NEWSLETTER
Thursday 7th May 2015

Principal’s Comments

What a wonderful day we had at the athletics carnival on Friday. All students who were able attended and participated in all events. We also enjoyed the support of parents, families and friends. Comments were made to our parents and staff from parents and teachers from other schools about the excellent behaviour and participation of our students. Thankyou to those families who supported and assisted the school and to teachers who helped students prepare and organise for the day.

Many families have already visited the book fair which began on Monday. The fair will run until the 14th of May. The books are on display in the school foyer and are available for viewing.

A number of parents have been busy preparing the mother’s day stall which will be held tomorrow. Each student will have the opportunity to visit the stall and make a purchase. Items will be priced at $5.00 and under.

For those families who have students participating in the NAPLAN assessments next week we have attached a parent information flier. Students in these years will sit these assessments on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. A key component of the results obtained from these tests is that they provide schools with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement. Data gained from these assessments was used during the review process undertaken by the school last year to determine focus for the next school strategic plan.

In addition to NAPLAN students in years five and six completed the Attitude to Schools Survey earlier this week. This survey is completed each year and again provides important data which is used during planning and setting of goals for the future.

Please note we are now using excursion forms generated out of our record keeping program. The format of these is different to notes in the past. This new format automatically inserts the details we have on record for your family. If you notice that any of these details are incorrect please adjust these on the form. We will then be able to update our records.

Have a wonderful week.
Judy Hilbig

Congratulations Holly-Anne, year level champion
Lake Bolac and District Athletics Sports 2015

MOTHERS DAY STALL

There will be a Mother’s Day stall held tomorrow. Students will be given the opportunity to visit the stall as a class and purchase small gifts for their mums. Students will only require a small amount of change as prices will be between $1.00-$5.00

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The scholastic book fair is back for another year and will run from May 1st until May 14th. The books available will be displayed in the foyer for any parents and students to purchase.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NAPLAN
12-14th May

School Council
Monday 11th May 6.00pm

Year 5/6 Ararat College Expo
(During the school day)
Wednesday 20th May

Student and parent
information evening Ararat
College - years 5/6
Wednesday 20th May 7.00pm

Cyber Safety workshop
years 5&6
Ararat College
Thursday 21st May

Report writing day
No school for students
Monday 1st June

Queen's Birthday Holiday
School closed
Monday 8th June

School Council
Monday 16th June 6.00pm

66 Blake St Ararat 3377 Ph: 5352 3766 ararat.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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MATHS MATTERS #1

Parent information: things you can do at home to help your child develop mathematical thinking.

In this, our first edition of Maths Matters, we are thinking about games. Board and card games can be great for developing a child’s maths skills. Playing these can be a powerful way for children to become comfortable with number systems, spotting patterns, working with numbers and developing logic.

Connect 4:
Every family needs a noisy, clattering, pieces-get-everywhere kind of a game. Connect 4 is a childhood classic that supports geometric thinking, planning and pattern recognition. It is a two player game and great for two children to play together.

Monopoly:
A great game for all the family to play together, this classic game teaches concepts of handling and budgeting money, probability and thinking strategically. It is also a fun way to practice reading skills.

Snakes and Ladders:
A terrific introduction to board games for young children, Snakes and Ladders teaches number recognition, counting on and counting back and dice manipulation.

Some other games to consider include: dominoes, UNO, darts, chess and Yahtzee. Also, a simple pack of regular playing cards can provide hours of great maths entertainment. Memory, Go Fish and Snap all involve important maths skills.

Most importantly, have fun!
**LUNCH ORDERS**
Lunch orders are available on Wednesday and Friday. Please help us by writing orders on an envelope and sending the correct money. Please remember if children are having a lunch order they still need a morning snack from home.

**SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS AND OUTSTANDING MONIES**
Thank you to those families who have either paid or made payment arrangements with the school. If you haven’t done so please see Sue to make payment arrangements.

**CHAPLAINCY CHAT**

Your Chaplain,

Alli

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**Ararat College**

*Parent Information Evening*

You are cordially invited to attend this event

**Wednesday, 20th May, 2015**
**Time: 7.00pm**

Learn about:
- Curriculum Programs & Opportunities for Students
- Speak to Teaching Staff & Tour College Facilities

We look forward to seeing you on this evening.

**Venue: New Trade Training Centre**