Last week Room 8 went to Blackwood for the last camp of the year. While the weather was not the best they still enjoyed the time at camp. The trip to Werribee Zoo was of course a highlight. Thank you to all the staff who attended the camp.

Last week we had a phone call from a member of the public. They were ringing to say how impressed they were with the behaviour of a group of our students and also to say how well the staff interacted with the students. It is lovely to get positive feedback from members of the community.

This week we have had a number of staff update their CPR training after school.

Starting next year the school will be divided into areas according to DEECD’s stages of schooling:
- Early Education (Preschool Years)
- Early Years 5 to 8 years
- Middle Years 9 to 15 years
- Senior 16 to 18 years of age.

For our older students this will allow them to have three years preparing for their transition. Each area will be lead by a team leader and within each team there will 5 to 6 groups.

Over the last week or so a number of our senior students who are moving to an adult placement at the end of the year have been involved in a transition program. Our staff have accompanied them to their placement such as Balance, Scope, Melba, to name a few and by all accounts our students have settled in well.

Helen Johnston
From our School Council

Some things that have recently been dealt with by the School Council include:

Increasing costs associated with running and maintaining our pool means charges will be increased from $100 per year to $120 in 2014. This is the first increase since 2007.

I am looking forward to attending MESDS graduation night which will be held next Thursday 12 December. All the best to the students graduating this year.

Our school name change has progressed the next hurdle with an advertisement being placed in the local papers asking if anyone had reason to object etc. We are getting closer – watch this space.

School budget for 2014 was reviewed and approved.

We look like having some school council members retire this year, if you’re interested in joining school council in 2014, please contact me (Mobile 0430037122) or our Principal Helen Johnston.

What is a school council? (Straight from the DEECD website!)

- Is a legally formed body that is given the powers to set the key directions of a school
- Is the major governing body of the school
- Plays an important role in school accountability and improvement processes
- Endorses the key school planning, evaluation and reporting documents

We have 3 categories of membership:

- Parent members
- DEECD employee members
- Community (co-opted) members

Please remember parent members represent you.

I wish all students, parents, carers and staff all the best for the festive season, keep safe and we will see you back in 2014.

David Read School Council President

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Christmas Carols

When: Thursday 19th December 2013
Time: BYO picnic dinner from 5:30pm
      Carols from 6:30pm
Where: Mt Evelyn Special Developmental School
What to bring: Chairs or a rug to sit on,
                and a picnic dinner
Drinks available to buy.
Music provided by staff and students of
Mt Evelyn SDS
Celebrations will continue undercover if
weather is wet or cold

And an extra special visitor... ho ho ho.

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Dear Parents / Carers

Just a short note to remind you that
the students will be finishing
at 1.30pm
on
Friday 20th December, 2013

We would like to wish you all a

“MERRY CHRISTMAS”

AND

“HAPPY NEW YEAR” 2014

From all staff at Mt Evelyn S.D.S.

School will resume for students on
Wednesday 29th January, 2014
What happened in the pool this year?

Well, here we are at the end of another year. And what a year it was! Our school pool had its 15th birthday in November. Over the years it has provided hundreds of students with the opportunity to learn to swim, do their hydrotherapy programs and to just relax. It has been looking a bit tired lately and so, in these school holidays, it is being refurbished with a new tiled interior floor. I am very excited and can’t wait to start next year in our ‘new’ pool.

We also had a great swim program held at Yarra Junction for secondary students held each Tuesday and Wednesday. We have seen wonderful improvements in the students’ aquatic confidence and ability and it has been a very rewarding program.

This year also saw fantastic excursions to Edithvale beach for secondary students and the Narre Warren wave pool for both senior and primary students. Everyone had a ball and learnt heaps! Back at our pool we had three classes collaborate in a joint effort to ‘pretty up’ the pool. Primary made a huge papier mache shark, octopus and ‘scary’ fish which took weeks of hard work to complete. Room 18 and EEP made wonderful blue jelly fish and painted blue bubbles for the windows which really added to the underwater effect. Thank you very much to those students and staff for your lovely work.

I have had a great time teaching our students this year but I must also thank all the staff who, week in, week out, join me in the pool to assist with the swim program. They too have done a great job.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and please remember to always swim safely.

Sheryl Everett
Swim Teacher

SWIM CHARGES—2014

At a recent school council meeting we reviewed our swim charges. There has not been an increase since 2007!!! With the increasing cost of maintaining the pool, we felt it was time to charge a little more. As of 2014 swim charges will be $120 per year. We hope all families understand. Payment can be made in full or by instalment. We want to thank you very much for your support and prompt payments—it’s very much appreciated.
# December

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- Meals on Wheels Voc
- Vocational Graduation
- Parents & Carers Mtg 9.15am
  Whole School Assembly Parents & Carers Welcome
  Carols Night
- EEP Finish 2.45pm
  Meals on Wheels Voc
- Term 4 Ends 1.30pm

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**Croydon Special Developmental School**

**Holiday Program**

**6th to 17th January 2014**

**NEW HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

**Things to Consider**

- BOOK NOW online at www.oshcare4kids.com.au and select your program.
- Let your children join in the fun and excitement!
- Book as many days a week as you wish.
- Costs are eligible for the Government rebates (CCCE/CCF).
- A day can cost from as little as $25 per child!

**Holiday Program**

- **some of the FUN activities are:**
  - Sticky, Goopy, Icky Mess Day
  - Sensory Madness Day
  - Sports Fernzy
  - Splashtastic Incursion
  - Bubble Mania-Excursion
  - Cold Rock Experience
  - Get A Strike It's Bowling Time-Excursion

**Visit our website to view the full program**

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**Call OSHCare 4 KIDS on (03) 9758 6744**

**Email:** admin@oshcare4kids.com.au

**Website:** www.oshcare4kids.com.au