

NUMBER 17

June 11th 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

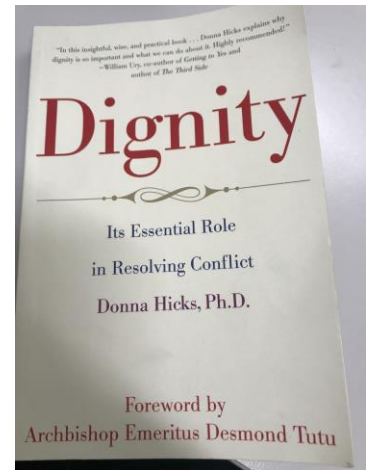
REMINDERS FOR WEEK NINE: TERM TWO 2020

Friday June 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school
Monday June 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school
Tuesday June 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school
Wednesday June 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school
Thursday June 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school
Friday June 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classes at school

DIGNITY

As part of our schools' commitment to positive education all staff are dedicated to the philosophy of *'learn, live, teach, embed'*. As part of this I have indulged my passion of reading by purchasing various texts on positive psychology. My latest read was 'Dignity – Its Essential Role in Resolving Conflict'. This book, written by Donna Hicks, argues how most conflicts can be avoided if we treat each other with dignity (This is very relevant in respect to what is occurring currently in the USA). My learning as a Principal from this book is to always respect the simple acts of dignity – listening to people and acknowledging their presence, their experiences, and their suffering. Often as a principal I have been guilty of not completing the simple acts of dignity and blaming it on being too busy. This is of course a failure to take responsibility.

Treating everyone with dignity is how we can provide a positive school environment that allows every individual at Bolwarra the opportunity to flourish.



RETURN TO SCHOOL OF ALL STUDENTS

Our return to school has been very successful. Students have quickly adapted to life back at school and followed the new guidelines that will enable us all to stay healthy.

A reminder that for the rest of the term there will be no assemblies.

Please contact us if you need any clarification. There may be things that we miss. Please contact us if you think we have not covered something.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

Semester 1 reports will come out on Thursday June 25th. They will look a lot different from normal Semester 1 reports due to our disrupted year.

Reports will include the following;

- Work Habits
- General comments (writing, reading and numeracy)
- What the student has achieved (writing, reading and numeracy)
- Area for improvement/future learning (writing, reading and numeracy)
- P.E. Comment
- Student comment

There will be no teacher judgements in any curriculum areas.

After receiving reports teachers will be available for a parent/teacher interview via the phone or Webex. If you require an interview please contact the office.

2021 Enrolments

Due to the current health crisis we are 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: 55292375

E-mail - gibbons.lee.a@edumail.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

If restrictions are eased in June school tours may return as an option.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Ava Jacobson who turns 9 on Sunday. On Wednesday it is Nicole Chapple's birthday and Seth Price will turn 12.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday June 24th

School Council 7pm

Friday June 26th

Last day of Term 3

FLOURISHING AT BOLWARRA

Proposed Vision & Values for Bolwarra P.S.

VISION

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

VALUES

- Positive & Respectful Relationships
- Positive Emotions
- Positive Health
- Positive Engagement
- Positive Accomplishment
- Positive Purpose

Chaplains' Corner – The truckies teach us a lesson

It happened right outside our school. Twice actually. In the 80 zone. I was heading home behind a big B double. Right near Robertsons Road, that truckie put on his left turn indicator. I figured I was about to witness a truly spectacular turn. Not so. Very carefully he dodged that big rig around a koala by going right to the left side of the highway. Easy for me to follow his example. One koala lived another day.

Then it happened again recently. Again, right outside our school. An echidna heading towards the school crossed into the outbound lane. But the roles were reversed. I was ahead of a B double this time. So I moved left to avoid our little friend. I glanced in the rear vision mirror. That truckie moved his big rig to the left edge of the highway. Our echidna's little journey continued. It struck me that these truckies offer us some lessons for life. Consider....

- **Our koala and echidna were just being themselves** – Road safety is not their concern. They have no concept of risk or danger. When our kids are young, they are like this too. Our role as parents is to help them learn what's safe and what isn't.
- **We have to adjust** – Just as our truckie friends moved their rigs around our little friends, parenting is all about adjustment. Making allowances. Understanding our kids' limitations. Exercising our skills to show them the best ways to live their lives.
- **And what's good for our kids is good for us as parents** – None of us is perfect. Do we really need to be reminded of this? Mums and dads build great teamwork by living with each other's rough edges. By sometimes steering around the small irritations of life.
- **Family life requires us to pay attention to the little things** – Just like those truckies changed course for a couple of small creatures. If we're not careful, we miss the power of paying attention to the small things in life. At least they look small. But they're not at all.
- **Life's small things are almost endless** – Like thanking our partner and kids for their little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness. Like offering encouragement. Like giving a hug. Like listening when we guess there's something not right for them.
- **It's the small things that shape our lives** – We all need to be needed. We are all wired for company, for connection. Loneliness is fine in small doses, but not as a way of life. It's the little things that keep us alive, that help us to keep going when we'd rather give up.
- **And we need to pay attention to power** – Those B doubles with their big diesels haul heavy loads. Koalas and echidnas are no match if there's a highway showdown. Mums and dads have to be careful about the way we exercise our leadership.
- **Families are no place for power competitions** – About who gets the upper hand, about who always has the last word. It's the power of our minds, our emotions, our physical abilities which offer loving care, tender compassion, effective support and understanding.

So, like our truckie friends, let's pay attention to life's little things. Let's apply our power and influence to adjust to all that life gives us. Let's make sure our homes are places of peace. Let's adjust our priorities and perspectives to help each other get on with our lives in the best ways.