Welcome back to term 4! And what a full blossoming of a term it promises to be: the Class 12 students are beginning their separate individual project presentations and openings; our school Fair and Open Day is taking place in a week’s time; numerous new student interviews have already started to take place; and of course provisions for next year are beginning to be put in place.

On the latter, this includes the selection panel determining the new Management Group that is to inaugurate our new school structure as of the beginning of next year – the members of that group will be selected from the field of both internal and external applicants over the coming fortnight.

With regards next year’s dual class seven, details of Main Lessons between Pat and Woody are also in their finalisation stages, and some other details are being more closely determined. I hope to be able to send out a letter to the current Class 6 parents during next week.

Over the past few years our school has participated in LEAD surveys through the association of Independent Schools Victoria. It’s that time of the year again and would welcome your anonymous participation as parents (separate student and staff surveys will also be completed over the next couple of weeks). These provides us with one amongst many means to better sense into the needs, perception, and direction of the school as a whole. To access the survey online, please go to http://research.independentschools.vic.edu.au/index.php?sid=99432&lang=en. Should you lack online access, we’ll have a printed copy available for collection from the office.

I look forward to our next coming highlight with the Fair and Open Day and to seeing many of our current and future families over the course of the day.
WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS  - Dana
I am very pleased to welcome the following students to Little Yarra in Term 4; Antonio Franco (Class 2), Maya Franco (Class 4) and Amanda Doll (Class 7). It is also a pleasure to welcome Zoe Meede (Class 8) and Lawrence de Varga (Class 11) back to the school this term. I wish all of our new students a very positive start to Term 4 and hope they experience a rich and rewarding education at our school.

FAIR NEWS  - Fair Steering Group
Countdown to Fair - We have only 2 weeks until the Fair and Open Day on Sunday 23rd October. The Fair Steering Group meets every Wednesday morning from 8.45 - 10.00 in the Admin building. We love anyone with new ideas or suggestions to join us.

CAN YOU HELP?  - Mary-Jane
Here is a list of jobs to be done:
* Putting up banners in Lilydale, Healesville & Mt Evelyn on Monday 10th Oct or Monday 17th October & removing on Sun 23rd October
* Distributing posters in and around Melbourne
* Car park management
If you can help, please contact the Fair Steering Group (Point of Contact - Mary-Jane: 0419 557 721)

CLASS 2, 3, AND 4 FINAL CRAFT STALL GATHERING  - Jacqui and Trudy
Friday 21st October in the Admin Building
A big thank you to everybody who has helped so far. Please come along to help package and price all the beautiful craft kits ready for the fair on Sunday 23rd October. If you like bring some food to share or come along for a cuppa and some laughs.
If you still have craft tent items at home please return them to Trudy or Jacqui ASAP. Thank you all.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS  - Trudy
You have the opportunity to sell your finished craft items at the LYSS Fair and Open Day. Consignment items will be sold in the Craft Stall (tent) for a 15% commission. Contact: Trudy 5966 5270 tddnisbet@bigpond.com

FAIR AND OPEN DAY 2011 RAFFLE  - Jacqui
1st prize - Spiritual Relaxation Package  
2nd prize - Remedial Massage, kindly donated by Stewart Kerr 
3rd prize - Children's Craft Package (includes painting board kit, weaving loom, and lots more) 
4th prize - Butterfly Necklace and Dragon Earrings 
Please buy your tickets at the office now or through Jacqui Wellings or Trudy Nisbet. Students from Classes 2, 3 and 4 will also have tickets to sell, and tickets will be for sale on Fair and Open Day in the foyer of the Admin building.

DANDENONG RANGES BUS ROUTE  - Dana
So that arrangements for the proposed bus service from the Dandenong Ranges to Little Yarra in 2012 can be confirmed, could all interested families please contact me as soon as possible to register their interest for this service.

SCHOOL BOND  - Dana
A friendly reminder to all families who may be moving on in 2012, to submit an Exit and Bond Redemption Form to the office with their intentions. Please note that families are only eligible to have their bond reimbursed if they provide the school with 30 days notice within a school term. Exit and Bond Redemption Forms are available from the office.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE  - Barry
The second round of EMA has been paid to all eligible applicants. Those recipients who provided bank account details with their application will have now received the funds deposited directly into their account. Cheques have been issued to all other recipients and are available for collection from the office.

ENROLMENT STATUS OF STUDENTS  - Dana
As of 2012 the official entry point into the school will be Playgroup. Therefore, children offered a place in Playgroup from 2012 onwards are guaranteed a place in the school. Playgroup is viewed as a year of introduction into Steiner education. Parents then have the option of confirming their child’s place with the payment of a $500 refundable bond in Ring-a-Rosy the following year. This change affects current Playgroup and Ring-a-Rosy students who will be required to pay a bond before their child’s place next year can be confirmed. Current Kindergarten students will still be required to pay their bond before they commence Prep. We hope that this more uniform approach will simplify and streamline the whole enrolment process.
OPEN FORUM - Jim
Are students ever asked to repeat a year in the Steiner system? The one place in the school where students are assessed for their readiness to progress to the next year level is the transition from Pre-School to Class 1. School readiness is based on whether the child can enter into a story in an imaginative way. An indicator of this is whether the child maintains eye contact with the story-teller or follows the story by watching the props the story-teller may be using. The change of teeth and the ability to reach over the head and touch the opposite ear are physical indications for this stage of development.

Because individuals develop by irregular spurts (like raindrops running down a window pane) chronological age is the most reliable indicator after the Pre-school to Class 1 readiness threshold. Entering Class 9 is another possible threshold but seldom used when social and other factors are balanced.

The Open Forum is held every Tuesday during term at 9.00 am in the Admin Building. Everyone is welcome to bring any issue or question about the school or Steiner education. Jean-Michel as Education Administrator and Jim as Business Manager will be available to tackle any topic you care to bring. Questions on notice can be emailed to jtaylor@lyss.vic.edu.au.

SHEPHERD’S PLAY - Tania
Are there any aspiring actors/singers who are interested in joining the staff in their rehearsals for the Shepherds Play? We are looking for males who would be interested in the part of Joseph or a shepherd. Both parts have a fair few lines and some simple singing (with accompaniment). If you are interested, please contact Tania (class 3) or leave a message for me through the office with your phone number. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday in the Drama Studio 3.30-4.30. Cheers.

PLAYGROUP 2012 - Dana
Please note that the first round of offers for interviews for a place in Playgroup 2012 have been sent out. Limited places are still available, so please submit an application soon in order to secure a place.

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA (AYO) & LYSS STUDENT PERFORMANCE - Julie
Some of our students have the fantastic opportunity to attend a workshop with the AYO this Friday 14th October. At 3.30pm in the Lecture Theatre there will be a joint performance with LYSS students and AYO members. This performance is free and will go for approximately half an hour. All parents are invited to attend. If you are unable to attend this performance but would like to see the AYO perform, they will be performing in Coldstream on 30th Oct and in Warburton 2nd Nov. Flyers for these performances are available at the music office.

CLASS 12 PROJECT OPENINGS - Frank, Class 12 Coordinator
This year’s Class 12 projects are heading towards the final stages. Many students will present their project work in exhibitions and performances. Please find the time to come and see their achievements. The following list is informing you about the upcoming events:

Reyjah Simpson Roberts
“Fire and Ash” – a film made to leave a lasting impression and inspire.
Opening on Saturday the 15th of October at 11.30am at the Warburton Arts Centre.

Gene Chen
“Music Across Time and Space” – A combination of Taiwanese and Classical music with a professional orchestra.
The performance is on the 15th of October at 5pm in the Warburton Presbyterian Church (3471 Warburton Hwy) in Warburton.

Harriet Laidlaw
“Intergenerational Choir”
Performance day is the 30th of October between 2 -3pm in the LYSS Music Hall.

Izobel de Vaga
“Earning Trust” – The Journey of Rehabilitating a Horse
Opening on the 5th of November at 5pm at 802 Warburton Hwy, Seville.

Alexander Behre “Designing a house”; Own Chiou “Are solar photovoltaics an essential part of our solar future?”; and Stephanie Meede “The philosophy of religion - does god exist?”
Opening on the 5th of November at 1.30 at the LYSS Music Hall
We hope to see you there.
HOME FOR GERMAN VOLUNTEER
Pius is looking for a family to live with while he is a volunteer at Little Yarra. The school financially compensates families for providing a room and three meals a day. Please enquire at the Office if this is something you would like to do. Families are richly rewarded culturally and socially from the experience.

CRAFT GROUP
Our project in Term 4 is the Christmas activity table. You can make any items to decorate your seasonal table such as Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, animals like donkey, cow or sheep, or small items such as lantern and fire place. It is a great fun to share ideas and we have all sorts of patterns and materials to make these items. We meet on Thursday mornings between 9am and 12 in the main building. The profits from our group go to the Community House project. Children are welcome and morning tea is available.

PIZZAS
Pizzas are available on Fridays at lunchtime. Orders can be placed in baskets at classrooms for Primary students or in the basket at the office for Upper school students. Funds go to the Kindergarten.
Prices are: Margherita - half $3.00, full $6.00; Vegetarian - half: $4, full: $7.50; Pepperoni - $4, full: $7.50.

IMMORTAL BOOKS WILL BE VISITING LITTLE YARRA
On Thursday November 3rd, David Vickers-Shand of Immortal Books will be visiting Little Yarra. David will set up in the Admin building alongside Craft Group. Immortal books is a rich source of anthroposophical publications. Below is an email from David asking that any pre-orders be made before this coming weekend. Apologies for the short notice, but this is the first publication we have had this term and the first opportunity to share this. In saying that, David is most obliging and I am sure he will accommodate requests where possible.

Dear Friends,
As you know, I shall be leaving shortly to proceed on my Victorian tour, presenting the latest in Steiner books, as well as some old faithfuls.
The reason for this email is to ask that if you have any special requests, you should contact me this week, ie before 15th October. You can phone me on 02 6672 7087, or 0419 727 087. You can email me on dvs@immortalbooks.com.au. You can visit my website www.immortalbooks.com.au and place orders there. You can write me at PO Box 5123 Murwillumbah NSW 2484. If you can do any of these things so that I receive them prior to 15th October - you, or any of your staff - then I can almost certainly bring the books, packed and put aside, for the purchaser.
I look forward to seeing you soon.
David

HEADLICE
Over the holidays, parents were asked to check and treat their children for head lice if there were any detected. Overleaf is information from the Department of Health.
Treating and controlling head lice

While children are at school many families will have contact with head lice. The information contained here will help you treat and control head lice.

Catching head lice
Head lice have been around for many thousands of years. Anyone can get head lice.

Head lice are small, wingless, blood sucking insects. Their colour varies from whitish-brown to reddish-brown. Head lice only survive on humans. If isolated from the head they die very quickly (usually within 24 hours).

People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who has head lice. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together.

Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl.

Finding head lice
Many lice do not cause an itch, so you have to look carefully to find them.

Head lice are found on the hair itself and move to the scalp to feed. They have six legs which end in a claw and they rarely fall from the head. Louse eggs (also called nits) are laid within 1.5 cm of the scalp and are firmly attached to the hair. They resemble dandruff, but can’t be brushed off.

Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:

Step 1 Combing any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.

Step 2 Now comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.

Step 3 Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.

Step 4 Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.

Step 5 Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least four or five times.

If lice or eggs are found, the hair should be treated.

If the person has been treated recently and you only find empty hatched eggs, you may not have to treat, as the empty eggs could be from a previous episode.

Treating head lice
Treating head lice involves removing lice and eggs from the hair. There are two ways you can do this:

1. Buying and using a head lice lotion or shampoo, following the instructions on the product
2. Using the conditioner and comb method (described under ‘finding head lice’) every second day until there have been no live lice found for ten days.

If you choose to use a head lice product always read and follow the instructions provided with the product carefully. The following points may also be helpful:

- Head lice products must be applied to all parts of the hair and scalp.
- No treatment kills all of the eggs so treatment must involve two applications, seven days apart. The first treatment kills all lice; the second treatment kills the lice that may have hatched from eggs not killed by the first treatment.
- Cover the person’s eyes while the treatment is being applied. A towel is a good way to do this.
- If you are using a lotion, apply the product to dry hair.
- If you are using a shampoo, wet the hair, but use the least amount of water possible.
- Apply the treatment near the scalp, using an ordinary comb to cover the hair from root to tip. Repeat this several times until all the hair is covered.

There is no need to treat the whole family - unless they also have head lice.

Concentrate on the head - there is no need to clean the house or the classroom.

Only the pillowcase requires washing - either wash it in hot water (at least 60°C) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.
Testing resistance

Head lice products belong in one of the following categories depending on the active compound they contain:

- pyrethrins
- synthetic pyrethroids (permethrin, bioallethrin)
- organophosphates (malathion or malathion)
- herbal with or without natural (non-chemical) pyrethrins.

Insecticide resistance is common, so you should test if lice are dead. If they are, treat again in seven days using the same product. If the lice are not dead, the treatment has not worked and the lice may be resistant to the product and all products containing the same active compound. Wash off the product and treat as soon as possible using a product containing a different active compound. If the insecticide has worked, the lice will be dead within 20 minutes.

Any head lice product could cause a reaction and should be used with care by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding, children less than 12 months old and people with allergies, asthma or open wounds on the scalp. If you are unsure, please check with your pharmacist or doctor.

Head lice eggs

Head lice eggs are small (the size of a pinhead) and oval. A live egg will ‘pop’ when squashed between fingernails. Dead eggs have crumpled sides and hatched eggs look like tiny boiled eggs with their tops cut off.

Head lice combs

Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be used.

The life cycle of head lice

*Pediculus humanus capitis*

1. Egg is laid on hair shaft. Egg is called a "nits".
2. Louse emerges after six to seven days.
3. First moult two days after hatching.
4. Second moult five days after hatching.
5. Third moult 10 days after hatching.
6. Emerging from their third moult as adult lice, the female and slightly smaller male begin to reproduce.
7. Female lays first egg one or two days after mating.
8. Female can lay approximately three to eight eggs per day for the next 16 days.
9. Having lived 32 to 35 days the louse dies.
10. 16 to 17 days
11. 11 to 12 days
12. 6 to 9 days
13. 17 to 19 days
14. 10 to 32 days
15. 32 to 35 days

Further information

The following website offers further information: www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice

Cover concept by students from St Patrick’s Primary School, West Geelong. Life cycle diagram courtesy of Nitpickers Qld.

The information in this pamphlet is based on the research conducted and written by Associate Professor Rick Spears and the team of researchers at, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, James Cook University.