Students in Classes 2 - 6 will be participating in our annual swimming programme next week, and as you can see from the above calendar, Class 7s are currently sailing out on the Bay, with Class 9s following in a few weeks walking along Waratah Bay enjoying the shore-line.

On a different note, parents eligible for the EMA allowance are encouraged to complete the appropriate forms - it helps both those parents as well as the school in continuing to maintain lower fees. And on fees, thank you to the many families who have made complete payments or arranged regular automated transfers.

Whilst our youngest students have started their Kinder sessions, secondary students have begun their annual preparation for Bach’s St John’s Passion for Easter - more on this later in the term.

Please also mark your calendars for our school-wide community meeting which will be held on Thursday the 6th of March at 7:30pm.
Welcome back. The start of a new year means EMA applications once again. EMA, or Education Maintenance Allowance, is payment from the government to help with the costs of education. It is available to all holders of a Health Care Card or Pension Card. Please call in at the office and pick up a form if you hold a current valid Health Care Card or Pension Card, so we can get your application in as soon as possible. Please remember that you need to reapply each year for EMA. All forms must be received by February 28th. Late applications cannot be accepted.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

If you live more than 4.8 kilometres from Little Yarra and regularly drive your child(ren) to school, you may be eligible for a State Government Conveyance Allowance. This allowance is not means tested but conditions do apply. Students must be in Prep or above. If a student holds a bus pass, their parent is ineligible for Conveyance Allowance. To claim Conveyance Allowance please collect a form from the school office and return it completed before the end of February. PLEASE NOTE: If you received Conveyance Allowance last year and your details remain the same, you need do nothing.

CORRECTION

Last week I incorrectly stated that the Craft Group had donated $6,000 to the Library. The actual amount is $3,000 – still a generous sum – and these monies will go towards the purchasing of a wish list of books generated by teachers last year.

PHOTO WEEK

School photos at Little Yarra will be a bit different for 2014 than in years past. Photos will be taken by Angela Rivas, a parent and professional photographer. Angela will be assisted by her daughter Genevieve. Rather than rushing the whole school through a single day of School photos, we have decided to spread photographing the class groups over the course of the four days of that week starting from Monday March 3rd to Thursday March 6th. (Friday 7th of March is a Curriculum Day.) This will achieve more natural and authentic images of the children within their school environment. Individual Pre-school and Kinder photos will be taken in their classrooms and playground during free play time. Order forms have been sent home with students this week. A timetable of photo times will appear in a future issue of the newsletter.

CIRCUS CLASSES

Circus classes have begun in the school gymnasium for Term One. A class is offered where students from Class 7 and up may attend for a six week period. This will begin on Tuesday 11th February from 4.30 - 5.30 pm. A class for younger students will begin as soon as possible.

We will be tumbling, riding unicycles, stilt walking and juggling. If you have an inclination towards round-off back-flipping, flick-flacking and perfecting handstands but have never learnt, then I can teach you. Classes begin: Tues 11th February– 6 weeks Call Katherine Ellis 0418 804 378
BUS DRIVERS WANTED

Francis

We are currently needing bus drivers for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon to help with the our Emerald Bus Service. Please be in touch if you would like to apply.

BIODYNAMIC FARM GROUP

Annette

Our summer garden is producing an abundance of zucchinis, amongst many other yummy veggies. If you would like to be part of our farm group, come and join us on Wednesday mornings gam down by the tractor shed - everyone gets to share in our produce and we have a lot of fun gardening, working and learning together. All welcome, including children. Check out our excess produce for sale in the office, at the Wednesday Mini-Market and at the monthly Little Yarra Market.

ADULT EURYTHMY EVERY FRIDAY

Kelly

Adult Eurythmy is held every Friday 3:30 – 4 pm in the Eurythmy room. No experience necessary, all welcome. $5 per class with childminding available @ $1/child and a piece of fruit for the children to share for afternoon tea. See you on the day, or phone Kelly 0414 391 039 for more info.

WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL MINI-MARKET

Kelly

We are trialling a new Wednesday after school mini-market on the lawn area in front of the office - starting this Wednesday. Held every Wednesday from 3 pm-4 pm as a fund raiser and community space for families to socialise, relax and enjoy some afternoon tea before going home. Ensemble students can visit on their way to rehearsals. If you have something to sell, come and have a stall - vegetables, home baking, preserves, plants, craft, or maybe you’ve cleaned out some cupboards - anything you think the community might be interested in that fits with our schools ethos. $5 card table size, $10 market table size - all funds raised will go towards our major fundraising campaign which is currently the gym floor. Please bring your own tables or rug to sell from. For more info or for stall bookings, phone Kelly 0414 391 039 (or see you at 2:45 to set up your stall).

ORGANIC FRUIT ICE CREAMS

Lisa & Annette

Organic Fruit Ice Creams are for sale Wednesdays After School. Available at the mini-market after school every Wednesday from 3pm. $3 each made with organic fruit. All proceeds going towards the gymnasium floor fundraising campaign.

MONDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Naomi

Every Monday there is Sausage Sizzle with Biodynamic Sausages and Organic Bread for $3 each. As we are now using a thin style sausage we will now be increasing the servings. Please write your order on an envelope, with your child’s name, class, with or without onion and the correct money enclosed. Either give these to the front office or place it in the Class 1 - 6 baskets. High-school students are welcome to also give their order to the office or come to the BBQ and purchase. The Sausage Sizzle is also available for those parents picking up early and teachers needing some lunch. All funds raised go towards the gymnasium floor.
CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group is still looking for a person, or a group of people, to take over the running of the group. This involves organising a weekly craft activity (although this is not essential) and doing some admin and bookkeeping work to keep the financial side of Craft Group’s activities, namely selling craft supplies and craft items on consignment, ticking over. Craft Group also has a stall at the Little Yarra Market. If anyone is interested in taking on some or all of this, please talk to Hiromi (0466 014 339) or Isabelle (0419 012 239).

In the meantime, anyone who would like to is welcome to come along on Thursday morning as usual for a chat and some craft. Please bring your own project to work on or some craft to show; alternatively, Craft Group has lots of patterns for sewn, knitted and felted things to make that you could choose from. Happy crafting!

MUSIC REGISTER

This week’s edition of Sweet Porridge contains an up-to-date list of Music Instruments for sale amongst the School community. If you have an instrument to include in future issues, please email music@lyss.vic.edu.au If you are looking to purchase a pre-loved and outgrown music instrument we suggest you have a look through. A copy of the music Register will also be on display outside the Music Rooms and on the Community Notice board in the Office.

WOOD FIRED PIZZA

Wood fired pizzas will start again this year from Friday 21st of February. Hopefully by then the weather may have cooled down a little for our cooks... & less chance of having total fire bans. We have been really lucky in the past, the weather has not stopped us. I would also like to thank the following parents who were part of our team last year, Rachel Ritchie, Lisa Dalboni, Chelsea McNab, Niree Bingham, Max Thurlow, Kym Sinclair & some occasional help from David Digapony & Perry Haider.

Pizzas orders can be left in the baskets outside classrooms or at the office for high school students. With name, class, pizza type & amount (1/2 or whole) clearly written on bag or envelope & correct change please, we cannot give change. Term orders can also be placed at the office.

Pizzas available –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pizza Style</th>
<th>½ Price</th>
<th>Full Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margherita – Tomato base with cheese plus olives</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperoni – Tomato base with cheese, with salami, feta &amp; olives</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vege – Tomato base with cheese, pumpkin, grilled capsicum, spinach, feta &amp; olives</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lot – Everything</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special orders are available on whole pizzas only.

I am looking for new parents to join our team for a fun day of making pizzas & feeding the school community please call emma 5967 1638 / 0439 639 497 or email stevejacobson@netspace.net.au or come & visit us at the ovens on Fridays. Thanks emma.
Our next market is coming up - 15th February and the market committee has been busy planning for the coming year ... read on for some exciting new initiatives.

New Casual Recycled Stall Option - if you had a clean out over the holidays and have some quality used but unwanted goods for sale this is for you! At 2m x 2m this is smaller than our standard stall, is only $15 and you can put down a rug or table for your goods (because of the smaller size, no marquee or umbrella is permitted with this option).

Busking Opportunity - we are looking for buskers for our markets and are willing to pay, plus you get to keep what you get given! $30/hr professionals, $20/hr Class 11 & 12 students, $15/hr Class 9 & 10 students, $10/hr Class 7 & 8 Students. Primary school children are welcome to busk and I'm sure the market patrons will be generous with what we put in their hat!  There will be five x 1 hour time slots for each market and bookings are essential  We are looking for someone to fill the 10-11 am and 1-2 pm slots this coming market (15th Feb). This is a great opportunity for our students to get exposure, perform and earn some money - busking will be in the entertainment area and power is available.  If you are interested, please contact Francis Klugman, Lisa Dalboni or Annette Batchelor.

Business Opportunity - our market needs more fresh fruit and vegetables. We are looking for a self-motivated person to take the reigns of a local conventional produce stall. We have done our research and run some tests over the last few markets and we believe there is enough interest in local, conventional produce to warrant a self-sustaining stall. The Biodynamic Farm Group sells local, spray free/organic produce, but our community has a lot of conventional produce that people visiting the valley as well as locals would love to buy (cherries, strawberries, apples, stone fruit to name a few).

This would be your own business, a monthly commitment and supported by the market committee. We are offering this opportunity to the school community first, but if not taken up by the next market, we will offer it to the wider community.  If you would like to discuss or take up this opportunity, please contact Lisa Dalboni 0411 243 673

Looking for Local Spray Free or Organic Produce - the Biodynamic Farm Group has a stall at the monthly market. We sell our excess produce from the farm as well as our members’ and community members’ produce. If you have unwanted or excess produce, but not enough to warrant your own stall, we would love the opportunity to share it with the community and make some extra money to be put back into the farm.

There are two ways you can be involved:

1) Sell us your excess fruit for $1/kg, we will give you your money straight away and then sell the produce at the market (and use excess to make jam to sell) with any profits going back to the farm.

2) Let us sell your excess produce on a commission basis. At the start of each market, bring your produce, a list of produce with quantities and the price you think we can sell it for. We will display and sell it during the market and at the end of the market give you back the money we have received (less 10% selling commission) plus any unsold produce.

Library Stall - If you have visited the market over the last couple of months, you will have seen our Library Stall. A wonderful, ever changing selection of second hand books for sale. All profits go back into our Library. Come and visit the stall or if you have books to donate, books that are suitable to go straight into the library, all others make their way to the monthly market stall. Books can be left in the box at the office or delivered to the market stall on Market Day.
LITTLE YARRA MARKET

Little Yarra Steiner School 205 Little Yarra Road, Yarra Junction

3rd Saturday every month 9am - 2pm
all weather market

Enjoy the Outdoor Cafe Style

Quality stalls, crafts & recycled goods
local & organic produce
coffee, chai, great food, massage
wood fired pizza & biodynamic sausages

Entertainment & Buskers every market

Further information: enquiries@littleyarramarket.com www.littleyarramarket.com