Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the remainder of the term we are promoting the value of ‘Participation’ across the school and this will be the focus of our weekly raffle draw. During recent weeks, it has been pleasing to see our students actively participating in many activities and the rewards this provides for both themselves and those around them. This week we learned of the success of students who had participated in last week’s band concert and congratulate them all on their efforts and having been awarded bronze for their performance. Congratulations also to those students who participated in last weekend’s Hoppet and to the girls who came 2nd in their division.

As the ‘Jump Off’ date for Jump Rope for Heart rapidly approaches, it has been wonderful to observe how students, particularly in Prep-4, have been enthusiastically practicing their skipping and the impact this is having on the development of their skills. This has been particularly noticeable in the early years where students have moved from having very little confidence, to where they are now starting to perform more challenging skips, such as ‘cross-over’. The much awaited ‘Jump Off’ will take place next Thursday, the 3rd of September, from 11.30am and we hope that you will be able to come along to be entertained by the demonstrations and possibly even have a skip or two with your child! Many thanks to Tammy for her coordination of this event and to all the staff and students for their ongoing support. Our thanks also to everyone who has helped raise funds for the Heart Foundation through sponsorship of our students. If your child has not yet started fundraising, this can be done easily by registering online at www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumpropeforheart and sharing the link with your friends and family. Fundraising was never so easy and this way you don’t even have to collect the money! If your child is using the distributed sponsorship forms, please return the form and collected money, on or before Thursday’s ‘Jump Off’.

Last Friday, students in Prep-2, had the privilege of learning about a Possum Skin Cloak that had been made using traditional methods, by the women in the Albury-Wodonga aboriginal community, using pelts donated from New Zealand. During the presentation, students learned how traditionally the possum skin cloak was not only used as a form of clothing that would keep you warm and dry, but were also used to record the owner’s personal story. The cloaks, which were commonly worn by indigenous people living in South East Australia, were usually kept from infancy, with pieces added as the person grew. The pelts were decorated with symbols that recorded the person’s history and were usually buried with a person at the end of their life. The story of the cloak was presented by Aunty Rosie and Aunty Louise and afterwards students had the opportunity to wear the cloak and to feel how soft and light it was. They were also provided with a drawing template on which to design their own cloak, using their personal story and aboriginal symbols of native animals and plants. If anyone would like further information about the cloak, you are encouraged to contact our Koorie Engagement Support Officer, Rose-marie Schultz on 0439364295.

Lily and Lila wearing the Possum Skin Cloak.
Yesterday, students in Prep-4 participated in a presentation about the importance of keeping their kidneys healthy and what they can do, to support this. These highly engaging sessions, educated students about their kidneys and their function, the importance of drinking water and how to recognise when they were drinking the right amount! They also learned about how important it is to reduce sugar in their diet, in order to look after their kidneys and just how much sugar is present in sweet drinks, such as a can of coke, which contains 17 teaspoons! This was a valuable learning experience and we would like to extend our thanks to Yvonne, Carol and Jo from the ‘Big Red Kidney Bus’ for sharing this learning with our students.

A pamphlet has been distributed today to the eldest student with more information on Kidney Health.

Many thanks also to everyone who contributed to our 3rd ski day for students in Grades 5 & 6. Once again, there was nothing but praise for our wonderful helpers; Natalie, Rod, Sharon, Wayne, Stephen, Andrea, Shelley (DPS) and Sharelle (DPS). Your ongoing support and assistance with this program is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank the Falls Creek Ski Company for their support of our program. The students are thoroughly enjoying their professional lessons and it is great to hear positive feedback from the instructors, about our students.

As part of the ongoing review of education delivery in Victoria, the Education Minister, Mr James Merlino is encouraging all Victorians to have their say on the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD). Parents, carers, students, principals, teachers, support and specialist staff and advocates are encouraged to submit their solution-focused ideas in writing to the PSD Review team by Friday 11 September.

Email your ideas to: psd.review@edumail.vic.gov.au before Friday 11 September and you can also register your interest in taking part in the online survey in September. To register, please see: PSD Review - Education Victoria.

Carolyn Serpell
Principal

Artist of the Week
This week's artist of the week is Ariel in Year 6.

DATES FOR THE DIARY
Wed 2 Sept—School council meeting
Thur 3 Sep—Jump Rope for Heart

Arts Nights at the Community Centre
Wed 16 Sept—5/6 performance 1.30pm
Wed 16 Sept—Prep, Year 1 & 2 performance at 6.30pm
Thu 17 Sept—Year 3 to 6 performance at 7.30pm
Fri 18 Sept—Last day of Term 3—finish 2.20pm

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

1/2L & 2W
**Canteen News—Tuesday & Thursdays**

Tuesday limited lunch menu

- **Homemade Sausage Rolls** $3.00
- **Ham/Cheese Toastie** $3.00
- **Cheese only Toastie** $2.50

**Week 8 Special—Thursday 3 September**

- **Vegie Soup** $3.00
- **Spaghetti Bolognaise** $4.00

The Canteen Menu is on our website [www.mtbeautyps.vic.edu.au](http://www.mtbeautyps.vic.edu.au)

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**Big Red Bus**

Carol, Yvonne and Jo visited on Wednesday to talk about kidney health and the Big Red Bus. They told us how kidneys work to filter our blood and we learnt that each kidney has 1 million tiny filters. It was interesting to learn that one 600ml bottle of soft drink has 17 teaspoons of sugar in it. Some kids decided to reduce the amount of sugar in their diet.

The two big messages were:
1. Eat less sugar
2. Drink water

We learnt that some people need dialysis machines to clean their blood if their kidneys are not working properly. It was interesting to see the pictures of the Big Red Bus, which travels around Victoria. It’s good that sick people can have a holiday and still get a dialysis machine when they need it.

By Tyler, Tristan, Isaac G, Tahlia & Hannah

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**Jump Off Disco Day**

Our school Jump Off day is coming up on the 3rd of September. Simply ask family and friends to help you raise money for a great cause! Why not try to use the internet to get sponsors. It's fun! Log on to [www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumpropeforheart](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumpropeforheart) and follow the directions! All you need to do is Click, Flick and Skip!

It is absolutely magnificent to see all the students borrowing skipping ropes both at recess and lunch, working on their skills. Some children that could not jump a rope are now able to skip and even some can run into the big rope.

The format of the day will run from 11.30am through to 12.50pm:

- **Beginning with** PrepK and Prep/1M
- 1/2L and 2W
- 3/4J and 3/4T
- 5/6J and 5/6D

To round out our Jump Off Day we will have a skipping disco for the whole school to work together, using their new skills, which include long ropes, partner skipping, and short ropes.

Please come and celebrate with us and watch the children display their learnt skills. Remember all monies raised go to the great cause “The Heart Foundation”
Years 1/2L and 2W Report

Over the past few weeks our topic of inquiry has been Materials – what are they, where do they come from, what are they used for and why?

The students had to design a robot or an interesting creature. Then they worked in pairs to construct a model using three types of materials. See some of their amazing work below.

They are now working with a partner, researching a material of their choice and presenting their information on a poster.

They are all eagerly practising their skipping skills and becoming very fit, in preparation for Jump Rope for Heart.

The Year 2 overnight camp will be held in Harrietville on 19-20th October. All information, including cost, list of requirements, permission slips and expression of interest forms will be sent home next week.

Keep encouraging your child to read every day.

Please talk to either Lauren or Wendy if you have any concerns about your child’s progress or well-being.
Here are the cross-country skiers enjoying themselves yesterday.

BIG WRITE Week 8

Our Big Write sessions are continuing on Wednesdays during Term 3, but each year level will be using writing prompts that are relevant to their class topics.

The following prompts will be used next week.

Please take the opportunity to talk to your child about ideas for their story.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing prompt</th>
<th>Prep, Year 1 and Year 2. This term we will be exploring descriptive writing, which will provide a link to our inquiry unit on Materials.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Describe something in the garden.</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 4 Narratives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My secret pet.</td>
<td>5/6 D Narratives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish and illustrate your children’s picture book.</td>
<td>5/6 J Narratives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish and illustrate your fantasy story.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Upper Kiewa Valley Community Association (UKVCA) is seeking input from more parents in the community.

The UKVCA is a lobby and advocacy group of volunteers that work on community improvement opportunities and local issues of concern in our community.

Some recent work includes:

* Working with council on the playground & foreshore upgrade,
* Working with council on the town centre upgrade,
* Engaging the Green Army to clear blackberries and plant more autumn colour trees along Pebble Beach track & other public areas,
* Lobbying Council on various road, park and public infrastructure issues such as getting the new drainage on KVH in Tawonga South,
* Improved signage to the airport & town centre,
* Nominating local young adults for various awards,
* Improving Youth Council representation in the valley,
* Walking track linking the Information Centre to the Gorge walk,
* Building relationships with Alpine Shire Council and Indi representatives to improve outcomes for the valley.

We would love to have more input and involvement from young adults and parents. If you would like to help, please come along to the AGM on September 3rd at the Information Centre Auditorium.

The AGM will begin at 7:30pm. Nomination forms will be available at the meeting.