



NUMBER

23rd JULY 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



REMINDERS FOR WEEK THREE: TERM THREE 2020

Friday July 24 th	• 'Flourishing Friday' 2:30 to 3:30pm
Monday July 27 th	•
Tuesday July 28 th	•
Wednesday July 29 th	•
Thursday July 30 th	•
Friday July 31 st	•

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

POSITIVE EDUCATION

LEARN IT

Sharing opportunities as a whole-school community to understand and engage with the science of wellbeing.

LIVE IT

Enacting evidence-based wellbeing practices in our own way in our own lives.

TEACH IT

Providing students with dedicated time to discover and explore each of the key domains of wellbeing.

EMBED IT

Adopting long-term, school-wide policies and practices which support and nurture wellbeing within individuals and within the community.

FLOURISHING AT BOLWARRA

At Bolwarra we are following the above approach to ensure that Positive Education has the maximum impact in our school. I am always happy to receive feedback, you can e-mail me at Lee.Gibbons@education.vic.gov.au.

CAMPS

Thank you to those parents who provided us with feedback on camps.

At this stage we have not cancelled our camps but we are looking at shortening the camps in order to ensure the safety of everyone.

I would advise parents to start budgeting for these camps in the expectation they do go ahead. If camps are shortened the cost of the camp will be appropriate. Clearer decision on camps will be made at the next School Council meeting on Wednesday August 5th.

Thank you for your patience in this matter.

2021 Enrolments

We are still unable to conduct school tours for 2021 enrolments. We are still available for contact via phone or e-mail in regard to 2021. Enrolment packs and forms can be accessed from the school or via our school website.

Phone: 55292374 E-mail - Lee.Gibbons@education.vic.gov.au

All schools in the Portland and District area encourage students to go to their local school. Your local school can be found at www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Shantae Keegan who turns 11 on Tuesday.

BOOKCLUB is due back on Friday.

BIRTH AND IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATES: (If you have a blue slip attached to your newsletter)

Please note that your child/ren's birth and immunisation certificates must be presented to the office.

Nicole needs to scan and record every student's certificates.

If you have not already done so, please call ahead and arrange with Nicole to bring these into the office as soon as possible.

Chaplains' Corner – Is life always tidy?

Many of us like the idea of a tidy life. Of being in charge of our situation. Of not letting circumstances get the better of us. Of getting things right for ourselves and our families. Even the most disorganised of us like knowing what the next step looks like while the super tidy plan well ahead. These forward planners leave nothing to chance. They like a tidy present and plan for a tidy future too.

But there's a subtle problem with this desire for tidy living. A major difficulty. And it stares us in the face, usually when we are least able to deal with it. The problem? Life is not tidy. Every day produces a surprise. Some are welcome; some create mayhem. The Scottish poet, Robert Burns, came up with the line, "The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley." What did he mean? Simple really. Carefully laid plans have a habit of falling over. What we want and what we get often don't match. Consider....

- **It's wise to think ahead** – To attend to what we have to do and work out how best to do it. This takes in the whole task of raising a family. From helping our children to be wise, kind and thoughtful right through to paying the bills and keeping the house in order.
- **So, thinking ahead offers a real bonus** – Especially if we involve all family members in our planning as often as we can. Our kids learn to think about options. We can show them how to judge what might work best. Equally, we can identify with them what may not work.
- **This planning ahead has other benefits too** – The big lesson for life is that, no matter how carefully we plan, there's no guarantee that our plans will deliver the way we had hoped. Resilience has to kick into high gear. We have to come up with a work around.
- **The ability to work around is high value** – As we help our kids to figure out fresh responses when our plans do go belly up, we are actually coaching problem solvers. Such young people have no fear of setbacks. They rise to meet each difficulty with confidence.
- **The alternative is not very attractive** – There are too many people out there who go into collapse mode when life is unkind. Resilience is absent. Work arounds are too hard. They grind to an angry halt. They are at war with the world. Everyone is against them.
- **Untidiness is a blessing in disguise** – Imagine a world where we always get what we want. Where our plans always happen. Looks good? Forget it. That world is a breeding ground of immaturity and selfishness. Untidiness keeps our feet on the ground. We stay real people.
- **So, what plan of yours has just fallen over?** – Ask the obvious questions, like, did we miss something? Or, is there another factor at work, one that we can't control? Or, what is the best work around? The tougher one: does this plan actually have to work anyway?
- **Our plan may be a very good one** – But the means to get where we want to go may need more thought, more conversation, different options, longer timing, greater patience. We may need to wheel in a friend or two to help us shape up a whole new strategy.

No, there's nothing wrong with wanting a tidy life. If this means giving good thought to what we and our families are about, then this is a definite plus. But be wise – not every plan will work. Stay calm, go for work arounds, be resilient, don't panic. Life can be terribly untidy!

John – stay in touch revsimmo@gmail.com 0428 780 421, Andreena 0428 233 082