What an amazing week it has been since last Wednesday. There has been many, many plans put into place and the year is shaping up to be exciting and interesting.

One new and very exciting plan is that we have received a request to host a group of Thai students for 12 days in our school, from 18th April to 11th May. The students are Primary School aged and will be coming from various areas in Thailand. They are venturing to Australia on a three week study tour and will spend some of their time with our students in class. This is a unique opportunity for us to welcome the students to the school and to have them stay with some of our families. If you are interested in hosting Thai students in your home please see the details later in this newsletter.

Information Nights are being well attended. Parents that were at the Grade 5 & 6 night, found out a great deal about: organisational structures that are appropriate to the level, the home learning program, digital technology use, camps and transitioning to Secondary College. Congratulations to our School Captains who were the MCs for the night and the Vice Captains who shared their highlights of Grade 5 camp.

Congratulations to all our Student Leaders who received their badges on Monday at assembly. It was delight to see them conduct themselves so well as their badges were presented by David Hodgett MP, Member for Croydon.
WHAT LEADERSHIP MEANS TO ME
BY JARRED

What is a leader?
A leader is someone who:
  is responsible
  listens
  helps others
  enjoys being around other people
  is kind
  is encouraging
  sets a good example
  and provides a good role model

I used to always look up to the older kids at school.
I wanted to be someone that when it was my turn, others could
look up to as well.
It is important to have leaders because they encourage others
and give people that follow them something to aim for.
Steve Smith is the captain of the Australian Cricket Team and
lead them through hard times to win Australia the ICC One Day
Series.
The Young Australians of the Year, Nic and Lucas, came up with
a great idea to help homeless people by washing their clothes.
This doesn’t sound like much. But what they did for those people
was much more. It helped them but as leaders they also inspired
other people to help too. Now 270 people help homeless people
around Australia.
A good leader is somebody who listens, enjoys what they are
doing, and tries to get the best out of all the people around them.
A good student leader shows the school values and tries to do
their best in whatever they are doing, even if they are not good
at it.

WHAT IT MEANS TO ME TO
BE SCHOOL CAPTAIN
BY ELLA

Being a great role model is my goal as School Captain. I want
to show a great example for every student at Yarra Road.
Exactly like every other school captain has done before me.
The second I found out that I was the girl school captain for 2016, I couldn’t believe what I had just heard. I was so proud and happy and if you saw me you definitely would have known that. Leadership, responsibility, excellence, respect, resilience and confidence are the things that mean most to me as beginning school captain. Applying for this role was a big thing for me and it still is. Jarred and I do have a big job but we are definitely ready for it.
**Working Bee**

The fabulous new outdoor learning spaces on the south side of the Junior Building are close to completion thanks to the very hard work of a small team of dedicated staff and parents at last Saturday’s Working Bee. Major tasks completed included installing safety fencing, laying synthetic turf, installing cantilevered umbrellas, painting Tetris stepping stones and spreading toppings.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Daniel Quick, Rhiana Macrae, Darren and Emily Cooper, Jamie and Rhiana Davison, Rob Piccioli, Chris Joyce and Kerri Kirby and a special thank you to Nicola Leane and Kate Perkins for the delicious morning tea and lunch.

Meriden James

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**From the Art Room**

In art we studied Pablo Picasso’s painting *The Weeping Women*. I decided to draw a weeping man using Pablo’s style.

I really like my drawing because it’s my own design and colourful.

By Tyler M 5 B
YARRA ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED

“Hosting international students is like bringing the world to your home!”

Enjoy a new cultural experience by becoming a homestay family

* Thai students will study in a 3 week program at Yarra Road Primary School
* Students aged 10-13 Years Old
* 2 students / homestay family / shared bedroom
* Period of stay: 18 April – 11 May, 2016 (Term 2)

Full 24/7 support from CETA Thailand for homestay families from local-based Company M.D. and tour leader

For further details and homestay fees paid to suitable families, please contact

📞 TRACEY GRAY
📞 0423 417 527
📧 tracey@ceta.co.th
🌐 www.cetahomestay.com
## STARS OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PK</td>
<td>Demi A</td>
<td>For showing RESPECT by using beautiful manners in our classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Zane T</td>
<td>For showing RESPECT by being kind to his friends and always using manners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Flynn M</td>
<td>For being a great friend and helping his friends when they are sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2M/P</td>
<td>Lily J</td>
<td>For beautiful singing of our national anthem at assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Chloe R</td>
<td>For settling in to her new class with ease and working to the best of her ability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R/H</td>
<td>Alessandra A</td>
<td>For settling in to her new school with such “CONFIDENCE”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\4A</td>
<td>Anthony M</td>
<td>For helping his face partner to spell during writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\4JQ</td>
<td>Ethan R</td>
<td>For showing fantastic responsibility with his home learning activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\4R</td>
<td>Jack C</td>
<td>For making a wonderful start to the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\4S</td>
<td>Archie S</td>
<td>For making such a positive start to the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C\H</td>
<td>Lachlan P</td>
<td>For his positive start to grade 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Ashley M</td>
<td>For showing excellence and persistence with all class activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6RV</td>
<td>Darcy B</td>
<td>For showing respect for his classroom environment and cheerfully volunteering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6VL</td>
<td>Emily C</td>
<td>For doing an excellent job at organising the Grade 6 monitor board</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## App of the Week!

**Toontastic**
Price: Free with In-App purchases

Age: Grade 2 – Grade 6

Genre: Education

**Description:** Toontastic is a fun educational app for children from Grade 2 to Grade 6. It is a cartoon-based app designed to teach kids how to create digital stories in ways they will enjoy.

It has three features on it:
- **Teachers/Parents Guide** - tells the parents and teachers what the app is about and how to use it.
- **Toontube** - a mode that allows kids to look at other cartoons.
- **Create** - allows kids to make their own cartoon with whatever they like in it.

We think that Toontastic is a great app for kids.
In Prep, the children have settled in quickly and are enjoying their time at school. They are getting to know each other, learning names and forming new friendships. There is always excitement and anticipation when waiting for their Grade 5 buddies to visit them each day. The Prep children have already been introduced to a number of cooperative learning structures and a new sound each day. They have been to their first assembly, started specialist classes and P.M.P and will be celebrating 10 days of school this week. We are looking forward to exploring the new outdoor learning space!

What a great start to the year for Level 2! We have been working so hard in our classrooms getting to know each other and establishing routines. We have started work on our Envision maths program and are really enjoying it. Our Literacy program so far has consisted of becoming familiar with our new Soundwaves Handwriting program as well as our Soundwaves Spelling program. For Science this term we are focusing on Water and in History we are looking at our Personal Histories and Chronological Celebrations. We are looking forward to a great year ahead!
It has been a fantastic start to the year in Grades 3 & 4. This week we have started our Reading and Maths groups and received our first pencil cases! We have been looking at our 5 school values of Excellence, Confidence, Respect, Resilience and Responsibility, and as a level we’ve created a charter to cover what we believe are the behaviours and attitudes we want to see in our classrooms. Now we’re looking forward to starting our science program with Shelley Atkinson!

The students have all settled in very well and are adjusting to the organizational differences in the Bower Building. We had our Parent information night last night where we talked about how the level is set up, the transition process to secondary school, digital technology, camps, production and graduation.

We are in the process of setting up Google Apps for Education. A parent permission form will be coming home today, and will also be available from the school website.

Inter School Sport started last Friday with games against Heathmont East PS.
Hi Everyone

Just a reminder that Scholastic book Club orders are due to be finalized by this Friday 12th February.

Kerry Graham
Library

NORWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE
2016 TOUR DATES

Tours of Norwood Secondary College have been organised for the following dates in 2016. Bookings are necessary for tours and interested persons should telephone 9871-0400 to organise a suitable date. Tours commence at 9am from the General Office and are of approximately one hour duration.

Tuesday, 23 February
Wednesday, 2 March
Tuesday, 8 March
Tuesday, 15 March
Wednesday, 16 March
Monday, 21 March
Tuesday, 12 April
Wednesday, 13 April
Tuesday, 19 April
Wednesday, 20 April
Tuesday 26, April
Wednesday, 27 April
Tuesday, 3 May
Tuesday, 10 May
Wednesday, 11 May

Open Night will be held on
Wednesday, 4 May 2016 commencing at 7pm

Regards
Caroline and Lisa
Do you want to advertise your business in the YRPS Business Directory?

⇒ Business card size
⇒ $25 for 6 months or $50 for whole year
⇒ Your business card will also be “posted” onto our community pin board on our website

Disclaimer—any advertising from Doctors, Dentists or other healthcare professionals must be fully accredited and duly registered.