**Borough Bulletin March 27th 2014**

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| **Friday 28th March** | ISS – FINALS and Make up round  
Hot Cross Buns orders due. |
| **Monday 31st March** | CERES Excursion Gr 5/6  
Extraordinary School Council Meeting 7PM |
| **Tuesday 1st April** | Design Seeds Gr 5/6 Extension  
Southern Cross Recycling |
| **Wednesday 2nd April** | Inter School Sports back up day for finals |
| **Friday April 4th** | Easter Bonnet Parade & Activities  
Last day of Term 1. School finishes 1:30 PM |
| **Monday 7th April to Thursday 17th April** | School Holiday Program  
(Note no program Friday 10th – Good Friday) |
| **Tuesday 22nd April** | Term 2 begins. (Note no school Easter Monday) |
| **Friday 25th April** | ANZAC DAY Public Holiday |
| **Monday 5th May** | Gateways @ Arts Centre and @Duniera Estate |
| **Tuesday 6th May** | Gateways @Duniera Estate |
| **Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th May** | Grades 3 to 6 Camp Weekaway |

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

We had a lovely end to the week last Friday with our Prep – 2 classes inviting their special visitors into their classrooms. Our students were excellent tour guides and enjoyed taking family members and friends for a trip down memory lane and also showing them their favourite areas of the school.

Congratulations to Janet Troy and the students in the art extension program on the magnificent Chinese Dragon they created for our GPS entry in the Banyule Festival ‘Arty Farty’ Parade. It was terrific to see so many children and family members arrive to make the dragon ‘come alive’ and walk behind our school sign, waving to the crowds. Of course we felt our entry was by far the best in the parade and our students were definitely winners for creating this masterpiece and joining in with other schools and community groups. Thanks again to Mrs Troy for her amazing skills and ability to inspire our students!

**Extension Program: Design Seeds**

A big thank you to Gemma Pearce who organises our extension activities for students that are held off site at different venues each term. These activities are organised through G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S. which is an independent organization that offers challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children.

Gemma has also organized for a group of our Grade 5/6 students to participate in the 2014 Design Seeds Workshop, as part of Melbourne International Design Week. This free workshop invites inquisitive and innovative students to participate in activities with internationally acclaimed designers in the inspirational setting of Hamer Hall at the Arts Centre, next Tuesday 1st April. We look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return.

**Interactive Screens**

Grade 5/6 B are very excited with the news that an interactive whiteboard will be mounted in their classroom tomorrow, Friday 28th March. The mobile interactive TV screen they have been using will then be placed in the Prep classroom to replace their broken wall-mounted IWB. The height of the TV screen, finger touch capability and brightness of screen is perfect for younger students.
Traffic Management and Safety for Students
Banyule Council has recently been alerted to cars parking illegally in Horunda St and Lorimer St, and posing a risk to student safety. Council have replaced signage and painted parking bays and we rely on parents to park safely and legally in streets around our school, to ensure our students can cross the road with a clear view of oncoming traffic.
School Council are also writing letters to see if we can have a zebra crossing installed in Lorimer St as, at the moment, cars do not have to stop at the crossing as there are no flags displayed. Whilst we are also trying to have flags displayed as a short term measure, historically they have been repeatedly stolen. A zebra crossing is our preferred option due to the flow of cars from St Mary’s and our school.

Easter Parade
On our last day of term, Friday 4th April, we will have our Easter Hat Parade at approximately 9.10 am and a special activity for each grade on the netball court, followed by an Easter egg hunt on the oval. Our Grade 5/6 student leaders are planning for this special day and we hope many family members can join us.

Thank you to the families who have donated eggs for the hampers Parents and Friends are making, as prizes for the Easter Raffle. Any families who would still like to donate items for raffle prizes may send them along to the office.

Southern Cross Recycling – Tuesday 1st April
This program was introduced to Greensborough PS in 2010 and has many benefits to our students. Families have a chance to have a clearance each term of unwanted goods. Our unwanted items are recycled in communities that will benefit from them and our Grade 6 students also benefit as monetary proceeds are placed in the Grade 6 Graduation Celebration budget.
So clear out your cupboards and send along manchester, kitchen goods, toys, clothing, shoes, books….in fact anything except electrical goods is acceptable. All items are available for sale prior to collection, so if anyone spies a ‘treasure’ and would like to purchase it, just see the office and make a gold coin donation.

Special Religious Instruction
Special Religious Instruction classes will begin next term for Prep and Grade 5/6 students who have returned forms ‘opting in’ to this program run by volunteers from Access Ministries, the Approved Government providers for this program. Classes will be held on Mondays at 2.30pm, commencing 28th April. Children who are not attending SRI will participate in engaging, revisionary activities.

Premier’s Active Challenge
New!! We now have the Premier's Active Challenge. There are rewards for each family and also a School Reward Program. Basically the program runs for 6 weeks and is a family focused program that encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days over the Challenge period. Schools earn rewards and have the chance to win prizes, including sports clinics and sporting equipment packages if families register and support the program. So if you are interested register asap and start the Challenge! Log on to www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/challenge and get active!

School Council
Last Monday night we had the first meeting of the 2014-2015 School Council. School Council forms a vital and fundamental role in the management of the school and I would like to thank the School Council members for their willingness to commit time and energy to support school operations for the benefit of the students at the school. All School Council members are involved in sub committees which meet a fortnight before the School Council meeting and make recommendations as to what is required to support the focus of the specific subcommittee. If anyone in the school community would like to be involved and have input into any of the Sub Committees please leave a
message at the office. Our sub-committees are: Buildings and Grounds; Education; Publicity and Marketing; Out of Hours School Care, Parents Club and Finance

Our Office Bearers are essentially unchanged from last year. President: Lara Cowan, Vice President: Ros Murfet, Treasurer; Margaret Hirth, Minute Taker: Les Ismail. The schedule of meetings will be published in the calendar section of the Newsletter and any parents who wish to raise matters can send an email or letter to Lara or myself, or just drop in and speak to us in the office.

Due to personal commitments one of our parents had to withdraw from School Council so we now have a vacancy. If any parents wish to nominate for the position please let us know in the office.

**New Smoking Guidelines**

The new guidelines (see below) come into effect on April 1st and will mean that smoking will be banned within 10 metres of our fence line, as our entire school yard is classified a playground. School Council is currently printing signage supplied by Banyule Council informing the public of these new rules.

**Children at Play – Please don’t Smoke Here!**

From 1 April 2014, smoking will be banned at areas commonly used by children and young people for recreational and sporting activities.

Under the Tobacco Act 1987 smoking will be banned:

- at or within 10 metres of children’s playground equipment that is an outdoor public place
- at or within 10 metres of a skate park that is an outdoor public place
- at or within 10 metres of a sporting venue that is an outdoor public place during an organised underage sporting event, including training or practice sessions and during breaks or intervals in play
- in an outdoor area of a swimming pool complex that is a public place.

The intention of the new ban is to stop people from smoking in outdoor public areas commonly used by children and young people for sporting and recreational activities.

Banyule City Council is encouraging the community to be aware of the new bans (Victoria wide) and respect the right of everyone to enjoy clean places to play and fresh air, by not smoking at playgrounds, skate parks, children’s sporting events and at public swimming pools.

For further information


I would like to congratulate students, families and staff on the fantastic first term we’ve just had. Across the school there has been the implementation of quality class programs, enthusiastic and cooperative classroom and playground behaviour and positive feedback and support from the parent community. We recognise how fortunate we are to have everything running smoothly in the school and all of our planning for term two is aimed at extending and enhancing this.

_Angela Morritt_

Acting Principal

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Focus on Numeracy**

As was mentioned at last Monday’s assembly, over the next two weeks, all students in the school will be undertaking a mathematics assessment. This is to gain additional data on levels of student achievement and to ensure that all assessment and reporting is in line with the new AusVELS (national curriculum) framework. During first term, a pilot program has been running for students identified as requiring additional support however, based upon the assessment data, it is anticipated that further intervention and extension programs will be implemented. It is also anticipated that for one session per week students will move into maths groups targeted at their specific level of ability (much like we currently do with Spelling Mastery). It is our goal to significantly lift the standard of numeracy outcomes across the school and, to do this, we are using the strategy that we successfully implemented four years ago to lift student reading achievement data. As more information and specific programs are established this information will be communicated via the newsletter.
Buildings and Grounds
As was discussed at last Monday’s School Council meeting, a significant number of the major Buildings and Grounds projects for the year have already been completed with the hall renovations now complete, the new carpet laid in the prep room, the final stage of replacing the door closures on all rooms finished and a host of more minor tasks such as replacing the steps in the fernery and plumbing works on toilet seals completed. The Energy Efficiency grant has been used to purchase an Energy Efficient dishwasher, to replace the lights in the hall, art room and library with LED energy efficient tubes and is currently being used to add a film to the high windows in the hall to act as a heat barrier for both summer and winter.

The major planned maintenance task remaining is the refurbishment of the cricket nets on the Lorimer St corner. At last week’s Buildings and Grounds meeting it was established that the action plan for this will be:

- Wayne will mark out with spray paint the area around the cricket net that requires digging out for concrete barriers to be poured. There will be two week period where we hope community members will all be able to lend a hand to dig out the soil in the defined areas. Because we know everyone has different availability this work can be done of an evening, during the day or on weekends (gate keys can be made available) and we hope that during this two week period the area will be prepared ready for the next stage which will be:
  - Areas ‘boxed up’ ready for a concrete pour
  - Concrete barriers and path areas painted
  - Pitch and surrounds painted
  - Planting of area to complete the refurbishment.

The time line for when assistance will be required will be published in next term’s first newsletter and we hope everyone will be able to assist to get this project completed.

A project that we had not originally planned for this year but we are very keen to tackle is the renovation of the indoor student toilets. We are currently in the process of getting quotes for the floors to be retiled and the mirrors to be replaced. We would be hoping to use volunteer labour to lift the existing flooring and to repaint the toile areas. As we have more information on quotes, updates will be reported in the newsletter.

Every year we spend $1500 on tree works to ensure that there are no dangerous or overhanging tree limbs and that any trees which have suffered some distress are removed. It is anticipated that these tree works will take place during the forthcoming school holidays.

The buildings and grounds are looking fantastic at the moment and, as always, we have Wayne’s energy and expertise to thank for this

Margaret Hirth
AssistantPrincipal

Grandparents Day and Special Friends day!
What a wonderful day we had last Friday when all the children in P-2 invited a special guest or two to visit us at school! Everyone enjoyed time to explore our fabulous school, join in learning activities, spend precious time with our guests and share a yummy morning tea together. A very sincere thank you to everyone, who was able to come and celebrate with us and to all our helpers who provided the tasty delights, organized the cups of tea and coffee and arranged the set up and pack up of our morning tea.
Pupil of the Week

Term One ~ Week 7 Ending March 14th 2014

Prep ~ Kingston ~ For his outstanding RETELL of Goldilocks and the 3 bears. What an achievement!

Grade 1/2 A ~ Liam~ For his outstanding writing during Big Write about a Magic Book with Andy Griffiths.

Grade 1/2 B ~ Willoughby~ For trying really hard on your Big Write this week and for putting your best efforts into your reading sessions.

Grade 3/4 A Ami~ For consistently doing her best with all class activities. It is a pleasure to correct your work Ami!

Grade 3/4 B ~ Sarah~ For showing a commitment to sustainability through making a new recycled scarecrow for our vegie patch.

Grade 5/6 A ~ Tua~ For being a great all rounder. He is always polite, his book work is always exceptional, he is a great friend and has a lot of patience, especially in Bat Tennis.

Grade 5/6 B ~ Sebastian ~ For the exceptional presentation of his bookwork. His effort is to be commended.

O.S.H.C. ~ Lucas S ~ For an outstanding effort in our Active Sports program. Well done Lucas!

Art~ Molly, Maddy & Rhymney ~ For working through lunchtime to add some finishing touches to our dragon. Great job girls!

Library~ Jack H 3/4~ For being an interested student who thinks carefully about his selections. Well done!

Music Ben L1/2 For making a good effort with singing in class.

Japanese Willoughby 1/2 For being brave enough to try all of our activities and speak Japanese in his second lesson!

Mrs Morritt Ben H For being a great helper and picking up the Connect 4 circles on Friday afternoon.

Term One ~ Week 8 Ending March 21st 2014

Prep ~ Magnus~ For his beautiful smile that he brings to school every day. Magnus you make Prep C a happy place to be!

Grade 1/2 A ~ Harley ~ For displaying all the school values each and every day – Cooperation, Achievement, Respect & Empathy. You are an excellent role model for all students.

Grade 1/2 B ~ Lachie B ~ For working so hard on his writing all term, especially in his Big Write and you incursion recount.

Grade 3/4 A Max H~ For an outstanding effort in all class activities.

Grade 3/4 B ~ Chloe ~ For being such positive and encouraging friend to so many.

Grade 5/6 A ~ Tristan~ For always being a helpful friend to all of his class mates. Well done!

Grade 5/6 B ~ Jasper ~ For his enthusiasm for learning, particularly during Maths sessions. Such a great choice for our school.

O.S.H.C. ~ Emily ~ For always having beautiful manners. Well done Emily!
Art ~ Emma B Prep ~ For always focussing in Art and producing beautiful work.
Library ~ Emma B Prep ~ For her excellent work in the classroom.
Music. ~ Erin H 3/4 ~ For always listening and doing her best.
Japanese. ~ Immogen J 3/4 ~ For having the courage to say sentences in Japanese when she is new to it.

STUDENT WELFARE WITH EMMA BEVAN

Counselling
Last week Joanne Terkel, a registered psychologist, started here at GPS offering counselling to students. Through the government’s Better Access Mental Health Scheme, every child is entitled to 10 bulk billed sessions of counselling per year. Having a psychologist come into the school premises saves parents driving children around to appointments, and also reduces the amount of time that children are away from the classroom.

If you think your child may benefit from some counselling then feel free to contact me to confidentially discuss your concerns. It is important to remember that counselling does not always have to be when there is a crisis. Children benefit from having as many nurturing, supportive relationships as possible in their lives. In today’s busy world we often don’t have as much contact with our extended families as previous generations, so often a child’s relationship with a counsellor can be a nice remedy for this reduced circle of supportive adults. There is the old saying that it takes a village to raise a child, but we don’t live in villages anymore. A counsellor can sometimes be a nice addition to the kind, supportive people your child has in their lives.

Bounce Back
Over the last two weeks the Grade 1/2’s and 3/4’s looked at how “Unhelpful thinking makes you more upset. Think again.” Together we explored how helpful thinking makes you feel better, and unhelpful thinking makes you feel worse. The students did some fantastic role plays to illustrate these points.

The Grade 5/6’s explored the concepts of inclusion and exclusion. Through various activities we looked at how we are all different in some way, and the importance of feeling included. We also talked about what it feels like to be excluded and the students then considered what each of them could do differently to be more inclusive of others.

Have a great couple of weeks,
Emma.

PARENTS and FRIENDS NEWS

Hot Cross Buns
Orders are due Friday 28th March.
Buns will be distributed on Thursday 3rd April.
Our school receives $3.00 for each pack of buns sold.
There will be a prize for the family that sells the most buns.

Easter Raffle
If any families are able to donate Easter eggs for inclusion in our Easter raffle prizes, please leave them at the office. Thank you.
Extra tickets are available at the office.
The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Bonnet Parade on Friday 4th April.
1st prize is a Hahndorf’s Chocolate Hamper on display in the office
Thanks to Hahndorf’s Fine Chocolates in Greensborough for their generous donation.

Trivia Night
Save the date! The Trivia Night will be held on Saturday May 31st. If you know anyone who can donate goods or services for our Silent Auction, please contact Tina Bell, Simone Wilson or the school office.
Grade 6 Graduation Fundraiser
Quelch icypoles will be on sale from the canteen on Monday lunchtimes.
Icy-Poles are 50cents each.
Thank you to Emma Brown and Tracy Harts for co-ordinating this.

School Holiday Program
A reminder that School Holiday Program forms are to be returned by Friday 28th March.

CAIEN NEWS
The last day for the canteen for Term one is this Friday 28th March, 2014.
The canteen will re-open in Term two on Friday 2nd May, 2014. A copy of the winter menu for terms 2 and 3 is included with this newsletter.
Lisa Geraghty

Especially for your
Preschooler
(3 to 5 years old)

Please contact:
Greensborough Primary School on 9435 1496

** Bookings are essential.
We look forward to welcoming you to our school!