School Council Elections 2015

All government schools in Victoria have a school council and we are currently seeking nominations for parents wishing to stand for election. A parent can be nominated and seconded as a candidate on a completed nomination form or self nominate for the position. The nomination form needs to be returned to the principal by Friday 27 February. The term of office for elected members is two years. Half of the members of a school council retire each year and this creates four vacancies within the parent membership category and two vacancies within the Department of Education and Training (DET) employee category. If the number of nominations is equal to or less than the number of vacancies, then those nominated are declared elected. Being on a school council gives parents and other members of the community the chance to be involved in setting the school’s educational policy. School Councils are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be parent members at their child’s school.
- **A mandated elected DET employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **An optional community member category.**

  Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be community members.

  The term of office for members is two years. As half the members must retire each year, this creates annual vacancies for school council elections. All you need to be on school council is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

The process: We have now commenced our 2015 School Council Elections and hence, the formation of our new school council. A notice has been issued and a call made for nominations. If you decide to stand for election, the nomination form is completed and returned to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. Please consider standing for election in 2015.

As stated previously, being part of School Council does not require special skills or specific knowledge. All that is needed is a desire to work in partnership with others in shaping the school’s future. In a school with an enrolment of 460 students, our retiring councilors are hopeful that their vacated places will be filled by other interested parties. If you decide to stand for election, the nomination form is completed and returned to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

If you have an interest and require further information, please don’t hesitate to speak with me personally.

Jim Bell, principal
Maths Extension Classes at Kambrya
As part of our Year 6 transition program and our Year 6 extension program, selected students, once again, have the opportunity to participate in weekly classes at Kambrya College. Last year, Science was provided, however, this year, we return to a former area of extended study - Mathematics! Classes at Kambrya College commenced on Thursday 5 February with 24 year six students attending. Mrs. Ridoutt, Kambrya College staff member, is the teacher!

Following introductions, the students played a warm up Buzz game focusing on listening and the use of multiples and times tables. Mrs. Ridoutt then explained that the idea of the classes is to teach the skills of patience, and concentration, and to prepare students to manage secondary school work.

Addition and subtraction of decimal numbers was the subject of the lesson, with the goals being to recognise place values for decimal numbers, understand rules related to decimals, and to add and subtract decimal numbers.

The BPPS students were all very engaged with the expert teaching and gave plenty of positive feedback. All in all, they really enjoyed their learning time with a cheerful buzz displayed in the room.

Kambrya College Tours
Kambrya College is pleased to offer tours for parents of students who are interested in potentially enrolling in our school. Tours led by an assistant principal will provide information about our programs, facilities and the college community. Tours will commence at 11:30am every Friday and depart from the front office. No appointment is necessary. We look forward to meeting you.

Jo Wastle, Assistant Principal, Kambrya College

Chinese Language and Culture - CHINESE SISTER SCHOOL VISIT...
Preparations are well underway to welcome the student and staff delegation from our sister school - Yangzhong Experimental Primary School of Yangzhong City, Jiangsu, CHINA!

To facilitate further experience of Australian culture for the children, host families within our school community are billeting the children for two evenings, Thursday 26 and Friday 27 February.

Thanks are extended to the Taylor, Roberts, Chattrath, Scott, Wright, Chen, Lee and Chandara Segar families for providing this hospitality which will be a wonderful experience for the visiting children and host families alike!

The host families and visiting children are:

Taylor family - Huiqi Yang; a girl aged 8 years
Roberts family - Yuantong Shi; a girl aged 9 years
- Xinbei Wang; a girl aged 10 years
Scott family - YuYi Wang; a girl aged 9 years
Chattrath family - Yaxin Sun; a girl aged 11 years
Chen family - Ziye Guo; a girl aged 12 years
Lee family - Nanqi Wu; a boy aged 9 years
Chandara Segar family - Shiqi Wang; a boy aged 10 years
Wright family - Yanqi Huang; a boy aged 11 years

We expect our visitors from China to arrive at approximately 12:30 p.m. on Thursday 26 February. Following lunch, a welcoming ceremony will be conducted in our performing arts centre. The performances to be presented will be reflective of our multi-cultural community. Visiting principal and staff member, Yiqin Xi and Yahe Huang; and their students are looking forward to the experiences afforded to them.
School Photographs
Class photographs and portrait photographs will be taken on Wednesday, 12th March so please ensure your child/children are dressed in school uniform. All siblings will have a ‘FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH’ taken and after the day, parents can order the photos if you would like to purchase them.

- CLASS and PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHS on Wednesday, 12th MARCH
- FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS on Thursday, 13th MARCH.

Sports Shorts
Welcome back to school everyone. This year we have many exciting events happening. Term 1 will be extremely busy with school and district swimming, district tennis, school cross country and a ‘5’ a side inter school soccer tournament. Please note the following events and dates for term 1.

- Monday 16th February school swimming trials
- Monday 23rd February District Swimming
- Wednesday 11th March Divisional Swimming
- Friday 13th March District Tennis
- Wednesday 18th March School Cross Country
- Tuesday 24th March Soccer Tournament

The year 5 and 6 camp is in term 2 from the 27th April to the 29th April at Camp Rumbug. If you are interested in attending a camp please see Jim Narayan ASAP.

During term 1 it is essential that students wear a wide brimmed hat. No hat means no play.

Thanking you for your continued support.
Jim Narayan, H&PE Coordinator

School Injuries and Insurance
Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you would also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund. The Department of Education and Training [DET] does not hold accident insurance for school students, however, reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. The Department cannot advise parents on whether to purchase a student accident policy or which policy to purchase as individual families are likely to have differing needs. Their decision may be affected by other insurance cover they hold, the extent to which their children participate in sports or other physical activities at school and the particular disposition of their children.

School Banking
School banking officially commenced on Wednesday 10 February with our school banking coordinator, Anthea, and parent helper, Faye. They are both looking forward to increased numbers of students participating in this worthwhile life skill. Hopefully our numbers of regular bankers can swell - just like the savings of our regulars!! We are off to a GREAT start with 125 deposits being made! This is 27.5% of our total enrolments!

Remember, the amount that is deposited is not as important as creating a regular habit of saving. Remember our catch phrase - spend a little … save a little … and … save often!

Like previous years, for each deposit made, a token is awarded and when ten tokens have been collected, they can be redeemed for an incentive prize! New incentive prizes are available each term!

Last year, with a total of 2,953 deposits made, Brentwood Park Primary also earned a commission of $1,205.37. So, School Banking is a program worth supporting financially for the school in addition to the financial literacy of our children.

House Captain Elections
With the school captains 2015 elected in the final weeks of 2014, the House Captain elections were undertaken last week. All students who stood, presented themselves admirably and spoke confidently. Congratulations are extended to the newly elected House Captains for 2015.

Akoonah House…………………Alice and Olivia
Casey House ……………………Ben and Tatiana
Cardinia House ………………...Keegan and Queenie
Gardiner House ………………..Josh and Tahlia

H
Schedule 4 - Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of BRENWOOD PARK P. S.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4 pm on Friday 27 February 2015.

The ballot will close at 4 pm on 13 March 2015.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

James Bell
Principal

Notes:

"Electorate of the school" means the Department of Education and Training [DET] employee electorate of the school and the Parent electorate of the school.

"Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, other than those who are DET employees.

"DET employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and –

DET employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school) and other DET employees who are parents of students of the school.

"DET employee" –

(a) means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of at least 90 days -

(i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or
(ii) under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or
(iii) by a school council of a State school; or
(iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1958; or
(v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and

(b) does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person.

Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the school on any day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.
BPPS Student Leadership

School Captains

Raphaela  Jemma  Tim  Jayden

House Captains

Ben  Tatiana

Keegan  Queenie

Alice  Olivia

Josh  Tahilla
SCHOOL BANKING

Karen Shaw began school banking 8 years ago. Her amazing commitment saw it grow during that time from 20 students to approximately 80-90 students. But as the time moves on, so do our students and parents. We now welcome Anthea Barry as our new banking co-ordinator for 2015. Please don’t hesitate to contact Anthea with any queries in relation to all things school banking.

Welcome

With the New Year, we welcome new students to the school, especially our foundation students. To ensure they don’t miss out during term one, we encourage you to hand in your banking on each Tuesday, so they can be processed on the Wednesday.

“Spend a little...save a little...and save often”

School banking is a fantastic way to teach your kids about savings. Here are a few benefits of note:

- For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token.
- Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

- Our school earns $5 commission on every deposit made and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Last year, Brentwood Park raised $1,205 from the banking program which benefits the school in the resources it can provide the students.

Commonwealth Bank also runs many competitions throughout the year. This year, students who make a minimum of 25 deposits in 2015 through School Banking will be automatically entered into the draw to win a family trip to Disneyland, California.

Thank you in advance for supporting the School Banking program at Brentwood Park Primary School.

School Banking Day Reminder.

Important information to remember:

- The school banking day is each Wednesday
- The first banking day for the 2015 year is February 11th; and
- The last banking day for 2015 is December 9th
Term 1
Week ending 6th February 2015

FBV  Blake  For caring for his new friends in FBV. Thanks, Blake!
FSM  Ben  For displaying awesome ‘getting along skills’. You are a super star!
1HG  Charlie  For being kind, caring and welcoming to new students. A GREAT start. WELL DONE!
1MB  Joshua  For his spectacular recount writing about investigation time.
1MM  Abbigail  For displaying excellent writing skills and having a wonderful attitude towards her learning!
2AD  Jada  For a great start to Grade 2 at your new school. Well done!
2RG  Morteza  For making a sensational start at B.P.P.S and using his getting along skills.
2/3C  Nikola  For making a super start to the year! You have such a positive, hardworking attitude.
3ER  3ER  For such a positive, enthusiastic and co-operative start to 2015! Keep it up!
3LP  3LP  For a BRILLIANT start to the Year. You have all done AMAZING work! Well done! You are all SUPERSTARS!
4SM  Jake  For being focussed and working diligently all week. Well done & keep it up!
4VK  Gabrielle  For settling wonderfully in Year 4 at our school.
5CH  Casey  For completing excellent work all week and welcoming our new students to B.P.P.S. Well done!
5CP  Berzan  For his outstanding organisation, enthusiasm and getting along skills.
5LF  5LF  For fantastic start to the year. Well done on working so hard!
6JA  6JA  For making a super dooper start to the year. We will have a great year!
6JD  6JD  For having an amazing start to 2015 and all being so gorgeous.
6TS  6TS  For a great start to the year; a positive attitude and keen to learn.

‘SPECIALIST’ Stars of the Week

Performing Arts  5CP  For enthusiastic and confident singing of “Flea!” in three parts.
Visual Arts  2AD  For their wonderful continuous line scribble art and for being welcoming to the new students in their class.
L.O.T.E  3LP  For their excellence in Chinese paper-cutting & helpfulness in cleaning up the Chinese Classroom!
ON HOT DAYS, NEVER LEAVE KIDS ALONE IN CARS. NO EXCEPTIONS. NO EXCUSES.

The temperature inside a parked car can double within minutes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION kidsafevic.com.au
Cranbourne Calisthenics

Calisthenics has something for everyone! Dancing, marching, apparatus, strength, singing, flexibility, co-ordination and teamwork.

Calisthenics includes performance, friendship and fun. If these are the attributes you are looking for in a sport -

CALISTHENICS ~ something for everyone!

First Class Free!

Classes for 2015:

- Tinies (3 - 7 years) ~ Wednesday 5pm
- Sub Juniors (8-10 years) ~ Tuesday 5pm
- Juniors (11 - 13 years) ~ Thursday 4.30pm
- Intermediates(13-16 years) ~ Wednesday 6.30pm
- Seniors (16+ years) ~ Tuesday 7pm
- Masters (28+) ~ Thursday 7.30pm

Enquiries:
June 9807 4021  Leanne 59968871
www.cranbournecalisthenics.org
CALLING ALL GIRLS

Casey Comets Football is looking for new Players to join our Women's Premier League Pathway. The Club has several girls only teams from juniors upwards and all will receive training under the direction of the Women’s Head UEFA Licence Coach. We are especially looking for girls aged 8 - 12

Casey Comets is the only Soccer Club in the area that can provide the highest Club level football to girls from juniors through to Women’s Premier League.

Casey Comets players have represented A league Clubs and also played at National level.

Female soccer is one of the fastest growing sports in Australia.

Forward your interest to dawnstone@caseycomets.com.au
Waverley Gymnastics Centre
NARRE WARREN CAMPUS

WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO LEARN HANDSTANDS, CARTWHEELS & SOMERSAULTS? HERE’S THEIR CHANCE!

Gymnastics is not only a fantastic and fun sport in its own right; it also gives an exceptional base level of coordination, skill and confidence that assists children to achieve in all their other sports and life skills!

CALL 9887-9611 TO BOOK A FREE TRIAL CLASS!!

Waverley’s Narre Warren campus at Fountain Gate Primary School is an outstanding venue, with exceptional fully qualified coaches, offering fun and challenging gymnastics classes for primary school-aged girls and boys of all abilities!

Times: Wednesday & Thursday afternoons.
Address: Prospect Hill Road, Narre Warren (Melways Ref. 110 B1)

For more information, or to book a FREE trial class, please visit www.waverleygymnastics.org.au, or call 9887-9611

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PRIMARY MUSIC INSTITUTE
Instrumental Music Lessons - Small Group And Private Lessons

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Keyboard Lessons At Your School

- Enrol TODAY – via PMI’s website OR enrolment forms available from the school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – typically during the school day
- Only $13.50 per child per small group lesson (typically 3-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available ($32.50 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via “PMI Stars” program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for lessons (students bring only PMI Stars workbook)
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child’s school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces available for Term 1 so please enroll ASAP

Growing Great Kids

For parents and carers of primary school aged children

Are you tired of Yelling?
How to get kids to listen, without having to yell

Dealing with Anger
Helping parents, helping kids deal with anger and frustration

Technology and our kids
When to limit it, and how?

Strategies that Work
How can parenting be easier, and more fun!

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

- Refreshments provided -

When: 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Tuesday 17th February – 24th March 2015

Where: Timbarra Community Centre
Parkhill Drive, Berwick

Who: Parents, grandparents, step-parents or carers

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

- NO COST – but bookings required -
Tuning in to Kids

ARE YOU ON THE SAME WAVE LENGTH WITH YOUR CHILD OR THE CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE?

A parent/carer’s program in 6 sessions to help you tune in to the child in your care.

Would you like to learn how to:
  » Be better at tuning into your child’s emotions?
  » Be better at understanding your child?
  » Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
  » Teach your child how to deal with conflict?

Feedback has shown that Tuning in to Kids helps children:
  » To calm down when distressed
  » Get along better with other children
  » Express their emotions in more appropriate ways

Who: Parents and carers of young children up to 10 years of age

When: Tuesday 12.30 pm - 3.00pm
      February 17th - March 24th 2015

Where: Connections Uniting Care, 55 Webb Street, Narre Warren.


Contact: Judy Chu 03 9704 8377
         or Megan Clarke 03 5990 8400

connections.org.au
Who’s in Charge?

Does your child hurt, intimidate or abuse you? Do you feel you are losing control? Want to better handle conflict?

"Dear Andy — How are you? Your mother and I are fine. We both miss you and hope you are doing well. We look forward to seeing you again the next time your computer crashes and you come downstairs for something to eat. Love, Mom and Dad."

The Who’s in Charge? group is a 7-week program for parents or carers of young people (8 to 18) who are beyond control, violent or defiant.

The group aims to:
- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child’s behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing safety and wellbeing
- Help you feel more in control and less stressed

Starting – Wednesday 25th February 2015 @ 9:30am - 12pm
Finishing – Wednesday 22nd April 2015 (longer session)
(no group during school holidays 1/4/15 & 8/4/15)

At Hampton Park Uniting Place
1 Coral Drive, Hampton Park 3976

Enquiries & Enrolment (essential):
Contact the Group Workers at Cranbourne on 5990 8400

Gold Coin Donation
Further info on violence to parents: www.eddiegallagher.id.au
connections.org.au
Newsletter article

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.
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.
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

Freestyle