On behalf of the school community I wish to welcome Charli S [Group 1] and Ben P [Group 2] plus their families to Monash SDS.

Thank you to the majority of our families who were able to participate in the Student Support Group meetings here at school over the last couple of weeks. These meeting times are invaluable for the staff to gain insights into the students’ abilities outside of the school and to have parent input into the establishment of priority learning goals for the students.

We have just completed the Census which all schools undertake twice a year, both in February and August. For your information we have a total of 189 students at the school; 57 in Early Education/Kindergarten and 132 in Primary/Senior/Pathways.

Over the last couple of months Monash SDS and 2 other neighbouring specialist schools have been meeting with Monash/Waverley secondary schools to discuss the development of a new Technical School proposal, which is part of the current State Government’s election undertaking and will be located within this region. Understandably the 3 specialist schools are providing a voice to promote the need for this exciting development to be an inclusive arrangement which will provide opportunities for all students.

The following is a message from the Department of Education and Training:

**2015 Toyota AFL Multicultural Round and Multicultural Festival**

The 2015 Toyota AFL Multicultural Round, which highlights the important contribution that multicultural communities have made to Australian Football, will be held from 7 – 9 August.

Schools and families are also invited to attend the free AFL Multicultural Festival at Yarra Park, outside Gate 3 of the MCG in Richmond on Saturday 8 August.

The Multicultural Festival will feature traditional dances from around the world, multicultural food, live entertainment and special appearances from AFL footballers.

*Continued.. P/2*
Get involved with multicultural round and share this story with your school community.


Key Dates:

The 2015 Toyota AFL Multicultural Round will be held from 7 – 9 August
The AFL Multicultural Festival will be held Saturday 8 August, 11.30am – 5.30pm at MCG Gate 3

*Helen McCoy*

Principal

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**Wednesday, August 19th is Pyjama Day!**

Students and staff are invited to wear their pyjamas to school for the day and donate a gold coin.

All proceeds will go to the very worthy cause Beyond Blue
A big thank you to all those families who have either paid their fees in full or are paying via the instalment method. As we are approaching the half way mark for the year and in term 3, we would appreciate any outstanding amounts be settled at your earliest opportunity. If you wish to discuss a different payment arrangement please contact Deb Crawley on 9239-7431.

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
YMCA Escapes

Join us for YMCA Great Ocean Escape 20-24 August

Dear Amanda,

I am contacting you regarding an amazing opportunity for people in our community that love to travel and require a little support along the way!

As a community-minded organisation working with people with disabilities, we’re really grateful if you could share this information about our Great Ocean Road trip. Whether this is via your newsletter, on your website, or directly with clients.

We’ve developed an accessible trip, including all key information about the trip. Or visit www.ymca.org.au/ymcaescapes for people with visual impairments.

YMCA Escapes is the adventure of a lifetime. It provides group holiday experiences that are flexible, inclusive and socially connect people through their love of travel!

Join us for a five-day trip along the Great Ocean Road:
- YANKER: Queenscliff, The Great Ocean Road, VIC
- WHEN: 20-24 August 2015
- COST: $695
- WHAT’S INCLUDED: Everything, all meals, shared-accommodation and all activities, tours and entry costs, access to our injury specialists

Our group sizes are generally between 10-15 travellers. So places are limited. Reserve a place today.

For more information please don’t hesitate to contact Anthea Warkold, the YMCA Escapes Program Manager.

© Anthea.Warkold@ymca.org.au
Ph: 0428 662 260
Web: www.victoria.ymca.org.au/ymcaescapes

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Families Program Winter/Spring 2015 Accessible Performances

To provide families with more opportunities to engage with the arts, our program now includes a number of inclusive performances for young people with a disability.

The Arts Centre Melbourne’s Box Office on 1300 182 183 or email James.dipold@artscentremelbourne.com.au

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Knox Basketball | All Abilities — Term 2

Complete the form below and return with payment to Knox Basketball Incorporated:
70 Beaconsfield Rd, Berwick 3806

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Out of the Blue
Relaxed Performance
Monday 7 August
Ages 3 – 7

Oddysea
Immersive, multi-sensory performance designed for children with complex disabilities.
Saturday 29 August
Ages 6 – 8

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Parent Information Forum
LEAVING AUTISM: TIME FOR YOU

Being a new parent is no easy task but parenting a child with autism can make it considerably more challenging. In this forum, Jo White discusses the difficult journey many parents face after their child is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, offering core strategies and addressing support networks for parents.

This forum aims to help support parents with a child facing a new or recent diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, with the theme “Why fit in... when you were born to stand out!” Jo is a professional counsellor and special education teacher specialising in autism spectrum disorder. She has more than 20 years of experience working with children, parents and affected adults and has worked closely with a variety of organisations, including Amaze (Autism Victoria) and Wodonga Child and Family Services.

Date: Wednesday 16 September 2015
Time: 7.30pm-9.30pm
Venue: Workshop Room, Whitehorse Centre,
37B Whitehorse Road, Nunawading (rear of Nunawading Library)
Bookings: Registering your attendance is essential.
Please book online at www.whitehorse.vc.gov.au
Parent-Information-Forums.html
Further Information: Council’s Parent Resource Officer Molly Black on
9200 6170 or molly.black@whitehorse.vc.gov.au
Cost: $2 gold coin donation payable on the night.
Please note unfortunately we are unable to accommodate children in the team.

Sensory-friendly performance of The Lion King – This Saturday 8th August

Where: Saturday 8th August 2015 at 1.30pm
Where: Regent Theatre Melbourne - 151 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000

How is The Lion King autism-friendly performance different?
This is a specially adapted performance organized by Disney and Autism Awareness Australia for those on the autism spectrum.

➢ House lights are not focused on the audience
➢ There will be slight adjustments to the production and the sound is reduced
➢ Individuals may leave their seat if necessary
➢ Dedicated quiet areas for anyone who may need to leave their seat
➢ Staff are aware of the needs of individuals with ASD
➢ Signage is provided explaining the autism friendly performance

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL
➢ To book tickets online click here.
➢ Or contact Ticketmaster to book - 1300 889 278.

A big thank you to Disney for supporting the ASD community with The Lion King sensory-friendly performance!
LEUKODYSTROPHY
THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE
7:00PM TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST

ALTHOUGH (TODAY) NOT ‘CURABLE’ MANY LEUKODYSTROPHIES ARE TREATABLE

An opportunity for families, friends, carers, educators, health professionals and supporters to hear about the latest advances in the genomic driven diagnosis and treatment of childhood leukodystrophies from leading Australian and international clinical researchers. - Precision Medicine

SPEAKERS
A/Prof Richard Lintern
Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne
A/Prof Adriana Vendrame
Children’s National Medical Centre Washington

ROYAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL MELBOURNE
MURDOCH CHILDREN’S RESEARCH INSTITUTE
50 Flemington Road Parkville VIC 3052
Level 5 Cerini/Waldorf Rooms
RSVP: 21st August leukodystrophy@mcri.edu.au

Communication & Inclusion Resource Centre

Active participation for people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities

People with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities (PIMD) need a lot of support to actively engage in everyday activities.

Individualised support plans define the level and type of support each person requires to maximise their opportunities to be actively involved and participate in everyday activities. A person’s sensory responsiveness is one of many areas considered when developing a support plan. Sensory processing disorders can have a major impact on activity/task performance and behaviour. Providing controlled sensory experiences can enhance a person’s ability to interact with communication partners and participate in activities.

This workshop will provide information about
- the role of the senses and the impact of sensory processing disorders on performance and behaviour
- sensory assessments
- resources

It will also provide participants with strategies for
- enhancing sensory performance
- building sensory strategies into a person’s daily activities including communication supports
- making daily activity ‘sensory-focused’
- ways to ensure all support requirements are included when implementing support plan recommendations.

Note
The theory and support practices presented in this workshop can be used when supporting anyone with difficulty engaging in everyday activities.

Audience
Disability Support Workers, teachers and interested others who support people with profound intellectual and multiple disability (PIMD)

Catering
Tea and coffee will be provided. Please bring your own lunch or purchase at one of the many cafes and eateries in the area.

Click here to view dates and venues for this workshop
Click here to download an application form for this workshop

www.scopevic.org.au | (03) 9843 2000 | info@scopevic.org.au
CLINIC NOW OPEN FOR PLAY THERAPY REFERRALS

Location:
Wellness on Wellington,
1/1101 Wellington Road
ROWVILLE 3178
P: 9780 8900
www.wellonwell.com.au

www.playtherapycollective.com

To make a referral enquiry or for more info about the Play Therapy Collective email us today:
playtherapycollective@gmail.com

‘It is through play that we reach the whole child’ (V. Gowman)

ENHANCING CHILD PARENT RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH PLAY
A group for parents and carers of children with emotional and behavioural difficulties

Do you find yourself yelling more than laughing with your child?
Do you feel you have lost touch with your child and/or don’t feel as close as you would like?
Are you worried about your child?

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions this group is for you!

10 weekly sessions
Wednesdays
10:30 – 12:00 or
12:30 – 2:00
Cost: $60 per session

Sign up today for support in:
Reducing difficult behaviours
Creating happier children and families
Helping your child understand and express their feelings

Address:
Wellness on Wellington,
Suite 1101 Wellington Rd, Rowville 3178
www.wellonwell.com.au

To enquire about the start date contact us today:
playtherapycollective@gmail.com
Laura West – 0407 091 436
Jenny Lord – 0404 818 791

Start collecting for your school now

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program gives Schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn new educational resources.

Make a difference for your local school
• Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent.*
• Stick the Woolworths Stickers onto the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet inside.
• Once it’s complete, pop it into a Collection Box at your school or local store. You can download more Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets from our website woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

*Excluding Groceries, Express and City cards.

Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiuums and science labs.

It’s easy to earn valuable resources to help your local school, so start collecting your Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers today.

Go to woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn for more information, terms and conditions and answers to frequently asked questions.

Start collecting for your school today