**Important Dates To Remember....**

- **Friday February 7th**: RELAY FOR LIFE Fundraiser. Casual Day (Gold Coin Donation)
  
  7PM RELAY FOR LIFE starts at Deakin. Even if you’re not participating, please come and support our team!

- **Thursday February 14th**: Stop Work Action - SCHOOL CLOSED

- **Monday February 18th**: PFA AGM 7.30pm

- **Tuesday February 19th**: School Council Meeting 7.30pm

- **Tuesday February 26th**: Parent Information Night

- **Friday March 1st**: House Sports

- **Monday March 11th**: Public Holiday

- **Monday March 18th**: Moyn Sports

- **Tuesday March 19th**: School Council Meeting 7.30pm

- **Thursday March 21st**: School Photos

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**HEATUP LUNCHES - EACH THURSDAY**

For those new families to our school, students can bring a lunch to be heated up each Thursday. This can be soup, pies, leftovers, toasted sandwiches... Lunches need to be clearly marked and in appropriate wrapping/containers. Parent volunteers are needed; please contact Jodie for details.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU....**

- **ALYSHIA MAHONEY**: 27TH JANUARY
- **KATHARINA TEGGATZ**: 28TH JANUARY
- **DREW BUNT**: 2ND FEBRUARY
- **JOSH KEEN**: 6TH FEBRUARY

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**HEATUPS**

- **Heat Up Roster Term 1**

- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Please contact Jodie if you can help out.

**IMPORTANT!** All lunches need to be named and **utensils provided if needed**.

Please NO Easymac.

**JUST A SMALL REMINDER....**

**Please don’t wrap sandwiches to be toasted in Gladurap.**

**Foil or Baking Paper please.**
Welcome back! Students have now settled back into routine and are going about their learning programs as normal. This year we have 93 students with 11 new Preps who are all very excited about beginning their school life with us here at Woolsthorpe. Our blog and Facebook page have regular updates and host our newsletters for your information. Please check with your children to make sure they are bringing home notes and the newsletter each Thursday. The newsletter is a very important way of communicating with the whole school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact myself, or your child’s teacher.

**House Sports 2013** - Due to the building works and with limited access to our oval, this year we will be holding our Woolsthorpe Primary School House Sports at Brauerander Park on Friday March 1st. As in past years, this is a great family event and we encourage everyone to come along on the day and join in on the fun. Our Family Welcome BBQ will be on this day also. The BBQ, along with salads will be provided by the Parent & Friends Association (PFA). We are looking for some BBQ cooks on the day please.

**No buses** will run on the House Sports Day, parents will need to make arrangements for students to be at Brauerander Park by 8.45am. Events will start at 9.00am. Any parents who can help on the day with events etc. please contact Mr Miller. A team of students will then attend the Moyne Sports at Brauerander Park on March 18th. School Sports Captains and Year 5/6 students play an important leadership role in training students and organising teams for the sports.

This year’s House Captains are-
- **Quamby**: Daniel Arnott (C), Brooke Watson (C), Zeb McKenna (V), Alyshia Mahoney(V)
- **Union**: Declan Barrett (C), Lily Bunt (C), Lachie Stapleton(V), Rebecca Keen(V)
- **Kilmorey**: Josh Clark (C), Ebony Taylor (C), Ben Hirst(V), Torie Coomber(V)
- **Bowra**: Shaun Roache (C), Caitlin Bain (C), Aaron Medley(V), Felicity Medley(V)

**Parent Information Night and Parent/Teacher Conferences** - After the feedback from last year, we will again be holding an Information Night for parents along with an option to have a follow up Parent/Teacher Conference. This is an opportunity we believe to be clear on how we work together to support your child’s learning and development. The Parent/Teacher Conference is an opportunity to have a conversation about your child’s strengths, interests outside school and focuses for improvement. The Conference is less formal than a Parent/Teacher Interview and a chance for parents and teachers to learn more about the students’ needs and interests.

The Information Night for all classrooms is on one night; **Tuesday February 26th** and will be held together will other classrooms. The information sessions will be a mixture of information and discussion. The times are as follows. **Year Prep-3 starts at 6.30pm and year 4-6 at 7.30pm.** At the Information Night parents will be able to make an appointment for their Parent/Teacher Conference on an allocated day during the week of March 18th.

**School Council 2013** - Parent nominations are now being taken for this year’s School Council. We have 2 places on Council. The Nomination Forms can be collected from the office. Nominations close on Friday February 22. If you are interested in being on school council please contact me for more information.

Our Student Leadership Group has been voted on this year and our **Student Leadership Group for 2013** are - Alyshia Mahoney (Captain), Zeb McKenna (Captain), Brooke Watson, Daniel Arnott, Josh Clarke, Riley Nicolson, Lily Bunt, Torie Coomber. These students represent our school and lead by example when it comes to our school Trademark Values of **Respect, Excellence, Care and Teamwork**.

**AEU Stop Work February 14th**
Next Thursday February 14, the Australian Education Union has called on its members to stop work for 24 hours as negotiations continue. Our teaching and support staff will be participating and school will be closed for that day.

Mr Perry


- woolsthorpeps

DON’T FORGET TO CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DAILY UPDATES
PFA NEWS

Wow what a busy January we have had and I would like to take this opportunity to send out a BIG Thank You to all those wonderful parents who helped out at our Friday Night Markets – you know we couldn’t have done it without you all. Also a very special mention to Bek Hirst and Alison Nicolson for organising and managing the many shifts we had – again we would be lost without your wonderful help, so many thanks xx.

Remember: Our next PFA Meeting is on Monday 18th February so please come along and meet these wonderful ladies. Also it will be our Annual AGM so please come and see how it all works. We love to see new faces! The AGM will be held at 7.30pm in the Multipurpose Room.

Lastly, on behalf of the PFA I would just like to pass on a special mention about the wonderful work our teachers have been doing over the Christmas break. Organised by our wonderful Principal Mr Perry, our teachers along with over 200 other local teachers participated in a Professional Development day about rethinking and reimagining teaching today. I was very fortunate to be able to attend this conference and came out with lots of ideas and enthusiasm. The feedback from other teachers who attended was fantastic. Great work Woolsthorpe Primary as we continue to stand out from the rest!

Jodie Mackrell
PFA President

SPORTING NEWS....

KOROIT & DISTRICT BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

12 and Under play on Wednesday nights from 4.30, 14 and Under and 18 and Under will commence Monday 11th Feb.

If you would still like to register to play please call Jodie Keast on 0427216839.

Aussie Hoops and Fun Ball start this Friday February 8th.
Aussie Hoops at 4pm and Fun Ball at 4.45pm.

Aussie Hoops 7 week program $35
($65 with Pack - optional)

Fun Ball 7 week program $42

Enquiries: Jaqui 0408 377 570

KOROIT FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

U12 – New and old players are welcome to attend
Training on Thursday 28th February at 4.30pm at Koroit Football Grounds.
BBQ tea will be provided
Phone Nick O’Sullivan for further detail on 0408403369

Koroit -“Net-Set- Go” & “Modified Netball”

Fun, Fitness, netball skills and knowledge. This year Koroit will be offering Net-set-go as well as Modified Netball for U/12’s. Both program’s will be held on Sunday morning’s in second term in conjunction with the Auskick program.

Facilitator’s: Stacey O’Sullivan – 0448 581 161, Kylie Grayland & Tanya Waterson

Registration Date: Friday 15th March at netball courts
Registration payment must be paid on this day.

Registration: $60 per child Includes:
NetSetGO! Sports Bag
Gilbert Netball
T-Shirt
Pencil Case
VNA-Victorian Netball Insurance
End of season Medal
Koroit Junior Membership

Our very own
Charlotte Noonan
at the
Winslow Gymkhana!

If you have any items you wish to have in the Newsletter, please send them through to Suzi's email (ireland.susan.s1@edumail.vic.gov.au) or contact Suzi at school.

ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE IN BY WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME PLEASE
THANKYOU from Suzi
Thank you to everyone who helped out over the holidays with watering the garden beds and keeping our vegie patch alive in the heat! Much appreciated!
Also Thank you to Bruce Keen who has renovated the Chook Pen. After their own little summer holiday, our chooks returned with some new friends to a revamped abode!
Cheers, Suzi

ART SMOCKS
Could all children please bring an Art Smock to school ASAP? An old t-shirt of Mum or Dad’s would be fine, or a flannelette shirt even better. We have found this week that the thin cotton art smocks still let paint through to the clothes, so the thicker the material the better.
Thanks,
Kim Austen
Art/Music Teacher

JARS NEEDED!!
Once again, our Produce team are in urgent need of jars as they gear up for our Fete. If you have any spare jars with lids, could you please send them to school or call Sharon on 0418 360 916.
*Please start saving your jars and sending them to school, they can always be used!

HAWKESDALE & PURNIM DISTRICTS TENNIS ASSOCIATION
Results after 23rd January, 2013
Hawkesdale Blue 6 sets 42 games defeated
Broadwater Green 3 sets 31 games
Minhamite Red 7 sets 49 games defeated
Hawkesdale Gold 2 sets 32 games
Illowa/Mailors Flat 9 sets 54 games defeated
Willatook 0 sets 14 games
Wangoom Owls 9 sets 54 games defeated
Woolsthorpe 0 set 22 games
Broadwater White 7 sets 48 games defeated
Minhamite Yellow 2 sets 22 games

Ladder after round 11:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illowa/Mailors Flat</td>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minhamite Red</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkesdale Gold</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wangoom Owls</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadwater Green</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woolsthorpe</td>
<td>49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawkesdale Blue</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadwater White</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minhamite Yellow</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

BOOK CLUB
Each family should have received the Book Club catalogues home this week. Please return any orders with payment to school by next Wednesday February 13th.
Note: Credit Card payments must be done prior to sending the order form back to school.

Thanks, Suzi
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250. Parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or

- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses ** ** **Woolsthorpe PS recommends this as the preferred option

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
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<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.