Welcome back for second term and a special welcome to the 4 new students and their families who commenced this week – Eleanor W and Ritika W [Early Education 1] and Leon F and Panagiotis H, known as PJ, [Early Education 2]. We trust that everyone enjoyed the break from the regular term activities and are all refreshed and ready for this term’s events.

The following article is provided by the Department of Education and Training:

**Inquiry investigates lower P-Plate age**

Should Victoria lower the driving licence age to 17?

A parliamentary inquiry is asking young Victorians and the greater community to have their say in the conversation and make written submissions for or against lowering the driving age to seventeen.

As part of the inquiry, the Victorian Parliament’s Law Reform, Road and Safety Committee wants to find out what the impacts could be of reducing the driving age.

‘Other Australian states and territories have a minimum age of 17 for P-plate licences,’ said Committer Chair Geoff Howard.

‘We want to find out whether Victoria should be matching that minimum age.’

Schools and students should think about the following questions and consider making a written submission.

- Could a lower P-Plate age assist young people access employment, study and training?

**Key Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. ‘16</td>
<td>My Time Group Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Every Tues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 25</td>
<td>ANZAC Day - NO SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>May.’16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. 12</td>
<td>Year 7 Immunisations</td>
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<td>Jun. ’16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.13</td>
<td>QUEEN’S B’DAY- NO SCHOOL</td>
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<td>Tues. 14</td>
<td>Curriculum Day-NO SCHOOL</td>
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<td>Fri. 24</td>
<td>Last Day Term 2. School Finishes at 2.30 PM</td>
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<td>Term Dates 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>January 28 – March 24</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>April 11 – June 24</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>July 11 – September 16</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>October 03 – December 20</td>
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<td>Pupil Free Days 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Tuesday, 14th</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
<td>Monday, 31st</td>
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<td>Dec</td>
<td>Tuesday, 20th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Holidays - Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Mon 25 - ANZAC Day</td>
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<td>Jun</td>
<td>Mon 13 - Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Tue 1 - Melbourne Cup</td>
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</tbody>
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**WHAT’S IN THIS NEWSLETTER….**
- Message from the Principal
- From the Office
- From the Nurse
- My Time Group Meetings

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST….**
- Lions Club Book Sale 2016
- Auskick 2016
- Dance Program
- Kevin Heinze GROW - Plant Sale
- Would a lower driving age affect the road toll?
- What other impacts might occur with a change in licence age?

As part of the inquiry, the Committee will be considering the adequacy of transport services for young Victorians, particularly in regional areas.

Written submissions are due by 30 May 2016 and public hearings will then be held in Melbourne and regional Victoria.

To make a written submission to the inquiry, see: [Lowering the probationary driving age in Victoria to seventeen - Parliamentary inquiry](#)
For more information about the inquiry, see: [Law Reform, Road and Community Safety - Parliamentary inquiries](#)

**Helen McCoy**
Principal

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**From the Nurse...**

In accordance with the National Immunisation Program, all Year 7 students will be offered the following vaccinations:

- A single dose of Chickenpox
- A single dose of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Boostrix)
- Three doses of Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV).

Consent cards will be sent home to Year 7 students (born 2003). These will need to be completed and returned to school by the date specified. The following are the confirmed dates for the Monash council to visit our school for the above immunisations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monday, 29 February 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thursday, 12 May 2016</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Friday, 9 September 2016</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Invoices for the 2016 year have now been forwarded to you in the post.

Thank-you to those families who have made their payments.

If paying your account via direct deposit please ensure that the highlighted Reference Code is included so the amount can be allocated to the correct account.

Should you require a payment plan please do not hesitate to contact Deb Crawley to discuss this matter.

Please remember to label your child’s clothing appropriately so they can be identified and returned when they are mislaid.

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

Unsure what Centrelink payments are available to you? Visit www.humanservices.gov.au and select the Payment Finder.

**“On June 25”, we will have a representative from Centrelink visiting as a guest speaker for our Parent Coffee Morning. Further details to follow!”**
MyTime at Monash Special Developmental School in 2016

EVERY TUESDAY at 9.15 in the Library

All parents and carers are welcomed.

- MyTime is open to anyone caring for a child with disability, developmental delay, or chronic medical condition. Groups are open to everyone, regardless of the condition of their child. Children below school age may also attend groups with their parent or carer.

- MyTime groups provide a place to socialise, to discuss, to get information, and to support and be supported by other carers.

- Facilitators work with group members, helping them get to know each other and learn more about the services and supports in their area. Members choose what they would like to discuss in their groups, with help from the facilitator. Depending on what the group wants to do, the facilitator might guide group activities or provide resources.

- Facilitators are members from local organisations. They have qualifications and experience in disability, parenting or family support and bring to the MyTime group a good understanding of local resources and support services.

- Play helpers keep children, including under school aged siblings, busy and active in activities so members can spend time catching up with one another.

- MyTime is free.

mytime.net.au
Auskick 2016

AUTISM SPECIFIC FOOTBALL PROGRAM

IRABINA and Auskick have partnered again in bringing your child a football program that he/she can be actively involved in.

This program will be staffed by an Auskick coach and two IRABINA staff, and of course this intimate program won't be different from any other with parents actively involved as well.

DATE
Sat 16th April - Sat 25th June 2016

TIME
9.00am - 10.30am

COST
$180.00 per child
Part funding available for eligible families

VENUE
The first two training sessions will be held at IRABINA Autism Services in Baywater (Sat 16th April & Sat 23rd April). From Sat 30th April training will move to Susan Ave Reserve in Baywater.

To register please go on http://www.aurbanskick.com.au

For more information please email irabina@irabina.com

DANCE PROGRAM

FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

CALL PENNY IF YOU’RE INTERESTED!
9848 6400 or penny.maher@ymca.org.au

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

THOUSANDS OF QUALITY PLANTS TO CHOOSE FROM

Kevin Heinze GROW
Plant Sale!

Saturday 16th April from 9.00 until 3.00
39 Wetherby Road Doncaster

Quality bargain priced plants:

seedlings, succulents
vegetables
hanging baskets
barbeque

For information please: 9848 6400 or email info@kevinheinzegrow.org.au or www.kevinheinzegrow.org.au MEL 47 HZ