Dear Parents,

Joining the Chorus is an initiative of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development that aims to provide an invaluable performing arts experience to Victoria’s government school students. In 2008, students from Prep to Year 12 have the opportunity to perform at Vodafone Arena at Melbourne Park, alongside a cast in excess of a thousand, all in a collaborative competition-free environment.

At Jells Park PS, we have decided to offer this wonderful experience to Year 3 and Year 4 students. They will be involved in the Dance Ensemble component of the State School Spectacular. This involves attending regional dance rehearsals where the students will be taught a choreographed routine by professionals. As part of our commitment, those involved will be required to also practise their dance at home and at school.

We are looking for committed and enthusiastic children who will dedicate some lunchtimes and possible after school time to practise. **As we are restricted to a limited amount of children, it is very important that this form is brought in by Wednesday 16th April to be considered for a place on the team.** The maximum number of students accepted from each school for 2008 is 20, however if the expression of interest exceeds this limit the students will be selected through a ballot.

There will be a cost to participate in the event to cover transportation to regional dance rehearsals and costumes. The cost will be approximately $40.00. Once the 20 children have been selected a further notice with exact costs will be sent home. **Do not send money with this notice.** The dates for the Joining the Chorus performances are Saturday 6th September at 2:00pm and 7:30pm and Sunday 7th September (Father’s Day) at 2:00pm. All students will be required to attend both of these days and any other official rehearsals. The school will arrange buses to transport children to and from regional rehearsals. It will be each family’s responsibility to arrange for their child to be transported to and from Vodafone Arena for the Saturday and Sunday performances. Parents will be notified of required arrival time and a meeting place prior to the performance weekend. Tickets for the event will be on sale through Ticketek at a cost of approximately $24.00 for students and $35.00 for adults.

If your child is interested in being a part of Joining the Chorus, please return the Expression of Interest form below no later than Wednesday 16th April. Considering the involvement required in Wakakirri and Joining the Chorus and similar practice times, we do not recommend children participate in both.

This will be an excellent opportunity for your child and we are looking forward to a fantastic experience. Thanks for your support! If you have any queries regarding Joining the Chorus please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,

Joining the Chorus Coordinator
Narelle Smith

---

**JOINING THE CHORUS!!!!**

**Expression of Interest**

I would like my child ___________________________ in Grade _______ to be considered for the Jells Park Joining the Chorus Team.

I understand that, if selected, my child must attend all rehearsals and performances and that it is my responsibility to arrange transport to and from Vodafone Arena on 6th and 7th September.

Parent Signature ..................................................  Date .................................