family name or student name in the reference section. Our permission notes have a section on them when paying direct debit that gives you a family ID number (it looks similar to this ABC0000) to use when paying. If you could include this number and the excursion id in your reference it would be greatly appreciated. Please note the office will not be open next Wednesday 14th March.

DON’T FORGET next Tuesday is a pupil free day while staff attend a Professional Development day. There will be no one at school at all, as the day for staff starts at 8.00am.

Next Friday is our first WORKING BEE. I will send home a call for people and equipment next Wednesday. It starts at 4.00pm and the BBQ tea will be at 7.00-7.30pm. Hope to see you here, there is plenty to do.

The Healesville Excursion is coming up, I will attend with the grades, looking forward to a great day.

We recently sent home medical forms for Asthma, Anaphylaxis and Allergies. It is a legal requirement these are updated by schools each year and we are supposed to deny attendance until they are sent back to us. If this concerns your child, you should have received a form(with a current photo) from us to be updated by your doctor, please get them signed and back to us urgently. Please contact the office if you didn’t receive a form and your child has a medical issue that we are unaware of.

**If you have a child that will be attending Doreen Primary School in 2019 and you have not handed in an enrolment form please do so asap**
Fundraising Committee
Coming up is the Easter raffle, they are asking each family to please donate 1 item. Please see Shelley Harris if you can lend a hand wrapping raffle items. Raffle tickets will be sent home next week. Please send completed ticket stubs back with money in the envelope provided.
Order forms for the Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse-Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser were sent home this week. Our school receives commission on each pack of buns sold. If you would like to order please fill in the order form and send back with your payment to office. Cash only please.

Grades 3-6 Camp, don’t forget to hand in your permission forms. Please ensure you fill in all details especially medical forms and hand back to your child’s teacher asap. See the office if you would like to start making payments.

EASTER RAFFLE
Donations are required for the Easter raffle please hand into the office.

HOUSE GROUPS

CLEANEST CLASSROOM: GRADE FOUR

Pay your account by Direct Deposit
See details below
Acc Name: Doreen Primary School
BSB: 633 000
Acc Number: 127282119
Ref: Surname and item

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