Principal’s Report

Our Vision Statement
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 Statement
Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.

Pupil Free Day
Last Friday thirteen staff members participated in the 7 Habits of Effective People Foundation Program. Our Leading Teacher Teena Muscat and Welfare Coordinator Bree Jones attended a SAFE Minds professional development program, which aims to support schools to intervene early in mental health. The rest of the staff worked collaboratively to plan the curriculum programs and student assessment tasks for Term 3.

New Building
Shortly our newest building comprising two classrooms and an office will be delivered and mounted behind the play equipment, in preparation for 2017. A temporary safety fence has been erected.

Sustainability Garden
The sustainability garden has come to life as teachers and students have sown seeds and planted a variety of vegetables. Next term students with a passion for gardening may participate in the Working in Your Element electives program, to cultivate and to reap the harvest.
Principal’s Report continued …

Reports
The students’ reports will be available on Compass tomorrow. Student-led (parent and teacher) conferences will be held on Tuesday July 19th.

Term 3 Dates
Term 3 dates and events have been recorded on the Compass calendar. Tomorrow a list will be posted on Compass as well. The Parktone Gala Dinner on August 13th and the Concert on September 7th are two of our most anticipated events for the term.

Thought for the Week
Explain your anger, don’t express it, and you will immediately open the door to solutions instead of arguments.

Have a warm and safe holiday.

Kind Regards,

George Danson
Principal
In 2017, Parktone Primary will begin the 3rd phase of a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device – Laptop) program. This program allows students to bring their own devices to school for educational use in the classroom.

The ICT philosophy at Parktone recognizes that in the digital age, and with rapid and continuous changes in the ways that people share, use, develop and communicate with ICT, young people need to be highly skilled in its use. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students at Parktone Primary will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school and at home.

Parktone Primary has prepared to meet the needs of all aspects of the program. Phase 1 of the program began at the end of last year with an upgrade to our wireless network capabilities and servers. Phase 2 involved meticulous research for selection of the ideal device for our teaching and learning needs. We timed the selection and purchase of 70 of the devices with the end of a lease program which will see 30 four-year-old computers replaced with the devices and provide our students, teachers and technicians an opportunity to test the full capabilities as well as discover any limitations to be overcome prior to commencement of the 3rd phase.

The following timeline has been determined for the full implementation of phase 3

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The personal computing device that is brought to school must meet the specifications listed below in order to operate with our network:
- Operating system requirements: Windows 8 or higher
- Minimum screen size 11”
- 8 hour battery life
- Minimum 4gb RAM
- Physical connected keyboard (no wireless or Bluetooth)
- USB port

These are the same requirements expected of parents from Parkdale Secondary College. The device that Parktone Primary has sourced and purchased for our own use has superior specifications than the minimum required by Parkdale Secondary College. We are highly recommending the device (ACER SWITCH PRO 11) and future iterations of it as the preferred device for parents to purchase.
We have sourced the device from Centre COM which is a company that has provided Parktone’s parents with a portal to purchase the device and streamline the process of purchasing, distribution through the school, software instalation by the school, warranty and repairs.

At the moment Centre COM are prepared to offer to parents the same device that Parktone has purchased and is recommending, at the same prices that Parktone purchased 70 devices ($690 + GST), until stocks run out. It is anticipated the next version (2017 model) of the same laptop will cost between $850 and $900. The next version will be lighter and have a camera on both sides of the device.

It is our vision to significantly increase the number of devices available to our Prep to Grade 2 students and for every grade 3 to 6 student to have their own digital learning tool.

At the moment there are only 5 devices per class which limits the range of online resources and software packages that can be used. Each class only has access to the computer lab once per week and if a class requires every student to have access to a computer at any other time the teacher is required to organise a time with three other classes when they are not using their devices so the students can borrow them. By providing students with their own digital learning tools organisational limitations will be removed and our staff will have access to methods of teaching that not only engage learners but enhance the efficiency of learning.

Imagine a class in which at the push of a button:

- a teacher is able to ‘push’ the content from their own screen to all of the students’ screens
- a student can ‘push’ what they have been working on to the interactive television for all to see/edit/provide feedback
- a teacher can ask key questions and instead of getting just one answer via a ‘hand-up’, every child’s thought/answer can be given and a teacher will receive instant and sometimes graphed knowledge of what the students are understanding.
- Students can hear what they have written, say what they want to write and make real time edits
- Students can create mini-films and take still shots to capture moments of learning, thought and work they are proud of
- And so much more!

Our School Council has endorsed this program. Early next term we will hold an information session in which a representative from CentreCom will be present to discuss the device and method of purchase.

Please direct any further queries to Caleb Peterson.
We are excited to share that Parktone is improving the reporting process. Currently, teachers are required to report student achievement against the Victorian Curriculum twice a year. Parents receive a fairly generic report with summary blurbs about the content covered and often a comment database is used to indicate achievement.

Parents have provided feedback that the reports tend to be impersonal. We know that for feedback to be effective, it needs to be received in a timely manner. We also know that for feedback to be meaningful it should be specific to the individual and related to a known task. Whilst we have always strived to provide timely and meaningful feedback to students, we are transitioning to an ongoing reporting process as a means to extend the provision of feedback to parents as well.

During the curriculum day on Friday 17th June, one of the tasks teachers undertook was to map Key Assessment Tasks (KATs) that would occur throughout Term 3. A KAT typically provides teachers with supporting evidence to support student achievement against the Victorian Curriculum. A teacher takes into account more than a singular result when they report achievement to parents; however ongoing reporting allows parents to view the assessment result at the time it is marked rather than waiting for a summary at the end of each semester. The result of each KAT will be reported on Compass along with the ability to view either the assessment or the rubric used to judge achievement.

The second semester of 2016 presents an opportunity to start ongoing reporting of Numeracy and Literacy with the view to reporting all others subjects in an ongoing manner from 2017. Science, Humanities, ICT, P.E., Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Japanese will be reported on in the same manner as it currently is along with a summary achievement grade for Numeracy and Literacy at the end of Semester 2 2016. From 2017 only a summary grade will be provided at the end of each semester.

We look forward to your feedback on our decision to report progress in a more timely, relevant and meaningful manner.

Please direct any further queries to Caleb Peterson.
We had an amazing Japanese Day On Wednesday 22nd of June. The day began with a special assembly, where several students showcased their impressive language skills! This was followed by a parade of all students in their Japanese themed outfits, which looked fantastic!

The students enjoyed activities including calligraphy, bonsai tree craft, Japanese drumming and suikawari (a Japanese game that involves splitting a watermelon with a stick whilst blindfolded).

A big thank-you to all staff and students for their efforts on the special day. Extended thanks to the parents for your help in making the children look so wonderful!

Rachael Ellis.
Japanese Day 2016
A big thank-you to Bunnings, Mentone for their amazing support and kind donations of our vegetables, herbs and flowers for the garden beds. Tania from Bunnings gave a demonstration of how to separate plants from their punnets, how to correctly plant the vegetables and is coming back to help us care for the gardens in the near future.

It will be exciting for the students to care for the plants and learn more about Sustainability. The grade 6 students did a fantastic job planting the new vegetables. We cannot wait for our plants to grow and flourish!
GRADE 6
20 STARS HOT CHIPS CELEBRATION

Well done to the grade six students for displaying all the 7 habits this semester. The students reached their semester milestone as part of their positive reinforcement program, and today enjoyed a hot chip lunch from their teachers.

All students have worked incredibly hard this first semester and both grade six teachers are extremely proud of their achievements! Thank-you to all families who contributed delicious sweet or savoury treats as part of the celebrations.

Ms Georgie Callanan and Mr Brett Sargeant

Thank-you Chips Ahoy for your great support with our hot chips!

Chips Ahoy
Address: 198 Lower Dandenong Rd, Mordialloc VIC 3195
Phone :(03) 9580 4027

Last Day of Term 2 Lunch Orders

We will be serving Hot dogs, Toasties and Penne Pasta on the last day Term. Please choose from these items to help us to have all orders ready on time for an early finish to the day. Order on-line before 9am on the day

Thank you and have a happy and Safe Holiday break

From the Team @ Stir Crazy Kids
Athletics Trials
Parktone Primary School is pleased to be selling the 16|17 Entertainment™ Memberships as a fundraiser in 2016 – the Memberships are now available to order!

You can choose between the traditional Entertainment™ Book or you can purchase the Digital Membership, which puts the value of the Entertainment™ Book into your iPhone or Android smartphone, all for just $65!

The Entertainment™ Memberships contain over 800 valuable up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for many of the best restaurants, attractions, hotels and retailers in Melbourne. Each Membership sold raises $13 for Parktone Primary School raise much needed funds.

Please show your support by visiting the link below and purchasing your Membership today:

www.entbook.com.au/1y86789

For any enquiries please contact: The School Office on parktone.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au