Dear Parents,

**Computers**
I am pleased to announce our school will soon be establishing a new computer classroom and purchasing 30 new computers, 28 IPADs and improved internet wireless facilities. Our school will be spending $30,989 for computers, approximately $32,000 for improved internet wireless facilities and approximately $18,500 for refurbishment of the Tiered Learning Area near our Library to establish a second computer laboratory in our school. Improved internet wireless facilities will enable up to 30 computers to access the internet in every classroom in our school. Another computer classroom will enable two classes at a time to visit a computer room where every student will have individual access to a computer. I am excited that your children will soon have state of the art computer facilities which will equip them well for 21st century learning.

**School Uniforms**
Again, thank you to all parents who have demonstrated their support for our school uniform policy by ensuring all our students are in correct uniform every day. It is so pleasing to see nearly 100% of students in the correct uniform including school hat and black shoes. I know our school community is very proud of its sound school image based on a strong adherence to wearing the correct school uniform. Most students are now wearing a new hat with a straight brim (not rolled up). Students who are not wearing correct school uniform will now be issued with a reminder notice. Thank you for your co-operation.

**New Staff**
We welcome Mrs Jeanen Raad who will be teaching 1B while Mrs Morgan is on Maternity Leave. Mrs Natasha Tablie will be Relieving Assistant Principal Stage One for the rest of 2013.

Regards
Ross Cleary
Principal
COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1

**Week 7**
- **Thursday 14 Mar**: Selective High School Tests
  - Years 3 & 4 Excursion to ‘I Am Jack’
- **Friday 15 Mar**: Summer PSSA Round 4

**Week 8**
- **Wednesday 20 Mar**: Orange Day for Harmony Week
- **Thursday 21 Mar**: School Photo Day
- **Friday 22 Mar**: Life Education Lessons End
  - Summer PSSA Round 5

**Week 9**
- **Tuesday 26 Mar**: SRC Induction Assemblies
  - P & C Annual AGM
- **Thursday 28 Mar**: Years 4-6 SRC and garden club to 500 schools planting program
- **Friday 29 Mar**: Good Friday – No school

**Week 10**
- **Monday 1 April**: SRC Induction Assemblies
- **Tuesday 2 April**: P & C Annual AGM
- **Wednesday 3 April**: Winter PSSA team trials
- **Thursday 4 April**: Years 4-6 SRC and garden club to 500 schools planting program
- **Friday 5 April**: Last Day Term 1

**Week 11**
- **Tuesday 9 April**: Winter PSSA team trials
- **Wednesday 10 April**: Year 6 Camp – return Fri 12 Apr
- **Friday 12 April**: First Day Term 2

**Term 2 Week 1**
- **Monday 29 April**: Pupil Free Day – No School
- **Tuesday 30 April**: Pupil Free Day – No School
- **Wednesday 1 May**: First Day Term 2

COMMUNITY PARENT MEETING

This week we held an information session on the Year 3 NAPLAN test. Next week (Wk 8) we are discussing the Year 5 NAPLAN test. The Annual AGM on 26 March will be followed by a morning tea.

Easter Raffle Tickets coming soon.

**When:** Every Tuesday from 9am to 11am

**Where:** Small Hall

(Refreshments/childcare provided)

Mejda Eldan, Joumana & Rana - CLO

HARMONY DAY 20 MARCH

Greenacre Public School is celebrating Harmony Day this year on Wednesday 20 March. This is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. All children are encouraged to wear orange clothing or accessories. A gold coin donation would be appreciated on the day. All money raised will go to charity. The children will participate in activities on this day as well as throughout the week. By participating in these activities, the children will learn and understand how all Australians from different cultural backgrounds equally belong to this nation and make it a better place. The message of Harmony Day is ‘Everyone Belongs’. In 2013 the theme is: Many Stories – One Australia.

PLAY GROUP

The children worked on the letter ‘P’ and our craft item was a paper plate pie. We have been speaking to parents about road safety and the importance of leading by example. Please join us soon.

**Note:** You need to have a child attending Greenacre Public School or have a child enrolling soon to be a part of our play group.

**When:** Every Friday from 9am to 11am

**Where:** Hall

**Cost:** $2.00 per child

**Bring:** A small, packed breakfast snack for you and your child.

Refreshments provided.

Mejda Eldan, Iman & Rana - CLO

UNIFORM SHOP STOCKTAKE

Please note in your diary that the uniform shop will be closed for stocktake on Friday 22 March. If you would like to help on the day, contact Sonya on: 0410 379 079 for more info.

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Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

We are seeking your support for our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program at Greenacre Public School. The aim of the Kitchen Garden Program is to engage and educate young children in growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing delicious and healthy food, in the belief that these skills and understandings are essential to the development of life-long joyful and healthy eating habits. Melbourne chef and food writer Stephanie Alexander established the Kitchen Garden Foundation in 2004 to help give as many young children access to the Program as possible. Our school is implementing a Kitchen Garden Program.

Please donate from the list below or check with Miss Thibaux or Mrs Blackford about what you would like to donate 😊

**KITCHEN WISH LIST:**

- Stainless steel stockpots (10 litre)
- Stainless steel saucepans (2 litre)
- Stainless steel saucepans (4 litre)
- Wooden spoons
- Kitchen scales
- Stainless steel mixing bowls (various sizes)
- Mixing bowls (all sizes)
- Salad spinners
- Pasta machine
- Graters (box shape)
- Kitchen scissors
- Citrus juicer
- Mortar and pestle (large size)
- Nylon chopping boards
- Stainless steel tongs
- Flexible spatulas
- Whisks
- Wooden salad servers
- Metric measuring jugs
- Serving platters
- Serving bowls
- Food processors
- Crockery (plates, bowls, cups)
- Cutlery (forks, knives, spoons)
- Small buckets with lids (for composting the scraps)

**GARDEN WISH LIST:**

- Pots – big and small (for plants and seeds)
- Quality garden tools
- Bags of soil or mulch
- Egg cartons
- Gardening gloves
- Watering cans
- Buckets
- Old tiles/pavers
- Your time and enthusiasm!

We also would love to receive a large wooden table so that we can show the food we have harvested from our garden and the food we will be using in our cooking.

A fridge/freezer and stand-alone stove top would also be fantastic!

Although your child might not be participating in the program this year, we would still appreciate anything you are able to donate as we are aiming to include many more classes next year. We need to start small in order to get everything set up and running smoothly.

Also, we are hoping to get parents or anyone willing to volunteer their time in either the kitchen or garden and therefore develop connections with students and participate in life altering activities.

Please let either Mrs Blackford or Miss Thibaux know if you are available either Thursday or Friday to assist. We thank you in advance for all your support and look forward to successfully developing this amazing program.

Mrs Blackford and Miss Thibaux
PIANO – FREE TO GOOD HOME

The school is giving away one of our pianos to a family that will give it a good home. Please see Mrs Macreadie if you are interested.

SCHOOL PHOTOS 21 MARCH

Envelopes for school photos will be sent home this week. If you would like a photo of your child/children please return the PHOTO envelope to your child’s class teacher, with your child’s details plus payment. Cash (correct money only- no change given), cheque (made payable to PIXIFOTO), money order or credit card. Please have one envelope per child. Family photo envelopes available through the office only and must be returned through the office.

PHOTOGRAPHS AT SCHOOL

Occasionally official photographs are taken of individual students at school, on excursions, at school endorsed events or at sport which may be used to promote the school and/or activity the students participated in. These photos may be used in the school’s weekly gazette, website, the school foyer, classrooms, library, hall and other locations throughout the school. If you do not wish your child’s photo to be displayed as outlined, please contact the office ASAP.