

NUMBER 11

27th APRIL 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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



REMINDERS FOR WEEK TWO: TERM TWO 2022

Friday April 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flourishing Friday 2:30pm • Parent Community 3pm
Monday May 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Photos
Tuesday May 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Wednesday May 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Thursday May 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Cross-Country at Narrawong
Friday May 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Athletics in Warrnambool – Paddy, Dakota and Nathan • Parent Community 3pm

RETIREMENT

After 17 years as Principal of this wonderful school I have decided that it is time for me to retire. At the end of this term, I will be taking Long Service Leave (15 weeks) that will lead into my retirement.

During this current term there will be an Acting Principal appointed who will be in place to lead the school in Term 3.

I hope to reflect on my amazing journey as an educator at Bolwarra Primary School in upcoming newsletters.

ANZAC DAY PARADE

Thank you to Kaisa, Matilda, Dakota, Ellie, Max, Charlotte C, Josh, Charlotte R., Anna, Jackson, Zara, Jimmy (& Patrick) for representing our school at Tuesday's ANZAC Day ceremony.



ANZAC DAY WREATHS

On Monday Sherryn, Deon, Arlee, Zach and Scarlett made some wreaths with the Portland RSL which were used at the ANZAC Day ceremony



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

MONDAY, 1st MAY

All students to be at school by
9.00am



Students are to wear proper school uniform
Please make sure order envelopes (including family orders) are sent to school with your child on Monday (if not already returned)
Please send correct money as change cannot be given.



RURAL CROSS-COUNTRY – Thursday May 4th at Narrawong P.S.

Our Rural School Cross-Country is being held at Narrawong Primary School. We will have lunch at school and then a bus will transport the students to Narrawong for a 1pm start. We will arrive back at school by 3:30pm. Students can go home with their parents from Narrawong if their class teacher is aware of this.

Students are asked to wear appropriate clothing and footwear for long distance running. They will need warm and dry clothing before and after their run. Cross Country is a winter sport and as such is unlikely to be cancelled regardless of weather conditions.

PARENT COMMUNITY –coffee & chat Friday’s 3pm

Everyone (parents/grandparents/friends) is invited into our staff room to be part of our parent community. There is no commitment to attend every week, come when you can. We are also more than happy to have pre-school children at our gatherings.

COMPOST AND MULCH FOR THE VEGIE GARDEN

Our school would like to say a big thank you to the Portland Community Garden who kindly donated some compost and charged us a minimal price for the mulch to use in our vegetable garden.

Thank you to Kerrie Smith (Matidla’s nan) for organizing, and Sebastian Verons (Chaska’s dad) for collecting and delivering it to our school, very much appreciated. Four students, Arlee Holmes- Wilson, Hayes Moore, Tayli Holmes- Wilson and Matilda Smith volunteered and did a great job unloading and spreading it onto the garden beds.

Our garden beds are now ready to grow delicious veggies, herbs and flowers to enjoy.

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 2 DATES 2023

April	Friday	28 th	-	Parent Community 3pm	
May	Monday	1st	-	School Photos	
	Thursday	4 th	-	Rural Cross-Country at Narrawong pm	
	Friday	5 th	-	Division Athletics in Warrnambool	
				-	Parent Community 3pm
	Tuesday	9 th	-	Resilience Project Parent Presentation	
	Thursday	11 th	-	District Cross-Country am	
			-	Mother’s Day Stall - pm	
	Friday	12 th	-	Pupil Free Day –Staff Curriculum day	
	Friday	19 th	-	Division Cross-Country	
			-	Parent Community 3pm	
	Tuesday	23 rd	-	Winter Series	
	Friday	26 th	-	Parent Community 3pm	
	Tuesday	30 th	-	Somers Camp starts	
June	Friday	2 nd	-	Parent Community 3pm	
	Friday	9 th	-	Report Writing Day (Pupil Free Day)	
	Monday	12 th	-	King’s Birthday Holiday	
	Friday	16 th	-	Parent Community 3pm	
	Friday	23 rd	-	Last Day of Term 2	

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Asher Witchell who turns 11 on Saturday; and Rosie Clark who turns 9 on Tuesday.



MOTHER’S DAY STALL – Thursday 11th May

Students will visit the Mother’s Day Stall from 12.30pm onwards (time to be confirmed)

Students will have a large variety of gifts to choose from.

Gifts are priced from 50c - \$7.00

Please send along a carry bag (so children can ‘hide’ their gift) We do not have any at school.

Any parents (2 or 3) who are available to help on the stall please let Nicole in the office know.



EASTER RAFFLE: Thank you to all the families who donated items and who sold/bought raffle tickets. We raised a total of \$430.00.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 3 which was distributed today is due back at school by Friday, 5th May.

Chaplains' Corner - Our families and the ANZAC Day tradition

Welcome back to our new term! And with a special start as we focus on ANZAC Day. There's always the risk that this special day may simply come and go without our taking the time to ponder what it is that we are remembering. Perhaps it's just that we don't want to glorify war. Fair enough, but that is to miss the point of what a group of ordinary Aussies were about back there on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915.

Those who delve into the history of Gallipoli gently tell us that the brave attempt to control this strategic location was pretty much doomed from the start. There was no hope of pulling it off. What we remember each year though are deeply held memories of courage and daring at its purest. Some say it was the day we became a nation in a new way. And the dreadful loss of life in that landing included many soldiers from rural Australia. So, what does ANZAC Day remind us and our families of all these years later? Consider...

- **Let's not be afraid of rising to a challenge** - No, we don't have to tackle a distant war zone! But every family has its own collection of challenges. The big ones are about the way we get along with each other, the way we make room for different personalities, perspectives and attitudes.
- **And it takes courage to face these challenges** - As much as we might wish for it, there's no quick fix for dealing with anger, high decibel yelling and constant fighting between siblings. But that doesn't mean we give up and walk away. It does mean that we may need to reach out for help.
- **Mums and dads are the key players** - We determine to claim back the territory where peace and calm become our way of life. If we can model patience, understanding, acceptance and going that extra mile, this will flow into the lives of our kids.
- **We try to avoid big scale casualties** - The losses at Gallipoli were dreadful. Unable to be undone. Lives simply gone. But families can have a remarkable comeback capacity. We don't have to lose our good times. Instead of keeping score, we get into listening, forgiveness and encouragement.
- **And we don't have to win every battle at once** - Life doesn't work that way. It's about the boldness to agree on what our big issue is and give that our attention putting other concerns to one side for the time being. The big one is to decide where we want to start and how to make progress.
- **There's a remarkable benefit in sorting out the big one** - When a family kick goals in working out ways forward on one front, other concerns often sort out at the same time. We develop the confidence in ourselves and our kids to look our troubles in the eye so they don't have the last word.
- **And let's remember there's no such thing as a stress-free life** - Not even on that island paradise which we head to in our dreams. Stress is part of family life. Try finance, health, busyness, over commitment, personality clashes. It's a long list for most families. It's called life.
- **So, we don't have to repeat Gallipoli in our families** - Instead of losing what we love, we find a balance between the inevitable stresses and the joys of being a family. If we foster the joys, the stresses reduce their grip. We can handle setbacks if we give equal effort to creating the good times.

So, let's apply the lessons from the ANZAC Day tradition to our family life. There will always be the need to make sacrifices but these need to be matched with gratitude, of being there with and for each other. Let's tackle the big stuff with courage and faith. Let's bless our families. Lest we forget.

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

PORTLAND CITIZENS' BRASS BAND PRESENTS

Sounds of
War & Peace

A tribute to the services
A selection of pieces inspired by the popular music of war-time

April 28
7 pm | Portland
Civic Hall

Tickets via TicketTailor -> scan QR code

The poster features a silhouette of a soldier in a trench looking through a telescope against a sunset background. There are also two red poppy flowers in the top right corner and a QR code in the bottom right corner.

