



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



### REMINDERS FOR WEEK TWO: TERM ONE 2017

Friday February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> </ul>
Monday February 6 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> <li>• <b>Parents Club 9am</b></li> </ul>
Tuesday February 7 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> </ul>
Wednesday February 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> <li>• <b>Preps do not attend school</b></li> </ul>
Thursday February 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> </ul>
Friday February 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning How To Learn Program</li> <li>• <b>Assembly 3pm</b></li> </ul>

### WELCOME TO 2017

We welcome all of our families back to Bolwarra for 2017. As always the school year will be very busy as our own personal lives are. This crowded lifestyle can lead to poor communication if we allow it. I strongly encourage that we take the time to sit down and discuss any issues that impact on our lives. I'm always available (at times I may need time to shift around commitments) to discuss any issues that may arise.

### NEW STUDENTS



We welcome to our school Amelia Oliver (Grade 4 in 4/5A), Zaidin Van Zyl (Grade 3 in 2/3C) and Sanjay Fenton (Grade 2 in 2/3C).



We welcome the following Preps to our school; Ellie Bolt, Lexi Araldi-Box, Matilda Cashin, Scarlett Clark, Isaak Coates, Arlee Holmes-Wilson, Paddy Impey, Ava Jacobson, Braxtyn Moore, Kelvin Moore, Dakota Oliver, Gracie Piergrosse, Xavier Russell, Alyssa Tait, Mykibie Trigger, Piper Tucker and Ben Twomey.

## **ANAPHYLAXIS – NUT FREE SCHOOL**

For Bolwarra Primary “Nut Free” means:

- No nuts or nut products
- No products that state “May Contain Traces of Nuts” that are manufactured Overseas
- Students can however, bring foods that state “May Contain Traces of Nuts” if those foods are manufactured in Australia. These foods are considered okay due to Australia’s tight quality controls and safety standards around contamination of products.

We will be talking to our students about this issue during the ‘Learning How To Learn’ program and we will need to check students lunch boxes in the first week of school to ensure that our new regulations are being followed.

## **YOU CAN DO IT!**

This year we will continue to follow the You Can Do It! program. All students will be immersed in the foundations of Academic Excellence, Confidence, Getting Along, Persistence, Organisation & Resilience.

## **LEARNING HOW TO LEARN**

All students are currently involved in the Learning How To Learn (LHTL) program, which will continue until February 10<sup>th</sup>. The LHTL program is based on a set of beliefs and principles which lay the foundation for the building of a school and classroom culture that strives for continuous improvement.

**Please engage your child in discussions on what they are doing in this program.**

**Ask your child ‘Tell me about what you learnt today?’**

**The language of learning.  
‘Today I learnt’  
‘Today we are learning .....’  
‘Tell me about what you learnt today’**

## **SCHOOL CLEAN UP**

We had many families helping out over the holidays. In particular Sally McMahon spent many hours volunteering to paint the Grade 5/6 room. Her efforts are greatly appreciated. Sally was helped by Perry who removed the old fan, her brother who did a bit of sanding and scrubbing and the Goode family who painted the door knobs.

We also had Debra Schultz (working on the old Art room), Justin Impey/Stephen Perkins/Casey Taylor (cleaning up the felled trees), Olivia (Veggie garden) and also Ian & Jen Price and Anitha Iverson/Willow/Maggie cleaning the yard. I suspect there have been other parents who need thanking but I didn’t catch them over the holidays.

## **STAFF PD ON CHILD SAFETY**

On Monday the staff attended a 4 hour session on Child Safety. This program will help the teaching staff in having a dialogue with our students about personal safety.

If you have any questions in regard to this please see me.



## **TRAFFIC ON ROBERTSON’S ROAD**

Currently we have trucks hauling past the school for the most of February. There is traffic management in place and all truck drivers have been asked to limit their speed to 40km/hrs when travelling past the school (during school hrs)

- ❖ We remind parents not to park / drop off their kids on the Nth side of Robertson Rd. This is always illegal and unsafe but even more unsafe while trucks are constantly using Robertson’s Road.



**Congratulations to Mr. Cummins and his partner, Kymm, on the birth of Nash Max Cummins over the holidays.  
Brother for Billie and Tex.**

**INFORMATION NIGHT – Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> 7pm**

More information to follow.

## **PARENTS CLUB – Meeting Monday February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Every year our Parents Club contributes enormously to our school. Their first meeting is next Monday in the staff room at 9:15am. All parents are invited to attend. Our President, Bonnie Taylor, will conduct the meeting.

**BOOKCLUB** - **ISSUE 1** which was distributed today is due back at school by (next) Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Nominations for School Council are currently open.

The timeline for the School Council Election Process is as follows;

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February Call for nominations

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February Nominations close.

On or before Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Should nominations exceed the number of vacancies a ballot will take place. Ballot papers distributed.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March Close of ballot

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March Count of votes and declaration of the poll

Wednesday TBA School Council AGM

If you have any questions about this process please ring me or come into see me.

## **ASSEMBLIES**

Our major assemblies will again be held on Friday afternoons starting at 3pm in the Prep/1/2 room. Assemblies, run by the student leaders, will be a celebration of our week at Bolwarra. It would be great to see lots of adults attend.

**Our first assembly will be next Friday February 10<sup>th</sup>.**

## **SCHOOL PROCEDURES FOR THE BUSHFIRE SEASON**

Schools – and children’s services – identified as being at highest bushfire risk will be closed on days declared by fire authorities to be Code Red. Our school has been identified as a school at highest bushfire risk.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to three days notice of a planned closure. We will contact you directly by letter with advice on planned closures and will confirm the decision to close by 12 noon the day before the planned closure.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child.

No staff will remain on site when the school is closed by the threat of fire.

We will also cancel any offsite activities (such as school camps and excursions) and out-of-school care if the activities are at risk. There may also be changes to school bus routes. Depending on routes, this may also occur on days when the school is not closed.

On high fire risk days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days, children should never be left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the safest option when a Code Red day is declared is to leave the night before, or early in the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for the threat of fire, we have completed the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s self-assessment of our emergency preparedness. We have also updated our emergency management plan; reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our school grounds and gutters. Representatives of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development have also visited our school to review our level of emergency preparedness and I have completed CFA training for school principals.

### ***What can parents do?***

Make sure your family’s Bushfire Survival Plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed. Make sure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff.



Cont.....

Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the Bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's Bushfire Survival Plan.

You can access more information about school closures on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website – see [www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires).

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

**IF ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT IS UNCLEAR, PLEASE CONTACT ME TO CLARIFY.**

### **IMPORTANT TERM 1 DATES**

<b>February</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parents Club 9:15 am
	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Preps not at school</b>
	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	-	District Swimming
		-	<b>No Preps</b>
	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	-	Information Night 7pm
	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	<b>No Preps</b>
		-	GRIP Leadership in Mount Gambier Student Leaders
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	-	District Tennis
<b>March</b>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	-	Division Swimming
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Labour Day Holiday</b>
	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	-	Rural Athletics – All Students
	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	District Athletics
	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	-	Last Day of Term

**LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Tommy Compton who turns 8 next Thursday.

### **BAYVIEW COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT/SCHOOL TOUR/SCHOLARSHIPS**

- **Information Night: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 7.00pm**  
Information evening for upper students and their parents who wish to find out what Bayview College has to offer. Information on scholarship and Bursaries will be available at this session.
- **School Tour: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 2.00-4.00pm**  
Bayview College encourages prospective parents and students to experience the friendly and caring environment through a School Tour conducted by our staff and students.  
Bayview College also offer personalised school tours and these can be booked through Bayview College reception on 55231042
- **Year 7 Scholarships & Bursaries for students commencing in 2018**  
Scholarships **open Monday 6 February 2017**. Applications available from Bayview College or from our website – [www.bayview.vic.edu.au](http://www.bayview.vic.edu.au) from open date.

**Bayview College**  
**Ph: 03 5523 1042 / Mob. 0410 513 305**

### **PORTLAND SOCCER CLUB**

**Miniroos** is starting again soon at the Portland Soccer Club!

This Kickstart soccer program is for girls and boys aged 4-9 years of age.

Children learn some basic skills, play small sided games and have lots of fun.

Go to [www.miniroos.com.au](http://www.miniroos.com.au) to register for the 13 week program starting Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February and finishing on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The sessions will start at 11am and finish at 12pm. Contact Les on 0414559106 or Tracy on 0417374784 for more information.

**PORTLAND SOCCER CLUB TRAINING** has begun for the 2017 season – We welcome new players in all age groups.

**TRAINING** for Under 12 and Under 14 – 5.00-6.15pm Tuesday and Thursday nights;

U17 and Seniors: 6.00-7.30pm on Tuesday and Friday nights in February and Women: 6.00-7.30pm on Wednesday and Friday nights in February.

For more information please contact David Stafford on 0409419813.

## **PORTLAND NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

NET SET GO - Players needed ages 8-10yrs Mondays 5pm-6pm

Contact Sue Muldoon on 55235140 [suetone23@gmail.com](mailto:suetone23@gmail.com)

### **\*\*\*\*JUNIOR BASKETBALL SUMMER SEASON 2017\*\*\*\***

Registrations are now open online for all junior basketball.

Comps available for 5-14 year old children.

Registrations closed 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

Go to Portland Basketball Association Page & click on Register here link on right side of page.

All enquiries call 55232884

## **PLAYERS WANTED**

### **Are you interested in playing Australian Rules Football?**

**Heathmere Junior Football Club** are currently inviting both male and female players to register in **under 12's and under 14's** for the 2017 season.

Games are held every Sunday from April through to September with training nights on Thursday's at the Heathmere Recreational Reserve.

**Registrations will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February, so come along.**

Eftpos will be available on the registration nights.

Any inquiries can be forwarded to Ian Peters on 0408 389 541 alternatively email Ian on [ijpeters66@gmail.com](mailto:ijpeters66@gmail.com) or keep an eye out on the Heathmere Junior Football Facebook page for updates.

## **DON'T MISS THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TYRENDARRA SHOW**

Not long now till the 100<sup>th</sup> Tyrendarra Show – 11 February.

This will be a bumper show, continuing into the evening to celebrate this momentous occasion.

There will be lots of attractions and competitions to enter.

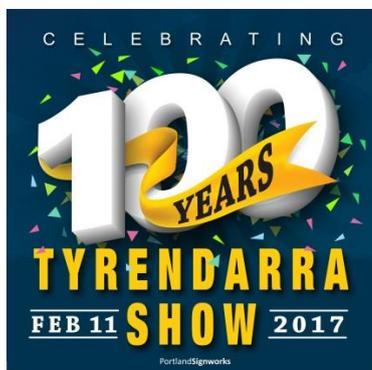
Make sure you go to our website –

[www.tyrendarraagriculturalshow.com.au](http://www.tyrendarraagriculturalshow.com.au) to look through the schedule.

There will be lots of entertainment –

- a Punch & Judy puppet show,
- George the Farmer (morning only),
- Red vs Blue pedal-powered puppets,
- Norm & Elsie's Art Safari,
- The Connies plus pet & scarecrow competitions.
- And there are lots of sections the kids can enter.

Contact Show Secretary Robyn Nunn for further information – 0427295271.



## Chaplain's Corner – Ah, Miss Stewart, I remember her well!

I'm not sure why I threw my piece of chalk at Miss Stewart. She was my Grade One teacher. No preppies back then in 1950. Ancient history. Canterbury State School on Prospect Hill Road. Grand old buildings. Mr Bright was the head teacher.

We all had small chalkboards. We used them to learn to write our letters and numbers. Used chalk to do that. And, for a reason I cannot fathom, one day I pitched my chalk at Miss Stewart. A great shot. Over several rows of desks right into her lap. She looked up. I was instantly sprung. She asked me to come forward to get my chalk. Nothing further was said. I've never forgotten that.

So, how can we all work together to make our school community a really memorable one? For our kids, for our families, our staff? Without throwing things at our teachers? Consider....

- **Our school is a community** – So the most needed gift we all need is to know that we belong to a caring family. That our school is not just a safe place but a very enjoyable one too.
- **Our school is a safe place for everyone** – Not just the super smart, those good at sport or aths, the extroverts. Our school is safe for those who are quiet, unsure of themselves, nervous, not able to relate easily with others, those who often find the going tough, those who find it hard to fit in.
- **We learn to be here for each other** – Every school needs protectors. The solid student citizens who look out for those not doing so well, who make time to ask those quiet ones how they are really going, who learn the power of listening and encouragement early, who invite loners into games.
- **We warmly welcome our newcomers** – New students, their parents and new classroom helpers. We know that there are big adjustments in finding your place in a new school. And it's not always easy. Regardless of age or experience.
- **Our school is like any family** – We are all different. We become people who accept all the endless variations of personality, interest and background. We don't need to be the same as everyone else. But we do need to get along happily with each other, even those we may find hard work at times.
- **A memorable school has clear boundaries** – There are no prizes for students who throw chalk (or whatever) at their teacher! Boundaries teach respect, self-discipline, being thoughtful in our words and actions. It's called getting ready for life. It ain't always easy. A big learning curve.
- **Our school values its leadership** – I look back on my school teaching days with great fondness. But it was hard work. Relentless. We are blessed with a Principal and staff for whom nothing is too much trouble. Be in no doubt. They want the best for all of us.
- **Mums and dads do well to engage with the school** – Work and other demands can often make this difficult. Try arriving a bit earlier and brush shoulders with other parents, students and staff, especially after school. Hang around for a few minutes. Make some new friends.
- **Get to know your student's teacher** – It's not hard. First thing in the morning is not the best time as teachers are gearing up for the day but after school the pressure is reduced. The better you know your student's teacher, the easier it is to address any concerns you may have.
- **In other words, community doesn't just happen** – It requires effort, maturity, heaps of patience and endless grace. Communities grow in depth, belonging and understanding in keeping with the time and effort which we invest. Try it.

So, we greet another new school year with open arms. By the way, I wonder how many other students used Miss Stewart for target practice back in 1950?

**John** – stay in touch [revsimmo@gmail.com](mailto:revsimmo@gmail.com)

