FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Disco Fever
What a fabulous evening. The children looked fantastic in their disco outfits and there are certainly some budding performers in our school. Thank you to Christine Davidson and her team of helpers for all their planning to ensure the evening ran smoothly. The children clearly had a great time.

The event raised $1883.00 for our school.

Links between home and school
As mentioned in previous editions of Stop Press, parents are more than welcome to organise a meeting time with their child’s teacher to meet the teacher, have a look at the classroom and talk about their child’s learning.

Swimming Sports
Thank you to the children, parents and teachers who have been making an early start to the day at the pool to train for the swimming sports. The preparation and effort of our students is commendable.

School Council Elections
As the number of nominees have exceeded the vacancies we will be conducting a ballot. More information to follow.

Sheryl M. Skewes  Neven Paleka
Principal  Assistant Principal

Year 5 and 6 JAPANESE HOST FAMILIES WANTED
Accompanying Stop Press today is an information sheet for our year 5 and 6 families seeking support to host our Minato-ku Japanese students who will be visiting Beaumaris Primary School in the 2nd week of Term three 2013. This is always a highlight of our Japanese program and a valuable experience for host families and Minato-ku visitors.

If you are able to host students at this time please contact the office staff, 9589 2619 or email: beaumaris.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Parent Club
SUMMER FUN SCHOOL DISCO
A fantastic time was had by all at the disco last Friday night. All the children, and some parents, danced to the great music by Trevor, the DJ. Thank you to all those parents who helped organise, setup and supervise on the night.

*Don’t forget our first meeting for 2013 is Tues 5th March at 9am in the staffroom*

Easter Raffle
Parent Club is organising our annual Easter Raffle. Each family is asked to donate Easter eggs of various sizes and types which we then use to make up many prizes for the raffle. Last year we had over 100 prizes for the raffle because of the generous donations from our families. Any donations of baskets or other Easter gifts for the prizes would also be appreciated. All donations need to be at school by 25th March, 2013. Junior School Council members will collect the eggs from classrooms each day. Ten tickets @ $1.00 each will be sent home next week for each child to sell, extra tickets available from the office. Tickets and money must be returned by Wednesday
27th March, 2013. The raffle will be drawn at our Easter Assembly which commences at 9.00am on Thursday 28th March, 2013. Everyone is welcome to join us at the special assembly featuring our annual Prep Easter Bonnet Parade. We thank you for your support and hope that you are one of the many lucky prize winners!

**Student School Photos: Monday 4th March**
MSP Photography will be at Beaumaris Primary on Monday 4th March to take student photographs. Individual order forms have been sent home with each child to select and pay for the pack you require to purchase. Order forms for “Family” photos are available at the school office if you would like a group photo of siblings. Please return your completed forms with payment to your classroom teacher ASAP; these will be collated and handed to the photographers on Photo Day.

**Gardening Club—Bulb Catalogue**
Following the success of our bulb fundraiser last year—we will be running the same program again this year. Coming home with students today will be a Garden Express brochure showing the huge selection of bulb packs that can be ordered. If you would like to place an order, please complete the order form found in the brochure and return it to the school office by Monday 18th March. The money from this fundraiser will help our wonderful Garden Club volunteers to maintain and beautify our garden beds around the school.

**FROM THE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING TEAM**
*This week from Michael Grose—‘Other Children as Benchmarks’.*
Comparing your child’s progress with that of other children often can lead to parent frustration. This week’s newsletter presents some interesting points about child development.
Enjoy.

**A Message from Stella Maris**
Classes in after school religious instructions at Stella Maris will commence as follows:
Confirmation classes for children in non-Catholic schools (year 6 and above) commence on Wednesday March 6th with Bernadette Tucker Tel. 9584 7727.
Reconciliation (year 2 and above) on 6th March with Tania Sams Tel 9515 4548.
First Communion (year 3 and above) also on 6th March with Kathy Ashton Mobile 0417 578 627.
All classes are in Stella Maris School and are held each Wednesday in term time from 4 to 5 pm.

**Head lice Alert**
Can we please remind all students who have hair longer than shoulder length must have it tied neatly back.

**From Beaumaris Primary to Melbourne Victory**

Congratulations to Connor Pain who is the latest young star to debut in the A league for Melbourne Victory. Connor was our School Captain in 2005 who showed great leadership skills and sporting ability. We wish Connor every success in this new stage of his soccer career. Look out for Connor next time you see Melbourne Victory highlights on the TV sports news.

**Taiko Drumming lessons for Adults at Beaumaris Primary School**

Time: 6pm-7.20pm (80minutes)
Fee $20 per Adult
Max. 12 people
Available to April 26, May 24, June 21

Contact Toshi:
email: toshi@wadaikorindo.com
Mobile: 0421 307 236
LEVEL LOW DOWN

LEVEL ONE—Prep

We would like to thank Pauline and Lila Wilson (PR) for donating a beautiful and huge castle for one of our dramatic play areas. Some of our preps had a great time investigating in the castle this morning. We observed role playing, problem solving, negotiations (just a few squabbles!) and following one of our learning intentions this week, the preps continued introducing themselves to each other. Dramatic play is just one area where our students are engaging in and improving on their oral language by practising words, language and the art of conversation. As Kathy Walker states “The development of oral language underpins all aspects of learning and is the major contributor to a child’s comprehension.” We would also like to thank Melinda and Lily McGregor (PA) for their donation of plastic storage tubs and old jewellery for fine motor, sewing and craft activities.

If anyone has old and/or broken machines like VCR’s, cassette players, DVD’s, keyboards, we would certainly love to have them for our ‘Tinkering’ areas (the kinds of small machines you put out for the rubbish collection.) The preps love pulling things apart to see what’s inside. We would also love some pre loved hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, nails and tacks.

Our preps are lucky enough to have three lots of buddies. Year 6 special buddies who help them feel safe and secure at school, year 4 computer buddies that we meet with fortnightly in the computer lab, and year 3 reading buddies who come and read to us each week. We look forward to seeing our year 3 buddies tomorrow. Your child can bring an easy picture story book from home to share each Friday.

Last Friday the preps enjoyed a visit by Megan from The Zoo Comes To You. She showed us lots of interesting insects, spiders, lizards and even a very tame tawny frogmouth. We have learned that all insects have 6 legs and so we have been linking our learning to finding out about number 6. We made crazy paper insects with 2 legs on one side of the body and 4 on the other, 5 legs on one side and 1 on the other. There are so many combinations to make 6!

LEVEL TWO—Years One and Two

The Year 1 children have spoken with much excitement about the school disco, held last Friday after school. They loved the disco ball and colourful lights, so well done to the organisers and those in charge of decorations.

During Investigations the year 1 children have had the option to visit the Kitchen Garden on Fridays, under the supervision of Mrs Hebard, where they are able to investigate anything that interests them in the garden. Comments during reflection time usually have highlighted picking tomatoes and feeding the chickens.

Donations requested for investigations include colourful fabric, sequins, ribbon and small plastic containers with lids. We are not able to accept donations of cardboard toilet roll cylinders.

The year 1 teachers have been notified of their class parent representative for 2013. We look forward to working with our parent reps over the year and thank them for volunteering for this role.

LEVEL THREE—Years Three and Four

The students in year 3 have been working hard on their production and filming skills, using the four school values; of relationships, resilience, respect and responsibility. The students are scripting, performing in and producing a small play that they will develop and film in their groups. The students have been very enthusiastic about their performances and getting the chance to be behind the camera. Everyone in year 3 is excited about the final product!

This week in year 4, some of our students were lucky enough to work with Julie Shepherd for English and Sue Fine for Mathematics. Also, we congratulate all the students who participated in the school swimming trials, and say well done to all those that represented our school at Districts today.
LEVEL FOUR—Years Five and Six

Another exciting week of learning experiences in level 4! Year 6 maths focus this week has related to our Economics investigations. Our year 6 students completed a range of challenging real life maths experiences yesterday which included calculating deposits, balances and withdrawals, worded money problems and looked at supply and demand. We have some budding bankers in the making.

Congratulations to year 5 students who are demonstrating self-responsibility in completing their diaries each week. We look forward to this continuing and appreciate our parents support in helping develop children’s independence.

THE GREAT RACE

The year 6 students took on another leadership challenge last Thursday with the inaugural year 6 Great Race. Students in small teams navigated their way across the city through a series of checkpoints and challenges, including ‘ride on the City Circle Tram’, count the steps of parliament house, visit Haigh’s Chocolates (a popular option) and a visit to Chinatown. Our students demonstrated organisation and teamwork to finish the challenge in the allotted time. Thank you to our fantastic parent helpers who came along and joined in the fun. Your time was very much appreciated.
The pitfall of using other children as benchmarks

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Have you ever compared your child’s behaviour, academic progress or social skills with a sibling or your friend’s children?

Comparing your child with others is a stress-inducing and, ultimately, useless activity.

But it’s hard to resist, as we tend to assess our progress in any area of life by checking out how we compare with our peers.

When you were a child in school you probably compared yourself to your schoolmates. Your teachers may not have graded you, but you knew who the smart kids were and where you ranked in the pecking order.

Now that you have kids of your own do you still keep an eye on your peers? Do you use the progress and behaviour of their kids as benchmarks to help you assess your own performance as well as your child’s progress? Or perhaps you compare your child to yourself at the same age?

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Kids develop at their own rates

Each child has his or her own developmental clock, which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. The slow bloomers can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare children to siblings, their friends’ kids and even themselves when they were in school.

The trick is to focus on your child’s improvement and effort and use your child’s results as the benchmark for his or her progress and development. “Your spelling is better today than it was a few months ago” is a better measure of progress than “Your spelling is the best in the class!”

Gender matters

It’s no secret that boys’ and girls’ brains were developed by different architects. One major difference lies around timing, or maturity. The maturity gap between boys and girls is anywhere between 12 months and two years. This gap seems to be consistent all the way to adulthood.

Quite simply, girls have a developmental head start over boys in areas such as handwriting, verbal skills and relationship skills. Boys benefit greatly from teaching strategies designed for their specific needs. They also benefit from having teachers and parents who recognise that patience is a virtue when teaching and raising boys, as it seems to take longer for many boys to learn and develop.

Kids have different talents, interests and strengths

So your eight-year-old can’t hit a tennis ball like Novak Djokovic, even though your neighbour’s child can. Avoid comparing the two as your child may not care about tennis anyway.

It’s better to help your child identify his or her own talents and interests. Also recognise that the strengths and interests of a child may be completely different to those of his or her peers and siblings.

Avoid linking your parenting self-esteem to your child’s performance

As a parent you should take pride in your children’s performance at school, in sport or their leisure activities. Seeing your child do well is one of the unsung pleasures of parenting. You should also celebrate their achievements and milestones, such as taking their first steps, getting their first goal in a game or getting great marks at school.

However, you shouldn’t have too much personal stake in your children’s success or milestones, as this close association makes it hard to separate yourself from them. It may also lead to excessive parental pressure for kids to do well for the wrong reasons – to please you!

The maxim “You are not your child” is a challenging but essential parental concept to live by. Doing so takes real maturity and altruism, but it is the absolute foundation of that powerful thing known as “unconditional love.”
BEAUMARIS RSL
2013 ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE MARCH & SERVICE
SUNDAY 21st APRIL

ASSEMBLY 2.15PM
Beaumaris Concourse, Reserve Road, Beaumaris
FALL IN 2.30PM
STEP OFF 3.45PM

SERVICE 3.00PM
BEAUMARIS COMMUNITY CENTRE FORECOURT
Reserve Road, Beaumaris

WET WEATHER ROUTINE
In the case of inclement weather the service will be moved indoors.

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CHELTENHAM SECONDARY COLLEGE
OPEN NIGHT
Monday, 22nd April 2013
7.00-9.00pm

Prospective parents and students are invited to view all aspects of the College, beginning with a meeting in the Gymnasium to be addressed by the Principal.

- Classrooms open, displays, activities
- Students and teachers at work
- Curriculum and organisational information provided.

Information on our Enhancement Program will be given on the same evening at 6.15pm in the Auditorium.

Applications for the 2014 Year 7 intake will be available.

Tradition and Excellence
in a caring, disciplined environment

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Kingston Calisthenics College
Classes held at
St Louis de Montfort School Hall,
37 Dolphin Street, Aspendale

For information contact
Trish on 0400 133 501 or
Hayley 0412 767 487

Calisthenics is a stage performance based, artistic
Australian sport, it combines dancing,
singing, ballet and acting.
Kingston is a fun and friendly college that
welcomes students of all ages and abilities.

Come along with a friend
and discover why we love Calisthenics
2 FREE CLASSES FOR NEW MEMBERS

Weekly Class Times
Tiny Tots 5 years and under Sat 9.00-9.45am
Tinies 7 years and under Sat 9.45-11.15am
Sub Juniors 9 years and under Sat 11.30am-1.30pm
Juniors 12 years and under Thurs 5-8pm
Intermediates 16 years and under Wed 6-9pm
Seniors 16 years and over Tues 6.45-9.45am
Masters 26 years and over Mon 7-10pm
*Age as of Dec 2013

All welcome to ‘Come & Try’ or Join
our college at any time of the year

www.kingstoncalisthenics.com

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Has your son ever wanted to dance
like the Tap Dogs or Fred Astaire?

The Beau-Rock Ballet School now runs a Boys Tap Class for
primary school aged boys.
To find out more, call Carolyn on 9598 2627.