

NUMBER 39

10th DECEMBER 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

VISION To provide a positive school environment that allows every individual the opportunity to flourish.



REMINDERS FOR WEEK ELEVEN: TERM FOUR 2020

Friday December 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flourishing Friday 2:30pm
Monday December 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Tuesday December 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student leaders speech/voting (2.30pm) and Assembly (3.00pm)
Wednesday December 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decadent Day Grade 3-6 • EOY Excursion Prep-2
Thursday December 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Assembly 2:30pm -
Friday December 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Up day • Dismissal 2:30pm

GRADE 6 GRADUATION – Thursday December 17th Prep/1/2/3 Classroom

We will have a special graduation for our grade 6 students on Thursday December 17th at 2:30pm. Only parents of Grade 6 students will be able to attend (the session will be livestreamed on WebEx). The Graduation will include amongst other items farewell speeches from our current student leaders and a Christmas song.

- **Parents of Grade 6 students who attend will be required to have a mask on them, and to use it if social distancing is not able to be achieved.**

ASSEMBLY & STUDENT LEADERS 2021– Tuesday December 15th

Our 2020 Student leaders will conduct a final assembly for all students on Tuesday December 17th at 3pm. No parents will be allowed. Prior to this those Grade 5 students applying for student leadership in 2021 will be giving speeches. All students from Grade 2-6 will then vote, as well as all staff members. Each vote is worth the same value. Student Leaders for 2021 will be announced at the Grade 6 Graduation.

LAST DAY OF TERM – Friday December 18th

Last day of term will be Friday December 18th. There will be no Shared Lunch and this will be a clean/up day for the staff and students. School will finish at 2:30pm.

WONDERFUL NEWS

We have received funding of \$65,120 for a 'Playground upgrade. 100% credit goes to Nicole for taking the initiative to apply for the grant and doing all the paperwork that is required for a successful grant.

PREP PHOTOS OF OUR CURRENT GRADE 6 STUDENTS

Below are photos of Timmy Trigger and Seth Price from Prep in 2014.



DECADENT DAY FOR GRADE 3 to 6 – Wednesday 16th December

Students are allowed to bring bikes, skateboards, roller blades and scooters as long as they bring the appropriate safety gear. There will be set times and places for these activities. Board games are also a good idea. Children are allowed to bring lollies and soft drink, wear casual clothes and generally choose their own activities for the day.

**Students are not to wear sandals or thongs due to safety reasons.
ENERGY DRINKS, BUBBLE GUM & CHEWY ARE BANNED.**

At the end of the day we will have a water fight; water pistols are allowed but not firefighting Knapsacks!! **No water balloons as they hurt.** Only bore water will be used! It is a good idea to bring spare clothes, a plastic bag and a towel. Children are still required to wear a hat when in the sun. Decadent day is for **current Grade 3 to 6 Bolwarra students only.**

DAY ONE 2021 – Thursday January 28th

First day for all students in 2021 will be Thursday January 28th.
Staff officially resume on Wednesday January 27th.

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 4 DATES (All activities dependant on current Health advice)

December	Friday	11 th	-	Flourishing Friday activities 2:30pm
	Tuesday	15 th	-	Whole School Assembly 3pm
	Wednesday	16 th	-	{ Decadent Day – Grade 3-6
				{ Excursion – Prep/1/2
	Thursday	17 th	-	Grade 6 Graduation 2:30pm
Friday	18 th	-	{ Clean/Up Day - 2:30pm dismissal	
			{ Last Day of Term 4	

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

BOLWARRA RECIPE BOOK – \$15.00 each or 2 for \$25.00

Thank You to those who have purchased books in support of this fundraiser.
We still have a few books left, so if you're looking for a last minute Xmas gift, call or pop into the office and speak to Nicole to secure a copy.

We would like to thank the following businesses for their sponsorship:-

Knights Refrigeration	Portland Strawberries	Tyrepower	Your Natural Pantry
Admellas	Reece Plumbing	Optus	
J.J'z Balloons	Nonna's Pizza's	Rebecca Holmes - Inspired Travel	
Royal Hotel	The Bakehouse Sourdough		

A special thanks goes to Pat Cutler of Portland Strawberries who very kindly offered for us to display our books, 'for sale', in their shop. This point of purchase has so far netted us the sale of 15 books. To date we have raised over \$600.00.

SENSORY GARDEN

We Need:-

- **Old gumboots**
- **Any old cutlery for making into wind chimes**
- **If need be these items can be dropped off at school during the holiday period – please hang bags on the hooks outside the grade 5/6 room.**
- **For further information call the office.**

Student Karrie shares her first year thoughts...

What do you remember about your first day at Portland Secondary College?

I remember Playing all these games to get to know people.

What has been your favourite thing you have been involved in?

Being Class Captain and the activities involved with this. Also the school sports and swimming days.

Who has been your favourite teacher?

Miss Jasper, she is so kind and understanding and it is just cool to be in a class with her.

What is your favourite subject?

Humanities, I love history and also because I had Miss Jasper this year.

Have you made new friends?

Yes, quite a few.

What were you worried about before you started? How do you feel about that now?

The size of the school and getting lost. Its not all that big when you look at the whole school and you cant really get lost.



TO DEVELOP CREATIVE, ARTICULATE, RESPECTFUL AND RESOURCEFUL YOUNG PEOPLE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

Karrie's advice for our Grade 6 students attending PSC next year?

"You may think it is a big leap from primary school to high school but its not bad the teachers are so kind and the subjects are awesome!"

3 Words to describe PSC



Fun
Understanding
Respectful



Technology

Students study Technology for a Semester in Year 7. Students learn new skills using traditional hand tools working with timber and acrylic. They also gain experience with 3D printers and use CAD software to design and print their own designs.

During this time they are introduced to The Design Process that underpins all work in technology at PSC, right through to senior school. The Design Process is an approach for breaking down a large project into manageable chunks. Architects, engineers, scientists, and other thinkers use the Design Process to solve a variety of problems.

Students identify their own storage needs and apply their knowledge of The Design Process along with their experience with different materials to develop and construct a functioning prototype for a storage organiser.

Maths

In Maths, you will learn a variety of skills that are relevant to their lives including numeracy, integers, linear equations, linear graphs, statistics, probability, fractions, decimals, percentages, algebra and measurement. We focus on three key skills that you will always use for Maths, no matter the topic: understanding and fluency, problem solving and reasoning. We use a variety of different types of assessments such as projects, tests and online learning tasks.



Drama

The compulsory semester long Drama Course at Year 7 provides students with a stimulating opportunity to explore dramatic situations and stories in the professional space of the Drama Centre. Students make and create drama through improvisation, role-play, scripts and other stimulus materials, as they explore different cultures, times and places.

Learning the basics of performing and how to use and move around a typical performance space comes first, followed by improvisation games, including theatre sports, where teams play competitive role-playing games against each other. Further into the course the students use scripts, lights, sets, props and costumes to add to the dramatic experience. Towards the end, Greek theatre customs are researched and the mythology of ancient Greece is used to inspire different storytelling.

At Year 7, the focus is on fun, participation and communication. The ability to concentrate and persevere while rehearsing and performing is also paramount. All aspects of cooperation and team building skills are also developed. Students learn what is required to create clear and interesting scenes, while audience skills are established as being equally important.



Chaplains' Corner – The hidden power of patience

Some people seem to be born with it. The rest of us have to work on it. Patience. That rare gift which runs with whatever turns up. Patient types stare down their hassles; they keep their cool; they manage to keep perspective; their middle name is common sense. They keep their balance, respond well to curved balls, are on the lookout for what's going right rather than what's going wrong.

The rest of us have to work hard when life rattles us. We're pretty good at jumping to conclusions. We're quick to judge without waiting to hear the whole story. We think life is about sorting everything out as it happens. As the old saying goes, we rush in where angels fear to tread. So, what's the big deal with patience? To put it simply, to be patient is to be well positioned to deal with whatever shows up. To be impatient is the shortcut to complicating already difficult situations. Consider....

- **Patience is a strength, not a weakness** – It's sometimes easy to think that to be patient is to put up with whatever comes along. To take the easy way out. Or to live with tricky situations at great personal cost. To fail to grasp the difficulty of this or that situation. Not so.
- **Patience loves the big picture** – When trouble arrives, patience wants the whole story or as much of it as possible. Only when the light and shade has been sorted can patience do its perfect work. Patience isn't into quick fixes, or dropping solutions from a great height on all concerned.
- **Patience knows how to reduce the heat** – Let's face it, if everyone is reduced to yelling mode, don't expect peace to turn up. Drama arrives, hard words are spoken, people get hurt. Patience loves listening. Patience wants best outcomes. Patience knows how to settle down warring parties.
- **Patience has an inbuilt inner toughness** – Patience, once the full story is known, insists on personal responsibility. On being accountable. Patience doesn't allow escape routes. If selfish words or actions have been spoken, patience says it's time to own up and repair the damage.
- **So, patience is never in a hurry** – It can't be. Patience takes the time to lead those at loggerheads to the safer ground of understanding, of forgiveness, of appropriate apologies, of the will to set right that which has been wrong. Patience knows that rushed results have an inbuilt flat tyre.
- **Patience is the road to peace** – The reality is that the more fatigued we are, the busier we become, the fuller our lives, the less likely we are to have the capacity to process the hard stuff of life. It's too much to handle. Patience demands the slow lane, the time to draw breath, the time to back away.
- **Patience is at peace with the imperfections of life** – Some of us want everything to go right. No chance of that. A healthy life is about accepting the highs and the lows, the mountains and the valleys which life dishes up constantly. Patience expects this curious mix and is not thrown by it.
- **Patience knows about good timing** – If the differences are beyond conversation or negotiation, patience calls for a time out. There's no point trying to work on ways forward if no one is prepared to budge, give way or listen. But good breathing space allows room for fresh ideas and strategies.

Patience loves new ways of living and loving. Patience decides if an issue is really worth the time and effort being given to it. Patience may find room for a creative compromise, that it's far more important to value relationships than who wins rounds in verbal boxing matches. So, how about giving patience some airplay the next time trouble knocks at your door? Over to you.

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