Dear Parents,

Active Path Launch
Niddrie Primary School

Yesterday our school took part in the Active Bike Path Launch for Niddrie Primary School. Staff along with representatives from Ride2School met students at each of the four Active Path starting points and then followed their path to school. Councillor Andrea Surace, the Mayor of Moonee Valley City Council was in attendance at a special assembly where the Ride2School team spoke to students about the benefits of walking or riding to school.

We hope families make use of the tracks. It’s a great way to start the day, without the headache of having to worry about parking!

2016 School Structure

At the time of writing a total of 35 preps are enrolled for next year. With a number of children known to be leaving our school, as well as 35 grade 6 graduates who will be commencing year 7, I anticipate that our enrolment for next year will be approximately 280 students.

Our school is faced with a time of change, which includes the return of Gemma Kennessy, who has been teaching at Iramoo Primary School for the past two years. We will also see two new teachers

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. YOU CAN FIND US AT facebook.com under Niddrie Primary School

*You can access the school newsletter from our website:
www.niddrie.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

REMININDERS:
The canteen is closed every Thursday! TUESDAY IS BANK DAY!

The wearing of hats is compulsory from September 1st until 30th April. Children must wear a hat outside at recess and lunchtimes.

The Weekly Newsletter from Niddrie Primary School,
Watt Street Niddrie 3042

PHONE 9379 6587
FAX 9379 9946

Principal: Greg Peters School Council President: Al Da Silva

Our Vision: Students will be confident thinkers and problem solvers. They will take responsibility for their own learning and will be ready to accept the challenge of secondary school education and beyond.

DATE: 03/12/2015
Genevieve Vidmajer and Madalyn Bernardelle who will commence teaching at Niddrie next year. In addition, we welcome our new Assistant Principal, James Parker. In addition to these changes, Kathy Shortis will be reducing her time fraction for 2016 from full time to 0.2 and will teach Science in the grade 1/2 area.

We congratulate D’Arne Smith and her husband Ben on their exciting news! They are expecting their first child in May next year. With this in mind, D’Arne will not begin the year in a prep grade.

As you can see, there are several changes to be considered when planning for next year. With larger numbers in particular grade levels, we will be running a 13 grade structure in 2016. This plan includes Principal, Assistant Principal, The Arts, Science and Phys Ed.

We are anticipating that classroom teachers and specialists for 2016 will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Genevieve Vidmajer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Nicole Kotoski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Tracey Sawczenko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Kate Wilkinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Emma Brown (0.6)/ Emily Wong (0.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Ben Pickett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Madalyn Bernardelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Chris Weissbacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Shelley Tresidder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Stef Ghioacas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Craig Lofts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>D’Arne Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Gemma Kenessy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Science/The Arts:  Leanne Scully
Science (1/2):  Kathy Shortis (0.2)
Phys Ed (P-4):  Janine Martin (0.4)
Phys Ed (3-6):  Emma Browne (0.4)

Marilyn Dillon and Jan Ayres will run a targeting learning program and Kellie Busuttil will remain as the school office manager.

**Farewell**

Next Friday at our 3:00pm Assembly, we farewell Sharon Peluso, our Assistant Principal after 23 years at our school. Please try to attend this assembly to give Sharon a fitting send off. I’m sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best in her retirement.

**School Council**

On Monday evening our School Council meeting for the month of November was held. As usual a range of correspondence, reports, budgets and issues were discussed which included:

- current enrolment of 280 children
- Prep and whole school transition
- Approval of the 2016 indicative budget
- Staffing
- The 2016 school structure

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**End of Term Dismissal – 1:30pm!**

On the last day of this term (Friday 18th December) children will be dismissed at the earlier finishing time of 1:30pm. Our After School Program will operate from 1:30 – 6pm on this day. Please contact the YMCA on 0425788434 if you would like to book your child in.

**Pupil Reports/Portfolios**

All pupil reports and portfolios will be sent home on Monday 14th December.

Any parents wishing to speak with teachers about aspects of these reports are urged to contact the school as soon as possible to arrange a suitable interview time.

**Term Dates for 2016**

As listed in our dates to remember, term dates for next year are as follows:

**2016**

**Term 1:** 27 January (school teachers start) to 24 March*

**Term 2:** 11 April to 24 June

**Term 3:** 11 July to 16 September

**Term 4:** 3 October to 20 December

* The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. Each year government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school.

**Parent Helpers’ Morning Tea**

Next Thursday a special morning tea will be held to thank those many wonderful volunteers who have supported our school in so many ways throughout this year. This is our way of saying thank you for your support and for helping the children at our school. This morning tea will commence at 10:45am and will be held in the staffroom. We hope that you will be able to come along. **Please accept this as an invitation to attend.**

**Prep and Whole School Transition Days**

The last of our Prep and Whole School Transition Mornings will take place on Tuesday from 9.00am – 11.00am. Prep Transition times are slightly different, commencing at 9:15am and finishing at 10:45am.

Thank you to the parents who have ensured our new parents felt welcome, providing morning tea and support.
School Council has approved the following resource levy structure for the 2016 school year.

**2016 Levy Structure:**
1 child - $175.00
2 children - $350.00
3 children - $450.00
(each child after the second child is $100)
We are also providing parents with the opportunity to pay a $50.00 VOLUNTARY Contribution per family. Please complete the form below when returning your Levy.

This Levy is to be paid at the office on Monday 8th February between 9-11am. Earlier payments will be gratefully accepted. Payments can be made using cash, cheque or eftpos.

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**Basic Essential Education Resource Levy 2016**

**Family Members**

Name:__________________  Current grade: ____
Name:__________________  Current grade: ____
Name:__________________  Current grade: ____

I have enclosed $__________ for the Resource Levy.

I do/do not elect to pay a $50.00 voluntary contribution for my family.
Total amount enclosed $__________

Parent /Guardian
Signature______________________________
Date ____________

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**Whole School Picnic**

On Thursday 17th December we will be holding our Annual School Picnic. Students have received order forms which must be returned to school by Monday 14th December. Thank you to Parent Group for organising our special lunch.

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**Christmas Raffle**

Tickets for our end of year Christmas raffle have been sent home with students. Each ticket costs $1 and we are hoping you will sell these to family and friends. The raffle will be drawn on the day of the Whole School Picnic. There are many prizes to be won so good luck!

Should you be able to donate, any food, tins, biscuits, bon-bons etc please leave items at the office. (Don’t forget to make sure items will still be able to be used until January 2016).

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**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**

**Week Ending 27th November**

**GRADE PREP D**

William G.: for his outstanding efforts to blend sounds together. Keep it up.

**GRADE PREP N**

Lucia T.: for her hard work to improve her maths skills, especially her counting.

**GRADE 1/2B**

Charlie L.: for his fantastic and positive attitude towards everything school related. You’re a superstar.

**GRADE 1/2S**

Madison S.: for always working so co-operatively with others, all the time. Amazing!

**GRADE 3/4K**

Ruby L.: for always presenting an excellent standard of work. Well done Ruby.

**GRADE 3/4W**

Anthony B.: for having such a positive attitude towards learning.

**GRADE 3/4C**

Venice U.: for being such a sensational worker in our class all year. Well done!

**GRADE 5/6S**

Caitlyn T.: for being such a responsible member of our class. Superstar!

**GRADE 5/6E**

Kiana T.: for being a superstar and always looking to help her peers.

**GRADE 5/6C**

Zane B.: for his great sportsmanship in our Frisbee game. Great job.

**THE ARTS**

Jackson H.: for beautiful sewing and embroidery.

**SCIENCE**


**PHYS ED**

Jorjah D.: for her very impressive efforts at the beep test. Well done.

**PRINCIPAL**

Alira P & Sophia L.: for being such fantastic helpers at the school breakfast.

**TEACHER**

Jenny Binns.: for doing such an incredible job as our Canteen Manager.
Parent Group News
Second Hand Uniform Stall
Please have a look at our second hand uniforms on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am at the Parent Group room.
Price range from $3 - $5.

Niddrie Teachers in Cambodia
Over the coming holidays whilst many of us will be recovering from feasts and looking for ways to get out of the heat, 2 of our teachers will be spending their time in a very different way. For two weeks in January, Kate and Stef are travelling over to Cambodia and participating in a program called Teach the Teachers, run by SeeBeyondBorders. They will be going into schools in Cambodia and providing some professional development to teachers to help them with their teaching techniques and ideas. They have covered their own costs to fly to Cambodia and participate in the program and are now raising money to help buy school resources, maths kits, and materials to help make basic repairs to the Cambodian schools. We wish them all the best in their journey and look forward to hearing all about it next year. If you would like to make a donation to assist them in providing materials and resources for the Cambodian schools please visit the following website: https://give.everydayhero.com/au/stefanie-5

Pre-Christmas Care
At: Moonee Ponds Holiday Program
Monday 21 December 2015: Icy Pole Stick Bonanza!!
Tuesday 22 December 2015: The Pondz Restaurant Revolution!
Wednesday 23 December 2015: Cultural Diversity Day!
87 Wilson St, Moonee Ponds
Cost: $65 per day
For bookings: www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au

CANTEEN DUTY 2016
Parents wishing to volunteer for canteen duty in 2016, are asked to fill out the form below and return it to the office or canteen.
Name:

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Child’s Name/Grade:

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Preferred day/s to work:
Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri
Weekly Fortnightly Monthly