From The Principal’s Desk

I hope all of our mums had a wonderful day last Sunday. From my family’s perspective my wife certainly enjoyed the company of our three Melbourne based children and their partners (and our grandchild), along with the wonders of Skype allowing the Sydney based daughter to be part of the day and to enable us all to wish her a happy 27th birthday.

The decision by the previous government not to continue to provide report writing software to schools free of charge has meant we have had to look for alternatives within our budget. We have adopted GradeXpert which is a relatively cost-effective Student Tracking Software package which has great potential for more accurate recording and reporting of student progress, but is proving a little problematic as the staff get our collective heads around it. We are aiming to have reports which essentially mirror those from QuickVic (the previous package) for mid-year; however this may need to be modified further if we are to achieve the end-of term timeline. By the end of the year we expect to be producing reports in a format of our choosing but including mandatory aspects, as prescribed by the Department of Education and Training. We are working with GradeXpert to increase our knowledge and overcome the issues we are having currently, but we are planning a Child-free day on Friday June 5th (the Friday of the Queen’s Birthday weekend) with the aim of getting on top of the program.

What a brilliant effort from our wonderful volunteers at Bunnings last Saturday – a profit of $1,804.35 is the best result ever. Huge thanks to all who gave up their time to raise additional funds for our school.

The annual NAPLAN tests for Grade 3 and 5 students began today. As I explained to all grade 3 and 5 students today there is no pass and fail, rather these tests give an indication of how they are going in comparison to other students at their level around the country, and help teachers, parents and themselves work out where their strengths lie and where they may need extra assistance, when results are combined with other teacher administered assessments. For that reason, I have encouraged them to be their best in the tests this week.
School Captain’s Report
Hello it’s Megan and Cobey and welcome back, we hope your mothers had breakfast in bed, and an awesome mother’s day. At school we have been busy. On Monday we had so much fun with our mothers on mother’s night. On Wednesday the 6’s had their flag reveal. On Thursday the 3-6’s went to the Shrine of Remembrance. On Friday the 4-6’s had interschool sports, where we had two wins and one loss. During this time others had table tennis. Samantha came 3rd in the girls division and Cooper and Megan came 2nd in the mixed doubles. The F-2’s are enjoying P.M.P and math investigation.
We hope you will have fun next week.
Bye Megan and Cobey :)

Coldstream Pre School Open Day
Wednesday May 20th
2.00 to 3.00pm
Foundation 2016 Transition – Have you enrolled yet?

As our transition program will begin soon for our Foundation students for 2016, it is probably timely to enrol your child now. Enrolment forms may be collected from the office. If you are aware of a family that is considering coming to our school in 2016 and is not as yet a family at our school it would be appreciated if you could pass this information on.

Our first activity will be Story Time, on Thursday 4th June at 2.15 to 3.00pm with Mr Donaldson in the library.

If you have any questions please pop in or call the school on 9739 1680.

From The Principal’s Desk (cont.)

Once again through the AFL Ambassador program, I have been able to secure a few tickets for the Hawthorn vs Melbourne game this Saturday at 2.10 pm. If you are interested, please email me by 9am Thursday morning and I will allocate tickets accordingly.

The School Council and the Department of Education and Training have endorsed the Strategic Plan which maps the direction for the school over the next four years. It has four main goals:

- To improve student outcomes in literacy and numeracy.
- To further develop a learning environment which challenges and stimulates students to “be your best”, and elicits higher levels of connectedness, motivation, confidence and stimulation.
- To continue to provide an environment in which a clear set of agreed values provide the basis for positive student social, emotional and physical development and growth
- Improve the schools’ capacity to maximise enrolment through effective and creative use of resources.

Copies of the endorsed plan will be placed on to the website shortly. This will be followed by an endorsed Annual Implementation Plan, which I hope will be finalised and ready for school council next week.

Now that the weather is turning, some parents, particularly of F-2 students, may find it a good idea to provide a change of clothes in the school bag or even slippers for use inside. I understand we have been caught a little short on our uniform rain jackets but more have been ordered and will be here soon.

Beanies are not currently part of our uniform, nor (for safety reasons) are scarves. They may be worn on the way to, and the way home from, school, but not once at school. Our best suggestion is to wear the wide brimmed hats on cold days (they will keep heads warm and they protect from rain a little as well).

Another terrific day of interschool sport on Friday against the combined small schools’ team, with great sportsmanship on display. Whilst we were a few players short (in football mainly) due to many having to attend table tennis and with a number of students away or injured, teams were filled with players from the opposition where necessary. The games were again played in great spirit, and whilst competitive, the results were far less important than the enjoyment.

Have a gorgeous week.

Peter Donaldson

PRINCIPAL
Rotary Club of Wandin
Interplast fundraiser
Croydon Cinemas
1/3-5 Hewish Road, Croydon
Film is released in Australia on 4 June.
We have a private screening on Friday 5 June commencing at 6 pm sharp – no trailers or advertising

Movie is followed by a ‘champagne (actually sparkling wine) supper’.
$25 per person
Payment can be made to Rotary Club of Wandin Inc.
BSB 633 000  Account number 128871910
Include your name as a reference for tickets.
Contact Brian Hodgson on 0419 397 650 for more information
Coldstream Primary School
Kelso Street
Coldstream 3770
9739 1680 – Telephone
9739 1822 – Fax
coldstream.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au - Email

‘Where Fun Meets Academic Excellence’

**ADVERTISEMENTS AND COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Uniform Shop**

An order has been placed with our supplier for waterproof jackets which we expect to be delivered this week. We do have sizes 4-6 & 8-10 in stock if you need a jacket for Friday’s excursion to the Aquarium.

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**Library Tales**

Thanks to everyone that bought something at the recent book fair we were able to claim $170 worth of books for our library.

Have you completed your Premiers’ Reading Challenge yet?

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**Spare Clothes Please**

It seems that winter has finally hit us and with that comes muddy, wet clothes. Although students are constantly reminded to stay out of the puddles and are asked not to play in certain areas the inevitable happens and students are wet and muddy when they come in from play. Please have a change of uniform in their bags ready for just such an occasion, it makes it easier for you when you don’t have to come to school to change your child. Thank you

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**Parent Club News**

**HAMBURGER LUNCH** is this Thursday; hope you had your order in on time.

**MOTHERS DAY STALL** thank you to our helpers last Friday and we hope all mums and special friends had a lovely day on Sunday.

**BUNNINGS BBQ** thanks to our small but enthusiastic group on Saturday we were able to raise $1,804.35 for our school.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE** Our next lunch will be Thursday 28th May and we are asking families with students in grade 1/2B to donate cake stall items.

**Coming Up:**

*Hot Dog Lunch, Chocolate Drive*