Congratulations

On Thursday and Friday of last week, the fundraising team did a fantastic job in running the Fathers’ Day Stall. I’m confident all the dads were pleasantly surprised at the quality gifts they received on their special day on Sunday 7 September. On behalf of all the dads, I personally extend another thank you! At our assembly, the Fathers’ Day Raffle was drawn. There was great excitement and improvised “drum rolls” on the floor prior to the winning tickets being drawn and the winners being announced. Congratulations are extended to:

1st prize winner  Lincoln of Year 1 MM
2nd prize winner  Sebastian of Year 2 RG
3rd prize winner  Chloe of Year 4 SM
4th prize winner  Logan of Year 6

Surprise Presentation and Thank You!

Last Friday, the DEECD and the Victorian Principals’ Association [VPA] invited schools to celebrate Principals’ Day and acknowledge the important role that principals and assistant principals play in creating and sustaining strong, vibrant learning communities within and beyond their school. A number of social regional meetings were scheduled around Victoria, however, for Jim and Jenny, it was work as usual. Unbeknownst to them, a surprise acknowledgement was planned for assembly with school captains, Zoe and Lewis, speaking about the significance of the day and with a floral presentation made to Jenny and a fruit basket presented to Jim. Both Jim and Jenny received individual cards signed by all of the students and staff at Brentwood Park Primary School.

“Jenny and I would like to say a huge thank you to our school councillors who implemented the acknowledgment of the day and to the students for their exuberant well wishes! Thank you to everyone!”

Jim Bell, principal

Jenny Reid, Assistant Principal
What’s happening at our school?
This week, parent / teacher interviews were conducted. It is very gratifying to report that most parents took the opportunity to meet with their child’s teacher and engage in discussions related to their child’s achievement and future learning goals. As parents, all of you no doubt want to know more about what’s happening every day in our school to help prepare your child for the future. Things like what’s happening in the classroom, what your child is learning and what you can do at home to help. These are the questions which are addressed at parent / teacher interviews. Additionally, the Department has also provided information sheets to help parents understand the basics of what is being done in all schools across Victoria. In this week’s newsletter, two fact sheets have been included for Years Prep to Two and Three to Six.

School Accountability and Review
To support the implementation of the Victorian Government’s policy commitments under Towards Victoria as a Learning Community, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development [DEECD] introduced a new approach to professional practice and performance in government schools. This new approach included revised school accountability arrangements to help achieve exceptional outcomes for every Victorian student. The revised accountability arrangements are in the areas of school planning, school annual reporting, self-evaluation and school review.

Having undertaken our school’s self-evaluation over the past months, Brentwood Park Primary is now at the stage of Peer Review in the accountability process. Our school’s self-evaluation involved a thorough analysis of how human, financial, physical and information resources had been deployed in the achievement of student learning, engagement and wellbeing outcomes and identified areas where we could focus future effort.

All schools are assessed against key performance thresholds and as Brentwood Park is performing above the key thresholds, we now undertake a Peer Review. This means two guest principals from other schools and an accredited reviewer endorsed by the DEECD assess our school’s self evaluation and contribute to the school’s new strategic plan which captures a clear and shared understanding of the school’s strategic direction for the next four years. Annual implementation plans then describe how key continuous improvement strategies and other significant projects will be put into operation and monitored.

Our Peer Review day was undertaken this week, on Thursday 11 September. Our peer principals were Joanne Wastle from Kambrya College and Gary Methven from Beaconsfield Primary, and our accredited reviewer was Keryn McGuinness from Research Australia Development and Innovation Institute [RADII].

Changes to Education Maintenance Allowance [EMA]
More than 200,000 Victorian school students—almost one quarter of all students—currently receive the EMA, which helps low income families meet school costs such as books, uniforms, excursions, camps ICT equipment. From 2015, this targeted support will no longer be available to support individual students and families. The Education Equity Coalition is campaigning on this issue and brings together stakeholders from across schools, community organisation, students and families who are concerned about the Government’s decision and its impact.

The Cover the Costs campaign website raises public awareness of the changes and of their impact. It also provides ideas about how individuals or organisations can take action. Go to vcoss.org.au/cover-the-costs for additional information.

Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge
This year, 361 students at Brentwood Park registered to undertake the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge in 2014. This equated to 85% of our total enrolment! Of those enrolled, 346 or 96% of students have completed the Challenge, having read a total of 11,007 books! This is a GREAT achievement! Congratulations on a FANTASTIC effort!
What’s Happening
Prep to Year 2

Preparing today’s students for tomorrow

It might seem unrealistic now, but in the not-too-distant future positions like this will be a reality. Victorian schools are partnering with parents to ensure every child is prepared for the jobs of the future.

The What’s Happening series helps you to learn more about how it’s being done.

During the first years of school, your child is encouraged to make sense of the world around them through real-life experiences. When they start school, they will develop more independence, as well as enhance their academic, physical and social skills.

During the first years in primary schools, teachers are focused on a safe and happy environment where students are valued, praised and encouraged. Teachers work to support your child to learn.

In the classroom

The curriculum focuses on developing basic knowledge and skills in English and maths, as well as basic physical and social capabilities which form the basis for all future learning. Students are encouraged to express themselves and extend their thinking through the Arts.

Varied activities and a vibrant classroom are important for your growing child. It is here that your child can develop positive attitudes to learning, foster friendships and learn to work with others.

During this stage, your child will become more aware of their local community.

Students at this stage

- develop basic literacy and numeracy skills
- develop basic motor and movement skills
- learn to work together in class
- participate in physical activities that build their potential
- express ideas and feelings through artwork

What you can do

- talk to your child about their day. Ask them “What was your favourite part of school today?” “What did you find the most interesting today?”
- read books with your child, point out words on signs, and generally help them to enjoy reading
- talk to your children about the topics, themes and areas currently be covered in the classroom
- speak with your school to learn how they will be covering the curriculum for your child as each school tailors this to meet the needs of your child and their peers.

It is important to remember that each child is different; some may find parts of their learning program more challenging than others.

Speak with your school if you have any questions about what your child is learning and how they are progressing.

To see how your child is being prepared for their future, visit education.vic.gov.au/futureready
What’s Happening
Years 3 to 6

Preparing today’s students for tomorrow
It might seem unrealistic now, but in the not-too-distant future positions like this will be a reality. Victorian schools are partnering with parents to ensure every child is prepared for the jobs of the future.

The What’s Happening series helps you to learn more about how it’s being done.

In years 3 to 6, your child will develop a deeper understanding of the relationship between school, home and the world outside their local community. Your child is now becoming more capable of concentrating on tasks for longer periods of time.

Your child will be supported to ensure their primary school years are positive, challenging and improve their confidence about themselves, their learning and their interactions with others. This is a time when schools provide many opportunities for students to take responsibility for their learning and demonstrate their independence.

In the classroom
The curriculum is organised in eight learning areas: English, maths, science, health and physical education, languages, humanities (including history, geography, civics and citizenship, economics and business), the Arts and technologies including design technologies and digital technologies.

There are also general capabilities included in the curriculum to support students to develop their thinking skills, ethical and intercultural understandings, and personal and social capabilities.

Your child will continue to build on the knowledge and skills developed in English and maths. They will be made aware of new content and ideas to extend their understanding of and thinking about local and national people, events and issues.

Students at this stage
- increase literacy and numeracy skills
- build thinking skills and apply these to the different topics and contexts being explored
- work cooperatively with others to extend their learning
- participate in physical activities to develop motor and movement skills
- express knowledge and understanding in varied ways, including written, spoken and visual presentations

What you can do
- talk to your child about their day. Ask them “What did you find the most interesting today?” “What was your favourite topic area today?”
- share with the teacher your child’s areas of interest, as this may support your child to become engaged with their learning
- speak with your child’s teacher to learn how they will be covering the curriculum for your child as each school tailors this to meet the needs of your child and their peers
- talk to your children about the topics, themes and areas being taught and have a conversation about it with them.

It is important to remember that each child is different; some may find parts of their learning program more challenging than others.

Speak with your school if you have any questions about what your child is learning and how they are progressing.

To see how your child is being prepared for their future, visit education.vic.gov.au/futureready
## Term 3
### Week ending 5th September 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Recognition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FTL</td>
<td>Leigh</td>
<td>For the great effort he puts into his work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBV</td>
<td>Paora</td>
<td>For enthusiastically participating in our sound identification box session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/1S</td>
<td>Lesath</td>
<td>For reading ‘Where is the Green Sheep?’ with confidence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1MM</td>
<td>Zac</td>
<td>For confidently applying strategies to solve two digit addition equations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ER</td>
<td>Nidhi</td>
<td>For always giving your best to everything you do. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2RG</td>
<td>Alexandra</td>
<td>For showing clear working out to solve multiplication equations. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2MB</td>
<td>Armia</td>
<td>For demonstrating excellent listening skills all week. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3C</td>
<td>Sophie</td>
<td>For trying very hard with your learning. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3LP</td>
<td>Jorden</td>
<td>For being an awesome classroom helper. Well done, Jorden!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4CH</td>
<td>Umar S</td>
<td>For your fantastic efforts in measuring the veggie garden. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4SM</td>
<td>Jessica S</td>
<td>For your mature and sensible approach towards others. Thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4VK</td>
<td>Luke A</td>
<td>For working cooperatively to make the ‘soil solution’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5HG</td>
<td>Guamar</td>
<td>For having such a positive attitude to all class tasks this week. Keep up this wonderful attitude!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5LF</td>
<td>Abby M</td>
<td>For consistent attendance at morning classes. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6TS</td>
<td>Emily M</td>
<td>For her effort with, and focus on classroom tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6JA</td>
<td>Caitlin H</td>
<td>For always being organised and completing work to a high standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6JD</td>
<td>Sherry</td>
<td>For your outstanding academic achievement and gaining a scholarship to Haileybury.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ‘SPECIALIST’ Stars of the Week

- **Health & P.E.** 1ER For outstanding jumping on the springboard.
- **Performing Arts** 5LF For demonstrating ‘Persistence’ and ‘Getting Along Skills, playing a rhythmical accompaniment for ‘Happy Ever After.’
- **Visual Arts** 2RG For their enthusiastic approach to modelling terracotta clay & for building well constructed pinch pots. You have worked co-operatively and have displayed excellent getting along skills.
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.
from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

Air Fair

At the Movies

giant jumping castles * team games & prizes * movie-theme craft creations * videogaming room * guest cartoonist & cartooning workshops

parents welcome * kids BYO lunch (no nuts/eggs please!) or kiosk available

- Berwick Church of Christ

www.bcoc.com.au
P 9702 1011 E info@bcoc.com.au

SEPT 22 & 23 10AM TIL 4PM

KIDS GRADE 1 TO 6 $10/CHILD OR $20/FAMILY (PARENTS FREE)

COME DRESSED AS YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE CHARACTER PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED!
Berwick Indoor Sports Centre
68 Bemersyde Dr. Berwick  Ph : 9786 7892

Family FUN DAY

21 SEPT 10am-2pm

FREE Community Event

MELB VIXENS
EX AUSTRALIAN BOOMER

All Ages Welcome
from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

2nd Chance Cat Rescue Market

9am - 3pm
Sunday 14th September
Cranbourne Public Hall
Corner Clarendon and High Streets, Cranbourne
Entry via Gold Coin Donation

* 30+ Stalls
* trash and treasure
* art/craft stalls
* sausage sizzle/food stalls
* silent auctions
* raffles

All profit from this day will be donated to 2nd Chance Cat Rescue to help with the general care and desexing of cats and kittens while they are waiting for their Furrever Homes.
from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

BLOKES DO THIS!
Your kids are worth it!

Pit Stop is an eight-session ‘parenting tune-up’ for fathers who like seeing their families fire on all cylinders.

Get the FACTS on FATHERHOOD:

- Why Dads Matter and Developing a Healthy Parenting Style
- Working as a team
- Improving Family Communication and Closeness
- Steering Your Children Through Stressful Stages
- Disciplining Kids Without Losing It… or Them!
- Balancing Work/Life/Family and Implementing Change

For: All dads including new dads, step-dads and grand-dads.
Dates: Every Wednesday: 8 October - 26 November 2014
Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Venue: 6B Henry Street, Pakenham
Cost: Gold coin donation

Includes a comprehensive ‘parenting tune-up’ manual.

Contact: Sidney Ashby 03 5945 3900 or Jonathon Gonsalvez 03 9704 8377
Registration essential
connections.org.au
2015 Student Recycling Calendar

Calling all artists from City of Casey primary schools!

To celebrate National Recycling Week, 10-16th November 2014, Visy and the City of Casey are turning 12 students into published artists!

Put your creative ideas into action by creating an A3 landscape poster addressing the theme:

Why should we Recycle?

Who: Primary school students in the City of Casey

How: Send your A3 landscape poster with your name, school and year level printed on the back to: Fleur Pilkington, Resource Management Officer, City of Casey, PO Box 1000, Narre Warren, 3805.

Entries close: Friday 19th September 2014

Winners will be notified before National Recycling Week.

For more details contact, Fleur Pilkington on 9705 5296 or email fpilkington@casey.vic.gov.au
Come Join us!

A day packed full of footy fun!
 Loads of games and fun to be had!
 Celebrate with a ‘Finals Footy Fever’ experience
 See reverse for full details and locations.

REGISTER NOW AT
www.aflvicholidayprograms.com.au

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/aflvicholidayprograms and follow us on Twitter @AFLVIC_HolProg to keep up to date with the latest news, competitions and photos.
AMF

DOUBLE UP THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

2 GAME COMBO + 5 ARCADE TOKENS

$17.90

ENTHUSIASTIC SOFT DRINKS

ENJOY ARCADE GAMES, ACTIVITIES, CAFE OPTIONS & LOADS OF ENTERTAINMENT IN CENTRE!

SEARCH AMF HOLIDAYS FOR MORE INFO | BUY ONLINE & SAVE!

*Valid during September/October 2014 public school holidays every day before 6pm. Prices are per person. Not valid with any other offer. See amfbowling.com.au/schoolholidays for full T&Cs.

--

CREW ENTRIES FOR FINALS CLOSE 23 SEPTEMBER

City of Greater Dandenong and City of Casey Youth Services/Replay Productions in partnership with

FIRED UP! 2014

HIP HOP & BREAKDANCING TOURNAMENT FINALS

Saturday 18 October 2014

Springers Leisure Centre

400 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough

5PM–9PM

Junior, varsity and open hip hop dance divisions.

Plus breakdancing showcase battle.

SHOWCASES

Rewind, Kiter, YKC

AZD Varsity, Babysteps

MC Yung Philly

For further information please contact:

City of Greater Dandenong 9793 2150 • City of Casey 9703 5200 • Replay Dance Production 0402 452 480
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 14
contact email: TheCourageous14@hotmail.com
Funding support from Abbott Diabetes Care