Welcome to all students and parents to the 2015 school year. It was lovely to see all of our new Kindergarten students today who arrived excited to be finally at Big School. Well done to our parents who found it a bit difficult to leave. We had a very smooth start for Kindergarten with students participating well in all activities.

Deepest sympathy
It is with great sadness that our school community extends our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Grace Gay and Chris Turner former students of our school. Our community is grieving the loss of these two young people who were very special in our lives.

Chris was an exceptional athlete at school and represented our school in a number of sports.

Grace attended our school until she was successful gaining a place in Hurlstone Agriculture High School, a selective public boarding school. Grace was an exceptional artist, photographer and academic student. In 2013 Grace won a national art competition with this piece of art work seen here and was awarded her glass trophy and prize by Professor Brian Langer.

Many of our current students and staff have been deeply affected by these deaths and we need now to work as a community to support those around us suffering at this time. “RUOK? Is a good thing to ask our children and staff, but we also need to watch for indicators that they are not travelling well. Your child may also express to you concern for one of their friends. Please pass this information onto their parent or the school if this occurs so they may be monitored. If children withdraw or make statements that normally do not rate a level of concern, it is important that at this time as par-
ents and staff with a duty of care we act promptly and seek trained expertise in counsellors.

Parental understanding, reassurance and attention are very important at this time. Be guided by your child’s need to talk and make it clear to them that you will be available whenever they need you.

With some of our students attending services, you may need to discuss with your child appropriate ways to respond to family and friends with respect. Reinforce the best approach is to:

- Avoid glamourising/sensationalising suicide; and
- Encourage help-seeking actions in young people.

Contact details will be published in newsletters consistently this year.

I will be posting a letter with more detailed information about supports available home today. Parents wishing more information may collect factsheets from the front office of the school.

Specialist counsellors are currently at the school for the next few days to support staff, students and parents. From next week, we will arrange for these supports as needed. Our school counsellor Margaret Hudson will be available to talk with students and parents at school each Tuesday, but we are able to get a counsellor on the phone if required.

This is a good time to check with the office to ensure your contact and emergency contact details are correct.

We strongly encourage parents to phone or visit to talk with the counsellors about their children to get first hand advice about how to support and talk with your children in coming days and weeks.

We are accessing a range of support materials for parents for our library. When these arrive, we will publish this in our newsletter.

Wednesday
4th February 2015
K-12 Twilight Swimming Carnival

Starting 1.30pm  Finishing 8.30pm
Students will walk to the pool at 1.00pm except Kinder and Infant non-swimmers who will walk to the pool with their teacher at 3.00pm.

Please ensure your child has sunscreen, towel, bucket hat, sunglasses, rashie, a warm jumper, change of clothes, plenty of drinking water, food and money ($2.50 pool entry fee if you don’t have a season ticket). The SRC will run a BBQ and the kiosk will be open.

**No student is allowed to leave the pool area unless the parent has advised the child’s class teacher or Mrs Hambly (Deputy Principal) for secondary students.**

**If students do not attend school or the carnival then they must attend school on the Thursday or be marked absent for those days.**

*Parents help in any area on the night would be most welcome.*

**Swimming Carnival K-6**
Next Wednesday 4th February is our school twilight swimming carnival. All students will have received their permission notes by the end of today. These need to be filled in and returned by TOMORROW FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY. Please consider the swimming events being entered carefully as there will be **NO LATE ENTRIES** at the carnival. The carnival replaces a normal school day and it is expected that all students will attend and participate. Infants students who can confidently swim 12 metres or more will walk to the pool with the primary/secondary students at 1pm. Infant non swimmers will walk to the pool at 3pm with their teacher. Please direct any enquiries to Mrs Angela Gay.
Boorowa Ex-Services Club
DISCO
12 Years & under
Friday 6th February 2015
Between
6.00pm—9.00pm
$5.00 entry
Includes 1 drink & 1 packet chips
Parents Note: for your entertainment
The Club has a members cash draw
Raffles between 7.30pm and 8.30pm
Dining Room open.

SCHOOL CLOTHING POOL DONATIONS NEEDED
Our school clothing pool is in need of replenishment particularly sizes 6 to 10. If you have any of these sizes no longer of any use to your child and are in reasonably good condition please consider our school clothing pool as an alternate solution.

Important Information for the Community
If you are concerned for a child’s well being you may ring the Department of Community Services on 132 111 or the Police on 131 444. Both phone numbers operate 24 hours a day.

Boorowa Annual Show
6th & 7th March 2015
The art section at the Boorowa show has a wonderful reputation with lots of interest shown by all who visit the pavilion. More and more paintings are being sold every year.

Boorowa Remembers Art Competition will be held on the Anzac Day weekend in April. All paintings and drawings for the Boorowa Remembers Competition need to follow the theme “Lest We Forget”

Any enquiries regarding entry please contact Therese Crowe on 042 885 1234

REMINDER TO PARENTS
MEDICAL INFORMATION AND ADDRESS CHANGES FOR SCHOOL RECORDS
It is imperative that our school records on a child’s medical condition and address changes be kept up to date. If your child has been diagnosed with a severe medical condition that could impact on their wellbeing whilst at school then please inform the school admin office immediately so a suitable response plan can be initiated. If your family address has changed since 2014 the office needs this information A.S.A.P.

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Canteen Roster
TERM 1 WEEK 2 2015
Monday 02/02/15 Sam Pye
Tuesday 03/02/15 Sam Pye
Wednesday 04/02/15 Swimming Carnival

Temporary Change to Primary Sport Day
Unfortunately the school could not book the pool for the desired time on Friday for swimming for sport due to other bookings. Students in infants and primary will have their sport day on Wednesday not Friday for the period of swimming. This means students do not wear sports uniform on Friday; they will need to wear sport uniform on Wednesday and bring their swimming attire until swimming ceases in March. Sport will then go back to normal Fridays.