FROM THE PRINCIPAL CLASS TEAM

At assembly on Monday morning, Graham Watt presented our new House Captains with their badges. Congratulations to the following children for being elected:

Blue House, (Withers)
(C) Mason F & Melanie P
(VC) Sam M & Xavian S

Yellow House (Streeton)
(C) Isabella G & Jack R
(VC) Sami M & Conor R-S

Red House (Sutherland)
(C) Catie A & Tom L
(VC) Hannah M & Nicholas G

Green (Parsons)
(C) Stephen P & Mia I
(VC) Josh B & Jasmin A

The House Captains will attend the National Young Leaders Day at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre on Thursday, 15th March. The Vice Captains will again participate in a student leadership day at Koonung Secondary College on 13th March.

Another special guest at Monday’s assembly was Manuela Rigo, who is the SONIC Study Project Manager from Deakin University. Manuela spoke about the research study that Deakin Health is undertaking: “Investigating dietary salt intake and the relationship to cardiovascular risk factors in childhood.” If you are going to participate in the study please complete the folders that were sent home and return to school by Monday, 5th March. If you are not participating, please return folders as soon as possible.

Our annual Family Picnic and Sausage Sizzle was a most enjoyable evening last Thursday. The wonderful weather enabled families to meet and chat on the oval as well as visit the stalls provided by the PFA. We are very grateful to the PFA for organising the cake stall, icy poles and drinks as well as the sausage sizzle. A big thank you to all staff who managed the BBQ, cooking and serving sausages throughout the evening!

On Monday the Junior School Information Evening was held. I would to thank all parents who came along to support and contribute to the evening. Also, thank you to all the Junior School staff for attending and a special thanks to Mrs Pase for preparing the presentation.

The second parent workshop on, ‘Helping Your Child Learn to Read’ will be on Friday, 9th March in the LOTE room. Please note that this session will go from 9.10 to 10.30am and child minding is provided. This session will give you strategies and tips for making reading fun and enjoyable at home.

Last week was the final week at RMPS for our Japanese volunteer, Yui. Since last July and while completing a 12 month undergraduate course at Deakin University, Yui spent two days per week at the school. Her assistance has enabled Kelly Vimpani, our Japanese teacher to provide lots of extra learning experiences for the children than may not otherwise have been possible. As well assisting Kelly each week, Yui has also helped out with cutting up and delivering fruit to junior classes on Thursdays. The children have really enjoyed having Yui around the school, both in class and in the playground and we would like to sincerely thank her for all of her hard work.

Amanda Wigg - Assistant Principal
WOW! What a beautiful day for our school picnic, we could not have been luckier! We had a great turn out with many families taking advantage of the shade near the oval. The sausages were sizzling, and the cakes and icy poles were disappearing and the children were having fun!

Thank you to all who could come along and enjoy all that was on offer. There were activities galore, and we had sausages, icy poles, drinks, and cakes to sell to help raise funds. In total, the school community raised $1,200 towards our Mathletics program – thank you to all.

A huge thank you must go to our teachers and staff who cooked at the sausage sizzle! The PFA on behalf of the whole school community would like to say thank you for your time and effort – you cooked up a storm, over 500 sausages! And a huge thank you the wonderful Mr F, our PE teacher who organised some fantastic “old school” activities that were enjoyed by all. There were races for everyone (with a few tumbles), tugs of war (you could hear for miles), and water balloon games. It would seem some children were determined that their parents not catch their water balloon…only to be drenched themselves! Thank you so much to the teachers and staff that were willing and able to participate, as we know it was long day at school for you all - thank you.

We must also thank the Costello family from Bakers Delight at the Glen for donating all the bread for the sausage sizzle, such a generous donation – thank you Kelly and Ian! Please don’t forget Kelly delivers Bakers Delight bread on Thursday afternoons to the school and 10% of the proceeds of all the sales are donated back to the school, the order form is available on the school website and at the office.

Also a huge thank you to all the parents/carers who contributed to our fundraising efforts by making cakes, slices and biscuits to sell! Such delicious and delightful array of goodies were offered and sold out! Thank you to our helpers who unloaded and set up all our sausages, drinks and icy poles; John H and Inga Y and those who helped set up, serve, and pack up all stalls; Jo T, Sue T, Kathryn A, Robin F, Rachel F, Narelle M, Suzanne D, Fiona L, Brenda D, Cathy J, Lou F, Julie A, Inga Y, John L, Rachael H, Lisa C, and Susan T, – thank you for putting your hand up, and to Richard W, Tim Y and Paul T, for helping put things away at the end of the night.

It was such a great event for all, we trust everyone had good time and thank you so much for coming along and creating such a vibrant environment and being a part of our great school community.

**Up and Coming Events...**

Easter Raffle – we will keep you informed
Trivia Night, 11th August – lock it in!

How would you like to join the Roberts McCubbin PFA committee....

The PFA plans and runs many of the school's social and fundraising events throughout the year, it takes a team of people with shared roles and responsibilities.

There is a monthly meeting alternating between days and nights- but not all committee members attend every meeting and they are casual in nature. Toddlers are welcome during the day meetings.

The PFA committee is made up of around 4 positions with some people sharing roles, in 2011 we have had 6 people on the committee sharing several positions. It is a great way to meet different people and you make friends with
people you may not have met otherwise, we have plenty of laughs and of course, we are simply lovely people. Cathy Jones (Secretary) and yours truly, Matoula (Co-President) plan to remain in their positions, but we are seeking a Co-President and a Vice President as Janelle and Rebecca will be resigning from their positions this year.

If you too would like to join us or even if you are considering the possibility but anything with “President” in the title is not your cup of tea then please come and speak to us or contact Matoula on 0411 089 506 or email matoularomeo@yahoo.com.au or Janelle on 0409 557 470 or email janellepenrose72@hotmail.com. Why don’t you come along to our next Morning Tea after assembly and we can have a chat about the roles as we are happy to look at different possibilities. The 2012 committee will be elected at our AGM on March 8\textsuperscript{th}.

**PFA AGM**

The PFA will be holding it's AGM on Thursday, 8\textsuperscript{th} March at 7.30 in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to hear the reports on the past year and elect the new committee.

**Volunteers Form – due back this Friday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March**

Last week you would have received the volunteer’s form that gives you the opportunity to indicate your interest in helping out at different PFA events throughout the year. There are many ways you can support the school and the social and fundraising activities the PFA runs, from co-ordinating an event, to helping set up or pack up for half an hour.

Please don't be concerned that you are 'locked in' to helping out if you indicate interest, the volunteer form just gives us a pool of people to call on and we realise it is sometimes hard to plan for two weeks away let alone an event at the end of the year! It's all about helping out if you can, having fun, and making friends! We would love to get as many forms back as possible even if you just fill out the section on what events/activities you would like to see happen at the school. If you have already returned your form, thank you for taking the time to do so and we will send you a thank you reminder email once all forms have been collected.

**PFA Monday Morning Tea After Assembly**

It was great to see more mums/dads/carers at the PFA morning tea on Monday. Thanks so much to Sue Truscott, Cathy Jones and Rachel Fleetwood for providing yummy slices and fruit.

We would like to remind all our families of our Monday Morning Tea, please feel most welcome to stay in the hall after assembly each Monday and join us for coffee and a chat. It's a great opportunity for parents to get to know each other and have a friendly chat, all mums, dads, carers and grandparents and toddlers are all welcome to come along! Hope to see you there!

**Thought for the Week**

“Your body hears everything your mind says.”

Naomi Judd

Janelle Pandit and Matoula Romeo
PFA Co-President

**District Swimming Carnival**

Last Wednesday 5 girls represented Robbie Mac at the District Swimming Carnival. They returned with lots of place ribbons plus some personal best times!

Joanna L placed 4th in the Backstroke and set a new Personal Best time
Emma S finished 1st in both Freestyle and Butterfly
Danielle S also finished 1st in Freestyle and Butterfly
Anna B place 1st in Backstroke and 2nd in Butterfly
Minna K, Anna B, Emma and Danielle S won both the Medley Relay and Freestyle relay.

What a fantastic day for our school.

Well done girls!

House Athletics Carnival

With the threat of rain hanging over our heads, the students and teachers from Grades 3 to 6 headed off on buses to the Doncaster Athletics Track for the annual House Athletics Carnival. Fortunately the rain didn’t eventuate and we were able to fit in a full day of athletics activities including High Jump, Triple Jump, Long Jump, 100m, Discus, Shot Put and Relays. The kids looked awesome, resplendent in their House colors with a fantastic spirit of fun and having a go, being the theme for the day.

A huge vote of thanks to all the teachers who attended and who were responsible for the training and preparing of the kids leading up to the day.

What a great turn out from the amazing parent community here at Robbie Mac. Over 50 parents ran activities, handed out drinks, took photos, organized the score table and did any number of jobs to ensure our kids had the best possible experience. I’m continually impressed at the effort you all make in involving yourselves in special days like this.

Thanks to Geoff Simmons who greatly assisted me with set up and packing up.

Thanks
Tim Fearn-Wannan

Performing Arts

2012 is exciting for us this year as the students will be having Performing Arts for the whole year. The Junior School has been immersed in activities that encourage collaboration, communication and the building blocks of character development. They’ve been specifically focused on their expressive skills!

Middle school is reviewing the expectations and tools that are necessary for productive outcomes while being challenged by the demands of improvisation.

The Senior School students have been given specific characters and scenarios to shape performance. They are discussing the elements of excellent performance work and being reminded of the practice they’re also getting for being able to communicate effectively, think under pressure and respond appropriately. These are obviously very
handy attributes to have when applying for their first jobs in the not too distant future or positions of responsibility at Roberts McCubbin.

I welcome parent’s interest in the subject and questions you may have.

Sharon Foley

Visual Arts in 2012

What a fantastic start to the year we have all had creating and making in Visual Arts!

We have many projects running this year for all the students but to begin with, the 5-6 students are working on a local community artwork. The Box Hill South Neighbourhood house is a valuable asset to our local area, running childcare, kindergarten groups and play groups as well as many adult classes and activities. Both my daughters have used the kindergarten group and through this relationship with the teachers there, I have been asked to create some art work for them. The kindergarten group is called the ‘Possums’ so building upon our work from last year with Judy Thompson, our Artist in Residence, I would like the students to paint possums and lorikeets using plywood and exterior house paints that can be installed into the playground area at the back of the house that is used for the children to play but also can be seen from the small playground behind the house (Artists’ park).

I need some assistance with cutting the possum and bird shapes from the plywood, so if you have tools such as a Jigsaw and would be able to cut the pre drawn shapes out for us, we would be very grateful! Please see me on a Tuesday afternoon or Friday anytime at the Visual Arts room.

Another project this term for 20 of our Year 6 students is with the National Gallery of Victoria and is called the Local Landscapes Project. The project shall run during Term 2 and after an excursion to the gallery on March 20th this term, the students shall work with me at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and complete their landscape paintings for an exhibition at the start of the holidays. We have been participating in this project for three years now and it has been a very beneficial extension program for the artistic students of our school.

I am very excited for another fantastic year ahead with the amazing students of RMPS.

Cora Brownjohn

Lost in School Grounds, Pink Orthotic , if found please return to Lachlan of JCV or ring Kiera on 0439 115 334

One Ben 10 Thong, Size 13, if this is yours, please collect from the office.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Our first Education Committee for 2012 will be held on Wednesday, 7th March from 6.00pm - 7.00pm in the staffroom

All parents are very welcome to attend our meetings.
We always appreciate your constructive input.

AGENDA

• Reviewing the parents’ responses to our Reporting format
• Reviewing the Strategic Plan for 2012
• Discussing what ‘Best Practice’ should look like in our school
Dear Roberts McCubbin Parents,

Junior Rockers’ lessons are back up and running for 2012.

We are currently offering lessons in **guitar, keyboard/piano, singing and drums**.

The lessons are run weekly around the specialist timetable.

You can choose private lessons ($27/lesson) or shared lessons ($20/lesson). Shared lessons have a maximum of 2 students and hire and purchase instruments are also available through Junior Rockers.

For more information or to book in for lessons, please email sue@juniorrockers.com or call us on 8740 3902

Or go to [www.juniorrockers.com](http://www.juniorrockers.com) and fill in the online application.

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**Uniform Shop**

**Shop Open Times**

- **Tuesday**: 3:00pm – 4:00pm
- **Thursday**: 8:30am - 9:30am

Kathryn Anderson and Sue Truscott

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**HONEY FOR SALE**

1kg tub of local honey for $7.00

Please leave name and money at the office.

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**Reminder – Junior School Parents**

**Term 1 Newsletter**

Don’t forget to check the Junior School Newsletter for Term 1 which can be located on the website under **News & Events, Year P1/2 News**, then click on the link which will direct you to it.
PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL

Please note that if you are paying for excursions, incursions, or other school curriculum events by cash, the cash and the signed pink Permission Form, are to be handed to the classroom teacher for recording through the class Cash Book.

No change is available from the office. Schools are required to conduct regular banking so that no money is held on the premises.

Card payments only are made through the office, by either Visa or Mastercard with the option of EFTPOS and credit available. Please present the signed pink Permission Form, at the office when making the payment. However, keep in mind that there is a minimum amount of $40.00 set for payments.

If you are using BPay, please make sure that you allow at least two full working days for the payment to reach the school, as payment needs to be received prior to the event. When setting up BPay, Biller Code 87361 will show as Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD) and this is correct. Your unique family reference number ensures that the payment reaches the school’s bank account.

Thankyou for your assistance.

Suzie Markopoulos
Business Manager
**Victoria Boys / Girls Choir**

"March 17 is Audition Day

Boys and girls aged 5 years and up are invited to audition for the Victorian Boys Choir or Victorian Girls Choir on Saturday, March 17, 2012 at our venue in Ringwood East.

Choir Victoria Inc. is a performing choir employing professional music staff to give your child excellent musical tuition in an atmosphere of great fun and friendship.

For an affordable musical and wonderful lifetime experience for your child, please contact Ros or Sam to arrange a booking for your child’s audition.

**Contact:** Ros 0403472033 / Sam 0417531128
**Website:** [www.choirvictoria.org.au](http://www.choirvictoria.org.au)

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**Herb and Chilli Festival**

17th & 18th March 2012
125 Quayle Road, Wandin


Great Family day out:
Scarecrow competition judged by Jane Edmanson
Free for the kids – Animal Farm, Jumping Castle, Face Painting, Pony/Donkey rides.

Go to the website to find out more, buy tickets and keep in touch as we build what will be a great, fun festival for all the family.

Email us at: admin@herbachillifestival.com.au

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**FREE PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

**How do I raise a Resilient Child? - the 32 skills that build resilience**

**Wednesday 21 March 2012**

**Time:** 7.30pm-9.00pm

**Location:** Brighton Grammar, Robert Sanderson Centenary Centre, entrance on St Andrews St, Brighton

**Cost:** Nil (A gold coin donation to The Fred Hollows Foundation is warmly welcomed)

**Facilitator:** Melissa Anderson – Counsellor, Pharmacist and Educator

**Bookings:** 9596 8814 or info@shineacademy.com.au

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**all for kids market**

**SATURDAY 17th March**

New/Handmade/Pre-Loved
Bubs - Tots - Tweens
60+ INDOOR STALLS

9-1 pm

@ NewHope Church
3 Springfield Rd
BLACKBURN NTH

Adults $3 KIDS FREE

FACE PAINTING / CAFE / QUALITY BARGAINS & MORE!


ENQUIRIES 0431 710 786
Girls Soccer

Nunawading City FC is inviting Girls who are interested in playing Soccer in 2012 to an All Girls Clinic to be hosted at Mahoney’s Road Soccer Ground.

Date: Saturday, 3 March, 2012
Time:
- 10:00am – 10:45am for Primary School Students
- 10:45 am – 11:30 for High School Students
Venue:
Nunawading Soccer Ground
Mahoneys Road Nunawading
www.nunawadingcityfc.org.au

Enquires:
Head Coach, Tim Dakis: Contact Number/email: 0412 447 799 ah
Girls Soccer Coordinator: Arthur Kiousis 0450 155 554 kiousis@bigpond.net.au

OPEN TO ALL GIRLS AGED 5–16 YEARS OLD FREE TO ATTEND

The Clinic will be a great way to get to know your local Club in a friendly environment and try Australia’s fastest growing sport.

If you want to meet new people, make new friends and have some fun playing the World Game you can register to play the 2012 season with Nunawading FC.

Information sessions about playing for Nunawading City during the winter season will also be available www.nunawadingcityfc.org.au