

# Yarra Ranges Special Developmental School

Newsletter Issue NL-09

28th May 2015



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## From Helen's Desk

Thanks to all the parents and carers who visited our school last week to join in and celebrate Education Week. The visit from Hawthorn Football club was enjoyed by our middle and senior students and Jack from Seniors featured on the Hawks web page with Chem.

Our Seniors are very busy at the moment: practicing their dance moves for "The Formal" on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June and camp planning is well under way with students being given a choice this year out of three destinations in August: Nayook, Bendigo and Garfield.

The Department of Education and Training has released an App which is designed to help you better understand the curriculum we use to teach your children every day.

The App, called **SchoolMate**, is available for free download now in the App Store for iPhones and iPads and in Google Play for Android phones and tablets. SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year level and:

- Provides you with an overview of what your children are experiencing in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provides you with tips regarding activities and things you can do at home with your children in each subject and year level
- Suggests apps, books, events and activities related to each subject area and year level.

Our school, like all other government schools in Victoria, uses AusVELS as the basis for the classroom learning programs we run at school every day. The only exception being, students in the Senior Section of our school who use our Senior Curriculum. At our school we also set developmentally appropriate individual goals in consultation with parents and carers.

Our teachers adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our students and community, for example, designing learning programs around what your children are interested in, or around days or celebrations that are important to our community.

SchoolMate is designed to give you an overview of the learning experiences your child may access across every subject from Prep to Year 10.

I encourage you to download SchoolMate and to please talk with your teacher or myself if you are interested to find out more about how our school teaches the curriculum.

There is a fact sheet in to this newsletter.

### Points of Interest

Page 2	School News
Page 3	News from Room 5
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### Diary Dates

Monday 8th June	Queens Birthday Holiday
Thursday 18th of June	Home Token Information Session 10.00am
Thursday 18th of June	Senior Formal - York on Lilydale 6.00pm
Friday 26th June	End of Term 2 . 2.00pm finish

*"a positive culture of life long learning"*



# School News

## School Mate Fact sheet

**What is SchoolMate?** SchoolMate is an app for Victorian parents to help them understand what their kids are learning and get more involved in their child's education.

**Who is SchoolMate for?** Parents of students from prep to Year 10 in Victorian government schools.

**Can parents of children in Catholic and independent schools use SchoolMate?** Parents with children at Catholic schools can also use SchoolMate as their schools also follow the AusVELS Victorian school curriculum. Parents with children at Independent schools should check with their principal or teacher about how closely their school follows the AusVELS curriculum.

**Where can I get SchoolMate?** You can download it now for free in the App store and in Google Play. Just search for 'SchoolMate'.

**Does SchoolMate work on all phones and tablets?** SchoolMate works on all iPhone 4s, 5s and 6s and all recent iPads. It also works on all current Android phones and tablets.

### **What will I find in SchoolMate?**

SchoolMate will:

- Show parents a snapshot of what their children are learning in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provide tips as to what they can do at home to help their kids in the best way possible
- Suggested related apps, books, events and activities relevant to each subject area.

**Will SchoolMate tell me everything about what my children are learning at school?** No. SchoolMate is a snapshot of the school curriculum (AusVELS) which our school uses as the basis for the learning programs we deliver every day. Parents should always talk to their child's teacher with any questions about what their child is learning.

**Who created SchoolMate?** The Department of Education and Training's Digital Comms team, with lots of help from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and dozens of educators from the Victorian teaching subject associations.



Dear Parents and Carers,

A reminder, if you have any out standing fees please pay as soon as you can.

We have an eftpos machine here for your convenience, we can take cash or you can pay over the phone if you wish to.

A receipt will be either given at the time from the office or sent home with your child.

There is a new form for parents/carers called the CSEF which stands for Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Parents can complete this to help cover the above programs. The prerequisite for this funding is for parents to be the holders of a valid means-tested concession card or be a temporary foster parent.

Please contact the office on 9736 2499 if you would like a form.

It's that time of the year again.....the season for coughs and colds!!  
As per the Department of Education and Training – School Policy and Advisory Guide:  
'Schools should obtain written advice on a Medication Authority Form for all medication to be administered by the school. The form should be completed by the student's medical/health practitioner ensuring that the medication is warranted.'



The staff at YRSDS cannot administer medicine without the completed form. Your doctor is able to complete the form when he/she writes a prescription for your child. If you have any queries or require a copy of the Medication Authority Form to take to your doctor, please contact our school nurses.

Room 5 are participating in a range of communication styles and environments. Our speech therapist Briony Fowler visits our classroom once a week to help and advise us. Cooking is one of the highlights of the week. Well done room 5 keep up the good work.

Paula Sladden Teacher

## June 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Queens Birthday	9	10	11	12 Newsletter	13	14
15	16	17	18 Home Token Information Session 10.00am  Senior Formal at York on Lilydale. 6.00pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Newsletter Term 2 Ends 2.00pm finish	27	28
29	30					

## July 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Term 3 Begins	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



## Medication & Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Presented by Paediatrician

**Dr Sian Hughes**



**Date:** Monday 1st June

**Time:** 9.15am to 11.00am

**Location:** 193 Baywater Road  
Baywater, 3153

**Cost:** Irabina Families  
Non Irabina Families  
Professionals \$60.00

**Suitable for:** Parents/carers &  
Professionals

**To book:** go to [www.irabina.com](http://www.irabina.com)

**For further information**  
Ring Louise on 9720 1118  
Email [louise@irabina.com](mailto:louise@irabina.com)

### About this workshop:

This presentation is designed for parents and carers who would like to learn more about the use of medication and their child with ASD.

When would medication be considered when working with children with ASD?

What are some of the common medications out there that are prescribed and what do they target? What are the side effect?

These are some of the common questions that will be answered by an expert Paediatrician in this session.

Irabina Childhood Autism Services - ABN 65 098 345 888  
Head Office: 193 Baywater Road, Baywater VIC 3153 - Branch: 454 Pricos Hwy, Offcn VIC 3603  
Ph: 03 9720 1118 - Fax: 9720 8841



## NDIS Information forum

Yooralla is delivering information forums focused on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) across Victoria.

This **FREE** forum in Healesville is open to anyone in the community who is interested in learning more about the NDIS. The forum will focus on what the NDIS will mean for individuals and how people can begin to prepare and plan.

The forum will provide an opportunity to:

- understand what we know so far about the NDIS
- learn more about planning and preparation for transition to the NDIS
- ask questions about how the NDIS will impact you and your family
- meet local service providers

This forum will be led by Yooralla's NDIS experts and will be designed to provide relevant and up-to-date information. We are also asking people to submit questions they have in relation to the NDIS prior to the forum which will allow us to tailor the session.

**When:** Thursday 18 June 2015

**Time:** 12.00 noon - 2.00pm  
Light Lunch provided

**Where:** The Memo, Healesville,  
Nan Francis Room  
235 Maroonah Highway,  
Healesville

**Bookings essential.**

**Bookings, dietary requests and questions to:**

[RSVP@yooralla.com.au](mailto:RSVP@yooralla.com.au) or  
[www.yooralla.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.yooralla.eventbrite.com.au)

**Enquiries:** Bradley Smith  
0477 399 339

**RSVP by Friday 12 June**



MetroAccess is a partnership initiative with Local Government and the Department of Health and Human Services Victoria

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

winter 2015

ACTIVITIES FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE AGED  
12-25 YEARS WHO LIVE,  
WORK OR STUDY IN  
THE YARRA RANGES.

## 30 JUNE - 10 JULY

### FEATURING

SNOW TRIP  
SPLATBALL  
WATERMARC  
ARCHERY

BOWLING  
LASER TAG  
POETRY WORKSHOP  
SKIES OF MELBOURNE

BOOKINGS OPEN MONDAY 1 JUNE AT 10AM AND CLOSE FRIDAY 20 JUNE.



For more information call Youth Services  
on 9294 6716 or visit our website  
[www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/youthservices](http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/youthservices)