Since last week’s newsletter, Neil Angus has presented the Forest Hill School Endeavour Award to **MARTHA SAIF**.

Martha Saif is a most worthy recipient of this award. She is a “quiet achiever” who willingly assists others, is kind, considerate, polite, always tried her best, enthusiastic, sympathetic to others, reliable, responsible and a wonderful role model for others.

**CONGRATULATIONS, MARTHA**

It is with great pleasure I announce that **Tegan Griffiths was** presented with the Bert Sloane Youth Achievement Award by the Rotary Club of Forest Hill.

Tegan has achieved much success in her academic studies and always applies herself enthusiastically to the task in hand.

Tegan has very good leadership qualities and has held the position of Flynn House Captain this year. She is a very good school leader, who is a most reliable, conscientious, caring and responsible student, who leads by example. She is always willing to assist other students and staff, showing care, sensitivity and consideration at all times.

Tegan is a wonderful role model, with a positive approach to everything she does. Her interpersonal skills are of a very high level and she shows care and consideration towards others at all times.

Tegan’s care of the animals in the Outdoor Learning Classroom has been greatly appreciated this year.

**CONGRATULATIONS, TEGAN!**
TWO WEEKS TO GO!

On Monday the election of school leaders for 2014 was conducted and it was wonderful to see so many students willingly put themselves forward and speak to the student community. They all did this with confidence and professionalism. The 2014 school leaders will be announced at assembly on Friday 13th December.

The Kindergarten Dance Concert, the concert celebrating Christmas led by Crossways, Level Two excursion to the Traffic School, the final Real Life Adventure all occurred this week.

REMINDER

CURRICULUM DAY TOMORROW (a student-free day) will complete the school week. Then it is only TWO WEEKS to go!! Hard to believe it is so close to Christmas.

ASSEMBLY CHANGE OF TIME

Due to there being no assembly on Friday 6th December, and the large number of awards to be handed out the following week, the assembly on Friday 13th December will begin at the earlier time of 2.15pm.

LOST PROPERTY

END OF YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING

LAST CHANCE TO CLAIM

It is really incredible to see so many unnamed items of school uniform and the ever increasing number of unclaimed articles of clothing. I ask parents to please check in the Lost Property table if they are missing any school uniform garments. Please check the name on your school jackets in case you have accidently picked up the wrong one.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMISED FUNDING TO VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

The Abbot government has decided to revisit the schools funding model that was partly implemented by the previous Labor Government and was based on the recommendations of the Gonski panel.

We should not underestimate the serious implications of this development on Australia’s education system and its long-term consequences for Australian society.

To remind the community, the Gonski panel found:-

(1) that there should be a significant increase in funding across all schooling sectors, with the largest part of this increase being directed to the government sector. It’s the government sector that educates the largest number of students with particular and urgent needs.

(2) that all recurrent funding for all schools (be they government, private or independent schools sector) be based on a new schooling resources standard

(3) That the new schooling resource standard would consist of separate per student amounts for primary and secondary students, plus loadings for the additional costs of meeting certain educational needs for particular students.

(4) and very importantly, while the States should retain full responsibility for the delivery of primary and secondary education, funding for schooling is a shared responsibility of the Commonwealth and State government.

There is no doubting the right of a new government to reconsider its policy settings. However, if the Abbot government does intend to move away from the considered approach established by the Gonski panel after eighteen months of serious and thoughtful consideration (given the importance of these issues to Australia’s future) it does have an obligation to Australian parents, Australian businesses and the Australian community as a whole to explain exactly what it has in mind and how it arrived at its position.

There can be no doubt about this. We await this explanation.
Prep M – Lakota M for a wonderful effort this term! You should feel very proud!

Prep W – Andrew F for showing his initiative to help out the class and being a wonderful friend to others.

Grade 1/2A – Whole Class for behaving wonderfully on their excursion to the Buzy Kidz Traffic School.

Grade 1/2E – Jamie I for his well written persuasive piece on ‘Why fast food restaurants should not be closed’.

Grade 1/2T – Whole Class for excellent behaviour during our excursion to Buzy Kidz Traffic School.

Grade 1/2WM – Cindy L for brilliant writing on your ‘Star of the Week’ writing piece. Well Done!

Grade 3/4A – Caleb F for his outstanding ability to convince an audience of his opinion when debating. Outstanding!

Grade 3/4G – Saxon W for doing his best work on his Semester Two reflection. Well Done!

Grade 3/4J – Kristy P, Maddison E, Paige D and Kyle R for always doing their very best work and being very helpful to the teacher.

Grade 3/4P – Tamay F for being a friendly and positive class member who is always willing to help others. Keep it up!

Grade 5/6A – Erin B for her outstanding persistence and commitment during graduation practise. Well Done! You Rock!

Grade 5/6H – Atticus B for contributing to discussions with an interesting and informative mix of fact and humour. Well done!

Grade 5/6L – Siew-Ting L for being a wonderful classmate who is willing to help out anyone. You are a superstar!!

Grade 5/6M – Benjamin L for his brilliant positive attitude and his outstanding effort to achieve his own personal best. Thanks for being a legend!

HOMECRAFTS – Caleb F 34A for being a friendly and knowledgeable host to our lunch visitors.

VISUAL ARTS AWARD – Kiren Z for an excellent and well balanced design based on flowers, while utilising the art elements of shape, line, repetition and pattern. Well done!!

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

For 2014, the EMA application process and EMA payment rates will remain unchanged. The EMA programme will cease from 1st January 2015.

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- Be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- Be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term One (28th January 2014 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term Three (14th July 2014).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 28th February 2014.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $200.00 Prep students for Year One to Six students $150.00.

The first instalment will be $140.00 for Prep and $105.00 for students in Years One to Six.

The second instalment will have a payment amount of $60.00 for Prep and for Years One to Six it will be $45.00.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who have paid the first instalment of 2014 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 28th February and prior to 14th July must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

EMA application forms are available from the school office.
PAYMENT OF REQUISITES

DON’T FORGET payment for student requisites and materials for 2014 and school maintenance contribution can be made on Tuesday 28th January, 2014, between 9.00am and 12.00 midday.

EARLY PAYMENT
The draw for early payment of student requisites will take place on Friday 13th December, 2013.

EXCEL MUSIC OPEN LESSON DAY

On Monday 16th December EXCEL MUSIC will be hosting an Open Lesson Day. Parents will have the opportunity to attend their child’s lesson and observe the progress that has been achieved during the course of the year. It also enables students to perform for an audience which is very important for their musical development and personal growth.

RETURN OF LIBRARY BOOKS

Please ensure all library books are returned on time so Mrs Bakopanos can do an audit of the resources. It is important that books are returned in the same condition that they were borrowed.

LOOKING FOR A CRE TEACHER

There is a need for an additional CRE teacher at Burwood Heights Primary School next year. Training for CRE teaching is provided by Access Ministries, the organization responsible for CRE in government schools. Anyone who is interested in teaching CRE at our school next year please contact Ian Cameron (CRE coordinator) on 9878 3693.

END OF YEAR RAFFLE

All families should have received their raffle tickets for the End of Year Raffle. Prizes are hampers of goodies to get you through the holidays. If you don’t want the tickets please return them immediately. There will be a Free Dress Day on Thursday 12th December with the “payment” for the Free Dress being an item to donate to the hampers. Tickets are due back on Tuesday 10th December and the raffle will be drawn at the Assembly on Friday 13th December. Good luck and thank you for your support of our school.

Thank you to the following parents for their help with stapling and collating the raffle tickets:
- Toni
- Josephine
- Stella
- Cara
- Julie
- Amanda

Classroom Co-ordinators

TEA TOWELS
I have five of the 2013 tea towels left, so if you missed out on ordering please see me as soon as possible. Prices are $13.00 each or 3 for $30.

Vicki Fahey

SAUSAGE SIZZLE
Orders for the sausage sizzle to be held on Thursday 12th December MUST BE RETURNED BY 3.30 PM MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER. We cannot accept late orders at this time of the year. Form are also available from the website.

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS
- No more than 9 tokens can be carried over to next year.
- If you have 10 or more tokens you must redeem them this term or you will lose them forever.
- Money boxes will not be available next year so if you would like one order it this term so you don’t miss out.
- Torches and wallets are sold out.
- Banking day is WEDNESDAY!
I’ve had a fortnight off from menu planning for Level Four student. Over the last few years, I have given Year Six students the chance to create their final menu based on all the dishes we’ve cooked together over the year. That’s a lot of recipes to choose from! Interestingly, all four classes chose the same salad. It’s obviously a winner, so here it is.

**Avocado, bacon and tomato salad**

- 6 garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 250 g rind less bacon
- 100 g green salad leaves
- 1 small red onion, sliced
- 2 avocados, cut into 1.5cm chunks
- 450 g tomatoes, cut into 1.5cm chunks
- salt and pepper

1. Preheat oven to 180deg. Place garlic on baking tray and roast for 30 mins, allow garlic to cool and then squeeze out the flesh and mash in a small bowl.
2. Add the olive oil, balsamic vinegar and dijon mustard and whisk well together. Season with salt and pepper.
3. Chop bacon into bite sized pieces, then grill or dry fry for 3-5 mins or until crisp.
4. Place salad leaves into bowl and add bacon, onion, tomato and avocado. Toss well.
5. Whisk the dressing ingredients again to ensure they are mixed well and then pour over salad.
Hi all,

I hope everyone has been having a good week so far. The kids have been really getting into the Christmas spirit this week with helping to make Christmas decorations for our OSHClub tree and joining in with holiday themed cooking activities and games. Christmas is my favourite time of the year and being so far from my family in the lead up to the holiday, it's been fantastic to share this time of the year with our little group and hear about everything that the kids love about Christmas time or how they spend the break with their family even if they don't celebrate Christmas.

I'd also like to send out a big thank you to Maxx and his mum Suzanne who brought in some Christmas decorations for our tree. With those decorations and the ones that the kids have made so far, our tree really is looking fantastic.

Have a great week!
The OSHClub Team

Next Week’s Activities: Christmas!

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>Garden Play</td>
<td>AASC – Funk ‘n’ Groovy</td>
<td>AASC – Mini-Olympics</td>
<td>Mad Eagle</td>
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<td>Recycled Holiday Card Decorations</td>
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Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0423 225 807
Coordinator: LINDSAY
Assistants: MARNI, LIZ, ANTHONY, KERRIE, POOJA, ALEX, RACHELLE
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
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.
Be a Winner in the Water this Summer...

Receive a FREE pair of Goggles when you book and pay for Term 1.

Kid's Summer Holiday Program
SPECIAL OFFER $60
Program Dates
Monday 13 – Friday 17 January
Places filling up fast!

SwimWorld will get your kids ready for summer fun by the water!

452 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley. www.myswimworld.com.au

ACTING & FILM MAKING Holiday Programs

5 days of acting workshops and film making for kids and teens!
Mornings will be spent on improvisation, drama games and script work.
Afternoons will be working on a film/TV project that will be decided upon within the group at the beginning of the week. From creating the story, developing characters and figuring out the best way to shoot it, the project will be the student’s own creation!
A copy of the finished work will be provided to each person on a disk.

TEENS (High School age): Monday 13th – Friday 17th January 2014
KIDS (8 years and up): Monday 20th – Friday 24th January 2014

Times: 10am-5pm each day
Location: 429 Highbury Road, Burwood East, 3151
Cost: $275

For bookings call 8838 8966 or 0402 094 279
or email rachel@actorsconnection.com.au

Do you or your child dream of being on film, tv or stage?
ACTORS CONNECTION and
AUSTRALIAN ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION presents:
‘Working in the Entertainment Industry’

Information for adults and parents on the benefits and pitfalls of commencing a career in entertainment

Sun 8th Dec 10am Kids & Parents
Sun 8th Dec 1pm Adults

ACTORS CONNECTION ph: 8838 8966 or Rachel on 0402 094 279
429 Highbury Rd, Burwood East, 3151
Tickets $20 (book to secure a place or turn up at our venue)

TELEVISION: How do I find an agent? What should I say about my child's skills? What is a 'go see'?

FILM: How can the MEAA help me? Will my child need to pay tax? How can I safeguard my child?

THEATRE: What is an improv? What are the different kinds of theatre auditions? What is the time commitment?

‘Working in the Entertainment Industry’ gives you the answers so you or your child can have a fun, productive and positive experience while establishing a solid career foundation.
Kids Balance holds mindfulness and relaxation workshops for children throughout Melbourne, Victoria. Each session consists of Warm-up, Posture and Co-ordination exercises, Group-based Activities and Interactive Games, Mindfulness Practice and Breathing exercises, Mindful movements, Visualisations, and Affirmations. We provide workshops for preschool and primary school children. Our mission at Kids Balance is to promote value and significance of mindfulness and relaxation techniques to all children, empowering their self esteem and self expression and guiding them to draw out and honour innate intelligence through natural movement experiences. Every Kids Balance session is relevant, practical, inspirational, and fun.

We hope to teach and inspire a generation of happy, healthy, positive and calm children to live a balanced life in body, positive mind and spirit.

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**Term 4 - 2013**
We are accepting casual students for this term.

**When:** Tuesday

**Venue:** Esther Wood Hall

**Time:** 3:35pm - 4:20pm

**Year Levels:** Prep and Grade 1 - 3

**Cost:** Pay as you go for $12 per session. Turn up at the venue with payment.

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**Term 1 - 2014**

**When:** Tuesday

**Comencing:** 04/02/2014

**Concluding:** 07/03/2014

**Time:** 3:35pm - 4:20pm

**Year Levels:** Prep and Grade 1 - 3

**Venue:** Burwood Heights Primary School

**Cost:** Term 1 of year 2014 (8 weeks) - $78

**Enrol:** Enrol and make payment online - go to www.kidsbalance.com.au