



ABERFELDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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12<sup>TH</sup> January 2009, Newsletter No. 2

Term Dates 2009				
Term 1	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Feb	-	3 <sup>rd</sup> April
Term 2	20 <sup>th</sup>	April	-	26 <sup>th</sup> June
Term 3	13 <sup>th</sup>	July	-	18 <sup>th</sup> Sept
Term 4	5 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	-	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec

## ABERFELDIE NEWSLETTER

### DATES TO REMEMBER -

Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Mar	Casual Dress Day Appeal - Gold Coin Donation (Bushfire Appeal)
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Mar	Labour Day
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Mar	Finance Meeting 6pm
Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Mar	Student School Photos
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Mar	Whole School Intensive Swimming Program School Council Meeting 6.30pm

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

Casual Dress Day Appeal to Raise Funds for the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Tragedy

Families would have received a flyer yesterday about the planned Casual Dress Day this Friday 13 February. This is a state-wide appeal and we hope that all students will be able to participate and help raise money for those families affected by the bushfire.

Learning to Learn Program's Celebration Afternoon.

School is now in full swing and the classrooms are buzzing. Through the Learning to Learn program, students have discovered interesting things about each other, articulated positive work and learning strategies and developed individual learning goals. The fantastic array of displays around the school reflects the breadth of work covered during the last two weeks. I hope you will be able to join us this Friday 13 February and share in your child's celebration at the conclusion of this program.

Staff Professional Learning

Next Thursday, 19 February, teachers will be participating in a professional development night at school on Maths planning. The session is our second with Michael Ymer, a renowned educationalist, and will focus on extending our theoretical knowledge of the teaching of

mathematics and developing a whole school approach to planning across the school. These

sessions strengthen our shared understanding of teaching, ensure consistent practice across the school and support student learning by creating a smooth and seamless transition for students as they progress through Aberfeldie. The session is afterschool from 4:00pm - 7:30pm. Teachers' participation in this 3.5 hour session afterschool indicates their level of commitment to improving your children's learning outcomes.

Share Time

The Parent and Teacher's Share Time has been organised for Monday 23 February and Wednesday 25 February from 3:30pm -6:00pm. This initial meeting provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet their child's class teachers and exchange important information about their child/ren.

Communication between school and home is an important aspect in ensuring students' success at school. Parents and care-givers are reminded that if they have any concerns about their child they are welcome to discuss them with their child's teacher. Please contact the office to make a mutually convenient time.

### School Council Elections

I will officially be giving notice of the 2009 School Council election and will be calling for nominations on Monday 16 February 2009. The closing date for nominations is Monday 23 February 2009. If a ballot is required, the declaration of councillors will be on 11 March and published in the Newsletter on Thursday 12 March.

If you decide to stand for election, you will need to either arrange to be nominated and seconded by a person who is eligible for the same category as you or complete a self nomination form for your category. Nomination forms will be available from the Office from Monday 16 February.

I have attached an information sheet from DEECD about the purpose of a school council and the role of a school councillor.

### Prep Tours

I will be conducting a number of tours for prospective preps parents during the first half of the year. Tour dates for Term 1 will be on;

Tuesday	February 24	9:30-10:30 am	
Wednesday	March	11	9:30-10:30 am
Monday	March 23	9:30-10:30 am	

Tours can be booked through the office.

Terese Healy  
Principal

### Assistant Principal's Report

Aberfeldie is fortunate to have a number of well established trees within our play grounds. Over the weekend one of these trees split and fell and so this week we have had remove it along with some smaller branches. Due the extremely dry conditions of the drought we have some concerns about the stability of some of these established trees and so we are going to have an arborist inspect the trees to inform us of their condition. We have asked our students to be safe when playing around the trees by not hanging onto branches and of course one of our school rules is that no one is to climb any tree within the school grounds. We have been able to recycle our tree by spreading the mulch around some of our garden beds and trees.

I have been contacted by the Royal Children's Hospital to ask the school community if there are any parents who would be willing to take part in a brief survey to assist them with one of their projects. If you would like more information please contact me and I can pass on the information.

I would like to congratulate all students for putting in a huge effort with remembering to bring and wear their hats at recess and lunchtimes and we have most students in full school uniform.

I look forward to seeing parents at school Friday for our Learning to Learn Celebration afternoon.

Heather Golder  
Assistant Principal

### OSHC News

I will be doing accounts today and these are payable within 7 days. You can pay by cash, cheque, EFTPOS or credit card at our school office. Next week we will be commencing 'Active After Care' on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. On Wednesdays we will be playing lawn balls and on Fridays we will be doing Yoga. Please encourage your child to attend these sessions as they are funded by the Australian Sports Commission and the children have a lot of fun as well!

Regards Gail & Team

### Program this Week

Friday	13 Feb	- DVD Afternoon
Monday	14 Feb	- Paper Plate Puppy Dog Faces
Tuesday	15 Feb	- Large Room Mural
Wednesday	16 Feb	- Rice Salad/Lawn Balls
Thursday	17 Feb	- Assorted Games in the Gym
Friday	18 Feb	- Boggle / Yoga

### Bookclub

Brochures will be distributed tomorrow (Friday). All orders and payment will need to be back by next Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

### SAP News

SAP begins this Friday with grade 1/2 at 10:15am and 3-6 at 11.30am. All students must have returned their enrolment form and have made payment for SAP before Friday's session to be allowed to participate in the program.

Rose Kalaitzidis – SAP Liaison  
COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note: These are paid advertisements and not necessarily endorsed by Aberfeldie primary School Council.



Free to a Good Home

Kittens: 3 male & 3 female Black & White 9 weeks old.

Call Elise on: 0404 643 836

**Aberfeldie Baptist Netball Club  
Season 2009**

Enrolment forms are available from your schools office.

**Aberfeldie Football Club**

2009 Registration Day Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2009

10:30am – 12:30pm

Aberfeldie Clubrooms, Clifton Park, Batman St,  
Essendon West

For rego forms and further details visit the Junior  
Football section of our web site

[www.abers.com.au](http://www.abers.com.au) or contact Mark Delzoppo on  
0411 283 309

**Doutta Stars Junior Football Club**

Registration Day 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2009

11:00am – 2:00pm

At Buckley park Cooper Street, Essendon

Rego Fees 2009

Single: \$210, Family \$350  
(all inclusive, no hidden fees)

For further details contact:

John Donnini 0418 362 339

Lindsay Foster 9379 6558

**Vic Cric Cricket Clinics**

Bowl The Ball, Catch the Culprit and Wield The Willow with Vic Cric's great coaches for 8 weeks of learning skills and having fun. Information and registration forms are available at your schools office.

Tennis Coaching

Professional – Maximum Improvement – Fun – Affordable. Match play – Tennis Workout. We have 15 years of coaching experience in your area. We have a program for you. Kensington Banks Tennis Club Smithfield. North Park Tennis Club Flemington Road Parkville. Phone 9521-4772 email [tpta@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tpta@optusnet.com.au)

Maribyrnong Park Junior Football Club.  
Register now for the 2009 Footy Season!

We are a lively local Aussie Rules Footy club offering kids of all backgrounds the opportunity to participate in competitive sport and for their families to be part of our great community club. We field teams in U10, U12, U14, U16 & U18 so if you're keen to get involved come along to our Registration Day, Sunday, 8 Feb 10am – 12noon Maribyrnong Park, The Boulevard, Moonee Ponds

For more information please contact Mick Doran on 0418 326 066 or visit our club website

[www.marby-lions.com](http://www.marby-lions.com).

Bring Home a Brother or a Sister - Student Exchange Australia

Host families help provide our students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today. A flyer is available at your schools office.

## **Information for Parents School Council Elections 2009**

### ***What is a school council and what does it do?***

All Government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

### ***Who is on the school council?***

There are three possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

**A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### ***Why is Parent membership so important?***

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### ***How can you become involved?***

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

### ***Do I need special experience to be on school council?***

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future. 26

### ***What do you need to do to stand for election?***

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### ***Remember***

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do  
Consider standing for election to council this year  
Be sure to vote in the elections.

**Contact the principal for further information.**