FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families

Don’t forget school finishes at 2.30pm on Friday
No Assembly on Friday due to this early finish time

Thank you for your thoughtfulness

To all the parents who have offered their sympathies to our staff following the loss of a much loved staff member, Virginia Jackson, thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Communication between home and school

Building the partnership at Beaumaris Primary School

Strong, regular communication between home and school is a high priority at Beaumaris Primary School. Why? Research tells us a strong home/school partnership develops a positive attitude towards school in our students and subsequently improves student learning outcomes.

It is opportune to look back over Semester One to reflect on the ways our school continually communicates with parents to build strong connections between home and school:

- Formal parent/teacher interviews twice yearly as well as all throughout the year, as required, at a mutually agreed time to discuss student progress
- Year level “Statements of Intent” posted on our website each fortnight to inform parents of the curriculum focus areas that they can support at home
- Teachers outside classrooms after school for informal exchanges of information with parents about their child and the events of the day
- News flashes of special events at school on our school Facebook page
- Konnective messages for reminders direct to your mobile phone
- Open classrooms in Term One to give parents the opportunity to mingle and build relationships with the teacher and other parents
- Open classrooms during Education Week to enable our students to share their learning and the focus, e.g., Mathematics this year, with their parents
- Parent information sessions at the start of the year and year level presentations posted on our website for reference by parents during the year
- Parent Information sessions to explain how parents can help their child at home, facilitated by Numeracy and Literacy Consultants, Sue Fine and Julie Shepherd
- Term by term year level newsletters outlining the program, posted on our website for reference by parents when talking about school with their child
- Newsletter summaries of the work of our School Improvement Teams to demonstrate the work of the teachers to continually improve school programs
- Weekly updates of classroom events in the very popular Level Low Downs to generate family discussion at home
- Letter of introduction by the teacher to their students at the conclusion of last year together with whole year level class lists to promote strong relationships
- To reduce those first day jitters, prior to the first day of school, a map of the line up areas for each class was emailed home and our teachers were waiting outside ready to greet their new students and their parents on the first day
- Our Centenary Open Day for our current families and the broader community to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our school as a provider of primary
school education for thousands of children over the last one hundred years
• Let’s not forget the parent groups within the school who, through their involvement, model to our students the importance and benefits of engaging in school life, as they work hand in hand with the teachers to create an exciting, ever changing learning environment for our students eg School Council and Sub Committees Parent Club, Garden Club, Fete Committee, Working Bee Volunteers, classroom Helpers, learning support helpers. BFAC, Canteen, Book Club Helpers and Class Representatives.

Safe Holidays
We hope our families enjoy the break. It has been a long term and the students are certainly ready for a change of pace. Stay safe and return refreshed for Term Three.

Sheryl M. Skewes  Neven Paleka
Principal  Assistant Principal

A message from our School Council President
This first half of 2015 has been a very busy time for the school.
The school council has adopted the Strategic Plan (2015-2019) and the AIP (Annual Implementation Plan).
I thank all staff for the huge amount of work involved especially Sheryl and Neven in developing such a well-researched path for our school to follow.
As well we have celebrated our Centenary and we have reconnected with many former students, staff and families as well as celebrating our school’s proud history.
The first stage of the LTC refurbishment is looking fantastic and will be finished by early next term.
This project has been fully funded by our generous school community and it will provide a much needed innovative learning environment for our year four students.
During term 3 the school council will be starting a Master Plan for the school’s physical environment and a wider Strategic Plan around resourcing, infrastructure and maintenance.
The Fete Committee is putting in lots of work planning the Centenary Fete which will be held on Sunday the 25th October. On behalf of school council I wish all families & staff a relaxing and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you in term 3.
Tony Falkingham
President School Council

Traffic around the school
Parents are asked to take extra care at peak traffic times around the school and local neighbourhood. Please be extra vigilant towards the hundreds of children and their families as they cross the roads around the school and in the neighbourhood as they make their way to school. We want everyone to arrive safely and unharmed.

Planning a trip to the movies during the school holidays?
With school holidays starting tomorrow we have stocked up on our Village Cinemas movie ticket vouchers. You can purchase your vouchers from the school office - adults $14.00 and children’s $10.50. Simply redeem the vouchers in person at the cinema box office or you can also use them when booking your tickets on line, by entering the unique barcode of the ticket when making payment. The tickets expire in November 2015 so you have plenty of time to use them.

Woolworths Earn and Learn—returns from Wednesday 15 July
This year we will again be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre.
From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.
At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn
Canteen News
Thank you to Red Moose in Sandringham for supplying our staff and students with a delicious and healthy Special Lunch yesterday. The wraps and smoothies were a huge hit.
The "Naming of the Canteen" competition is now closed and our winner will be announced in Term 3. Thank you to all the students who participated.
To all the canteen volunteers, thank you again for your help throughout the first half of 2015. Next term the canteen opens three days a week and if I have received your volunteer form, you will receive an email during the holidays which will include the new roster, so please keep an eye out for it.
Wishing everyone a happy and safe school holidays. Ellie Hilton.

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge
We’ve just passed the PRC halfway mark for 2015! So far, a total of 3,794 books have been read by our students. It’s great to see that so many of you are getting hooked on reading. Ninety-eight students from Beaumaris Primary School have already completed the challenge. It’s not too late to accept the reading challenge if you have not already done so. If you meet the challenge this year, the Premier of Victoria will send you a certificate of achievement. Ask your teacher for help in choosing books, listing books and logging on. Ask your friends about the books they are reading and tell them about the ones you have read. Keep reading over the school holidays!

KidsMatter Primary commenced in 2006 as a collaboration between the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, beyondblue, the Australian Psychological Society, and the Principals Australia Institute.
The initiative was piloted in 100 Australian primary schools between 2007 and 2008, and independently evaluated by Flinders University. The evaluation found KidsMatter Primary had a significant improvement upon children’s mental health and wellbeing.

What is KidsMatter? KidsMatter is a mental health and wellbeing initiative for primary schools and early childhood education and care services – preschools, kindergartens and day care centers.
It’s not a program, but a framework that helps staff, parents and carers to work together to create settings that better support children’s social and emotional wellbeing needs.

KidsMatter has 4 focus areas: creating positive school and early childhood communities; teaching children skills for good social and emotional development; working together with families and finally recognising and getting help for children with mental health problems.

KidsMatter comes with professional learning for staff, resources, and ongoing support throughout implementation. This year the wellbeing team will be implementing component one- Positive School Community

Please take 10 minutes to complete this anonymous survey, click on this link and you will be taken straight there: www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey
This survey will give us vital information about the mental health and wellbeing of our students, help identify the initiatives that are working well and those that require further improvement; without a significant number of our school families completing this survey we will not have meaningful data on which to base our planning. So far we have only had 30 school families take the time to do the survey—and we need far more than this. KidsMatter recommend 80% of the school community, which means we really need 296 families to take part. We would SO appreciate it if you could find the time during the school holidays to fill in this survey, which will only take 5-10 minutes of your time.
Many thanks, the Wellbeing Team - Anna Redlich, Jenny Fildes, Catherine Churchward, Anne Thompson, Jo Pyke-Simmons.
LEVEL LOW DOWN
Foundation

This week the Preps had another visit from the fire fighters from Mentone Fire Brigade. We were lucky enough to all have a go at using the real fire hose! They reminded us to call 000 ("zero-zero-zero") in an emergency and we learnt that when they answer we need to tell them if we would like Police, Fire or Ambulance. They reminded us to ‘crawl down low and go, go, go’ if there was a fire in our house and we need to go all the way to our letter box or out to the pavement/front of the house and wait until help arrives. We know to never go back inside to find pets, toys or other family members because the fire fighters have special fire-proof clothes and a breathing mask that keeps them safe. If there was a small fire and our clothes ever caught on fire we need to ‘stop, drop and roll’ to put the fire out.

A very big thank you to Keely Houghton for making the journey to Resource Rescue to search, collect and find items for us to use during investigations. A reminder to sign up for investigations by filling out the yellow form on the yellow doors at the end of the Foundation Learning Centre. Also, please return literacy helper forms by the end of the week to your class teacher. We wish you a restful holiday and look forward to seeing you all in Term 3 – ready for our 100th day of school! (29th July – more details to follow soon).

Year One

Procedure Writing!
To finish off our procedural writing unit this week in year one we chopped, squeezed and cooked! Amongst the Year 1 classes we cut up fruit to make our own fruit salad, squeezed enough lemons to make lemonade and mixed ingredients together to make pancakes. After we made and ate our delicious treats we wrote down all the tools we used and the steps it took to make our finished products. Delicious!
This week we visited the Beaumaris Library for the last time this term. Some of the students have borrowed books for the holidays. Books can be borrowed for up to one month. Well done to all Year 1s on your beautiful and quiet behaviour in the library. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you all in Term 3.

Year Two

To celebrate the end of writing procedural texts we were lucky enough to make pancakes this week. We followed the Jamie Oliver ‘One Cup Pancake Recipe’. We topped our pancakes with maple syrup, choc chips, jam, lemon and sugar! Thank you to all the parents who came in to help us. It was greatly appreciated. We couldn’t have done it without you. It’s a great recipe to try at home too (hint, hint Mum and Dad!). Also, a big thank you to Jamie Oliver for making our English lessons so delicious! Click to see how easy it is to make yummy pancakes - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPdpSAvmnHY
This week in Year 3 the students had the opportunity to attend a student-lead clinic group. Several students volunteered to lead a clinic group in their area of expertise and the rest of the year level chose a clinic group to attend. There were nine activities available; jazz dancing, chess club, singing, basketball skills, football skills, 3D drawing, dinosaur drawing, soccer skills and palaeontology. A huge congratulations to all those students for taking on the responsibility of teaching their skill to a group of students, you were amazing!

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the year 3 students on a wonderful semester. We wish you a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to a busy term3!
**Year Four**

This week the teachers have been busy planning for term 3. Next term year 4 students will continue to relate their interests to our subject focus of **History** for the first three weeks, concluding with our History Expo on Thursday 30th July, 3-4pm. We will then begin our new subject focus of **Science**. The students will showcase their Zaishus from their work with Matthew Butler in the Artist in Schools Program to the community towards the end of next term. We will also hold our Science Expo late in Term 3. We are enjoying working with such talented artists and look forward to families coming along to share and discuss their children’s learning.

During Term 3 your child will be able to bring an Apple ipod or ipad to school as part of our “Bring Your Own Device” program. We will send the appropriate paperwork home if your child indicates to us that you have discussed this with them and are happy for them to bring the device to school to use in class. The devices will be locked securely during recess and lunch, and the students will not be permitted to take them out into the yard.

Wishing families a happy and safe mid-year break!

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**Year Five**

Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words.

*Robert Frost*

Year 5 has explored powerful poetic devices, such as onomatopoeia, alliteration, assonance, simile, metaphor, personification and hyperbole in ballads, odes, haiku, free verse, limericks, acrostic and shape poems. They are writing a variety of poems – ‘I am’ (a reflection of self), ‘Rollercoaster’ (a shape poem), ‘Dreamer’ (a collaborative poem about our world), and ‘Spaghetti’ (a syllable poem).

The students are putting the finishing touches on their geography ERPs and are looking forward to sharing their learning with the school community on Thursday afternoon.

We wish you all a safe, relaxing and fun holiday. Enjoy the opportunity to slow down and recharge.

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**Year Six**

This week at school has been very productive finishing all our work before the end of Term 2. We had a fantastic EXPO on Tuesday. Thank you to all the family and friends that came to visit and see the Year 6 students presentations, videos, speeches and information reports. We have our last rounds of Interschool sports on Friday. Good luck to all the teams.

Reports will be handed out Thursday. We want to wish the students and their families happy holidays. We are looking forward to seeing you all rested for a busy Term 3.
Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder… always does her best … lacks concentration… easily distracted… a pleasure to teach… Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. **Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?**
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. **Do you believe that children learn at different rates?**
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. **Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?**
   Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

- **Focus on strengths.** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

- **Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning.** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

- **Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting.** How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

- **Take note of student self-assessment.** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

- **Discuss the report with your son or daughter** talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

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FROM OUR PARENT CLUB......

Parent Club 'Pop Up Coffee Shop'
On the first morning of Term 3, the Parent Club will again be hosting the coffee cart under the shade cloth. Remember to bring your money to purchase a coffee or hot chocolate and hang around for a post holiday catch up. Parent Club will be providing muffins to accompany your coffee. See you there!
Date: Monday 13th July, 2015
Where: Under the shade cloth
Time: From 8.15am

Buy an Entertainment Book as SAVE these holidays!
The Entertainment Book is still available for sale through school and includes many discounts on activities, restaurants and accommodation that could be used during the holidays. I have a couple of books left that I can get to you by the end of term or alternatively there are unlimited digital memberships available.
Order and payment through the following link  https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1869w07
Any questions please contact Bec Wattam - becwattam@hotmail.com or 0419 529 638

New Stall - We are having a Hand Made Craft stall this fete and would LOVE any crafty donations for this stall. Can you knit, sew, paint, make jewellery, accessories or do anything else creative? If so we'd love to showcase your talents. Please leave donations at the office. Many thanks.

Would you like to help sew Bunting for our Fete? Even if you're not a sewer you can still help by cutting out flags for others to sew. All help greatly appreciated. To join this fabulous team please contact Tara - FL tara@bertovic.com.au
All donations of fabric gratefully received e.g. old sheets, pillow cases, material scraps. Please leave at the office.
http://www.facebook.com/beaumarisprimaryschoolcentenaryfete

If you are able to donate a voucher, goods or a service for our Silent or Live Auctions or for a prize I'd love to hear from you. All donations gratefully accepted.
Please contact Ness Newell lochnessmonster71@hotmail.com
Would you like a Market Stall at our fete? Expressions of interest are now being sought. Applications close 31/7. Please contact Nikki Marsh for an info sheet & application form nikki.marsh@westnet.com.au

Donation drives in Term 3
Lucky Bags (formerly Lucky Jars)
Blocks of chocolate for Lob-o choc stall
Crockery - chipped, odd pieces for our Plate Smasher stall