FROM THE PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families,

Congratulations to Mrs Sarah Bracey

On behalf of our students, teachers and parents we wish to congratulate Mrs Bracey for her very recent success as the successful applicant for the Acting Assistant Principal position at Toorak PS for Term 2 and 3. Mrs Bracey is currently a Leading Teacher at our school and this opportunity is a natural progression in her career. We truly wish her well and we hope she enjoys her time at Toorak over the next two terms.

Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter Raffle draw tomorrow from 9.15am

Parents are invited to come along to our parade on Friday morning. This is one of our traditions each year. Our Foundation students will parade their bonnets for all to see and then continue their parade through the Concourse to share the Easter spirit with our local community. Glee Club will also perform in the Concourse. Thank you to families for generously donating a range of chocolate goodies and baskets. Thank you also to the team of parents who packaged all the donations into baskets for the raffle. We hope all families have bought their tickets. Some baskets will be delivered to Family Life for distribution to local families in need.

Working Bee

Only a small group of parents attended the combined Year 6 and Foundation Working Bee. The group managed to weed the native garden behind the sports shed, demolish the old wooden garden tubs near the bin enclosure and plant shrubs, sweep up of leaves, trim over hanging shrubs on fence lines, rake over playground mulch and sweep around the sandpit.

Thank you to Jenny, one of our school’s neighbours, for donating the natives that were planted. Thank you to Ross Bailey for the hours he has spent watering the oval to boost the growth of new seeding.

The following families helped on the day: Parkinson, Badgery (thank you for your donation also), Kozaric, Scott, Munn, Fitzgerald, Harrop, Le, Bruere, Collins, Mr Bailey, Miss Pritchard, Mrs Skewes and others who came along. We greatly appreciate your assistance.

What is your child doing online?

Earlier this term our students were part of a whole school Cybersmart day to alert them to safe practices online. We are aware that some of our students use Instagram and ooVoo. Below is some information for parents to consider when discussing the use of the internet and social media with their child. Additional information for parents is provided later in this newsletter.

For children, the Internet is an important research, communication and information tool. Children are accessing the Internet and using Internet services such as chat rooms from an increasingly early age. However, children and their parents need to be aware that there are potential risks and dangers inherent in Internet use. What we, teachers and parents, need to do is ensure that our children know how to keep safe in this online environment. One way of ensuring your child is safe is to know what it is they are doing when they are online.

Do you know what your child is doing when (s)he is online? Statistics indicate that 71% of parents thought their children were undertaking research on the
internet, while 23% of children said that they were actually doing research. **Have you talked to your child about their internet activity recently?** Statistics indicate 37% of kids do not share what they do on the Internet with their parents. **Be actively involved in your child’s Internet use:**

- Place the computer in a public area of the home to supervise children’s use.
- Make sure you have safety software installed on your computer. This may include a filter and other security software such as anti-virus programs, spyware and ad-aware.
- Remind them of the need to protect their privacy.
- Emphasise safe online behaviour and discuss why this is needed.
- Reinforce safety messages and cyber rules.
- Investigate any chat rooms or online clubs that your child wants to join to make sure they are legitimate.
- Discuss use of good cyber manners (Netiquette), just as you do for the real world.
- Ensure that both you and your child understand laws relating to copyright and privacy.

Parents/guardians interested in further information about the Internet and safe practices with regards to its usage in the home will find the following websites helpful:


**New Legislation to ensure school are smoke free environments**

Parents and visitors are advised from 13 April 2015, smoking will be banned within four metres of an entrance to all primary and secondary schools in Victoria, and within the school grounds, under an amendment to the *Tobacco Act 1987*. A similar ban applying to the entrances and grounds of Victorian childcare centres and kindergartens will be introduced at the same time. While smoking was banned on the grounds of all Victorian Government schools by the Minister for Education in 2009 via a Ministerial Ban Order, the new bans are enshrined in legislation and will also apply to Catholic and independent schools in Victoria, thereby ensuring a consistent approach across the government and non-government sectors. It is a legislative requirement that each school installs suitable ‘No smoking’ signs at all entrances to the school premises.

Please contact the Tobacco Control Section in the DHHS if you have any questions regarding the new smoking bans, via phone (03) 9096 0469, or via email tobacco.policy@health.vic.gov.au.

**Beaumaris PS Centenary Open Day Saturday May 2nd 10am-4pm**

Please place this date in your diary.

A fantastic team of volunteers organised by Ellie Hilton is busily collecting and organising photos and artefacts for display at our centenary celebration day. We are excited and very proud of our school. Beaumaris Primary School has a wonderful history and the school has provided primary education to local families for one hundred years. This is a magnificent achievement.

**Early Dismissal and Happy Holidays**

Best wishes to all our families for a safe and relaxing holiday. The students will be dismissed at 2.30pm tomorrow.

_Sheryl M. Skewes_  
Principal

_Seven Paleka_  
Assistant Principal

**GARDEN CLUB**

A big thank you to our Garden Club volunteers Wendy, Jane, Prue, Sarah, Wendy, Jemima and Alex for working in chilly conditions. The Prep class room beds are now full of purple statice which will complement our school Entrance. Special thanks to Prue for toiling for an hour with an enormous pick axe breaking the soil up.

Today was a special day for school as we prepare to remember our Anzacs on 25th April, Anzac Day. The red poppies grew in such profusion on the Belgian and French battlegrounds they became forever associated with the First World War. It’s said that the churning of the soil caused by horses’ hooves and soldiers’ boots encouraged never-before-seen displays of these wildflowers.

As our tribute, thousands of Anzac Rememberance poppy seeds have been sown beneath the school flagpole and in the flower beds around our Entrance Way. Special thanks to our young helper Jemima for sowing these.

**If you could please not tie your dog or walk in the area under the flagpole this would be appreciated.**

DIARY DATE:- Next Garden Club will be on Friday 24th April 9am.

All the Foundation students and teachers would like to thank the Gardening Club for cleaning up and replanting some native statice plants on the on the north side of our building. The Foundation students have promised to water them, feed them and love them!

An extra big thank you from our Foundation teachers to Victoria Beale for organising Wendy, Jane, Prue, Sarah, Wendy,
Jemima and Alex to come along this morning. As our new plants grow, it will make our outdoor learning space visually appealing and a lovely space to investigate, explore and learn outside. We very much appreciate your help!

EARTH HOUR AT SCHOOL
As part of our focus on the Energy module of Resource Smart this year, tomorrow we are participating in Earth Hour between 11.15 and 12.15. During this time we will be participating in a variety of fun activities inside and outside which require zero power. We are aiming to reduce our power consumption and costs, but also to raise awareness of Earth Hour, and hope it will encourage our families to participate this Saturday night in earth hour at 8.30pm. Have a chat with your child about how they will be spending Earth Hour at School, and what you might be able to do at home as well. Check out earthhour.org.au or coolaustralia.org for some fun and informative ideas.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS
NEW ENROLMENTS Term 2
Local Music School POCO MUSIC offers private piano, guitar, singing, strings, and drumkit lessons at Beaumaris primary school during class hours. Lessons are conducted in a fun environment by qualified teachers teaching students the basics and expanding to AMEB exam preparation if needed. If you would like your child to commence lessons in term 2 visit our website and fill out the online enrolment form at: www.pocomusic.com.au, you can email us at: admin@pocomusic.com.au or call our office on 9584 7341.

WALLBRINK GARDEN
22 LANG STREET, BEAUMARIS
OPEN 28 - 29 MARCH 2015
10am - 4:30pm
$8 entry (children under 18 free)
www.opengardens.org.au
www.facebook.com/OpenGardensAustralia

We are proud to be a part of Open Gardens Australia’s 2015 program.
Our garden is continually changing. Come along and see our latest additions to the garden and enjoy a fun community event that includes:
› A stunning sculpture display
› Music in the garden
› Sausage sizzle & cold drinks
› Information about the garden
We are donating our portion of the ticket proceeds to the Beaumaris Primary School Garden Club, so come along and be a part of the fun.

Steve and Karyn Wallbrink
Instagram is a photo and video sharing App popular with young people. Users communicate by posting comments to each other under photos and videos. They sometimes share user names from other sites or apps such as Kik or Facebook to continue chats privately. 13 is the minimum user age required by Instagram.

If your child is over 13 you should still consider the following before agreeing to unsupervised Instagram access:

Is your child able to withstand taunts from others?

If you think your child will become very upset (more than other kids) if they have a negative experience online, your child may need you to guide them through the use of Instagram. Look through their profiles and public feeds together, talk about how some people behave differently online and teach them how to block and report people.

Does your child understand what is safe to put online?

If they might put their name, address, school, sports club or information that allows people to identify and locate them (even after you have talked through the dangers) they may need your help with using Instagram. Talk about the risks of ‘checking in’, posting sexy pictures, meeting online friends in person, making offensive comments, and what is and isn’t acceptable.

Does your child know how to report abuse and offensive or pornographic content?

If not you need to visit Instagram’s Privacy and Safety Centre with them to ensure they know how to block and report people.

Are you worried your child will be left out if they aren’t on Instagram but also worried they aren’t ready?

As a compromise you may choose to let them have an Instagram account if they follow strict rules – including only using Instagram when you supervise them or you control their login. In return, and to keep them engaged with you, you can promise not to embarrass them by commenting publicly on their profile or posts. Teens tell us this is humiliating and it is their private world.

Are you going to supervise or ‘follow’ your child on Instagram?

If this is the case, be prepared to learn more than you might like about their friends. Try to withhold comment unless you are worried about safety. It is better to talk to your child in person if you have concerns than post comments publicly. If you publicly embarrass them, you will break your child’s trust and they may simply communicate with friends on a different program – or open a separate profile without your knowledge.

How do I talk to my child about my concerns?

Be honest with them. Express your love and concern about what might happen online. Ask if they have experienced bullying or sexual advances. Banishing seldom works and children will find other ways to get online and may stop talking to you about issues to avoid getting in trouble. Keep the communication open. If they won’t talk to you about things, recruit a trusted family friend or family member to keep the communication going.

When should I be worried about my child?

If your child’s behaviour changes at home and/or school you should talk to them. Examples of changed behaviour could include disinterest in things they used to like, seeming very unhappy and/or their sleep and eating is being impacted. Seek professional advice if necessary from a school counsellor, your GP or a psychologist. If your child has particular vulnerabilities, be vigilant about their contacts offline and online. Help them join groups out of school where they can find friends and support. Talk to the school and make sure they are supported.

Kids Helpline provides free online and phone counselling for children and young people.
INSIGHTS
by Michael Grose - Australia’s leading parenting educator

Helping kids unwind

Nothing wrong with kids being busy as long as they have plenty of chances to relax and unwind.

Modern kids are busy kids. Regardless of age, their days are filled with activities.

For five we do a range of adult-initiated learning activities designed to give them the best start to their learning lives.

School-aged kids have a huge range of leisure and after-school activities to choose from. It is not uncommon for kids to have four and five extra-curricular activities a week.

Nothing wrong with kids being busy as long as they have plenty of chances to relax and unwind.

Relaxation is a key to good mental health and well-being. It is an important life skill for kids to learn.

Balance busyness with boredom

One way to ensure busy kids unwind is to make sure kids get bored every so often.

There is a temptation to fill kids’ days with activities so that no time is wasted.

“I’m bored!” is the last thing most parents want to hear their kids say. Many parents feel compelled to do something to alleviate a child’s boredom.

There is nothing wrong with a little boredom now and then. Boredom can be good for kids’ mental health and well-being, giving them the chance to muck around and take it easy for a time.

Here are 5 ideas to help you unwind your kids:

1. Let your kids regularly stare into the fire.

Ever sit around a camp-fire and stared at the flames? If so, you will know how calming it is. No exertion! No need to think! No need to talk to anyone! Just a chance to chill-out and relax. The TV is the modern version of the camp-fire. ‘Yep, TV used in this way is good for kids’ mental health.

2. Let kids exercise without rules.

Kids are the kings and queens of play. Always have been. Until lately that is, when their lives have become highly organised and scheduled. Free, child-initiated play is the ultimate in relaxation. Fun games, games with few rules and games that kids control help them to unwind.

3. Let kids experience flow.

Flow is a state we get into when we are so engrossed in an activity that time disappears. It is the ultimate unwind. We get flow when we pursue our passions so encourage teens to find activities that they truly love and get lost in. Free play generally takes young children to flow very quickly so opportunities for unstructured play are essential.

4. Help kids calm down around bedtime.

Have a bedtime routine that calms kids down rather than winds them up. You can become part of this routine by reading books, telling nursery rhymes, providing soothing back rubs and other ways.

5. Unwind with your kids.

When I was young the best times I had with my dad were spent in the backyard playing cricket. Sounds like a cliché I know. It was fun because i was never a chore for him. He loved it as it was a chance for him to unwind after work. Find ways you can unwind and rejuvenate with your kids.

We want our kids to be busy and involved rather than inactive and apathetic. However, activity needs to be balanced with unscheduled time so that perspective as well as everyone’s sanity is maintained.

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While you are there subscribe to Happy Kids, Michael’s hugely popular email newsletter.

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**LEVEL LOW DOWN**

**Foundation**

We have all worked very hard in our first term of school and have learned so much already. Enjoy the holiday period with your child and enjoy our lovely autumn weather together. Continue reading to them, practise counting things to 20 and back and if the mood strikes they may want to write a letter to their teacher about their holiday.

Remember our Easter assembly is at 9.10 tomorrow. We hope your EASTER bonnet and basket is ready to be paraded around the school and to the Concourse. We dismiss at 2.30 on Friday. Here are some photos of investigations yesterday.

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**Year One**

We have had a fabulous Term One in Year One. We’ve learnt so much about each other, set up wonderful classrooms and worked on so many different learning intentions in investigations and throughout our day. We cannot wait to get stuck into Term Two. We’ve got so much more to get through! We would like to welcome our new students, Millicent in 1R, Charles in 1V and Tim in 1D. We hope they are settling in well and enjoying getting to know their new classmates and teachers. The students have been busy helping set up new learning areas for next term. We have a garden area that would love some real plants or seeds to grow. We have a new airport that could do with some old plane tickets, travel brochures etc. There is a new performing area that would love costumes, musical instruments or material to make costumes. We have a science area where we’d like to discover more about herbs, essence oils and many more interesting science concepts. We’re looking forward to having parents coming in next term to help during investigations, literacy and ICT. Please return the parent helper form as soon as possible so that a roster can be organised and sent home. Have a safe break and we look forward to seeing you all back refreshed and ready for Term Two!

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**Year Two**

This week in Year 2 we have enjoyed reflecting on our first term together this year. It has been jam packed with lots of learning and fun times!

The students have been working on transactional and recount writing, place value and shape features in maths along many other new concepts. They have been developing confidence when speaking and listening in front of their peers and we are looking forward to practising this skill when we return from holidays.

We are excited to cheer on many of the Foundation students in tomorrow’s Easter Bonnet Parade, especially the siblings of those in Year 2.

Term 2 will be another exciting and busy term so please make sure your children rest and relax over the break.

We look forward to seeing many happy faces on Monday 13th April.
Year Three

The Year 3’s this week have completed their mini ERP’s. The posters are informative, educational and very well presented. They have used their time affectively and worked very well during ERP sessions. The Year 3 teachers would like to congratulate the students and families on a very effective and successful term. The students have made us all proud with how they have transitioned into Year 3. We hope everyone has a safe, restful and relaxing holiday. We look forward to commencing a busy Term 2 on Monday 13th of April.

Year Four

We have had a wet but fun few days at Arrabri Lodge in Warburton. We rotated through swimming, archery, ropes course, orienteering, flying fox, and the giant swing. We also learned some fun bush dances and had mini Olympics. The food was yummy and our walk through the rainforest was really interesting. We also visited the Warburton Education Centre where we learned about the local wildlife, most of which is nocturnal.

Year Five

We have reached the end of term 1 and had a wonderful time sharing our learning at the Expo on Wednesday. Thank you to the huge crowd of parents that came and saw our research and amazing displays. It was also a great experience for the students to share their work with year 2 and 3 classes. Everyone is looking forward to the Foundations sharing their Easter bonnets on Friday. Don’t forget to record your reading over the holidays on the Premiers’ Reading Challenge, good luck to those starting the Premier’s Active April program and we wish you all a happy and safe holiday.

Year Six

It is hard to believe we are in our last week of term 1. The grade six students have been very busy in their last week of school. We have had great fun in Interschool sports with all teams finishing up with double headers on Friday. That completes the end of our summer sports, and this Friday we will be getting organised for our winter Interschool sports program. On Sunday we had a great turn out for our working bee and the school grounds are looking amazing, well done to all those families that got involved. We also had a big day on Monday with family and friends coming to see the Grade 6 Expo. Thank you to everyone that took the time to visit the classroom and see what we have accomplished in term 1. We are now in the middle of our revision week and looking forward to the Easter parade at school on Friday. From everyone on the Grade 6 team have a great holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in term 2.
FROM OUR PARENT CLUB…….

Parent Club 'Pop Up Coffee Shop'
On the first morning of Term 2, the Parent Club will again be hosting the coffee cart under the shade cloth. Remember to bring your wallets to purchase a coffee and hang around for a post holiday catch up. Parent Club will be providing muffins to accompany your coffee.

Date: Monday 13th April, 2015
Where: Under the shade cloth
Time: From 8.30am

Coffee available to purchase, muffins courtesy of Parent Club.
See you there!

Easter Raffle and donations
Thank you to all of those families who have returned tickets for the Easter raffle and donated some Easter eggs for this fundraising activity. We will publish our results in the first week of term 2.

Bulb Catalogues
We are co-ordinating our annual bulb fundraising activity for Garden Club. Catalogues for bulb orders have been distributed to families this week and **due for return the week starting 20th April**. All bulbs will be delivered in time for Mother’s Day making a lovely present for the gardening girls in your family.

On behalf of the Parent Club, I wish all families a safe and happy term 1 break and Happy Easter filled with all things chocolate and family. We look forward to seeing you all back in term 2.

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**Did you enjoy the Bollywood assembly performance last week?**

It’s **not too late** to join our fun Bollywood dance classes for Term 2! Open for boys and girls from prep - Grade 6.

**Only $100 for Term 2. Enrol by Friday 27th March morning at the office.**

 Classes start Tuesdays 21st Apr 2015
 3:45pm – 4:30pm.

 Questions? Call Jag on 0423 080 724