DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 12 October</td>
<td>Health and PE Week - see attached Healthy Food Day Buddy Lunch Prep Chicken Hatching 2 week program Yrs 5 &amp; 6 Future Stars Regional Hoop Time Comp in Dandenong (selected students only) Senior School Assembly 2.55pm Cake Stall Plates being sent home with the youngest student Prepaid Wristbands sent home today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 13 October</td>
<td>Teachers vs Students Netball 12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 14 October</td>
<td>Yrs 1 &amp; 4 Footsteps Program Yrs 3 &amp; 4 EFA Class Laps Competition Kids Matters Art Competition Due - see attached</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 15 October</td>
<td>Special Runners Club 8.10am - see attached Health &amp; PE Week information Free Dress Day in return for a Grocery Item for the School Fete Yr 1 Minibeast Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 18 October</td>
<td>SCHOOL FETE 11am - 4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 19 October</td>
<td>Prep Chicken Hatching 2 week program Yrs 5 &amp; 6 All Stars Grand Final Regional Hoop Time in Dandenong (selected students only) Junior School Assembly 2.55pm Yr 3 Portsea Camp Information Night in the Yr 6 rooms 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 20 October</td>
<td>Yr 3 Moonlit Sanctuary Excursion 9am School Council Meeting 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 20 October</td>
<td>Yrs 1 &amp; 4 Footsteps Program Yrs 3 &amp; 4 EFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 22 October</td>
<td>Yr 1 Incursion - Steve’s Bees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 23 October</td>
<td>Prep 2016 Transition Classroom Activity Session 10.30am - 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 26 October</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 2.55pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 28 October</td>
<td>Yrs 1 &amp; 4 Footsteps Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 29 October</td>
<td>Life Ed Van Music Count Us In 3pm - see attached</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30 October</td>
<td>Life Ed Van Prep 2016 Transition Classroom Activity Session 10.30am - 11.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2 November</td>
<td>Life Ed Van No Canteen Orders today No Assembly today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 3 November</td>
<td>MELBOURNE CUP DAY - NO SCHOOL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ACTING PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

WELCOME BACK
I would like to welcome everyone back for the commencement of Term 4. We are looking forward to another busy and productive term. This term is eleven weeks in duration and concludes on Friday, 18th December at 1:30pm.

STAFFING
We welcome back Mrs Dyer, Mrs Cross and Mrs Macaulay following their Long Service Leave last term.

Mrs Roberts (3A) will be on Long Service Leave for the first two weeks of this term and is being replaced by Mrs Fernandez.

Mrs Walsh (1B) & (5D) is also on leave for the first two weeks and is being replaced by Mrs Shipham (1B) and Mrs Sarah Taylor (5D).

Mrs Maxwell is leave this week and is being replaced by Mrs Freshwater.

Mrs Canavan is teaching 3B full time this term and Mrs Craig will be teaching 1C each Wednesday this term to enable Mrs Bowly to co-ordinate Mathematics across the school.

FAMILIES MOVING SCHOOL
Thank you to those families who have contacted the office to inform us of a change of school for 2016. This assists us with our planning for next year. If you haven’t informed the school of an intended move for 2016 please contact the office or alternatively you can email your intentions to my email account clohesy.paul.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YEAR 6 FILMMAKERS
Four of our Year 6 students recently entered the 2015 International Youth Silent Film Festival Victorian Regionals competition. Congratulations to our talented filmmakers: Deena G, Leisel B, Zoe G and Olivia C whose film has been shortlisted in the Top 20. The film will be shown at an awards night at Kingston City Hall in Moorabbin on the 24th October. A great effort girls and good luck at the awards night!
DIVISION ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to all students who represented Patto at the Division Athletics Day at Murrumbeena on Wednesday. Overall, we had an excellent day. Congratulations to Abbey T - 5D on making it through to Regionals in Triple Jump. Thanks to Miss Conway and the parents who accompanied the students.

IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY OR LATE!

Last year Patterson Lakes Primary School averaged 12.4 days of absences per student which was a pleasing result as it was lower than the school average for the previous four years. The number of ‘Late Arrivals’ per student was 2.5 days in 2014. This was the lowest result over the past 11 years.

Some data for Terms 1, 2 and 3 of the 2015 school year is as follows:

6205 – The total number of ‘days absent’ that students have taken during Terms 1, 2 and 3 this year. On average this is 8.16 days per student. This is slightly lower than at the same time last year (8.22). If our students are lucky to stay healthy for the remainder of the year and attend school when they are well, then we could further improve our attendance rate and keep our absences below last year’s result and below the State average once again. A target of less than 12.3 days is our goal for this year which we are on track to achieve.

1455 – This is the total number of ‘Late Arrivals’ for Terms 1, 2 and 3. This is higher than at the same time last year (1.62). When students are late to school they disrupt the learning of others so we need to ensure that they are always on time. Being at school no later than 8:50 a.m. is a great time to aim for. Let’s continue to improve this for the rest of the year and beyond.

1099 – This is the number of unexplained absences for Terms 1, 2 and 3. This makes up 16.1% of absences and is significantly less than this time last year (24.8%). These are absences without parent/guardian notes or calls to the Office as to the reason why students were not at school. Thank you to those families who have contributed to this improvement. Please remember that when your child is absent from school a note or call to the Office is needed to explain the absence as this is a Department of Education requirement. Let’s continue to improve this for the rest of the year and beyond.

10 – The number of students who have not had a late arrival or absence during Terms 1, 2 and 3. (1.3% of students). Congratulations to the following students: Alice M (Prep B), Amber S (Prep B), Keanu C (1A), Sarah A (1B), William M (1B), Emily N (1D), Raymond Z (2C), Trent C (3D), Izabelle S (3/4Z) and Aaron C (5A).

The P.L.P.S student ‘Absences’ and ‘Late Arrivals’ ladders for our 29 classes for Terms 1, 2 and 3 of the learning season in 2015 looks like this. (The average number of days of absences and late arrivals per student for each class are shown in the right hand columns).

Research shows that regular attendance at school does assist student learning.

IT IS OK TO BE AWAY – IF YOU ARE ILL!
Lunch Orders are available online on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

How do I set up an account to order online:
Go to: www.munchmonitor.com
Click LOGIN then REGISTER
Enter School Id: plps and Password: munch3197

Then follow the 4 easy steps to create your account:

**STEP 1**: Create a Parent Profile by entering information about yourself.

**STEP 2**: Add your Students to your account.

**STEP 3**: Transfer money to your account by clicking the Account Top-up button

**STEP 4**: Click MY ORDERS and you’re ready to Order lunches!

Orders can be cancelled on the day as late as 8.30am and should you have any concerns with your lunch order, please call Bellbrook Catering direct on 9796 5888.

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**Office News**

**Family School Accounts**

**3rd and Final Payments were due on Monday 31st August 2015**

Should you be experiencing difficulties paying your account, please contact Monique Hunt in the office on 9772 4011.

Payment can easily be made by using your B-Pay Code at the bottom of your statement.

Thank you to those families that have finalised their accounts.

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**Music News**

**Music: Count Us In**

On Thursday 29th October at 3pm in the school hall, under the direction of Mark Drysdale our Music Teacher, all students at Patterson Lakes Primary School will be taking part in “Music: Count Us In (MCUI)”. It is Australia’s biggest school initiative, with more than 500,000 participating students from over 2,100 schools nationwide. Growing in reach and impact since 2007, MCUI exists to support teachers to deliver music in the classroom. Music education has been proven to improve students’ literacy, numeracy, school attendance and confidence.

Music: Count Us In brings teachers, parents, students and the music industry together in celebration, as more than half a million people unite to sing the same song at the same time, right across the country.
**FREE DRESS DAY**

**THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER**

On Thursday 15th October we invite all students to come to school dressed in free dress clothing in return for the donation of a non-perishable grocery item or two that we can sell at our school fete on Sunday 18th October.

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**SCHOOL FETE NEWS AND REMINDERS**

The next best thing to Patterson Lakes Primary School’s actual fete day is the excitement that builds around the preparation and the lead up to Fete Day.

We have many parent helpers that assist with not only fete day itself, but also in helping Julie Shaw and the amazing girls on the fundraising committee with the many tasks that need to be done for the fete to be such a success on the day. We are extremely appreciative of all the donations and help from our wonderful parents/carers and school community.

This years’ fete will not disappoint. We have many amazing stalls, rides, show bags and activities on offer.

5A’s stall at the fete this year is the WINE TOSS and we are collecting bottles of wine. If you have any bottles that you won’t drink or have been given as a gift and you don’t want, we would love you to donate them to 5A’s stall. Donations can be brought to the office or to Julie Shaw in the Library.

You can no longer purchase prepaid Wristbands for the Fete but they will still be available to purchase on the day of the School Fete for $35 and $20 for Pre-School children. **Prepaid Wristbands will be sent home with students on Monday 12th October.**

This year Prep A and Prep B are running the Cake, Biscuit and Slice stall at the school fete and we are asking for your support in baking something that we can sell at the school fete. On **Monday 12th October** the youngest student from each grade will be sent home with a paper plate in a plastic bag and we would really appreciate any parent/carer helpers that would be happy to bake something and bring it with them on the morning of the school fete. Don’t forget that the full list of ingredients needs to be written down and placed on the top of the baked goodies for display.

On **Thursday 15th October** we invite all students to come to school dressed in free dress clothing in return for the donation of a non-perishable grocery item or 2 that we can sell at our school fete.

It would be greatly appreciated if everyone could please consider bringing **small notes and loose change** with them to the school fete.

We look forward to seeing you all Sunday 18th October to support our school with our biggest yearly fundraiser – the PLPS Fete ….

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**FIRST AID NEWS**

**HAY FEVER SEASON IS UPON US**

This year’s season has started early and is expected to be a severe one and many students at PLPS are starting to suffer the symptoms of hay fever.

Hay fever, also called allergic rhinitis, is common in spring because it is often caused by an allergy to grass pollen. Hay fever can occur at any time of the year as an allergic reaction to dust mites, mould and animal fur or hair. Symptoms include a running nose, sneezing and itchy, watering eyes. Medication including antihistamines can help symptoms. Allergen immunotherapy may be a suitable treatment for some people.

For those children who suffer re-occurring hay fever, now might be a good time to look into administering a 24 hour antihistamine, giving some relief to these students on high pollen days.

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**ICAS - ENGLISH RESULTS**

2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) - ENGLISH RESULTS

We are pleased to inform you that Patterson Lakes Primary School had 49 students participate in the ICAS English Test this year and were awarded 4 Distinctions, 12 Credits, 6 Merits and 27 Participation certificates.

**Certificates will be distributed on Monday 12th October at the Senior School assembly 2.55pm in the school hall.**

Congratulations go to the following students who achieved:

**Distinctions**
Year 3 Sunday N and Zac P
Year 4 Kayra K
Year 6 Austin M

**Credits**
Year 3 Lucy H, Lucas M and Kallum O
Year 4 Holly B, Cameron C, Elle R and Eden T
Year 5 Jake O-G, Maisy N and Nikita D
Year 6 Zoe G and Timothy M

**Merits**
Year 3 Isaiah B, Luke M
Year 5 James N, Beth R, Kasey S and Ayla T
Junior School

The Gingerbread Man
By Alanna M - Prep A

The Gingerbread Man has three buttons. He is squishy in the middle and hard on the outside. He said, 'You can't catch me I'm The Gingerbread Man.' The Gingerbread Man has three button circles.

Senior School

Homework Shouldn't Be Compulsory In Schools To Year 12
By Mackie E - 6A

How would you feel to know that you have two days to finish three essays? Stressed? Annoyed? Anxious? Well a lot of children (mostly aged 12-18 years) experience this every week. Constant ‘torture’, stress and fear of getting detention. All your time for you and your friends occupied by work that 90% of the time has nothing to do with the work that you’re doing at school. There are many reasons why homework is useless, like how it is scientifically proven that homework only helps students in year 10 and above.

The kids and teens that have a lot of homework probably spend most of their time feeling stressed. There may be too much homework. If you (or your child) are into sports and are going into high school it can be a very tough and stressful time for you or them. The homework that they will experience is, at first, overwhelming and it can be hard to do with all the sports or activities you or they did/do during the week. I ask, would you like to have some of your favourite activities taken away because of homework?

Imagine you and your friends are out after school and plans are made for you and them to do your favourite activity, but all of a sudden you remember your teacher has assigned you some complex algebra and wants you to hand it in finished on their desk by 9:00 am tomorrow on the dot. You tell your friends you have too much homework. How do you feel? On the one day you get to hang out with your friends and then that opportunity is taken away by homework. My guess is that you are angrier than a gambler who lost a million dollar bet. Unfortunately this happens to kids and teens all around the world who have lost all their time for friends and family because of something that has nothing to do with the things they will learn at school. This has a massive negative effect according to researchers as it gives them stress and pressure for no good reason and they are missing out on time to socialise.

Research shows that 80% of homework has nothing to do with the subjects that the students are learning in class. It is pointless. But schools are still making it compulsory. Give the students a break! You can ask any student and most would say that homework is pointless and takes away most of their play time, because that is the truth. So much stress and worrying, all for something you probably won’t even use in the future. For most students it is like a goldfish doing a lap of the fishbowl. They do it and forget, because it serves no purpose for them.

In conclusion, I believe that homework should not be compulsory in schools to year 12. It just puts too much stress on kids for no good reason and it takes away your time for family or friends on weekdays. It’s just not fair for the kids who do sport either. It makes life for them extremely hard. That’s why I, and a lot of people, believe that homework shouldn’t be compulsory.
Languages Week!

Everyone had a really good time at this year’s Languages Week, 31st August - 4th September. The whole school enjoyed dressing up for the parade. There were heaps of great costumes.

For French we had fun playing bocce, doing miming and doing art and crafts such as making the Eiffel Tower using food die.

For Italian we had a great time doing mosaics and making the leaning tower of Pisa. We also enjoyed learning a dance called Tarantella. We played some fantastic Italian games such as ‘Capture the Flag’. Some children did cooking and others played soccer with an Italian coach from Juventus Club.

For Spanish we loved doing Zumba. We also had fun making piñatas and the Mexican decoration called ‘Papel Picado’. The Education Advisor from the Consulate of Spain, Manuel Moreno and the Frankston City Art Project Officer, Carolina Snow, visited our school and taught us art and dance from the Spanish culture. We also enjoyed the music workshop and the dance performance.

We had an awesome languages week and we are really grateful to Signora Mangone and Madame Renault. Thank you to everyone who participated in Language Week.

By Alina S (5A)

Here are some pictures of Languages Week!
The winning picture will be placed on the cover of our 2016 Student Diary.

Theme: Wellbeing—Kids Matter.

All entries to be given to Mrs Marston by Wednesday 14th October. The staff Kids Matter committee will be judging the winning picture.

Draw your picture in the box below. Remember to keep it relevant to the theme.

Good luck and I enjoy receiving wonderful entries.

Mrs Marston

Name of Entrant:__________________________________________________________

Year Level:______________________________________________________________
Healthy Food Day- Students are encouraged to bring only healthy food to school on Monday (or all week if you wish!). Students will have a special lunch with their buddy grade. Think sandwiches/wraps, fruit, carrot sticks and dip, yoghurt and rice cakes. YUM!

Teachers VS Students Netball- Teachers will play the Year 6 students at lunchtime on the outside courts for all to watch!

Class Laps Competition- Each class will have 15 minutes to run as many laps of the oval as they can. The class with the highest average laps from each year level will receive a certificate.

Special Runners Club- Come and give Runners Club a go! 8.10am on the school oval. Compete in a few races and receive ribbons!
FETE NEWS
Sunday
18th October
11am - 4pm
DONATIONS

We are looking for donations for the fete. If you can donate or know someone who could donate any of the following items, we’d be truly grateful.

- Silent auction items - Vouchers, hampers, etc.
- Plants
- Cans of soft drink
- Blocks of chocolate or chocolate bars
- Bottles of wine
"Ask WHAT when kids act up"

"Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive. There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT?’"

"WHY...........?"

‘Why on earth did you do that?’

Most of us have said this to our kids at some stage.

They hurt a sibling and we say, ‘Why?’

They argue and fight at the meal table and we say, ‘Why?’

They deliberately come home from an outing later than agreed and we say, ‘Why?’

This is a natural reaction. But often kids can’t articulate why they have done the wrong thing. Boys, in particular, will usually reply, ‘I dunno.’ They know something isn’t right, but articulating it is another matter.

Besides, asking WHY is pointless.

Even if they give you a reason for their poor behaviour (‘cos she hit me first’, ‘I’m not hungry anyway’, ‘I was late because I lost track of time’) where do you go from there?

Asking WHY when kids misbehave generally closes down a conversation and puts them on the defensive.

There’s a better question to ask when kids behave poorly. Ask a question beginning with ‘WHAT?’

Okay, your first reaction to misbehaviour maybe ‘What the......’ but hold that thought in. Better to ask questions such as:

• WHAT were you thinking when you hurt your sister?
• WHAT were you doing when you decided to stay out late?
• WHAT was happening when you argued with your friend?
• WHAT should you have done when you didn’t want to eat and decided to annoy your sister?
• WHAT will you do next time when you feel like acting like that?
• WHAT do you think your brother meant when he said that you were......?
• WHAT will you do now to make it up to your brother?

These types of questions are reflective and restorative. They require children to reflect on their thinking, their behaviour and the situation at hand. This opens up conversations that lead to learning.

Effective discipline helps children learn better ways of behaving. Some of the questions lead children to the important aspect of repairing or restoring relationships they may have damaged through their behaviour and so take some responsibility for the way they acted. Taking responsibility and making amends is another vital aspect of discipline.

Importantly, asking what? when kids’ misbehaviour impacts on others leads them further down the road from self interest to social interest, where they consider the well-being of others. It’s also in line with the types of questions teachers are asking your children when their behaviour adversely affects others.
**Activities at Chelsea Heights Community Centre**
A range of activities are on offer from Japanese crocheting, Nutritionists, Child Care, Brewing of Tea, Arthritis Victoria & Positive Mind Courses. Phone 9772 3391 for details.

**Patterson Lakes Community Centre - Car Boot Sale**
Sunday 18th October. Stallholders need to arrive 7am for a 9am start. Book your car space through the office 9772 8588. $25 pre-booked or $30 on the day. All proceeds go to PLCC.

**Carrum Surf Life Saving Club Registration Day**
Carrum Surf Life Saving Club Registration Day - Saturday 17th October 10am - 2pm. For more info go to www.facebook.com/CarrumSLSC

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