Dear Parents and Families

Last Friday at our whole school assembly, students commemorated the ANZACs and their sacrifice, honouring Australian servicemen and women, past and present. Even 100 years on, the ANZAC Day message still resonates with students perhaps more than ever before. Our students are helped to understand that ANZAC Day is a time to remember those who have served our country during times of conflict and crisis and to reflect upon their selfless sacrifice. Some members of our school community joined us at the commemoration. Together we gave thanks to those who left their families and travelled to countries far away to help defend ours.

Thank you to our school leaders Josh, Evie and Bella for leading the commemoration. Below is a poem chosen for the assembly.

Not a Hero by Clyde Hamilton

The ANZAC Day march was over - the old Digger had done his best. His body ached from marching - it was time to sit and rest.
He made his way to a park bench and sat with lowered head.
A young boy passing saw him - approached and politely said, "Please sir do you mind if I ask you what the medals you wear are for? Did you get them for being a hero, when fighting in a war?"
Startled, the old Digger moved over and beckoned the boy to sit. Eagerly the lad accepted - he had not expected this!
"First of all I was not a hero," said the old Digger in solemn tone, "But I served with many heroes, the ones that never came home. So when you talk of heroes, it's important to understand, The greatest of all heroes gave their lives defending this land. "The medals are worn in their honour, as a symbol of respect. All diggers wear them on ANZAC Day - it shows they don't forget." The old digger then climbed to his feet and asked the boy to stand. Carefully he removed the medals and placed them in his hand. He told him he could keep them - to treasure throughout his life, A legacy of a kind. He never again saw him ever going quietly on his way. Saddened he sat alone on the bench - tears welled in his eyes. He never again saw him ever - but still remembers with pride. When the old Digger told him of Heroes and a young boy sat and cried.

Working Bee Sunday May 15th

We invite families to come along to help at our next Working Bee. We will be tidying up our grounds in readiness for Grandparent’s Morning the following day. Garden Club has a few jobs that may require combined muscle power. A notice will go home, in the week prior, seeking volunteers.

Education Week Launch: Grandparent’s & Special Friends Morning May 16th

Remember to invite Grandparents or special friends along to school on this very special morning beginning with a whole school assembly commencing at 9.10am.
National Assessment of Year 3 and 5 students
A note explaining the national assessment has been sent home to all families of students in Years 3 and 5. Our teachers have familiarised the students with the format for the assessment of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy. We encourage parents to remain low key about NAPLAN and adhere to normal routines to avoid any anxiety among the students. NAPLAN provides us with a snapshot of student achievement to inform our future planning.

Sheryl M. Skewes
Principal

Louise Neave
Assistant Principal

School Uniform
In the colder winter months if your child needs to wear an additional outer layer to wear whilst outside at recess and lunchtime, then we are happy for you to source a plain navy sleeveless fleece vest from the likes of Target, Big W or Best & Less. Alternatively we can make a one off order from Primary School Wear who supply our uniforms for one of their Polar Fleece sleeveless vests featuring our embroidered school logo, which cost $47. If you are interested in ordering one of these items please contact the school office.

Snack Shack Update
Please remember that it is Sushi Special Lunch Day tomorrow and the only lunches being provided by The Snack Shack are the sushi orders which were placed earlier in the week. Late orders cannot be accepted now. The Snack Shack will be open for usual counter sales during recess and lunch on Sushi Special Lunch Day. A big thank you to all 49 volunteers who have signed up for at least one shift during this term, without you The Snack Shack couldn’t run as smoothly as it does. Also another thank you to the senior students who continue to help our junior students with their Snack Shack experiences, it really is lovely to see what caring helpers and leaders we have here at Beaumaris Primary School. Keep up the good work! QKR is enabling The Snack Shack orders to be provided more accurately and efficiently and is our most preferred method of ordering lunches at school so please give it a try if you haven’t had a chance. Ellie Hilton.

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**MOTHER’S DAY STALL**

The Mother’s Day stall will be held at school on **Friday 6th May**.

All presents are priced at $7.00 and the children will be able to choose one gift during their class visits with their teacher.

Please make sure that your child/children bring $7.00 as payment must be made on the day.

Also remember to bring a bag to take the gift home in!

If any gifts remain at the end of class visits, students will have an opportunity to purchase a second gift.

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Don’t threaten, bribe or deal – breathe & act

Five great discipline habits to add to your parenting repertoire.

Getting kids to cooperate is tricky. One method doesn’t necessarily fit all children so as a parent or teacher it helps to have a broad repertoire of responses to draw on when kids are less than perfect or you want more cooperative behaviour.

Disciplining a child can also make many parents feel decidedly uncomfortable, as it doesn’t generally fit an idealised picture of parenting that many of us may have. Discipline is about helping kids stay safe, become social and also be savvy and astute when they interact with others, which makes discipline a positive and very necessary part of the parenting process.

Bad discipline habits

Unfortunately, it’s easy as a parent to develop bad habits to get cooperation from kids. For instance, it can be easier to offer a simple bribe such as “I let you use my iPad for 10 minutes if you can be quiet in the back seat of the car”, rather than battle with kids for their cooperation. This type of bribe can work wonders to get some peace and quiet and is infinitely better than engaging in a slanging match while you’re driving. Well, it may seem that way.

However, it’s easy for both parents and kids to become hooked on bribes. As a parent you can easily fall for the trap of offering a bribe to induce good behaviour because it often works. A child learns to cooperate on his terms and soon learns to think, “What’s in it for me?” Soon kids learn to wheedle and deal to get better terms so today’s quick 10 minutes on an iPad becomes tomorrow’s shiny new piece of technology bought in return for cooperation. Bribery and dealing almost always escalates in scale. The stakes rarely get smaller.

Similarly, idle threats of withdrawing co-operation if a child won’t behave well soon fall on deaf ears as kids have a built-in radar for knowing if a threat is real or not. “If you continue to argue with your sister I’ll cancel your birthday” is the sort of threat that many of us have made in desperation just to get some peace and harmony at home. Again, threatening all types of nastily consequences can become a habit, particularly when we don’t have many other options at our disposal to get better cooperation.

Most of us will default to our lowest level of skill when we are tired, stressed or under pressure. When a child yells, “I hate you! You never listen to a thing I say” just when you’re trying to get her to do what you’re likely to return fire in kind with “What do you mean I never listen to you! Always listen to you. You never...” and away you go escalating a child in a way that only exacerbates her lack of cooperation.

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Good discipline habits
So it helps to develop some good discipline habits instead so that when we do become stressed or tired they are so ingrained in us that they become second nature.

Here are five good discipline habits to develop:

1. Avoid the first impulse so you don’t overreact
   A good rule of thumb is to stop yourself from reacting when children misbehave. As much of children’s poor behaviour is purposeful, in that it keeps parents busy with them, it is designed to let parents know that in fact you can make a child do anything they want to do, your impulsive reactions reinforce the behaviour. At times stopping and doing nothing is better than saying something you regret later on or can’t follow through with.

2. Step away and take a breath to gain control
   When you feel annoyed, angry or hurt by a child’s misbehaviour, temporarily step away from the situation and take a few deep breaths before you speak or act. This meta-moment will not only buy you time but will quickly calm you down and change your thinking, putting you back in control. Better self-management helps you respond more effectively when kids misbehave.

3. Lower your voice to be heard
   Do you typically repeat yourself or raise your voice when your children ignore your request for better behaviour or even cooperation. If so you are training your kids to ignore you. Try lowering your voice rather than raising to be heard. This has the double effect of being easier to hear as well as carrying a greater sense of authority.

4. Move toward them to be noticed
   Moving into children’s space to deliver a message is usually more effective than issuing an order across a lounge room when you are competing with a screen for attention. It does require effort but the results in terms of getting cooperation is generally worth it.

5. Use a consequence to teach
   Not all children respond positively to consequences. Very sensitive children can take consequences personally so use them sparingly with more sensitive kids. Sometimes a change in the tone of your voice is enough for these children. But generally reasonable consequences that have a relationship to children’s misdemeanours and that are respectfully delivered are effective in teaching children to behave responsibly. The trick is to deliver them like a neutral cop – cool, calm and with not too many words.

Good habits are best developed in low or no stress situations so if you’d like to add any of these ideas to your parenting repertoire start putting them into practice in every day interactions with your children, so that they become second nature when you really need some cooperation from your kids.

Michael Grose
**LEVEL LOW DOWN**

**Foundation**

On Friday the Prep students worked in the garden once more with our wonderful parent helpers – Ness and Angela. During the session we saw how much our sweet peas had grown since planting them as seeds last term. We decided on a spot outside our classrooms to plant the sweet peas and talked about the things we will need to do to help them to keep growing. Inside with Angela we made our own tulips out of foam, a paddle pop stick and coloured wool. We could choose the take the tulips home or place them somewhere in the Prep garden.

In Art with Mrs Redlich we have been learning about different techniques to join paper and cardboard together. On Friday we finished our Zoos and were able to take them home to show our families the skills we have been learning. Some students have also been using these skills in the Collage area during Investigations.

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**Year One**

The Year Ones have returned after their long weekend filled with excitement and news to share. They made great behaviour choices at the school ANZAC Day commemoration and now also have an increased understanding of the importance of this significant event after listening to their Year 6 school leaders.

Our Maths focus this week is on measurement using informal units and we will be continuing to entertain our classmates with fabulous plots (problems and solutions) in our narratives in Literacy. In History we have been looking at how household objects change over time. We would still appreciate it if you could send in items from the past such as records or old cameras.

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**Year Three**

Our students are doing a fantastic job with their weekly homework tasks. It is clear that they are coping well with the responsibility and organisation associated with completing homework and also taking great care with content and presentation. Well done Year 3! Below are some examples of student work.
Year Four

This week the Year 4s are all working their way through the writing process in relation to Recount writing. Last Friday, in Commemoration of ANZAC Day, all the students learned about the history and relevance of ANZAC Biscuits for the soldiers. 4M made yummy ANZAC biscuits and shared them with the other Year 4 classes. The Year 4 children worked in their clinic groups for Maths this week, exploring and investigating number sequences involving multiples of 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 through to multi-step problem solving.

Just a reminder that the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is underway and we strongly encourage all Year 4 children to participate and meet the challenge. Passwords have been distributed to the children. Please follow the link in today’s newsletter or communicate with your child’s class teacher if you require further information.

Year Five

On Tuesday the Year 5 students set off to explore the geographical features of the Dandenong Ranges. With the sun shining bright, the students collected data about the soil, animals, plants and climate in the different forests. We then compared these results with our prior knowledge from our fieldtrip to Ricketts Point last week. Thank you to the three parents who assisted us on this excursion.

Next week the students will be participating in House Cross Country. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on Tuesday and will be running at Dendy Park. Interschool sport will be starting on Friday next week. A permission note has already gone home.

Year Six

The Year 6 students have had an extremely busy week. The School Captains and Vice School Captains presented a beautiful ANZAC assembly. The first round of debates has started with the students gaining confidence in public speaking. We have started to practice the songs for Beauty and the Beast, it is a good idea for the students to start listening to these at home, so they can become familiar with the words. On Tuesday the students visited the Melbourne Botanical Gardens. It was a fantastic day where the students got to explore different areas within the garden, learn about biodiversity and how they can investigate biodiversity at school. They explored sustainability and got to bring home a potted plant and cuttings from the organic garden.
FROM OUR PARENT CLUB......

PARENT SOCIAL NIGHT - AUGUST 20TH
Please save the date for our Hawaiian Luau night to be held at Sandy by the Bay. It promises to be a fab night full of dancing, canapes, photo booth, drinks, DJ, games & live auctions! This year we are fundraising for an outdoor learning deck that will be used by students during performing arts lessons, physical education lessons, class lessons outdoors, as well as whole school events and performances. The area will also be enjoyed by families that visit our grounds during the weekends and school holidays. We are using a new online silent auction format this year so auctions won't be on the actual 20th making it more of a social night and allowing all school families and local community to bid at their leisure. More to follow on this.
A huge thank you to Nadine McFadries, Keely Houghton, Joanna Hancock, Vanessa Rushworth, Liz Laws, Marianne Walker, Caron Dixon, Marni Hutchison, Mel Burchall & Fiona Love who have volunteered to be part of our social night team. If you would like to help out in any way no matter how big or small we'd love to have you on board. Please get in touch.
Finally if you are able to donate any vouchers, goods or services for our silent auctions, live auctions or game prizes or have any contacts for these or sponsorship I'd love to hear from you.
Many thanks  Ness Newell  lochnessmonst71@hotmail.com  0424 329 008

Entertainment Book
The new edition of the Entertainment Book is now available for purchase through Beaumaris Primary - still the same price of $65 with $13 of that going straight to the school.
Those of you who have purchased before will know the membership contains offers and discounts for a variety of entertainment & services, including activities, shopping and restaurants.
Memberships are available in both book and digital form, and a sample book will shortly be available at the school office for you to view. If you are interested in purchasing a membership, please do so through the link below:
www.entbook.com.au/1869w07
Please note payment cannot be accepted through the school office.
Any questions please contact Bec Wattam (classes 2C/4M) 0419 529 638 becwattam@hotmail.com

Scholastic Book Club
The closing date for orders from the Issue 3 catalogue is Monday 9th May.

Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge
The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and Beaumaris Primary School is excited to be participating. The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 9 September 2016.
Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read fifteen books.
All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. If you would like your child’s name to appear on the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge online Honour Roll, please sign the form on the school website and return it to school. Click here for form.
To read the Premier’s letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc