FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

As I write this I can’t quite believe there are three weeks left until the end of term!! It is such a pleasure to see our children working so well and that everyone is following our school values – I am proud of all our children.

READING

The following article supports the schools philosophy of the importance of parents/adults reading to children. We strongly encourage this to build firm foundations of reading, but also for pure enjoyment. Reading to children should not stop at Year 1 or 2 but continue with serial reading of novels to foster enjoyment of reading, comprehension and communication – as there is nothing better than sharing a good book. As well as listening to your child read, please take the time out to read to your child and enjoy that time together.

Research proves benefits of reading to children

MELBOURNE researchers have proven what parents have intuitively known all along - the more often you read to your children from an early age, the greater the positive effect on their reading and thinking skills.

The Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research has not only proven a causal effect between the frequency of reading to a child and his or her development, but have also for the first time measured the benefits.

Children four to five years old who are read to three to five times a week have the same reading ability as children six months older (who are read to only twice or less a week).

Reading to children six to seven days a week puts them almost a year ahead of those who are not being read to. It was also found that reading to small children has a positive effect on the development of numeracy skills.

"It does appear to be the case that children who are read to more often keep doing better as they age than other children," said Professor Guyonne Kalb, director of the institute’s Labour Economics and Social Policy Program, and co-author of the study.

The research - which was funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development - found the positive outcomes occurred in children regardless of parental income, education level or cultural background. That is, children with poor backgrounds or parents of limited education or ability have the same benefit of being read to
"We wanted to try and determine whether reading itself is leading to better outcomes, or do parents who read to their children have other things going on," Professor Kalb said.

"We worked with children representing a whole range of families, from all different backgrounds and economic circumstances. We found it doesn’t matter if a child is from a poor or rich family, or if the parents are highly educated or not, doing this basic thing of reading to them leads to better developmental outcomes."

The longitudinal study followed the reading skills of more than 4000 children, aged four to five years in 2004, through to age 10 to 11.

Victorian Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development Wendy Lovell said the research was "an exciting step forward" in understanding the importance of reading to young children.

"These findings send a clear message to parents, grandparents, teachers and carers that the benefits of reading go way beyond a shared bonding experience."

ASTHMA FORMS

If your child has Asthma and uses a management plan, new forms for 2013 will be sent home next week. We ask you to complete and return the form to school so that we have current student details on file.

CARNIVAL

A big thanks to ‘World 4 Kids’ for organising the event. Thanks to all the children and parents who came along and enjoyed the ‘Carnival’. It was really wonderful to see so many happy faces. We raised $4,500 for our school in Bali. This will help them to equip a new library for the school. Thank you.

FOOD BUS IN BACCHUS MARSH

Some volunteer members in our community are starting a food bus which will deliver food to less fortunate people in our community. As a school we have offered to make and supply a pot of soup each week. To establish the bus they need the following goods or services donated. Cash donations will also be gratefully accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Blanket</td>
<td>15 amp power cord extension leads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brochure Rack</td>
<td>Stove/Oven for bottled gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microwave</td>
<td>Birko instantaneous hot water service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar freezer</td>
<td>240 volt water pump</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash basin with tap</td>
<td>Rangehood with rear outlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Kit</td>
<td>Signwriter</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ENROLMENTS

We ask all families currently at BMPS to ensure they enrol 2014 Prep children (siblings) here at school by the end of this term. We have restricted enrolments and wish to ensure that we cater for all siblings of children already at our school with an enrolment position.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The election process has finished for School Council this year. We thank all those parents who applied and an election was not needed.

Parent Representatives
Meredith Rayner, Bruce Garner, Sharlene Gordon, Marzieh Hussain, Brad Dawson, Tim Gallagher, Lachlan Hodgson, Sonya Ferry and we welcome Leigh Bradbury.

DEECD Representatives

School Council meets twice a term on a Tuesday night.
SCHOOL VALUES
Our school values are:

Kindness
Respect
Integrity
Teamwork
Learning

Our BMPS motto is 'Consider Others'.

ENTERPRISE MARKET
Children from Year 1 to Year 6 are working on their enterprise project. Children learn to work together to produce an item to sell at a market. The children learn how to work as a business. Children earn Bacchus money each day to use at the market. This unit gives children a real life economics experience. The market for this term will be held on March 15th. Purchases are made with 'Bacchus Money' not real currency.

MONEY AT SCHOOL
We encourage children to not share food or give other children money at school. Could this message please be shared at home.

WEDDING
Mr Daniel Morris is getting married on Sunday. We wish him and his new wife Kimberley all the best for the day and their future.

CHINESE ASSISTANT
Our new Chinese assistant arrived last week, her name is Sally and she is very excited to be working at our school for all this year.

SWIMMING
Congratulations to everyone who participated in the swimming sports last week. Best wishes to the children who are participating at Regional level.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY
Next Wednesday 20th March is "Wacky Wednesday"! Children are to come dressed as their favourite teacher, or a teacher. Teachers will come dressed as students. A gold coin donation will go towards the Bacchus Marsh Food Bus.

DAD'S NIGHT
Our Dad's Night for this term will be held at Maddingley Park on Thursday 21st March from 6.00pm onwards. Please BYO picnic and games to play.

EASTER HAT PARADE
Our whole school Easter Hat Parade will be on Thursday 28th March at 9am. Start making those great Easter Hats!

NEWSLETTERS
Newsletters will be sent out once a fortnight. We email newsletters, provide a copy on our web page and have hard copies for collection at the office. We also email out other important information at other times. We still have your email addresses from last year but if you have changed or not provided us with an email address as yet, please let us know as soon as possible.

Ian, Pam & Leanne
Nightly Reading

Teachers are in the process of assessing student’s current reading levels and using this information to guide students in their choice of ‘Best Fit’ books for each child.

A ‘Best Fit’ book is a book that meets the student’s interests, purpose, reading strategies, vocabulary and comprehension skills and is ‘Just Right’ for that child.

To support children in developing their understanding of books, parents may use the following prompts:
- What happened in the story?
- What were the characters doing?
- What happened next?
- What message was the author saying??
- Tell me some interesting facts.
- Which part did you enjoy in the story?

Under the guidance of the teacher, students may change their book each day or may re-read or continuing reading a book to develop their knowledge of words and understanding.

Above all else we want our children to LOVE reading and ENJOY sharing their books with their families and friends.
PLAYGROUP 28 IS RETURNING FOR 2013!

WHEN: 9.00 am -10.30 am Tuesday mornings
STARTING: Tuesday 5th of March, 2013
WHERE: In the After School Care area
WHO: Parents, Carers and Preschool aged children
COST: Free, BYO snack

Please contact the school office if you have any queries

Yes- we would like to attend Playgroup 28
Adult name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Number of children: __________ Ages: _______

We also need a person/persons willing to take on the role of organising materials/activities where required. If interested please tick the box below!

Yes I am able to help out!
SPORTS UPDATE

Get active & have fun!
Join the Premier's Active Families Challenge
It's fun, it's free and a great way to be healthy and active.
4th March – 14th April

SENIOR HOUSE SPORTS
FRIDAY 22ND MARCH, MASON'S LANE

ALL GRADE 3-6 STUDENTS DRESS IN HOUSE COLOURS
NOTICES HAVE BEEN EMAILED TO ALL FAMILIES
COST $1 TO BE GIVEN TO GRADE TEACHERS
PARENT HELPERS NEEDED ON THE DAY - PLEASE LET MRS HURST KNOW BY RETURNING THE SLIP ON THE SPORTS DAY NOTICE

SWIMMING

Congratulations to our team of 34 students who competed in the district swimming at Waves on Wednesday 27th February. 13 students will go on to compete at the divisional competition next Thursday 14th March at Werribee Outdoor Pool. Good luck to Jack, Connor and Lane in their individual events. Good luck to our 9/10 boys relay team, 11 boys relay team, 12 girls relay team and open boys medley team.

LOCAL JUNIOR BASKETBALL COMPETITION

The Bacchus Marsh Basketball Association run a junior competition at the Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre.

If your child is interested in joining a team or you want information about the competition contact Drew at the leisure centre on 53 67 6650 or contact the clubs directly:

- MAGIC BASKETBALL CLUB - Grant Mc Millan 0411 380 093
- LIGHTNING BASKETBALL CLUB - Kevin Hyde 0448 594 015
- DOLPHINS BASKETBALL CLUB - Tina 0415 436 640

Basketball clinics

BASKETBALL CLINICS FOR PREP, GRADE 1 AND 2 STUDENTS BEGIN WEDNESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY FROM 4.30 (prep) and 5.00 (grade 1 & 2) AT BMPS GYM RUN BY WAYNE SLACK.

Flyers for the clinic have been emailed. Anyone interested can contact Wayne directly on 0409 078 400 or email:
waynes@basketballclinics.com.au
COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

Please return all orders and money by March 15th.

KITCHEN NEWS

VOLUNTEERS
We are lucky to be able to welcome back our wonderful Treasures (Volunteers) who give their time and talents to assist our students in the Kitchen. Because of the increased number of grades across the school we still have a couple of vacancies and if you can’t commit to a weekly or fortnightly session (Seniors 1 ½ hour sessions, Juniors 45min) it would be a huge help if you could put your name down as an emergency Treasure.

APRONs
If your child still doesn’t have their own apron we have some great ones for sale for $15 at the moment featuring trucks, animals, fairies, stripes and spots. A big thank you to Val Hodgson and some of her quilting friends for supplying the material and making these up for our students.

We strongly encourage all our students to have their own aprons.

Have fun with Buddie and learn about cybersafety

World 4 kids
Out of School Hours Care

An enrolment form must be completed fully before your child/children attends Before School Care and After School Care in 2013.

Payment of attendances can only be paid by direct debit or direct credit and this is now debited from your bank account in advance.

NOTE...The Before School and After School Programs have a new phone number.
0405 640 148
For all enquiries or information please contact Di Jones on the above phone number.
Thank you, Di, Gill and Niki.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Division Swimming</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td>Enterprise Market</td>
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<td>March 19</td>
<td>Grade 1 Werribee Zoo</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>WMR Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Wacky Wednesday - Out of Uniform Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Dad’s Night Maddingley Park 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>BMPS House Sports – Grades 3-6</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1 - 2.30pm dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Good Friday Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

COLOUR FX
Face Painting
Kerriann Noack – Artist
0429 020 771
info@colourfx.com.au

THE SOAP DISH
Handmade soap the old fashioned way
Susannah Iredale
www.thesoapdish.com.au
Email:susannahiredale@hotmail.com

BACCHUS MARSH NURSERY & FLORIST
Main Street, Bacchus Marsh
Phone 5367 2070

WILSONS HARDWARE
13 Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh
Phone 5367 2089

TOYS, TOES & TREASURE
(formerly Gisborne Toy Kingdom)
28A Hamilton Street, Gisborne
Phone 5428 3855

AARON'S AMUSEMENTS
Bacchus Marsh
1300 122 785
ADVERTISING
Bacchus Marsh Primary School is a community school and we are happy to distribute information from community groups. Please be aware that these forms of communication/information are not endorsements from our school.

Celebrate
National Playgroup Week
Thursday
21st March 2013
10am until 12pm
Bacchus Marsh
Town Hall
208-213 Main Street
Bacchus Marsh

Free activities for babies, toddlers & Preschoolers
Show bags
Info on Playgroups
Playgroup
Victoria Van

Celebrate
National Playgroup Week
21st MARCH 2013

Mums, Dads and Playgroups are invited to come along and celebrate National Playgroup Week. There will be free activities for children of all abilities to enjoy as well as show bags, information about playgroups in Moorabool and much more!

For more information please contact Council's Playgroup Development Officer on 5366 7100

PLAYGROUP VICTORIA
MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Keen to perform?
Auditions open to all adults and children aged 10 and over.
No prior experience is necessary.
Parts are available for actors and singers of all experience levels.
Audition packs available from Friday 8th March.
Performances will be held at the Impresario Theatre in August.

Don't want to tread the boards, but love theatre?
Are you a creative individual who is passionate about theatre and want to be involved, but don't want to be on stage? Are you interested in sets? Promotions? Costumes? Props? Or helping out backstage? Please, call the theatre and leave your name, number and area of interest.

For more information contact:
Tennis Victoria
Locked Bag 6001
Melbourne, Vic 3001
T +61 3 9420 9420
F +61 3 9420 9499
E reception@tennis.com.au

How to have fun, get fit and socialise for only $35...
...through tennis

“The program was fun and social, helped us all increase our skills and meet members of the community which was a bonus.”

Susan Burley, Selby.
COME JOIN US!

The Melton Hockey Club is currently recruiting for the 2013 season.

We are a fantastic, fun, family friendly club and would love for you to join us.

Never picked up a stick before?? No worries at all, we have a team for you!

We cater for all ages, abilities and skill levels with teams fielded in the following:
  Under 10’s, Under 12’s Under 14’s, Under 16’s and Under 18’s.
  Women’s Vic League and Reserves
  Men’s Vic League and Reserves
  Men’s and Women’s Metro and social teams
  Masters (over 40’s)

Our great Hook in2 Hockey program caters for 4-12 year olds new to hockey. An 18 week program with Gala competition days, the program is a fun and exciting way to fall in love with hockey.

The program is just $40 for the 18 weeks or you can choose to purchase the hockey pack as well for a total of $85.

The pack includes a portable fold out goal, hockey stick, shinpads, ball, replica playing top, medallion, dvd and other goodies.

YES, 18 weeks of exciting coaching sessions and all those goodies for just $85!

Feel free to attend any training session, no obligation.
  Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6pm.

All staff are accredited and hold current Working With Children Checks.

The Melton Hockey Club is located at the rear of Heathdale Christian College (formerly Mowbray College), Centenary Avenue, Melton.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact us:
  Mobile – 0450643826
  Email – meltonhockeyclub@yahoo.com.au
  Web – www.meltonhc.org.au
Moorabool Early Years Symposium Engaging Dads

What issues are important to dads?
What are the barriers and gaps for dads in the community?
What works, what doesn’t, who is leading the way?

Join Guy Vicars for a dads session to talk about what local services can do to make the journey for dads better.

- How can we engage dads within early years services?
- How do we communicate better with dads?
- What are the barriers for dads?
- Dads and children’s development
- What are local dads telling us?
- What programs run in other areas that work for dads?

Thursday March 21
6.30pm—8.30pm
Venue: Darley Primary School Gym
RSVP to Nichole, Early Years Unit on 53667100
Supper included
Technica Dance Co.

PH: 0422 526 589
Studios: 17 Smith St, Bacchus Marsh

★ Hip Hop ★ Classical Ballet ★ Tap
★ Acrobatics ★ National & Character ★ Mum’s Classes
★ Modern Jazz ★ Contemporary & Lyrical ★ Song & Dance

www.technicadancecompany.com.au

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SUMMER & BACK TO SCHOOL SHOES

Qualified Staff to Assist you

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ANYTIME FITNESS

BACCHUS MARSH
11 YOUNG STREET BACCHUS MARSH 3340
PHONE: 4367 7006
Feel something better
Dads and Kids in Moorabool

Dads and Kids Storytime
Dads with toddlers, preschoolers and primary school children, come along with your children and join in a storytelling session with Michael May.

Lerderderg Library
Main St Bacchus Marsh
Saturday March 16
10-11am
Free session
No Bookings Required

Dads and Kids Toddler Gym
A come and try session for children 2-5 years of age

Acrofun at Darley Civic and Community Hub, 182 Halletts Way

Wednesday March 27
12.30-1.30pm
Gold Coin Donation
Door Prizes

Dads and Kids Celebrate National Playgroup Week

Thursday
March 21
10am-12pm

Bacchus Marsh Town Hall, 213 Main Street Bacchus Marsh

Fun free activities for babies, toddlers & Preschoolers

Show bags
Info on Playgroups
Playgroup Victoria Van

Dads and Kids Fun Gym
A session for children 4-8 years of age and their dads

Acrofun at Darley Civic and Community Hub, 182 Halletts Way

Thursday
April 18
6.30-7.30pm
Gold Coin Donation
Door Prizes

For more information contact Nichole Russell or Jane Gardner on 53667100
BACCHUS MARSH
BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

FREE!

COME AND TRY DAY
and Registration Day

Bacchus Marsh Baseball Club
Masons Lane Reserve, Bacchus Marsh

Saturday 23rd March, 2013

11am – 1pm

Learn new skills or develop old skills

Free BBQ provided

Contact: Paul Wilson- President Ph: 0419 538 867
Michelle Dugdale – Junior Coordinator Ph: 0415 415 119

Proudly Sponsored by

nab