Welcome
A sincere welcome back is extended to all our returning staff, students and families with special acknowledgements given to our new staff members; Amy Dickson who is teaching Year 2 and former staff member Cathi Priest who is teaching Year 5. Welcome also to the new families who have joined the Brentwood Park Learning Community for the first time. I trust all have had a refreshing and satisfying break and are ready for the challenges and rewards of the new school year!

Start of School
It is pleasing to report to our community, the extremely smooth start to the school year. With an enrolment of 456 students, books were quickly unpacked, welcomes and introductions exchanged and lessons readily commenced! Thanks are forwarded to the staff who worked so industriously on the days before the students commenced to ensure such a smooth start to the year. The classrooms were organized, colourful and welcoming!

The efforts of the children themselves, assisted by their parents, must also be acknowledged. The manner in which they commenced the 2015 school year is commendable.

Our cohort of sixty-three preps settled extremely well into their first year of school! With photographs taken by accompanying parents and grandparents, final hugs were exchanged and the children soon became absorbed in their classroom activities. The collage of photographs has captured the excitement and engagement of our Foundations students’ first day!

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM DATES 2015</th>
<th>TERM 1 29 JAN - 27 MARCH</th>
<th>TERM 2 13 APRIL - 26 JUNE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TERM 3 13 JULY-18 SEPT.</td>
<td>TERM 4 05 OCT - 18 DEC.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06 FEB</td>
<td>FIRST CANTEEN DAY 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11 FEB</td>
<td>STUDENT BANKING COMMENCES (TUESDAYS FOR FOUNDATION DURING FEB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 FEB</td>
<td>SWIMMING TRIALS ($11.00 DUE FRIDAY 13 FEB) NON REFUNDABLE</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 FEB</td>
<td>DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/27 FEB</td>
<td>CHINESE SISTER SCHOOL VISITATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 FEB</td>
<td>YEAR 6 MUSEUM AND PARLIAMENT HOUSE EXCURSION (NOTICE TO FOLLOW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 MARCH</td>
<td>YEAR 6 SCIENCEWORKS EXCURSION (NOTICE TO FOLLOW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 MARCH</td>
<td>CLASS PHOTOS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 MARCH</td>
<td>FAMILY GROUP PHOTOS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JIM BELL, PRINCIPAL  JENNY REID, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Bearded Dragons visit Foundation Students
The Foundation students had a couple of unusual visitors this week! Glenn, our School Chaplain visited the Foundation students to introduce himself and his two pet bearded dragons, Chevy and Kobi. He also visited other classes to welcome all students back to school. Belle in Foundation BV was very confident in handling the lizards and asked Glenn very interesting questions about his unusual pets, for example: Why did Glenn have them?” and “Why aren’t they hiding in the bush? I am sure the students will be looking forward to seeing Glenn next week, and perhaps Chevy and Kobi.

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

Chinese Language and Culture -

Chinese Sister School Visit...
As you may be aware, an outcome from attendance at the Jiangsu International Forum for School Principals in 2014 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. Research in sister school relationships often 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 e.g. 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
- Enhancement of the reputation of the school

On 26 and 27 February two staff members and nine children aged 9 – 12 years from our sister school, Yangzhong Experimental Primary School, will visit Brentwood Park Primary as part of a seven day cultural visit to Australia.

To facilitate further experience of Australian culture for the children, host families within our school community will billet 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!
PRIMARY SCHOOL CHALLENGE

School students are invited to participate in an Australian themed competition to coincide with the launch of the new historically based television series—Australia: The Story of Us; an extraordinary television series about the people, places and events that have shaped Australia from its first inhabitants to the present day! The episodes will be rated PG and have been created for the whole family to enjoy!

Students in Years Four, Five and Six are eligible to play along in a weekly online quiz where they answer questions related to significant events in Australia’s history. They will compete against other students in Victoria for the chance to win a $10,000 grant for their school, plus prizes for the whole family.

The competition starts on Sunday 8 February 2015 and it’s easy for students and parents to play along.

- Students watch Australia: The Story of Us
- Go to Yahoo7.com.au/StoryofUs and answer the quiz questions related to that episode
- Students sign up with their name and school details [with parent/guardian consent]
- Each correct answer contributes to the final score
- Minor prize wines will be announced on the website each week
- Five finalist schools in each state will be invited to tell us why they should win the grant
- One winning school in each state will receive $10,000, thanks to iiNet

Regardless of the incentive prizes, is the greater educational incentive—knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the people, places and events that have shaped Australia from its past to the present day!
# Staffing at Brentwood Park 2015

**Principal**  
Jim Bell  

**Assistant Principal**  
Jenny Reid  

**Business Managers**  
Sue Moore  
Robyn Boag-Martineli  

- **Office Manager**  
  Maree Dale  
- **Office Administration / First Aid**  
  Ros Cleversley  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 6TS</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Trish Shaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6JD</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jo-Anne Doran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6JA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Judy Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5CP</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cathi Priest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5CH</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Carolyn Hilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5LF</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Lyn Forsyth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4SM</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Shanitha Maharaj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4VK</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Vicki Kromlidis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3C</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Catherine Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3ER</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Emma Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3LP</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Lyn Pears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2RG</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rosemary Gloz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2AD</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Amy Dickson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1MB</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Marina Botros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1HG</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Heather Ghazarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1MM</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Michelle Mason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 0TL</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tania Lucas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 0BV</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Beth Van Es</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 0SM</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sharlene Marsche</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Health and Physical Education**  
Jim Narayan  

**Visual Arts**  
Joi Zappia  

**Performing Arts**  
Linda Moore  

**Chinese [Mandarin]**  
Chunyan Zhang  

**Integration Aides**  
Mandy Scarlett  
Sandra Hess  
Toni Coelho  
Jill Strafford  
Kathy Hymas  
Samantha Smith  
Marlene Masciulli  

**Multi Media**  
Annette Wright  

**Technician**  
Jill Phillips  

**Chaplain**  
Glenn Douglas
Asthma and Thunderstorms

Summer storms are becoming more frequent throughout Australia. Thunderstorms can combine heavy rain, high humidity and strong winds. A European study found there are observations in favour of the possibility that thunderstorms disturb ground-level pollen grains, bursting the pollen grains and making the allergens small enough to be inhaled into the lungs. There is also evidence that after rain and during wet conditions there are a larger amount of fungal spores in the air. These can act as a trigger for asthma symptoms.

What can you do?

- Ensure preventer medication is taken as prescribed.
- Have an up to date Asthma Care Plan.
- If your asthma gets worse during thunderstorms try to stay indoors with the windows closed.
- Always carry your reliever medication with you.

For more information on Thunderstorms and asthma please see www.asthmaaustralia.org.au

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Does your child have an up to date Asthma Action Plan (Asthma Care Plan)?
The Asthma Care/Action Plan tells the school how to manage your child’s asthma and what to do if their asthma gets worse. This should be updated & signed by the doctor on an annual basis.

Does your child carry their reliever puffer and spacer with them at all times? Or is it readily available to their Carers?
Medication needs to be available wherever your child may be (school, child care, sporting field, home)

Are you and your child aware of their asthma triggers?
Do you take steps to avoid these triggers? Are the Teachers aware of these triggers?

Do you listen to what your child says?
They will be aware of their asthma symptoms and should be able to tell you when they need their medication.

Does your child take their asthma medication correctly?
Good technique allows more medication to get into the lungs where it is needed. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like to check your device technique.
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
Cathy-Lea
dance.music.drama
Experts in entertainment education since 1993.
All ages. All abilities. All styles.
www.cathy-lea.com 9704-7324

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


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 enrol ASAP
Berwick Panthers Basketball Club
Winter Season 2015
Now taking registrations!

Ages: 5 years – 15 years
U8, U10, U12, U14, U16
Boys and girls competitions
Places are filling fast!

For registration form, please visit:
www.berwickpanthers.com.au
For more information, please email:
president@berwickpanthers.com.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
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
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
Green events in Casey
February-June 2015

Participate. Learn. Enjoy.

Workshop – Reduce your waste and reduce your bills
Bring your household bills along and find out what all the jargon means. This workshop will help you to audit and reduce your waste, electricity, gas and water use and teach you some simple tricks to save money.

Date: Thursday 5 February
Time: 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm
Venue: Meeting Room 7, City of Casey Civic Centre, Magid Drive, Narre Warren
Cost: Free
Bookings: City of Casey Customer Service on 9705 5200

Workshop – Backyard chooks for beginners
Learn how to keep chickens in your own backyard in a cost effective, low maintenance and sustainable way allowing them to be healthy and productive. Topics include council laws, food and nutrition, appropriate housing and predator protection.

The workshop will also include practical handling training/an opportunity to handle live hens, as well as a discussion around the difference between various breeds to help find the most suitable type of hen for your needs.

Date: Thursday 19 February
Time: 6.30 pm – 8.00 pm
Venue: Myuna Farm, 182 Kidds Road, Doveton
Princes Highway, Berwick
Cost: $10 payable to Myuna Farm on 9706 9944
Bookings: City of Casey Customer Service on 9705 5200

Date: Friday 5 June
Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Venue: Education Room, Wilson Botanic Park, 668
Cost: $10 payable to the Park on 9707 5818

Clean Up Australia Day
Clean Up Australia Day is a national event held on the first Sunday in March. Register a site or volunteer at a site near you at www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au.
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.
SEVEN PRACTICAL INFORMATION SESSIONS

‘Everyday Finances’
Want to stretch your income further? The tips given in this better money management workshop can help you.
Presented by: Lisa Hansen; Casey North CISS.
Thursday 19th February 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘Blokes Talk’
Real Men can Do Anything ... Can’t They?
Presented by: Ric Wakeling; Better Men Australia.
Thursday 21st May 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘Life Struggles’
There is hope even when our problems seem to be insurmountable.
Presented by: Shirley Floyd; Registered Midwife, and Grief Counsellor.
Thursday 4th June 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘Age & Integrity’
Understanding Dementia.
Presented by: Cheryl Lyon; Alzheimer’s Australia Vic.
Thursday 18th June 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘The Young & Restless’
Working towards a better relationship with your young person.
Presented by: Kristy Morley; Windermere (community service organization).
Thursday 19th March 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘Relationships & Family’
With better ‘communication’ our relationships improve. Let’s ‘keep it together’ by attending this presentation.
Presented by: Noreen O’Brien; Casey North CISS.
Thursday 16th April 2015, 7.30 p.m.

‘When A Child Is Born’
A life changing time in more ways than one.
Presented by: Shirley Floyd; Registered Midwife, and Grief Counsellor.
Thursday 7th May 2015, 7.30 p.m.

Sessions will be held at:
The ‘Community Room’
Narre Warren North Uniting Church
1-13 Main Street,
Narre Warren North.
Contact: Trevor Ratcliffe (‘Skills For Life’ Coordinator)
0428472030
Email: narrrenorth.uc@gmail.com

Discover solutions to life problems over seven informative sessions.
Presented by the following:

Casey North Community Information & Support Service:

Windermere community service organisation

Shirley Floyd. Registered Midwife & Grief Counsellor

Alzheimer’s Australia Vic

Better Men Australia

Narre Warren North Uniting Church
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 TheCourageous11 contact email: TheCourageous11@hotmail.com
Funding support from Abbott Diabetes Care