The past two weeks have been very busy with a number of excursions, sports events, an Instrumental Music Soiree, assemblies and our Easter Chapel services to name a few. The school provides many opportunities for learning outside the classroom and most students love to participate in these opportunities.

In Years 7 to 9 we are focusing on literacy with the Renaissance Learning Accelerated Reader Program. It is a reading program which promotes personalised practice, providing teachers with data they need to move students towards success. Students read a book, take an AR Quiz that measures the student's comprehension, and they get immediate feedback. The Librarian reports increased borrowing, compared with previous years and also from the beginning of the year to date. As literacy competence is critical to every subject a student will study, this Program is an important part of the English curriculum. I encourage parents to encourage their children to continue reading during the holiday break; skilled, thoughtful and keen readers achieve academic success.

I trust all our school families will have a happy Easter, and that the students will have a safe holiday break and return refreshed and ready for the second term.

Margaret Buttigieg

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

Each year the Good Friday Appeal brings together people from all parts of the community to raise much needed funds for equipment, research and education for the Royal Children's Hospital. The Royal Children's Hospital is a GREAT children's hospital in our very own city, Melbourne. The Royal Children’s Hospital has been providing outstanding care for Victoria's children and their families for over 140 years.

This year the Primary Student Leadership Team organised several fundraisers. The Year 3-6 Students had a PJ day today, where students brought in a gold coin donation to wear their PJs over their sports uniform. The Year 5 SLT members held a Jelly Bean Jar Competition, where students could guess the number of jelly beans in the jar. The person with the closest guess won the jar! The Year 6 SLT Members held a very successful Easter Raffle. The 5 winning tickets will be announced today and will receive an Easter prize!

Thank you to all the students who donated and participated in the various fundraising activities to support such a worthy cause! We will provide an update with the total raised in the next newsletter. Finally, thank you to the Primary Student Leadership Team for giving up their lunch time and all the effort they have put into the Good Friday Appeal.

Bridgette Reale

BORROW BOX

With the school holidays upon us, it’s a good time to remind families of our school access to Borrow Box and World Book Encyclopaedia. Borrow Box provides free access to electronic books and audio books and is also available from our local Casey-Cardinia Library with e-book titles for students of all ages.

With over 400 students currently registered with Borrow Box, students can find a book 365 days of the year. The Borrow Box App can be downloaded for free to your iPod, iPad or iPhone from the App store or from Google play for android devices.

School families can access World Book through the Casey Grammar School intranet portal. This site includes games, stories and videos at the following link: http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Login?ed=wb&subacct=AU13042

User Name caseys  Password worldbook

Happy Easter from the Library Staff
**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**

Uniform Shop hours are:
- Mondays 3.00 pm to 5.30 pm
- Thursdays 8.30 am to 10.30 am

Holiday hours - Monday 4 April 3pm to 6pm
- Tuesday 5 April 3.30pm to 6.00pm
- Wednesday 6 April 3.30pm to 6.00pm

**THREE DAY WEEKENDS?**

After the Labor Day long weekend, the students of 6R began thinking...should every weekend be a long weekend? Here are what some of them had to say!

**ACHE FOR A BREAK**

Have you got an ache for a break? Have you thought of having a three day weekend? A three day weekend would help to spend more time with your family and you'd still learn lots of things, maybe even things that you don't learn at school. As always, you learn something new every day and you don't even have to work as hard!

Would you enjoy having a stressed out life? It has been proven that with a three day weekend, we would be a lot more productive, relaxed and better at co-operating with others. I mean, it makes so much sense to have that extra day off. You get an extra day to have fun and during work days you'll work a million times better! As you can see, it is up to us to make the world a better place! Let's make this world a place where kids don't fall asleep in Maths classes!

Who here loves their family? I know I do. Most people will agree that they need an extra day off to see everyone, because their families are huge. Then again some people love to hang out with friends on the weekend and maybe go to the movies, shops or other things. Did you know 85% of children and adults would rather be at home having a good time or out having fun? You could be aching for a break at work or at school, which one would you choose?

In other words, we humans work so hard to keep the world up and running, we should have a three day weekend! For we students (and adults) we get forced regularly to do work, an extra day would make all the difference! Let's be honest, wouldn’t you like an extra day to sleep in?

Lucy D, Melodee M Robert G and Mitchell M

**YOU DON'T NEED 3 DAY WEEKENDS**

Do you really need another day off every weekend? We already have 2 days off on the weekend, school holidays and public holidays. It’s not like we live on Pluto and there are 1000 days in a year! Anyway, your sister or brother would probably annoy you so much. That's why we should not have 1 day off. You get an extra day to have fun and during work or at school, which one would you choose?

In other words, we work so hard to keep the world up and running, we should have a three day weekend! For we students (and adults) we get forced regularly to do work, an extra day would make all the difference! Let's be honest, wouldn’t you like an extra day to sleep in?

Lucy D, Melodee M Robert G and Mitchell M

**CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

Full winter school uniform is compulsory from 2 May. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015 for four years and will provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. $125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, with $225 per year paid for eligible secondary school students. Payments will go directly to the school and be allocated to the family account for camp and excursion costs.

Eligible families will need to apply through the school by completing the CSEF Application form (available at www.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au or at Reception). Please return the form and a copy of your valid concession card to the school ASAP.

**PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

**Primary Parent/Teacher Interviews** will be held early in Term 2. If you wish to organise an interview with your child's class teacher please use the online booking system located at http://portal.caseygrammar.vic.edu.au. Bookings can be made throughout the holiday period and will open on Friday 25 March at 9:00am and close at 4:00pm on the evening prior to the interview date.

Primary Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on:
- Tuesday 12 April from 3:30pm to 6:00pm
- 6.30pm to 8.00pm
- Wednesday 20 April from 3:30pm to 6:00pm.

**Secondary Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Parent-teacher evenings will be held in the Learning Centre early in Term 2. Booking details will be sent to parents via email.

All parents are encouraged to make the most of this opportunity to discuss their child's progress.

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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13 April</td>
<td>3:30pm - 8pm</td>
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<td>Monday 18 April</td>
<td>3:30 - 6pm</td>
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STUDENT LEADERSHIP FORUM

On 17 March a group of Year 12s attended the City of Casey Student Leadership Forum. It was an opportunity to hear from young leaders in our community, and listen to their advice and stories about their experiences. We gained some valuable insight into how we might go about developing our own leadership skills to better equip us to serve our School community. Furthermore, we had the chance to reflect on the concept of leadership and its genuine meaning.

A highlight of this event was the motivational and inspiring speaker, Mike Rolls. Mike suffered from Meningococcal Disease when he was only 17. It is a miracle that he survived the disease, and he had to find a great deal of inner strength on his journey to recovery. Mike's story of courage, determination and pure resilience inspired, educated and entertained. He taught all the leaders present at the Forum the importance of overcoming obstacles in life and the significance of resilience.

The event also featured a number of past and present leaders from schools around the City of Casey. They spoke about their contribution to their schools and the wider community. Hearing from other students, just like ourselves, inspired us to continue our leadership journey both within our School and our surrounding community.

William B, Tanvi S, Harith M, Rebecca B
Mary Dourios

INSTRUMENTAL SOIREE

On Wednesday 16 March, the Music Department held its first Instrumental Soiree for the year. It was a wonderful evening with quality performances from many of our talented musicians. Thank you to the staff and parents who supported the evening. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the concert, they should be very proud of their performances.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Aiden S had a fantastic result at the recent Australian Athletic Championships. Aidan attained a personal best and a 3rd place in the 100m hurdles, an excellent effort.

Anthony Brown
How do you sum up Easter in a few words? I asked this at Secondary Easter Chapel on March 23. We giggled at the four who jumped up and named Chocolate!, No School!, Going places!, Family Time! – and I then asked _Is there anything else – like ... religious? Easter is all these four things, which will be the main concerns for many of our students, but there is a deeper meaning.

Easter celebrates the rising from the dead (Resurrection) of Jesus, Son of God, to a life Christians believe is never ending, since Death as a power was compromised and broken.

The implications, or consequences are what matter, and which apply to every person. Easter symbols include eggs and butterflies – metaphors for new life arising from what seems inanimate, dead. Apply this to lifeless situations such as relationships failure, the consequences of sin or bad behaviour, the chain of events which can lead to a person feeling they are at a dead end with nowhere to go.

For Christians the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter represents the power of God to create new beginnings for us and our life with God, where old offences are forgiven and set aside; but also the promise that if God has done this for us in Jesus, then he can make new beginnings and overcome the apparently impossible, for better ways in life. We do more than re-tell old stories at Easter, they carry within them the promise of God that death can be overcome, and nothing can keep us from the Love of God.

May you enjoy a blessed and safe Easter holiday.

**PRIMARY MATHS TOOLKITS**

It was a really great way to explore fractions. Now I understand what one half equals. Lily

I learnt that 2/10 and 1/5 are equal. Meher

Some fractions are bigger and some are smaller. I enjoyed using our new toolkits. Latisha

Virginia Duell
4D Teacher

**PFC NEWS**

The PFC hope you all stay safe for the holidays. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 20 April 2016 at 6:30pm.

Thank you to all the parents who helped with making the very wet sausage sizzle a success.

Next term we will be having the Mother’s Day stall and morning tea. The details will be advised next term.

For any second hand uniforms please look at the Sustainable Schools website as all items available are now listed on the site.

Pam Foley