Pembroke Primary School Newsletter
FRIDAY 7th December 2012

Special Points of Interest:
- Tues Dec 11th Prep Orientation Day.
- Thurs Dec 13th School Christmas Concert.
- Fri Dec 14th Whole School Christmas Lunch.

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From the Principal

With only two weeks to go until the end of the year, I know that things are becoming increasingly busy for all families and hope that everyone is still managing to find those one or two minutes to take a breath.

Curriculum Day
At Pembroke, it is also a busy time of the year both with celebrating what we are as a community and preparing for the year ahead. Tomorrow we will be holding a Curriculum Day where all teachers will be working on developing their understanding and knowledge of the new National Curriculum. This curriculum will see an increased emphasis on three priority areas:- Sustainability, Australian studies, Asian education.

We will be looking to incorporate these areas throughout our program whilst still maintaining what is great about what we are already doing. More information on AusVels can be found at http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/

Reminder all newsletter items must be handed in/or emailed no later than 10.00am on a Wednesday morning to ensure it is included in the current week’s edition of the school newsletter.
Mooroolbark Community Carols
Tomorrow night is the annual community carols at Hookey Park. Pembroke PS Choir will be on stage at around 8:30pm and it would be great to see families coming along, sharing in the festivities and showcasing the skills of our wonderful Choir.

Grades for 2013
Children will be spending time in their 2013 classes next Tuesday, 11th December. This is to coincide with Prep and Year 6 Orientation.

2013 Structure
Prep: Briony Berry
Year 1: Dani Vasiliades (Prep and Year 1 in Junior School)
Year 2/3: Phillip Moxon
Year 3/4: Kim Davidson (in newly created Middle School area)
Year 5/6: Christine Collins (in existing Year 5/6 room)

Jacqui Walker will continue to take Music for each class and will also be taking children for one hour of Drama each week in Term 1 & 2. A position for a PE has been advertised with interviews occurring in the last week of term

Next Thursday
Pembroke Christmas Carols will commence at 6:30pm in the Multi Purpose room. We will be opening the school from 6pm for families who would like to come and see the work that has been done in creating a new Library and Middle school ICT lab. Children who attend on the night must be supervised by an adult. We are expected to finish at around 8pm – bring your Xmas hats, smiley faces and singing voices and come along for a great night.
Reports

There has been a considerable amount written in the newspapers over the past couple of weeks in relation to student reports. The staff at Pembroke have grappled with the issue of whether to include comments in the reports for this half year. After much personal deliberation, the staff as individuals and as a collective have decided that comments will not be included. Parents will receive information on their child’s progress both in the first page of the report and also in the Portfolios that are sent home in the last week. Should any parent wish to have an interview with their child’s teacher this can also be arranged.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the issue for us is not so much the salary we are paid but the long term impact upon the education of your children. This year alone, the school has been informed that thousands of dollars in support would be provided for areas such as tree felling, only to have this not eventuate due to the amalgamation of Regions and centralisation of funds. This is money that we have had to pay that should be going to your children. We have also lost considerable support in terms of Regional personnel (currently redundancies of people equally 350+ years in education). This means that Principals are more reliant than ever on other Principals creating increased workload outside of what should be their focus. Whilst I know that families will be disappointed, the staff (and that of the majority of schools in the area) have felt that after two years of negotiation this action is required.

Carolyn Elliot

Principal
DATES TO REMEMBER

These are the dates to remember what is happening in December

- Friday December 7th  Curriculum Day.  
  OSHC will be running a program on this day.
- Friday December 7th  Carols in the Park– Hookey Park Mooroolbark. The choir will be singing.
- Tuesday December 11th  Prep Orientation Day.
- Thursday December 13th  Pembroke Primary’s Christmas Concert  
  A must for all parents, grandparents and friends.
- Friday  December 14th  Whole school Christmas lunch

Thanking You
Carolyn O’Rourke
Business Manager
School Office

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL.

Chicken , Salad and chips.
Drink included.
Please bring your own plate and cutlery. This is the best lunch of the year!
Thanking You
Le & Michelle.
Parents and Friends

Please return your money and any unsold product by Wednesday 12th December.

If you are having problems selling the goods at any time, please ask around to see if anyone can help or contact Katrin Howes via the school office to see if your goods can be reallocated to someone else. Thank you for your support in this fundraiser.

Christmas Raffle.
The Pembroke Primary school Parents and Friends group are looking for donations for our Christmas raffle. Donations can range from cards, paper, boxes of chocolates, decorations, Christmas stockings, biscuits and more. All items will help make a wonderful Christmas raffle to help support the kids and try and win some great prizes. If you are able to donate please leave donations at the school office. We thank you for your support to the school.

Thanking you
Parents and Friends.
School Banking Competition

The Commonwealth Bank have launched a competition from the 19th November to the 14th December. It is only for School Banking.

You need to deposit money between these dates. There will have 2 mini pads per state to be won.

So to be go into the competition send along your school bank books to Le on Monday morning.

You have to be in it to win it!
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE.
The Pembroke Primary School Parents and Friends Group invites all families in the school community to purchase tickets for the 2012 Christmas Raffle. The raffle ticket prices are 50c for individual tickets or 3 for $1.00 or $3.00 for the sheet.

There will be extra raffle tickets available to purchase at the school office. All tickets and money to be returned to school by Friday 14th December. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 17th of December.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE A BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER

12th Dec  Solomon V.  18th Dec  Jack W.
13th Dec  Nicole D.  19th Dec  Harry M
15th Dec  Devlin T.  Peng Peng F.
16th Dec  Jerry V.  Scott M.
26th Dec  Ben O.
Christmas Day Church Service at Pembroke PS

Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship will conduct a morning worship service at Pembroke PS on Christmas Day. It will be a time of celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ and the good news that His life on earth brings for all mankind. The service will commence at 9.30 am and will be held in our new library facility (opposite the staff room) in the main building. A light morning tea and time to chat will follow.

Members of our school community and others who would like to join with us in this special seasonal celebration are warmly invited to come along and share this service with us and to, perhaps, find the opportunity to make some new friends. We look forward, very much, to sharing this time with all who would like to join with us.

Most of you would know that Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship is the local church that Pembroke PS has partnered with (for more than 8 years now) in providing mentors for a number of needy children in our school and also the Chaplaincy Service that I have personally enjoyed participating in for the past three years. Our community partnership has been a most rewarding and enjoyable one for all who have participated.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all, on behalf of myself and each of our mentors, a very safe, restful and joyful Christmas season and a wonderful beginning of the New Year.

Warm regards,
Doug Lewis
School Chaplain
Community Notices.

FILING CABINETS FREE

We have 9 filing cabinets free to a good home, assorted drawers 2 or 3

You will need to collect them from the school.

Contact the office

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Mooroolbark
Junior Soccer Club
Preseason Registration Day

Sunday 9th December
12.00pm-5.00pm

Mooroolbark Senior Club Rooms
Esther Park, Mooroolbark

Jumping Castle, Sausage Sizzle,
Face Painting and more

secretary@barkers.com.au
Community Notices.
## December

**Term 4 : 8th October to 21st December**

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<td>Christmas Eve</td>
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School Banking Mondays

Canteen Fridays @ morning recess time.