Watch this space for notices sent out each week.

If you have not received any of the following notices, please ask your child’s teacher or contact the school office.

10 February  
Updated Summer Sport Fixture  
Year 5&6 families

11 February  
Year 3&4 News  
Year 3&4 families

11 February  
District Swimming  
Selected students

12 February  
Chocolate Drive 2014  
Youngest children

Twilight Working Bee
Thursday 6 March
3.45 – 6.00pm

Please keep this date free!

Help us reduce paper use across our school by receiving your copy of our weekly Newsletter electronically!

To subscribe to our weekly email distribution list simply email: great.ryrie.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au and post “Subscribe Newsletter” in the subject line.

Diary Dates

FEBRUARY
Thursday 13  
Year 5&6 Information Evening
Friday 14  
I/S sport v Antonio Park
Monday 17  
Assembly
Tuesday 18  
School Council
Thursday 20  
Year 1&2 Parent Information afternoon

the next two years, leaving one casual vacancy in each of the parent and DEECD categories. Terry is new to our School Council and we welcome him to this role.

The two remaining vacancies can be filled by co-option. My thanks also go to Richard Allen and to Jo Bell who have each offered themselves for co-option to these two Parent and DEECD, casual vacancies respectively.

School Council Meets next Tuesday at 7:30pm in the staffroom.

Student Leadership 2014: This year, we have refined and shortened the timeline for selection of our student leaders further, with the biggest change being the inclusion of the School Captains at the beginning of this year, instead of at the end of Year 5.

The Steps:
- All Year 5/6 students are surveyed as to who they think would make a good School Captain.
- Our Year 6 students participate in a Leadership Day, where they explore the roles and responsibilities of each of the student leadership positions. The students are taught how to write an application and resume and are given time to complete and submit an application for the leadership roles that interest them. These applications are then sorted according to the preferences which the children have submitted.

From the Principal

My thanks to Mrs Nicoll for again coordinating our School Council Elections in 2014. I am pleased to advise that Viv McPherson, Dee Skinner, Terry Jenvey and Janine Wallace Smith have each been declared as ‘elected unopposed’ to school council for
Next, all of the Year 5/6 teachers short list the thirty or so, School Captain applications, based on how well they have demonstrated the qualities required for these particular roles.

- Up to twenty short listed candidates for these positions then take part in an informal discussion with a panel of 3 teachers, which is made up of a Year 5/6 Teacher, a Specialist Teacher and either the Principal or Assistant Principal. This panel then shortlists these candidates further.
- The final group of up to ten students then prepare a short election speech, explaining how they would be a good School Captain, which is videoed as they present it to their classmates, at a special Year 5/6 Assembly.
- On Monday the school staff had a chance to view these videos of the final candidates at our weekly staff meeting, where we discussed the admirable qualities of the applicants and cast our vote for each position.

We are proud to announce that our 2014 School Captains are:

**Jasmine Lacy – School Captain**

**Ethan Newnham – School Captain**

**Lily Moroney – Vice Captain and Ethan Mulligan – Vice Captain**

Our thanks go to all the candidates, who impressed us greatly with their applications and made the job of short listing and final selection so much more difficult, due to the high quality of their applications and the outstanding qualities they each demonstrate as students at Great Ryrie Primary School.

The Student Leadership selection continues with Specialist Teachers meeting with shortlisted candidates from whom they will choose their captains for 2014.

Junior School Council elections are being held this Thursday, with voting by the year 5/6 students and finally the election of House Captains will be held on Friday, with these positions being voted on by all the Year 3-6 students.

All Student Leadership positions will be formally announced at this coming Monday’s assembly in the Sports & Performance Centre.

My thanks go to all the candidates for the great job they done by stepping up for leadership roles and to the staff for the professional and supportive manner in which they have encouraged and deliberated on each application. Especially the Year 5/6 teachers, led by Ms Jacobs and the Specialist staff, who have had the most difficult task in short-listing such outstanding applicants.

We can be well and truly proud of each and every one of our Year 6 students!

**Drop Off Trial In Our Car Park:**

So far our trial of parents dropping off children in the staff car park at the start of the school day is working smoothly. This is a ‘Kiss-n-go’, quick drop off option between 8:45 and 8:55am on school days.

The car park gates are now being closed at 8:55am and parents are not to park and leave their vehicle in the staff car park, as it is continuously required for use by staff and other authorized vehicles throughout the school day.

**Pick Up & Set Down Zone In Great Ryrie Street:**

The five bays adjacent to the staff car park entrance in Great Ryrie Street are designed as a ‘Pick Up’ and ‘Set Down’ zone also. Drivers should move forward when pulling into these bays at the start and end of the day, to enable other vehicles to pull in behind them, and then should move out as quickly as safety will allow, in order to keep these bays free at these times.

Please note that it is illegal to make a ‘u-turn’ when pulling into or leaving the ‘No Waiting’ zone. By Laws officers have been patrolling the area heavily in the past few weeks and several fines have been issued.

**Monday Assembly:**

Last Monday we held our first Connections groups across the school for 2014 and welcomed our Foundation students to their group, as well as the new students in other year levels. Children stay in the same Connections Group throughout their time at Great Ryrie and meet once a month, to get to know other children and teachers from every year level.

Next Monday morning, we will hold our first assembly in the Sports & Performance Centre for 2014.

**Wishing you a great weekend,**

Doug Elliott

Principal

“Every Child, Every Opportunity, Everyday...”

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**From the Office**

**Payments made via BPAY**

If you make a payment via BPAY, less than your statement balance can you please advise the office which charges you would like the payment allocated to.

**Activities Charge (This can be weekly until 28 Feb)**

**Reminder:** If you wish to pay upfront for your child’s incursion/excursion fees for the year the Activity Charge is due by Friday Feb 28th.

After this date, if you have not paid you will be required to pay for each incursion/excursion as it occurs.

**Brian Allen Hall**

Looking for a venue for your next function?

The Brian Allen Hall is available for hire on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

Contact the office for details and prices.

**Reading Glasses**

We have a collection of glasses (adults as well) at the office (some dating back to last year). If you have lost glasses come to the office.

**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):**

If you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

Please call at the office ASAP as applications close by Friday 28 February.
Fundraising
Thank you to the 70 families that returned their Fundraising form with offers of help. Your information has gone onto our database and we will contact you to know what is happening throughout the year. We appreciate your support. We do however have 370 families at the school and would really like to see all the forms returned, so that we can all contribute to helping our school. If you have not returned your form yet please do so ASAP.

The date for our school community fete is Saturday 8 November. Apologies for the incorrect date last week. Please put this in your calendar now as it promises to be a great day. On Wednesday night, we had our first school meeting for Fundraising/Fete and have set all the wheels in motion for our activities for the year. More details of what happened at the meeting in next week’s newsletter.

Chocolate Drive
This year we are holding our Chocolate Drive again and we will be selling Joyville Sweet Treats. The box contains a mixture of Cadbury Dairy Milk Chunky Bars, Cadbury Dairy Milk Caramello Bars, Marvellous Creations Popping Candy and Marvellous Creations Jelly Crunch for sale at $2.00 each. Chocolate notices were sent home on Wednesday 12 February and need to be returned by next Wednesday 19 February. All parents are asked to return their form (sent home with the youngest child only), so that we can comply with your wishes. All classroom teachers will be collecting and collating the notices and your child may be asked to remind you about returning your form. Parents can indicate that they will be/will not be requiring chocolates. However, you may wish to donate $30 or ask for more than one box to be sent home. There will be a raffle for families that sell all their chocolates and return their money or make a donation before Wednesday 26 March.

Community Notices
Is there some good news in your family that you would like to share with the rest of GRPS? A new addition to the family, a win in a Grand Final, a great sports game .... Let Yvonne at the office have the details by Wednesday morning and we’ll let everyone know!!

PERFORMING ARTS
ENROLMENT FOR INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM
Music Bag and Equipment
Students are required to bring the following equipment to their music lessons each week. These items are available through the school at a cheaper price than you would pay through retail outlets.

- Recorder - The one available through the school is the Yamaha descant recorder.
- Recorder Cleaner
- Recorder Book - The book that we will be using is called ‘Black Belt Recorder’ – Book 1.
- Music bag to keep recorder, sheet music and recorder book together.
- An A4 display folder - This will be used to keep additional photocopied music.

(This is the only item not available at school).

Please remind your child to have this equipment at school on the day that they have their Performing Arts lesson. If you are having any difficulty purchasing this equipment please do not hesitate contacting us in the Performing Arts room or through the office.

Helen Francis and Peta Murray

OSHClub
Before & After School Care

The Week So Far!
We have had a great turn out for OSHclub so far. The weather has been hot and it has affected us all playing outside, but hopefully it will cool down, so we can start enjoying our outdoor sports together. Food wise, we have been catering to children based on the weather forecast, therefore the menu has been very ‘dynamic’! We did manage to fit in pasta and garlic bread on one of the cooler days. The kids loved that! This week, we are basing our activities on ‘getting to know each other’. We have a number of interesting crafts and games planned. Please check our weekly planner (next to the roll) in the OSHclub foyer.

Staff Profiles
There are a few new staff members at OSHclub, as well as new families, so I have picked a few of our staff to profile for this week. This week’s staff profiles are:

LIBRARY
OVERDUE BOOKS FROM 2013
There are a few books outstanding from 2013. Notices will be sent home this week. Could the books be returned to school as soon as possible. Thank you!

BOOK CLUB
The first Issue of Scholastic Book Club is due today THURSDAY 13 February, the delivery should be within 5 – 7 working days. Scholastic sends out 8 Book Club Issues a year, 2 per term. There are some great buys and Scholastic gives a commission back to each grade teacher who orders.
Name: Adam  
Schooling: Certificate III in Children Services  
Past life/jobs: Carpentry Apprentice  
Hobbies: Tennis, Football, movies, seeing friends, going out.  
Favourite things to do: Seeing friends, travelling, playing and watching sport.  
Why you love working at OSHClub? Every day is different; I can be a kid again.

Name: Mary  
Schooling: Bachelor of Teaching (Primary), Bachelor of Arts (Women's Studies), Master of Commercial Law, currently pursing a scholarship for a PhD.  
Past life/jobs: Teacher, Legal Advisor, Management Consultant, I.T. Project Manager.  
Hobbies: Reading, Computers, Politics, Anthropology, Industrial Relations/Unions.  
Favourite things to do: Spend time with my family, travel.  
Why you love working at OSHClub? The kids are amazing and tell the most incredible tales, full of creativity, openness and good humour.

Name: Radhika  
Schooling: PhD, Science (Sustainability and Environment), Grad. Dip. In Education (Secondary)  
Past life/jobs: Scientist (Dept. of Primary Industries), Teacher, Lecturer Monash University, Laboratory assistant.  
Hobbies: Music, cooking, designing science experiments for students, gardening, philosophy.  
Favourite things to do: Yoga, games, playing with kids, learning languages, reading books.  
Why you love working at OSHClub? I love interacting with kids. Each day I get to learn new exciting things from them too. I am happy to be mentoring them at this young age to grow up to be able to reflect compassion and tolerance towards others. OSHclub is a wonderful platform for this purpose.

Name: Katrina  
Schooling: 4th Year Bachelor of Primary Education  
Past life/jobs: Waitress and kitchen hand  
Hobbies: Photography, Netball  
Favourite things to do: See friends, shop, travel.  
Why you love working at OSHClub? Every day there is something new and exciting!

Name: Amber  
Schooling: Bachelor of Education/Bachelor of Applied Science in Disability and loving it!  
Past life/jobs: Worked at a camp site for a year running programs and activities for schools.  
Hobbies: Arts and Crafts, playing piano and finding new music to listen to.  
Favourite things to do: Hanging out with friends.  
Why you love working at OSHClub? I love working with children and love seeing them grow and learn new things. I really enjoy being the person they talk to after school and enjoy hearing all about the different things they have been doing.

Next week: Laura, Shazan, Lorressa and Elysha.

Foundation Students  
The Foundation students have had a wonderful time at OSHclub and are really enjoying meeting and mixing with all age groups. Please remember to wait for us at your classroom and do not wander off. You will see us in our bright red vests waiting for you.

Coordinator – Mary  
Staff. Adam, Laura, Amber, Radhika, Katrina  
Program Phone: 0418 571 136  
OSHClub Head Office – 8564 9000  
OSHClub admin: admin@oshclub.com.au  
Website: www.oshclub.com.au

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Calling all happy snappers!  
Why not enter Maroondah City Council’s 2014 Photo Competition?  

Maroondah City Council’s Photo Competition is open to all ages with a junior, intermediate and open section. The competition is a great way to show us what Maroondah means to you.

Photos must be taken in Maroondah after 1 July 2013.

You can enter up to 2 x A4 photos either online or by mail.

There are some great prizes to be won thanks to our sponsors:-  
Croydon Camera House, Karralyka Croydon Leisure & Aquatic Centre and Eastland Shopping Centre.

All entries will be displayed at Maroondah Art Gallery, Maroondah Federation Estate in Ringwood and all entrants will be invited to an Awards Evening on 29 May 2014 where the winners of each section will be announced.

For more information or an entry form either visit our Customer Service Centre, call us on 1300 88 22 33 or visit our website, www.maroondah.vic.gov.au
Chaplain’s Spot Term 1 Week 2 2014
Random Acts of Kindness Week
Feb 10 -16, 2014

International Random Acts of Kindness Week is February 10-16, 2014. Take some time to step out of your normal routine or comfort zone and attempt a new random act of kindness in the coming week.

1] Smile at 10 strangers.
2] Eat lunch with someone new.
3] Say I love you or give someone a special hug
4] Send a positive message or do something kind for someone.
5] Donate unwanted items to a charity
6] Be generous with compliments
7] Write a poem for someone special
8] Read to a child or lonely aged person
9] Thank someone who serves you in a shop
10] Make some muffins for the neighbours

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation is an internationally recognized non-profit organization founded upon the powerful belief in kindness and dedicated to providing resources and tools that encourage acts of kindness.

I am sure each of us could think of some more kind acts to share with others. Our attitude can be a huge influence on how we see life, whether we say the world owes us, or whether we look at what we can do for others. There is nothing so rewarding as investing in the lives of others, whether they be our own children or other people. Go for it! Be creative!

Reminder:
On Wednesday 26 February @ 7.30pm in the staff room, we will be having our Annual Meeting. All are welcome to come and hear about, and be encouraged by the report of the Chaplaincy program in our school. We also would appreciate one or two new members for our Chaplaincy Committee. We meet just once or twice each term. We look forward to seeing you there.

Alan Silverwood – Chaplain
[silverwood.alan.a@edumail.vic.gov.au] Pastoral care for our community, with issues of emotional, financial, spiritual, physical nature. [The Chaplaincy program is funded through the Federal Government & Community support. This is a voluntary program in our school community.] I am here on Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
If you currently don’t receive our newsletter electronically and would like to, please complete the form below so that we can add you to the distribution each week.

Child’s Name ……………………………Grade …………..
Email address:

Reminder our newsletters are available to read on-line via the school website www.greatryieps.vic.edu.au

Our Lady’s Catholic Church, Ringwood, will conduct classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for children who belong to the Ringwood Parish. Classes begin on Wed., Feb. 26th at 4pm. For all enquiries and to enrol please call Tess on 9870 7807.

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS
The Department of Education, Employment and Training and Great Ryrie Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.
No responsibility is accepted by DEECD and Great Ryrie Primary School for accuracy of information in advertisements or claims made by them.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS
We would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for their support throughout 2010. (For more details please see our website!)

ALL SMILES
Sorrento Ocean Beach & the Yarra Valley
Donate vouchers for all fundraising events
Phone: 9876 4044
www.allsmiles.com.au

AMAZING TRANSFORMATIONS
COSTUME HIRE kindly donate all the wonderful costumes we use for school functions.
33 High Street Glen Iris, 9885 4714

BEAUTY ON RYRIE donate many beauty products and vouchers for all school fundraisers and events.
41B Great Ryrie St Ringwood, 9870 6766

The Roberts family offer a DRY CLEANING SERVICE to the GRPS community, with a percentage going to school fundraising.
Please call at the office for details.

BENDIGO COMMUNITY BANK (Heathmont & East Ringwood Branches) sponsor our school and along with Student Banking donate the following amounts for services taken out.
The amounts are:
$200 for a Bendigo home loan greater than $110,000
$100 for a Bendigo home loan less than $110,000
$50 for a Bendigo equipment finance loan
$50 for a Bendigo personal loan

Heathmont branch: 9870 6654
East Ringwood branch: 9870 3655