**HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY**

We would like to take this chance to say a big Happy Mother’s Day to all of our school mums. We hope that Sunday is a lovely family day for you all.

Thoughts from our Preps:

- Molly – I love my mum because we go out for breakfast together.
- Ted – I love my mum because she is special and makes us tea.
- Emme – I love my mum because I love her so much.
- Kaiya – I love my mum because she makes me feel special.
- Alizé – I love my mum because we always go for walks together.
- Riley – I love my mum because she plays games like monopoly with me.
- Mekayla – I love my mum because we make special things together that we colour in.
- Shania – I love my mum because she always loves me.
- Darcy – I love my mum because she is special and makes good cakes.
- Logan – I love my mum because she takes good care of me.
- Sydney – I love my mum because she is beautiful.
- Ally – I love my mum because she always gives me treats.
- Ada – I love my mum because I love giving her special flowers.
- Darby – I love my mum because she helps me feed my guinea pig and my rabbit.
- Zaithan – I love my mum because she lets me play with my special dog.
- Bonnie – I love my mum because we give each other lots of cuddles.
- Matilda – I love my mum because she gives me lots of hugs.

**MOTHER’S DAY HIGH TEA**

We hope that all of our mums, grandmas and special friends who came along to the High Tea this morning enjoyed themselves and took the chance to catch up with friends. We trust that being able to spend some time with your child/children there and maybe have a photo taken was a special time.

A big thank you to Ricky, Lorraine and Doss for all of their preparation and organisation.

**MOTHER’S & SPECIAL PERSON’S DAY STALL**

Our Mother’s & Special Person’s Day Stall was held this morning. Our friends from the Axedale Pre-School joined us again for the stall and an activity and lunch while they were here. Thanks to our Gr. 6 girls Emily, Rachael and Laura for their work on the stall and to Julie, Joce, Tanya and Kellie for coordinating the gifts and setting up.
MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE
The Mother’s Day raffle was drawn at the Mother’s & Specials Person’s High Tea this morning. A big thanks to all those who contributed items for the raffle. Congratulations to the winners below:
Aligning Health Yoga classes – Shannon Read
BYB Personal Training sessions – Diane Atkinson
Axedale Massage & Beauty – Shelly Truscott
Axedale Tavern Voucher – Renea Wright
Wine Pack – Claire Lawrence
Garden pack – Xade Witt
Axedale Hairdressing Hair Care products – Kelly Monti

CLASSROOM AWARD WINNERS
Darcy – For listening carefully to instructions and taking time when completing his work.
Will – For showing great improvement when writing sizzling starts.
Evie – For displaying a positive attitude to all learning tasks.
Montana – For working hard as a member of the Einstein’s Group and completing NAPLAN practice questions with great problem solving skills.

SCHOOL VALUES AWARD WINNERS
Mekayla – For being a good friend to everyone and including others in her game.
Emily – For always caring about her classmates.
Rhianna – For being organised with her personal belongings and having a tidy workspace.
Nathan – For showing great fairness during a classroom game of silent ball.

GOLDEN BRUSH
The winners of the Golden Brush last week were the Preps. Well done!

HOUSE COMPETITION
The winners of the House Competition for the week were McIvor.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS
For April, we say Happy Birthday to Abigail (9th), Zayne (14th) and Hugh (24th).
MAGIC WORDS
Well done to our students who have moved up some levels with the Magic and Oxford Words.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Georgia Smith who won the U/11 Girls section of the O’Keefe Marathon Mini Mile last Sunday. A great effort well deserved after lots of training at school for the Cross Country.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

KINDER VISIT
Today our friends from Kinder came to visit. It was great to see them. We read a story, made a scroll and best of all we got to shop at the Mother’s Day stall. We all had fun catching up.

BOOK FAIR
Thanks to all the families who have purchased books from the Book Fair. We trust that the items purchased have been enjoyed by the students. The Book Fair finishes tomorrow. Thanks to Deb and Julie for their work with the Book Fair.
NAPLAN
Our Grade 3 & 5 students will be involved in NAPLAN testing on May 10/11/12. The testing is Australia wide and involves students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Students will be working on a number of practice areas over the coming weeks in preparation.
On a home front, the best preparation you can help with is to ensure your child is well rested, drinking lots of water, is eating healthy food and is encouraged to tackle this task with a positive frame of mind and that they complete the testing to their personal best.
A big thanks to Helen for the extra preparation she has been completing with the Grade 3 students over the last two weeks.

EDUCATION WEEK
Education Week will run again this year from Monday May 16th – 20th.

**Tuesday May 17th**
Grandparents and Special Visitors Day on Tuesday May 17th.
Grandparents and Special Visitors are encouraged to come along from 10.00 – 11.00 and visit the students in the classrooms and work with them. Students may wish to provide a tour of the school for their special visitor if they are new to the school.
Our 10.00 - 11.00 classroom sessions will be followed by a Morning Tea from 11.00.

**Wednesday May 18th**
Whole school Literacy and Numeracy rotations. We will be conducting P-6 Literacy and Numeracy Rotations. Students will be in multi-aged groups and will complete a range of individual, partner and small group activities.

**Thursday May 19th**
2017 PREP INFORMATION SESSIONS
The Information Session for prospective 2017 Prep families will be held on Thursday 19th May at 9.30am in the Axedale PS Staffroom. If you know of any families who are contemplating Axedale PS for their 2017 Prep child, please let them know of this date/time.

**Friday May 20th**
Walk Safely to School/Wear Bright Colours Day. Students are asked to come to school wearing their brightest colours. A gold coin donation for the day will be donated to charity.
Walk to School Day will be on the O’Keefe Rail Trail, beginning where the trail crosses Crowes Rd/Cemetery Rd. corner. More details in upcoming Newsletters.

PREP SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM
All Prep students took home an envelope a few weeks ago with a questionnaire from the School Nursing Program. Please take the time to complete the questionnaire and return to school ASAP. The School Nurse will visit our school on Friday 13th May.

STUDENT ABSENTEE LETTER
Attached to the newsletter today are student absentee letters for those students who have been absent from school without explanation. Please fill in absence reason, sign and return ASAP. Thanks.

EXCURSION LEVY
The excursion levy for each year level is a set amount based on excursions and programs offered at school. There are some items included within this levy which are due at the beginning of the year. For families who have been at our school in previous years these amounts used to be a separate line on your family account.
These following amounts are now due per student:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARC Van</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Programs</td>
<td>$20 (Prep, Grade 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>Reading Eggs &amp; Mathletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Programs</td>
<td>$30 (Grade 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td>Reading Eggs, Mathletics &amp; Mangahigh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Those families who have paid their Excursion Levy upfront will have already paid these amounts. If you are unsure please see Katrina.
VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Can we please ask those families who committed at the end of last year to paying a voluntary contribution for 2016 to arrange payment so we can use the funds to put towards our recent purchase of new literacy books. The suggested amounts are:

- $50 1st Child
- $30 2nd Child
- $20 3rd + Child

There is also a grounds maintenance and beautification contribution of $20 per family.

Please see Katrina if you are unsure the amount you committed or for payment options. Remember we now have BPay available.

Attached to the newsletter last week were statements for those families with outstanding amounts owing to the school. **Prompt payment would be appreciated.** Please note if you have a CSEF amount on your family statement this can only be used for Camp or Excursions.

CBA STUDENT BANKING
Amazingly, we currently have 39 students who take part in school banking. What a great effort – well done to the students and their families for encouraging good financial practice at such a young age.

We are holding a Consistent Saver competition starting next Tuesday 26th April through to Tuesday 7th June. During this time any child who banks 5 times will go in the draw for the chance to win one of 2 prizes. The prizes are on display at the office.

Please see Katrina for further details or to register your child for Commonwealth Dollarmites Banking.

VICTORIAN PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE
The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and Axedale Primary School is excited to be participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to 16 years in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by the closing date of the challenge.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

If you would like your child to participate, please return the privacy and consent form, see Katrina in the office for a copy.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll.

For more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and to view the booklists, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc)

BREAKFAST CLUB
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help with Breakfast Club.

Thanks also to our sponsors.

- Tuesday 10th May – Claire Noyce & Melinda Pengelly
- Thursday 12th May – Hannelie Schutte & Susie McGrath (No Ricky)
- Tuesday 17th May – Liz Harrington & Samantha Gilbertson
- Thursday 19th May – Tanya Czuczman & Casey Reid

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help cutting up fruit on Fridays.

- Friday 6th May – Samantha Gilbertson & Tanya Czuczman
- Friday 13th May – Melinda Pengelly & Donna Brandt

MICHAEL GROSS PARENTING RESOURCES

This week’s attached article is “Mother of all jobs.”
QUOTE OF THE WEEK
“Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Lex Johnstone
Principal

CLASSROOMS

CROSS COUNTRY
On Friday 13th May, all of our Grade 3 – 6 students will be attending the Bendigo District Cross Country event. Details and a travel permission form have been sent home today.

SPORTING SCHOOLS
Thanks to our Sporting Schools funding students will be attending Tennis (P-6) and Softball (2-6) clinics at school starting soon.

PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS & FRIENDS (PVF)

FRUIT TREE & BARE ROOTED TREE DRIVE
Fruit Tree order form and tree list is attached to the newsletter today. Trees are priced from $9.50 to $37. Orders need to be returned to school with payment by Friday 20th May. Plants will be delivered in July (Term 3).

PIE DRIVE
Next week an order form for our Elmore Bakery Pie Drive will be sent home with the newsletter.

FOOTY TIPPING
Round 7 - $91.50 JACKPOT
Footy tipping sheets for Round 7 were sent home earlier this week and need to be in by tomorrow or to the Axedale General Store 1 hour before the first game of the round.

FORMS TO BE RETURNED OR ORGANISED AT SCHOOL

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
Forms to be returned for those students wishing to participate.

ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY RUN – Grade 3-6 permission form due by Tuesday 10th May

SCHOOL NURSE PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE (PREP) – due by Friday 13th May

FRUIT TREE ORDER FORM – due by Friday 20th May

FOOTY TIPPING SHEETS – Round 7 due tomorrow.
Help support our school by becoming a UFS member

When you join, we receive half of your membership fee!

Building a Healthier Community

UFS Pharmacies supports over 40 local organisations, clubs and schools, plus looks after its members with professional advice, four great locations, and member discounts and promotions too.

To join, call 03 5443 2284 or visit bendigopharmacies.com.au/membership
(and don't forget to mention our school)

The friendly and professional psychologists at Bendigo Psychology can also help with:
- Depression
- Trauma
- Autism Spectrum Concerns
- Anger
- Challenging Behaviour
- Parenting
- Psychological Assessment

Contact us at:
03 5443 2294
admin@bendigopsychology.com.au
or on the web at
www.bendigopsychology.com.au

“Making Sense of ADHD”

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Information Sessions

PARENT SESSIONS:
Week, 18 May 2016, 10.30pm to 1.30pm $15

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SESSIONS:
Week, 18 May 2016, 10.30pm to 1.30pm $15

Bendigo Psychology, 499 Hargreaves St

Bendigo, VIC 3550

499 Hargreaves Street
Bendigo
VIC 3550
Mother of all jobs
As an ex-house dad, I take my hat off to mothers.

When I was busy at work I would often think about what my wife must be doing. I used to conjure up an image of her playing happily with my three-year-old son in the sandpit at the local playgroup while the other two children slept peacefully nearby. With these images at the front of my mind I thought motherhood sure beat working for a living.

Many years ago I discovered how far from the truth my notion of motherhood really was when my wife and I swapped roles. I must confess that two of the children were at school so it had it easier than my partner but it was as close as I could get.

The first thing I learned was that while I may be the primary carer I could never be a substitute mother to my children. Take sickness or illness for example. When one of the kids was off-colour, had a cut or bruise or just needed some tender loving care they headed straight for their mother. Dad may do in the meantime, but I was a pale imitation of the real thing, their mum, when it comes to dispensing comfort. I could give them just as good a hug as any female. It is just that their mum was well ... their mum. It is as simple as that.

I also learned there are some things that fathers can’t do as well as mothers. In my case it was fixing my daughters’ hair. The first time I put my youngest daughter’s hair in a plait she cried. Not from pain, just the embarrassment of being seen in public with a hairdo that looked like a piece of knotty, old rope. It became accepted in my house that “dads don’t do hair”.

I soon appreciated the unique skills that mothers develop if they are to survive the rigours of parenting on a daily basis. In particular, mothers seem to have the uncanny knack of doing three jobs at once while dealing with noisy or whingeing children.

Multi-task masters
Anyone who can cut a round of sandwiches, prepare breakfast for a family, find a missing pair of socks for tiny feet while making sure everyone is on track, has my vote. I have trouble getting myself dressed in the morning, let alone worrying about anyone else.

There is no place in a mother’s repertoire for tunnel-vision or focussing on one task at a time. These are luxuries reserved for the workplace, not the family home. The fact that kids are noisy, demanding and often unpredictable means anyone who spends a fair time in their vicinity must be flexible, patient and able to keep cool under extraordinary pressure. Qualities I still don’t possess.

Take cooking for example. The job of preparing a decent meal wasn’t too hard. I could – and still can – usually produce something quite edible with a minimum of fuss. However, rarely did I have the chance to cook in isolation. There was always a child interrupting, asking for help or just wanting to chat. Not to mention fitting cooking around bathing, hearing kids read or picking them up from sports practice.

An increasing number of mothers do full-time paid work then come home for their second shift of parenting. Any mention to these mothers of my trials with the juggling act, simply evokes a shoulder shrug and a ‘welcome to the real world’ look.

If anyone says that motherhood is not like real work, send them my way. After many years of being the primary parent to my children – usually the preserve of women – I can really set them straight. It’s hard yakka that largely goes unrewarded.

Happy Mother’s Day