We have had a great response to our Pink Day at school this week and I thank everyone for participating so willingly in this important cause. We have received a total of over $500 in donations which will be forwarded to cancer research over the coming days. Thank you again for your magnificent support.

It is with pleasure that I welcome Bei Bei C [Group 21] and family to our school community. I would also like to farewell Janine Lovett, Teacher Assistant Group 9, who has this week, left the school to take up a new position. We wish Janine all the very best with this new experience.

Dan Petro [visiting behaviour analyst] will again be joining us for 2 days on 19 and 20 March. As usual Dan will be undertaking individual student and class observations and providing feedback to staff and parents, as appropriate. Dan will also be presenting a parent workshop for families with children in the Early Education, Kindergarten and younger Primary areas of the school. Fliers providing further details will be sent home with the students within these areas. As many can attest, Dan’s presentations are always well received, with the audience benefitting from his sound advice.

School Council elections, which are held annually, will occur between now and 31 March 2014. Any parents interested in participating in the school in this way, please contact the office to obtain a nomination form. This form must be completed and returned to the school by Thursday March 12.

Finally, the following is a warning received recently from SCAMwatch which I believe may be of interest to many:

In February the ACCC received a spike in contacts about fake rebate schemes so are warning people to be aware of calls from a fake government department claiming you are owed money.

Scammers have recently been calling Australians offering them a cheque worth $7000 or more claiming to be from the ‘Department of Finance’ or other government organisation such as the ‘Office of State Revenue’. The scammer will demand an upfront payment and various pieces of personal information before the money can be provided. However, there is no money and no connection with any state or commonwealth department.

Continued overleaf ...

**Key Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mar ‘15</th>
<th>May ‘15</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 09</td>
<td>Labour Day—No school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 27</td>
<td>Last day Term 1 - SCHOOL FINISHES 2:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<th>Apr ‘15</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. 03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 06</td>
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<td>Mon. 13</td>
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**Term Dates 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>January 29 – March 27</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>April 13 – June 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>July 13 – September 18</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>October 05 – December 18</td>
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**Pupil Free Days 2015**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Friday, 5 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Monday, 2 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Friday, 18 December</td>
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**WHAT’S IN THIS NEWSLETTER….**

- From the Office
- Changes to Vaccine Program
- School Holiday Program
- Outside the Square Upcoming Workshops
- Irabina Mindfulness Meditation Group
- Irabina Information evening on Social Skills Program

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST….**

- Doncaster All Abilities Basketball Competition
- BAM All Starts Dance Classes
- Razmataz - Live Production Comedy Show
- Kidsflix - Village Cinema, Century City
- Twylight Disco
The scammers may spin a range of stories about why you are owed money to make their story sound real. They might claim that there is money due because of a tax refund, bank fee rebate, one-off payment, investment return or even a bonus.

Whatever the story, these scams always involve some government department or organisation claiming you are owed money but you need to pay a fee in order to collect it.

Helen McCoy

THREE BIG CHANGES TO THE VACCINE PROGRAM

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Monash Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccination program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school Nurse via letter or email monash.sds@edumail.vic.gov.au by 6 March 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Monash Council.

2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.

3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au
From the office....

CHANGES TO EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

From 1 January 2015 the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the EMA directly to parents.

Parents will not be able to apply for the EMA in 2015.

The money will be allocated to eligible schools through the schools’ core operational funding agreement with the Commonwealth Government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage.

A gentle reminder to those parents whose children go to respite care: due to limited space on the buses, please make sure your child’s bags are no larger than a carry-on size.

Thank you
CareChoice is excited to announce the launch of the CareChoice K.I.D.S Crew holiday program to be held at Monash SDS commencing Term 1 school holidays 30th March. The program will be an action packed, fun filled holiday option for children of all abilities ranging from the ages of 5 to 16 years.

The program will be led and facilitated by qualified professionals skilled in both the Disability and Early Childhood Education. Run strictly in accordance to Early Childhood and Disability Services legislation the program offers a safe, secure and structured environment where the learning and developmental outcomes of the students are paramount.

Open to children of all abilities, CareChoice will now be taking expressions of interest for places. Due to the high demand and limited number of spaces we encourage early bookings to avoid disappointment.

If you would like to reserve a position or if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact James Bennett, Relationship Manager, on ph. 1300 737 942 or alternatively email him on jbennett@carechoice.net.org.

Web: www.carechoice.net.au
UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Bi-monthly Double Features. Introducing Saturday Workshops

Wednesday 25th March, 2015, Double Feature:
Keeping Safe in the Playground: Bullying & Children with Additional Needs, 10.00am – 11.30am
Success with Mainstream Schooling 12.00 – 1.30pm

Saturday 30th May Double Feature:
Tackling Sleep Issues, 10.00am – 11.30am
Toilet Training for Children with Additional Needs, 12.00 noon – 1.30pm

Saturday 19th July Double Feature:
Teaching Social Skills to Primary School Children with Additional Needs, 10.00am – 11.30am
Autism Spectrum Disorder and Eating Difficulties, 12.00 noon – 1.30pm

Wednesday 9th September Double Feature:
NSW – Anxiety in Children with Additional Needs - NSW, 10.00am – 11.30am
Puberty and Autism Spectrum Disorder, 12.00 noon – 1.30pm

Wednesday 25th November Double Feature:
Talking with the Child about their Autism Spectrum Diagnosis, 10.00am – 11.30am
Talking with friends and Family about the ASO Diagnosis, 12.00 – 1.30pm

All sessions of Outside the Square Psychology, 20 Banksia Street, Berwick
Cost: $60 per workshop, or $78 for both workshops on the same date

For more information, ph: (03) 9808 3917 OR visit: www.outsidethesquarepsychology.com.au

SECRET AGENT SOCIETY (SAS)

Presented by Irabina Speech Pathologist Jean Barnes

Thursday March 12th 6.30pm—7.30pm
You are invited to attend an Information Evening
Presented by Irabina Officer by Speech Therapist Jean Barnes
who is now trained to deliver the SECRET AGENT SOCIETY (SAS)
Social Skills program for children aged between 8 and 12.

SECRET AGENT SOCIETY (SAS)

Social Skills program for children

The world’s most renowned and evidence-based social skills program for children with social and emotional difficulties is now available in the Southern Region.

The SAS program uses animated technology, spy gadgets and games to teach new social and emotional skills to children who struggle with friendships and feelings.

To attend the information evening, please contact Jean Barnes or Bessee Lo at Irabina Childhood Autism Services - Officer site on 03 5943 3004
or email Reception - autism@irabina.com
For further information visit www.cat-irabina.net

MINDFULNESS

MEDITATION

EVENING GROUP

An 8-week group program that combines meditation with therapy for people who have a child with autism and have experienced depression or chronic unhappiness

This group teaches a range of exercises and skills based on Meditation and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, a type of therapy which helps people to change unhelpful or unhealthy thinking habits, feelings and behaviours.

• Learn gentle and effective techniques that help maintain
clarity and well-being
• Learn about the patterns of the mind, how to recognise when your mood is starting to sink and how best to respond
• Learn the practice of mindfulness meditation by listening to it in classes and at home
• Help break the link between periods of sadness and negative or self-critical thinking

DATES
Monday Evenings
April 20 – June 8 (inclusive)

TIME
6:30pm – 8:30pm

VENUE
Irabina Officer Branch
464 Princes Highway,
Offices, VIC 3805

COST
FREE: This program has been kindly supported through the Cardinia Local Council Minor Community Support Grants. Participant will need to pay $50 for program resources.

ENQUIRIES
For more information please contact Lissy Morris on (03) 9870 1199 or via email: lissy@irabina.com
Book your place at www.irabina.com
Training and Development - Mindfulness

EMERGENCY ALERT, BE WARNED, BE INFORMED.

If you are mobile, tune to a radio or TV and get the latest emergency alert news. Good emergency news for you.

Irabina, your local autism and related services provider, brings you emergency news for you.

To cancel the emergency alert, call the emergency service provider.

Emergency Services can be contacted on 000.

For more information about the emergency alert, call 000. or visit www.emergencyalert.vic.gov.au

EMERGENCY ALERT: TUNED OUT TO 000
Doncaster All Abilities Basketball Competition

Doncaster All Abilities basketball Competition is open to those 6 years old and above. The program offers the opportunity to play competition basketball in a fun and supportive environment.

Where: Donvale Indoor Sports Complex
360-368 Springvale Road, Donvale VIC 3111

when: Thursday & Friday Nights
Trainings Sunday night.

Contact details: Daabinc@outlook.com
Debbie: 0416 – 932 – 131

Check us out on Facebook!!

Do you love to dance and perform?
Come and join the Allstars revolution!

Our fantastic dance group have classes in Frankston and Brighton. Classes available for ages 7 through to adult, and enrolments are now open for 2015!

Ring Lisa on 0425 721 848, or go to: www.bamdanceclass.com.au

BAM Allstars
all abilities dance crew
Twilight Important Entry Information:

- Entry per person is to be paid at the door on the night. Partners/Care are free of charge.

- For participants catching a lift/taxi - Partners/Care (support persons) are required to pay an entry fee. All pick-ups for participants to be made by 5.30pm. Please ensure you provide the company with names/registration detail/address.

- During Twilight, all Young People (Support persons are in supervision & support) are required on one of the care supervision is provided.

- If a participant requires one on one supervision, they will be accompanied by a support person. Partners/Care (support persons) are required to maintain responsibility and supervision of their charge and is suspended during the course of the event.

- Partners/Care (support persons) will be contacted and advised to collect all participants that display behaviour considered inappropriate, dangerous or that keeps YMCA staff to ensure their supervision is re-proven, ongoing attendance.

- Please note that due to the nature of Twilight, the environment is loud. We appreciate this may not suit everyone, therefore a Quiet Area is available for anyone wishing to use it.

- Water & Juice provided free of charge courtesy of The Rotary Club of Doncaster. Tea & Coffee are also available for Partners/Care (support persons)

- Please ensure money is provided to participants for snacks or beverages.

- Photographs and video may be taken on the night. Please ensure your child knows if you would or would not like them to be taken. YMCA staff must be informed, or photos may be used.

Manningham YMCA Youth Services
Ph: 9491 5400 E: mg@ymca.org.au W: www.manninghamyouthservices.org.au
FB: www.facebook.com/manninghmyouthservices

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**Twilight Disco**

**For people with a disability**

**Hit the dance floor and break out your best moves!**

**When**
Saturday March 21st 2015

**Where:**
Heimat Centre, 125 George Street Doncaster East

**Time:**
7pm to 10pm sharp

**Cost:**
$10.00 per person
(Parents/Careers Free)

**Bookings:**
Penny 9848 5400 or penny.maher@ymca.org.au

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**Ducks Jukebox Hire & Party Goods**

**Decoration Ideas**

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**KidsFlix**

**Saturday 21 March 2015**

**Village Cinema—Century City**

285 – 287 Springvale Road

**GLEN WAVERLEY**

**Ticket application form:**

Name of organisation that received this invitation from:

I would like if available: Adult tickets: Children tickets

(Indicate in boxes if required a ticket)

Of these I require wheelchair spaces. Name of person in wheelchair: 

Able to transfer to a theatre chair? YES/NO (please circle)

Name of parent/care attending with children (tickets will be posted to this person)

Address:

Surname: 

State: 

Postcode:

Phone: 

Email: 

I give permission for my family to be photographed at KidsFlix Glen Waverley 2015. I understand my family may be on the Contests Foundation Australia/Arthritis SA website, newspaper, magazine, radio, television or photo media.

Yes I give permission: No I don’t give permission

Signature:

Date:

Or book online at: www.kidsflix-glenwaverley.eventbrite.com.au