Six students have executed their duties this year and I have high expectations of the 2017 Year Six Leaders. The 2017 School Captains are Acelin A and Ella H and Vice Captains are James D and Madison A. A complete list of the roles and captains is included in this newsletter.

At this time of year in all schools there are staff changes and POPS is no exception. Miss Owen is taking leave for twelve months. Miss Owen has taught Y2-6 at POPS over the past 10 years, we wish her all the best for her endeavours and look forward to her return in 2018. Mrs Bagnato has taught Italian for the past 4 years and is also taking leave for twelve months and we wish her all the best. Miss Curwood has taught year two this year and has accepted a position at Warranwood PS, we thank her for her work in year two and wish her all the best for the future. Mrs McKenzie has taught Performing Arts for three terms and has accepted a position at Camberwell PS. We thank her for her work, especially organising the wonderful production of the POPS Magic Away Tree. We welcome Ms Wilkinson to our POPS teaching team in year four.

The structure for 2017 has been slightly changed to accommodate the enrolment of extra students in year three and four. This change has been executed to honour our commitment to keeping all classes at 25 or below to maximise the learning of every student. We have a dedicated and committed teaching and support staff at POPS and every decision is made with respect to student needs. The School Council has ratified this structure.

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

**DECEMBER**
- Thurs 15: Y6 Graduation Ceremony
- Fri 16: Walk to School - Christmas
- Y6 Big Day Out
- Student Reports published on Compass
- Learning Journals go home
- Sat 17: PO Farmers Market - 9-1pm Santa is Coming!
- Mon 19: Whole School Big Day Out Activities
- Tues 20: Assembly - 12.30pm
  - **Last Day Term 4 - 1.30pm DISMISSAL**
  - Student Medications to be collected

**JANUARY 2017**
- Wed 25: School Supplies Pick Up — Science Room 9 - 1pm
- Mon 30: **Curriculum Day**
  - School Supplies Pick Up — Science Room 1-4pm
  - Second Hand Uniforms—Green Room 1-4pm
  - Uniform Shop Open—Pettet Centre 1-4pm
- Tues 31: Y1-6 Students Begin
  - Foundation Interviews Begin

**FEBRUARY**
- Mon 6: Foundation Students Begin
  - Swimming Trials
- Tues 7: School Photos
- Wed 8: No Foundation Students
- Wed 15: No Foundation Students
- Wed 22: No Foundation Students
  - School tours - Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9.30am
  
Pink entries are new calendar items

### PRINCIPAL’S LETTER

On Monday we held our annual Celebration Assembly. Heidi V was the recipient of the Pettet Foundation Award which is presented to a student in year four who shows leadership and promotes the ethos of POPS. Brodie T was the recipient of the John Gausden Memorial Science Award which is presented to a year four student who demonstrates interest and excellence in Science. My congratulations to both students as very worthy winners of these perpetual awards. We also announced the Year Six Leaders for 2017. I have been very pleased with way our Year Six students have executed their duties this year and I have high expectations of the 2017 Year Six Leaders. The 2017 School Captains are Acelin A and Ella H and Vice Captains are James D and Madison A. A complete list of the roles and captains is included in this newsletter.

At this time of year in all schools there are staff changes and POPS is no exception. Miss Owen is taking leave for twelve months. Miss Owen has taught Y2-6 at POPS over the past 10 years, we wish her all the best for her endeavours and look forward to her return in 2018. Mrs Bagnato has taught Italian for the past 4 years and is also taking leave for twelve months and we wish her all the best. Miss Curwood has taught year two this year and has accepted a position at Warranwood PS, we thank her for her work in year two and wish her all the best for the future. Mrs McKenzie has taught Performing Arts for three terms and has accepted a position at Camberwell PS. We thank her for her work, especially organising the wonderful production of the POPS Magic Away Tree. We welcome Ms Wilkinson to our POPS teaching team in year four. The structure for 2017 has been slightly changed to accommodate the enrolment of extra students in year three and four. This change has been executed to honour our commitment to keeping all classes at 25 or below to maximise the learning of every student. We have a dedicated and committed teaching and support staff at POPS and every decision is made with respect to student needs. The School Council has ratified this structure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Miss Oakey</td>
<td>Foundation Centre (Portable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Miss Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Mrs Lockie</td>
<td>Block A</td>
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<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Mrs Allegretto</td>
<td>Block A</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two</td>
<td>Mrs De Carlo</td>
<td>Block A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Miss McNeill</td>
<td>Block A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Mrs Dennis</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Mr Brewer</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four</td>
<td>Mrs Bullen</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Mrs Moore</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Ms Wilkinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>Mr Paul</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six</td>
<td>Mrs Debono</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td>Mr Quah</td>
<td>Block B</td>
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</table>
Ms Garrity will continue as Assistant Principal, Mrs Bian as the Mandarin teacher, Miss Marshall as the Physical Education teacher and Mrs Bethell as the Visual Arts teacher. Education Support staff will remain unchanged. We are advertising positions for Performing Arts and Italian teachers currently.

On Monday we will hold our annual Big Day Out; this year the whole school will spend the day at Ruffy Park Lake in their Poppy Tribes. This will be a wonderful end to a fabulous year at POPS and I am looking forward to a memorable day. Thank you to the planning team of Mrs Bullen, Mrs De Carlo and Mr Brewer for their organisation of the day.

Congratulations to Miss Marshall and the House Captains for conducting such delightful Mini Cross and Athletics events over the past two weeks. It has been wonderful to witness the enjoyment of the junior students and the leadership of the senior students. I can see we have some champions in the making also!

On Tuesday we will conduct our final assembly at 12.30pm where we farewell staff and year six students with dismissal for all students at 1.30pm. 2016 has been a wonderful year at POPS with many achievements and I would like to thank my amazing teaching and support staff, the fabulous students and parents; you all make a contribution to making POPS the outstanding school it is. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and an enjoyable time with family and friends. School begins on January 31 for year 1-6 and February 6 for Foundation.

Mrs Daniel
PRINCIPAL

2017 YEAR 6 LEADERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Captains</td>
<td>Ella H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acelin A</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Vice Captains</td>
<td>Madison A</td>
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<td></td>
<td>James D</td>
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<td>House Captains</td>
<td>Gibb</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Morgan S</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Will S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Jasmine M</td>
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<td>Matt P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen Team</td>
<td>Bill D (Captain)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Charlie L</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lily C</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ashley W</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gina D</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emily D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Team</td>
<td>Harrison B (Captain)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ryan D</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alex K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ashlea P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library / Technology Team</td>
<td>Gabe B (Captain)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Declan D</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nicholas C</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amira E</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Peri B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Team</td>
<td>Brad O (Captain)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harry P</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Samuel F</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oscar P</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ben W</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Amy H</td>
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STUDENT MEDICATIONS

All student Medications are to be collected from classrooms and the school office on Tuesday 20th December after school.

When the school year begins in 2017 can you please return current medication with updated Action Plans or medication forms to the office.

All forms are available via the links below, alternatively they can be found on Compass in school documentation.

Asthma Plan

Allergic Reaction Plan

Anaphylactic Plan
MERIT AWARDS - CONGRATULATIONS!

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Andrew H</td>
<td>For his wonderful mathematical understanding of profit and income in the sausage sizzle task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Madeline D</td>
<td>For always doing her best!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

A big thankyou to everyone who made a donation to the POPS 2nd Hand Uniform Shop.

This year we raised over $1850 from sales.

Second hand uniforms will be available for sale on Monday 30th January 2017 from 1-4pm in the Green Room.

Cash only please.

Mrs Hamilton & Mrs Thomson
Parents Association

SNACK SHACK

A big thankyou to all of my wonderful helpers this year.

Please note hot food is very restricted although there are still delicious sandwiches and salads to enjoy.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mrs Schaper
CANTEEN MANAGER

SPEED CUBING RESULTS

Rubik’s Cube “World Record” Broken at POPS!!

POPS Open 2016 (Rubik’s Cube competition) was held last Sunday, 11th December, at the Arts Centre. The hall was filled with the buzz of excited competitors (also known as speedcubers) and constant clicking of numerous cubes. Several current and past POPS students competed in various events including the 2x2, 3x3, 4x4, one handed 3x3, Pyraminx and Skewb puzzles.

We were fortunate to have 2 world Rubik’s Cube champions competing at the event - Feliks Zemdegs from Melbourne and Mats Valk from Netherlands. The competition reached its peak at the final round when Feliks broke the world record by solving the cube in 4.73 seconds, a split second faster than the previous world record of 4.74 seconds, held by Mats.
Active Travel Report

2016 has been a wonderful year for Active Travel at POPS. We'd like to thank the wonderful staff for their support. We would particularly like to thank the teachers who've enthusiastically led the many 3D walks held throughout the year - without their dedication it would be impossible. The student group has also been a fantastic help. It's great to hear the students suggestions and to see their smiling faces as they greet people at school on our Walk to School mornings.

This Friday - Walk to School

Christmas Theme...

Join VIP teachers this Friday 16th December for our last 3D Walk to School for 2016. Get into the spirit with a touch of Christmas - think tinsel, baubles, antlers, hats or even lights. Meet at Dalry, Domeney or Drayton from 8:30am for an 8:40am start.

We wish you all a wonderful Christmas with your families and a happy, safe and active break.

From the Active Travel Team
F-2 ATHLETICS DAY

This week our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students participated in our Junior School Athletics Day at school. Students rotated around 6 modified events of: Shotput, Javelin/Vortex, Hurdles, Long Jump, Sprint and a Baton Relay. Thank you to the House Captains and Year 6 helpers for assisting with the organisation of a very fun and successful affair!

- Miss Marshall
Last week our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students participated in our Junior School Cross Country at school. It was a great event, and the students loved it! Congratulations to all the students for finishing the race!

- Miss Marshall

Have fun over the Christmas holidays and remember to get outside as much as possible! Keep up your fitness and continue practising your ball handling skills! Merry Christmas!

- Miss Marshall
Dear Parents,

Park Orchards Primary School provides high quality education and 2016 has been another successful year with many highlights in all areas of student learning. As a school we are committed to continuous improvement and aim to always provide the best learning environment we possibly can for our children.

The superior condition of our buildings, grounds and resources are due to the support that our parent community has provided over many years through the voluntary parent contributions and fundraising initiatives.

Without this support we would not be able to provide the quality education and facilities or continue to improve what we provide for our students in 2017 and beyond.

As a state public school money is provided from the government to conduct learning programs and provide infrastructure for students. The money is provided for basic programs and is allocated on enrolments. For a school our size we have a very large site and extensive facilities including a Science Room, Arts Centre, Basketball Stadium and Kitchens. This means that we have extra costs associated with servicing, maintaining and improving our facilities.

Focus areas for 2017 are to continue improving the classroom environment with upgrading furniture, classroom blinds, air conditioning, and carpet as well as continuing to upgrade the learning resources. Unfortunately none of these attract government funding. Our buildings and grounds plans for 2017 include an upgrade of the basketball court area and the asphalt areas. We will also re-look at the covered ways between the buildings and most importantly, we will continue the ongoing maintenance of our extensive buildings, grounds and play equipment.

Attached to this letter is information about the Parent Payments for 2017. The Parent Payments for 2017 and Parent Payments Policy were ratified by School Council on November 15 and are consistent with the Department of Education Guidelines. Excursions and Incursions will be charged as they occur throughout the year and payment will be required prior to enable student participation in these activities.

We understand that families may experience financial hardship and difficulties at times and they are invited to contact the Business Manager (Tracy Walsh) or Principal (Georgina Daniel) on 9876 1249 or via email park.orchards.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au to make an appointment for a confidential discussion on how they can be supported.

All students will again be provided with individual stationery kits. These kits are a component of the Essential Education items that parents pay for. The school also provides opportunity for parents to contribute to the ongoing upgrade and maintenance of the school’s facilities and learning resources through the Voluntary Contribution program and tax deductible Library Fund.

Payments can be made at the office before 20 December 2016 or when collecting your stationery boxes on Wednesday 25 January 2017 between 9am-12pm and Monday January 30 2017 between 1pm-4pm.

We appreciate your support of the Parent Payments Program and look forward to continually improving our school and working with you and your children throughout 2017.

Yours faithfully,

Melinda Frost
School Council President

Louise Jeffery
School Council Treasurer

Georgina Daniel
Principal
PARK ORCHARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT PAYMENTS 2017

* ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL ITEMS

Essential Education Items: $260 per student
Essential education items are those items or services that are essential to support the course of instruction in the standard curriculum program that parents are requested to pay the school. Essential education items include educational resources and equipment, classroom and individual student requisites, including student stationery consumables, photocopying and publishing costs, specific supplies for all curriculum areas and three online programs: Mathletics, Reading Eggs and Sound Waves which can all be accessed at home.

Cucina Cooking Class – Y3 and Y4: $12 per student
This charge covers the cost of ingredients for four lessons.

Athletics Charge – Y3 to Y6: $20 per student
This charge covers the cost of transportation and hire of equipment for the School Athletics Carnival.

Interschool Sport Charge – Y5 and Y6: $65 per student
The interschool sport charge per student is for bus transportation expenses and equipment hire but does not include Hooptime, or District/Zone/State finals.

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Student Camps – Y3 to Y6: Deposit $50 per student (non-refundable)

VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Curriculum Focus Contribution: Two additional Mobile Interactive Touch Panels for Classrooms $45 per family
This contribution covers the purchase of educational aids and other material of an enduring nature to improve the school’s resources. Over the past two years we have been upgrading the classroom interactive boards across the school in accordance with our ICT plan.

Buildings and Grounds Contribution: $80 per family (no increase)
This contribution assists in the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the school’s buildings and grounds which are extensive and need constant upkeep.

LIBRARY FUND 2017 - TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Donations are very welcome and directly enable improvements to the library resources including ICT equipment and allow us to offer an environment conducive to individual learning.

IMPORTANT DATES:                  PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ON COMPASS

Student Stationery Kits will be available for collection at the office upon payment of *Essential Education Items for 2017

Stationery Kit collection dates – Wednesday 25 January 2017 between 9am and 12noon
– Monday 30 January 2017 between 1pm and 4pm

Payment Options
– Pay in full by 20 December 2016 – Optional
– Pay in full by 30 January 2017 to collect your student stationery kit
– Pay in instalments by agreement (Contact the Business Manager 98761249)
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM IF DONATING TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY FUND

LIBRARY FUND DONATION

I enclose a donation of $__________ to the Park Orchards Primary School Library Fund.

Child’s Name: __________________________________ Class: ____________

Details for Tax Deductible Receipt:

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________

________________________________________________

Date: ____________________________________________

Thank you for your donation.

A Tax Deductible Receipt will be forwarded early in 2017 to the person listed above.
Looking for Christmas presents? Christmas 2013 saw POPS release our very own hardcover cookbook filled with yummy family favourites. Some of the faces have changed but the recipes are still delicious! We have limited stock left!

Now only $10 each

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childs Name &amp; Class:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime Phone No:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity of books required:  Total amount due: $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tick Payment Preference:  Cash  Cheque  MasterCard  Visa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPS Cook Book  Credit Card Payment Authority</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Card Holder’s Full Name:</td>
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<td>Signature:  Daytime Phone No:</td>
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<td>Date:  $  Exp Date:  /</td>
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☐ MasterCard  ☐ Visa
The children have enjoyed some really good weather in the last few weeks and have also loved it when we produce some icy poles. We have tried to make our own using mixed berries and yoghurt and they seemed to be very popular. With Christmas fast approaching we have had some fun opening a lot of bon bons, making little keepsakes and some decorations. Some children appreciate our Christmas CDs while others prefer the radio or some of the more contemporary songs.

For some reasons cubbies continue to be extremely popular- and most of them are pretty fancy with many bedrooms and ensuites!

Just a reminder that our last day at OSH club Park Orchards will be Tuesday 20\textsuperscript{th} December. We finish school at 1.30pm so OSHClub will operate from 1.30-6.30pm. If you can book in advance we appreciate it so that if our numbers creep towards 30 children we can organize a third staff member. We would also like to remind children to bring their hats with them to OSHClub as the weather is still pretty warm when we want to go outside and enjoy our fabulous playground.

For our last two days we will have our usual selection of breakfast specials and afternoon teas. This is what is planned:-

\textbf{Monday} : Boiled eggs with wholemeal toast is the special of the day today. You might just prefer to choose from our selection of cereals!!

Sushi today made with brown rice, sushi sheets, cucumber, carrot and maybe a splash of soy sauce.

A fruit platter with apples, oranges and a ripened pear!

\textbf{Tuesday} : Toasted sandwiches made with wholemeal bread, cheese, tomato and a little ham. Cereals are also on offer if you prefer. Two minute noodles have been requested so let's hope it is not a really hot day for our lucky last day at school! A fruit platter with some juicy watermelon.

Adrienne, Hannah & Courtney.