Parent Opinion Survey
This week, sixty-five families, randomly selected from our database, received a Parent Opinion Survey which they are asked to complete and return to school. The overall objective of this survey is to collect parent opinion across the state, and for individual schools to use this data to inform school improvement. Given that a survey’s relative accuracy is best gauged with a 100% return rate, can I ask that all families who are in receipt of a survey please take a few moments to complete it and return it to school by Friday 1 August. To date we have had a 33% return rate. We’d really appreciate 100% as we value your feedback.

Working Bee Thank You
Last Saturday morning, we held our first working bee for the year! The weather was a little damp, however, the participants were collectively enthusiastic and the tasks assigned were not too daunting! At its conclusion there was immense satisfaction for a job well done! Thank you to all our attendees for the one, two or three hours you gave to the school. Your contribution to the aesthetics of our school garden bordering the gymnasium is much appreciated. Our attendees on the morning were:

FAMILIES
Rachael and Matthew Beechy
Neil and Matthew Shaw
Kym and Hannah Smith
Stephen and Patrick Fox
Mark Blatchford, Tegan, Daemon and Gizelle McPherson,

Sriram Subramonian, Remya Ramaswami, Srihari and Srinidhi Sriram
Barbara, Kaitlyn and Matilda Scott
Greg, Cindy, Casey and Taylor Tomamichel
Wade and Jake Roberts
Donna Foster
Lana Cairns
Sandra Prvulj
Sonny, Lydia and Jack Jung
John and Katie Swinnerton
Jeremy Lucas

Staff
Jim Bell and Jenny Reid
Jim Narayan
Rosemary Gloz
Catherine Murray
Marina Botros and Daniel
Daryl West and Marlene Masciulli

There are generally no more than two working bees held throughout the year and we encourage as many families to attend, even if it’s only for an hour or two! A morning tea was provided which afforded our attendees, who were able to attend, the opportunity to chat and reflect on a job well done! A collage of photographs has captured the occasion.

Payment of curriculum contributions would enable other school funds to be directed towards the development of our school’s facilities. One looming project is the extension of our school’s vegetable garden. Our fund raising team and working bee volunteers, do a brilliant job in supporting our endeavours, however, payment of curriculum contributions would provide a much needed financial boost!

Jim Bell, principal
Working Bee
all hands on Deck
Performing Arts Celebration

With less than three weeks to go, this week saw Stephen Mudie, in the role of recording technician, come to our library [BRENTWOOD PARK’S RECORDING STUDIO] to record the students’ singing for this year’s ‘Celebration’. The tapes will then be used as backing for the children's live performances and should ensure that our audience will be able to hear the lyrics of each song performed. The recording itself was an educational experience for the students who gained an understanding of the recording process which allowed various takes, cuts and mixes as part of the soundtrack recording process.

"I am very proud of all the students’ efforts. They listened, sang tunefully and watched the conductor, and enjoyed listening to themselves afterwards. Year 6TS even learned a little bit about using ‘clicks’ to ensure that everyone starts singing at the same time and stays in time with each other."

Linda Moore, Performing Arts teacher

Please use the school crossing and then walk the short distance to your parked car. The safety of our children must come before any perceived slight inconvenience by not doing so! SAFETY FIRST.

Casey Safety School

Our Foundation and Year One students participated in a safety awareness program at the Casey Safety School this week. It is important that the lessons taught are reinforced in their daily lives. Their experiences will be detailed in next week’s newsletter!

Australian Mathematics Competition: Year 3-6

The Australian Mathematics Trust is a non-profit organisation under the Trusteeship of the University of Canberra. It conducts a number of mathematics enrichment activities through schools. The Australian Mathematics Competition first started in 1978 is currently sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank.

The aim of the competition is three fold:
- To highlight the importance of mathematics as a curriculum subject
- To give students an opportunity to discover talent in mathematics
- To provide resources for the classroom and promote general discussion

The cost to enter this year’s competition is $6 per student. The competition will take place under exam conditions and will last for one hour on Thursday 7th August 2014. The first 20 questions will be familiar from classroom mathematics. The problems are carefully moderated by experienced teachers in Australia and New Zealand to ensure that they are suitable. The later problems are more difficult and may be in unexpected contexts but have been graded to ensure that the skills required are commensurate with those taught at that year level. Please note that it is a competition and not a test so students should not expect to answer all questions as they will be competing against their own year level in our state.

Lyn Forsyth, Mathematics Coordinator

Parent Modelling of Safe Practices

Whether in the role of pedestrian or driver, it is important that adults model safe practices to their children and to others! What message do we convey when we drive and park unlawfully or cross roads unsafely! The City of Casey provides school crossing supervisors to enable parents and students to cross roads safely when coming to school and when leaving school upon dismissal.
This year’s Celebration is the musical play “Cinderella Rockerfella”. It’s the story of Cinderella with a modern twist!

Years 3 to 6 students will be participating.

When: 19th August from 7:00 to 8:30pm

Where: Rivergum Performing Arts Centre, 58-96 Fordholm Road, Hampton Park (on the site of Hampton Park Secondary College)

Cost: $15 per seat.

Please note that the lovely ticket ladies will match the 1st allocation tickets to the 2nd allocation tickets, if a second allocation occurs.
At Brentwood Park Primary School our You Can Do It focus this term is on Persistence. For many of us in 2MB, the word “persistence” was new to our vocabulary. In order to understand it a little more we read the story “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus” by Mo Willems. This is a hilarious story about a pigeon who wants to drive a bus and won’t give up on this dream, despite everyone’s efforts to stop him. The children in 2MB thought about a time in their lives when they had to show persistence. They came up with some fantastic ideas and made some persistence posters. These can be seen on display in the Grade 2 corridor.

Persistence means:

- Keep trying even if it’s hard—Zoe & Ethan
- Don’t give up—Angelina
- Have a go—Arliah
- Be brave—Hajar
- Just do it—Ausea
- Try your best—Tyson
- Never stop—Emily
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- Try your best — Tyson
- Never stop — Emily

The objects we looked at were shoes, cars, teddy bears and meteorites. Meteorites are made from rock which is a natural material and is hard, rigid and very strong. Stone meteorites are made of certain minerals, such as pyroxene and feldspar while iron meteorites are made of iron. Steel is the primary metal used to make cars. Titanium is a kind of metal that is lightweight but strong and resistant to corrosion.

Brodie, Ethan, Jack, Josh

Our group investigated objects, such as doors, pencil cases, lunch boxes and heaters. We discovered that solid-core flush doors are most commonly used as exterior doors because they provide more insulation and strength. These doors are covered with wood. Wood is strong but not flexible, transparent or absorbent.

Jake, Nathanyel, Harry, Rehan

We looked at objects made from metal, leather and wood. Leather is a tough, flexible material made from animal hides, Eg. cattle.

Bronwen, Casey, Rebecca, Daemon
Grade 2MB Learn About

"Persistence"

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The objects we chose to look at were a t-shirt, car, shoe, and pencil case. Fabric is strong, smooth, soft and flexible. An example of fabric is cotton which grows in a plant. Pencil cases can be made from wood or metal. Some pencil cases have a hard and rigid shell on the outside while others use a softer material, such as cotton, plastic or leather.

Vincent, Jack, Danny, Ash

Our group investigated shoes, spoons, bed frames and window panes. We learnt that glass is solid, hard, fragile, transparent and easily breakable. Glass does not deteriorate, corrode, stain or fade.

Spoons are made from metal which are strong and rigid. Bed frames are usually made from wood but some are also made from metal.

Makayla, Emma, Aimee, Jett

Our group presented our project as a puppet show. We looked at a fire fighters’ uniform, spoons, a teddy bear and a baseball bat and found the materials were fabric, metal, and wood. A fire fighter’s clothing is made from special fabric called nomex and kevlar and is flexible to allow for easy movement.

Linda, Sandavi, Jessica, Chloe
Term 3
Week ending 25th July 2014

FTL Alicia  For settling in beautifully to PTL and completing all her work. Well done and welcome!
FBV Shia  For working hard to learn his letters and sounds. Well done!
F/1S Nicola  For her excellent effort and hard work learning 3D shapes, names and features.
1MM Michael  For writing an excellent recount in his homework book. Well done!
1ER Charlie  For being so focussed all week and completing all work to a high standard!
2RG Emily  For trying really hard this week to complete home reading and homework.
2MB Zoe  For her positive attitude and willingness to ‘have a go’. Well done!
2/3C Haritik  For being a sensational role model and friend to others. Well done!
3LP Nayab  For doing outstanding work in her homework book this week. Awesome work!
4CH Ezy  For making a wonderful persistence poster for our YCDI lesson.
4SM Ethan  For improved self control and focus in class. Well done and keep it up!
4VK William  For his excellent ability in completing fraction activities.
5HG Joshua  For persistent efforts in class and willingness to join in class discussions.
5LF Ethan  For an excellent game board on the Gold Rush. Well done!
6JA Shannon  For demonstrating all the VCOP strategies in her “Big-Write”-fantastic.
6JD Brian  For being a “super star speller” in our class “spelling bee”!
6TS William  For presenting work of a high standard, including projects.

‘SPECIALIST’ Stars of the Week

Health & P.E.  2MB  For doing wonderful work in “Health”
Performing Arts  2/3CM  For beautiful singing in two parts for “You’re Going to the Ball”.
Visual Arts  FTL  For their great effort when threading a plastic darning needle. For tying a secure knot at the end of their piece of wool, for their wonderful running stitch into pre-punched holes and for their excellent attitude in all their artistic endeavours.
Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?
The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?
Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:
- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account; or
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?
The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?
In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?
Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional $12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?
No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.
Seasons for Growth®

A Group For Adults Who Have Experienced Significant Change
i.e. death, separation, migration, disability, financial or mental health issues

Explore the range of emotions that accompany loss
Share the challenges
Learn strategies to assist you to manage grief

A four week program running in Term 3 2014.

Venue: To be announced

Any Enquiries and enrolment:
Bronwyn Atkin or Megan Clarke on 03 5990 8400

Gold coin donation
www.connections.org.au
Growing Great Kids

For parents and carers of primary school aged children

Are your kids driving you crazy?
Your kids just won’t listen?
How can parenting be easier and more fun?
What parenting ideas work?

Come along and join other parents/carers to discuss experiences, ideas and learn strategies in a relaxed, friendly place.
- Refreshments provided -

When: Wednesdays for 6 weeks
7.00pm – 9.00pm
6th August – 19th September 2014

Where: Hampton Park Baptist Church
Community Room
1 Orient Place, Hampton Park
(behind the Library)

Who: Anyone caring for children - parents, grandparents, step-parents or carers

Bookings & Enquiries: Sandra Phillips at Parentzone
Ph: 1300 984 011 or 0447 500355
sandra.kelly@anglicarevic.org.au

NO COST – but bookings required
Become A Volunteer Host Family

Enrich Your Home With A WEP Exchange Student
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

Arriving in January:
Angelica (17) from Italy says that she is excited to start school in Australia, to meet her new classmates and start speaking English with them. She has been doing artistic gymnastics since she was 6 and currently trains 3 times per week. Although she admits she isn’t at a high level, she loves the sport and spending time with her teammates. She tells us that she is looking forward to meeting her new host family, is willing to help out with housework and is excited to meet her new host siblings.

Pietro (17) from Italy enjoys martial arts, playing cards and games, general fitness and plays both the trumpet and piano. He tells us that on Sunday mornings he often goes to church or bakes with his father and sister. He also says that he is optimistic and hopes that his exchange experience will help him grow as a person.

+ MANY MORE

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au
Do you have a passion to teach your profession to others? Get your qualification with the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

Enrolments being taken now
Start date Tuesday August 5th, 2014
Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6pm to 9pm

Learn locally in a small group with a trainer who has great energy, knowledge and experience.

***Payment plans and Government funded places available***

For more information and enrolment please contact the Community Centre on 5944 3484 or by email to office@ubcc.org.au
Friends of Cranbourne Libraries Inc.

BARGAIN BOOKSALE

Great books for the whole family from 50¢ to $5!

Saturday 9 August
8.30am - 2.00pm
Cranbourne Library

Conference Rooms, Casey Indoor Leisure Complex
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road Melway: 134 B6
(Casey Radio entrance from carpark)
Type 1 Diabetes
Do YOU Know The Symptoms?
You could save the life of someone you LOVE

No-one is ever TOO YOUNG

One of the most common Non-preventable Auto-immune diseases in children

Signs and Symptoms NOT to be ignored
- Extreme thirst
- Sudden weight loss
- Frequent urination
- Blurred vision
- Extreme tiredness
- Mood changes
- Constant hunger
- Vomiting
- Nausea
- Infections
- Tummy pains
- Acetone breath

If you notice these symptoms please seek medical advice

Produced and supplied by The Courageous 19
contact email: TheCourageous19@hotmail.com
Funding support from Abbott Diabetes Care