Last week I once again had the privilege of attending the **Valid Have-a-say conference** at Deakin University with a team of students from P.L.P.S. This is a disability self advocacy conference and provides a broad range of activities and speakers on all manner of topics. Our students have attended for the past 5 years and fulfill the role of waiters and waitresses and sometime activity supporters.

It is an amazing experience for us all and each year the students are welcomed with open arms, the catering team relies upon them to move among the crowd of 200+ attendees serving food and chatting with both patience and good humour. It is a true learning experience and each day we had learned something new or made a surprising discovery.

This year our team of Alannah, Angelica, Louis and Will attended some dance workshops and were then invited to “costume up” and lead a zombie dance sequence to Michael Jackson’s “Thriller”. This was on the main stage of Costa Hall as the finale to the conference and involved at least 30+ adults and even a wheelchair. We can’t wait to get the conference proceedings DVD so that we can show it on the big screen.

**Back to School asthma spike** Every year there is a well-documented rise in asthma flare-ups and hospitalisations when students return to school after the Christmas break. Asthma Australia has information for parents of students with asthma to help them prepare for school. Asthma Australia’s website and social media provide the latest information, including a checklist of what to do to help your child and a survey to complete to determine the impacts for parents/careers.

Asthma Australia recommends that you talk to school staff about your child’s asthma and the school’s medication policy, provide an Asthma Plan from the doctor and supply a spare reliever puffer and spacer for your child’s use at school.

**Reminders**

**School fees due now** - *lost your paperwork, please call at office for replacement*

**CSEF - Camps and Excursions Fund. Are you eligible?**  If you have a Health Care or Pension Card the answer is Yes! Please collect forms from the office, complete and return for processing.

**School Uniform**  Secondhand shop open Tuesdays 8.30 am in Hall

All students require art smocks for “messy art”

**School Council Elections** will be held later this month and we are keen to hear from parents willing to be involved. Current councillors are Michelle Cameron, Raelene McDonald, Chris Taylor, Sam Anderson, Cathy Daniels, Fiona Topolcsanyi, Sharon Hill, Samantha Barry, Melissa Lonergan and Fay Agterhuis. We are all happy to chat to you about this important role.

**Market**  One hour a year is all we ask. Today families will receive the 2016 Roster (including Jan/Feb 2017). We have allocated families one rostered session- usually no more than 1 hour’s work per year - to assist with this school fundraiser. The market is our major fundraiser and we endeavour to not do additional Chocolate Drives, etc throughout the year to offset shortfalls in the costs of delivering programs.

The newsletter is emailed to families or paper copies are available from the office. Please ensure your email addresses are current.

Fay Agterhuis

**Appreciations**

- The Barry, Boyd and Allbutt families who remembered and assisted with our February Market - your efforts do make it easier for those on deck and all funds raised are used to benefit your children
- Families who attended our Prep ‘come and see’ session last week
- Alannah, Angelica, Louis and Will for being such excellent Ambassadors of PLPS at last week’s VALID Have-a-say conference. Need waiters for a function - we have the team for you!
- Families and friends of PLPS who are assisting and running our first series of ‘Clubs activities’
- Mrs Wren and the Dowsetts for boxes and other materials for our creativity program

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**Calendar Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 19</td>
<td><strong>Easter Saturday Market</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 26</td>
<td><strong>Last Day of School</strong></td>
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**MARKET ROSTER**

Sun 13 MAR

**Friday 3.30pm Set-up**
Alexander Bonisch Bradley

**Sunday 7am Site Direction & Set up**
Taylor Wayth Williams

**Sunday 2.30pm Pack Up**
Leong Williams-Clark Remilton

Contact before Market Day 0400 083 719
Market Day please meet at school front door

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**MARKET ROSTER**

Sat 26 MAR

**Thursday 2.30 Set Up**
Limb Barton Bell

**Saturday 7am Site Direction/ Set up**
Brady Britton Brundell

**Saturday 2.30pm Pack Up**
Butler-Anderson Canning Cameron-Johnston

Contact pre Market Day 0400 083 719
Market Day please meet at school front door

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**Secondhand Uniform Shop** open 8:30am - 9:30am on Tuesdays in Hall
Buddy Day  By Charlie and Nellie

The Prep/1’s and 5/6 students have had their first sessions of 2016 with buddies. We read stories to our Prep/1 buddies.

Rohan and Jack
Luke and Alannah
Maya, Elise and Olivia
Isabelle and Isabella

The older buddies read to and encouraged their buddies to listen. They also asked questions about the story and talked about what happened. The 5/6’s were very impressed by their fantastic answers.

WANTED!!!!

Looking for paper towel roll inserts, small plastic tubs (margarine or yogurt tubs are great), plastic funnels, plastic measuring jugs and sturdy cardboard to be used for science and engineering activities during the term. There will be a large box outside the Art Room where you can leave these items.

Thanks, Ms Henderson

Please add to your home calendars:

* **Curriculum Days 2016 ~ students not required at school**
  - May 25th
  - August 16th
  - Oct 31st

  Tue Nov 1st is the public holiday for Point Lonsdale P.S.

* **Cultural Visits**
  - May 20th Queenscliff Literary Festival Childrens’ Day
  - June 16th Opera
  - Sept 9th Great Galaxies
  - Nov 25th QMF Kids Concert

* **Camps**
  - 3/4 Anglesea Camp Wilkin  March 15/16
  - 5/6 Narmbool Camp  April 27/28/29
  - Prep Breakfast  October 18th
  - Grade 1 Dinner  October 20th
  - Grade 2 Sleepover  October 27th

* **Term Dates**
  - Term 1  27 January - 24 March
  - Term 2  11 April - 24 June
  - Term 3  11 July - 16 September
  - Term 4  3 October - 20 December

* **Swimming**
  - Swimming  P-6  September 5 - 15 @ Splashdown
  - Nippers Program (Years 3-6)  December 5/7/9/12/14/16

  Please note student participation in the school swimming program is a pre-requisite for inclusion in open water activities

* **NAPLAN Years 3 & 5**  May 10-12

Sushi orders Thursday 9am sharp