FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families,

Foundation Parent Information Evening

Last night our teachers presented an overview of the first year at school. We thank parents for their attendance and we hope the session was helpful. Parents are encouraged to organise a time to meet with the class teacher to share any information that will assist the teacher when working with your child each day.

Specialist Program Overviews for Term One

Parents are advised that our Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Japanese and Physical Education Specialist teachers have prepared an overview of their program for Term One which can be found on the front page of our website under the Term Newsletter heading.

School Uniform

Parents are asked to please send the children to school each day in the correct school uniform. The school has made available a range of school uniform options and we ask that families select from these options when sending the children to school. Over the next two years families will gradually replace the yellow polo, through wear and tear, with the blue panelled polo. Both are optional at present.

Year 5 and 6 Sports Top

School Council has endorsed the addition of a Year 5 and 6 Sports top to our uniform. The top will be available for sale in approximately two weeks time and can be worn on Fridays by all of our Year 5 and 6 students, instead of the polo top. The fabric is more appropriate for the range of senior student sport activities throughout the year.

Early Morning Swimming Training 7.30-8.15am

A huge thank you to Mr Bailey, Mr Eden and Ms McManus for running swimming training three mornings a week to prepare our team for the District Swimming competition at MSAC on March 3rd. Thank you too, to the parents who deliver the students on time and support the program and the teachers.

Glee Club Performance at A Day on Oak Street.

Congratulations to all students in the Glee Club for their great public performance at the huge community event last Sunday. The Club has been invited to perform at the Open Garden event at the home of the Wallbrink family on the 28 and 29 March. Thank you to Mrs Rothberg for organising these opportunities for our students and for the time she spends preparing the students for their performances.

Sheryl M. Skewes
Principal

Neven Paleka
Assistant Principal

Library Lunchtimes—for the next four weeks.
Tuesday 24 February Years 6, 4, 2 and Foundation
Tuesday 3 March Years 5, 3 and 1
Tuesday 17 March Years 6, 4, 2 and Foundation
Tuesday 24 March Years 5, 3, and 1
Glee Club
On Sunday students from Years 4, 5 and 6 School Glee Club performed at the community event "A Day on Oak Street". They were absolutely fantastic and they showed so much enthusiasm. It was a first performance with the Glee Club for many of the students and they were awesome.
Well done and we look forward to hearing from them soon during the" Open Garden Week” in March.

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 2015. 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 two students at this time please contact the office staff, 9589 2619 or email: beaumaris.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

CENTENARY NEWS
Only 10 weeks until our school’s 100th birthday! Please put Saturday 2nd May in your diary – we will be having an Open Day from 10am to 4pm and would like to see as many past and present students, teachers and community members as possible so please spread the word. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help, we will be in touch very soon. If anyone else would like to help out, please have a look at the Centenary Celebrations tab on the school’s website, print the Volunteer Form and drop it to the office as soon as possible. Thanks, Ellie Hilton.

CANTEEN NEWS
The Qkr app is proving to be a huge success and to save yourself some time you can go online and order your lunches for weeks in advance. If you still put your order in the blue tub, please make sure the bag you supply is big enough to fit all the items in it that you order!! We can supply bags, too, for 10c each if you run out – you can order them in bulk and we can send them home in your school bag. I would like to thank our older boys and girls for respecting the “Foundation Only” line we have created for our newest students. Also, we are very happy to curl your apples at the canteen but if it is busy with queues, please come back when it is a bit quieter and we can help you out straight away. Thanks again to
10 golden rules for parenting success in 2015

As the requirements for effective parenting shift and there seems even less time to juggle family life, here are 10 golden rules to guide you on your parenting journey.

The requirements for effective parenting are changing rapidly, just as the profile of parents is changing. Australian parents are now older than ever (30-34 is now the peak child-bearing age group). Families are smaller than ever (over 50% have two children or less). And as children as a percentage of the population shrink (1 in 6 of our population is under 15, compared to 1 in 3 in developing countries), we are less knowledgeable about children than ever.

If you add to this mix that children are growing up at the speed of light, information technology can make parents seem redundant, and increasingly parents claim lack of time is their biggest impediment to effective parenting. So what is a parent to do?

Here are 10 golden rules to guide you along your parenting journey in 2015:

1. Talk more
   With families shrinking, kids getting busier and tech devices rapidly multiplying the opportunities for family members to engage in face-to-face talks is under serious attack. Regardless of their age, the best way to influence your children is talk to them. The kitchen table is one place to do this, but there are plenty of other places where you can talk. If talk becomes difficult, try driving with a child or younger person in the car or in the radio off. They are bound to break sooner or later.

2. Lean on others
   A recent Australian survey found that 59% of parents are seriously struggling with their parenting, yet only 10% of this group would ask for help. I suspect there are many reasons for this including fear of being judged a poor parent; that parenting is expected to be hard; and lack of trustworthy support networks. Author Steve Biddulph once said that parents don’t parent well in isolation. He’s right. It’s incredibly important to build your support networks and get ‘parents’ into your child’s life. Start by working closely with your child’s teacher; a natural ally!

3. Build confidence
   With so many parents reporting that they have a child experiencing anxiety it would seem that we are currently experiencing a crisis in children’s confidence. It would also seem that we have somehow forgotten how to absorb children’s fears, insecurities and anxieties, and instill a sense of confidence that these can be overcome. Using a mixture of coaching, coaching and cajoling parents need to find a way to impart in children a sense of courage to put themselves in new or potentially awkward social situations; to have a go at activities where failure is a real option; and to contribute to the wellbeing of others, which reduces anxiety and fear.

4. Aim for redundancy
   The great irony of modern parenting is that as families have shrunk parents actually do more, rather than less, for their kids. There are many reasons for this including lack of time to teach it’s simply easier to do a job ourselves, and the new expectation that ‘good’ parents do everything for their kids. The new ‘strict parent’ is someone who expects their kids to wash their own clothes, cook a meal, and read a book to a younger sibling. The imperative! Here’s a six-word slogan to help you remember: “When kids can, let them do.”

more on page 2
Parenting ideas

Insights

Building parent-school partnerships

... 10 golden rules for parenting success in 2015 ...

5 Lead the gang
Parenting is now an individual endeavour. There is a place for parenting the individual child, but there is also a place for parenting the whole gang even if you and your child make up the gang. Your ability to pull your family together and get them singing off the same song sheet will impact on your family’s harmonious relationships; your children’s sense of other (empathy) and their general resilience and coping mechanisms. There is nothing so magical to witness as a family pulling together when the chips are down. This doesn’t just happen. It takes real leadership by parents to make a family act like a family!

6 Build developmental knowledge
Many challenges parents experience with their children are due to a developmental mismatch. That is, parents raising their ten year old as if they are eight. The nuances of parenting are age-related, yet due to inexperience we so often can’t read the cues. Recently, I witnessed a mum and dad tearing their hair out trying to communicate with their nine year old son. For the first time he was saying no to them. They thought him stubborn and disobedient. I thought him normal, as nine can be a problematic age, where usually maleable children suddenly start changing. Puberty is stirring. When this couple’s second child turns nine she will experience the benefits of her elder brother paving the way and breaking her parents in for her.

7 Practice problem-ownership
Please, please, please allow children to own their own problems. Children of all ages can be creative when they have problems to solve. Everything is a potential problem to kids and they need opportunities to resolve them themselves. By all means, coach, guide, give hints but give them a chance to sort out relationship issues; challenges with teachers and academic challenges themselves.

8 Swim against the tide
Listen to talkback radio, read the headlines of a newspaper or watch a current affairs TV program and you’ll realise that, right now, we live in an incredibly judgemental society. Parents are harshly judged as well. Allow your kids to walk to school and you risk being judged as negligent. Drive your kids to school and you risk being told that you are spoiling them and neglecting their physical wellbeing. It takes a strong parent to swim against the tide of popular opinion. It also takes a strong parent to deny her child say a mobile phone when every other child has one. It helps to say “This is the way we do it in our family.”

9 Be brave
Perhaps the biggest challenge facing parents, and their children, is the ability to let go of their parental reigns and give kids the freedom they need to develop autonomy. It’s relatively easy to develop children’s independence at home as the states aren’t as high. If they can’t cook a meal then you just have to do it for them. However, developing children’s independence outside the home is a different story. Many parents feel decidedly wary about granting children and young people more freedom. There is the perception that the world is a dangerous place. Granting kids freedom has an element of risk: that’s why parents need to be brave. Having the courage to let go is a basic requirement of parenting. It won’t stop you worrying, but that’s part of the game.

10 Add emotional intelligence to your parenting mix
With kids experiencing mental health challenges at a depressingly high rate it’s time to add some emotional intelligence to the parenting mix. While many schools are now introducing emotional and social programs on the curriculum, it’s important that parents develop a deep understanding of how emotions work; how emotions can be recognised; how they can work for us and against us; how we can regulate our emotions so they don’t overwhelm us; and how to recognise and respond to the emotions of others. These sound like life-changing skills that if learned, are capable of impacting significantly and positively on future generations.

Michael Grose


parentingideashub.com.au

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LEVEL LOW DOWN

Year One

We can’t believe we’re almost half way through our first term! This week in Year One, investigations are in full swing. Unfortunately, we’re already running a little low on supplies. If any families are willing to donate the following we’d be very grateful! The following is a list of examples that you may have lying around at home and not have any use for anymore...

- Tinkering donation examples: old laptops, phones, remotes, keys and locks, gloves, children’s hammers, screw drivers, any tools, tweezers or pliers
- Sensory donation examples: bubble wrap, bean bag balls, small sticks and pebbles, sand accessories, spade bucket, eye droppers, rice or different size containers
- Construction donation examples: Lego, blocks or anything similar
- Collage donation examples: Corks, patty pans, ribbons, straws, doilies, cotton balls, bottle tops, or plastic bottles (rinsed)

Please remember to sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement that all children received on esmart day at the beginning of this year.

Year Two

The students have been very busy following our learning intentions this week. They have been writing letters, invitations and cards which links to our English focus of transactional texts. We have seen some wonderful teamwork, persistence and problem solving when a few students from 2C built a “Kapla” block creation during Investigations. Some of our reporters and photographers have been interviewing their classmates about months, seasons and years. It has been a delight to see the students moving around each classroom and connecting with new peers.

We are looking forward to next Tuesday’s ‘Wonderful World of Roald Dahl’ performance – maybe a few lucky Year 2 students will be able to participate in the special show! We have been brushing up on our favourite Roald Dahl stories including ‘The Twits’, ‘Matilda’ and ‘James and the Giant Peach’.

Thank you to the parents who have donated items for our collage areas. We are now seeking tinkering items including old CD players, computer parts, old phones or anything that can be ‘tinkered’ with. Tinkering during Investigations fuels the students’ natural curiosity about life and can also teach them valuable lessons by helping them develop fine motor skills, problem solving and peer relationships.
Foundation Students in Action
Year Three

What another amazing week in Year 3! On Wednesday, Supreme Incursion came along to immerse the students in orienteering! The students were involved in some fun introductory activities aimed at teaching direction and orientation. After learning how to use a compass the students completed a treasure hunt using cryptic clues and their new knowledge on compasses. They worked together as a team to find the hidden treasure! At the end of the day they were all given a compass of their own.

Year Four

On Wednesday everyone received their camp notices. Parents who are interested in attending the camp as a parent helper are requested to fill in the expression of interest form and return to school by Friday this week. This week we have continued to focus on mapping skills incorporating it in our geography and mathematics lessons. Our first spelling clinics were held on Monday and all students take home their weekly spelling words in their diaries on Monday nights. The year 4 members of our school swimming team have been enthusiastically attending training before school three mornings per week in readiness for the district swimming carnival on March 3.

Year Five

Year 5 hit fast forward this week and rocketed from a classroom in 1854 to 21st century learning. Camp at Sovereign Hill has been a wonderful springboard for our subject focus – history and the students’ ERPs. It’s great to see all the Year 5s keeping a record of their personal reading in their ‘Reading Logs’. Their reading can be included in the Premier’s Reading Challenge commencing later this term.

This Friday is our first Interschool sport competition. Please ensure all students are at school at 8.30am for an 8.45am departure. Students are competing against local primary schools in the following teams - cricket, softball, lawn bowls, volleyball and Oz Tag.

In English, we are enjoying reading narratives and discussing what makes an effective and entertaining story. We are focusing on place value in Maths and have explored whole numbers, decimals and fractions through experiences like the ‘10 second walk’ and a variety of card games.
Year Six

Last week the Year 6 students, parents and teachers headed off to Merricks Lodge for an Aqua Camp. The students enjoyed many outdoor activities including surfing, snorkelling, tree climbing, raft building, kayaking and orienteering. They were challenged to step outside their comfort zone and take on tasks that they would not normally do. Many students were surprised by what they could achieve.

The weather was fabulous. Hot days and cool nights allowed all activities to run and everyone to sleep. Merricks Lodge is a fantastic camp and was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Deb, Markus, Paris and Matt for giving up their week and helping out. A special thanks goes to Peter Jarvis for organising the camp and to Mr Bailey for attending at the last minute.
FROM OUR PARENT CLUB......

Parent Club AGM
Next Tuesday the 24th February we have our Annual General Meeting. All executive positions will need to be filled at this meeting and there will be report provided by the President and Treasurer from 2014 detailing our activities during 2014. Parent Club is an important part of the school community and although our main role is to contribute to the school fundraising efforts, we also provide a collective voice for our parent and guardian community. It is one area that you can be involved in the school community. I look forward to seeing as many of your there as possible. Please BYO coffee and some light snacks will be provided.

Class Rep 2015 Meet and Greet afternoon
Most classes now have Class reps nominated for the year, thank you to those who have volunteered to do this role. As a first step of assisting you with your roles and to provide an overview of the year ahead, Parent Club are hosting a meet and greet afternoon next Thursday 26th February in the Staff Room. It will be a time to meet with each other and chat over a cup of coffee. There will be an informal overview of the year ahead from the Parent Club, the Centenary committee, the Fete committee and some other areas that parent are involved in throughout the school. Please BYO coffee and light snacks will be provided.

Family Event Bush Dance
Parent Club have organised a bush dance for all school families to attend. This event is funded by Parent Club and is purely to meet with other families and enjoy an evening together at school. Please see flyer following for details. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
A reminder that Issue 1 of the book club is due back today Thursday 19th February. Spare catalogues are in the office foyer. Please feel free to order from any/all of the catalogues. 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 me 0424 329 008
lochnessmonst71@hotmail.com
Many thanks
Ness Newell
Beaumaris FAC won the last encounter in a thrilling final over. Can they retain bragging rights in the next game?

What: Beaumaris North FAC vs Beaumaris FAC
22 over Cricket Match

When: 10.30am Sunday March 1st 2015

Where: Beaumaris North Primary School Oval

Cost: $5 includes BBQ & drink - (BYOG)

Contact Warren Overton on 0407 274 823 to sign up
“Bag it and Bring it!”
Fundraising and recycling update

By placing your family and friends outgrown or unwanted clothing in bags and bringing them to the school, you will be raising money for our school! (Look out for the collection bins provided.)

As at 03/02/2015, we have raised $153.10

What to Bag:
Paired footwear, handbags, clean undamaged clothing including jackets, hats, belts, swimwear, underwear, bras, socks. Sheets and blankets and towels.

Australia’s Wastesavers
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