Important Dates to put in the diary

Thursday 27th February  Preps & New Parents Picnic 5.30 - 7.30 pm Basketball Court Area
Monday 3rd March  Parent Teacher Bookings CLOSE 4PM
Wednesday 5th March  Parent Teacher Interviews 2—7 pm
Thursday 6th March  Japanese Cultural Day
Sushi Lunch Day
Friday 7th March  Icy Pole Day
Monday 10th March  Public Holiday—No School
Wednesday 12th March  Grade 2—Grandparents Day
Sunday 16th March  Bush Dance—Newport Lakes
Tuesday 18th March  Techie Brekkie 8am.
Wednesday 19th March  Ride to School Day
Thursday 20th March  School Athletics Day Grades 2—6 Newport Athletics Track
Tabloid Sports Grades Prep—1 School

Friday 21st March  Pupil Free Day
Sunday 23rd March  Prep Dance Party

TERM DATES 2014

Term 1
Last day—4th April

Pupil Free Days
Fri 21st March
Fri 30th May
Fri 5th September
Mon 3rd November

Yard Duty Supervision
8.45 to 9.00am and 3.30 to 3.45pm

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners:

Aleena, Prep S  Tracey, Prep D  Max, 2H
Jacob, 5/6S  Zali, 2N  Gregory, 3/4G
Rachida, Prep T  Nyeema, 1O  Phoebe, 1L
Henry, 5/6M  Cole, 5/6W  Mariam, 5/6L
Patrick, 5/6L  Grade 2N  Chelsea, 1C
Saadiya, 3/4D  Dylan, 3/4M  Will, 1L
Xavier, 1O  Eli Prep D  Archie, 2H
Raquel, 3/4G  Eleni, Prep T  Isabell, 2R
Ava, 2N  Ayla, 5/6M  Griff, 3/4M
Aleks, 1C  Sienna, 3/4M  Ryland, 1L
Amy, 5/6W  Otto, 2R  Mary, 5/6S
William, Prep S  Tess, 5/6L

We would like to wish the following students a very happy birthday.

Bill, 2R  Rayan, 3/4M
Kira, 5/6M  Alex, 3/4G
Charlize, 5/6W  Gideon, 5.6W
Lucy, Prep S  Madeline, Prep T
Leo, 2N  Marina, 2N
Jasmine, 5/6W  Olivia, 2H
Charles, 2N

Newsletters are produced each fortnight and are available on the website. To view the newsletter online and receive an email alert when it is available, please log on to the website and subscribe. If you require assistance with this please contact the office. If you have subscribed and are not receiving the emails please check your Spam/Junk emails.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Prep and New Families Picnic**

The weather is looking reasonable for the preps and new family picnic to be conducted this evening on the basketball court area. We hope to see as many families as possible come along and enjoy a relaxed evening getting to know your new 'Newport Lakes' family. It is an excellent opportunity to place some names to faces of other children in your child's classroom and their mums and dads. Classroom and specialist teachers will all be in attendance so if you haven't met your child's teachers this is a great chance to do so on this evening The picnic begins at 5.30pm and it is a BYO rug, drinks & food.

**Parent Teacher Interviews. Wednesday 5th March**

The online bookings system for next week's parent teacher interviews is now open 24 hours a day until 4.00pm next Monday 3rd March. Bookings can be made by going to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au). The code for the upcoming interviews is **58Y3U**. The system is quite straightforward but if you need assistance, step by step instructions are available on the school website. Assistance to make bookings is also available by contacting the school office.

Whilst the interviews are being conducted in the afternoon, all grades will be treated to a special concert in the multi-purpose room featuring the fabulous musical talents of our school choir, school band and some individual musical items.

Parents and families are also most welcome to attend. The 'unplugged' concert will begin at approx. 2.40pm and finish at 3.25pm.

Please note that on the day of the parent teacher interviews children will be dismissed at the usual time of 3.30pm. The Grades 1-2 classes will be dismissed from their usual areas (basketball court) whereas the Grades 3-6 grades will be dismissed from the multi-purpose hall.

**New double storey relocatable building**

As announced in the last newsletter, the school will be receiving a new ultra-modern double storey building later this year. At the upcoming term 1 holidays, the existing portable buildings (Yr. 3/4 classrooms) will be moved. One of them will be placed temporarily on the school oval and the other will be moved in a southerly direction (away from the main school building) to its long term placement position. This will allow the space required for the new double storey building to be placed on site at a later date. It is estimated that this new building will be ready for installation in mid-late May. It will then take another 6-8 weeks to complete the build and it is anticipated that the building will be ready for occupancy early in term 3.

The portable classroom temporarily located on the school oval will then be removed off site and all the Gr. 3/4 classes will be housed in the new building. The remaining portable building will be utilised for the teaching of Music, Band and Drama.

A detailed timeline of these works including site plans and architectural drawings of the new double storey building can be located on the school website.
School Council

Four nominations were received for the parent vacancies on school council and two teacher nominations for the teacher representatives. This corresponds with the number of positions to be filled.

The following parents and teachers fill the positions of school councillors without the need of a ballot. Congratulations to Louise Du Chesne, Leonie Newey, Mark Arapakis and Kylie Halarakis as parent representatives and Carol Martin and Leisha Liddell as the teacher representatives for the next 2 years.

Undertaking the role of a School Council representative is a very important role in any state school and we wish all members a highly rewarding time during their term.
The first meeting for 2014 will be conducted on Monday 17th March beginning at 6.30pm.

Japanese Student Teachers

It has been a wonderful experience having the 8 student teachers currently visiting our school from Japan this week. The students attend an English language lesson for the first 2 hours every morning and then spend the remainder of the day in the classrooms. The enthusiasm and friendliness has been an outstanding characteristic of each student and they have been quickly taken to heart by staff and students alike.

A whole school ‘Japanese Cultural Day’ is to be conducted next Thursday 6th March. The day begins with a dress up parade to be conducted on the artificial turf area beginning at 9.05 am. All parents and friends are most welcome to attend. A series of special lessons will then be conducted throughout the school highlighting the Japanese culture. Once again, a big thank you to all our host families for assisting with this program.

I hope you have a good week

David Moss
Principal

SDSA Swimming Carnival

On Monday, February 24, our school had 29 representatives at the Spotswood District Sports Association Swimming Carnival. Our swimmers, from grades 3-6 performed splendidly to finish in first place overall. We have 11 students who have qualified in individual events for the Division Swimming Championships, as well as six relay teams which is a great effort for all involved. The Division Swimming Championships will be held at the Werribee Outdoor Swimming Pool in early March and details for this event will be sent out to all involved by the end of the week.

Thanks to Adele Taylor and Sharon Rodgers for their assistance on Monday and to our wonderful parent community for their support throughout the entire swimming process.
The Lakes Fete 2014

Plans are currently underway for our Fete on Friday 14th November, 2014.

A fete is a huge event for our school community to organise. We need your support and involvement to be able to make this happen.

What will you do to make our Fete great?
Here are some ideas

- Share your skills and contacts
- Donate items for the raffle
- Cook, Bake, Craft
- Volunteer your time during the extravaganza
- Plan your entry to “Newport Lakes Got Talent”
- Donations and Sponsorship offers are most welcome!!

Kids and parents start thinking about a design for The Lakes Fete 2014 poster, more details to come soon.

We would love to hear how you would like to be involved and also any ideas you may have for this year’s fete. So drop us a line at newportlakesps@edumail.vic.gov.au with “Fete” in the email subject.

From Sue Phillips, Kristen Turra and Kylie Halarakis

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SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE

A reminder that there will be a School Banking Account Opening Session at Newport Lakes Primary School on Thursday 13 March from 8.30am - 9.30am (venue to be advised). Please bring a current Driver’s Licence with you.

Please also note, when a Public Holiday falls on a Monday, School Banking will be done on a Tuesday for that week only.

It is great to see so many of the students complete the deposit slips themselves, but can you please ensure a parent reviews these, as there are often errors in the amounts received versus what is indicated on the deposit slip. Can you also please ensure both the deposit slip and deposit stub are completed. Also, if money needs to be split across one or more sibling accounts eg. $10 note into two $5 deposits for two students, can you please ensure both deposit books are handed in together to one of the classrooms to facilitate processing.

If you have any questions, please call/SMS the School Banking Co-ordinators (Parent representatives): Allana Arapakis on 0400 113 333 or aarapakis@optusnet.com.au or Daria Hewitt on 0402 329 611 or daria.nick@gmail.com
Japanese Student Teachers ~ I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the 10 visiting student teachers from Japan who will be at Newport Lakes Primary School and kinders for 2 weeks from Sunday 23rd February.

Our visitors will be staying with families within our community and will be attending and assisting in the classrooms. Without the wonderful support of the host families, it would not have been possible to conduct this exciting program and gain the many benefits this experience has to offer for our school.

I would like to thank the following families for their wonderful assistance in hosting a Japanese student for the 2 week program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student's name</th>
<th>Homestay Family</th>
<th>Student’s name</th>
<th>Homestay Family</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shiori</td>
<td>Hutson / Bush</td>
<td>Masako</td>
<td>Newbegin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megumi</td>
<td>Tapping</td>
<td>Risa</td>
<td>Orme/Orkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maki</td>
<td>Phillips/Maniatopoulos</td>
<td>Misaki</td>
<td>Sheridan/Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayana</td>
<td>Hayden/Culha</td>
<td>Tomoka</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saki</td>
<td>Wetzler</td>
<td>Mai</td>
<td>Lesser</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personal Accident Insurance and Ambulance Cover

Parents are reminded that the Education Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance. They can be obtained by parents/guardians for individual students.

Parents are also strongly recommend to take out family ambulance cover or check to see if it emergency ambulance assistance is covered under their health insurance.

Children and Hot Cars. No Exceptions. No Excuses.

On hot days, it is important to remember that children should never be left alone in a car.

The temperature inside a car on hot days begins to rise as soon as the door closes and within minutes the temperature inside can be double the temperature outside.

Leaving children in hot cars – even for a moment – can result in injury or death.

Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks.

Victorian legislation makes leaving a child unattended in a car a criminal offence, with penalties ranging from fines of $2165 or three months in prison.

If you are travelling with a child in a car and you need to get out, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses.
The Grade 5/6's visited the Immigration Museum on Tuesday February 18th. We learned about Australia’s immigrant history.

At school this week, we have been busy working on a letter, acting as if we are the immigrants sailing to Australia. At the beginning we learnt about five amazing immigration stories including Rebecca Grieve, Sydney Myer, James Lamsey, Cook Lam and a few others. These people have been an inspiration to the 5/6s immigration stories.

By Ned and Jordan

Below are a couple of example letters by Eman, Mikayla and Audrey:

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Dear Family,

Here I am in Australia. What a journey! It is so different and an amazing world. I never expected this. People are so kind and helpful, I am missing you though. The school I am going to is very big and clean. I visited some places and the city is spectacular. I have found some people from Lebanon and I felt really happy. They helped me and introduced me to some family and friends. Only the thing I am missing is Lebanese food. Over here people wear very smart clothes and a lot less! I have to get used to it because I am not familiar with this culture, especially when I am at the beach. Apart from that everything is so good and amazing. I am not sure when I will be able to see you all again.

Love, Eman Alkantar
9th May 1851
6 Cook Rd, Ballarat, Australia

Dearest Mother,

I fear that I have made the wrong decision. Elizabeth has been dressing in men's clothes as she thinks it unfair that men can become rich and wealthy. I was mortified when I saw her, slacks and all. It was horrid as I had to go around telling everyone that yes, Elizabeth is fine and she is out picking berries. She even found a large nugget, and it was positively beautiful, sparkling and shimmering. I also worry because next week will be my first birthday away from home. Eliza kept pesteri ng me to take the nugget, but I refused. I worry about her as she doesn't have a gold license. She will get taken to the tree, we have all seen it.

I saw the aboriginals today and they nodded at me, looking sorry. I don't know why though. I am worried! I must stop ned!

Lots and Lots of Love,

Victoria

(Made by Audrey)
Dear Father,

I'm leaving England for the Gold Rush. Although England is very beautiful, I'm tired of working without pay. I long for adventure and the riches. The boat I'm travelling on is an old container ship. It is not, I repeat not, pleasant. Gosh it smells awful. It has big metal sides and small ports holes to look out of. You don't see much though. Just sky and water. And every now and then a boat sailing by or a group of seagulls. Breakfast is sausage, meat cakes and if you're lucky a maggot or two. I've vomited several times this week. The toilet is 2 metres away from my roommate's bed. Her name is Jasmine. She has long black hair with a thin fringe. She is so kind! I can't wait to arrive in Australia. It's going to be beautiful. When I get there, the first thing I'm going to do is find a shelter.

Yours Sincerely,

Emily.
Thank you to those who were able to attend our first meeting on Monday night this week. We had some good discussion and agreed on the following “re-branding” for the club:

**Club Co-ordinator** – can be one or two people working together to manage the calendar and call on co-ordinators for individual events

**Treasurer** – to keep track of money raised and requests for purchases. This position has been filled by Daria Hewitt. Yeah and thanks!!

**Rotating secretary** – rather than nominate one person for the year, at the start of each meeting an individual will be nominated to take minutes for that meeting and write up as a record.

Our meeting day will now be on a Thursday so we can utilize the MPH.

**So the next meeting is Thursday 27th March 7.30pm in the MPH.**

We are working on the key dates for term one and two and will have a trestle table out on the basketball court next week, Tuesday am, Wednesday pm, Friday am, with information on the events and call for co-ordinators and volunteers. So keep a look out for us.

**Term One events**

Icy pole days are back! And still only 50cents!

We have nominated the following days to sell icy poles:

- **7 March, 14 March and 28 March.**
  The roster is now full! Thanks to all who offered to help. We do Icy Poles again in term four so if you missed out another chance will arise later in the year.

Sausage sizzle

Hmm you know the saying best laid plans….we are still looking to have the sausage sizzle but will need to review the date. So keep an eye out for email for volunteers - it is looking like it will be a Thursday so hopefully this may suit parents who cannot help out on Fridays!

**Friendship List**

The Parents Club co-ordinates the collating of the Class Friendship List. The lists are a useful way to stay in touch with other families in your child’s class. They are optional. A letter outlining the purpose of the list and giving you the option to be on the list has been sent home. There was a mix up with the return date so if it can be returned by 7th March that would be great. We will also be asking for a Class Parent Representative for each class. Should there be a class that does not have a Parent representative, the Parents Club will collate and distribute the list but we will not appoint a rep from another class.

And finally..it is a FETE year! A group of people are working through some big picture issues and once this is sorted will be seeking extra helpers. It is such a great event for the school so keep it in mind.

Cheers

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**Education Maintenance Allowance**

Just a reminder that the **closing date** for parent applications for the EMA is TOMORROW 28th February 2014.

If you are the holder of a current Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC), you can apply for the allowance to help with School costs for your child. Your card must be valid on the first day of School for 2014. (28th January 2014)

Application forms are available at the Office.

**LATE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED.**
Hello and welcome to the first issue of ‘Tech Times’ at Newport Lakes Primary School. This year we are the eLearning Coaches in our school. Our aim in 2014 is to increase the use of ICT in our school and to develop a more confident school community in the use of technology. We are so excited to be working in our new roles as we both have so many ideas that we hope to see in action in all classrooms very soon. This newsletter will be published on a monthly basis and we hope to provide updates for you so that you are ‘in the eLearning know’.

**Code of Conduct Agreements**
Earlier this week we sent home Code of Conduct Agreements for the use of ICT at our school. The aim of these is to ensure that all members of our school community have a shared understanding of the expectations in place in regards to the safe use of technology. No student at NLPS will be able to use digital resources without having signed this agreement.

**eSmart Framework**
As part of our ongoing Positive Behaviours Program, Newport Lakes Primary School has taken steps towards ensuring the online safety of our students. All members of the school community have the right to feel safe at all times and the school is committed to achieving this. Each student and staff member has the responsibility to promote this right to feel safe online. Using the eSmart framework will endeavor to make the Newport Lakes Primary School community smart, safe and responsible users of technology.

CyberSafety is the ability to use Communication Technologies in appropriate ways and understand common practice when it comes to staying safe online. Not giving out personal information online and keeping your passwords protected are two ways of being CyberSafe. eSmart will support our school in establishing and maintaining positive behaviours online. For more information, please visit [https://www.esmartschools.org.au/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.esmartschools.org.au/Pages/default.aspx)
**Parent Surveys**

In order to get a better understanding of technology use at home, we have developed an online survey for parents to complete. The results of this survey will provide us with information and ideas about how we can work together to ensure our students are safe, smart, and responsible online. We encourage you to complete this as soon as you can, as the results will help us to help you! The link to this is on our website.

**Techie Brekkies**

This year, we are very excited about trialing two 'Techie Brekkies' in term one. You will be invited to come to the multi-purpose room at 8am and learn about new programs, apps and ideas for using technology with your children at home. We had a fantastic response at our first one yesterday morning, and we hope to see as many people there as possible on March 18th. By doing this our aim is to continue to strengthen our partnership with you in developing 'digital citizens' at NLPS.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th March</td>
<td>Wolfram Alpha (encyclopedia)</td>
<td>Multi-purpose room</td>
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<td>iEarned That</td>
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<td>UsingWords</td>
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<td>Flashcards</td>
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We look forward to keeping up with current trends in eLearning in schools, and we welcome you to ask us any questions you may have in relation to this area.

Kind regards,

**Amy O'Dowd and Mat Williamson**

eLearning Coaches
Class Friendship List 2014

Dear Parents,

The Class Friendship List is a useful way to stay in touch with the other families in your child’s class. The main purpose of the list is to communicate information about school events or social gatherings and to help parents arrange play dates.

It may also be a useful way to discuss purchase of a group present for your teacher at the end of the year, organise car-pooling for school events, or share news of forthcoming events that may be of interest to other families.

Please note: it is not to be used as a vehicle for advertising your business, and any complaints or concerns about the school curriculum or administration should be directed to the school and not distributed via the Class Friendship List.

The Class Friendship List is optional and parents must feel comfortable to have their personal details (name, child’s name, phone and email address) made available to other parents in your child’s grade. By including your details on this list, you consent to the information being distributed to all families in your child’s class.

If you would like to be included on your child’s Class Friendship List, please complete the details below and return to your child’s teacher by FRIDAY 7th MARCH. The information will then be consolidated into a Friendship List for each class and distributed once completed.

Please also indicate if you would like to be the Parent Representative for your child’s class.

Thank you

Parents’ Club

Class Friendship List 2014

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<th>Child’s name:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Parent/Guardian Name(s)</th>
<th>Preferred Contact Number</th>
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☐ Yes, I would like to be the Parent Representative for my child’s class.
BARNSTONEWORTH UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
“The Barnies” are now inviting boys and girls between the ages of 5-16 to register for the 2014 season. Based in Williamstown, the “Barnies” are a family-friendly, FFV-affiliated soccer club with members coming from across the Western suburbs.

WHERE: J.T. Gray Reserve, Kororoit Creek Rd, Williamstown
WHEN: Registrations now open
TRIAL DAYS: Thu 13th, Sun 16th and Thu 20th March, at JK Grant Reserve, Altona
SEASON: starts 26th April to 14th Sept
COST: U7’s $100, U8-11’s $180, U12-16’s $230
MORE INFO: Maria 0487916590 info@bujfc.com www.bujfc.com

All new members welcome.

Paper Orchestra
FREE Art & Music event for the whole family!
Monday 26 May – 4:45pm / 5:45pm Tickets available from Monday 28 April
Richard Gill conductor, Sayraphim Lothian craftivist Pop Up Playground, Musicians of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
One night Toscanini dreamed he was conducting an impossible Orchestra, filled with instruments that had never been invented, making sounds that could never be heard. Participants make any instrument they can imagine and then play it as part of Toscanini’s dream orchestra. Lead by internationally recognised craftivist, Sayraphim Lothian and eminent Australian conductor, Richard Gill, Paper Orchestra is a playful crafting event in which participants make their own paper instruments and then play them alongside the musicians of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

Hobsons Bay City Band Training Band
Training band will recommence for 2014 on Monday 3rd March.
Start time is 6.30 pm Multi purpose Room.
Anyone wish to attend as either a new or returning student is more than welcome.
Jarryd Sweeney Music Director
Want to play outdoor soccer in 2014? Altona City Soccer club caters for all, boys, girls, women and men of all age groups. It welcomes all to come and try before joining. Under 5s to 7s are starting from March 15, 10am at H.C. Kim Reserve, Millers Rd, Altona with its Nationally recognised and focussed program for this age group. A player’s first session is a free “come and try session”. Registration and payment is due the following week only if you decide to return. Other teams (under 8s to 18s) have just started and there are some vacancies in some age groups. Coaches are also needed in some teams. More information is available on our website. www.altonacitysoccerclub.com.au

THE SUBSTATION FARMS MARKET
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month: 9am - 1:00pm at The Substation, Newport
This month's market dates are: March 2nd & March 16th.
Come along this Sunday to enjoy the Substation Farmers’ Market, running every 1st & 3rd Sunday.
It’s tomato season, so if you want them fresh for salads, or for bottling/sauce making, they’ll be available! Stone fruit is fabulous & in season too: for kids lunches, cobblers or crumbles or for stewing for breakfast with yoghurt. Lamb, beef, pork from free range ethical farmers, farm fresh vegles, organics, crunchy sourdough breads...everything to keep the family happy & healthy can be found at the Substation FM.
Put the dates in your diary & meet our farmers who travel from all over Victoria to provide you with the best and freshest! We are an accredited market so you can be sure the person selling you your food is the person who grew it or made it.

Get on board and join the weekly circuit of accredited ‘REAL’ Farmers Markets.
Enquiries: 03 9419 0826 or info@mfm.com.au
BUSH DANCE – Sunday 16 March – 4:00pm – 7:00pm... *Free entertainment for the whole family!!!*

The annual Bush Dance is on again at Newport Lakes (in the Amphitheatre - a short but steep walk downhill from the main car park).

*Bring a picnic and your dancing shoes and be entertained by local musicians, including the NLPS Junior Choir.*

This event is supported by Hobsons Bay City Council, Friends of Newport Lakes and Transition Hobsons Bay.

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School Crossings Victoria Inc.

**Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?**

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2014/2015 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.


Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

Closes Friday 2nd May 2014