Children are supervised between the hours of 8:50am and 3:40pm within the school grounds.

Calendar
March
Thur 6th
Fri 7th School Triathlon / Biathlon
Parent Assembly
Mon 10th Labour Day – Public Holiday
Mon 17th School Council 6:30pm
Fri 28th Grade 6 Tuckshop BBQ
Sat 22nd Maffra Mardi Gras
Sat 29th Family & Friends working Bee
April
Fri 4th Last day of Term 1 2.30pm
Dismissal
Tue 22nd Start of Term 2
Fri 25th Anzac Day public holiday

Parent Assembly date for 2014:
Mar Fri 7th Apr Fri 4th May Fri 2nd
June Fri 6th
Parents are welcome to stay for coffee & a chat

A reminder that Monday the 10th March is a public holiday for Labour Day.
Friday 25th April public holiday for Anzac Day.

Principal’s report
Grounds and Working Bees
If you are coming for the monthly assembly tomorrow you will see how terrific our grounds and gardens are looking. We have had groups of parents getting together over recent weekends to weed and plant the vegetable beds, supervise the spreading of the screening stone in the bike shed, around the bus shelter area and the garden bed area, hammer in nails and move mulch and the firewood. Thank you to all who have been working so hard and demonstrating the pride you have in our school. The Family and Friends are organizing another working bee on Saturday 29th March and all are welcome. If you are interested in helping please contact the President of the Family and Friends Emma Brooks.

Communication
The official avenue for communication from the school to the school community has always been our school newsletter, Stratchat & the school website with letters home regarding special events and other important information requiring a response from families. We also try to keep the sign at the front of school up to date if there are reminders. With technology providing us with other means to communicate we are ‘Getting with the Program’ and are opening an Official School Facebook page administered by the school with the aim of providing more frequent updates on school events and reminders. Each family will be invited to join, also they can receive updates on camps, sporting events meetings etc. Parents can send information to the administrator and if appropriate and relevant to the parent community it will be posted on the Facebook page. This facility would have been very useful last week when the grade 5/6 camp bus was an hour ahead of schedule getting home. A Family and Friends ‘link’ will be added to the Official School Website where the agenda and minutes of their meetings, other information regarding working bees, special events etc will be posted.

Parents taking photos at School events.
We realize that many parents like to take photos of their children involved in school activities, and school staff often have cameras to record events and publish the photos in the newsletter, the year book etc. We ask that you are respectful of other children and their
parents’ wishes and limit your photography to your own children. Please note that in line of our current procedures no student photos will be posted on the school website or Facebook page unless parent permission is obtained. A new form with the Facebook page added will be sent home with next week’s Stratchat.
We value your feedback and while we particularly love positive feedback we understand that even a great school can be improved. Many parents take advantage of catching up when I am in the school or make an appointment for you at a time convenient. The Family and Friends have a suggestion box at the front desk and you are able to make appointments to catch up with your child’s teachers. The monthly ‘Coffee and Chat’ after assembly is also a good time to catch up and meet other parents.
Zonda Lynn – Principal

The school still has firewood for sale for $60 a 6 x 4 trailer load, if you would like to purchase some please come to the office to arrange a suitable time.

We also have some concrete bricks for sale @40c a brick – please contact the office

Indonesian
This week, in Indonesian class, we are learning about the parts of the body. We are singing an action song using these body parts:
Kepala – head
Bahu – shoulders
Lutut – knees

Kaki – feet
Mata – eyes
Telinga – ears
Mulut – mouth
Hidung – nose

It would be bagus sekali if students could belajar these at home as well!

Terima kasih,
Pak Tim

Trashless Tuesday
The scores for this week’s Trashless Tuesday are as follows:
Grade 1/2 with 85%
Staff with 81%
Prep with 77%
Grade 3/4 with 61%
Grade 5/6 60%

Green Team News
Next week, on Tuesday the 11th of March, if you are Trashless, you can come to school wearing casual clothes!
Please remember to be sunsmart and wear sensible shoes
From the Green Team

Triathlon
Many thanks for your kind offer of assistance for our triathlon on Friday.
We will be holding a briefing at 10:30am at the Stratford Primary School netball courts to explain the tasks. The junior events start at 12:30pm at the oval and the senior students will commence their events at the pool at 11.00am sharp. As we have hired the pool for duration of one hour we will need to start the senior students on time.

Clean Up Australia Day
Last Friday students at our school participated in Clean Up Australia Day. They all did a wonderful job of cleaning up our school grounds. Their commitment and dedication to making sure our school environment is litter-free was outstanding. We found that most of the rubbish was food packaging such as tiny teddy packets, glad wrap and paper.

Family and Friends Notes
1. Stratford Primary School is participating in the Maffra Mardi Gras on Saturday 22nd March. Please return your ‘Expressions of Interest’ forms tomorrow so we know numbers for costumes. Cost of costumes will be $5 per student and the student will get to keep their costume. A separate note will go out to children wanting to attend the Mardi Gras which will include costume making days and float making days, plus more. All children will be helping to make items for the float at school and have input into the design of the float.

2. Working Bee to be held on Saturday March 29th. Items to be done are to split the remaining wood near the amphitheatre and also using a line making machine to paint hopscotch and four square on the asphalted areas.

3. Next Family & Friends Meeting, Monday 31st March 9:10am in the dining room. Items to discuss are Shakespeare Festival.

Mrs Schultz – Instrumental Music Tuition
A word about practice – learning an instrument is a discipline, and no-one really enjoys being disciplined! However, for students to make progress the habit of regular practice is vital. Please ensure that your child practises at least four days each week. Practice should be doing each of the pieces four or five times over.

Stratford Playgroup
Stratford Playgroup is holding a Portrait Fundraising Event, Sunday 23rd March. Book online at www.trybooking.com/EFBP Hurry, bookings close Friday 14th March.

MAFFRA CARERS GROUP
Meets at the Maffra Hospital 48 Kent St in Community Meeting Room from 1-3pm. Meetings provide information and support for people in various caring roles.

Pam Stevens Co Ordinator 5145 5417
Next meeting Mon March 17th 2014
Guest speaker – Robyn Eaton – Crossroads Counselling

For Sale
Second hand Winter Tunic - Size 8
Contact Julieanne Ph: 0407343709
At the bus stop:

- Leave home with plenty of time to get to the bus stop.
- If your bus is late do not leave the bus stop. Wait there until it arrives.

Just a reminder: if your child/ren are away from school please provide a note for their absence.