Cross Country
Cross Country is going ahead this Friday. If it is TOO wet to safely run races, the carnival will be cancelled on the day. If its too wet for the children to sit all day, but okay to run, we will hold the children in classrooms until their race. There will be a room for parents to also wait in if this is the scenario. The 'top shop' will be situated outside the canteen.

If the carnival is cancelled please check our Website, Facebook page or phone the school. A final decision will be posted at 8am to these sites.

Some good ideas......
Allow your child to bring an old towel, large garbage bag or blanket to sit on as the ground is still damp.

Send a plastic bag and an extra pair of shoes and socks as children will be running through some muddy patches. You might want to consider a change of clothes in case your child gets splattered with or falls in mud. PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND HATS. Please also see attached the canteen information in this newsletter.

No parking is permitted in the bus bay area as this forms part of the track. If you arrive after 9.30 or need to leave before the end of the races, you will need to park in the surrounding streets. Please don’t block anyone’s drive ways. The road between the school and Fredericks Lane (near the rainforest entrance) is a private road- please do not park here at all.

Easter Hat Parade
Hopefully the plans are well under way at your house for the Easter Hat creations.

The Easter Hat parade will start at 2pm on Friday 11th April.

Kinder 2013 enjoying the Hat Parade last year.
The APPROXIMATE times for each race are:

10:40 12/13yrs boys/girls
11:00 11yrs boys/girls
11:20 10yrs boys/girls

RECESS

12:10 8/9 boys/girls
12:30 Year 2 boys/girls (who don’t run in the 8/9yo races)
12:40 Year 1 boys/girls
12:50 Kinder boys/girls

Hat Parade
Our hat parade will start at 2pm on Friday 11th April followed by the P&C raffle draw. Children can wear mufti on the day. Pre-schoolers are encouraged to wear a hat for the preschool parade. Children make their hats at home and bring them along on Friday for the parade. For our new parents, we seat the children around the perimeter of the basketball court and parents sit behind them. You may like to bring portable seating. As its usually a hot day, we suggest that you don’t put chocolate eggs on hats. Hats do not have to follow an Easter theme. In the past we have had characters such as Iron Man, top hats, princesses, pirates and space men. No prizes are awarded for best hats – it’s just a fun school community activity and a lovely way to end term 1.

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy NAPLAN
Please find attached to this weeks newsletter information in regard to the NAPLAN testing that will take place between 13- 15th May for students in Year 3 and Year 5.

Invoices
School fees this year consists of $35 for the Mathletics, Reading Eggs and Spelladrome Licence and $35 for Voluntary Contribution which goes towards supporting library and computer needs at our school. Some families will be receiving their invoices for School Fees today. If you did not receive yours today it will follow with next weeks newsletter. Please feel free to make part payments on these fees if that suits your needs.

Also included on the invoice is the amount owing for the Bornhoffen excursion for Stage 3 students. This amount is not due to be paid until the 9th May, so feel free to pay for school fees only or make a part payment towards the excursion. Payments can be made by completing the EFTPOS form on the bottom of the invoice (preferred option) or with cash, card, cheque to the office. Direct deposit is not available to DEC schools at this stage.

Bric a Brac
I know its hard to believe but planning has begun for this years major fundraiser the Country Fair, which will be held in Term 3. If you are looking at cleaning out some cupboards during the year we would appreciate any items you can donate. These items can be left in the front office for sorting and pricing. We will be holding a recycled clothing store again at the Fair, but we ask that you do not send them as yet. Please no electrical goods.

Fundraising News

EASTER RAFFLE

Last year we had more than 40 great Easter prize packs on offer – maybe there will be more this year?! But you’ve got to be in it to win it.

Eggs needed!
The success of this monster raffle largely depends on Easter egg donations. Thanks to all those people who have donated Easter eggs already. If you have n’t already donated, please consider making a donation of Easter chocolate to the school. Donated eggs can be left at the office, and we can accept donations up until Monday, 7 April.

Canteen Helpers Needed
Canteen operates every Friday for over the counter sales. If you can spare a few hours every now and then on a Friday please come and fill a spot on the canteen roster.

Canteen Cross Country Take 2
The Cross Country day is a major fundraiser for the P&C run Canteen. We need lots of helpers on this day as there will be lunch orders and over the counter sales. We will also be running the top shop on the oval as well as tea and coffees for all the parents at the canteen.

We would also appreciate a little baking (NUT FREE) if you can spare the time. Please mark your name on the Cross Country roster in the office if you can help in any way.

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who helped out at last weeks canteen day. Your help is very much appreciated. A special thank you to Angela Woolcott for all the running around, picking up supplies and organising in preparation for the Cross Country.
LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

In 2014, as in previous years, the Writing task will be a single common task for all students. The 2014 Writing test will require students to respond to either a persuasive or narrative Writing prompt. However, the genre of the prompt will not be disclosed prior to the test period.

Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 16 May 2014.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
Absent Notes

If your student is absent from school a written note is required to be returned to the classroom teacher for filing. These notes are kept on file for several years and are mandatory for us to receive. Please ensure you return absence details on the form below or a handwritten note explaining the absence is also fine.

Date:_______________

Dear ______________________

My child ____________________________ in class _________ absent from school on ______________________

because ________________________________________ _____________________________________________

Other relevant information about this absence:
____________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________
PARENT

Date:_______________

Dear ______________________

My child ____________________________ in class _________ absent from school on ______________________

because ________________________________________ _____________________________________________

Other relevant information about this absence:
____________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________
PARENT

Date:_______________

Dear ______________________

My child ____________________________ in class _________ absent from school on ______________________

because ________________________________________ _____________________________________________

Other relevant information about this absence:
____________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________
PARENT