Important dates:

**May**
- 13th Cross Country (Gr 3-6)
- 13th School Nurse Visit (Prep)
- 16th MARC Van
- 17th MARC Van
- 17th Grandparents & Special Visitors Day 10-11am
- 19th 2017 Prep Info Session 9.30am

**May**
- 20th Walk Safely to School/Wear Bright Colours Day – Gold coin donation
- 24th School Council Meeting
- 30th MARC Van
- 31st MARC Van

CLASSROOM AWARD WINNERS

- **Riley** – For having a great learning week particularly in ICT where he was able to type and change the colour of his writing on his Mother’s Day message.
- **Darcy B** - For working hard at his school work and always doing his best
- **Matthew** – For displaying a positive attitude to all learning tasks
- **Rachael** – For completing a tremendous writing piece on why snakes are more dangerous than spiders.

SCHOOL VALUES AWARD WINNERS

- **Matilda** – For being very kind and thoughtful towards others.
- **Mia** – For being a helpful member of the class and always looking out for others.
- **Liam** – For listening to and following instructions quickly and working to his personal best.
- **Max** – For showing greater confidence in completing all set tasks.

GOLDEN BRUSH

The winners of the Golden Brush last week were the Gr 4/5/6. Well done!

HOUSE COMPETITION

The winners of the House Competition for the week were Campaspe.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

For May, we say Happy Birthday to Matthew (16th), Sam C (18th), Grace (20th), Kaiya (23rd), Steffi and Olly (25th) and Rhianna (28th).
MAGIC WORDS
Well done to our students who have moved up some levels with the Magic and Oxford Words.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

NAPLAN
This week our Grade 3 & 5 students have been involved in NAPLAN testing. Mr. C, Mrs. Hartland and I would like to congratulate the students on their concentration, determination, positive approach and persistence over the three days. Their efforts and respect for each other during the testing time has been very pleasing. Results will be back in the school in August.

EDUCATION WEEK
Next week is Education Week across all Victorian schools. We have a range of events on.

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 from 9.30am – 1.30pm. 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. An out of uniform day, a gold coin donation will be donated to the 65 Roses Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser campaign.
Walk to School Day will be on the O’Keefe Rail Trail, beginning where the trail crosses Crowes Rd/Cemetery Rd. corner.
WEAR BRIGHT COLOURS – WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY
Walk Safely to School/Wear Bright Colours Day is on Friday May 20th to raise money for the 65 Roses Cystic Fibrosis campaign.
It is an out of uniform day.
Walk to School Day will be on the O’Keefe Rail Trail, beginning where the trail crosses Crowes Rd/Cemetery Rd. See map below for details.
Families and students are welcome to join us at any part of the walk. The first 10 minute section cannot be seen from the road.

BOOK FAIR
Through the purchases made by parents and families at the Book Fair, the school was able to benefit with the addition of almost $600 worth of new books.
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. Thanks to Deb and Julie for their work with the Book Fair.

SECONDARY SCHOOL - 2017
A reminder to families with students going into Year 7 next year, that Applications for Placement for 2017 need to be returned by tomorrow, the 13th May. Please contact the school with any queries.

SCHOOL CAMPS
GR 1/2
Our Grade 1/2 Camp to the Axedale Rotary Camp will take place on September 8th & 9th. Our aim is for Grade 2’s to attend the camp, including an overnight stay. Grade 1 students will join us for both days, taking part in a range of activities with the Grade 2’s. An overnight stay is optional for Grade 1’s. The students will take part in a range of bush and camping activities, tasks that build teamwork as well as some environmental activities. Cost will be $50 which will cover food, accommodation, transport and equipment. Axedale Rotary Camp is a Department of Education accredited camp.

GRADE 3-6
Our Grade 3-6 School Camp will be taking place in the last week of Term Three, from September 13th – 16th, and will be based at Sunnystones Camp near Bacchus Marsh. Students will take part in a range of bush, adventure and environmental activities. Sunnystones Camp is a Department of Education accredited camp. The cost for the camp will be approximately $300.
A camp notice form will be sent home next week with a payment voucher book. Deposit of $50 is due on Friday 3rd June.
Please contact the school with any queries.
SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM - Expression of interest
Ricky Cawley (Student Wellbeing Worker) is hoping to implement a meals program at Axedale Primary. This program will help provide meals for families who face difficulty in their lives due to unforeseen circumstances. If you could like to be part of this program or would like to know more, please contact Ricky on 0354397232 or you can catch him on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday.

NEW SCHOOL APP
We’re very pleased to inform you that our school has implemented a phone app called Updat-ed that will make connecting with you so much more convenient. To download the app just visit the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android’s. Search for Updat-ed and from the menu select our school. We’ll receive your registration request and will need to approve you before your app is up and running.

So what will the app do?
The app’s great for sending out alerts and reminders with one of its best features being the ability to save events directly into your phone’s calendar and send us absence notes.

If you are experiencing difficulty with your app please take a look at our Trouble Shooting Guide. Any further queries should be directed to: helpdesk@sponsor-ed.com.au

Please state the following in your email to helpdesk:
- Your school
- Name and email address
- Model phone/tablet
- Software version

We hope you enjoy being Updat-ed.

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:
- MARC Van $22
- Computer Programs $20 (Prep, Grade 1 & 2) Reading Eggs & Mathletics
- Computer Programs $30 (Grade 3, 4, 5 & 6) Reading Eggs, Mathletics & Mangahigh

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.

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

We currently have 30 students who have registered. They have read 57 books so far.

For more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and to view the booklists, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc
BREKKFAST CLUB
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help with Breakfast Club.
Thanks also to our sponsors.
Tuesday 17th May – Liz Harrington & Samantha Gilbertson
Thursday 19th May – Tanya Czuczman & Casey Reid
Tuesday 24th May – Melinda Pengelly & Claire Noyce
Thursday 26th May – Hannelie Schutte & Samantha Gilbertson

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help cutting up fruit on Fridays.
Friday 13th May – Melinda Pengelly & Donna Brandt
Friday 20th May – Susie McGrath & Sarah Vanis

MICHAEL GROSS PARENTING RESOURCES
Our school is a member of Parenting Ideas. Visit www.parentingideas.com.au
This week’s attached article is “Are you amongst the 10% of smart parents?”

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

MISSING JUMPER
Daniel White in Grade 1 is missing his Rugby Jumper. It has either his initials DW or Daniel on the tag. Can parents please check their child’s bag and at home in case it has made its way there.
Thanks

Lex Johnstone
Principal

CLASSROOMS

ART – GR 2-6 GIRLS
This term in Art, the girls will be doing some scrapbooking.
Students are able to make their scrapbooks about anything they wish. Eg. a holiday, their family, their pet.
Please spend some time with your daughter at home to select photos of a common theme, to include in this project.
Photos will be photocopied and the original will be sent back home.
I know the girls are really looking forward to this project, as I am looking forward to seeing their work.
Thank you in advance for your contribution.
Michelle Mannes – Art Teacher

PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS & FRIENDS (PVF)

FRUIT TREE & BARE ROOTED TREE DRIVE
Fruit Tree order form and tree list was attached to the newsletter last week. 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
Elmore Bakery Pie Drive order form is attached to the newsletter today. Orders and payment are due by Thursday 26th May.
FOOTY TIPPING
Round 8 - $106.50 JACKPOT
Footy tipping sheets for Round 8 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

ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY RUN – Grade 3-6 permission form due tomorrow.

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

FRUIT TREE ORDER FORM – due by Friday 20th May

ELMORE BAKERY PIE DRIVE – order form due by Thursday 28th May

FOOTY TIPPING SHEETS – Round 8 due tomorrow.

COMMUNITY

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 100 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 13 5441 or visit bendigoush.com.au/membership (and don’t forget to mention our school)
Parenting is challenging but you don’t need to go it alone. We all need help from time to time. Here are some ideas to help parents build their support network.

New Queensland research revealed that half of parents struggle with the stress of raising children, but only 10 per cent regularly ask for help. They are the smart 10 per cent!

Parents need assistance, advice and support from others to help them successfully raise their kids. Yet, 90 per cent of them do not regularly ask for help.

My experience suggests this is an Australia-wide phenomenon.

Help-seeking behaviours are healthy
Traditionally, Australians have not been great at asking for help of any kind. The term ‘battler’ is an endearing term attributed to someone who is doing it tough.

But for every battler who has fought against the odds and succeeded there are at least ten who struggled alone and never really got anywhere. And their families suffered as a result.

Fear of judgment
Anecdotal evidence suggests that many parents don’t seek help through fear of being judged as poor parents. Of course, the reality is that ALL parents struggle from time to time coping with their children’s behaviours and attitude. We can all use some help, as it’s easy to get STUCK in your parenting.

Help comes in many forms. It’s essential to build your network of support. Here’s how:

1. Start with family and friends
   You need between three and five trusted, non-judgemental people who you can call on for help. Count how many you have right now. If you fall short, look for ways to build your social capital.

2. Work alongside your child’s teacher
   Develop an open and communicative relationship with your child’s teacher so that you can work with them, seek support and develop ongoing strategies. Understand the best time to touch base with your teacher and establish how regularly this contact is needed.

3. Find counselling, parent education services and professional assistance
   Whether paid or free (such as ParentLine), there are various services that you can go to when you need significant assistance. Foster a relationship with a professional (general practitioner, psychologist, specialist in a child’s disorder, social worker) that you can trust and return to over time.

4. Follow a voice you can trust
   Part of modern parental stress comes from the plethora of information about raising kids. Answering the basic question, “Am I doing a good job?” is now super-confusing. Choose expertise wisely.

5. Don’t blaze trails
   Many parents think like the Lone Ranger, they are blazing a trail through uncharted territory. Raising twins on your own? You’re not the first. Got a child with ADHD, another with autism and your 15 year old wants to get a tattoo? You’re not the first. Seek out like-minded parents or experienced professionals who have been down these paths, or have helped people navigate similar situations and get their perspectives. Trail-blazers are easily lost.

If you are like the majority of parents who find the job tough from time to time then I encourage you to be one of the smart 10 per cent and adopt help-seeking behaviours. The alternative, struggle along with the majority of parents, is just not necessary.

Michael Grose

Connecting With Kids
Axedale

Emotional Intelligence is the ability to identify your emotions, understand them and be in control of the way we express them.

- Do you often wonder why children do what they do?
- Would you like to learn how to help children manage feelings such as worry, frustration and anger?

Come along to this 2 hour workshop and find out more about how to use emotional intelligence to teach children about managing their feelings.

Term 2, 2016

When: Thursday 2nd June 2016
Time: Arrival and registration 5.45pm
       Session 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Where: Axedale Primary School - High Street, Axedale 3551
Cost: Free
Facilitator: Linda Lynch and Jo Rodriguez (CatholicCare Sandhurst)
Childcare: Not available

For bookings and enquiries contact Ricky Cawley (student wellbeing worker) on 5439 7232

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.