As our first week of the 2013 school year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all members of our school community back to school.

I would like to extend a special welcome to all of our new students, including our Prep group, and their families, and hope it is the beginning of a very positive relationship for all concerned. It has been terrific to see how well our new Prep students have settled into their school environment and routines.

As is the case at the beginning of each year, one of our first and most important administrative tasks is to undertake our annual School Council election process. Monday 11th February the process commences with a call for nominations for people to participate on Council as staff and parent representatives. There are four parent positions vacant for the next two year period. Nominations will close on the following Tuesday 4th March at 4:00pm sharp. If there are any queries regarding this process, members of our school community are most welcome to call me at school.

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key direction of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DEECD) employees can be parent members at their child’s school.

- **A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **An optional community member category.** Its members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be community members.

Why is parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.
There will be a School Council meeting on Monday 18th February at 6pm, current serving members will be in attendance. Agenda items to be at the office prior to 4pm on Wednesday 13th February. The meetings are planned to have a 90 minute time period if required.

Later in February nominations will be called for in regard to parent and department vacancies. If there are more nominations than vacancies a formal election will take place. More details on the election process will be provided over the month of February. School Council meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month and commence at 6pm.

If you require further details please contact the Principal.

School Council Elections
Four Parent Vacancies on School Council 2013

Thank you to Simone Royle, Paula Davies, Leanne Bennie, Andrew Thomson, for the duration of your term.

School Council Election Timetable 2013

Call for Nominations
Monday 11th February

Close of Nominations
Monday 18th February

Voting Forms distributed (if required)
Monday 25th February

Voting Closes
Tuesday 4th March

School Council Meeting Election of Office Bearers
6pm Monday 18th March – School Library

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Curriculum Days for 2013

Friday 8th March

Friday 7th June

Monday 4th November

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LOCAL EXCURSION NOTES

At the start of each year we require parents to sign a Local Excursion note. The Internet Agreement and Photo Permission forms signed by parents last year will be carried over to this year however if circumstances have changed and you do not wish your child to be photographed for the newsletter or newspaper or you do not wish your child to go on the Internet please let the office know in writing. The Local Excursion note will be sent home tomorrow – please sign and return asap. The Prep children and new students will bring home all three notices to be returned asap.

Any notices sent home on ORANGE paper need to be signed and returned to school as soon as possible. This applies to all notices where parent permission is required.

School Banking will commence next week with The Rye Community Bendigo Bank in Rye each Tuesday. The Bendigo Bank have contacted the school and letters to families with Prep students will be sent home together with a Piggy Bank for each Prep child.

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Lunch Orders have commenced each day from ‘The Milk Bar’ in Rosebud – a menu is attached to this newsletter. Orders must be written on a brown paper bag - a separate order for each child. Orders need to be at the school office by 9.15am.

As a SunSmart school, it is school policy that our students wear their broad brimmed hats during first term as a protection against the rays of the sun. We would appreciate your support with this important life skill and ensure that your child brings their sun hat to school each day.

The Music room is in need of coat hangers please give to Mrs Young in the Community Building.

Music lessons begin next week.
**JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL**
**NUDE FOOD DAY**
IS EVERY TUESDAY TO HELP REDUCE RUBBISH IN OUR SCHOOL.
EACH TUESDAY YOU NEED TO PACK A LUNCH THAT HAS NO PACKAGING.
Some Tips!!!!!!
Pack some fruit for lunch. It comes in its own packaging!!
Use a reusable drink container rather than a prima.
Use a reusable container rather than glad wrap for your sandwiches.
Pack healthy snacks like yoghurt in a small reusable container. Use a lunch box rather than a plastic or paper bag.

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**Active After School Communities**

This year we will be running baseball on a Tuesday and hockey on a Thursday.
Activities commence Tuesday the 12th of February for 7 weeks and Thursday 21st February will run for 6 weeks from 3.45-4.45pm finishing the last week of Term One. Forms are available from the office, 20 positions available for each program with one activity per student. For 1st term this program is not advisable for Prep students as in the past we have found them too tired to participate in After School Activities.
Information about this program is included in this newsletter.

AASC Coordinator
Justine Beagley

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**Tootgarook Community Market**

Thankyou to our helpers during the holidays!!

Maria Samas, Gary Barrett, Kylie Taylor, Josephine and Stefan Wycisk, Michelle + Darren Walker, Jenine Gorton, Paul King, Lily Thomson, Samantha and Leanne McLeod, Christine Young, Donna Thomson, Anthea Williams, Matt Davies, Sylvia Williams.

Our next market will be Saturday February 23rd. This year each grade will be rostered on to one market each month. The following grades have been allocated:

- February 23rd Prep Bos
- March 23rd 5/6Quinton
- April 27th 3/4Walton
- May 25th 1/2Baird
- June 22nd Prep Prossor
- July 27th 1/2 Hughes
- August 24th 3/4Withers
- September 29th 5/6Bruin
- October 26th 1/2Perkins
- November 23rd 3/4TWithers
- December 28th

A note will go home to each student in the grade prior to their allocated market – please endeavour to assist at your child’s allocated market as funds raised benefits all students.

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**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

Any parents who are eligible and hold a current (as of 29/01/2013) Health Care or Pension Card please call at the office and fill in an EMA form. Please bring your health care card with you to enable us to photocopy it. No applications will be accepted after Friday 22/02/2012.
ROAD SAFETY – As parents are aware we have areas around the school designated for parking and non parking.

**Kiss & Go**
There are new innovative signs to display the school parking zones, aimed at improving Road Safety around our school.

**Kiss & Go:**
Replaces the traditional 2 minute pick up and drop off zones, the line marking is painted red to match the sign. The idea is not to get out of the car, but have your children on the kerbside of the car, kiss them let them out and move on freeing up the space for others.

**Wait A While:**
This zone is new and you will notice the orange line marking matches the sign. There is just enough time to walk in to school and back, if you need to collect your preppy. There is a 10 minute limit so you might want to walk briskly.

**Stop & Chat:**
Replaces the traditional all day parking and has green line marking painted to match the sign. This is where you can park if you are helping out in the classroom or meeting your friends for a walk.

Remember our children expect us to keep them safe, so we should not risk their lives just getting them to and from school. Please be aware there are a number of children riding bikes to school and also parents walking their children to school in the morning and afternoons – so please adhere to the School Zone of 40 mph.

The shire’s parking officers will be in the area enforcing these signs are adhered to.

If you have any questions or need any more info please ask in the front office for a pamphlet that shows the layout and explains the workings, or you can contact the shire care of the details below.

Traffic & Road Safety Team
Private Bag 1000
Begsrove Street
ROSEBUD 3939
Phone: 03 5950 1030
Fax: 03 5950 1254
Email: custserv@mornpen.vic.gov.au

Our Preps of 2013 have settled in well with the school routine and are enjoying learning something new each day!!

Beach Program 2013 commencing next Monday

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<th>Session Times</th>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
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