Dear Parents,

As we move towards the mid-year reporting process, I'd like to take the opportunity to inform parents about our report guide. Kindergarten reports detail a student’s progress in learning and social development in their first semester at school. Year 1 to Year 6 reports reveal student achievement and effort. **Achievement:** to meet grade expectation, students need to have ticks in the Sound column or above. A tick in the High column indicates above grade level expectation in that area. A tick in the Basic column indicates that student achievement is below grade expectation. **Effort:** students’ effort ratings indicate the amount of participation and effort they devote to attaining their achievement level.

Subsequently, as parents we need to be aware of our student’s capabilities. We need to see if the report indicates sufficient effort to achieve their potential. Basic Achievement or lower, and one or two on the Assessment of Effort would be cause for concern; it could highlight the need for a parent/teacher interview.

Over recent years, state and federal governments have investigated and commented on the need of 21st century education for learners. There is an overarching document titled ‘The Melbourne Declaration’ that sets out many of the tenets and directions for education in Australia. Our school is accessing this document as a basis to develop our whole school planning for 2015 -2017. Our executive is developing knowledge and awareness to further develop staff to include the 21st century concepts into their curriculum planning.

The department and school would like parental input and support in using this document and aligning community ideas with the Melbourne Declaration for inclusion into the school’s 2015 – 2017 plan. If you would like to participate, please contact Peter Blair at school.

**REFORMS TO CREATE A NEW P&C FEDERATION**

Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli today announced the NSW Parents and Citizens (P&C) Federation will be reformed by legislation to create an efficient, transparent and accountable organisation to represent the interests of public school parents and communities.

“Local P&Cs perform a vital role in most public schools across the State. They will not be affected by these changes to the structure of the Federation.

“I am sure parents will be pleased to be able to help elect a new Federation that, alongside its advocacy role, will be able to continue to provide vital support services for local P&Cs, including insurance.”

All parents, carers and community members are encouraged to continue to participate in local P&Cs. However, only parents and carers of current public school students will be able to vote or be elected to the new Federation.

The legislation divides the State into 16 areas which will ensure that parents in Albury are equally represented alongside parents in Abbotsford. A new governing body will be elected which will then select a seven member executive committee to be responsible for the day- to-day running of the Federation.

Once the minister has the legislation proclaimed, an administrator will be appointed who will temporarily take charge of the organisation, its staff and assets, and arrange for the election of a new, representative governing body, Mr Piccoli indicated.

Elections for the new Federation, supervised by the NSW Electoral Commission, will be held in the coming months.

“It is expected that a new Federation governing body will be in place in Term 4, 2014.”

Regards, Peter Blair
SCHOOL PHOTOS will be sent home with students tomorrow, Friday 16th May, however there will be an opportunity for parents to collect from the auditorium between 8.45am - 10.45am.

YPS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
All students in Stages 2 & 3 will participate in our school athletics carnival to be held Tuesday, 27th May. Children will travel by bus, leaving school at 9.25am and returning at approximately 2.35pm. The bus fare is $1.50 which is paid to the driver on the day. Students should bring plenty of water, healthy food and sunscreen. A canteen will be operating on the day. Parent helpers are needed on the day, please contact Mrs Williams if you are available. A meal deal is available, an order form has been sent home today.

ICAS COMPUTER SKILLS
Just a reminder for students who have paid and will be participating, the ICAS Computer Skills assessment will be held on Tuesday.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2015
Enrolments are now being taken for students commencing Kindergarten in 2015. Forms are available from Mrs Braham at the front office. Information regarding our Transition to School Program will be sent to you in Term 3.

RIVERINA BAND CAMP
Last week, from Sunday to Friday, 15 students from Years 5 and 6 attended the Riverina Band Camp with 60 other students from the region. The students practised together and in instrument ensembles for up to 7 hours per day. This dedication culminated in an amazing concert. Congratulations to all the participating students.

P&C CONTRIBUTION
Mother’s Day Stall: Thank you to those families who contributed gifts towards the stall. It was wonderful to see excited children purchasing gifts for their mothers and grandmothers, and supporting the fundraiser for student resources. A special thanks to all the parents, including Toni, Ashley, Beth, Sam, Michelle, Natasha, Kylie, Helen, Kiralee, Sally, Jess and the school’s patrons, Mrs Jamieson and Mrs Goddier, who helped out with the stall. All of your assistance is greatly appreciated. We hope all mums enjoyed their presents and had a Happy Mother’s Day!

HELPERS NEEDED: We are calling for volunteers to help in the canteen at the Young Public School Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 27th May and the Mortimer Shield on Wednesday 28th May. If you are able to help, please leave your name, phone number and day(s) available at the front office.

COMING EVENTS – please see calendar on the school website for more information
Fri 16th May Primary Assembly and NAPLAN catch-up
Mon 19th May Premier’s Sporting Challenge and Rugby Union – round 1 in Young
Tue 20th May ICAS Computer Skills and Debating: Murrumburrah, group 2
Wed 21st May Boys’ soccer: YNPS 12pm Gus Smith and Country Rugby League – Stage 2
Thu 22nd May Infants’ Assembly – item 1/2G
Fri 23rd May Primary Assembly and Classic Shield-Team of the Year presentation
Fri 23rd May Walk Safely to School Day

CANTEEN ROSTER

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NON SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES

1-2-3 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE
A three session program to learn to manage difficult behaviour in 2-12 year olds. 20th May, 27th May, 7th June & 3rd June at Young & District Community Hub. 10am-12pm. Please call Jenny Spring at Young & District Community Hub to register. Ph: 6382 6697

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Peter Blair, Principal