WHAT’S ON?

February
Mon 11 Middle and Senior School Swimming Carnival
Croydon Memorial Pool
Year 6 Hoodie orders due today
Tue 12 Sustainability meeting 7.30pm Staffroom
Thur 14 Statewide Stop-Work
Fri 15 Interschool Sport Antonio Park PS
Mon 18 District Swimming
Fri 22 Interschool Sport CHPS
Japanese Day lunch order forms due
Scholastic Book Orders Due Today
Tue 26 Japanese Day
Education Subcommittee 7.30pm Staffroom

March
Mon 11 Labour Day Public Holiday

Principals Report

ONE WEEK IN…..

We have had one week of classes for 2013 and it has been great to see how well everyone has settled in. The development of positive relationships and good work habits is essential at the beginning of the year. It was great to see our Preps at the assembly on Monday morning as well. For those parents who feel left out at assemblies because they are not sure of the words of ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR they appear later in today’s newsletter!

SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIME

Please remember that students are not supervised in the yard until 8:45, which is also when most classroom doors are opened for students to settle in to their room and get ready for the day. Parents should not be dropping off their children early, or allowing them to walk to school too early. We have an excellent and economical Out of School Hours Care program that operates each morning if you need to use it.

PARKING

Please be aware that the staff carpark off Wellington Park Drive is for staff only between 8:30am and 4:00pm, with the exception of those people who need to access the disabled car park. The staff carpark is NOT a drop off area. Students are aware that the car park is an out of bounds area and parents are asked to respect this. Parking around almost every school in Melbourne is critical every morning and afternoon. Please ensure that you park safely and considerately!

FACEBOOK

For new parents and perhaps parents new to Facebook you can find our school Facebook page by searching for Warranwood Primary School. It is a good way to keep in touch with what is happening around the school, get updates on school camps and more.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Nominations are now open for School Council for 2013/2014. Please refer to our website for information about the council as well as nomination forms. Forms should be returned to me by next Thursday 14 February. Being on School Council is a good way to learn more about how the school operates and to make a difference!! Meetings are usually held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the evening. Nomination forms are also available at the school office.
WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN
The Woolworths Earn and Learn supplies have arrived! Thanks to your hard work we got lots of supplies for our Student Welfare Officer Mia, heaps of new calculators and more! Mia is with Katrina who was one of our great collectors!!

AEU ACTION
As you will be aware the negotiations between the government and the AEU are continuing this week. We are all hopeful of a resolution in the matter very soon. In the meantime the AEU action continues. There will be a full day STOPWORK next Thursday 14 February. You will be notified on Tuesday 12 February if your child’s class will be affected. In the meantime AEU bans, including the maintenance of the 38-hour week continue to affect the operation of aspects of school life.

ANAPHYLAXIS
All parents will receive a letter today regarding anaphylaxis management in the school. Please read this carefully!

In today’s newsletter you will also find information from our School Nurse Gay about head lice. Gay will continue to provide articles in the newsletter as well as on our website about health and wellbeing issues.

Assistant Principal Report

Assistant Principal Report

Education Committee
The Education Committee is a sub-committee of the School Council that works with the Council concerning educational issues. We manage the policy development in the school and keep parents informed on a range of education-
al issues. We have a range of events planned but we would like to hear what issues/topics may be relevant to parents this year.

One of our events this year is a special presentation on Wednesday 29th May. ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority) will be visiting the school and conducting a cybersafety session for year 5/6 students in the afternoon, staff after school and parents in the evening. We ran one of these sessions two years ago and they are so popular it has taken until now to have them visit the school again. I encourage you to keep the evening free. We had a very big attendance at the last session and all parents left the night feeling better prepared to meet the challenges the internet brings.

Curriculum
Each term our teams plan a unit of work to facilitate the development of ideas, concepts and skills we want students to learn. These come from the curriculum set by the state government. Team newsletters will provide more detail regarding these in the coming weeks. All classes start off developing their classroom community ‘norms’. That is, what are the ways we want to operate within our learning environment this year. This term the teams are covering the following topics:
Preps – Where Do I Belong
Junior School – Travelling Along
Middle School – What’s The Matter (Solids, Liquids and Gases)
Senior School – Super Heroes
Specialists programs are developed around the team units.

Irabina Childhood Autism Services
Irabina is a centre that operates in Bayswater and provides a range of service for children and their families. Their first information session for parents “Autism and Anxiety in Children with ASD” is coming up. Please see the flyer included at the back of the newsletter.

Disability Support
The Parent Support Network – Eastern Region Incorporated presents a regular newsletter providing information regarding a range of disability issues and services. I have included the latest newsletter at the end of our newsletter for your information.

Sue

WellBeing
I am looking forward to lots of ‘Being Well’ across the school community in 2013.

This year we will be running a program in the Junior School called “What is a thought? A thought is a lot”. This program teaches students that thinking creates feelings and feelings create actions. It also teaches students to recognise the power of thoughts and the power we have to control them, and much more....
In the Middle School we will be running “The Zones of Regulation” program. This teaches students strategies for self-regulation and emotion control. I will continue to run the Angels and Heroes program which enlists students to be leaders and role models for inclusive and supportive behaviours with their peers. I will continue to work in classrooms and run a lunchtime program to assist students to develop skills in social situations.
I will be starting a new lunchtime program called “Sing for the Soul” which enlists students from Grades 4 – 6 who want to come along for a sing-a-long just because it makes them feel good. And of course I will be spending a lot of time in classrooms as well as working with individual students where necessary.
Best Wishes

Mia

Uniform shop
I have sent out the Year 6 Graduation Hoodie orders this week. If you could please make sure your child's order could be sent back by Monday February 11th so I can get the order sent to the supplier. Delivery will be by the end of term 1. Extra forms are available at the office or uniform shop.
Thanks

Jill
Library 2013
Welcome back all borrowers!
Just a reminder for parents - students may borrow up to 4 books at any one time. The loan period for books is 4 weeks. I endeavor to run an overdue list on the last Thursday of the month. (Teachers then hand out their notices). If a student has an overdue no further borrowing will be allowed until all books returned please. I am always happy to assist children finding their lost books – but they do need to come and ask/advise me. The Library still has some books overdue from last year. I am slowly speaking to each student as they come into Library. I am also completing a shelf check for these missing books.

With thanks
Kim Barlow

Canteen News

WEDNESDAYS - A reminder that canteen is closed for lunch orders on Wednesdays. Over the counter sales of drinks, icy-poles and snack items will be available between 1pm and 1.30pm during Term 1.

SUSHI DAY ON JAPANESE DAY - As part of Japanese Day celebrations on Tuesday February 26th canteen is providing students the opportunity to order Sushi for their lunch. The normal canteen menu will also be available and over the counter sales will operate as usual from 1pm. Sushi for this day will be freshly made for us by Takeya Sushi Café located at North Ringwood shops.

Order forms for this day were distributed earlier this week and need to be returned to school by Friday February 22nd. Sushi orders will be on a prepaid basis only. I will need some additional assistance between 11am and 1pm on this day. If you are able to assist please contact me on one of the numbers listed below.

NEW CANTEEN MENU AND PRICE LIST - Included with a package of notices to be sent home shortly is a new Canteen Menu for 2013. The following items have been deleted - BBQ Chicken Pizza, Le Snak Cheese Dip and Mango Frozen Yoghurt, Lime Moosies and BBQ Sakatas have been added (as advertised in Term 4, 2012), and a number of prices have increased. Please replace any old Canteen Menus with this current one. Additional copies can be obtained from the canteen.

WPS CANTEEN ROSTER - The policy of WPS Canteen is to supply the school community with nutritious lunches at affordable prices. This is only possible with the assistance of parents. At WPS we are very fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteers on our roster. Canteen duty is a great way of not only supporting the school but also meeting other parents and meeting your child’s friends and students love to see you at the canteen. Canteen duty is open to all parents and friends of WPS. We currently have a number of fathers and grandparents on our roster who not only do a great job but are a big hit with the students.

PARENTS WISHING TO ASSIST WITH CANTEEN DUTIES - Included with the package of notices to be distributed is a form to fill in if you are able to assist in the canteen. It doesn’t matter whether you are able to help on a regular basis or only occasionally, any help is greatly appreciated.

To enable me to update my list of volunteer contact numbers, days of availability etc I ask that everyone on the 2012 roster who is able to continue with canteen duty this year please complete this form also.

ROSTER FOR THE NEXT 3 WEEKS
February 2013
Fri 08 Nicole Stokes, Nicole Thorpe, Erin Voyer
Mon 11 Kate Braunthal, Michelle Caruana
Tue 12 Vanessa Allsop, Deb Sandilands
Wed 13 CANTEEN CLOSED
Thu 14 😊😊
Fri 15 Georgie Gowling 😊😊
Mon 18 😊😊
Tue 19 Melissa O’Connor, Maggie Slane
Encourage Regular Head Lice Checks

Regular checks for head lice can reduce the severity of an individual infestation, make treatment easier and stop the head lice life cycle. All parents should adopt a weekly head lice check system.

Head lice are prevalent throughout the entire calendar year; however there seems to be an increase in cases in the more humid months of the year. Head lice are highly infectious and an individual is more likely to pick up nits and lice in highly populated areas such as in school yards or play groups. Head lice do not much care whether hair is clean or dirty.

The best way to identify a possible infestation is to separate the hair and comb through – all the hair. It is said that using a conditioner or combing solution can actually slow the head lice down, as they do crawl exceptionally fast making it difficult to locate an infestation. Apply the conditioning or combing solution and then work to untangle any knots which will help to make the combing a little easier. The hair should be divided into 4cm sections and combed from the root of the hair to the tip. After every comb through inspect the comb to determine any apparent nits or lice.

As the size of this pesky parasite is quite small (Nymph – between 1 and 2 millimeters and a Louse between 2 and 3 millimeters) try using a magnifying glass to help locate any lice that may be hidden in behind the ears and towards the back of the neck. It is important to use a nit comb as the teeth are designed close enough to hold such a small critter. If head lice are found a treatment solution, which are available from supermarkets and pharmacies, will need to be applied; make sure that the treatment is repeated 7 days after the first treatment to eradicate any undetected hatchlings.

There are also things parents can do to prevent head lice, such as tying long hair into a pony tail, bun or plait and discourage the sharing of hats, brushes and hair bands. Look at some of the daily head lice prevention sprays on the market.

Gay Brown
School Nurse

Sustainability Sub-Committee 2013
All welcome in 2013! Please see attached flyer.
NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 12 February @ 7.30pm Staffroom
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history’s page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We’ll toil with hearts and hands;
To make this Commonwealth of ours
Renowned of all the lands;
For those who’ve come across the seas
We’ve boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine
To Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.
In 2013 we need to grow our committee with more parent members. Green thumb, lover of power tools, keen to support sustainability education integration into the curriculum, building projects, word smith and marketing guru, planting and weeding are your thing, why not get involved with the Sustainability Sub-Committee at WPS, the committee that’s ‘growing places’.

Next meeting:
Tuesday 12 February
@ 7.30 pm
Teachers Staffroom
ALL WELCOME

Working Bee Coordinator/s—Is it YOU?

In 2013 we need someone or a job-share team to be the working bee coordinator/s.
The role may involve:
- Some landscaping expertise
- Order materials
- Coordinate Volunteers
- Attend Monthly meetings
- Outdoor project design and plan

For more information please contact
Brenton Stokes
PH: 0412 847 543
Program Update
Hi Everyone. We are back in the swing of OSHC this week with most children started back at school. We have been doing a bit of cooking this week with pancakes and monkey biscuits and the ever popular popcorn. We have also been making up birthday boxes to put every one’s birthday on so we don’t miss anyone’s special day. There were some great creations of our tube robots and “Ganggum” style has proved a big hit with the dancers in the group once again.

Reminder to cancel your child for Thursday if their class is on strike so you don’t get charged.

Please book or cancel your child in so we know they are coming and can organise the right number of staff. BOOK AND CANCEL ON LINE TO AVOID EXTRA FEE
If it’s within 24hrs ring the program direct 0411 656 031. Please book children before 9am on the day attending to guarantee a place.
Next week’s goal is : Do something nice for someone.

Next terms Activities

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<td>TELL ME A STORY ABOUT YOUR PET</td>
<td>DOG EARS HEADBAND TWISTER</td>
<td>VALENTINE’S CARD SILENT BALL</td>
<td>CRAFT STICK PETS FOOZE BALL</td>
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<td>FISH PUPPETS</td>
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<td>HORSE PAPER ROLL CRAFT</td>
<td>DRESS UPS AASC</td>
<td>VALENTINE DAY HEART AASC</td>
<td>GINGERBREAD COOKIE PETS GIANTS TREASURE GAME</td>
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<td>FRISBEE</td>
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<td>MINI POOL/BALL</td>
<td>TENNIS 4-5PM</td>
<td>LACROSSE 4-5PM</td>
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Parent Information

WARRANWOOD OSHCLUB program phone: 0411-656-031
Coordinator: Jill Hansen
Assistants: Robyn Hansen, Hannah Cantwell, Lisa Fell, and Stephanie Parsons.
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST
FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Welcome to another school year. With term one approaching it is time to get your children ready for their return to school or attendance at a children’s service. While their asthma is just one of the many things to get ready, this checklist will hopefully make the process easier.

Throughout the year there are significant increases, or ‘spikes’, in asthma presentations to hospitals and emergency departments¹. Approximately 1 in 10 children and adolescents in Australia have asthma, and for children and adolescents with asthma these ‘spikes’ usually occur towards the end of holiday periods as they return to school or preschool¹. A significant ‘spike’ in asthma presentations and admissions to hospital, of children and adolescents experiencing severe asthma exacerbations, occurs throughout the first few weeks of February¹. For this reason, we have compiled a quick checklist for parents and carers to go through to prepare their child for the school year.

Is your child ready for new school year?

☐ My child has had an annual asthma management review with their doctor and has had their Asthma Action Plan reviewed

☐ My child has up to date ambulance membership

☐ My child knows how to recognise early symptoms of asthma and knows when to seek help from staff if they experience asthma symptoms

☐ My child understands the importance of taking reliever medication when necessary and knows how to use their puffer and spacer, either independently or with assistance

☐ An updated Asthma Action Plan has been provided to my child’s school/children’s service. Even if their Asthma Action Plan has not changed from last year it is important that a letter is provided to the school/children’s service informing staff of this. It is vital that staff know what to do for your child in an asthma emergency

☐ A reliever puffer and spacer (and mask for children under 5 years old) has been provided to the school/children’s service for my child. With the change in infection control guidelines, spacers can no longer be shared between children and it is vital that each child has their own equipment

☐ I have read and understood the school/children’s services asthma policy

For more information, resources or assistance completing this checklist please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (278 462) or visit www.asthma.org.au

ALERT: SCHOOL & EARLY CHILDHOOD STAFF

ASTHMA INHALER RECALL (limited batch numbers)

Asthma Australia has been advised that several batches of Ventolin and Asmol inhaler medication for the treatment of asthma have been recalled by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Alphapharm, in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

This recall has been initiated due to a fault in the delivery mechanism of a small number of inhalers within each affected batch. This can lead to less than the full dose being delivered for each puff. **Asthma Australia has been advised that a medical assessment has determined that the overall risk to patients is low; people should still act to replace inhalers that could be affected.**

The only batches affected are as follows:
Ventolin Batch numbers KN7170, KN7173, KN7178, and KN7179
Asmol Batch Numbers KL6790, KL6795, KL6796, KL6797, KL6798, and KL6799

**The TGA advice has more information:**

**What you need to do**

Asthma Emergency Kits are used in schools, early childhood settings and other community settings. Reliever medication is included for use in an asthma emergency. If you have asthma medication on site, it is important that you:

- Check the batch number of all asthma puffers/inhalers in your Asthma Emergency Kits / other asthma first aid devices (remove the canister from the inhaler tube and check the batch number on the bottom of the canister label)
- If these match any of the above batches, **take the inhaler to your pharmacy and exchange it for a new one**
- If your batch numbers don’t match those above, keep using the inhaler as normal.

For further information contact your local pharmacist or your local Asthma Foundation 1800ASTHMA (1800 278 462)
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CROYDON NORTH NETBALL CLUB (CNNC)

- Currently taking enrolments! Winter competition registrations closing soon!
- All age groups, from 5 years to adult - in particular, children with birth years between 2000 and 2003
- Become part of a team and make new friends
- Accredited Coaches at all levels
- For further information, visit our Facebook page, email us at cnnc@live.com.au or contact us via our website!
Basketball Club

Is looking for players for the upcoming winter season  
The season starts in term 2  
We are looking for players from under 7 to under 21, all abilities welcome  
Mini ball first season FREE. (U/7 & U8)  
*We have experienced coaches and are a great family club.  
* If your Son or Daughter is new to basketball or is interested in playing a 2nd game of basketball and learning new skills.  
* Grade 5 and 6 after school teams can join as one and be assured that we will keep your team together – Remember there is no after school basketball in secondary school

Contact  
Rob on Mobile 0411 559 245 or 9728 4948  
or  
Rebekah on Mobile 0411 593 050 or email rayers@bigpond.net.au  
All Enquiries answered promptly
CHIRNSIDE PARK JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Invite you to our 2013 Season Registration Day on Sunday 17th February 2012 at Kimberley Reserve, Kimberley Drive, Chirnside Park, 11.00am to 2.00pm. Registrations for all junior age groups - Under 8’s – 17’s – Boys & Girls. All necessary registration forms can be found online at our website www.chirnsidefc.com. For further enquiries please contact : Kirsten Van Middelkoop on 0411 083 558 or email registration@chirnsidefc.com.

MOOROOLBARK

JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB
REGISTRATION DAY
Sunday 10th December
10.00pm-2.00pm
Mooroolbark Junior Club Rooms
Esther Park, Mooroolbark
Registration day for all Junior teams from Optus SSF to U17’s playing in the
FFV competition for season 2013
secretary@barkers.com.

PLAYERS WANTED
FOR ALL AGE GROUPS
If you are interested in playing the “world game”, then why don’t you join our friendly family club, the Croydon City Arrows Soccer Club.
We cater for all age groups both boys and girls from 5 to 18yo.
REGISTRATION DAY 10th of February 2013
10.00am to 4.00pm
Dorset Recreational Reserve, Jenkins Lane Croydon.
For more information, go to our website at www.croydoncitysc.org.au,
Email: ccarrows@gmail.com
Or contact us on 0414726699.
Invites you to join us for the 2013 season

Registration Day Sunday February 10th, 2013
10am – midday.

CROYDON PARK

Hewish Rd, Croydon
Melways map ref. 50 K4

BLUE BOY WILL BE ARRIVING AT 11AM

Sausage sizzle and drinks provided by the club

ALL AGE GROUPS U8 – U17

Come and join a great family club that encourages fun and participation, with supportive coaches developing your game day skills.

FREE TRAINING TOP FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS

All relevant forms can be downloaded from our website

www.croydonjuniorfc.com.au

For further enquiries, please contact our Secretary Lenni Pennicott on 0433 960 682
new adventure... new friends!

Wonga Park Joey Scout Mob
Cnr. Yarra Rd. & Dawes Rd, Wonga Park
At Joey Cub Scouts girls and boys learn all about friendship, socialising, sharing, caring, teamwork, independence and doing their best.

Our activities include creative play, craft and games. We also go outdoors and hike, take part in billy cart derbies, bowling and lots more.

Interested?
Contact: Joey Scout Leader

AMBER PATTERSON - 0478 658 647
email: wongaparkscouts@gmail.com

www.vicscouts.com.au
Winter Basketball – Boys and Girls

Spirit Magic Basketball Club are holding their Registration day on February 16th at the Ringwood Stadium (8:30 – 3:00). All boys and girls of any level are welcome to register and will be placed in teams suited to their ability. We currently have 36 teams and are well represented in the GEBC competition which plays at local stadiums on Saturdays. Training is once a week after 6:30. For further information, please contact Joe Egan on 9879 9859 or visit our website at www.spiritmagic.com.au.

Expressions of Interest in Joining the Yooralla RIDE Consultancy Committee

There are currently a couple of vacancies on the RIDE consultancy group and they are looking for new members in particular carers and people with a disability. An Expression of Interest form can be downloaded from the RIDE website www.respiteeast.org.au and must be submitted by January 31st.

Purpose: The purpose of the RIDE consultancy group is to provide the RIDE team with the opportunity to meet with a group of varied members both service users and professionals to ensure objectives set in the operational plan are being achieved with the interests of key stakeholders at the core of all decision making. Member’s experience, skills and knowledge of the disability sector will contribute to the development of the RIDE program’s outcomes ensuring RIDE is delivering quality service.

Function of the Committee: The function of the RIDE consultancy group is to meet three times per year to discuss and review key priorities for the RIDE program. The group will consist of the employees of the RIDE program and key stakeholders of respite services in the EMR. The primary purpose of the consultancy group is to ensure the RIDE program is achieving quality outcomes, achieving the objectives set in the operational plan with the interest of key stakeholders at the core of all decision making. It also measures how successful the RIDE program has been in embedding and aligning the consultation feedback into the RIDE Operational Plan and discusses future strategies for the program. It will not be essential for members of the group to complete any follow-up tasks, this is the role of the employees of the RIDE program. For more information contact RIDE on 1300 886 796 or ride@yooralla.com.au.

Supporting Differences Program

The Supporting Differences Program will be in schools around the state this year.

The program aims to reduce bullying in schools by educating the school community. It will support students with disabilities, including those with ASD, and teach understanding to the whole school community.

The program has been funded and supported by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and promotes diversity and celebrates differences in schools.

Visit our website for more information.

Amaze (Autism Victoria) Information Sessions

The Amaze Family Counsellors will host a range of excellent Information Sessions this year in their office in Carlton.

Some of the topics covered will include: sibling issues; anxiety; puberty; divorce and separation, along with many other beneficial topics. The first session will be held on 21 February and will cover ASD and school-based strategies.

Book in early at eventbrite, $20 for non-members and free for Amaze members! Please see their flyer for more details.

Family Relationship Support for Carers

FRSC support family members caring for someone of any age, with any of the following disabilities: Intellectual, Physical, Neurological, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Sensory, Acquired Brain Injury and Mental Illness. There is no cost for these services. FRSC provides:

- Short Term Counselling assisting families to discuss concerns and strengthen family relationships, through a set number of counselling sessions provided by counsellors who are experienced in the field of disability.
- Planning for the Future of their family member with a disability. This includes provision of resource information, as well as access to community forums on topics such as Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, and Estate Planning.
- Resolving Conflicts which may arise within the family, with the assistance of an accredited mediator.
- Community Education for when sometimes families may not know where to start, or what services may be available. Group forums provide peer support to address difficult issues that carers may be facing. They also offer support and education on self-care and coping strategies, which may assist families to continue providing their caring role.

For more details phone 1300 303 346 or email frsc@each.com.au.

Anglicare Victoria Parentzone Eastern

This is a great parenting news and information service in the region. Their newsletters are available quarterly and are full of useful information on services and interesting courses for parents and carers including a range of support groups and other community supports across the region. They also have a resource library with books and DVD’s that can be borrowed. Based in Lilydale they can be contacted on 9735 4188 or parentzone.errer@anglicarevic.org.au. To download a copy of their latest newsletter go to the Anglicare website http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/Newsletters.

Parentline Ph 132 289 8am - midnight Monday to Friday

Parentline is a free service offering telephone counselling, information and referral to parents of children aged between 0 – 18 years. Parents and other carers may phone to obtain advice about managing difficult behaviours, including conflict and relationship issues. People who ring while the line is busy or outside hours can leave a message and will be called back.
WEEKLY NEWS

NDIS Update
The Commonwealth and New South Wales government recently announced a full funded National Disability Insurance Scheme for NSW. This agreement will see approximately 50 per cent funding contribution by the Commonwealth and NSW. The NDIS will be fully rolled out in NSW by 2018, providing care and support for approximately 140,000 NSW residents with significant disability, and provide coverage in the event of disability to around one third of the Australian population.
Also recently introduced into Parliament was the NDIS legislation. This draft legislation sets out a framework for the national scheme – the first stage of which will benefit more than 20,000 people with disability, their families and carers in the Hunter in NSW, the Barwon area of Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and the ACT.
For more information on NDIS, visit http://www.ndis.gov.au.

Getting ready to launch the NDIS in the Barwon area

This is an excerpt from National Disability Insurance Scheme Victorian Bulletin January 2013 from the Minister for Community Services, Mary Wooldridge. If you wish to receive future bulletins directly, please email ndis@dhs.vic.gov.au

The Victorian Coalition Government has championed the NDIS for a number of years. On 12 August 2012, they reached agreement with the Commonwealth Government to launch the NDIS in the Barwon area. The Victorian Government signed a formal agreement with the Commonwealth at the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting in Canberra. The launch will start in July 2013 and will assist about 5,000 people with significant and profound disability, their families and carers. The Barwon area consists of the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast Shire, the Borough of Queenscliff and the Colac-Otway Shire.
The NDIS is a major reform and will require a phased implementation. Not all clients in the Barwon area will transfer across to the NDIS immediately; however, existing clients will continue to receive services until they move to the scheme. The launch in the Barwon area is an important step and Victoria remains committed to working towards a sustainable full NDIS. We do expect the NDIS will include many people who currently receive supports from Disability Services, Home and Community Care (HACC), Early Childhood Intervention Services and Psychiatric Disability Rehabilitation Support Services.
The Victorian Government is listening to people’s concerns and ideas to make the NDIS fair and equitable, and we will continue to advocate to the Commonwealth Government for the best outcomes for people with disability as we transition to the NDIS.

For more information and to contribute to the development of the NDIS visit:
The Department of Human Services website
Every Australian Counts

For more information about the legislation, see her recent media release. To provide your feedback on the NDIS legislation directly visit the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs webpage.

Exploring Feelings - Cognitive Behaviour Therapy to Manage Anger
A program for children with High Functioning Autism or Asperger’s Syndrome.
This Cognitive Behaviour Therapy program was designed by world acclaimed authority in the Autism Spectrum, Dr Tony Attwood. It’s a structured, engaging and proven program for assisting children with High Functioning Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome to manage anger.
The program leaders will be Gary Radler, Clinical Psychologist and Lauren Weissenfeld, Behaviour Support Practitioner. Gary Radler is a clinical psychologist with extensive experience working with people with developmental disability their families and organisations. Lauren Weissenfeld is a Behaviour Support Practitioner experienced and skilled in positive behaviour support.
The program consists of six 2-hour sessions for children aged between 9 - 12 years. The sessions will be based in Eltham and each group will consist of 6 to 10 participants.
The cost of the sessions will be $50 per child (where a referral has been made by the child’s paediatrician or GP, they will be eligible for a Medicare rebate of $31.65 per session) Each child will receive their own workbook by Dr Tony Attwood.
Expressions of interest are being sort for this program. To receive an application form contact Gary Radler at gradler@me.com or go to his website www.gradler.com.au for more details.

They will be in contact with applicants by February 28th, 2013 to see if there has been sufficient interest to provide the program and to let you know the details.
Royal Children’s Hospital Consumer Participation

Patients and families, and other consumers, play an important role in improving the quality of care the RCH provide. This information outlines why they value involvement and feedback from their consumers and different ways patients and families and members of the community can contribute to high quality healthcare at The Royal Children’s Hospital.

The term consumer is defined in the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards as: ‘Patients and potential patients, carers and organisations representing consumers’ interests.’ Therefore, we are all consumers of the Victorian healthcare system at some point in our lives, either directly or indirectly.

Patients and families, and other consumers, play an important role in improving the quality of care provided. By involving consumers they gain the advice and input of the people who use, or could use, the RCH services and learn about their experiences and expectations; gain expertise and advice from other sectors on ways and experiences of improving the service they provide and improve accountability.

You can become involved at any time by providing ongoing feedback about whether the service is meeting your needs through consumer feedback systems, by being involved in the development and review of patient brochures and information handouts, by participating in hospital committees, including clinical care, risk management and quality improvement and by telling your stories and experiences to contribute to their understanding about the care they provide.

You may be a current inpatient, outpatient or parent, carer or family member, or even if you’ve never been a patient, parent or carer of a patient, your input, ideas and feedback are invaluable.

To become involved contact The Royal Children’s Hospital Quality Unit
Telephone: 03 9345 4892 Visit our website: www.rch.org.au/quality

Better access the focus of new disability plan

Providing people with the support and services that enable them to fully participate in all aspects of life is the focus of the new Victorian state disability plan 2013-2016 released today by the Minister for Community Services, Mary Wooldridge.

“The new plan continues the journey towards self-directed and flexible disability services that complement accessible and responsive mainstream services such as health care, education and transport. It works across the whole of government so that people with disability, their families and carers get the services and support they need to participate socially, economically and culturally,” Ms Wooldridge said.

The Victorian state disability plan 2013–2016 articulates the government’s view to the future and gives a clear direction for the next four years. It provides a framework for: tackling barriers to accessing mainstream services such as health care, education and transport, and working towards the support that people with disability, their family and carers need to fully participate in all aspects of life and fulfill their potential; continuing reform of the Victorian disability system to create a more streamlined system that offers more meaningful choice and control to people with disability and providing a clear direction that enables the whole community – including businesses, local government, not-for-profits, small groups, advocates and individuals – to work with or alongside the government in achieving the goals outlined in the plan.

Ms Wooldridge said the Victorian state disability plan 2013–2016 complemented the development and launch of a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). “Through continuing to implement Victoria’s contemporary approach to disability system reform, this plan helps us to better prepare for an NDIS,” Ms Wooldridge said.

The plan is available at www.dhs.vic.gov.au/statedisabilityplan

Fitness Connection For Carers

This is a fitness and support group program for carers of a person with a disability that runs for 12 weeks for carers living in the Councils of Knox, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges. Carers need to provide care to someone with a disability between the ages of 6 - 65 (as defined by the Disability Act 2006)

There will be a range of activities for people to enjoy with refreshments and an opportunity to chat afterwards.

Where: Knox Leisure works, Tormore Rd, Boronia

When: Fridays 12:45pm - 1:45pm, starting Friday 1st February 2013 to Friday 19 April, 2013 (12 weeks)

Registrations: to see if you are eligible, please call Wendy at the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre on 1800 052 222 or 9239 2580 if calling outside the Eastern region or from a mobile.

You need to register by Jan. 28th, 2013. Carers can access this program free of charge.
WEEKLY NEWS

Introductory boundary umpire course
AFL Victoria in partnership with Access for All Abilities are seeking male and female football fans with a mild intellectual disability to take part in the 2013 Introductory Boundary Umpiring Course.
Course length: 4 weeks (optional 5th week - tour of a VFL Ground)
Where: Shepley Oval, Dandenong
When: Wednesday 27 February
       Wednesday 6 March
       Wednesday 13 March
       Wednesday 20 March
Time: 10am - 12pm
Cost: $30 (including course booklets, DVDs, bag, drink bottle, wrist bands, whistle, BBQ and certificate)

Get involved in AFL! Register by Wednesday 13 February. Download the flyer and registration form.
Contact Michael Roberts, AFL Victoria Southern Region Development on (03) 9791 8656 or michael.roberts@ aflvic.com.au.

Wheelchair Softball Exhibition Match
Softball Australia is providing an opportunity for people with physical disability to take part in a fun, friendly, wheelchair softball exhibition match to take place on the final day of the Australian Open Women’s Championship – Gilley’s Shield.
No softball experience is necessary, professional coaching will be provided in the morning prior. In addition if there is enough interest an “Introduction to wheelchair softball training session” will be held a week prior to the event. If you are a softball fan, or keen to try a new sport, or have played other wheelchair sports such as basketball and tennis, we encourage you to register.
The Exhibition match and training is FREE for participants. Teams consist of 10 players a side.
This special event could lead to a regular competition in the future.

When: Saturday 2 February, 2013
Where: Waverley Softball Association, Cnr Waverley Road and Jells Road Wheelers Hill
Time: 12.30pm – 1.30pm
Equipment Required: All participants must be in a manual wheelchair with foot platforms. (Softball Australia will source sport wheelchairs for participants who don’t have their own for the day). Softball Australia will provide all the necessary Softball equipment. A 16 inch Softball will be used for the match.
Find out more about wheelchair softball by clicking here.
Register your interest by Friday 18 January, to Tim Hatzis, Social Inclusion Coordinator, Softball Australia tim.hatzis@softball.org.au or 03 9417 0022

Direct employment providing independence and choice
Direct Employment is now available for people with a disability who are directly paid their Individual Support Package funding, and offers them greater choice, control and flexibility over their supports.
As a direct employer, direct payments users have the choice of who to employ as support workers and how they provide support. This means that the direct payments user will be responsible for all of the legal, financial and human resource management obligations that come with being an employer.
The initiative is designed for people who are confident they can manage their support arrangements, along with the responsibilities and obligations required of an employer.

Home Of My Own
Given the interest in accommodation for people with a disability this event aims to inspire us to think different about assisting people with a disability to move into a place of their own. We are fortunate to be joined by Janet Klees and Alison Ouellette both from Canada and a local family governed collective, Living Distinctive Lives. This all day event will be held on Wednesday, 27th February, 2013 at Abbotsford Convent, 1 Hellers Rd, Abbotsford.
A couple of years ago a similar event was held in Cranbourne. Participants found it “inspirational, thought changing, insightful, brilliant, life-saving and possible. Participants “were struck by the inspiring, beautiful and courageous stories of families…believing that no-one’s needs are too high or complex for this to happen”. The event was fully booked so our advice is to register as soon as possible. For more information and to download a Registration Form please go to www.plavic.net.au

Deb Rouget, Belonging Matters, 2/18 Floriston Rd Boronia, VIC, AUS 3155
Phone: 03 97398333, Mobile: 0412001388
deb.rouget@belongingmatters.org, Web:
For individuals on the Autism Spectrum, the unpredictable and socially challenging world in which we live can be a constant source of anxiety. Research suggests there is a higher incidence of Anxiety Disorders in people with Autism Spectrum Disorders than in the general population. Further, while their symptoms may not be at a level to meet formal diagnosis, many children and adolescents with ASDs are severely impacted by their experience of anxiety on a daily basis. This workshop will provide an explanation of what Anxiety is, why it appears to be common in children with ASDs, what behaviours may indicate high levels of anxiety, and how we can help children with ASDs manage their anxiety effectively.

Date:      Tuesday 12th February 2013

Time:      7.00PM — 9.00PM

Venue:    Irabina Childhood Autism Services
          193 Bayswater Road
          Bayswater 3153

Cost:      $30 for PARENTS & CARERS
           $50 for PROFESSIONALS

Please contact Irabina to place your booking on 9720 1118 or for further information please contact Orla Murphy at orlam@irabina.com
Cancellation notice of less than 48 hours prior to the workshop—no refund. Payment for workshop is required at the time of booking.
Light refreshments provided.
Registration Form/Tax Invoice
ABN: 62 006 245 996

Workshop Title

Workshop Date:

Workshop Participation Information

Person(s) attending: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Person(s) attending: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Person(s) attending: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

INVOICE DETAILS:

Name: ___________________________

Organisation details if applicable:

For professional development please detail who to invoice:
Billing Address for invoice:

Email Address for invoice:

Phone: __________________________ Mobile: __________________________

Payment Details: To confirm your registration payment must be received on booking

☐ $50 Professional Development
☐ $30 Parent/Carer of a child with ASD
☐ Please find enclosed a cheque or money order
☐ Payment to be made by Direct Deposit to Irabina Childhood Autism Services Westpac BSB 033 – 044 Account No. 511970
   (Please use your event booking name as reference)

☐ Payment via Credit card   Name on card __________________________
☐ Visa   ☐ Mastercard   Credit card no. ______/_____/_____/_____/______   Expiry Date: __/____

If Paying by Cheque or money order, please make payable to: Irabina Childhood Autism Services

Please return Registration Form to:
Email: autism@irabina.com or fax 03 9720 6641
Irabina Childhood Autism Services.