Newsletter
Edition 9 Wednesday 17th June 2015

Principal’s Report

Our Vision: There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

Our Mission: Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.

Our Habits
Be Proactive – You’re in charge
Begin with the End in Mind – Have a plan
Put First Things First – Work first then play
Think Win-Win – Everyone can win
Seek First To Understand Then To Be Understood – Listen before you talk
Synergise – Together is better
Sharpen the Saw – Balance feels best

Our Motto
Always Moving Forward

The Leader in Me Symposium 2015
The Leader in Me process is the daily practice of Stephen Covey’s Habits of Highly Effective People in the Primary School. Over the past five years we have been learning how to support each other in this process. As a result Parktone Primary was awarded Lighthouse Milestone Certification.
Parktone Primary is the first government school in Australia to be recognised as a Leader in Me model school. Last week a number of our students led 160 international delegates as MC’s and through a range of forums including: Question and Answer panels, presentations, school tours and musical performances. Students, parents and teachers also gave personal testimonies.
I have attached a copy of Tim Richardson’s opening address for your information.

Laura Wapling and Jo Moriani are our Leader in Me Coordinators and must be congratulated for the time and effort they have put into preparing the school for the symposium’s 160 guests. Later in the year we will be inviting parents to our next Leadership Day, which will be similar to last Friday’s program.

New Signs

Recently we have erected a number of signs around the school. If you have not been to the school for a few weeks please visit and see what’s new.

Last Day of Term 2

On Friday June 26th the children will be dismissed from school at 2.30pm after a short assembly.

Quote of the Week

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

Thomas A Edison

Have a great week everyone.

George Danson
TIM RICHARDSON MP
Member for Mordialloc

Friday 12th June 2015

LEADER IN ME SYMPOSIUM – OPENING ADDRESS

Thank you and introduction

It is a pleasure to join you today on behalf of the Victorian Government and the Minister for Education, The Hon. James Merlino MP to recognise the Leader In Me Symposium.

I would like to thank and acknowledge our host and dedicated Principal of Parktone Primary School, George Danson and his teaching staff.

I would firstly like to acknowledge the traditional owners on the land of which we meet and pay my respects to their elders, past and present.

I understand that across this presentation we are joined by a number of interstate guests from Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales, along with some special guests from Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong and the United States of America. I hope that your visit has been productive and you will take away some fond memories, even if the weather has been a little undesirable.

Our purpose for today

This week is a wonderful opportunity to share the vision of schools like Parktone Primary, to understand and learn from one another’s experiences and to better inform and guide your schools and your communities to strive for further advancement in education.

The ethos of the Leader In Me Symposium – to demonstrate “how schools around the world are inspiring greatness, one child at a time” accords with the educational principles of the Victorian Government, which is heavily focused on making Victoria “The Education State.”

A recent comprehensive review of Australia’s education system, the Gonski Review, found that Australian student results and outcomes are slipping when contrasted with our regional neighbours across Asia. In today’s economy where our students will be competing for tomorrow’s jobs on a far more globalised scale, we need to ensure they have the best possible start.

We must identify ways to innovate our educational delivery and empower and equip our students for these challenges. It starts with their education. Education is not only the pillar of equality and fairness, but also an economic prosperity issue.

By focusing on the individual needs of our students and the unwavering determination that EVERY child can be a leader, that EVERY child has their own voice, their own journey, we ensure that no child gets left behind.

This vision builds resilience in our students, our future leaders and are giving them the tools to be solutions orientated and problem solvers in an ever-changing society.

The Parktone Primary School experience

It is worth reflecting for a moment on the journey of Parktone Primary School, who have embraced the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People and have enshrined this into the ethos of the school.
The habits when applied to an educational context is giving Parktone Primary School students life skills that go behind the walls of the classroom.

Importantly, the local school community, the parents, the teachers and local stakeholders have embraced and are excited about the focus on every child and how to get the very best out of themselves. It is a credit to George Danson and his team for leading such an innovative model and culture.

The best thing is this is being achieved in a Victorian Government school here in Parkdale and again demonstrates the overwhelming benefit that can be offered across all sectors of education.

And it is worth reflecting for a moment on how far Parktone Primary School has come in recent years. Years back student enrolments were decreasing and there was grave concerns about the long term viability of the school.

Fast forward to today, with George coming on board and the tireless work to change the school’s culture, and importantly the broader community perception of the school, Parktone Primary has increased its number by five times with significant demand from the local community to send their children to this school.

You could say that Parktone Primary epitomises this conference’s ethos by “finding its voice” and helping to lead and to inspiring other schools to find theirs.

Lighthouse schools

I am also delighted to learn that the first two schools in Australia have been accredited by the Franklin Covey education team as Lighthouse Schools for comprehensively implementing the Leader In Me procedures and processes.

Lighthouse Schools are the pinnacle of these philosophies and serve as models of leadership and as mentors to other schools.

It gives me great pleasure as the Victorian Parliament representative for this region and as a member of the Victorian Government to celebrate and congratulate Parktone Primary School for being the first Victorian Government school to attain Lighthouse School status.

It’s an absolute credit to your teachers, students and their families that they have genuinely owned and embraced the seven habits throughout the school communities.

It would also like to congratulate St Brigid’s Primary School in Wollongong, New South Wales as the first Catholic school in Australia accredited as a Lighthouse School.

Concluding remarks

We all subscribe to the notion that every student has the right to a quality education regardless of his or her circumstances. It is so rewarding to join others who are so passionate about improving the lives of students on their educational journey.

It will be the students of today who underpin the important decision making for our communities of tomorrow. It is through the wonderful learnings of the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People where we can make education a driving force for positive social change over time and individual empowerment.

I hope you enjoy the school tours of both Parktone Primary and Oakleigh Grammar today. It is a pleasure to share our Victorian schools with you.
Habit 2 provides a good base for activities around goal setting. As a family (or with an individual child), choose an area that needs improvement. The area of improvement, or the broad goal, becomes your end in mind. Then think of specific steps that will lead to achieving this goal. For example, if the goal is to improve as a reader, specific steps may include reading a certain amount of time every day or working several times a week to improve oral fluency.

BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND:

SCHOOL BANKING
School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits.

Run through participating primary schools nationally, children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens which they can redeem for exciting rewards. When children join the program they receive a Dollarmites deposit wallet and a Platybank money box, along with a range of fun, engaging materials to help them learn and encourage them to save.

Banking is collected and processed on a Wednesday and banked on Friday. Application forms available at the office.

ART ROOM
I would like to say a big thank you for all your donations in Semester 1.

PARKTONE SOCIAL GROUP

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: The Entertainment Books are still on sale. They are now valid so purchase yours as soon as possible to make use of all the great savings on everything from Woolworths and David Jones shopping vouchers to restaurants, etc. The digital version is a fabulous option and a great way to ensure that you never leave your book at home! They can be purchased at www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1y86789

CHOCOLATE DRIVE: The chocolate drive is underway. A reminder that the money is due back with any unsold chocolate NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 19th June.

SUBWAY DAY: We will be having a Subway Day on Friday 26 June. Notices will be heading home after the Queen’s Birthday weekend.

BOGAN BINGO: And the Big One! Our major Fundraiser for the year is on Saturday 25th July. Tickets are on sale now: www.trybooking.com/136845.

If you would like to get involved in organising the event or if any of our wonderful school community’s small businesses would like to make a donation towards raffles or silent auction items, then please contact Amanda Birch on 0468 361 747.

We look forward to seeing you soon!
The 7 Habits make our lives happier! My favourite Habit is Sharpen the Saw. Congratulations Parktone in being a Lighthouse School! Amy

I feel happy that we are a Lighthouse School. I liked doing heads, shoulders, knees and toes in Japanese on Leadership Day. Cooper

CONGRATULATIONS PARKTONE ON BECOMING A LEADER IN ME LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL - FROM GRADE 2

I am a leader in drawing because drawing is good for my brain. On Leadership Day all the guests came, we had an assembly and they said we are the Lighthouse School! Tayla

On Review Day I shared my Leadership Notebook with one of the visitors. Harper

On Leadership Day I was happy that we were the only Lighthouse school in Victoria. Jasmine

I am a leader in basketball because I love to Sharpen the Saw. Noah

On Leadership Day I felt a little scared but I was brave enough to do what I had to do. I was very proud of myself. Tayler
Parktone Primary ph. 0422 008 223 | Co-ordinator Annette Davis

16th June 2015

What kind of things happen at after care? We help children with their homework, we build cubby houses, we do craft and painting, we play group games, we have a quiet area to read and we also play games like trivia pursuit, uno, guess who. We also encourage children to participate in cooking activities.

This term we have been super busy and our numbers have grown, it’s great to see so many children now attending, please feel free to stop by and see what we do, our doors are always open for new families.

The weather is getting colder each day and we would like to encourage parents to pack a raincoat in their child’s bag for the wet days.

School Holidays are fast approaching! Don’t know what to do with our children? Send them to Camp Australia’s Vacation care, we have locations all over Melbourne! Annette from our service will be at Mentone Primary School during the holidays, come along and have fun with us. It’s also Annette’s birthday on the holidays (7th July) during the holidays Camp Australia Mentone will be going to an indoor trampoline centre, an indoor play centre and the movies, plus we will be having lots of club based activities for your children.

Save on Care

Save 50% or more on Retime and After School Care with the Child Care Rebate. Arrest all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343

Holiday Clubs

Don’t forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs this school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program. www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclub

Healthy Snacks

Afternoon tea is served daily. Menus are tailored to children’s tastes, developmental and nutritional needs. Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and more. Children may also participate in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile

www.campaustralia.com.au

Art Room Needs Your Help

Mrs Poulter needs Arnotts Shapes boxes for next term. Please drop at the office or at the art room.
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef