DATES TO REMEMBER

- **STUDENT BANKING** - TUESDAYS
- **SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALES**
  **WEDNESDAY 8.45 - 9.15 AM**
  **IN THE PERFORMING ARTS FOYER**
- **LUNCH ORDERS THURSDAYS and FRIDAYS only**

August

- 5th, 12th and 19th F-4 Swimming
- 6th Yr 4 Hoop Time
- 17th-28th School Read-A-Thon
- 21st **All Science Works** money due
- 24th—28th Book Week

September

- 1st Yr1 and Yr2 Science Works
- 2nd Yr3 Science Works
- 3rd Foundation Science works
- 4th Yr4 Science works
- 10th-12th Victorian State School Spectacular
- 14th—18th Yrs F, 1, 5 and 6 Production week
- 18th Last Day of Term 3—2.30 finish

Yr 4 Camp 25th-27th November

2016 Foundation Enrolments

If you know of any students that still need to enrol for Foundation for next year, we need their enrolment forms as quickly as possible to assist us 2016 planning.

Enrolment forms can be collected from either the Junior or main offices.

Congratulations
To Miss Ewen
who was married
and became
Mrs Kadic
on Saturday 18th July.
Our sincere best wishes
HAVE YOU NOTICED THE NEW SCHOOL SIGN?
YES - Well you are only just seeing the beginning there is more to come.
WHAT A COLD START TO THE TERM!
It has been a cold, wet and windy start to Term 3 and as you might be aware we have not only been calling wet day timetables, but windy day and cold day timetables. The students have been struggling with a high number of absences due to illness. To date the staff have been struggling through however, I'm sure that it will be our turn soon. Thank you to parents for making contact with the school swiftly, keeping us up to date with why your child is absent.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind. They can’t however, help getting sick.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES – This is when you choose to keep your children at home even though they are fit and well enough to attend school. There are a number of students across each year level who have a high number of days off school and they are not sick. When your child's teacher contacts you about these absences they are following Department processes, your child's teacher is working hard to openly communicate with you about all your child's absences which is the best way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

2016 ENROLMENTS
Have you enrolled your 2016 Foundation student yet? You had better hurry. Our transition program has already started and the Foundation Team of teachers are working tirelessly, conducting school tours and getting around to all our feeder kindergartens and Childcare Centres. If you know of anybody thinking about enrolling please encourage them to do so ASAP as each government school must enter their 2016 projected numbers in September and it is these numbers that dictate how many classrooms we are entitled too. We are very close to already having the same enrolments now for 2016 as we currently have Foundation classrooms. We are therefore looking to apply for more classrooms.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
I remind families that at the end of second term information was given out about new government assistance to families with Healthcare Cards. A number of families have taken up this assistance offer. I would like to bring to your attention the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) which is available to assist eligible families with meeting these costs. If you hold a valid concession card or you are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF funds. This allowance is paid to our school and can be used to contribute towards appropriate expenses. The annual amount of the allowance is $125 per student. Please feel free to contact Mrs Walsh or Mrs Reid if you require further information.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY
Annually we conduct a Parent Opinion Survey as part of the DEECD accountability. A random sample of parents is selected using a computer generated process and these families have received a copy of the survey to fill in. The survey is anonymous, and I encourage you strongly to fill it in and return it if you are selected. The data from the parent surveys helps us to understand your view of the school. What you love about Pakenham Consolidated School and what you might like to improve. Of course I'm happy to hear your opinions any time, there is a suggestion box at the front office for written suggestions and feedback.

Tanya Roberts,
Principal
Have you seen our Term 3 Hall display?
**Finance News**

At the end of this term we will be starting to look at 2016 Parent Contributions.

If you still have outstanding fees for 2015, could you please make sure that they have been paid before the end of Term 3. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself, Cheryl – Junior Administration or Linda—Senior Administration.

Just a reminder also about Centrepay and CSEF. If you are eligible for either and would like to complete a form, please come in and see us.

Maria Barnes
HR & Finance Officer.

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**LOSTPROPERTY**

Located in Performing Arts foyer/ old canteen, opposite the Library.

Just a reminder that permanent marker pens are available at all three offices for your use. Please name items with **first** and **last** name, not just initials. Please also be vigilant that your children’s jackets and jumpers are actually theirs. We have many distressed families who have named their children’s clothing, yet they have gone missing. We appreciate your honesty in this area. Special thanks to Josephine Hughes for her work in Lost Property this year. If you are able to spare an hour a week to sort through and return lost items, your time would really be appreciated!

Thank you in anticipation.

Nicole Jones. Room 4

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**Pre Read-A-Thon School Newsletter**

We will be holding a School Read-A-Thon between Monday 17th August and Friday 26th August 2015 as a major fundraising event this year.

The School Read-A-Thon is a stimulating fun and literacy based fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about developing a healthy mind. The main focus of the event is on participation. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students have received a Sponsorship Form to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to purchase books for the Library.

We ask all parents to read the Sponsorship Form and sign the front page to grant permission for their child to participate in the event. In the Sponsorship Form you will find all the things you need to do to assist fundraising, and money.

Students wanting to track their progress, and use online fundraising, can do so by logging onto readathon.com.au and creating a student profile page. Finally, we would like to welcome parents and family members to become involved in the School Read-A-Thon. If you would like to volunteer and help out on the day please contact the School on 9411 3111.

Money, forms (with nominated prizes) to be returned no later than Friday 4th August.
What Chance Has Your Child Got of Being Successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but.......  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/ She is only missing just....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child can perform is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1.5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your Child Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>2.5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your Child Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your Child Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>8 years</strong></td>
<td>Your Child Equal to finishing at grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Everyday Counts!!

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
144 WESTBOURNE GROVE, NORTHCOTE 3070 PH (03) 9481 0800 FAX (03) 9481 4072
P.C. BOX 113, NORTHCOTE 3070 Email: vaen@vaen.org.au
Registration No: AJ874 ABR 44 299 156
**What Sort of Start is Your Child Getting?**

*Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but.......*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>Half a year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1 year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 Weeks per Year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>2 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day?*

**That’s when every minute counts the most!!**