Hello everyone,

Welcome back to school for Term 4. I hope you all had a good break from school and that parents had lots of help from their children.

We have some exciting events coming up this term. We would love to have as many families involved as possible.

**Official Opening of the New School Building - Monday October 24 at 10:00am**

Although we have settled into the new building and made great use of it, we are excited about the building being officially opened. Sen. James Patterson will represent the Federal government and open the building. You are all welcome to attend the official opening and the morning tea that will follow.

**The North’s Great Fete - Friday November 11 from 4 - 8pm**

The signs are up and things are beginning to happen. But we need your help! There will be a fete meeting on Tuesday October 11 at 3:30pm in the Hall. As the old saying goes, “Many hands make light work.”

**The St Thomas Aquinas Festival of Writing - November 28 to December 2**

Over the year, the students have been creating some amazing writing. To celebrate this, we are holding a week-long festival of writing. The students will participate in a range of activities around writing and share their writing with the community. Watch out for our digital writing space!

**Congratulations**

This weekend, Ashleigh (Miss Graham) and Liam and Lauren (Miss Lauren) and Gareth who are celebrating their weddings on Saturday. Congratulations and best wishes for your futures together.

*Rod Sims*
Principal
Wanted

Lemons

Is your lemon tree bulging with lemons? Too many and you don't know what to do with them?

Donna is making lemon butter for the North’s Great Fete and needs lemons as soon as possible.

Please leave any lemons at the office.

Old Uniforms

Do you have old uniforms that you no longer need? We are always after pants, shorts, dresses and polo shirts for those times when accidents occur. If you have them and no longer need them, please make sure they are clean and drop them into the office.

Canteen Help

Our canteen is run by lovely parents and carers who give up their time to participate in our school. We need more helpers to make things easier for these lovely ladies. If you are able to help, please contact the office and we will pass on your details to Matekino or Bec.

Gardening

The wet weather has been great for the weeds. Lawrie works hard here on Thursdays and Fridays to maintain the school grounds and buildings but we need the help of some parents to take control of the garden near the hall. If you have a green thumb and some time, we would love to have you make our school a more beautiful place. Please see Rod or Carol.

Helping your child with writing

You do not have to be an expert. Help your child with those areas of writing with which you feel confident.

Share your writing experiences with your child. As you do so, talk about why you are writing something and who you expect to read it.

Make writing experiences at home purposeful and interesting for yourself and your child. It is important your child knows about who they are writing for and why they are writing, as this determines the tone and form that a piece of writing takes.

For example, a note from a parent to a child reminding him or her to do a job on arriving home will have quite a different form and tone from a letter to an aunt inviting her to join a family celebration.

How can I encourage my child to write?

• Read your child’s writing or have him or her read the writing to you, and make positive comments, for example, “I really like the way you’ve described this.”
• Praise your child for having a go at writing words that are new and explain how to spell harder words.
• Talk to your child about why an author or film maker might create a book, play or film in a particular way. What ideas or opinions are presented? What is the author’s purpose?
• Read and talk about the writing that your child brings home from school.
• Praise your child for using neat and legible handwriting.
• In order to develop spelling and vocabulary, play word games such as I Spy, Scrabble, Boggle, Scattergories and crosswords.

How can I help with writing at home?

• Have your child label things that he or she designs or makes.
• Compile a photo album or scrapbook with your child and have him or her write captions for the photos and pictures.
• Encourage your child to keep a diary of special events, e.g. a holiday diary.
• Make the writing of notes, letters and stories a normal part of family life.

Attachments:
Parenting Course Information
Canteen Menu for Term 4
Presents:

Parenting your Teenager

A program for parents of adolescents aged 13 to 18 yrs

Do you have a child aged 12 months to 12 yrs?
Come and join us for a free, fun, 6 week program focusing on mindfulness and reflection.

Bringing Up Great Kids

We invite you to join us for an enjoyable 6 week program to discuss how your parenting style may influence your child’s behaviour.

What will you learn about?

- Messages from your past – childhood memories
- Messages behind your child’s behaviour
- Children’s Brain Development
- Caring for yourself
- Giving and receiving messages
- Passing on positive messages

Commencing:
Thursday 20th October

Location:
Lara Lake Preschool
25 Darcy St, Lara

Cost:
Free

Time:
1.00pm – 3.00pm

For bookings and more information please contact the Regional Parenting Service
Phone: 5272 4741

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Phone: 5272 4741

Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Beginning:
Monday 24 October

Time:
7.00pm - 9.00pm

Location: “Ariston”
245-249 Pakington St, Newtown

www.geelongaustralia.com.au

Are you mystified, anxious, angry or have just given up trying to understand your teenager?

This program will attempt to give you some of the answers!!!

The four-week program explores topics including:

- “What is normal adolescent behaviour?”
- Can you still have fun with teenagers?
- Knowing when you should be concerned
- The important art of continuing to communicate with your teen, even when they don’t say much

www.geelongaustralia.com.au
Do you have a child aged 4 yrs to 8 yrs?
We invite you to join us for a fun & interactive six week program to support you in teaching your child how to regulate and understand their emotions.

Tuning In To Kids

Research evaluation of “Tuning In to Kids” found that when parents learn these parenting skills this was related to improvements in children’s emotional competence, social skills and behaviour.

What will you learn about?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness and regulation of emotions</th>
<th>Children’s emotions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using children’s emotional experiences as an opportunity for closeness and teaching</td>
<td>Assisting children to label emotions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaining skills in assisting children to problem solve</td>
<td>Guiding children’s behaviour with appropriate limits</td>
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Commencing:
Wednesday 26th October
Location:
Rosewall Neighbourhood Centre
36 Sharland Rd. Corio

Time: 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Cost: FREE
Limited free childcare available bookings essential.

For bookings and more information please contact the Regional Parenting Service
Phone: 5272 4741
www.geelongaustralia.com.au

Positive Parenting Program
A program for parents of children aged 2 to 5 yrs

Are you on the right track?
Do you need some help, tips or ideas?
Does your child have challenging behaviour?

There is no one right way to be a parent; but the Positive Parenting Program offers information, support and practical answers to everyday parenting concerns.

The Positive Parenting Program is for parents of children aged 2-5 years. It involves 4 weeks of group work (2 hours per week) and up to 4 follow-up phone calls (10-15 min per week).

The program looks at:
• positive parent/child relationships
• negotiating everyday challenges
• managing common behavioural difficulties
• teaching new skills/behaviours
• encouraging desirable behaviour

Commencing: Monday 24 October 2016
Time: 7.00-9.00 pm
Location: Ariston House
245-249 Pakington Street
Newtown

For bookings and more information please contact the Regional Parenting Service
Phone: 5272 4741
Or Outside Geelong Freecall 1800 111 078
Cost: $20 or $6.50 conc.

www.geelongaustralia.com.au