Welcome Back
Welcome back to everyone for our first week of school this year. A special welcome to all of our new students and families. Although many of our new students are Preps we also have a number of students entering into the school at different levels. We look forward to having a lot of family involvement this year and would love for you to be a part of this school.

Prep Parents.
Well done to all of you! For first time parents we understand the emotion that can go with leaving your child at school for the first time. It is a significant milestone not only for them but also for you as parents. The way that our preps started says a lot about the preparation that families did before they arrived. A great start to their 13 year-long school career!

Child Safe – Working with Children Checks
All Victorian schools need to be compliant with the Child Safe policies of Victoria. A significant feature of this is the need for adults working with students to have a Working With Children Check. These can be applied for online. Janis can assist you with advice on this process if you require it. A volunteer WWCC is free. Anyone who is supporting our school with excursions, camps and most sporting events will require one of these. In many cases working in the school assisting teachers will also mean a WWCC is required. Parents visiting the school for events such as Grandparents Day or to watch sporting events don’t need one. I believe that most Junior Sport Clubs are now also required to ask for these.

Miss Trickey
A special welcome back to Ms Trickey who has returned to us from Canada. Janine has many stories to tell and has come back with fresh ideas to share. She has had a fantastic experience and misses many aspects of her time away however she is also very happy to be back “home” at Rochy PS.

Bowls Night
School Council are planning a special Lawn Bowls Night for an evening of entertainment. More details will follow however no knowledge or ability will be required!

Optician Visit
In a few weeks time we will be visited by an Optician. This is a professional practice that will visit schools and bulk bill families. This is not a part of the DET [Education Department]. It is a private practice that will require a written referral from parents. More information about referring your child and dates will be provided to us soon.

Enrolments
Our current enrolment is 153 students. This is an increase on last year [we started with 147 students] and is a positive sign for our school.

Pop in to the Principal.
One of the most important roles I have is to talk to parents. If you have an issue, any issue large or small, please talk to me. I can’t guarantee to solve every problem but I will listen and try. I am happy to talk in person or on the phone. If you want to talk to a teacher about a small issue please pop in before school and have a chat. If it is a bit more serious or will require more time please contact me and I will set up a meeting. Remember before school teachers are preparing for the day however all teachers will be in their classroom neighbourhoods [areas] at 8.30 if you need a quick “touch base” chat.

NBN Rollout
As the NBN is rolled out in Rochester we will have some work on the roadside opposite Murray’s shop in Edward St. This will take about two days and is likely to effect the use of the footpath and roadside. Hopefully I will be able to warn you a few days in advance.

Graeme
Star of the Week
Prep C
Prep 1 Try
Gr 2 I
Gr 3/4W
Gr 3/4E
Gr 5/6 Ras
Gr 5/6 Ros

Birthday Congratulations
Markeisha Bramley, Matilda Godden, Zac Bywaters

Congratulations to our student who were awarded prizes in
the Australia Day Competition.

Students pictured receiving their Certificates from Stan Alves.

...Cooper, Maddi, Blake & Jasmine.  (Absent Kaitlyn)
CAMPS & EXCURSION APPLICATION – DO YOU HAVE A HEALTH CARE CARD?

Criteria 1 - Eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

on the first day of Term one, or;

on the first day of Term two;

a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR

b) Be a temporary foster parent, and

c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Payment amounts

The amount payable for eligible primary and secondary students is:

$125 for Primary school students.

$225 for Secondary school students.

Please see Janis at the office if you are unsure if you are eligible. Applications to be in by 10 March.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Is your information current? Many families forget to update their contact details (including emergency telephone numbers). Each student will have received a form today to be checked and returned to the office. The Privacy notice and Head lice check also needs to be completed and returned as soon as possible. Newsletters can be sent to your email address if you would prefer rather than a hard copy.

BUS TRAVEL

As per previous years students will not be given permission to travel on a country bus that they do not normally travel on eg. For party invitations, sports etc. Most of the buses are running at full capacity, so you will need to make alternative arrangements.

LATE TELEPHONE CALLS

Please be mindful that the office is extremely busy between 3.00pm and 3.30pm. It is not always possible to get late messages to students. If a message is needed, please ring as early in the day as possible. Please note that the telephone is diverted to message bank every morning until 8.30a.m. If you wish, you can leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that Rochester Primary School does not provide personal accident insurance for students. There are some companies that provide this service if parents wish to take out a policy. Below is the contact details of one such company. All contact regarding these matters must be done through the company and not the school. The school does not endorse any particular company but provides a service by passing on contact information to parents.

Canteen 2017
Canteen will re-open TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY.

We are always seeking helpers in the Canteen. Your children love to see you at school and Canteen is a great way to help out. The job is not hard to do and I am always on hand to answer your questions. Canteen duty is from 10am to 2pm and involves collating orders and preparing the food. If you would like to help us and support the school, please complete the slip below and return to office.

CANTENE HELPERS

Name ……………………………………………………………………….             Phone ………………………………………………….

☐ I would like to help out in the canteen in 2017
☐ I have not done canteen duty before

I can help on the following days:

☐ Tuesday       ☐ Wednesday       ☐ Thursday       ☐ Friday

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 6th February</th>
<th>Wednesday 8th</th>
<th>Thursday 9th</th>
<th>Friday 10th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Caroline</td>
<td>Shona King</td>
<td>Leesa Purdy</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 13th</th>
<th>Tuesday 14th</th>
<th>Wednesday 15th</th>
<th>Thursday 16th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Help Wanted</td>
<td>Help Wanted</td>
<td>Help Wanted</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Friday 17th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help Wanted</td>
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Parent Payment Fees
School fees to cover essential education items have been set by School Council at $190.00 per student. A voluntary levy for assistance in the maintenance of school buildings and grounds is $20 per family. A reminder that if you have chosen to pay your fees by instalment, the first payment is due now.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

School Shoes—
We have a small number of shoes (new). Sizes range from 12 to 3. If you are interested please see Janis at the Office.