

Brunswick East Primary School

Friendship

Empathy

Resilience

Creativity

Wonder



NEWSLETTER: 2 FEBRUARY 2017 - ISSUE 1

CONGRATULATIONS TO KATIE B ON THE BIRTH OF LITTLE MIA.

BEPS Calendar includes term dates

Next Friday Market

From Janet:

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BEPS Community Events

Community Ads

Next Friday Market: Friday 3 February: (No Market)

TERM DATES 2017

Term 1: Monday 30 January to 31 March

Term 2: 18 April to 30 June

Term 3: 17 July - 22 September

Term 4: 9 October - 22 December

Our Vision: To create confident, passionate and curious learners who are highly literate and numerate, have high expectations and are engaged in their community.

www.beps.vic.edu.au

PLEASE NOTE: Children are supervised at school between **8.45am** and **3.45pm** each school day. They should not be on school grounds outside those times. If you require your child to be supervised outside those times they need to be at OSHC.

Phone: 9387 3361, 9387 5707;
Fax: 9388 1949; OSHC Phone: 9387 2631
Email: brunswick.east.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



From Janet

Welcome back to BEPS 2017!

It is fantastic to have all of our students and our new prep students at BEPS. The excitement among students, parents and teachers has been infectious and the kids just have the biggest smiles.

This year is the beginning of the new Strategic Plan for BEPS and so we will be taking the opportunity to: build on our strengths; improve our practice and student outcomes, in line with feedback and student data; and fully implement the new Victorian Curriculum.

The amount of time, effort and money that we put into any particular activity signals the value and commitment we have to that activity. So at BEPS what are we going to spend our time, effort and money on?

Improving Student Outcomes:

- All teachers will receive dedicated time to conference with students and assess students in addition to their normal teaching time.
- Mel has continues 2 days a week this year and will work with all 1,2,3 LCs to support student literacy, centred around writing. Chris will work with all 4,5,6 LCs to support student literacy, centred around writing. We know from our data last year that our students have strong vocabulary and creative ideas we hope that through the support of Chris and Mel we can improve those qualities even more while enriching student writing opportunities. Yes there will be a festival during the year – probably a whole week this year. So we will call out now for all those writers in our community (authors, editors, journalists, letter writers, bloggers, face book and twitter contributors) who might be able to support the program in some way this year. Please let us know.
- Andrew will continue his coaching role and work with teachers to build their knowledge and practice of developing rigorous assessment techniques and using the data to improve student learning and this year concentrating on identifying effective practice.
- We will continue to use Fountas & Pinnell as our reading assessment program this year because we found that this system provides us with information on student's reading skills, comprehension and ability to make inferences for those students who are independent readers.

Ethical Thinking

- Last year you might remember that Katie B (supported by Dani) led the whole school development of Ethics at BEPS. This was such a success that this year Dani will work 0.5 at BEPS and 0.5 at the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority to develop Ethics across the Network. Congratulations Dani!

Digital Learning

- Peter Hocking will take over from Katie B and becomes ore Leading Teacher for Digital Learning. We will continue to improve our digital resources and examine and refine our practices.
- We will be definitely be looking at how digital technology improves student learning through improved assess and communication. We also hope to have some across school communication and debating this year.

Gardening Project:

- Ange, our "Garden Educator", continues with us two days a week to provide one practical gardening and environmental science session per fortnight. This will improve the level of science that students are exposed to and improve our sustainability curriculum. It will also enable LC teachers to have time in the LC to conference student work and carry out 1:1 assessments as needed..

- We had some fantastic parent help last year and we are hoping to have this continuing to support the garden project this year. This enables Ange to improve the quality and diversity of the program that can be offered. If you are able to help out please let Ange know and she will gladly accept your offer. If you have an expertise I am sure we can utilise it if that is what you want to do. If you know nothing about gardening and just like time outside or want to improve your knowledge of gardening, then please come along and learn alongside the kids.

Teacher Professional Development

- Will continue to take place after school, through the use of explicit PD activities, Action Research and Professional Reading. This year there will also be a greater emphasis on evidence of effective improvement.
- Teacher PD will centre on students in the LC and improving their outcomes.

Wellbeing

- You will probably notice that we have moved staff around a bit this year???. This is because we have a number of staff off on Family Leave, returning from family leave or taking up new positions at BEPS. It is also to give teachers experience across the school and improve our consistency.
- We have worked to reduce our group sizes where possible and I am happy to say that out prep, 1,2,3 LCs are around 62 (1 teacher to 21 students) and 4,5,6 LCs are about 72 (1 teacher to 24 students). Orizzonte is a bit smaller because of space.
- We have Rachel, Jennifer, Matt, Tom, Ulli and Ceri employed as classroom assistants to help out across the school as needed. However, please don't let this put you off from volunteering whenever and wherever you can. Your presence and support is absolutely critical, in whatever way you can.

Improved communication

- You have told us very clearly that you want us to improve our communication with you. We do try now but we acknowledge that we can improve. Hence **today is my last newsletter**. It's OK I will trial putting out a weekly blog and see if that it easier for you to access. I will be asking for your feedback in a few weeks.
- We will also try to give you more notice of activities and I plan to write about some of the different practices that we have here at BEPS.
- LCs will continue their communication with the whole LC or specific parents via email or their blogs.
- We will shortly put out a calendar of events planned for this year so that you are able to organise around special events such as student free days, 3 way conferences, camps and where possible excursions,
- Communication is a two way street. We are happy to look at ways to improve our practice but it does require that you engage with the school and read the information that we put out. Please don't rely on rumour for information. If we don't provide you with the information you require please email me (di.pilla.janet.j@edumail.vic.gov.au) and suggest how improvements can be made. Maybe you have suggestions about topics I could cover???
- We need you to communicate if your child has any medical condition that requires medication at school or which impacts up their ability to fully participate in school activities. We also need you to ensure that medication is up to date. If you are in any doubt about your child's status please contact Jill on, howells.jill.j@edumail.vic.gov.au she would be delighted to hear from you.

Tricicilo	Bec
	Julia
	Laura

Alv	Jennaya
	Chloe
	Sapphira

Bic	Jenny
	Eldon
	Dani
	Robyn

TV	Mark
	James
	Clare

IN	Julie
	Bec
	Fabienne

SNC	Steve
	Nate
	Katie C

Oriz	Suez
	Andrew
	Kristy
	Dean

Cur	Sarah
	Vanessa
	Peter
	Shona
	Enza
	Mary

Programs	Ange
	Mel
	Chris

So you can see that we are putting our time into curriculum, teacher professional learning, more consistency, smaller LC sizes and improved communication. We believe that this will result in better outcomes for your child/ren. All of these changes aim to build the social capital at BEPS. This requires time and additional teaching staff into the school. It requires mentoring and collaboration among teachers. It requires that we all collaborate so as to improve student outcomes and find measurable growth for students. We have put our money into these areas.

School Council Nominations:

Nominations for School Council will be going out soon. Joining School Council is a fantastic way to be part of the planning for BEPS this year and for the future and to meet other parents, develop friendships. Please think about, if this is something that you would be able to take on for 2 years – one meeting a month – or do you know someone who you would like to nominate – please have a talk to them.

Invitation

The LCs will be open from 3:30 pm on Thursday 9 February, parents/guardians of students in years 1-6 we will be having an open LC and information session. The LCs will be open for you to visit and catch up with teachers after school from 3:30pm. The 123 LCs will then have a short information session at 5pm in Bicicletta. The 456 LCs will have their information session at 5:30pm.

These information sessions are open for anyone to attend but will be geared primarily for those who are new to the school or new to the LC. The information given out at the sessions will be uploaded onto the website for all to read and for anyone who cannot make it on the night.

Let me remind you about:

- Speed limits in designated speed zones areas around the school during specified times (8.00 - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00 pm). We also have a lot of students and their parents who ride to school so please keep an eye out for them and give them as much room as possible. Remember some of the students will not have a lot of experience riding a bike as yet.

- It is also really important to remember that we might experience high temperatures for some of term 1. Please remember to not leave small children in the car but on hot days it is important **never** to leave children alone in a car. The temperatures inside a parked car during summer can be around 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the outside temperature and leaving children in hot cars, even for a moment, can result in serious injury or death. This is because children's smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks. Please remember that this advice is also applicable to pets that become very distressed very quickly if left in a hot car. Students need hats during term 1 and 4. A drink bottle would be good.
- It is very important that students attend school regularly if they are to achieve their maximum learning outcomes and develop ongoing friendships. This attendance includes days at school and students being on time. I realise that some mornings every conceivable obstacle aligns to stop you getting your child to school on time and that is OK. Please come in as usual and sign your child in late. However, if it is becoming an ongoing issue please contact us and let's see if we can work together to sort out some of the obstacles. Being here on time in the morning is important to enable teachers to set the tone for the day and touch base with all students in their home group. It also helps students know what is going on and hence have more confidence to know what is expected of them.
- Remember that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

Bourke street incident

- Over the past week, you will have seen coverage of the tragedy that occurred in the Bourke Street Mall. The incident may have affected your family. If you or your children have been impacted, please let me know so that we can provide assistance where necessary.
- Emergency Management Victoria has provided a brief video that outlines how adults can support children and youth in their recovery following this incident. There are also information sheets that can be used. If you would like to watch the video or access the resources, follow the links below:
- [Bourke Street Incident - information on trauma and the effects on children](#)
- [Tips for talking with and helping children and young people cope after community violence](#)

I hope that we can all work together this year and make BEPS even better for all of us this year but in particular offer our students the best education that we possibly can.
Have a great week

BEPS Community Events

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AT BEPS

BEPS offers the opportunity for children to learn a range of musical instruments and places are still available for 2017. Learning an instrument allows students to develop social, creative and coordination skills that will help them in other parts of their lives – it's also a lot of fun!

Instrumental music lessons take place during school hours with an experienced team of private tutors and include the following instruments – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Recorder, Classical or Modern Guitar, Ukelele, Piano, Percussion and Singing.

If you are interested in lessons please contact the appropriate tutor listed below – we'd love to hear from you!

Katherine Anderson Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Recorder, Classical Guitar
keanderson78@gmail.com

Liam Gerner (Uke4Kids) Ukelele
info@uke4kids.com

Nick Goulding Piano
nickgouldingmusic@yahoo.com

Julian Goyma Drums, Electric & Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar
j.goyma@gmail.com

Emma Bathgate Singing
embathgate@gmail.com



Brunswick East Primary School Community Facebook Page

The BEPS Facebook page is for parents and carers of current students only. It's a place we can share everyday information about school events, services relevant to the BEPS community and to record and reflect on school activities.

To join search for Brunswick East Primary School Community and send a message including the name of one of your kids and their learning community.

When you have been approved to join please ensure you read the guidelines. These are enforced to ensure the page is a safe place for positive engagement and community building.

Please note this page isn't an official school communication channel and is moderated by a rotating group of parent volunteers.

Community Ads



**Share your Australia
Host an Exchange Student in July 2017!**

WEP AUSTRALIA IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION OFFERING AUSTRALIAN FAMILIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTARILY HOST AN OVERSEAS HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE STUDENT.

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ENRICH YOUR FAMILY DYNAMIC AND MAKE 2017 FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Request a free information pack at
WEP.ORG.AU
Or SMS 'HOST'
0428 246 633

 1300 884 733 WEP.ORG.AU INFO@WEP.ORG.AU

Full Boarding Homestay Families Are Sought for International Students Studying at Northcote High School

Northcote High School seeks quality homestays from our local community, to help care for our young international students studying in year 10, 11 +12. They are mainly from Asian countries, such as China, Vietnam, Korea, Thailand and Cambodian and some International Students are from European countries such as Italy and Germany.

Hosting International Students can bring a rich cross cultural experience and opportunity for our families. Many local families are already on board with the Northcote High School Homestay Program and over the years have enjoyed and benefited from the diverse cultural and language exchange experience, especially when they have school age children at home. The reverse experience for our International Students is very much a part of their overseas study journey.

If you have a spare room and are willing to take care of a young international student please contact the International Student Office 9488 2334 or email wang.lixia.l@edumail.vic.gov.au for more information.

Full boarding homestay fees for 2017 are \$320 per week (tax free), which covers a fully furnished room, 3 healthy meals daily, laundry, household bills (including internet). Students are responsible for their own transport.

Jocelyn Hill
Assistant Principal
Northcote High School