SCHOOL PHOTOS: We are starting to receive payment envelopes for school photos. The date for school photos this year is Thursday 14th March. A reminder that family photos will also be taken on the same day and if families are interested, payment envelopes for family photos are available from the school office. Please remember that if your child is sitting for the Selective High School exam on this day, they must return to school for their photos.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT: A reminder that our parent information night is being held this coming Monday afternoon/evening. Each class teacher sent home an information note recently, informing parents what time their class/grade session is being held. If you have lost your note don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or the school office for times. I encourage all parents to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child’s classroom teacher and other teachers supporting their class, to hear what the teacher’s expectations are, overall classroom organisation and what your child will be learning about.

I look forward to seeing parents next Monday the 4th March.
**PARENT BODY:** The next Parent Body meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 5th of March. The meeting begins at 5.30pm and is held in the school staff room. I encourage parents/carers and family members to attend, as it is a great way to hear about what’s happening in our school and what activities are being planned to raise money for supporting our student’s education. The Parent Body are a welcoming and fun group and love seeing new faces.

**PRINCIPAL’S TOPIC OF THE WEEK**

My Principal’s topic this week is about Children and Television.

**Children and Television:** Did you know that by the time Australian children reach the age of 18, they will have watched about 14,000 hours of television, compared to 12,000 hours spent at school?

This is not all bad news as television provides many opportunities for children to learn about the world around them. It can be a powerful educational tool when used sensibly. Television can be a great baby-sitter, but it shouldn’t be used indiscriminately. You need to have some input into what and how much your children watch. They should be allowed to watch a range of programs including cartoons, comedies, documentaries, movies and current affair programs.

The danger in allowing children to watch television too often is that they have a greater risk of obesity, poor social development, an increased chance of being affected by violence and an increased likelihood that they will have limited imagination and creativity, and therefore struggle with problem-solving activities.

Research shows that adults spend about 19% of their waking life in front of the television and primary school children about 16%. Too much television encourages a sedentary lifestyle.

Here are some tips to remember for television viewing:
- lead by example,
- negotiate a suitable time limit for viewing,
- choose the programs you want to watch,
- always know what your children are watching,
- help your children plan for TV-free times during the week,
- talk about the characters, issues and themes which arise from the programs,
- talk about how the programs make you feel,
- talk about the gimmicks or promotional strategies used in commercials and advertising.

**Most importantly... find the OFF button and use it!!**

Have a great week!

Mr Richard Batty
**PRINCIPAL**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS:** The date for school photos this year is Thursday 14th March. Family photos will also be taken on the same day, from 8.30am in the hall. Payment envelopes for family photos are available from the office. All Year 6 students that will be sitting the Selective High School exam on this day will be expected to return to school after the exam has finished so that they can participate in school photos. This is particularly important due to Year 6 photos being used as Graduation Photos.

**PARENT BODY NEWS:**

*Student BBQ* - thank you to students who supported this event we cooked over 420 snags, cut over 420 bread rolls and kept over 420 bottles of water cold. All to provide to our great kids for lunch. There were a few hiccups with timing, so thank you to the students for their patience in receiving their orders.

A big thank you to the following for helping on the day, without them we could not have got the job done: - Mrs Conway and 5/6C who sorted drinks
and delivered the orders to classrooms, Mr Butler who cooked over 200 snags, Mr Batty and Mr Harris for helping prepare and organise the orders, Angela Vongthongthip for cutting bread rolls and organising orders and to Natalie Davis who organised all the items needed for the day, cutting bread rolls and organising the orders.

Events organised by Parent Body are fun and easy going (when we have lots of help). So please ensure you fill out the volunteer forms recently sent home so we can call on you for our events. The more people on our list the more chance we have of events being run on time and being successful for all.

2nd Hand Uniforms - due to restrictions with space we will now only accept donations and sell St Andrews labelled uniforms. We will accept for donations: School summer and winter dresses, yellow school polos with emblem on pocket, school jackets with or without emblem, girls shorts, school sport short and shirt. Plain navy jackets, jumpers and pants are no longer required.

All donations should be given to the office, donations will not be accepted at the 2nd hand stall. The prices for 2nd hand items are very cheap so a 'swap' of items is not permitted.

The 2nd hand uniform stall is held at the end of every month, please see the school calendar for dates. The stall is held inside the school hall and is open from 2.15pm to 3pm only. The storage of these items and location is hard to access, so the office staff are unable to get items, so if you want to purchase 2nd hand items, please attend a monthly stall open day.

Thank you
Parent Body Committee 2013

From your kids....

A reminder to all our parents that our learning time begins when the music starts to play on assembly.

During this time we are moving to lines and need to be listening to the messages from the teachers. It is very distracting when our mums and dads are standing at the back or along the sides of lines, chatting and waving and blowing kisses. We love that you want to make sure we have a great learning day, however the best way to do this, is to give us a kiss when you hear the music, and send us off to our class then you can go home and relax.

We really want to be the best learners we can be, and this is one of the ways you can help us! If there are any important messages for parents, our teachers will send a note home for you to read.

Remember, the music means we say goodbye and we go to lines and you get to go and start your day.

Thank you for helping us be the best learners we can be!

SACRMENTAL PROGRAMME FOR 2013 AT OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL: There will be an information evening on Friday 15th March at 7.45pm in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 193 St Andrews Road, VARROVILLE for Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation this year.

All parents wishing their children to receive sacraments this year must attend.

Please bring copies of your child’s baptism certificate.

For enquiries please phone: Patricia Wicks (Secretary) 9603 7373
SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL TEST: Applications for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2014 are required to take the Selective High School Placement Test to be held from 9.00am to 1.15pm on Thursday 14th March 2013.

The test centre for students from our school is

Eagle Vale High School
Drysdale Road
EAGLE VALE NSW

Parents are required to transport their child.

Workbooks 15.3.2013
Voluntary Contribution 15.3.2013
Year 1 & 2 Excursion 15.3.2013
University Competitions 28.3.2013
School Photos 13.3.2013
Year 5 & 6 Excursion 28.3.2013
Easter Hat Parade Canteen orders 15.3.2013

HOURS

Monday
8.30am – 11.00am
2.45pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday
8.30am – 11.00am
2.45pm – 3.30pm

Friday
8.30am - 11.00am
2.45pm - 3.30pm

CASH OR CHEQUE ONLY

EASTER HAT PARADE IS COMING.....
for
K-2 students
Thursday 28th March 2013
9.45am

Richard Batty
Principal

Donna Barton
Deputy Principal

Chad Harris
Deputy Principal