Greetings from Jyvaskyla in Finland.

In the past very tiring 12 days, I have had the pleasure of working and learning with 21 other Principals from primary and secondary schools across Victoria. We all come from very different schools: small schools, very large schools, country schools and metropolitan schools, schools with high levels of disadvantage, schools with high immigrant numbers, schools with low disadvantage.

Having now visited 10 schools, the Universities in both Helsinki and Jyvaskyla, the Finnish Board of Education and Ministry and the Principals Association, I am developing a good understanding of the Finnish education system and why their PISA results are so strong. Many of their structures cannot translate easily to Victoria, however, there are some concepts which are well worth discussion and the Presidents of our respective primary and secondary principal associations will take these to our leaders.

What I can say is that Flemington Primary School; our teachers, curriculum, Specialist programs and our use of technology is world class and we should be very proud of what we do.

I return to school next week with lots of ideas but also pride in our school as an internationally competitive one.

Principal’s Report
Lesley McCarthy

Mrs McCarthy visiting Puistokoulu school in Jyvaskyla, Finland. I did tell her that we wanted to see snow, as it’s thawing out this was all she could find!
**Care Member of the Week**  
**Week beginning 5 September 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mangalore 1</strong></td>
<td>Banisha G.</td>
<td>For her caring and supportive attitude towards the younger members of our care group. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mangalore 2</strong></td>
<td>Sarah C.</td>
<td>For showing confidence and care when assisting younger members of our care group. Well done Sarah.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mangalore 3</strong></td>
<td>Lawson P.</td>
<td>For his wonderful leadership in Mangalore 3. Well done. ☺</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mooltan 1</strong></td>
<td>Maddie C.</td>
<td>For inviting all the new preps into our group and contributing to a wonderfully positive sharing environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mooltan 2</strong></td>
<td>Nasra A.</td>
<td>For her confident approach to CARE this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cashmere 1</strong></td>
<td>Jay T.</td>
<td>For being a positive role model and setting a good example for the members of our group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cashmere 2</strong></td>
<td>Hannah R.</td>
<td>For openly talking about forgiveness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cashmere 3</strong></td>
<td>Ollie I.</td>
<td>For reflecting on the importance of forgiveness and taking action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delhi 1</strong></td>
<td>Curtis S.</td>
<td>For his encouragement of and patience with the younger members of our CARE group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delhi 2</strong></td>
<td>Brooke W.</td>
<td>For confidently sharing her ideas about forgiveness. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delhi 3</strong></td>
<td>Imogen L.</td>
<td>For confidently contributing to CARE group discussions. Well done!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Office News**  
**Office Hours, 8.30am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday**

**Secondary Transition Forms - Grade 6 Students**
Secondary school transition forms went home on Monday. Parents are reminded that secondary school transition forms are due back to the office by **Friday May 18th**. If any details are incorrect on the form please see the office for amendment. Please note, any address changes will require proof ie. a bill etc. If you need another copy of this form could you please see the office.

**Please be advised that all Grade 6 students need to return a form.**

**2013 Prep Enrolment**
Applications for Prep 2013 enrolment are now open. School Tours take place each Tuesday during Term 2 at 9.15am led by our Student Leaders. Application forms and Parent Information Handbooks are available from the office.

If you have a child due to commence school next year, please collect the enrolment forms and enrol your child by the end of Term 2, this being 29th June. Should you know of a child due to start school next year, who lives in our enrolment zone (refer to the school website for details), please remind parents to hand their enrolment forms in during Term 2.

**Woolworths Earn and Learn Program**

**The program will start on Wednesday 9th May until Sunday 1st July. When you do your shop you will receive one sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards).**

This week, sticker cards went home with every student. When you receive a sticker place it on the card and when the card is complete please submit it in the collection box located near the office. Should you need another sticker card please see the office. All completed cards must be sent to the office no later than close of business on Tuesday 17th July (first week of Term 3). Enjoy collecting.
I must start with a big **Thank you** to all the students, parents, teachers, families and friends of our wonderful school for their efforts and participation in last Saturday’s fete. What a great day we all had. As predicted there was no rain. The children I spoke to were so excited by the rides, animals and food that they just went from one activity to another all day. Bruce and I enjoyed catching up with many ex students and families, some from a long time ago.
Curriculum News

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2012 tests for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 15 May, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May 2012. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 18 May 2012.

Students have been practicing with previous year’s Naplan tests to familiarize themselves with the format of the test booklet and to develop strategies on how to approach the test. If you are interested in how to further assist your child in preparing for the Naplan test please see your classroom teacher or Bruce Ziebell.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Large Print, Braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students that require them.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from the NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child’s participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child’s progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.nap.edu.au.
**PE & Sports News**  
*Brendan Newman*

**Join Flemington Primary School online team for Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart**

Dear Parents,

This Term our school is participating in Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart. This program helps our students get more physically active and improves their attitude towards healthy lifestyle as well as raising money for the Heart Foundation.

Come and join us in raising money for the Heart Foundation’s research and health program work.

To register go to the link below and then click the ‘Kids Register Now’ to help us fundraise:  
https://jrfh.tsacorporation.com/login.aspx

Thank you for your support!

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**Instrumental Music Program**  
*Vern O’Hara*

**Robert Ekselman Cello recital with Robin Baker, piano.**

To be held on Sunday May 20th at 4pm at Flemington Primary School Performing Arts Auditorium. The concert will be one hour, comprising the works of Bach, Schumann and Falla. It is a fundraiser for the school’s music program and tickets are $20 adults / $10 children at the door. Address: 200 Mount Alexander Rd. Flemington, located at the traffic lights opposite Wellington Street. Hope to see you there!

Robert Ekselman

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**The Hub News**  
*Karin.moore@iinet.net.au*

We need some Dads to help man the Mother’s Day stall this year. If you have a couple of hours to spare from 9am to 11am on Thursday May 10, please contact Vince on v.andreana@hotmail.com Or chat to him in the lane way at drop off time.

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**Lost**

A red Pram with a blue jumper in the back was lost at the fete on Saturday. Also a yellow short sleeve polo top along with bottle green shorts were left in the male change rooms in the hall last Tuesday evening.

If either of these items are found please contact the office.

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**Moonee Valley Garage Sale Trail**

Moonee Valley is hosting a Garage Sale Trail - lots of garage sales in the one neighbourhood on the one day! It’s a great way of selling unwanted goods, pick up a bargain and share in the neighbourhood atmosphere. For those wanting to sell, joining the Garage Sale Trail means you don’t have to worry about advertising or the size of your sale; for those wanting to buy, it means lots of choice and variety!

**When:** Saturday, 5 May 2012  
**Where:** Your front yard or nature strip

More information and registering your sale: www.garagesaletrail.com.au
The Hub News
Karin.moore@iinet.net.au

The Hub would like to thank everyone for all the work people did for the Fete. This includes bringing in items for the stalls, sorting them and preparing stands. There were wonderful craft items that were lovingly created and donated, delicious cakes that were baked, impressive hot food, tasty African curries, cupcakes for ice your own cupcakes and fabulous plants for the plant stall. The volunteers on the stalls worked hard all day, and in the weeks before the fete. Natalie Maclaren was responsible for the beautiful decorations and bunting around the school grounds. Jodie Brennan did an amazing job designing our Fete signs and flyers for letterbox drops. The efforts of the ladies in the office who worked for the whole day on Saturday, and the assistance from our wonderful teachers was greatly appreciated. The face painters and tattoo artists were extraordinary and the fairy floss crew were fantastic. Nujum did a fabulous job setting up the African stall, which had a wonderfully authentic feel, and sold out in record time. The silent auction and raffle was a great effort, with lots of work leading up to the fete to secure terrific and amazing value prizes. The bands and performers were enjoyed by everyone, and made a major contribution to the relaxed atmosphere, with many parents and friends enjoying a refreshing beverage from our well stocked drinks stand. Sandra and Bruce did an amazing job with logistics, and Karl and his friends were our cheerfully helpful security team. Carrie was a stalwart on the mini golf, and Leon was a dedicated MC. Gabrielle Dolan worked tirelessly behind the scenes and Vince made the logistics run seamlessly and importantly, helped us to recycle most of the rubbish. The ticket sellers did a great job coping with the demand for ride tickets. The BBQ crew sold an unbelievable tally of one sausage every 12 seconds totaling 1200 for the day. The kitchen crew sold a massive 410 serves of chips. While these weren’t so good on the healthy eating front, they were a great fund raiser and the kids did burn off a lot of energy on the rides and in the mosh pit. There were imaginatively delicious soups and a diverse range of pastas catering to every taste including gluten free. The lolly stall, and Lobachock were probably the most popular kids activities apart from rides, and we thank parents who brought in chocolate as well as mystery bottles and. It was a great team effort, so thanks again to everyone involved, including parents, grandparents, teachers, grade 5 and 6 helpers and friends. What a great community!

We achieved our target of raising $25,000 as it looks like it will end up being about $26,000 to $27,000 profit. Over $26,000 was taken on the day and this does not include pre ticket sales and the generous sponsorship contributions, many of which were made by our school community

We would like to thank the following for their generous sponsorship of the fete.

**Gold Sponsors at $1,000**

- Acquum Consulting
- Rugolo Motor Body Works
- Bendigo Bank - Flemington
- Cr John Cusack the Mayor of MVCC

**Silver Sponsors at $500**

- Elite Swimming & Performance
- Nelson Alexander

**Bronze Sponsors at $250**

- Kumon Flemington
- Fit Family
- GJL Plumbing
- Adam Bandt – The Greens
- Thomson Real Estate Flemington
- Plus another parent who wished to be anonymous (you know who you are so thank you)