the first day of their school adventure at POPS.

Getting to Know You Conversations
At the beginning of each year, we invite parents to a Getting to Know You Conversation as part of our student wellbeing program. These conversations will be conducted next Tuesday, February 14 from 3.40-5.00pm and Thursday, February 16 from 3.40-7.30pm. These conversations are designed for the teacher and parent to get to know each other and begin building their partnership. Parents are encouraged to impart information about their child that they think is important for the teacher to know. These conversations are held early in the school year and are not for the teacher to report on learning progress, rather how the students have transitioned into the new year level and class. Parents can book their conversation time online through Compass.

School Council
Each state school has a School Council, which is responsible for the governance of the school. The School Council is composed of parents, teachers, and myself as Executive Officer. Our School Council has thirteen members; eight parents, three teachers and me with the executive body being composed of myself, the President, Vice President and Treasurer. School Council terms are two years and run from March to March with generally half of the positions being available each year. Parents nominate to fill these positions and if there are more nominations than positions, an election is held. More information about School Council can be found at www.education.gov.vic.au. In the next week I will officially call for nominations to School Council, if you are interested in being on School Council please contact myself, Ms Garrity or Mrs Frost our School Council President.

Cucina and Storytime
I teach two programs which I treasure. They help me to understand the learning and personal needs of students and prospective students and give me much joy as I can indulge my passions of teaching, reading and cooking. The Cucina program is conducted weekly for year three and four students. In this program we prepare, cook and eat healthy meals using produce from our kitchen garden and hens. The benefits for the children are many; cooking involves content and thinking processes of Science, Maths and Reading as well as teamwork and learning new skills. Many of our students who have experienced Cucina now regularly cook at home. It does rely on parent helpers so if you have a child in year three or four and you are able to commit an hour and a half on a Thursday or Friday afternoon please contact your child’s teacher.
Phonemic awareness is essentially a knowledge and understanding of the sounds and sound patterns of our language. The Sound Waves approach uses a sound-to-letter strategy, which acknowledges that sounds can be represented in more than one way. The Sound Waves approach focuses first on the basic units of sound in our language — phonemes. It then explores the letters that represent these sounds and how they can be put together to form the words in our language.

Next Week Year 1-2 students will be focussing on the words that contain the graphemes (b b).

Teachers will provide parents with their student login code to access Soundwaves at home.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Parent/ Carer Helper Information Session
Next Thursday 16th February we will be holding a Parent Helper Information session at 9am in the Library. Parent helpers add significantly to our school program and your support is greatly appreciated.

Some areas where parents assist at POPS:

- Hearing children read
- General classroom assistance- literacy and numeracy groups
- Typing children’s stories
- Helping children write stories
- Working with children on computers
- Attending excursions
- Assisting with Sports’ Teams
- Covering / contacting books
- Working in the gardens
- Assisting in the Library

We encourage parents who wish to assist in the school, to participate in our Parent Helpers’ Session. This session may have different focuses but all aim to provide some basic information about how you can help, as well as some protocols and ‘etiquette’ that we ask all classroom visitors to abide by.

The Parent Helper Information session will be held in the library on Thursday 16th February: 9.15am - 10.00am.

We look forward to seeing you all.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

As part of the new Victorian child safety regulations for safe schools all volunteers are required to have a current Working With Children Check. Everyone who volunteers in the school must have a WWCC. This requirement is to ensure that our students are safe at all times. The application is available at:

Apply for WWCC...

Soundwaves

After a successful first year implementing the Soundwaves spelling approach across the school we will continue with this approach to spelling this year.

Sound Waves is a word study program designed to develop reading, spelling and writing skills through phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is essentially a knowledge and understanding of the sounds and sound patterns of our language. The Sound Waves approach uses a sound-to-letter strategy, which acknowledges that sounds can be represented in more than one way. The Sound Waves approach focuses first on the basic units of sound in our language — phonemes. It then explores the letters that represent these sounds and how they can be put together to form the words in our language.

Next Week Year 1-2 students will be focussing on the words that contain the graphemes (b b).

Teachers will provide parents with their student login code to access Soundwaves at home.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

School Injuries and Student Insurance

Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold accident insurance for school students.

Is other insurance cover available? Yes

The Department is aware of two insurers, JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd and EBM Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd, that provide accident insurance policies for students. These policies provide specific benefits for students who are injured in accidents for a reasonably low cost. Other insurers may also do so.

JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd
Suite 1610, Level 16
530 Little Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Contact: Maria Raschilla msolomos@juaunderwriting.com.au
or Des Purcell dpurcell@juaunderwriting.com.au
Phone: 03-9909 7480

EBM Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd
The annual cost of a StudentCover policy is just $29.00. The cover provides protection for your children 24 hours a day, seven days a week, anywhere in the world* whether they are at school at the time of the accident or not, and includes almost every sport*. (*some conditions apply)

StudentCover is only available online – making it quick and easy to protect your child or children.

For further information please contact:
Phone Free Call: 1300 783 878
Studentcover@ebm.com.au
www.studentcover.com.au
### MERIT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Archie H</td>
<td>For his fantastic self portrait and great writing. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2D</td>
<td>Alexander K</td>
<td>For writing an interesting holiday recount. Super effort Alex!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>Eloise M</td>
<td>For a fabulous start to the year and her fantastic small moment writing - a super effort!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Emily C</td>
<td>For her excellent start to Year 3 and for being a sensational display monitor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Charlie N</td>
<td>For putting everything you have into learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Bosco T</td>
<td>For concentrating and working on getting his work completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4W</td>
<td>Sam G</td>
<td>For settling into POPS with ease and joining in with the other students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Bonnie S</td>
<td>For the wonderful effort she made writing her Bio-Poem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5P</td>
<td>Liam R</td>
<td>For being an excellent listener in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Josh T</td>
<td>For using the POPS tribes agreements to be a positive influence on his peers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6Q</td>
<td>Tess P</td>
<td>For showing exceptional responsibility and dedication to her leadership position as House Captain.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### NUT REMINDER

This year we have several children at our school with severe, life threatening allergies to nuts. Their allergies are so severe that contact with nuts and nut products can result in anaphylactic shock. Historically the reaction has been only to peanuts but our new students are allergic to all nuts. To ensure that the school environment is as safe as possible for these children we ask that nut products be consumed at home and not at school. We do not have any nut products in our canteen or staffroom. I know this may cause inconvenience to some families but our duty of care is to provide the safest environment for all our students. All staff are trained to be aware of the symptoms and management plans are developed for each child with specific instructions. Staff also attend a training session with the school nurse in the use of the Epipen. Thank you for your support of this procedure.

**NB:** Nutella spread contains nuts.

### 2017 SCHOOL TERM DATES

**Term 1**
Monday 30 January (school teachers start) to Friday 31 March
Curriculum Day: Mon 30 Jan
Labour Day: Mon 13 March
Curriculum Day: Tues 14 March
Warrandyte Festival 24-26 March 2017
Last Day Term 1 Friday 31 March - Dismissal 2.30pm

**Term 2**
Tuesday 18 April to Friday 30 June
Curriculum Day: Tues 18 April
Good Friday: Fri 14 Apr
Easter Monday: Mon 17 Apr
ANZAC Day: Tues 25 Apr
Queens BD: Mon 12 Jun
Last Day Term 1 Friday 30 June - Dismissal 2.30pm

**Term 3**
Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September
Curriculum Day: Mon 17 July
Y56 Phillip Island Camp 11-15 Sept 2017
Y34 Candlebark Camp 18-22 Sept 2017
AFL Grand Final Day Fri 29 Sept
Last Day Term 1 Friday 22 September - Dismissal 2.30pm

**TERM 4**
Monday 9 Oct to Friday 22 Dec
Tuesday 7 November Melbourne Cup Day
Last Day Term 1 Friday 22 Dec - Dismissal 1.30pm
STORYTIME AT P.O.P.S.

OPEN TO ALL PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS

LISTEN
PLAY
DISCOVER
IMAGINE
ENJOY

2017 Topics

February 20 ~ Picnics
March 27 ~ Easter
April 24 ~ Toys
May 22 ~ Weather
June 26 ~ Bugs
July 24 ~ Babies
August 21 ~ Drums
September 18 ~ Pets
October 16 ~ Hats
November 20 ~ Grandparents
December 11 ~ Christmas

MONDAY MORNINGS
9.15 am — 10.00 am

WHERE
In the Library
Park Orchards Primary School
1-3 Bowmore Avenue
Park Orchards

For Further Information Contact:
Georgina Daniel
Principal
9876-1249
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.

- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.

- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.

- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.

- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance. You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date __________
CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-Government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

• on the first day of Term one, or;
• on the first day of Term two;
  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder; OR
  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (30 January 2017) or term two (16 April 2017).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

• Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
• Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.

3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2017 closes on 30 June, 2017.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

© 2016 Department of Education and Training
Welcome back to another year at OSHClub Park Orchards. The weather has been nice and warm and icypoles or ZOOPER DOOPERS as they are called, have been very popular. The children have found some relaxing spots in the playground to sit back, look at the sky and the trees and suck their icypole! What more do you need out of life?

This week we have had several families try OSHClub for the first time and I have been very impressed with our regulars who have taken them under their wing and shown them the ropes! It is a very happy place to be and the students really do enjoy being with their friends and enjoying fun activities and great food. We have had great success with our breakfast specials. We made smoothies boiled eggs, pancakes, fruit toast and of course cereals and toast! We welcomed Jacob O’Reilly back to Park Orchards as our afternoon coordinator and Grace Lin has been our regular assistant for both mornings and afternoons.

Adrienne Bishop
Coordinator.
Move to a local bank.

Become a customer of Warrandyte Community Bank® Branch today and you’ll have access to great banking products and enjoy premium customer service.

It’s easy to switch and with contributions to our local community of $2 million, $41,500 to Park Orchards Primary School, you’ll also know that your banking is supporting something bigger.

Drop into the branch at 144 Yarra Street, Warrandyte or phone 9844 2233 to find out more.

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**MUSIC TUITION**

**PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS AT POPS**

**KEYBOARD, VOICE, PIANO**

Mrs Hunt is taking students for private Keyboard, Voice and Piano tuition. If you’re interested in enrolling in one of these lessons please pick up an enrolment form from the school office.

**VOICE TUITION AT POPS**

With Alysia Bowen, Voice Coach!

Enrolment forms can be collected from the school office or you can contact Alysia on 0422 508 153.

**DRUMS, GUITAR, PIANO, VOCALS, VIOLIN, WOODWIND, BAND**

Office -
15 Wilkinson Way
Park Orchards, 3114
Victoria, Australia
info@wonnies.com.au
Tel: 03 9812 2568
Mob: 0404 139 123

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Learning the piano improves educational outcomes!

Would you like to give your child the opportunity to learn the piano?

Private Lessons (1 on 1) are available for P.O.P.S students during school hours or at your home.

Limited places are available this year.

For further information:
Joanne Siegersma (B.Mus.Ed, Melb)
Ph: 94310555
Email: josieg53@gmail.com
Dads Tuning in to Kids

Dads Tuning in to Kids is an effective seven session parenting course that focuses on developing your child’s emotional intelligence.

The program provides you with the skills and strategies to:
- Improve communication and connection with your child
- Better understand and manage emotions
- Problem solve and set limits
- Prevent or resolve problem behaviours in your child

All within a supportive environment where you can share the challenges of parenting.

Research shows that children with higher emotional intelligence do better in a range of life outcomes and have the emotional competence to respond to life events in a resilient way.

Primary Facilitator: Mr Ashley Taylor (School Teacher & Dad)
Support Facilitator: Dr Rachel Cousins (Clinical Psychologist & Mum)

Who: Dads of children aged 2 – 12 years

Where & When: This 7 week parenting course will run at Deco Place Croydon from 7pm to 9pm on Wednesday nights
Term 1: 15th February to 29th March 2017
Term 2: 10th May to 21st June 2017
Term 3: 9th August to 20th September 2017
Term 4: 1st November to 13th December 2017

Cost: $250 Please note places are limited to 12 participants

Contact ashley@decoplace.net to secure your place 0430 031 444

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Parenting Anxious Children Seminar

Wednesday 8th March 2017 – 6.30pm till 8.30pm
Eltham Library - Panther Place, Eltham

Does your child worry and feel anxious at times?
Would you like to gain a greater understanding of anxiety and learn some helpful strategies to support them?

Children worry about many different things. Learning to cope with their anxiety, stress and fear can be really difficult indeed, not only for them, but for all the parents and family. Developing an understanding of anxiety and learning some skills to manage it can make a significant difference to a family and can help empower children to have a sense of control in handling their own worries.

The Anxiety Recovery Centre of Victoria (ARCvic), a specialist state-wide mental health organisation, is passionate about supporting and educating parents so that they feel able to help their children.

Join our relaxed and informative workshop which includes:
- Understanding anxiety and normal childhood development
- How personality and environment contribute
- Different types of anxiety
- The signs and symptoms for you and your children
- Management methods and strategies for you and your children
- Relaxation techniques with tips on building resilience
- Where to go for more information and help and take home material

Cost: $20.00 or $10.00 for ARCvic members

To book contact ARCvic Office (03)98300566 or register online at www.arcvic.org.au

For further information contact Lisa Wolfenden or the ARCvic Office – 9830 0566
email - lwolfenden@arcvic.org.au web: www.arcvic.org.au