DEAR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

REPLACEMENT OF THE YEAR 1 AND 2 CORRIDOR ROOF AND INSTALLATION OF AIR CONDITIONERS

A scope of works for each project is underway and quotes are being sourced. Both projects are interconnected. Once the roof has been replaced new air conditioners will be installed on the new roof. The projects are funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood and BPS fundraising respectively.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2014 — PARENT VACANCIES

We have two parent vacancies for our council. The term of office is for two years from 18 March. No special experience is required, just an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape our school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
Contact the office for a nomination form, complete the form and return to the office by 4pm on Thursday 20 February, 2014.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed. Please contact us if you require further information.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that work as a team to establish the broad direction and vision of a school within centrally provided guidelines.

School council membership is a terrific way to get involved in the school and gain a greater understanding of the ins and outs of school operations, policy and governance. The only qualification you need is that you are a parent with a commitment to wanting the very best for the children and BPS.

There are three categories of membership on a council: parents, Department of Education and Early Childhood (DEECD) employees and community members. Our council has 7 parents, 4 DEECD and 2 community members. The term of office for all members is two years. As members retire each year, vacancies are created for the
annual school council elections. Our council meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm and all members also participate on a sub-committee that meets one morning each month. Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children felt a greater sense of belonging.

Parent Information Evening Year 1-4
Many families attended our Parent information evening last night. Teachers greatly appreciate parent support and highly value the partnership. Teachers outlined the classroom program and ways in which parents can support the program at home. Each term all parents will receive a class newsletter with more information about the focus for the term and upcoming events. A broad overview of the fortnightly program can also be found on the class Communication Board. From the fortnightly overview teachers plan detailed weekly and daily programs to accommodate the range of learning needs of their students.

Parent Information Evenings next week:
Preps February 19th 7.30-8.30pm commencing in the Prep classrooms
Year 5 February 19th 6.30-7.30pm in Year 5 classrooms
Year 6 February 19th 6.30-7.30pm in Year 6 classrooms

Every Day Counts
Students are required to attend school every day and parents are required to provide reasons for student absences. Please read the attached article *Every Day Counts*, published by the Department of Education.
Remember:
- Students need to attend school regularly to make the most of educational opportunities.
- There is a link between school achievement and achievement later in life.
- Poor patterns of attendance in the early years may lead to poor patterns of attendance in later life.
- Poor attendance may make it difficult for children to form positive relationships with their peers.

*Sheryl M. Skewes*
Principal

*Neven Paleka*
Assistant Principal

BFAC Meet and Greet
Beaumaris Father’s Activity Club invite all dads and male guardians to a Meet and Greet Evening on Tuesday 18th February, at 7.30pm in the Kitchen Garden area. Enjoy a sausage sizzle and a refreshing beverage and meet other fathers in a relaxed environment.

Expression of Interest for Robotics Program Year 3 to 6
A lunchtime Robotics Program is available for years 3 to 6 students. Attached to today’s newsletter email is an expression of interest form; this form has more information about the program and the costs involved. If your child is interested please fill in the form and return it to robotics@chesskids.com.au.

From the Art Room
A warm welcome to all our families in 2014.
Time to start emptying out your cupboards! At the moment I would dearly love some ice-cream containers and large yoghurt containers. Please start collecting your empty containers.
Many thanks, Andrea Fisk

Garden Club
Our garden club is a volunteer based program and our aim is simply to improve and maintain the schools garden areas. Our group consists of parents, guardians and grandparents with our school community. All welcome including toddlers. No experience is necessary. Come along and learn new skills or come to share your gardening knowledge.
We aim to meet once a month. To learn more about joining garden club Heather Ferguson will be at our Parent Club meeting on Tuesday, March 4 at 9am in the staffroom to explain more. Hope to see you there.

*Sciclunas Free Fruit Friday Competition.*
Do you shop at Sciclunas in Mentone? If this is one of your shopping destinations then please take part in their Free Fruit
Friday competition. For every $30 spent in the store, customers have one vote towards the local primary school they would like to win a term’s supply for Free Fruit Friday. We are one of a handful of local schools signed up to this scheme in the hope that we can win. We would love your support. For more details ask in-store.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
This year our parent club has started to participate in the Scholastic Book Club. Twice a term your child will bring home book catalogues with age appropriate books in them. If you would like to order any please fill out the form on the back of the catalogue and return it to school by the due date. You can pay by credit card directly to Scholastic either online or over the phone. Or you can pay by cheque made out to Scholastic which you send into school with your order. Please do not send cash. Your books will arrive approx a week after the due date and will be delivered to your child’s classroom. If they are a present or you would rather collect the books yourself please either phone, text or email Ness Newell who is the book club coordinator so she can arrange this with you. Her details are 0424 329 008 lochnessmonst71@hotmail.com The best benefit of the book club is that school earns 20% of free books and resources for every order. The first catalogues will go out next week and are due back by **Friday 7th March**. Please contact Ness if you have any further questions.

Support and Extension Program
Through the support and extension program, we will be supporting students with literacy needs. Implementing a variety of programs throughout the various levels within the school. Initially there will be a focus on the students in year one, supporting further literacy development. This will branch out across the school as we progress through the year. The Assisted Reading Program – Literacy League will be running in years 3 and 4. We thank our team of very willing parents for assisting in this program again this year. We have had an amazing start to the year, with many students coming to work in the Learning Lounge. Feel free to come and check it out.

**BFAC ‘NEW & CURRENT’ MEET & GREET EVENING**

**WHAT:** FREE sausage sizzle & a refreshing beverage

**WHEN:** 18th February 7.30pm

**WHERE:** BPS staff car park next to main entrance

**WHO:** Any Dad or Male Guardian new or current

**WHY:** Get involved & be part of YOUR Community. Meet new or existing friends and see & hear what we do.

The **Beaumaris Primary School Father’s Activity Club** is open to all fathers (and male guardians) of children who attend the school. The club meets throughout the year (normally monthly) & **membership is free**.

The **CLUB**, founded in 2003 is about No hard sell, No hard work. It is designed to provide fathers with the opportunity to gather together in a social atmosphere (male only) for a laugh, and to join in social events for fun.

Social Events may include Go-Karting, Bowling & Pool night, as well as organizing & enjoying signature events like The Outdoor Cinema evening at the school!

The "BFAC" aims to:
- Provide members with a means of social contact with other members of the school community
- Help provide entertainment for the school.
- Most of all "**HAVE FUN**"
**LEVEL LOW DOWN**

**Prep**

This week our Preps have been making new friends by focusing on introducing themselves. It is great to see them moving around the PLC (Prep Learning Centre) confidently exploring all the learning spaces. The Preps are learning about the letters and sounds of Ss, Mm and Tt. We have been practising ‘touch move and count’ using items to make a collection to 10 and beyond. They have also enjoyed using “the INFECTED whiteboards” (also known as ‘interactive whiteboards’) Thank you for all our donations so far and we would love some more tinkering items (things that can be pulled apart eg keyboards, telephones, DVD’s VCR players) Please no items with glass or screens. Please remember our long school day is extremely tiring for all Preps so we ask that you have them in bed no later than 7.30 pm.

**Year Two**

The Year 2s started Investigations this week! We practiced our learning focus of writing Transactional Texts by writing letters to our friends and investigated using calendars and diaries. It was so much fun! We are continuing to build friendships with our new class members by working together.
Year Three

Year 3s have been sharing their interests and setting learning and personal goals for term one. This week we started our ‘Run Around Australia’, a feature of the Year 3 fitness program. Now that we have got our workbooks set-up and have decided on class norms our learning is in full swing. We still have lots to learn about each other and look forward to developing some strong friendship groups.

Year Five

Year 5 launched our Geography Subject Focus this week. Our Learning Intentions are:
1. Explore maps and geographical features.
2. Identify and describe how humans have affected the Australian environment
3. Identify significant natural processes in Victoria Immersion activities for the coming week will focus on mapping skills, particularly in and around the local area.

Your child would have bought home our Shared Learning Space Expectations document this week. These norms were developed by all year 5's during a co-operative group activity. It would be terrific if you could spend a little time discussing these with your child to reinforce the expectations we all have when using the shared learning area in the SALC. It is a wonderful area to work in and the year 5 students have loved using the space for group and individual work.

Our motto for year 5 is to “Reach For The Stars”. We have high expectations of all our students and look forward to helping them reach their goals.

We look forward to seeing you all next week at our Parent Information Night - Wednesday 19th at 6.30pm in the SALC.
Japanese this term!

At the beginning of this year, we looked at all aspects about Japan and then each student wrote a question they would like to find out about and placed it on our ‘Wonder Wall’. If they have any free time in Japanese they can choose a question to answer by using the ipads and hopefully all our interesting questions about Japan will be answered by the end of the year.

Some of the many facts students would like to know are:
- Why do they have different food?
- Why is baseball so popular?
- Why do they read books backwards?
- Why is Tokyo their capital city?
- Why do they eat with chopsticks?
- Do Japanese people draw like us? Do they fish in Japan?
- How do Sumo wrestlers go to the toilet?
- Why does Japanese money have holes in it?
- Is red their favourite colour because they have it on their flag?
- How old do you need to be to start Sumo wrestling?
- How do you say meerkat in Japanese?

Preps:
Preps this term are learning all about Japan, where it is, what language they speak, how we would get there, etc. They are learning basic greetings, some songs and how to write and read their name in Japanese. This term they will also learn about Setsubun festival and Hinamatsuri (girls’ day) festival.

Grade 1/2’s:
This term the students will continue to practise their greetings, numbers, colours and writing their names. They will all research the animal year they were born in and enjoy Setsubun and Hinamatsuri festival.

Grade 3/4:
They will continue to learn more basic phrases to communicate in the classroom. This term we will look at the many festivals, including Setsubun, Hinamatsuri, Hanami and the 12 zodiacs.

Grade 5:
The grade 5’s will consolidate the language learnt last year and further their vocabulary building. They will also enjoy celebrating the many festivals, including Setsubun, Hinamatsuri, Hanami and the 12 zodiacs.

Grade 6:
The grade 6’s will be busy starting their ‘belts’ and trying to achieve each level. White belt is the first and the students need to be able to read and write their Katakana name, sing happy birthday in Japanese, know the first 10 hiragana characters, demonstrate 3 gestures in Japanese, name 4 greetings and perform a simple self-introduction.

All students and families are encouraged to look at our Japanese blog, http://gallsensei.blogspot.com.au/
Performing Arts This Term
Here are just SOME of the activities the students will be doing in Performing Arts.

**Prep:** Moving in a steady rhythm to the following actions: walking, marching, jumping, reaching, stretching, twisting and swivelling. Students create movement on different levels, low, medium and high. They will be using percussion instruments to demonstrate simple beat patterns.

**Year 2:** Students are studying rhythm patterns, including rests, longer and shorter note values using percussion instruments, body percussion and voice. They will compose their own works to perform to their peers.

**Year 1:** Students using percussion instruments create simple patterns for song “Dansi Na Kumba” also creating moves to demonstrate the different music styles throughout the song. Students recognise high and low sounds in a variety of music.

**Year 3:** Students are learning basic music notation for recorder playing and learning how to play simple songs for the recorder also the students will be learning a variety of songs eg “Keep it Clean” “Rain” and creating their own dance moves to accompany the songs.

**Year 4:** Students are learning music notation for recorder and tuned instruments also playing and learning the songs “Keep it Clean” “Rain” and then creating their own dance moves to accompany the song.

**Year 5:** Students learning how to play simple drumming patterns on Japanese drums and using Taiko drumming techniques.

**Year 6:** Students working on script reading in small groups and performing to their peers a Readers Theatre short play.

Visual Arts This Term
This term a major focus in the Art Room is Sustainability and The Ecological Footprint. The Ecological Footprint is a measure of the environmental impact of a nation, a region, an organisation such as a school or an individual. Acting like a bank statement, the Ecological Footprint shows whether we are living within our ecological budget or consuming nature’s resources faster than the planet can renew them. We are looking at the Footprint as a graphic symbol that is internationally recognised.

Students will:
- Discuss, interpret and use ideas related to sustainability and the Ecological Footprint
- Use skills commonly needed for tactile collage, printing, design, drawing and printing
- Use a variety of media on their art pieces by layering and arranging different materials
- Discuss and interpret other people’s ideas in completed artworks related to sustainability

Physical Education/Sport This Term

**Preps:** This term we introduce the students to basic movement skills such as run/walk/hop/skip/jump and balancing on one foot and walking heel toe. They are taught ball handling skills-catch, kick, rolling and stopping and throwing as well as simple rules and fair play through a mixture of skills sessions and playing games.

**Year 1 and Year 2:** This term the students continue refining and further developing ball handling skills such as throwing, catching, rolling, stopping, bouncing and kicking through the use of skills sessions and simple games such as tunnel ball, poison ball, kick ball, keepings off and modified basketball. We also focus on improving their basic movement skills such as running, skipping, hopping and jumping along with fitness levels.

**Grade 3 and 4:** This term the students focus on their fitness levels, improving their ball handling skills such as dribbling, throwing, catching, two handed strike and participating in cooperative games and activities. They are introduced to the sport specific skills of volleyball and softball.

**Grade 5 and 6:** This term the students are introduced to the sport specific skills of volleyball and softball. They aim to increase their fitness levels through a variety of activities, games and circuits. They are involved in playing team sports and learning the importance of Fair Play, rules, team work and cooperation both through Interschool sport and Alternative sports such as Tennis.
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

**Why it’s important**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

**Getting in early**

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

**What we can do**

The main reasons for absence are:

- **Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

- **“Day off”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

- **Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au
FREE FRUIT COMPETITION
Running throughout Term 1, 2014

For every purchase over $30 at Scicluna’s Mentone, customers will be eligible to vote for a school in the local community... The winning school will win free fruit for every Friday of Term 2!

GOODLUCK BEAUMARIS PRIMARY!

WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.
Beaumaris After Care News, 13th Feb 2014 by
Gunchan Sandhu

Hello Beaumaris families,
Hope you all had spectacular holidays and even though it’s a bit late, I would still not miss the opportunity to wish all of you a very ‘Happy New Year’. I would also like to welcome all the new cute little preps who started their school life this year and also new families who joined the Beaumaris school community. Also please accept my apologies for not updating you all with our newsletter for the last week due to a technical glitch.

The team at After School Care had a great first week, catching up on holiday stories from the kids, seeing some familiar faces and meeting some new kids. It was certainly a big summer of growth with many of the kids going up in height as well as shoe size! And also the most exciting news, is our OSHC room is being painted...!! It looks amazing and for that a big thanks to Sheryl Skewes and Neven Paleka for all their effort, concern and time. We at Camp Australia really appreciate your cooperation and consideration.

To get the ball rolling in the first week we did some old favourites as chosen by the kids which included drawing, lego, playing at the wooden, making book marks, building blocks and playing board games. It was fun and we intend to keep doing that. This week we had ‘Winter Olympics’ as our weekly theme to get the Olympic spirit going. From torches, to podiums and Olympic rings we did it all. Next week will be ‘Nature’s Week’ to celebrate mother nature and appreciate all that she has given to us. Just a quick reminder, for all bookings, enquiries and changes please call our customer service team on 1300 105 343 or visit our website at www.campaustralia.com.au. To make booking for the next 48 hours, please leave a detailed message with the name of your, child, class and session that you want to make the booking for at 9589-7128 or 0452-247-837. If the booking is for the same day please leave a message with the school office as well for best communication.

All medical forms need to be submitted with the OSHC staff. For any queries or questions, please feel free to drop-in at the service.

JOIN THE FUN
Don’t forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs these school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program:

Healthy Snacks
Afternoon tea is served daily.
Menus are tailored to children’s tastes, developmental and nutritional needs.
Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and fruit.
Children may also engage in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile
www.campaustralia.com.au