

NUMBER 16

30th MAY 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



REMINDERS FOR WEEK SEVEN: TERM TWO 2019

Friday May 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Community Network 2.30pm • Assembly 3pm
Monday June 3 rd	•
Tuesday June 4 th	•
Wednesday June 5 th	• Portland Secondary College Open Day – Grade 6's
Thursday June 6 th	•
Friday June 7 th	• REPORT WRITING DAY – Pupil Free

POSITIVE EDUCATION – The choice that makes the difference

Update #10 – Helping our children get the big picture

In the worlds of home and school, our children discover that there are two ways of looking at life. It's a choice between meeting their own needs, or becoming aware of and sensitive to the needs of others. And this choice has a powerful effect on learning:

- At Bolwarra we give our students the big picture. They become members of a community. They have to find their place in a brand new, larger setting.
- They learn to relate with other students from different backgrounds, with different stories, different needs, often with different ways of responding and behaving.
- As they become members of the school community, they learn to adjust to, and cope with, far more than is required at home.

And this is where our mums and dads play a key role. You can help build this big picture behaviour and thinking, of helping your children to make the right choice:

- This big picture is not about me. It's about us. It's not what I want. It's about what is best for all of us, at home and school. It's about giving, not taking.
- Learning in the classroom blossoms with this new awareness. Co-operation and teamwork with teachers and fellow students creates a wonderfully effective learning environment. Our children leap ahead as they focus on others, not just themselves.
- So, the big picture of community is for home and school. Both become productive learning centres. Let's focus on the "we" not the "me" and watch what happens.

SCHOOL REVIEW SURVEY

Thanks to the 10 families that have filled out our survey. We would love to have more input. This survey will only take **5 minutes** of your time but will provide great information for us on how to improve our school.

- Use this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5VGC8KY> to complete the survey.
- Survey link will be posted on our Facebook page.
- There is a paper copy attached to this newsletter that you can fill in and return to school.

PREP 2020

Enrolments - We are now taking school tours for 2020 enrolments. If you require an enrolment pack for a sibling, pop into the school office. If any family or friends would like a tour of our wonderful school, please have them contact the office.

All schools in the Portland and District area encourage students to go to their local school. Your local school can be found by visiting <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au>

WORKING BEES IN TERM 2

After School Working Bee Friday June 21st 3:30pm to 5pm

WINTER SERIES – Postponed to Wednesday June 12th

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS – 4/5A

Our Exceptional Students this week are Charlee Coates and Poppy Roos.



Charlee is an exceptional student because she has a way of making every day a little brighter for the people around her. Without fail, Charlee greets us all with a smile and a kind word. She constantly notices the good things that others do and is always ready with a compliment or with encouragement. Charlee tackles every task with enthusiasm and strives to do her best in spite of challenges or distractions. She is organised, she shows respect for everyone and everything, and she never seeks or expects recognition for what she does. Sensational effort Charlee!

Poppy is an exceptional student because she quietly and diligently puts her best effort into everything she does. She has terrific organisational skills and is always ready to begin work. Poppy persists at activities which are challenging and she has shown wonderful confidence by grasping opportunities to go out of her comfort zone - such as getting up at assembly and reading her Mother's Day writing. Poppy notices when others need help and is often found assisting and encouraging her classmates with their work or duties. Well done Poppy!

YOU CAN DO IT! STARS

Getting Along – Caught 10 times

Elaina Cocks Tiarna Keegan Charlee Coates Lou Impey
Zeply Vallance Xavier Boyadjian-Dinic
Callum Richardson

Persistence – Caught 10 times

Tiarna Keegan Lou Impey

Organisation – Caught 10 times

Charlee Coates

Academic Excellence – Caught 10 times

Tiarna Keegan Anthony Price Charlee Coates
Michael Wood Timmy Trigger

Our You Can Do It! stars will be presented with their awards at assembly tomorrow at 3pm.

CHARACTER STRENGTHS

Each Friday a student will be randomly selected. The student leaders will then spend the week observing this child as well speaking to others, to discover this child's character strengths.

Last week Zarah Bott was selected. The following character strengths of Zara were identified;



Kind (sharing her slime)

Love (helping Max and others who are lonely)

Teamwork – (loyal to her friends)

Fairness (Sharing sandpit toys)

Creativity (in her Art work and building towers in the sandpit)

Perseverance

'She has consistently worked to the best of her ability' (comment on a previous report)

Leadership

'Zarah is a cheerful and bubbly member of the class who is always considerate and tolerant of other children. She treats others with kindness and respect.' (comment on a previous report)

Humour

'Zarah has a great sense of fun and a cheeky sense of humour which has enabled many friendships to be made.' (comment on a previous report)

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All teaching staff are currently involved in Professional Development, enabling them to improve their already impressive teaching skills.

Mr Thompson and Mr Cummins are taking part in a Leading Literacy course along with many other teachers in the Portland/Hamilton area. This course is being led for the second year by Miss McDonald.

Mrs Englezos and Mrs Arthur are completing an on-line Bastow course – Data Literacy. This course involves them working closely with teachers all over Victoria in a virtual space.

ON-LINE NAPLAN

Our Year 3 and 5 children have completed their online NAPLAN testing. The testing has been a very smooth process. You may have heard or seen headlines like 'NAPLAN Fail', 'Kids in Tears' and many others surrounding testing. Rest assured, this was not the case at Bolwarra.

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 2 DATES

June	Friday	7 th	-	Report Writing Day - pupil free day
	Monday	10 th	-	Queen's Birthday Holiday
	Wednesday	12 th	-	Winter Series
	Tuesday	18 th	-	Somers Camp starts
	Friday	21 st	-	Working Bee 3:30 to 5pm
	Wednesday	26 th	-	Somers Camp finishes
	Friday	28 th	-	Last Day of Term 2

PUPIL-FREE DAYS 2019

Friday June 7th

Friday December 6th

CAMP DATES FOR 2019

5/6 Camp Melbourne.....September 2nd to 6th - cost (approx.. \$480-\$500) to be paid by August 26th .

3/4 Halls Gap Camp..... October 9th to 11th - cost (approx.. \$180-\$200) to be paid by end of term 3. (20 Sept).

Grade 2 SleepoverNovember 7th

- N.B. Just 13 weeks to go before Grade 5/6 camp. **12 weeks for full cost to be paid. Instalments of \$40 per week can reduce the pressure of larger payment amounts. Any instalment amounts are acceptable.**

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Ezekial Roos who turns 10 tomorrow.

PARENT COMMUNITY NETWORK meeting 2.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome

LUNCHES – Helpers: - Tomorrow 31st May – Chicken Schnitzel Burgers – Kylie & Helen;

14th June— Hot Dogs- John & Judith;

21st June Toasties – Kylie & Sarah

BOOK CLUB

ISSUE 4 which was distributed today is due back at school by Tuesday 11th June.

HEADLICE/HAIR CHECKS – There have been a few reported cases of Headlice. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis throughout the year and treat if necessary. For treatment to be effective, produce instructions must be followed, including repeat treatments.

Chaplain's Corner – What power leads can teach us

It happens almost every day. Definitely when I'm near a computer or printer. Or charging my phone. Anything that looks like a power lead has a mind of its own. They know how to trap me. I can hear them saying, "John's coming! Let's get tangled. Hang onto your knots. We'll give him a headache." Extension leads and even the garden hose have the same conversations. And add in your favourite fishing line for good measure if you wish.

It's not just leads actually. Wallets, car keys, shopping lists, glasses (if you wear them) and our phones all have the ability to gang up on us. They know how and when to hide. Very clever, all of them. So, what's going on when we find ourselves at war with all the bits and pieces that we have lying around the home? We can't walk away from them. And what lessons are lurking around the place for our families and ourselves? Try these for size....

- **Let's start with those power leads** – They create their knots and trip us up when the family is rushed, or over committed, or trying to get along without too much system. Add in a lack of energy, spare time or patience. These leads know how to frustrate and annoy us.
- **Families can frustration proof themselves** – Well, almost. Why not try to keep those leads out of high traffic areas so you don't fall over them? And if there are leads you do not currently need, simply put them away.
- **And what about the items which go missing?** – A system is needed for those too. Instead of rushing around in the morning trying to find them, gather them up before you turn in and place them where they can be found in the morning. A simple stress reducer.
- **May be there's a bigger issue?** – Those knotted leads and lost items may be the sign of the need for better organisation in the home perhaps? With kids coming and going, getting to school and after school activities, it's very hard to stay organised. And not lose things.
- **Our homes can become parking lots** – For just about everything we use daily. If we simply put things down when we are finished with them, we can very easily forget where that place might be. We can turn the house upside down and not find them.
- **So, a little bit of system makes a big difference** – Once you've sorted out those nuisance leads that trip you up, think about how you can improve the general running of the home. It doesn't take a lot of effort. A little bit of household system has many benefits.
- **What do our kids' bedrooms reveal?** – If there's basic order there be thankful, especially if Junior has achieved this. But if bedrooms look like battlegrounds, there's work to be done. It's time to teach the benefits of everything having a place.
- **Ban the dumping stuff practice** – If your child simply drops their school bag and all else anywhere and everywhere, it's time to set up some simple house rules. Bags belong in bedrooms, rubbish in bins, toys in baskets, books on shelves. It's not rocket science.

Take a deep breath when you're untangling that lead that's just tripped you up. Find places for those often lost items. Work with your kids in finding effective ways to keep all the family bits and pieces where they can be easily found. A little bit of system is a great blessing.

John – stay in touch revsimmo@gmail.com

