Year 5/6 Newsletter
Term One, 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2015 school year.

Parent Information Session
Next Tuesday (10th Feb) at 5:00pm we will be holding an information session for parents of Grades Five and Six students. The session will be held in the senior school building at the Grade Five end. This is an opportunity for parents to learn a little more about how the senior school runs and a chance to ask any questions of the senior school team.

School Values
Cowes Primary School values all members of the community being Safe, Responsible and Respectful. Each class has revised and unpacked these values to ensure a positive start to the year. To help instill these values in our students we will explore a new social skill each fortnight through a series of lessons. This year Cowes Primary will be running the ‘Gotcha’ reward system again; however it has been slightly modified. Students will accrue their Gotcha tickets and trade them in for rewards.

Topic
This term the Year Five and Six students will be studying ‘Space.’ The children will be involved in a variety of activities related to the theme.

Swimming
All students will be swimming this term. Please ensure your child has their bathers, towel and rash vest at school for each swimming lesson. Our 3-6 school swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday, 11th February.

Homework
It is recommended that students in years five and six complete 30 minutes of homework per night. In accordance with this policy, homework involves daily reading for 15 minutes and a fortnightly homework grid. Homework enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials. Students will be given their homework on a Monday and will need to return their completed work by Friday of the following week. Throughout the year, students will also bring home ‘Talk Homework’ related to our school writing program (VCOP). Please discuss these writing topics with your child to prepare them for their writing task. Those children who haven’t completed their homework by the due date will be required attend lunchtime club and complete it. If your child is unable to complete their home tasks by the due date, please write a note to their teacher in their diary. Diaries must be at school every day.

Tiqbiz/Newsletter
Cowes Primary School uses the Tiqbiz app to communicate information. Please download the app to receive the latest school news. The school newsletter is published each fortnight. It is available via email or the school website.

Camp
In Term 3, our Year 6 children will be going to Urban Camp in Melbourne (26th – 28th August) and in Term 3 Year 5’s will be going to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat (26th – 28th August).
Tissues
It would be appreciated if each child brought in a box of tissues for their classroom. Children can earn valuable Earn and Learn dollars for bringing a box to school.

Hats
Children are required to wear hats for Term One. Please ensure your child has their named school hat at school each day.

Know Your Island
This year the Year 6 students are in the privileged position of taking part in a new, exciting and relevant topic. Through this programme we are hoping to create a sense of belonging, enhance their local knowledge and connect them with their local community and environment. Some of the components are: a Three Park Pass to the Nature Park (Penguin Parade, Koala Park and Churchill Island), Ponding, Beach Day, Surfing, Rockpool Rambling, Volcano Building, and the 5/6 Surf Day. We will also focus on existing aspects of the 5/6 curriculum which involve our island such as; electives and the R.S.L. visit. We will endeavour to expand the children’s experiences with local business, art and civic services. The 5/6 team are looking forward to this theme and believe it will prove to be dynamic and rewarding for the children.

Excursions and Incursions School policy states that if students haven’t paid or have not made arrangements with the school, then they will be unable to attend.

Important dates for Term 1:

Thurs 13th Feb - 5/6 Beach Day (Cowes Foreshore)
Fri 21st Feb - District Swimming Carnival
Mon 3rd March- School Photo Day
Sun 9th March - School Fete (10:00am to 2:00pm)

Regards,

Mathew Jackson, Karen van Dijk, Andrew Burgan, Tony Hornsby, & Will Morgan.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Friday, February 13th, the senior school children will be walking down to the Cowes foreshore for a beach awareness day. This will include a variety of beach based activities and games.

The children will need their school hat, sunscreen, a drink bottle and lunch. We will depart school at 11.15am and return to school by approximately 3.00pm. We will need some parent helpers so if you are able to assist, please let your child’s teacher know as soon as possible.

In the event of inclement weather, the event will be postponed until a later date.

Thank you,

Will Morgan, Andrew Burgan, Karin van Dijk, Tony Hornsby and Matt Jackson

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**Senior School Beach Awareness Day**

I give my child ........................................ in Room ...... permission to attend the Year 5/6 Beach Awareness Day as arranged by Cowes Primary School on Friday, February 13th 2015. I authorise the teacher in charge to consent, where it is impracticable to communicate with me, to my child receiving such medical and/or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary.

Parent’s signature: ........................................ Date: ........................................

Parent’s contact phone number: ........................................

Medical conditions e.g asthma, anaphylaxis etc:........................................