Sister Schools - Brentwood Park Primary School and Yangzhong Experimental Primary

As informed previously, in last week’s newsletter, an outcome from attendance at the recent Jiangsu International Forum for School Principals was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, by school principals, formalising a sister school agreement between Brentwood Park Primary School and Yangzhong Experimental Primary School.

Sister school programs have a significant positive effect on the global awareness, attitudes and response of students across both primary and secondary schools. These benefits are of the greatest significance once relationships have been well established and embedded within the school. However, short-term benefits are also evident. Research highlights the positive impact that such relationships can have across a range of areas for students, schools and the school community.

Sister schools contribute to:
- Intercultural understanding within the school community
- Increased global awareness and internationalisation within the school community
- Opportunities to better understand one’s own culture/country
- Personal development of the student eg leadership, maturity, independence
- Improved ability of students to adjust to different situations
- Opportunities for sharing pedagogies and engage in joint curriculum development
- Opportunities for reciprocal travel
- Enhancing the reputation of the school

Sister schools benefit their students by getting them to look beyond their own world and understand the lives of other people in a genuine and meaningful way.

Principals, Xi Yiqin, China and Jim Bell, Australia
**Dragon Romp**
This term 4SM participated in a program called Dragon Romp. The program was created by Sue Oakes, a Social Worker for the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Jenny Reid enjoyed facilitating the program with 4SM. Dragon Romp is an interactive group program to build social skills and emotional intelligence through music and play.

The program covered the following:

- communicating to others, how to get your message across
- being brave and taking safe risks
- tolerating others
- daring to be yourself
- keeping yourself healthy
- setting goals and accepting support to reach them
- having fun and the importance of humour
- how to get along

At the end of the program the students celebrated by having a party in our outdoor area on a lovely spring day.

**School Veggie Garden Extension**
Thanks are forwarded to two of our school dads, Paul Leys and Jeremy Lucas who have been volunteering their skills in the development of our school’s veggie garden!

Their contribution will enable the Carlisle Grant of $9,660 to “spread” that little bit further! In addition to the physical challenge of building, Paul and Jeremy had the challenge of incorporating elements of the six winning student garden designs!

To date, form work has been erected in readiness for the pouring of concrete for the floor of the soon to be relocated garden shed and the erection of two new garden sheds!

Two additional raised garden beds are also planned for construction next week! Once they are topped up with soil, Vicki and the Year 4 team can commence the summer planting, even before works are fully completed!

**Before School Literacy and Numeracy Diligence**
To support students in their learning throughout the year, Lyn Forsyth and Heather Ghazarian, Year 5 teachers, have been providing before school classes in numeracy and literacy. The classes were conducted from 8:15 to 8:45 twice a week. Up to twelve students at a time would take advantage of the additional class lessons which were tailored to suit the students’ requirements and attendance was purely voluntary.

At last week’s assembly, the students’ diligence was recognised by awarding them merit certificates. Commendations were particularly awarded to Abby M in Year 5 LF who achieved 100% attendance at both the extra numeracy and literacy classes throughout the year!

I’m confident that all students benefitted greatly from Lyn’s and Heather’s additional support!
**Change of Date**

**Graduation & Group Photographs**

*ARE BEING TAKEN ON MONDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER commencing at 9:00am.*

Children need to be dressed in the school uniform. The Year Six children are to wear the Year Six bomber jacket. The group photographs include: Peer Mediators, SRC, School and House Captains, the Regional Football Team, Regional Athletics Team, Regional Swimming Team and Regional Cross-Country Team.

**Sports Shorts: Interschool Sport**

Last week, we played our District Lightning Premiership in fine conditions. Of the games played, Brentwood Park did extremely well in all of the summer sports. It was a great day with all schools involved giving their best performances. The competition was of a high standard with all students involved playing fairly and to the best of their ability.

From the school’s eight teams competing, Brentwood Park were premiers in Volley Stars A. The other sports were all very close and exciting, however, the Volley Stars was our only summer sport pennant.

Can all basketball singlets please be washed and returned to school.

Thanks to our year 5/6 teachers for their efforts in the summer sport season. Congratulations to Lyn, Judy, Trish, Cathy and a special ‘Thank You’ to Peter for his assistance with the boys’ basketball team. It was great to see so many parents supporting our teams during the sports season.

Jim Narayan, H&PE Coordinator

---

**National Nude Food Day is coming!**

During the last week of November, Brentwood Park Primary will be involved in celebrating National Nude Food Day. Our students will join other students across the country in bringing healthy, wrapper free lunches to school over a week **beginning the 24th of November.** National Nude Food Day is a chance for students to improve their health and the health of the planet. Parents please encourage your child to pack a wrapper free lunch and snack each day of this focus week to be a Nude Food Warrior for our environment.

For healthy Nude Food lunch ideas visit www.nudefoodday.com.au.

**Camp 2015**

Next year the year 5 and 6 students will be attending Camp Rumbig. The camp will be early in term 2 on the 27th to 29th April. Any parents who wish to attend camp need to contact Jim Narayan. A ‘working with children’s check’ is also essential in order to attend camp. Further information regarding camp will be sent out in 2015.

**Developing Author - Baylon 4 CH**

On our recent professional development day, staff were trained in the use of VCOP. The program focuses on VOCABULARY, CONJUNCTIONS [or connectives], the development of powerful sentence beginnings [OPENERS] and their use of PUNCTUATION. The children across all year levels have embraced the strategies taught in VCOP to develop their writing! An example is presented for your enjoyment!

**The Vligon Dragon**

Once there was a ferocious dragon called Vligon. Great warriors tried to battle this vicious beast, but they had succeeded poorly and not many travellers had succeeded at catching a glimpse of this magnificent beast.

When they come back half scared to death they say tales about what they considered the beast to look like. They say its appearance is similar to a scorching, blistering and boiling volcano. And it spits out tremendously searing lava. Its colour is violent, vivid, bloodshot red and authentic, genuine, ginger orange with buttery, creamy yellow.

It lives in an intensely sweltering volcanic region. The dragon endures the folk that attempt to encounter it. The zone has exceedingly roasting meteors with lava on the molten rock that is assaulting in mid air. The colour of the volcanos is ferocious, enflamed red and dim, creamy beige yellow.

Baylon 4 CH

Baylon had the opportunity to read his story at assembly!
2RG’s Swimming Confidence

2RG’s responses when asked to reflect on the ways they have developed confidence in the water:

Alexia - I can swim in the deep end.  Tina - At swimming I have made new friends and learnt new skills.  Aimee - I have learnt how to dive and how to handle deep water.

Rhylee - I have improved my swimming skills and how to do survival backstroke.

Jackson - I am more confident to go in the deep end of the pool.  Shae - I am better at backstroke.

Katie - I am no longer scared of going in the deep end of the pool.  Alyssa - I can now do survival backstroke.  Isabelle - I am confident to swim under the water.  Emily - I can do survival backstroke.  Vincent - I have improved my freestyle.  Imogen - I can now dive into the deep water.

Rachel - I am more confident to do backstroke.  Jordan - I can do survival backstroke.

Ashton - My freestyle has got better.  Heath - am more confident at my backstroke, torpedo and freestyle.  Lerato - I am better at my freestyle.  Chris - I have improved my backstroke.

Alexandra - I am better at floating and swimming under water.
from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

Don't let anyone feel left out....

....be a good friend!

Record IT  REPORT IT  DON'T SUPPORT IT

PLEASE STOP BULLYING NOW!
STAND UP & SPEAK OUT

See it
Say it
STOP IT!

Ben

take a stand - lend a hand

stop bullying now!

Power of a Friend

The No Bully Zone

1 Million BULLIES
3 Million VICTIMS
ONE voice to STOP it all
Term 4
Week ending 14th November 2014

‘SPECIALIST’ Stars of the Week
Performing Arts  1MM  For showing me the actions you made up with Felix.
Visual Arts  4SM  For their fabulous collage using unfamiliar materials. Well done!
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
To celebrate Brentwood Park commencing the VCOP and Big Write program we would like you to design the Brentwood Park VCOP characters. There is an example at the top of the page: The characters are **Vinny Vocabulary, Connie Connective, Ollie Opener** and **Penny Punctuation**.

Your task will be to design:

- The characters using the correct colours.
- Draw the character/s (don’t make it too detailed and make it interesting)
- On A4 paper.
- Should have the colour of the strategy on it.
- You can design all of the characters or just some.

*On the page are some examples other schools have used BUT we want our own.*

* Due on the 28th of November
* Prizes for the winners
* Winners announced 5th December
Rewarding regular savings with precious prizes.

The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:

- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip 'N Slide Double Wave Riders

Here's how to win

Every deposit you make with School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition. So the more you save, the more chances you have to win (up to a maximum of 8 entries).


To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers

from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

ENROL BEFORE
DECEMBER 7TH
TO QUALIFY
FOR OUR EARLY
BIRD DISCOUNT

WEEK ONE
Basketball and Netball Camp (12 - 14 Jan)
Indoor Soccer (15 - 16 Jan)

WEEK TWO
Basketball and Netball Camp (19 - 21 Jan)
Indoor Soccer (22 - 23 Jan)

Basketball and Netball Camps will be held at the same time at the same venue but will be two separate camps, with different groups and different coaches. So participants can enrol in either Basketball or Netball not a combination of both.

AGES
6 - 12 years.

Limited vacancies available: Basketball and Netball only 30 places available for each sport per camp. Indoor Soccer 45 places available.

Berwick Indoor Sports 2 and 3 day Sports Camps focus on skill development and fun. Camps involve sport specific coaching and development so that participants not only have a great time but also learn or advance their skills within their chosen sports.

The camps will cater for complete beginners in the sport as well as club level players. Participants will be placed into a group according to their age and skill level.

COST
Basketball and Netball Camps three days $150 per participant. Early bird discount $125 if enrol online before December 7th 2016.

Indoor Soccer two days $100 per participant. Early bird discount $75 if enrol online before the 7th of December. There is also a 10% discount for registering a second child of the same family.

LOCATION
Berwick Indoor Sports Centre
(Kambrya College) 68 Bemersyde Drive, Berwick.

ON-LINE ENROLMENTS ONLY
www.berwickindoorsports.com
Berwick Indoor Sports Centre
9, 65 Bemersyde Drive Berwick, VIC
p. 03 8786 7892
Free two day workshop and information sessions for parents and carers of school age children on the autism spectrum

**Workshop: 2014VICPC9 Location: Ringwood**

Like all school-age students, children with autism spectrum disorder benefit from strong, positive relationships between the home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers.

**What will you learn?**

- Develop a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child both at school and at home
- Understand how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- Learn specific strategies that will help you:
  - advocate for your child
  - support your child’s participation at school
  - develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
  - have information about your local school system’s processes
  - Have the opportunity to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- Have the opportunity to discuss a range of topics relevant to students with ASD and their families

**Workshop details**

**Venue:** Karralyka
Mines Road, Ringwood East VIC 3134

**When:** Two day workshop – Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 November 2014
Day 1: 9.00 am - 4.30 pm (Registration from 8.15 am)
Day 2: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm

**Registration available from Tuesday 14 October 2014 and closes two days prior.**
*We strongly recommend you register as soon as possible to secure your place. You will receive confirmation of your registration.*
Online registrations are preferred directly through our secure website [www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au)

Phone the Positive Partnerships Infoline if you have any enquiries: 1300 881 971

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism Package. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.
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.
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.

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.

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 drivers licence number to assist police in returning located bicycles
Moonlit Sanctuary School Holidays
Young Ranger Program

Environmental Activities, Native Animal Care,
Fun and Games during **Summer 2015.**

Monday 5th, Wednesday 7th, Friday 9th January
Monday 12th, Wednesday 14th, Friday 16th January
Monday 19th, Wednesday 21st, Friday 23rd January

Cost: $45.00 per day, or $120 for 3 days (pro rata for additional days).
**Bookings essential** - suitable 7-14 years.
Hours: 10AM – 4PM
Wear closed-toe shoes and long pants and remember your hat.
Lunches: BYO or may be purchased in our cafe

Moonlit Sanctuary
550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale
Ph. 5978-7935
Web: [www.moonlit-sanctuary.com](http://www.moonlit-sanctuary.com)
Open daily between 10am and 5pm

---

**Home of the BLACK & WHITE**

**COME AND PLAY FOOTY AT THE**
**NARRE WARREN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**WE REQUIRE PLAYERS FOR THE**
**2015 SEASON.**
**ALL AGE GROUPS**
**AUSKICK-U17**

**SWEENEY RESERVE, NARRE WARREN**
**70 MELZAK WAY, BERWICK 111 A10**
First Registration date Sunday 7th December 10am – 12pm

Play with your mates, make new friends, but most importantly have a great time keeping fit & healthy. NWJFC is a family-friendly club that instils the value of sportsmanship & community in our players & officials.
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