I would like to thank all members of the Ruskin Park Community for embracing Education Week. On Wednesday morning we opened our doors and welcomed a large number of special visitors. It was a chance for parents to spend time in their child’s room and partake in a wide variety of activities. Our students were excited to share what they had been learning in class and took great pride in sharing their work.

Later in the day, our school was again a hive of activity as we held our 2016 Open Night. The night was launched by our Junior and Senior Choirs who both performed to a large audience. For our Junior Choir, it was their first performance of the year. There was obvious delight on their faces as they enjoyed their time in the limelight. Following the choir was an opportunity for families to tour each of the classrooms and have a go at the many activities on offer. Activities covered a wide range of learning areas including Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Technology. I hope all our parents and special guests enjoyed gaining an insight into the wonderful things that happen on a daily basis at our school.

NAPLAN
Well done to all of the students and staff involved in last week’s NAPLAN testing. It proved to be a busy time as students completed activities focusing on Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. They demonstrated excellent persistence and should all be proud of their efforts. Parents will receive their child’s individual results later in the year.

Grade 6 Camp - Canberra
Excitement is building in Grade 6 as students and staff prepare for next week’s Canberra camp. It will provide a wonderful opportunity for students to see firsthand much of what has been discussed in class about Government and our political system. Camps provide memories that last well into the future and we look forward to the students sharing their experiences once they return to school.
Principal’s Report continued

2017 Foundation Enrolments
I would like to remind families with children who will be beginning school in 2017 that we are taking enrolments now. To assist us with planning, I encourage you to complete your child’s enrolment form and bring it to the office as soon as possible. There has been significant interest and a number of forms have already been received.
We also ask that members of our community assist us by informing any of their neighbours of the enrolment procedures and direct them to the office to collect an enrolment form and information pack.
School tours are available every Wednesday morning commencing at 9:30am and also upon request. Please call the school on 9723 3886 to book a tour.

This week was Education Week. It was very pleasing to see so many of our families visit the school on Wednesday during our open morning and also in the evening. The open night began with a wonderful presentation by the choirs before families visited classrooms to participate in activities and to view the student displays. This gave students and teachers the opportunity to share and celebrate the amazing learning that has been happening in the classrooms so far this year, particularly in Writing and Reading. Each classroom has set up a class library space where both teachers and students can share their favourite books. In addition, Writing is celebrated in the classroom where the written work of every student is displayed on the class Writing Wall.

Thank you to the staff for all the work they undertook in preparing the classrooms for the evening.
Music

“MUSIC MATTERS”

Term 2 Music has gotten off to a flying start.

The Senior Choir gave two rousing performances at the two ANZAC Day ceremonies. We were all very proud to be part of the RPPS Community on the day they sang for the Croydon RSL. These fine young members of the Senior Choir represented the school beautifully. Thank you so much to all the families who supported their children in getting to a performance on a Sunday. It shows the outstanding commitment that is given to the choirs at Ruskin Park and is highly appreciated.

Senior Choir also sang at the ANZAC service at school, and did a great job. It was so good to see how many students were respectful of the event. Their performance was very special.

The Junior Choir is now up and running. We have had three rehearsals so far. I have a few names on my list that have not yet attended rehearsals. If you have signed your child up for rehearsals with the Junior Choir please help to remind them of their lunchtime rehearsal every Friday. Students are expected to finish eating their lunch and then immediately go to the music room to have a half hour rehearsal. They will have 15 minutes to blow out the cobwebs before the bell goes. Try to order canteen food for your child on a different day, as this is quite disruptive of the flow of rehearsals as we allow no food in the music room and students are often late trying to finish off their food.

Both the Junior and Senior Choir were busy on the Open Night, giving performances in the courtyard to open the evening. It was the Junior Choir’s debut and we loved seeing so many people coming to support this very special event.

Classwork in the music room is going well. Guitar and drumming continues to be a success, with the Grade 6 students putting together a drumming routine and some pieces on guitar for a courtyard performance at the end of this term. The Grade 5 students are looking closely at music from different parts of the world, and the Grade 3 & 4 students are now working towards achieving more belts as part of the Black Belt Recorder system.

I would like to encourage all students to continue striving to do good work in the music room for the remainder of the term and remember - “Music Matters!”
We hope everyone who popped into the Foundation classrooms during our open sessions on Wednesday enjoyed gaining an insight into our daily program. The Foundation students were very proud of their achievements and the rooms were abuzz with the sound of chatter as families reviewed their child’s books and looked at the displays in the room. Parents who attended the morning session also participated in a writing session and gained insight into the writing approach we have adopted at Ruskin Park Primary School. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the story ‘The Tall Man and the Twelve Babies’ and following this experience parents worked with their child to write about their favourite part of the story.

Over the past weeks we have introduced information texts linked to our study of living things. Last week our students discovered how frogs grow in their shared reading sessions. They were encouraged to ask questions and share their wonderings as we explored the book. In their independent reading groups students created simple flow diagrams highlighting the development of a frog. They also explored the features of this text type such as the contents page, sub headings, layout and glossary.

During our library session last week our students read Possum Magic and identified the main characters and the setting in the story. They created gorgeous possums that are now on display in the Foundation classrooms for everyone to see. If you have a chance to pop into the library you will also see the characters Slinky Malinki, Hairy Maclary and Schnitzel Von Krumm on display. Our students worked cooperatively to collage the characters after reading some of Lynley Dodd’s books.

In Mathematics, our students are exploring in lots of hands on activities to reinforce the concepts of equal and ordinal number position 1st to 10th such as races and number games. We are continuing to consolidate our students’ ability to rote count by intervals of 1 to 50, 10 to 100 and backwards from 20 to 0.

Last week Foundation D welcomed a pet bird into their classroom. We all think he was suffering from shock the first few days but by the end of the week he was singing along with the students. This week our students have presented information about their own pets such as: Who looks after it? What does it eat? What does it drink? What unusual habits does it have? How does it interact with other people? We would like to thank all of our families who helped their children to prepare their information booklets. This week we will be exploring how we use our senses of sight, touch and smell on a daily basis during simple investigations.

Alaine Beare & Julie Donaldson
Foundation Teachers
In the Junior School, students have been applying new skills when reading including visualisation, prediction and expanding our vocabulary. Visualising involves using the words we read to consciously form a picture in our minds, which improves students’ ability to comprehend and recall details from their reading. We have been practising this strategy by carefully reading descriptions of settings and characters and drawing them.

Classes have been working towards creating a classroom library area where students read for pleasure as well as constructive, formative learning and targeted reading outcomes. Students have been involved by sorting books into categories to organise their library area.
Senior School

The Senior School was visited by an educator from the Maroondah City Council’s Graffiti Education Program. In a fun and vibrant session, students were engaged in thinking about how graffiti negatively affects themselves and the community. Students were encouraged to think about their actions, stand up for themselves and others and learn to say no. The students responded positively to the informative and entertaining presentation.

Grade 5
Come in and have a look at the sensational narrative ‘space adventure’ writing by our fabulous Grade 5 students, which can be found near the office. Students have been learning to create engaging and entertaining writing pieces through modelled and shared classroom writing.

Grade 6
We are looking forward to the upcoming Canberra Tour from 23rd to 27th May. Just a reminder, those who are not attending the tour are expected at school.

Ben Coffin
Grade 5 Classroom Teacher and Compass Coordinator
OSHC excursion to Clip ‘N Climb
On our recent curriculum day we all enjoyed a fantastic excursion to Clip ‘N Climb, an indoor rock climbing centre in Richmond. All the children enthusiastically participated in an amazing range of climbing experiences and were delighted when they completed each challenge. We would recommend Clip ‘N climb for a family outing.

New Member in OSHC
We have welcomed a new member to OSHC -

Hannah - a guide dog puppy in training! One of our educators, Anne Campbell is a volunteer puppy raiser with Guide Dogs Victoria. Anne is fostering Hannah for approximately 12 months until she returns to the Guide Dogs Victoria for more intensive training.

Anne’s role is to train Hannah to become well socialised, confident and not easily distracted. Anne brings Hannah to After School Care each afternoon which is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about the care and early training of a guide dog puppy.

OSHC Educator Team
**THE RUSKIN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL VISION**

Every student at Ruskin Park Primary School can develop their natural curiosity and imagination through new and engaging approaches to teaching and learning. The encouragement of a positive attitude within a friendly community of learners will promote success today, tomorrow and into the future.

**THE RUSKIN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL VALUES ARE**

Building Friendship, Creativity, Honesty & Respect

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**09 Ruskin Park Fete**

**Saturday 22nd October 2016**

Our next fete meeting is on Wednesday 1st June at 6.30pm in the staff room. Lots of planning is underway and we hope to get as much help and support as possible. If you have a suggestion or great idea, please see one of the fete committee members and let them know or send a message to the office via your child.
FOUNDATION LUCKY JARS FETE STALL
As you know plans are well underway for our school fete which will be held in October. The Foundation students will once again be responsible for the Lucky Jar stall. Our stall proved to be very popular at the last fair. In fact we had over a hundred jars filled with goodies and we sold them all. The best part about this stall is our students are actively involved in designing, decorating and filling the jars for everyone to enjoy.
Can you help us?
In order for our stall to be a success we are asking everyone to donate clean glass jars with lids. We also need little things to the value of $2.00 to be donated such as bags of lollies, pencils, new hair ties, little figurines or toys. Lots of families cleaned out their toy boxes and discovered figurines and little items that would fit into a jar and they sent them along too. The more jars we fill and sell the more money we can raise to buy resources for our school.
Please send your donations directly to the Foundation rooms your support will be appreciated.
Alaine Beare & Julie Donaldson
The Foundation Team

Senior School Trash and Treasure
In October, when we hold our Fete, the Grade 6 students are running the Trash and Treasure Stall along with the Second Hand Book Stall. We are excited to host this stall as we traditionally raise lots of money for the school whilst parents are happy to donate their pre-loved goods. Whenever you are ready, items can be brought to the Grade 6 rooms where we will store them in a locked area. Closer to the day we will send out a sign-up sheet for parents to offer their assistance in selling on the day.

Many thanks for your upcoming support.
Jenny Rainbow and Nina Pratley

Community Stage Area
The Fete Committee will be organising a community stage area and a sporting expo area at this year’s fete to be held on Saturday 22nd October. You can help by asking if your sporting, dance, or performance club would like to be a part of this year’s fete. For those who are interested in taking up this offer, please leave your club’s details at the front office and I will make contact.

Ajne Graham
Welcome to Compass at Ruskin Park Primary School!

This is the primary means of communication between the school and home. Parents can login to Compass via the phone app or school website (http://ruskinparkps.vic.edu.au).

Otherwise, you can bookmark the home page (https://ruskinparkps.vic.jdlf.com.au)

If you lose or forget your login details, simply click on the 'Can't access your account?' link on the homepage. Your details will be sent to you via email or sms. The first time you log in, you will need to update your contact details. It would be a great idea to do this regularly.

Facebook: The official Ruskin Park Primary School Facebook page is

www.facebook.com/pages/Ruskin-Park-Primary-School-Croydon-Vic/619153468191707

Please visit to see what is happening at Ruskin Park Primary School.
Join School Banking on an outback adventure!

Every year the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and 8 new exclusive School Banking reward items. This year’s program is themed the **Outback Savers** and School Banking is taking students on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings, where they’ll learn to master smart savings habits.

There are **8 new reward items for 2016** from the Outback Savers range:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

**Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!**

This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin.

Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

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Hello Members and Volunteers

We would like to make a small request of our wonderful members and volunteers. If you happen to enjoy ice cream, we are in search of 2 litre and 4 litre ice cream containers for tube transportation. Next time you drop by our Nursery, it would be greatly appreciated if you could bring in any empty ice cream containers you might have.

Thank you in advance.

**CANDLEBARK COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc. Ph: 03-9727 0594**

**Location:**

5 Taylors Road (Corner Hull Road)

MOOROOLBARK  3138

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**OPEN DAY and PLAYSPACE GRAND OPENING**

Saturday 21st May 2016

10am – 12pm

Grand Opening of our new Playspace 10.30am

22 Frederick Street Croydon

Bring the family and join us for the official Grand Opening of our new Playspace and stay to take part in our music sessions

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**CANDYBARK COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc.**

Ph: 03-9727 0594

Location:

5 Taylors Road (Corner Hull Road)

MOOROLBARK  3138