Dear Parents/Carers,

Due to the Public Holiday on Monday, this newsletter is coming home a little later than usual.

**Our Curriculum Day:**
Our staff participated in a wonderful Curriculum Day on March 7th with Chris Daicos. We focused on character strengths for the morning and all staff had to complete a survey beforehand. After the first break, we began two sessions based around giving and receiving feedback. Research shows that feedback can be very effective in raising student learning outcomes. We will continue to focus on this as the year progresses.

**Extend after school program:**
After surveying our community in 2015 about the viability of offering an after school care service, we began a relationship with Extend. We have really only had one regular attendee throughout the past three terms, although sometimes we have had six children require care after school. Unfortunately I had to contact Extend and begin the process of ending our relationship with them. Below is the letter from their supervisor. We will endeavour to assist those families who might require occasional care.

**Extend Spring Parks Primary School After School Care Closure of Service:**
Regrettfully, we announce that the After School Care service at Spring Parks Primary School will cease. After investing considerable financial resources and discussing ideas between stakeholders, it has been decided to close the service with the last day of operation on Thursday 24th of March 2016.

If you require assistance in finding alternative child care, contact the Child Care Access Hotline on 1800 670 305 or visit the My Child website at www.mychild.gov.au. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause some families and we thank the school community for their understanding and support.

Yours faithfully,
Charmayne Linton.

**District Athletics:**
A squad of competitors has been chosen to represent our school on March 18th at Ross Reserve. Ms Baxter organised a wonderful House Athletics on March 4th and even though it was a very hot day, the staff and students managed to help finalise the team for Friday. Our families are very welcome to go and watch the athletics this week.

**Last day of Term 1 2016:**
Thursday March 24th is the final day of school for term one. Children will be dismissed at 2.30 p.m. on this day. Enjoy the Easter holidays with family and friends. School will resume on April 11th at 9.00 a.m.

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**Principal**
Julie Fisher

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Spring Parks enjoys great partnerships with: Bunnings, IKEA, Woodleigh School, Officeworks and Christ Church Dingley
Harmony Day:
We will be celebrating Harmony Day on March 21st – which is the designated day for Harmony Day. West Campus will walk to Valley Campus for a whole school assembly at 10.30 a.m. where the Student of the Term medallions will be presented. We are presenting the medallions earlier than usual, due to the grade 5/6’s being on camp for the last three days of term one. There won’t be an Assembly on March 24th. If your child would like to dress up on March 21st, then they can wear the traditional colour of Harmony – which is orange – or dress up in their own national costume. We will be having some activities from 12 until 2.00 p.m. and all families are invited to attend. More information will be coming home shortly.

Golden Rules For kids' Sleep.
School age children are still experiencing enormous growth, are very active, and require a lot of sleep. Adequate sleep helps with school performance, behavior, attention, memory, and more.

3 – 6 year olds - Need 10-11 hours of sleep. Children at this age typically go to bed between 7 and 9 p.m. and wake up around 6 and 8 a.m., just as they did when they were younger.

7-12 Year Olds - Need 10 - 11 hours per day. At these ages, with social, school, and family activities, bedtimes gradually become later and later, with most 12-year-olds going to bed between 8.30pm – 9.00pm.

Remove all TVs, computers and mobile devices from their bedroom - the light stimulation alone will make it harder for them to settle down.

Congratulations :
to Sophia , Year 6 for having her work chosen to go on display at The Atrium at Federation Square as a finalist in the Cultural Diversity Week Competition. This event is organised by the Multicultural Commission of Victory for Harmony Day.
Sophia and her family will be invited to attend a presentation ceremony on the 20th March.

Grade 5 Maths
Yesterday, grade 5 was doing maths and used one whole roll of toilet paper to make the largest irregular or regular shape. We were doing this because we were learning about perimeter. There were many different perimeters but the biggest was 22.5 metres. This was made by Christina, Salena, Sophie, Taylah and Destiny.

There were about 4 to 5 groups and we had to work in a team to make the largest shape we could. Once they finished making the shape, we had to measure and draw a picture of their shape, but it wasn’t as easy as it sounded. Most of the toilet paper ripped, but we got 4 to 5 different yet amazing shapes. By Taylah - Grade 5

Mindful Day
Grade 1 / 2 Valley students walked over to West Campus on Friday the 4th of March to watch the movie Inside Out. As a group, we learned that our emotions affect our learning and that we gather data through our senses.
We experienced the importance of mindful seeing, hearing, smelling and tasting.
Enter the Science Challenge, put the answer in the Science Box and you may receive the Science Certificate!

**Scientists – Albert Einstein**

There have been many famous scientists in history. Albert Einstein is one of the most famous. He completely changed the way we understand light, gravity and time.

P-2 Challenge: Was Albert Einstein a (circle one)

- Painter
- Policeman
- Scientist

3-6 Challenge: Rearrange these letters and numbers to create his most famous formula $m = cE^2$

Name: _________________________

Grade: ___________________________

Answer: ___________________________
Hello Families!
We welcomed Ratha San to the program. Children have initiated many experiences, such as dancing with hoops, jumping balls and moving with ribbons. There has been interest in exploring musical instruments. Children have also completed competitions – drawing and singing. We also grew and cared for cress seeds. During snack time children have created patterns with their fruit. We have made fruit smoothies and lemonade which we have shared with our families.

As this the will be the last newsletter, I would like to thank the parents who have used the service. It has been a pleasure exploring and learning with the students. I wish all the families the best wishes.

Below are some activities that are coming up. The program is flexible to accommodate children's spontaneous interests on the day.

Regards Dina (Team Leader)

Our Extend Superstars are... Numa Meng for trying different foods at snack time
And Ratha San for following her interests.
Next Week’s activities

Monday 14 March: Public Holiday
Tuesday 15 March: Making paper
Wednesday 16 March: Obstacle course
Thursday 17 March: Creating crystals
Friday 18 March: Clay pots
PARENTPORTAL: extend.com.au

Andy Warhol and Ai Wei Wei Virtual Excursion
Our Year 5 and 6 students were treated to an interactive, virtual excursion at Valley Campus on Wednesday 9th March. The incursion was organised through the National Gallery of Victoria and the focus was the Andy Warhol and Ai Wei Wei exhibition that is currently on at the NGV until 24th April. This will form the basis of art work in Term 2. The students responded with insight to questions and they used appropriate art vocabulary. The overview of the two artists’ work was appreciated. We encourage families to take the opportunity to see the exhibition which showcases two of the most important artists of the 20th and 21st centuries.