

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT****REMINDERS FOR WEEK THREE: TERM FOUR 2016**

Friday October 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region Athletics – Mitch Finck • ASSEMBLY 3pm
Monday October 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming 11am 4/5A 2pm 5/6T & PrepM • UpWelling Artist visit – Grade 4/5/6
Tuesday October 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming 2pm 1/2E & 2/3C • Bolwarra Bollywood Bonanza
Wednesday October 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolwarra Bollywood Bonanza
Thursday October 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolwarra Bollywood Bonanza • Concert 7pm
Friday October 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topsy Turvy Day • ASSEMBLY 3pm

YOU CAN DO IT! STARS**Resilience – Caught 10 times**

Ed Thompson

Organisation – Caught 10 times

Jacob Sutherland

Academic Excellence – Caught 10 times

Emma Butler

Organisation – Caught 20 times

Alex Jacobson

Getting Along – Caught 20 times

Tommy Compton

Ed Thompson

Hannah Rethus

Academic Excellence– Caught 20 times

Banjo Taylor

William Rethus

Hannah Rethus

50 LAPS

Azariah Russell

Jeb Oakley

Abby Saunders

100 LAPS

Briah Burford

Will Hunter

Our You Can Do It! stars will be presented with their awards at tomorrow's assembly at 3pm

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

At last week's assembly we celebrated the Academic Growth of Brayden StJohn. Since this time last year, Brayden has made an enormous improvement in his Fountas & Pinell testing (reading), going from level T to level Y. This is a much bigger jump than could be expected in a 12 month period.

GRADE 3/4 CAMP – PORT FAIRY

All reports from the Port Fairy camp were very positive. All students had a great time and learned many new skills including the life skills of working/living with a large group of people. Mrs Arthur and Mr Cummins deserve much credit for the smooth running of the 3 days. Big thanks to Justin Impey for going on camp and providing great support to the teachers and students

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

Last night our School Council met. Next week our President, Anna Impey, will provide an overview of the meeting. One of the items discussed involved the activities at the end of the year. At this stage we have decided that the Family Evening will be on Tuesday December 13th with Decadent Day/Prep-2 Excursion on Wednesday December 14th. Final Assembly and Shared Afternoon Tea will be on Friday December 16th. Monday December 19th & 20th an alternative program will be offered – further details to follow.

TOPSY TURVY DAY – Friday October 21st

On Topsy Turvy Day all it takes is a gold coin and a back-to-front jumper to tackle disadvantage. Help us to make sure your mates have the right stuff! Children can join in by wearing either their school uniform or free dress clothes backwards, and donating a gold coin. 100% of donations goes directly to helping kids in Victoria.



ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Bolwarra Bollywood Bonanza!

Students will be working with Jamel and Josh on this dance spectacular next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The students will be involved in a rehearsal on Thursday at the concert venue. For the performance students will need black clothing.

BOLWARRA SCHOOL CONCERT
Thursday October 20th
SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY CHURCH (EX-PORTLAND CINEMA)
STARTS: 7pm
STUDENTS: At Venue by 6:45pm

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 4 DATES

October	Friday	14 th	- Region Athletics	
	to {	Tuesday	18 th	- Artist-in-residence – Blue Guru
		Thursday	20 th	Concert 7pm
	Monday	26 th	- Arts Performance Philip Green Aboriginal Survival Technology 1.30pm	
	Saturday	29 th	- UpWelling Festival	
	Sunday	30 th	- 3 Bays Marathon	
November	Tuesday	1 st	- Melbourne Cup Holiday	
	Thursday	3 rd	- Grade 2 Sleepover	
	Monday	7 th	- { Blast Cup: Grade 6's cricket	
	Monday	7 th		- { Parents Club
	Saturday	19 th	- Bolwarra Fair	
	Monday	21 st	- { Grade 5/6 Camp	
	to Friday	25 th		- { Grade 5/6 Camp
December	Monday	5 th	- Parents Club	
	Tuesday	6 th	- Orientation Day	
	Tuesday	13 th	- Family Night	
	Wednesday	15 th	- { Decadent Day Grade 3-6	
			- { Prep -2 Excursion	
		Friday	17 th	- { Final Assembly
			- { Shared Afternoon Tea	
	Monday	19 th	- Alternative Program	
Tuesday	20 th	- Alternative Program		

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

PARENT'S CLUB NEWS – Next Meeting Monday 7th NOVEMBER

Lunch Roster – **Tomorrow** - Michelle Price and Bonnie Taylor

Next Friday, 21st – Wendy McFarlane and Sally McMahon

Helpers needed for Friday 28th –please add your name to the list in the office.

FUNDRAISER – please find attached to today's newsletter, your "**Crazy Camel**" fundraising pack.

BOOK CLUB Issue 7 is due back at school by Friday, 21st October.

SWIMMING !!!!!!!!

All children are required to bring clothes and bathers to wear into the pool for both Monday and Tuesday swimming lessons.

- All preps will need a short sleeve t-shirt and shorts
- Most other students also need to wear a short sleeve t-shirt and shorts. However, some older students have been advised by their swimming teacher to have a long sleeve t-shirt or jumper instead.

Contact the school if you need more information



GRADE 5/6 CAMP- NOVEMBER 21-25.

Camp forms went home last Friday. Please return the forms as soon as possible. Payments can be made at a time closer to the camp or can be paid in instalments and must be paid prior to the departure date. If payment is going to be an issue, please see Mr Gibbons ASAP.

HELPERS NEEDED PLEASE

Anyone available to help clean up and paint the old art room, meet there tomorrow at 2.30pm for instructions and a list of jobs, to do at individuals convenience.

Casey Taylor is looking for helpers to convert the sandpit on Robertson’s Road side of the school into a seating area, and transferring sand to the new sandpit near the GaGa Pit.

If you can spare any time to help, please contact Casey on 0408 292 212 for further information.

LOST JUMPERS/HOODIES – Numerous **named jumpers/hoodies** have been reported lost; please check your uniforms in-case you have taken home the wrong one. If found please return to the office.



On Monday we welcomed Jenny and Jeremy to our school to work with students from Grade 4 to 6 preparing the artwork for the Portland Upwelling Festival Parade. We will continue to work on these throughout the week and students in Grades Prep to 3 will be working on smaller items in art over the next two weeks which will be included in the parade.

This year the parade takes place on Saturday October 29th. Students participating will need to assemble at the lawn area behind the church on the corner of Bentinck and Henty Street. The assembly time is 9:30am. Parents are then able to collect their children from the foreshore at the completion of the parade.

Students participating are asked to wear shades of blue to represent the sky and the ocean.

If your child/children would like to participate in the street parade this year, please complete the attached form and return to your classroom teacher before Friday October 21st.

Many thanks,
Beth Arthur

My child/children _____ will be participating in the Upwelling Festival street parade on Saturday October 29th 2016.

Signed _____(parent)

Parents contact number on the day _____

Chaplain's Corner – Training tough minds

John Sykes was captain of a Lancaster bomber flying night sorties over Europe during World War 2. Years later he was my Year 12 English teacher. Just occasionally he would tell us a spellbinding story or two about those dark days. The class would go quiet every time. About friends he lost when their planes did not return. Risks taken. Getting back to England safely, thankfully. In those moments he was back in those awful days. The exercise of great flying skill, caring deeply for his crew, yet looking death in the eye every time his heavy plane lifted off into the night sky. I have never forgotten those tales.

This absolute gem of a teacher gave his class a precious gift. He taught us not what to think, but how to think. He loved debating. It was not nearly good enough to know what you thought. You had to be able to express with clarity, accuracy and conviction a point of view which you probably did not hold personally. He never hesitated to ask the "Why, what, how" questions. Why do you hold that view? What evidence supports it? Where did you get that idea from? How did you reach that conclusion? A priceless gift which has been treasured ever since. Consider....

- **Are we helping our kids to think?** – As a community we have a B-double load of difficult issues. They require careful scrutiny. Are we preparing our kids to deal with these? As we all know, there's a horde of people out there telling us what they think we should think.
- **We want kids with tough minds** – It's never too early to start with gentle, searching questions. Why did you say that? What did you mean? Why do you think they said that? What did you say? Do you think they are right? Is there another way of thinking about this?
- **It's not about running a courtroom!** – It's about finding the time to spend with our kids. Do we listen to their concerns? Do we set the time aside? Even to ask about their day and what made it good or otherwise is an important conversation. They have to think to answer well.
- **Every family has a variety of ideas** – And the larger the family, the greater the likelihood of lively discussions. You're hitting pay dirt when your child asks you why you hold a certain view. They're asking you a very good question. Which requires a very good answer.
- **Every family has a set of core values** – Most families run by the golden rule of "doing to others as you would have them do to you." This is how we do things around here. It's our rule for getting along. This one's not up for debate. Selfishness is a no go territory under this roof.
- **And the family can then welcome a range of ideas** – Once the family operating system is understood, there is plenty of scope for holding different views. And more than this – learning how to hold them with clear reasons and appropriate evidence. But to be held with humility.
- **The home can then teach acceptance** – These days some people seem unable to accept and respect alternative views. They try to deny those who think differently the right to do so. We are the poorer for this. Families can show how to accept and respect other, very different views.
- **Acceptance and respect does not mean agreement** – The old rule of thumb is a goodie: "We agree to disagree agreeably." Good thinking gives our kids the courage to hold their views especially when others may try to pressure them to change their minds without good reasons.
- **Families who foster rugged thinking are blessed** – Kids can learn to ask those searching questions. Family conversations become enriching, stimulating and perhaps even unsettling! We don't want our kids to believe just anything, to fall for the latest con, to be taken in easily.

I owe a big debt to my old guru, Mr Sykes. His determination to produce a class of thinkers was often hard work. But he has left behind many thinkers ready, willing and able to ask the right questions.

John – stay in touch revsimmo@gmail.com

