Personal Achievement

“On the weekend I went to the Ballarat Run; I ran 6km. I ran all the way to the finish line without stopping. My dad ran with me. We did the run to raise money for the children’s hospital. I dressed like Redfoo. I won best dressed and I got famous after the run, everyone was taking pictures and videos of me. I am in the Ballarat Courier newspaper. My dog dressed up in a Redfoo suit too. I finished the 6km run in 40 minutes.”

Josh C in 2MB

This was an outstanding achievement for Josh and as a school, we are justifiably proud, I know his parents are!!

Crazy Hair Day

On Tuesday 21 October, the Student Representative Council [SRC] encouraged the school to support the Leukaemia Foundation through the running of a “CRAZY HAIR DAY”! Participants were required to pay a gold coin donation for taking part and $351.45 was raised! The hairdressing talents of the parents, or the students themselves, were certainly recognizable with the assortment of creative, CRAZY hairstyles visible on the day! The money raised will be forwarded to the Leukaemia Foundation, the organisation dedicated to the care of patients and families living with leukaemia, lymphomas, myeloma and other related blood disorders.
Chinese Language and Culture
Languages continue to be a key focus in education with research showing that:

- Exposure to as little as one hour per week of a second language in the earliest years of primary school advances the age of readiness in English
- What we learn to do in one language helps us with any other language
- Our first language and other languages work in partnership to strengthen and enrich our repertoire of literacy practices
- Learning another language enhances the academic skills of students by increasing their abilities in writing and mathematics
- Cognitive development can be greatly enhanced by learning several languages simultaneously
- Children in languages programs tend to demonstrate greater cognitive development and more creative thinking skills

Inspire, March 2012, 15

Since our introduction of Chinese [Mandarin] into the school curriculum, our students have also gained a greater cultural understanding of one of Australia’s largest neighbours in the Asia Pacific region!

Globalisation is becoming so much more a part of our world and schools need to ensure that we are at the forefront of “internationalizing” and that learning in this area is not just incidental, but a fundamental expectation.

Engaging with other cultures and developing our 21st century skills, including information communication technology [ICT] and languages are imperatives in the promotion of internationalizing education at Brentwood Park Primary School.

Now that we are two years into our Chinese Language and Culture program, an appropriate step for us to pursue now is the development of a viable sister school relationship with a school in China. We had endeavoured to so before, however, the lack of technology at Zhenghe Primary School, Nanjing, CHINA inhibited our desire to communicate interactively using ICT.

With this in mind, I have accepted an invitation to attend the 2014 Jiangsu International Forum for Principals. The Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education and the Zhenjiang Municipal Government, as hosts, are meeting the cost of registration, accommodation, receptions and networking events.

It is a wonderful opportunity which has been afforded to me, professionally, and to our school.

“School Partnerships: Sharing the Dream” is the theme for this year which promises some rigorous debate surrounding best practices in sustainable transnational education.

Principals will be attending from a variety of countries all with the objective of sharing experiences and forging relationships with Jiangsu schools and each other. Those who do not have a sister school will be introduced to one with the intent of establishing an ongoing relationship with regular communication through ICT.

Jim Bell, principal
Volunteers Needed
On the state election day, Saturday 29 November, our fundraising team will be running an Election Day Sausage Sizzle and they are seeking volunteers to be placed on a roster. Please call Donna 0412007818 or Sandra 0402455548 if you are able and willing to assist on the day! If we have sufficient numbers of volunteers the donation of time may only be for an hour or so! Your support of our fundraising team’s efforts would be greatly appreciated.

Program and Performances Continue
No doubt, Linda will be enjoying her long service leave but she would also be comforted to know the performing arts program and assembly performances continue in her absence! Felix, teacher and performer, was secured to teach the music program in Linda’s absence. His preferred genre is colonial music rather than “pop” and preferred dance genre is bush dance rather than hip hop!! Regardless, our students are engaged and enjoying the program.

Memories of the Min Fete - HAIRSPRAY and SPINNING WHEEL!!
Our stall, Funky Hairspray, made $118.95! We bought over 25 cans of hairspray which all ran out before the day finished. It was really fun; I enjoyed the smell of popcorn and pizza. Sahar
Our stall, Funky Hairspray, was run by Sahar, Sachindi, Aj and me. You could probably tell it was about hairspray. For a week and a half, we all worked together to create our stall. We organised things like prices, designs, donations and posters. Our parents very generously donated all 25 cans of hairspray which was a great help. On the day, we set out our table, the chairs and the poster. We received many more customers than we expected. All 25 cans of hairspray were empty before the fete was finished. It was a great experience and I hope we will have opportunities to do similar things in high school next year. Adelle
There were many activities and good things to visit at the fete. Our stall was called Spin the Wheel and we had a prize box. Shannen’s nan donated jewellery and I donated chocolate and loom bands. I thought the best stall was the hairspray stall. The poster wasn’t overdecorated and there were lots of coloured sprays to choose from. We made $85.65 and were happy with that. Emily

Student Transfers and Enrolments 2015
In order for us to arrange staffing, grade structure, budget allocations and various other school functions for the 2015 school year, it is imperative that we are able to ascertain student numbers for next year. The more accurate with our future planning, the smoother we can make the transition for the children from one year level to the next. Parents are requested to contact the office of additional enrolments for Years Foundation – Year 6, if they have not already done so. If any families are aware that their children, other than the current year 6 students, will not be attending Brentwood Park Primary School next year, could you please notify the office or your child’s classroom teacher. Thank you for your cooperation. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

School Banking News - Competition!
“The Dollarites have found the ancient Clam of Fortune, a mythical shell packed with precious prizes.” Every deposit you make through School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition to win one of these prizes [up to a maximum of 6 entries]
Competition runs: 20th October - 30 November 2014.
Confidence with 4SM

I was confident when I went on the giant drop and superman rides in Queensland. Jack, Vincent, Harry

At the Royal Melbourne Show, I was not very confident to go on the fast rollercoaster, but when mum said it will be fun, I had a go and I enjoyed it. Bronwen

I was confident when I rode my bike without training wheels. Emma

When I went bowling, I lacked confidence because I knew I wouldn’t win but I played and had fun. Daemon

I was confident when I did front and back flips. Jack, Danny

Standing in front of assembly, my legs were shaking because I had to give a speech but then I kept saying “I can do it”. Sandavi

I was confident when doing my maths test because I was scared I would fail. Rehan

I answered confidently in the times tables quiz. Hari

I was nervous when I had to say my speech for celebration but I was confident enough to do it. Ash

In the playground, I was confident doing flips on the high bars on the play equipment and swinging on the monkey bars. Chloe, Rebecca, Casey

I am confident when playing basketball and stopping my mum from scoring goals when playing soccer. Jake

I was confident during gymnastics on the vaulting table. Jessica

I had to do high jump at district athletics and I had to be very confident to do that. Aimee

At camp, going up the giant swing was a little bit scary but I became confident because everyone said “Go, go, it’s not scary!” I went all the way and I had fun. Ethan, Jett, Josh, Makayla

I wasn’t confident when I did my stage production because I didn’t know if I would be loud enough but it was good. Brodie
BOOK FAIR GARDEN
Catch the reading bug!

BOOK Fair dress up day
Wednesday 29th October

Come dressed as something from the garden:
Insects
Gardeners
Tools
Flowers/trees

ONE PRIZE PER YEAR LEVEL
FOR THE BEST DRESSED

LET'S GROW READERS!
Dear Parents and Relatives,

You are invited to the end of the year Celebration Concert!

The Foundation, Year One and Year Two combined concert is on Tuesday, 16th December at 11:15 am in the Performing Arts Centre.

The school would appreciate a gold coin donation to further enhance the Performing Arts Centre.

We look forward to seeing you at the concert.

Linda and the Junior School Team
Term 4
Week ending 17th October 2014

FTL  Hayden  For his fantastic Mini Fete recount writing.

FBV  Emma  For confidently ordering Australian coins by both size and value.

F/1S  Reyan  For maintaining an excellent attitude towards his learning and improving in his reading.

1MM  Olivia  For mastering two digit addition and subtraction strategies. Well done!

1ER  Isabella  For always going to so much effort when presenting Show and Tell.

2RG  Mason  For his enthusiasm to learn and solve number problems in maths. Super effort!

2MB  Audrey  For her ability to get ‘lost in a book’ and for her improved comprehension.

2/3C  Mikayla  For your fantastic approach to learning centres this week. Well done!

3LP  Abhijit  For settling into Brentwood Park really well & becoming an OUTSTANDING member of team 3LP! You are a SUPERSTAR.

4CH  Caitlyn  For great practising of her Oxford Words - Well done!

4SM  Chloe  For her enthusiastic attitude towards her learning and making a great start on her project.

4VK  Lucas  For being a whizz at division calculations.

5HG  Neelupa  For demonstrating impressive leadership skills and teamwork with his mini fete group. WELL DONE!

5LF  Lexi  For being an enthusiastic participant in the mini fete. Beautiful bridesmaid!

6TS  6TS  For their efforts and contributions to a very successful mini-fete.

6JA  6JA  On a fantastic effort with the mini fete - great fun!

6JD  Caitlyn  For her outstanding effort at the Regional Athletics.

‘SPECIALIST’ Stars of the Week

Visual Arts  6JD  For their wonderful collages using natural materials. Well done!
Amendments to Working with Children Check (WWC) legislation

Do you volunteer or do paid work with children? If so you need to be aware of important legislative changes to the Working with Children Act 2005 (the Act) coming into effect on 26 October 2014.

New standard definition of child-related work

Child-related work will now be defined as work in one of the occupational fields listed in the Act where the contact with children is direct, unsupervised and part of a person's duties, not incidental to their work. The specific changes to the definition are:

1. New concept: incidental contact
   Changes to the Act clarify that a worker who has only occasional direct contact with children that is incidental to their work does not require a WWC Check.

   Example: A plumber has been called to fix a burst pipe in the clubrooms of a local sports group. Although children are present in the clubrooms, the plumber does not need to have contact with these children in order to fix the pipe. The plumber therefore does not need a WWC Check.

2. New definition of direct supervision
   Direct supervision now refers specifically to supervision of a person's contact with children, rather than their work in general. Supervision of a person's contact with children must still be personal and immediate, but can include a brief absence such as leaving a room to take a phone call.

3. New definition of direct contact with children
   The definition of direct contact with a child previously included 'physically being within eyeshot' of children. Amendments to the Act now define direct contact with a child as situations in which a person is able to talk face-to-face with, or be physically close enough to interact with the child.

4. Removal of ‘regular’ from the definition
   To further simplify and remove ambiguities from the definition, the notion of ‘regular’ contact has been removed. ‘Regular’ contact is no longer an element that should be considered.

Disclaimer: This information is intended as a general guide only. It is not intended to be given as legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. It is recommended that you obtain legal advice relevant to your particular circumstances.
The WWC Check is no longer described as a suitability check

The Act no longer refers to the WWC Check as a means of assessing a person’s suitability to work with children, as only organisations can do this.

The WWC Check is just a starting point. It screens a person’s criminal records and any reports about professional conduct by the bodies listed in ‘What is checked’ on the WWC Check website.

The government is currently developing minimum ‘child safe’ standards for organisations engaged in child-related work. Under the standards, organisations will be expected to create and maintain ‘child safe’ environments by adopting practices such as interviewing and reference checking staff and volunteers, training them in child safety, and monitoring their behaviour around children.

Expiry of a WWC Check
Cardholders can no longer continue to do child-related work after their WWC Check expires.

Previously, there was a ‘grace’ period allowing people to do child-related work up to 3 months after their WWC Check expired. The amendment means that they must stop child-related work until they have renewed their WWC Check. It is an offence to continue working in child-related work if your WWC Check has expired.

A WWC Check can still be renewed anytime during the 3 months post-expiry period. For more details look at the section under ‘Renew my Check’ on the WWC Check website.

This change to the Act does not alter the legislative requirements for people working under the Children’s Services Act 1996, the Education and Care Services National Law (Victoria) and the Child Employment Act 2003.

Further information about the amendments are available on the WWC Check website from 26 October 2014 at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au.

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Bicycle Thefts

In the Casey Police Service Area, bicycle theft has increased 130% this financial year. Half were from residential locations. The bikes were stolen from the front of the house and were not locked up at the time.

Police Advice:
- Secure your bike with a lock
- Do not leave bikes in the front yard - Move to a secure location out of sight (garage, shed)
- Engrave the underside of the bike frame with the letter ‘V’ followed by the owner’s/parent’s driver’s licence number to assist police in returning located bicycles
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.
Growing Great Kids

‘Hot topics’ are the most requested parenting topics. Sessions are suited to parents and carers of primary aged children. Choose to attend any one or more sessions!

➢ Technology and Our Kids
   When to limit it, and how?
   Monday 27th October 6.30pm – 8.30pm

➢ Tired of Yelling?
   How to get kids to listen, without having to yell
   Monday 10th November 6.30pm – 8.30pm

➢ Dealing with Anger
   Helping parents, helping kids deal with anger and frustration
   Monday 17th November 6.30pm – 8.30pm

➢ Sibling Rivalry
   Strategies for when the fighting, squabbling and arguments get too much!
   Monday 24th November 6.30pm – 8.30pm

- Refreshments provided -

Where: Berwick Neighbourhood House
   112 High Street, Berwick

Who: Parents, grandparents, step-parents or carers

Bookings & Enquiries: Sandra Phillips at Parentzone
   Ph: 1300 984 011 or 0447 500 355
   sandra.kelly@anglicarevic.org.au

- NO COST – but bookings required for all sessions
Neighbourhood Watch Casey
with Victoria Police
Presents

Community Safety Family Fun Day

Sunday 26th October
10am until 4pm
Cranbourne Racing Centre
Grant Street, Cranbourne

FREE Entry and Entertainment

Jumping Castles
Face Painting
Balloon Sculptures
Petting Zoo

and much more!

Crime prevention information • CFA • SES • Community Groups

More information at: www.facebook.com/nhwcasey
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